



Legislative Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

Final Fiscal Note

Drafting Number:	LLS 23-0753	Date:	May 25, 2023
Prime Sponsors:	Rep. Martinez Sen. Simpson	Bill Status:	Signed into Law
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Bill Topic: **MODIFY RURAL COUNTY OFFICER SALARY CATEGORIES**

Summary of Fiscal Impact:

<input type="checkbox"/> State Revenue	<input type="checkbox"/> TABOR Refund
<input type="checkbox"/> State Expenditure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local Government
<input type="checkbox"/> State Transfer	<input type="checkbox"/> Statutory Public Entity

For the purpose of setting the salaries of elected county officers, this bill reclassifies 11 counties. Reclassifying these counties increases county expenditures for officer salaries.

Appropriation Summary: No appropriation is required.

Fiscal Note Status: This fiscal note reflects the enacted bill.

Summary of Legislation

The salary of county officers is set in statute and determined by the category of the county in which the officer serves (grouped as categories I through VI). Four subcategories, A through D were added to each category in 2015 for the purpose of adjusting county officer salaries. The statutory salary amounts are adjusted every two years for inflation and take effect for terms commencing after any change is made. This bill reclassifies 11 counties with an accompanying percentage increase in salary, as follows:

- Archuleta County changes from category III-B to III-A (8 percent increase);
- Las Animas and Montezuma Counties change from III-D to III-C (10 percent increase);
- Grand County changes from III-B to II-A (8 percent increase);
- Pitkin County changes from II-C to II-A (18.2 percent increase);
- Delta County changes from III-B to III-A (8 percent increase);
- Saguache County changes from V-B to V-A (8 percent increase);
- Ouray County changes from IV-A to III-A (14.1 percent increase for sheriffs; 17.7 percent increase for commissioners, treasurers, assessors, and clerks; 49.8 percent increase for coroners; and 50 percent increase for surveyors); and

- Summit, Eagle, and Routt Counties change from II-A to I-A (18.5 percent increase for commissioners, treasurers, assessors, and clerks; 22.2 percent increase for surveyors; 23.5 percent increase for sheriffs; and 65.5 percent increase for coroners).

Local Government

The bill increases county government expenditures for salaries for the designated officials whose salary is set in state statute. The bill categorizes 11 counties into higher tiers, resulting in higher salaries for commissioners, sheriffs, treasurers, assessors, clerks, coroners, and surveyors in those counties. Salary increases for county offices will take effect as new individuals take elected office in either 2024 or 2026.

Effective Date

The bill was signed into law by the Governor on March 23, 2023, and takes effect on August 7, 2023, assuming no referendum petition is filed.

State and Local Government Contacts

Counties	County Clerks	County Treasurers
District Attorneys	Information Technology	Judicial
Labor	Local Affairs	Revenue
Treasury		