



Legislative Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

Fiscal Note

Drafting Number:	LLS 23-0249	Date:	February 3, 2023
Prime Sponsors:	Rep. Jodeh; Garcia	Bill Status:	House Public & Behavioral Health
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Bill Topic:	ELIMINATE DISCRIMINATION FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE
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Summary of Fiscal Impact:	<input type="checkbox"/> State Revenue	<input type="checkbox"/> TABOR Refund
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State Expenditure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local Government
	<input type="checkbox"/> State Transfer	<input type="checkbox"/> Statutory Public Entity

The bill repeals the requirement that legal immigrants agree to refrain from executing an affidavit of support for the purpose of sponsoring immigration while receiving public assistance. The bill will increase state and local workload and costs on an ongoing basis.

Appropriation Summary:	No appropriation is required.
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Fiscal Note Status:	The fiscal note reflects the introduced bill.
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Summary of Legislation

The bill repeals the requirement that legal immigrants agree to refrain from executing an affidavit of support for the purpose of sponsoring a bid for immigration while receiving public assistance from a program in the Department of Human Services (DHS) or the Department of Health Care Policy and Financing (HCPF).

State Expenditures

The bill will impact DHS and HCPF in two main ways—modifying eligibility verifications processes and potentially increasing public assistance costs. These impacts are assumed to be minimal and are described below.

Eligibility verification. The bill will increase costs in the DHS to modify the the Colorado Benefit Management System (CBMS) to remove the requirement repealed by this bill from the eligibility verification process. This is assumed to take about 650 hours of programming time, which can be accomplished using existing appropriations for ongoing enhancements and modifications to CBMS. HCPF and DHS will have a one-time increase in workload to adjust procedures while the IT system changes are being made.

Public assistance costs. The bill may minimally increase costs for DHS and HCPF on an ongoing basis if enrollment in public assistance programs increases as a result of the repealed requirement. Any increase will likely be minimal, as it is assumed that most persons in need of public assistance under current law will seek assistance and refrain from sponsoring a bid for immigration. Any change in appropriations will be addressed through the annual budget process, if necessary.

Local Government

Similar to the state impact above, the bill may increase costs for counties to the extent enrollment in public assistance programs increases as a result of the repealed requirement. Counties administer certain public assistance programs and assist with enrollment. Overall, any impact is assumed to be minimal.

Effective Date

The bill takes effect 90 days following adjournment of the General Assembly sine die, assuming no referendum petition is filed.

State and Local Government Contacts

Counties
Information Technology

Health Care Policy and Financing

Human Services