

# FISCAL NOTE

Sen. Guzman; King Fiscal Analyst: Jonathan Senft (303-866-3523)

TITLE: CONCERNING A STATEWIDE AUTOMATED VICTIM INFORMATION

NOTIFICATION SYSTEM, AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, MAKING AND

REDUCING APPROPRIATIONS.

Fiscal Impact Summary	FY 2013-2014	FY 2014-2015	
State Revenue			
State Expenditures General Fund	\$430,373	\$425,670	
FTE Position Change	1.0 FTE	1.0 FTE	

Effective Date: This bill was signed into law by the Governor, and took effect on May 28, 2013.

Appropriation Summary for FY 2013-2014: See State Appropriations section.

Local Government Impact: See Local Government Impact section.

#### **Summary of Legislation**

This bill allows a General Fund appropriation to operate the Statewide Automated Victim Information Notification Everyday (VINE) system. Under this bill, the system will be operated by the County Sheriffs of Colorado, under the supervision of the Department of Public Safety. The VINE system allows crime victims to obtain free information on the custody status of inmates under supervision in county jails.

#### **Background**

The federal Bureau of Justice Assistance provided a grant to create the VINE system in Colorado in 2007. These grants covered the creation of the VINE program, but not its ongoing costs. VINE is currently administered by the County Sheriffs of Colorado, and provides information on inmates in county jails only. The system is funded by participating counties, and there is no charge for crime victims to use the system. Not all counties participate, nor does the Department of Corrections.

## **State Expenditures**

In order to fully fund the VINE program, for FY 2013-14, this bill will increase General Fund expenditures by \$430,373, within the Department of Public Safety and the Department of Human Services (DHS). For FY 2014-13 and beyond, this expenditure is expected to be \$425,670.

**Department of Public Safety.** The DPS requires \$440,373 to administer the VINE computer system. This amount includes \$334,800 for the private IT contractor (Apriss), as well as 1.0 FTE in the DPS to manage the program each year. This FTE is expected to perform system oversight and program training, in addition to providing outreach to victims using VINE. DPS is also expected to allocate \$10,000 each to county sheriffs and to the DHS, so that they may engage in client contact and correspond with the software vendor. These costs are described below in Table 1.

**Department of Human Services.** The DHS currently spends approximately \$10,000 General Fund annually on the program to assist victims and input offender data. This fiscal note assumes this General Fund appropriation would be replaced with reappropriated funds from DPS. No net change in DHS costs is expected.

Table 1. Expenditures Under HB13-1241				
Cost Components	FY 2013-14	FY 2014-15		
Personal Services (DPS)	\$60,000	\$60,000		
FTE	1.0	1.0		
Operating Expenses and Capital Outlay	5,653	950		
Travel	19,920	19,920		
Contract Software Administration (Apriss)	334,800	334,800		
County Sheriff Allocation	10,000	10,000		
DHS Allocation	10,000	10,000		
DHS Current Costs (General Fund)	(10,000)	(10,000)		
TOTAL	\$430,373	\$425,670		

**Department of Corrections (DOC).** The DOC is not expected participate in this system in the near term, and does not require an appropriation for this bill. If the DOC were to opt into the VINE program, IT costs will be incurred to interface its current system with the VINE network. In addition, DOC would also require an annual appropriation to cover the system maintenance. Annual costs for the DOC to participate in the system are estimated to be approximately \$155,000.

## **Expenditures Not Included**

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. The centrally appropriated costs subject to this policy are summarized in Table 2.

Table 2. Expenditures Not Included Under HB13-1241*				
Cost Components	FY 2013-14	FY 2014-15		
Employee Insurance (Health, Life, Dental, and Short-term Disability)	\$6,738	\$6,738		
Supplemental Employee Retirement Payments	4,110	4,650		
TOTAL	\$10,848	\$11,388		

<sup>\*</sup>More information is available at: http://colorado.gov/fiscalnotes

#### **Departmental Difference**

The DPS estimates a total funding of \$490,373 is required for this bill in FY 2013-14 and \$485,670 in FY 2014-15. This estimate includes an additional \$50,000 that is not included in the summary box of this fiscal note. Specifically, DPS includes costs of \$20,000 so that it may use the VINE system as part of its Colorado Integrated Criminal Justice Information System (CICJIS). Under this system, courts and probation officers can check the status of individuals that do not appear for court dates, and verify if the individual is currently incarcerated. This fiscal note assumes this function resides outside the scope of the intended use of the program for crime victims, and funding for this purpose should be addressed in the annual budgeting process. In addition, DPS estimates that this bill may require an additional \$30,000 for victim and public outreach. This fiscal note assumes that since the program has been established for several years, program awareness, including branding and marketing, has already been established. This fiscal note assumes the program manager and funding within DPS are sufficient to conduct any additional outreach.

#### **Local Government Impact**

This bill reduces expenditures by counties currently participating in the VINE system by more than \$400,000 by shifting the cost of operating the system to DPS. In addition, it is assumed that DPS will provide funding of \$10,000 to counties for their role in operating the system, including interacting with the software vendor, inputting data, and assisting with system users.

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## **State Appropriations**

In order to fully fund the VINE program, the following appropriations are required for FY 2013-14:

- An increase of \$440,373, General Fund, to Department of Public Safety, of which \$10,000 is reppropriated to the Department of Human Services, Division of Youth Corrections.
- A decrease of \$10,000, General Fund, to the Department of Human Services, Division of Youth Corrections.

## **Departments Contacted**

All Departments