



## Fiscal Note

### Legislative Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

## HB 25-1183: COLORIMETRIC FIELD DRUG TEST WORKING GROUP

---

**Prime Sponsors:**

Rep. Gilchrist; Bacon

Sen. Ball; Daugherty

**Fiscal Analyst:**

Aaron Carpenter, 303-866-4918

aaron.carpenter@coleg.gov

**Published for:** House Judiciary

**Drafting number:** LLS 25-0371

**Version:** Initial Fiscal Note

**Date:** February 24, 2025

**Fiscal note status:** The fiscal note reflects the introduced bill.

---

### Summary Information

**Overview.** The bill creates a working group to study colorimetric field drug tests.

**Types of impacts.** The bill is projected to affect the following areas on a one-time basis:

- State Expenditures

**Appropriations.** For FY 2025-26, the bill requires an appropriation of \$34,741 to the Legislative Department.

---

**Table 1**  
**State Fiscal Impacts**

<b>Type of Impact</b>	<b>Budget Year FY 2025-26</b>	<b>Out Year FY 2026-27</b>
State Revenue	\$0	\$0
State Expenditures	\$42,652	\$0
Transferred Funds	\$0	\$0
Change in TABOR Refunds	\$0	\$0
Change in State FTE	0.4 FTE	0.0 FTE

**Table 1A  
State Expenditures**

<b>Fund Source</b>	<b>Budget Year FY 2025-26</b>	<b>Out Year FY 2026-27</b>
General Fund	\$34,741	\$0
Cash Funds	\$0	\$0
Federal Funds	\$0	\$0
Centrally Appropriated	\$7,910	\$0
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$42,652</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Total FTE</b>	<b>0.4 FTE</b>	<b>0.0 FTE</b>

---

## Summary of Legislation

The bill creates the Colorimetric Field Drug Test Working Group in the Legislative Department to make findings and recommendations concerning the use of colorimetric field drug tests in the criminal proceedings and carceral settings. The working group consists of two legislative members, seven state agencies representatives, and seven representatives from nonprofits, advocacy groups, and individuals involved in criminal justice. The working group must begin meeting in July 2025 and submit a report by December 1, 2025. The bill requires the group to meet monthly. Finally, the bill requires Legislative Council Staff and the Office of Legislative Legal Services to provide support to the working group.

---

## Background

A colorimetric field drug test is a presumptive test that uses a chemical reagent which changes color depending on what substances are present in the drug.

---

## State Expenditures

The bill increases state expenditures in the Legislative Department by \$42,700 in FY 2025-26 only. These costs, paid from the General Fund, are summarized in Table 2 and discussed below. The bill also minimally affects workload in agencies involved in the working group.

**Table 2**  
**State Expenditures**  
**Legislative Department**

<b>Cost Component</b>	<b>Budget Year FY 2025-26</b>	<b>Out Year FY 2026-27</b>
Personal Services	\$30,521	\$0
Member Per-Diem and Travel	\$2,360	\$0
Public Member Reimbursement	\$1,860	\$0
Centrally Appropriated Costs	\$7,910	\$0
<b>Total Costs</b>	<b>\$42,652</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Total FTE</b>	<b>0.4 FTE</b>	<b>0.0 FTE</b>

### Legislative Department

The department will have staff and reimbursement costs in FY 2025-26 to implement the bill.

### Legislative Council Staff

In FY 2025-26 only, Legislative Council Staff requires 0.3 FTE to support the workgroup in monthly meetings, as required by the bill. This level of staffing is similar to what is required to support an interim committee.

### Office of Legislative Legal Services

In FY 2025-26 only, Legislative Council Staff requires 0.1 FTE attorney to support the workgroup in monthly meetings, as required by the bill. This level of staffing is similar to what is required to support an interim committee.

### General Assembly

In FY 2025-26, costs to the General Assembly will increase by \$3,310 for two members to attend five meetings at the capital. This assumes a per diem rate of \$111.95 per member per meeting and travel reimbursement of \$124 per member per meeting.

### Public Member Reimbursement

The fiscal note assumes that agencies will reimburse members on the task force, however there are a few members that represent the public rather than a certain agency. It is assumed the Legislative Council Staff will reimburse these members at a rate of \$124 per meeting.

### Other Agency Impacts

Workload to the various agencies involved in the working group will increase to participate in the working group. The fiscal note assumes any expenses will be reimbursed by the individual agencies, and that this work and cost can be accomplished within existing resources.

## Centrally Appropriated Costs

Pursuant to a Joint Budget Committee policy, certain costs associated with this bill are addressed through the annual budget process and centrally appropriated in the Long Bill or supplemental appropriations bills, rather than in this bill. These costs, which may include employee insurance, supplemental employee retirement payments, leased space, and indirect cost assessments, are shown in the expenditure table above.

## Effective Date

---

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

## State Appropriations

---

For FY 2025-26, the bill requires a General Fund appropriation of \$34,741, of which:

- \$23,911 is to Legislative Council Staff with 0.3 FTE;
- \$8,470 is to the Office of Legislative Legal Services with 0.1 FTE; and
- \$3,310 is to the General Assembly.

## State and Local Government Contacts

---

Alternate Defense Counsel	Legislative Legal Services
Corrections	Public Defender
District Attorneys	Public Safety
Higher Education	Regulatory Agencies
Law	Sheriffs
Legislative Council Staff	

---

The revenue and expenditure impacts in this fiscal note represent changes from current law under the bill for each fiscal year. For additional information about fiscal notes, please visit the [General Assembly website](#).