



Legislative
Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

Initiative 51

Fiscal Summary

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LCS TITLE: PROHIBIT INTENTIONAL KILLING OF A LIVING CHILD

Fiscal Summary of Initiative 51

This fiscal summary, prepared by the nonpartisan Director of Research of the Legislative Council, contains a preliminary assessment of the measure's fiscal impact. A full fiscal impact statement for this initiative is or will be available at www.ColoradoBlueBook.com. This fiscal summary identifies the following impact.

State revenue. Initiative 51 may increase state revenue from criminal fines and court fees, if it leads to more persons convicted of the new or modified criminal offenses under the measure or increases the number of civil cases filed.

State expenditures. Initiative 51 may increase state expenditures in several areas. If the measure leads to more persons being charged with criminal offenses under the measure, costs may increase for state law enforcement agencies and the courts for the investigation and prosecution of individuals charged with criminal offenses, and the Department of Corrections for the incarceration of individuals convicted and sentenced to prison. If the Department of Health Care Policy and Financing, in order to remain compliant with federal law, transports a woman pregnant as a result of rape or incest to another state to obtain an abortion, those costs will increase. Finally, by creating a private right-of-action, the measure may increase the costs for trial courts to hear additional civil cases. These potential costs of these measure cannot be determined at this time.

Local government impact. Local law enforcement may have increased workload to investigate and prosecute more cases. Persons charged with criminal offenses under the initiative may be held in a county jail while awaiting trial, which would increase costs for counties.

Economic impacts. The measure will prohibit abortion services provided by certain medical providers, which will reduce income and jobs in this sector of the economy. To the extent that additional persons are incarcerated for violating the measure, these individuals will not participate in the labor force, which may reduce income and spending in their households and communities. To the extent that the measure results in more children being born in the state, child-related spending will increase, potentially shifting spending from other areas of the economy. Additionally, labor market participation may decrease for parents or other caretakers. Over the long term, population growth may increase economic activity and output within the state.