



**Colorado
Legislative
Council
Staff**

HB16-1230

**REVISED
FISCAL NOTE**

(replaces fiscal note dated February 16, 2016)

FISCAL IMPACT: State Local Statutory Public Entity Conditional No Fiscal Impact

Drafting Number: LLS 16-0795
Prime Sponsor(s): Rep. Dore
Sen. Cooke

Date: March 21, 2016
Bill Status: Senate Local Government
Fiscal Analyst: Chris Creighton (303-866-5834)

BILL TOPIC: TRANSPARENCY ONLINE PROJECT INCLUDE COUNTY INFO

Fiscal Impact Summary	FY 2016-2017	FY 2017-2018
State Revenue		
State Expenditures	Workload increase.	
Appropriation Required: None.		
Future Year Impacts: Ongoing workload increase.		

Summary of Legislation

This **reengrossed bill** requires counties to provide the state Chief Information Officer (CIO) with a copy of the county's adopted budget no later than 30 days after the fiscal year begins, starting January 1, 2018. This bill also requires counties to provide revenue and expenditure data to the CIO no later than 30 days after their year-end financial audit is completed, starting January 1, 2017. This data is to be included in the State Transparency Online Project site (TOPS) and must be segmented by agency and provided in an electronic format approved by the CIO so it can be added to TOPS. A county does not need to provide revenue and expenditure data if such data is posted on its website. Instead, the county is required to notify the CIO that it is exempt and the CIO will provide a link to the county data in TOPS.

If a county fails to provide this data within 90 days of the deadline, the Department of Local Affairs (DOLA) will consider this to be an adverse factor when making local government severance grant awards. The CIO is also required to archive past county revenue and expenditures data.

Background

TOPS is a free, searchable, web-based system that provides easy access to the state's expenditures and revenues. TOPS was created by an Executive Order of the Governor in April 2009 and codified by House Bill 09-1288.

State Expenditures

This bill increases workload in the Office of Information Technology (OIT) and Department of Local Affairs (DOLA).

Office of Information Technology. OIT workload is expected to increase, as the department will need to receive and process all county budgets and provide guidance to counties on how to submit the required financial data. For counties that are required to submit data, technical staff time will be needed to assist the counties with uploading financial data to TOPS once it's in an acceptable format. For exempt counties, staff time will be needed to review their exemption and add a link to county data in TOPS. Additional staff time will also be needed to assess county compliance and provide information to DOLA for any non-compliant county. This increase in workload can be accomplished within existing appropriations.

Department of Local Affairs. Workload in DOLA is expected to increase to establish procedures to identify non-complaint counties and use this information when reviewing severance grant applications. This includes developing a process to exchange compliance information with OIT, modifying grant procedures, editing grant application and evaluation materials, and making changes to the grant review and award process. This increase in workload is expected to be minimal and can be accomplished within existing appropriations.

Local Government Impact

This bill increases county workload and may increase costs to provide revenue and expenditure data in the format required by the CIO. If county data is not in a format that is approved by the CIO, additional county costs could be incurred to transform data into an appropriate format. This analysis assumes county budgets will be submitted electronically. To the extent that any county cannot submit their budget electronically additional printing and postage costs may be incurred. County grant allocations could also be adversely affected if they are determined to be non-compliant with the requirements of this bill.

Under this bill, county workload also increases to create a process through which year-end data is compiled and transferred to the CIO. Staff time is needed for any county that is exempt from the requirements of this bill to notify the CIO of their exemption and ensure that a link to county data is provided in TOPS.

Effective Date

The bill takes effect August 10, 2016, if the General Assembly adjourns on May 11, 2016, as scheduled, and no referendum petition is filed.

State and Local Government Contacts

Counties Information Technology Local Affairs Personnel

Research Note Available

An LCS Research Note for HB16-1230 is available online and through the iLegislate app. Research notes provide additional policy and background information about the bill and summarize action taken by the General Assembly concerning the bill.