



## Legislative Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

# Fiscal Note

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<b>Drafting Number:</b>	LLS 24-1040	<b>Date:</b>	March 11, 2024
<b>Prime Sponsors:</b>	Rep. Herod; Duran	<b>Bill Status:</b>	House Ag., Water & Natural Res.
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<b>Bill Topic:</b>	<b>REQUIRE NOTIFICATION OF DISEASE PET CARE FACILITY</b>
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<b>Summary of</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State Revenue	<input type="checkbox"/> State Transfer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local Government
<b>Fiscal Impact:</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State Expenditure	<input type="checkbox"/> TABOR Refund	<input type="checkbox"/> Statutory Public Entity

The bill requires pet care facilities to notify patrons of a suspected infectious disease outbreak with 24 hours of discovery. The bill minimally increases state and local workload, and may increase state revenue, beginning in FY 2024-25.

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

The bill requires pet care facilities, licensed under the Pet Animal Care and Facilities Act (PACFA), to notify patrons of a suspected infectious disease outbreak with 24 hours of discovery.

## Background

PACFA is a program within the Department of Agriculture (CDA) that licenses and inspects all pet animal care facilities and businesses in Colorado. Any entity that engages in selling, transferring, adopting, breeding, boarding, training, grooming, sheltering, rescuing, or transporting pet animals is required to be licensed under PACFA. Annually, PACFA employees issue approximately 2,200 licenses, conduct 3,000 inspections, and perform 750 complaint investigations. Any violation of PACFA regulations may result in a warning, fine, or other penalties.

## State Revenue

The bill may increase state revenue from any change in registration fees or civil penalties.

**Fee impact on licensed animal shelter and rescue registrations.** If the bill results in increases state expenditures, the CDA may increase the PACFA registration fee. As discussed below, this impact is expected to be minimal. Current fees range from \$350 to \$450 and, per state law, the CDA may raise them up to \$700. These fees are not subject to TABOR.

**Civil penalties.** Under current law, any person who violates the PACFA is subject to a civil penalty. The bill may increase state revenue to the extent that the provisions in the bill are violated, resulting in the collection of civil penalties. Any civil fines collected are subject to TABOR and are credited to the General Fund.

## State Expenditures

To the extent that the bill results in additional complaints being filled or additional complaints resulting in disciplinary action, workload may increase in the CDA, the Office of Administrative Courts in the Department of Personal and Administration (DPA), and the trial courts in the Judicial Department. Despite the high level of complaints filed under PACFA compared to other professional regulations, the fiscal note assumes a high level of compliance because of the flexibility of the requirements and their relatively non-contentious nature.

**Department of Agriculture.** The bill may result in additional complaints or disciplinary procedures for the CDA. If the division chooses to investigate and take action, costs associated with legal services, provided by the Department of Law, may also increase.

**Administrative and trial courts.** The bill may increase workload for the Office of Administrative Courts in the DPA, and subsequently the trial courts in the Judicial Department, to handle any challenges to agency disciplinary decisions.

## Local Government

Counties often operate animal shelters or contract out the operation of these facilities. Workload will minimally increase to comply with the new requirements.

## Effective Date

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

## State and Local Government Contacts

Agriculture	Counties	Denver County Courts
Information Technology	Judicial	Personnel

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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](#).