

# **Legislative Council Staff**

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

# **Final Fiscal Note**

Drafting Number: Prime Sponsors:	Rep. English; Joseph Sen. Roberts; Gardner	Date: Bill Status: Fiscal Analyst:	May 14, 2024 Signed into Law Clayton Mayfield   303-866-5851 clayton.mayfield@coleg.gov	
Bill Topic:	LICENSED LEGAL PARAPROFESSIONALS			
Summary of Fiscal Impact:	☐ State Revenue ☑ State Expenditure	☐ State Transfer ☐ TABOR Refund	□ Local Government     □ Statutory Public Entity	
	The bill amends statute to reflect the current regulation of licensed legal paraprofessionals authorized by Colorado Supreme Court rules. Starting in FY 2024-25, the bill minimally increases state and local workload on an ongoing basis.			
Appropriation Summary:	No appropriation is required.			
Fiscal Note Status:	The final fiscal note reflects the enacted bill.			

## **Summary of Legislation**

The bill codifies the regulation of licensed legal paraprofessionals (LLPs) authorized by Colorado Supreme Court rules. Generally, LLPs are allowed to represent clients in specific civil matters, must abide by the same professional conduct standards as attorneys, and are entitled to the same fee recovery procedures as attorneys.

## **Background**

The Colorado Supreme Court adopted a rule change effective July 1, 2023, that allowed for the practice and regulation of LLPs. More information about LLP regulation can be found <a href="here">here</a>. Currently, the fee is set at \$190 per year for the first three years of practice, and \$325 per year thereafter

## **State Expenditures**

Workload for the Judicial Department will increase to implement certain provisions of the bill, including maintaining a registry of LLPs and allowing LLPs to file certain motions in the trial courts. This increase is expected to be minimal, and no change in appropriations is required.

#### **Local Government**

Similar to the state, the bill may minimally increase workload for Denver County Court, which is funded locally, to handle motions filed by LLPs.

### **Effective Date**

The bill was signed into law by the Governor on April 29, 2024, and takes effect on August 7, 2024, assuming no referendum petition is filed.

#### **State and Local Government Contacts**

District Attorneys	Judicial	Law

The revenue and expenditure impacts in this fiscal note represent changes from current law under the bill for each fiscal year. For additional information about fiscal notes, please visit the <u>General Assembly website</u>.