Fiscal Note

Legislative Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

HB 26-1420: WIND ENERGY FACILITIES LIGHT-MITIGATING TECH

Prime Sponsors:
Rep. Paschal; Richardson
Sen. Kolker; Pelton R.

Fiscal Analyst:
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Bill Outcome: Signed into Law
Drafting Number: LLS 26-0995

Version: Final Fiscal Note
Date: July 23, 2026

Fiscal note status: The final fiscal note reflects the enacted bill.

Summary Information

Overview. The bill creates requirements for approvals and extensions of time for light-mitigating technology at wind-powered energy generation facilities.

Types of impacts. The bill is projected to affect the following areas on an ongoing basis:

- Local Government

Appropriations. No appropriation is required.

Table 1
State Fiscal Impacts

Type of Impact	Budget Year FY 2026-27	Out Year FY 2027-28
State Revenue	$0	$0
State Expenditures	$0	$0
Transferred Funds	$0	$0
Change in TABOR Refunds	$0	$0
Change in State FTE	0.0 FTE	0.0 FTE

Summary of Legislation

Under current law, the owner or operator of a wind-powered energy generation facility is required to install light-mitigating technology designed to detect aircraft, and to obtain approval from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) approval before installing the technology. The bill requires owners and operators to also obtain approval from the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and any other applicable federal agency.

Under current law, an owner or operator can request from a local government an extension of up to 24 months to install the technology. The bill requires this extension to be at least 24 months, and requires a local government to grant an extension if approval from federal agencies is delayed.

Local Government

Workload may increase for local governments to process additional extensions if the bill—by requiring approvals from additional federal agencies—increases the number of delays for project approvals. The bill may also decrease revenue to local governments that impose fewer civil penalties on owners and operators as a result of requiring the extension to be at least 24 months.

Effective Date

This bill was signed into law by the Governor and took effect on June 4, 2026.

State and Local Government Contacts

Counties	Municipalities
Local Affairs	Regulatory Agencies