



Legislative Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

Fiscal Note

Drafting Number:	LLS 23-0765	Date:	February 7, 2023
Prime Sponsors:	Rep. Lukens; Winter T. Sen. Simpson; Marchman	Bill Status:	House Agriculture
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Bill Topic:	MODERNIZE PROCESS TO OBTAIN WATER WELL INFORMATION
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Summary of Fiscal Impact:	No fiscal impact. The bill clarifies current law by removing certain requirements for the submission of groundwater well forms to the Division of Water Resources in the Department of Natural Resources.
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Appropriation Summary:	No appropriation is required.
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Fiscal Note Status:	The fiscal note reflects the introduced bill.
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Summary of Legislation

The bill updates the process of changing groundwater well owner information. Under current law, a groundwater well owner must file any name or mailing address change with the State Engineer in person, by mail, or by fax. Current law also requires that when a change of ownership occurs, any required forms must be submitted before the change in ownership transaction. The bill modifies these requirements by:

- removing the in person, by mail, or by fax requirement; and
- requiring any necessary forms to be submitted within 63 days after a change in ownership transaction occurs.

In addition, if a change of well ownership occurs and information about the well is not complete, or if the well is unregistered, the Division of Water Resources (DWR) in the Department of Natural Resources must instruct the new owner to complete the appropriate forms.

Assessment of No Fiscal Impact

The DWR has an online system to process updates to well owner contact information, and for change in ownership forms. The bill clarifies and updates language to align statute with the current DWR practice. The bill does not impact the revenue, workload, or expenditures of any state or local government, and is assessed as having no fiscal impact.

Effective Date

The bill takes effect upon signature of the Governor, or upon becoming law without his signature.

State and Local Government Contacts

Information Technology
Natural Resources

Judicial

Law