



# Fiscal Note

## Legislative Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado’s Legislature

### SB 25-062: FAILURE TO APPEAR CHARGES IN MUNICIPAL COURT

**Prime Sponsors:**  
Sen. Hinrichsen; Weissman  
Rep. Carter; Bird

**Fiscal Analyst:**  
Aaron Carpenter, 303-866-4918  
aaron.carpenter@coleg.gov

**Published for:** House Judiciary  
**Drafting number:** LLS 25-0150

**Version:** First Revised Note  
**Date:** March 4, 2025

**Fiscal note status:** This revised fiscal note reflects the reengrossed bill.

#### Summary Information

**Overview.** The bill prohibits municipalities from making failure to appear to municipal court a crime.

**Types of impacts.** The bill is projected to affect the following areas on an ongoing basis:

- Local Government

**Appropriations.** No appropriation is required.

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

Type of Impact	Budget Year FY 2025-26	Out Year FY 2026-27
State Revenue	\$0	\$0
State Expenditures	\$0	\$0
Transferred Funds	\$0	\$0
Change in TABOR Refunds	\$0	\$0
Change in State FTE	0.0 FTE	0.0 FTE

## Summary of Legislation

---

The bill prohibits municipal courts from using failure to appear as the basis of a municipal criminal offense. Home rule cities cannot override these restrictions. "Failure to appear" includes any other term a municipality might use to describe a person's absence from a scheduled court date.

The bill does not prevent a municipal judge from issuing a bench warrant for failure to appear or from considering such failures when setting bond at a later hearing.

## Local Government

---

Municipalities with charters or ordinances that make failure to appear the basis for a criminal charge will have an increase in workload to update policies. To the extent a municipality formerly sentenced this crime to a jail sentence, jail costs will decrease.

## Effective Date

---

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

## State and Local Government Contacts

---

Judicial	Municipalities
Municipal Judge Association	Sheriffs

---

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](#).