



Legislative Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

Fiscal Note

Drafting Number:	LLS 22-1063	Date:	April 30, 2022
Prime Sponsors:	Rep. Esgar; McKean Sen. Fenberg; Holbert	Bill Status:	House SCMVA
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Bill Topic: REMOTE TESTIMONY BEFORE LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEES

Summary of Fiscal Impact:	<input type="checkbox"/> State Revenue	<input type="checkbox"/> TABOR Refund
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State Expenditure	<input type="checkbox"/> Local Government
	<input type="checkbox"/> State Transfer	<input type="checkbox"/> Statutory Public Entity

This bill authorizes the Executive Committee of the Legislative Council allow legislative committees to take remote testimony from government officials and employees and the public and repeals the current centralized remote testimony provisions. The bill increases state expenditures on an ongoing basis.

Appropriation Summary: For FY 2022-23, the bill requires an appropriation of \$401,709 to the Legislative Department and a \$10,000 reduction in appropriations for General Assembly.

Fiscal Note Status: The fiscal note reflects the introduced bill.

**Table 1
State Fiscal Impacts Under HB 22-1413**

		Budget Year FY 2022-23	Out Year FY 2023-24
Revenue		-	-
Expenditures	General Fund	\$391,709	\$389,832
	Centrally Appropriated	\$94,299	\$97,247
	Total Expenditures	\$486,008	\$487,079
	Total FTE	6.0 FTE	6.2 FTE
Transfers		-	-
Other Budget Impacts	General Fund Reserve	\$60,256	\$59,975

Summary of Legislation

This bill authorizes the Executive Committee of the Legislative Council to consider, recommend, and establish policies allowing legislative committees to take remote testimony. It also repeals provisions in statute for taking remote testimony at centralized remote sites outside the Denver metro area.

Assumptions

The fiscal note assumes that the Executive Committee will adopt a policy that allows government officials and employees and the public to testify remotely to committees meeting during session and during the interim. The fiscal note assumes that the policy for the interim will allow remote testimony in statutory interim committees and year-round committees. During the 2022 interim, this will include 23 separate committees in current law.

State Expenditures

The bill increases state expenditures in the Legislative Department by \$496,008 in FY 2022-23 and \$497,079 in FY 2023-24, paid from the General Fund. The bill also reduces expenditures for the General Assembly by \$10,000 for the centralized remote testimony provisions that are repealed by the bill. Expenditures for the Legislative Department are shown in Table 2 and detailed below.

Table 2
Expenditures Under HB 22-1413

	FY 2022-23	FY 2023-24
Legislative Department		
Personal Services	\$380,939	\$391,462
Operating Expenses	\$8,370	\$8,370
Capital Outlay Costs	\$12,400	-
Centrally Appropriated Costs ¹	\$94,299	\$97,247
Total Cost	\$496,008	\$497,079
Total FTE	6.0 FTE	6.2 FTE

¹ Centrally appropriated costs are not included in the bill's appropriation.

Legislative Department. Legislative Council Staff requires 6.2 FTE, prorated in FY 2022-23, to staff remote testimony beginning July 1, 2022. This includes 2.0 FTE who will work the whole year to staff interim and year-round committees, plus an additional seven individual staff who will work session only, which equates to 4.2 FTE. Capital outlay costs are included for full-time staff and operating costs are included for all staff.

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 include employee insurance and supplemental employee retirement payments, are shown in Table 2.

Other Budget Impacts

General Fund reserve. Under current law, an amount equal to 15 percent of General Fund appropriations must be set aside in the General Fund statutory reserve beginning in FY 2022-23. Based on this fiscal note, the bill is expected to increase the amount of General Fund held in reserve by the amounts shown in Table 1, which will decrease the amount of General Fund available for other purposes.

Effective Date

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

State Appropriations

For FY 2022-23, the bill requires the following changes in General Fund appropriations:

- the Legislative Department requires an appropriation of \$401,709 and 6.0 FTE for use by Legislative Council Staff; and
- the General Assembly requires a reduction in appropriations of \$10,000 for remote testimony at institutions of higher education.

State and Local Government Contacts

Legislative Council Staff