



Fiscal Note

Legislative Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

HB 26-1017: CRIMINAL RESTITUTION PROHIBITED FOR INSURERS

Prime Sponsors:

Rep. Espenoza; Zokaie
Sen. Weissman

Fiscal Analyst:

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Published for: House Judiciary**Drafting number:** LLS 26-0424**Version:** Initial Fiscal Note**Date:** January 27, 2026

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

Summary Information

Overview. The bill prohibits insurers from receiving restitution payments in criminal proceedings.

Types of impacts. The bill is projected to affect the following areas on an ongoing basis starting in FY 2026-27:

- Minimal State Revenue
- Minimal State Workload

Appropriations. No appropriation is required.

Table 1
State Fiscal Impacts

Type of Impact	Budget Year FY 2026-27	Out Year FY 2027-28
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

Under current law, insurers may receive restitution payments ordered in criminal cases. This occurs when an insurer incurs a loss arising from a contractual relationship with a victim, such as paying out an insurance claim to a victim of a crime. The bill prohibits insurers from recovering losses through this mechanism, but does not prohibit an insurer from pursuing a civil action against offenders for losses.

State Revenue

Starting in FY 2026-27, the bill may minimally increase revenue in the Judicial Department from civil filing fees if insurers choose to file additional civil actions. There are about 600 criminal cases annually that have a restitution order issued for an insurance company. Based on the overall number of annual civil case filings and the possibility that not all insurers may choose to file a replacement civil case, any increase in state revenue is expected to be minimal. Revenue from filing fees is subject to TABOR.

State Expenditures

Similar to the State Revenue impact, the bill may minimally increase workload in the trial courts of the Judicial Department if insurers choose to pursue additional civil cases. Any increase in workload would be offset by a decrease in workload from no longer processing restitution for insurers in criminal cases. Overall, no change in appropriations is required.

Effective Date

The bill takes effect 90 days following adjournment of the General Assembly sine die, assuming no referendum petition is filed.

State and Local Government Contacts

Judicial

Regulatory Agencies