



Legislative Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

FISCAL NOTE

Drafting Number: LLS 20-0741
Prime Sponsors: Sen. Cooke, Rep. Roberts

Date: February 3, 2020
Bill Status: Senate Local Government
Fiscal Analyst: Katie Ruedebusch | 303-866-3001, Katie.Ruedebusch@state.co.us

Bill Topic: POWERS OF BUREAU OF ANIMAL PROTECTION AGENTS

- Summary of Fiscal Impact: State Revenue, State Expenditure, State Transfer, TABOR Refund, Local Government, Statutory Public Entity

The bill gives additional powers and duties to Bureau of Animal Protection agents in the Department of Agriculture. The bill increases state expenditures beginning in FY 2020-21 and may reduce local government expenditures on an ongoing basis.

Appropriation Summary: The bill requires an appropriation of \$37,175 to the Department of Agriculture.

Fiscal Note Status: The fiscal note reflects the introduced bill.

Table 1
State Fiscal Impacts Under SB 20-104

Table with 3 columns: Category, FY 2020-21, FY 2021-22. Rows include Revenue, Expenditures (General Fund, Centrally Appropriated, Total), Total FTE, Transfers, and TABOR Refund.

Summary of Legislation

Under current law, the Bureau of Animal Protection in the Department of Agriculture (CDA) assists local law enforcement in animal cruelty and neglect cases. The bill allows Bureau of Animal Protection agents in the to conduct investigations. In addition, the bill allows agents to take possession of and impound an animal that an agent has probable cause to believe is a victim of animal cruelty. The bill also permits agents and peace officers to take possession of an impound a dog if the agent or officer has probable cause to believe the dog is dangerous.

State Expenditures

The bill increases state General Fund expenditures in the Department of Agriculture by \$44,186 and 0.4 FTE in FY 2020-21 and \$30,989 and 0.5 FTE in FY 2021-22. These costs are shown in Table 2 and discussed below.

Table 2
Expenditures Under SB 20-104

| | FY 2020-21 | FY 2021-22 |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Department of Agriculture | | |
| Personal Services | \$17,082 | \$19,522 |
| Operating Expenses | \$675 | \$675 |
| Capital Outlay Costs | \$6,200 | - |
| Contractor Services | \$13,218 | \$1,706 |
| Centrally Appropriated Costs* | \$7,641 | \$9,086 |
| FTE – Personal Services | 0.4 FTE | 0.5 FTE |
| Total Cost | \$44,816 | \$30,989 |
| Total FTE | 0.4 FTE | 0.5 FTE |

* Centrally appropriated costs are not included in the bill's appropriation.

Department of Agriculture. The CDA requires an administrative assistant to coordinate training and education for agents, administer examinations, as well as working with a contractor in FY 2020-21 to create the new training and education materials. Training will likely be conducted by the Peace Officer Standards and Training Board in the Department of Law.

The CDA also requires \$13,218 in FY 2020-21 and \$1,706 in FY 2021-22 and future years for a contractor to develop a new training course and examination, as well as provide two full days of training on the new duties. Standard operating and capital costs outlay costs are included. First-year costs are prorated to reflect the General Fund paydate shift and an August start date.

Centrally appropriated costs. Pursuant to a Joint Budget Committee policy, certain costs associated with this bill are addressed through the annual budget process and centrally appropriated in the Long Bill or supplemental appropriations bills, rather than in this bill. These costs, which include employee insurance and supplemental employee retirement payments, are estimated to be \$7,641 in FY 2020-21 and \$9,086 in FY 2021-22.

Local Government

To the extent that additional duties and powers allow Bureau of Animal Protection agents to provide added support to local law enforcement, the bill may reduce workload for local law enforcement. These impacts will vary and have not been estimated.

Effective Date

The bill takes effect August 5, 2020, if the General Assembly adjourns on May 6, 2020, as scheduled, and no referendum petition is filed.

State Appropriations

For FY 2020-21, the bill requires an appropriation of \$37,175 and 0.4 FTE from the General Fund to the Department of Agriculture.

State and Local Government Contacts

Agriculture Counties Law Municipalities