



Legislative
Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

HB 19-1104

FISCAL NOTE

Drafting Number:	LLS 19-0244	Date:	January 22, 2019
Prime Sponsors:	Rep. Ransom Sen. Lee	Bill Status:	House Judiciary
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Bill Topic: RIGHTS OF PERSONS OFFICE RESPONDENT PARENTS' COUNSEL

Summary of Fiscal Impact:

<input type="checkbox"/> State Revenue	<input type="checkbox"/> TABOR Refund
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State Expenditure	<input type="checkbox"/> Local Government
<input type="checkbox"/> State Transfer	<input type="checkbox"/> Statutory Public Entity

The bill allows attorneys under contract with the Office of the Respondent Parents' Counsel to have access to certain judicial files and clarifies that parents are entitled to attorneys through the office in a reinstatement of parental rights hearing. The bill will increase state workload on an ongoing basis.

Appropriation Summary: No appropriation is required.

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

Summary of Legislation

This bill allows attorneys under contract with the Office of the Respondent Parents' Counsel (ORPC) to have read-only access to the name index and register of actions for the Judicial Department. The bill also clarifies that a parent who files a petition for reinstatement of rights in a parent-child relationship is entitled to counsel through the ORPC if he or she meets the income eligibility requirements.

State Expenditures

To the extent that attorneys under contract with the ORPC are allowed additional access to the Judicial Department's government access system, workload for Judicial's IT Division will increase. However, the expected increase in workload increase is minimal. The bill may also decrease costs for court-appointed counsel in the trial courts and increase workload and costs to the ORPC to appoint counsel. The fiscal note assumes that reinstatement cases are rare and that any change in workload and costs does not require a change in appropriations.

Effective Date

The bill takes effect August 2, 2019, if the General Assembly adjourns on May 3, 2019, as scheduled, and no referendum petition is filed.

State and Local Government Contacts

Counties
Human Services
Information Technology

Office of the Child's Representative
Child Protection Ombudsman
Office of Respondent Parents' Counsel