



Legislative  
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**SB 20-048**

# FINAL FISCAL NOTE

<b>Drafting Number:</b>	LLS 20-0330	<b>Date:</b>	August 5, 2020
<b>Prime Sponsors:</b>	Sen. Donovan; Coram Rep. Roberts; Catlin	<b>Bill Status:</b>	Senate Agriculture
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**Bill Topic:**                    **STUDY STRENGTHENING WATER ANTI-SPECULATION LAW**

<b>Summary of Fiscal Impact:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> State Revenue	<input type="checkbox"/> TABOR Refund
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State Expenditure	<input type="checkbox"/> Local Government
	<input type="checkbox"/> State Transfer	<input type="checkbox"/> Statutory Public Entity

The bill requires the Executive Director of the Department of Natural Resources to convene a work group during the 2020 interim to explore ways to strengthen water anti-speculation law. This will minimally increase workload for several state agencies beginning in FY 2019-20 through FY 2021-22.

**Appropriation Summary:**                    No appropriation is required.

**Fiscal Note Status:**                    The fiscal note reflects the enacted bill.

## Summary of Legislation

Colorado water law prohibits speculation in water rights. The bill requires the Executive Director of the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to convene a work group during the 2020 interim to explore ways to strengthen water anti-speculation law. The DNR and the Attorney General are required to support the efforts of the work group.

The work group will consist of current or former employees of the DNR, the Attorney General's Office, and the Judicial Department as well as other stakeholders that the Executive Director of the DNR determines would be helpful to the work group process or work product. The work group is required to provide a written report of recommended changes to water anti-speculation law to the Water Resources Review Committee by August 15, 2021.

## State Expenditures

The bill will increase workload for the DNR, Department of Law, and the Judicial Department. The DNR will convene the work group, facilitate and participate in meetings, and prepare the final report. The Department of Law will provide support and work group members. The Judicial Department will also provide work group members. These workload increases can be accomplished within existing appropriations.

**Effective Date**

The bill was signed into law by the Governor on March 11, 2020, and takes effect September 14, 2020, assuming no referendum petition is filed.

**State and Local Government Contacts**

Information Technology  
Law

Judicial  
Natural Resources