



Fiscal Note

Legislative Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

HB 25-1023: LOCAL GOVERNMENT REVIEW OF FENCING PROJECTS

Prime Sponsors:

Rep. Martinez; Bacon

Sen. Gonzales J.; Simpson

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Fiscal note status: The fiscal note reflects the introduced bill.

Summary Information

Overview. The bill requires that persons constructing certain types of fences on Sangre De Cristo land grant lands apply for approval from the local government with jurisdiction over the fencing project. A local government may accept or reject the application.

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

Beginning July 1, 2025, projects to install or substantially repair certain fencing projects in the Sangre de Cristo land grant lands must be assessed by the local government with jurisdiction over the land where the project will be located. Applications to a local government must contain specified details about the proposed project, including the height and length of the fence, adjustments to allow for wildlife passage, wildlife migration and hunting patterns in the area, and the purpose of the fencing project. Local governments have 60 days to approve or reject an application based on certain criteria, and may approve an application if they determine that the benefits of a covered fencing project outweigh the harms. A local government may also opt out of the bill's requirements.

The bill does not apply to covered fencing projects necessary for a public utility, the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT), or for the security of a public school or prison.

Background

The Sangre de Cristo land grant was a Mexican land grant possessed in January 1844 that covers almost 1.4 million acres the San Luis Valley and the Sangre de Cristo Mountains in Southern Colorado. Costilla County makes up the majority of the land grant.

Local Government

The bill increases workload for certain local governments in the Sangre de Cristo land grant lands to review applications for covered fence projects. This includes updating existing codes and developing an application and review process for certain fencing projects. This increase is expected to affect only a few counties and municipalities in the San Luis Valley.

Effective Date

This bill was signed into law by the Governor on May 27, 2025, and applies to covered fencing projects commencing on or after July 1, 2025.

State and Local Government Contacts

Counties

Municipalities

Local Affairs

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](#).