

Legislative Council Staff

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Fiscal Note

Drafting Number: LLS 21-0341 **Date:** February 16, 2021 **Prime Sponsors:** Rep. Bradfield **Bill Status:** House SCVMA

Fiscal Analyst: Erin Reynolds | 303-866-4146

Erin.Reynolds@state.co.us

Summary of Fiscal Impact:

No fiscal impact. This bill establishes immunity from civil liability for entities acting in good faith to comply with public health guidelines from any COVID-19 related suit. It is assessed as having no fiscal impact.

Appropriation Summary:

The fiscal note reflects the introduced bill.

Summary of Legislation

The bill establishes civil immunity for entities (defined as individual, corporation, government, educational institution, religious organization, business, estate, trust, limited liability company, partnership, association or other legal entity) for any act or omission that results in exposure, loss, damage, injury, or death arising from COVID-19 if the entity attempts in good faith to comply with all applicable state and local guidelines. The immunity does not apply if the exposure, loss, damage, injury, or death was caused by gross negligence or a willful and wanton act or omission of the entity. The bill repeals two years after the Governor terminates the state of disaster emergency declared on March 11, 2020.

Assessment of No Fiscal Impact

Immunity for civil liability is not construed to include immunity from workers' compensation claims. Further, while state trial courts review civil cases, it is assumed that the bill will create only a minimal potential reduction in potential cases. As a result, the fiscal note assumes the bill will have no fiscal impact on state or local governments.

Effective Date

The bill takes effect 90 days following adjournment of the General Assembly sine die, assuming no referendum petition is filed.

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State and Local Government Contacts

Counties District Attorneys Governor Information Technology Judicial Law

Municipalities Personnel Public Health and Environment