



Legislative
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FISCAL NOTE

Drafting Number:	LLS 18-0822	Date:	February 22, 2018
Prime Sponsors:	Rep. Becker K.; Valdez Sen. Crowder	Bill Status:	House Finance
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Bill Topic: CHANGE SALARY CATEGORIZATIONS FOR CERTAIN COUNTIES

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

This bill changes the salary categorization of Grand, Rio Grande, Saguache, and Jackson counties which increases the salaries of elected county officials in these counties on an ongoing basis.

Appropriation Summary: No appropriation is required.

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

Summary of Legislation

Under current law, counties are categorized based on population, unincorporated area size, assessed property valuation, motor vehicle registrations, building permits, military installations, and other relevant factors for the purpose of determining the salary of elected county officials. This bill makes the following county categorization changes, which increases the salary of their elected officials:

- Grand County changes from category III-D to category III-B;
- Rio Grande County changes from category IV-D to category IV-C;
- Saguache County changes from category V-D to category V-B; and
- Jackson County changes from VI-D to VI-C.

Background

Elected county officials include county commissioners, sheriffs, treasurers, assessors, clerks, coroners, and surveyors. Their pay is determined by the category/subcategory of the county for which they serve, with greater salary paid to elected officials in counties with greater workload. Under current law, the salary of an elected county official cannot be increased or decreased during his or her term.

Local Government

Beginning in FY 2018-19, this bill increases elected county official salaries in Grand County by 20 percent, Rio Grande by 10 percent, Saguache County by 20 percent, and Jackson County by 10 percent. The total increase is shown in Table 1; however, because the salary of an elected official cannot be adjusted during his or her term in office the full increase generated by this bill may not be realized until after the next election for each county officer. The impact of these salary increases on benefits, insurance, and retirement plans has not been estimated.

Table 1
County Salary Categorization and Salary Increase

County	Current Salary Category	Current Total Elected Official Salary*	Proposed Salary Category	Proposed Total Elected Official Salary	Total Salary Increase
Grand County	III-D	\$448,435	III-B	\$538,122	\$89,687
Rio Grande County	IV-D	\$378,260	IV-C	\$416,083	\$37,823
Saguache County	V-D	\$301,930	V-B	\$362,311	\$60,381
Jackson County	VI-D	\$277,937	VI-C	\$305,732	\$27,795

* Includes the salaries of three county commissioners and all other elected officials listed in the background section.

The most current salaries for elected county officials by category can be found here: <http://leg.colorado.gov/publications/2018-salaries-county-officers>

Effective Date

The bill takes effect August 8, 2018, if the General Assembly adjourns on May 9, 2018, as scheduled, and no referendum petition is filed.

State and Local Government Contacts

Counties Local Affairs