

Colorado Legislative Council Staff Fiscal Note
STATE and LOCAL
REVISED FISCAL IMPACT
(replaces fiscal note dated February 5, 2010)

Drafting Number: LLS 10-0653	Date: April 19, 2010
Prime Sponsor(s): Rep. Pommer Sen. Whitehead	Bill Status: Senate Agriculture
	Fiscal Analyst: Clare Pramuk (303-866-2677)

TITLE: CONCERNING ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REGARDING COVERED ENTITIES' WATER EFFICIENCY PLANS.

Fiscal Impact Summary	FY 2010-2011	FY 2011-2012
State Revenue		
State Expenditures		
FTE Position Change		
Effective Date: Upon signature of the Governor, or upon becoming law without his signature.		
Appropriation Summary for FY 2010-2011: None.		
Local Government Impact: See Local Government Impact Section.		

Summary of Legislation

This *reengrossed* bill creates a new annual reporting requirement for water providers and expands the elements required in a water efficiency plan. By February 1, 2012, the Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB) will adopt guidelines for water providers to report water use and conservation data for water supply planning. The guidelines will be developed with input from stakeholders. Beginning no later than June 30, 2014, water providers will begin reporting the required data to the CWCB. The CWCB will report the data collected to the General Assembly by February 1, 2019. The bill includes a repeal date of July 1, 2020.

The bill also requires that water providers include consideration of water-efficient clothes washers and faucet aerators when filing new or updated water efficiency plans.

Background

The Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB), in the Department of Natural Resources, is responsible for water project planning and finance, stream and lake protection, flood hazard identification and mitigation, weather modification, river restoration, water conservation and drought planning, water information, and water supply protection. Current law requires all water providers to have an approved water efficiency plan on file with the CWCB that address specific conservation measures.

The water providers covered by this bill include any municipality, agency, or utility with a legal obligation to provide 2,000 acre-feet or more of water annually.

State Expenditures

The CWCB is appropriated monies to provide loans and grants to water providers for water conservation planning and water projects. The CWCB may receive additional requests for assistance in complying with the new reporting requirements but this amount cannot be determined at this time and will not increase overall appropriations. Colorado has about 100 water providers that will be required to submit annual reports to the CWCB. The fiscal note assumes that the CWCB can develop the reporting guidelines and collect the reports with existing resources.

Local Government Impact

The new annual reporting requirements may require additional resources to collect the information for some water providers. Grants are available from the CWCB to assist in developing plans, but the fiscal note assumes that for most local government water providers, the impact will be minimal.

Departments Contacted

Natural Resources