



Legislative Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

Fiscal Note

Drafting Number:	LLS 23-0657	Date:	March 20, 2023
Prime Sponsors:	Sen. Priola; Baisley Rep. Titone; Weinberg	Bill Status:	Senate Local Government
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Bill Topic:	LOCAL GOVERNMENT PROVISION OF COMMUNICATIONS SERVICES
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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

The bill allows local governments to provide communication services without voter approval. The bill may increase local government revenue and expenditures.

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

Currently, local governments are prohibited from providing cable television, telecommunications, or advanced services, defined as high speed internet of certain speeds, unless voters approve the provision of these services. The bill removes this voter approval requirement, allowing local governments to provide these services or enter into public-private partnerships with service providers without holding an election first.

In addition to communication services, the bill specifies that local governments can provide middle mile infrastructure, which is broadband infrastructure that does not connect to an end-user location. The bill also clarifies language in current laws by replacing the term “advanced service” with “broadband internet service” and modifying its definition.

Local Government Impact

Local governments that choose to be providers of communication services will no longer have costs to seek voter approval. To the extent that more local governments pursue these types of projects, costs will increase accordingly, as well as revenue for services that charge a fee to users. The bill may also increase local government access to grant funding, which will increase revenue and expenditures for local governments that apply for and receive grants.

Effective Date

The bill takes effect upon signature of the Governor, or upon becoming law without his signature.

State and Local Government Contacts

Counties
Legislative Council
Regulatory Agencies

County Clerks
Local Affairs
Special District Association

Information Technology
Municipalities