



Fiscal Note

Legislative Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

HB 26-1022: JURY DUTY OPT-OUT FOR PEOPLE 72 YEARS OR OLDER

Prime Sponsors:

Rep. Barron

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

Summary Information

Overview. The bill allows a person who is at least 72 years of age to either temporarily or permanently opt out of jury service starting January 1, 2027.

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

- State Expenditures
- Local Government

Appropriations. For FY 2026-27, the bill requires an appropriation of \$9,480 to the Judicial Department.

Table 1
State Fiscal Impacts

Type of Impact	Budget Year FY 2026-27	Out Year FY 2027-28
State Revenue	\$0	\$0
State Expenditures (General Fund)	\$9,480	\$14,960
Transferred Funds	\$0	\$0
Change in TABOR Refunds	\$0	\$0
Change in State FTE	0.0 FTE	0.0 FTE

Summary of Legislation

Starting January 1, 2027, the bill allows a person who is at least 72 years old to either temporarily or permanently opt out of jury service. An eligible person may opt out after receiving a jury summons. A judge or jury commissioner may require documentation demonstrating age and also determines when the temporary opt-out expires. Any document provided to demonstrate age is not a public record and must not be disclosed to the public. Finally, the bill specifies that other opt out procedures in current law do not apply to a person who temporarily opts out under the bill's provisions.

State Expenditures

The bill increases state expenditures in the Judicial Department by \$9,480 in FY 2026-27 and about \$15,000 in FY 2027-28 and ongoing to create the jury opt-out for persons who are at least 72 years old. These costs, paid from the General Fund, are summarized in Table 2 and discussed below.

Table 2
State Expenditures
Judicial Department

Cost Component	Budget Year FY 2026-27	Out Year FY 2027-28
Additional Jury Summons	\$7,480	\$14,960
Jury Summons Modification	\$2,000	\$0
Total Costs	\$9,480	\$14,960

Assumptions

The fiscal note estimates that about 22,000 people per year will choose to either temporarily or permanently opt out. This is based on an assumption that out of about 63,000 annually summoned jurors who are at least 72 years old, 35 percent, or about 22,000, will request an opt-out. Actual costs will vary depending on how many people actually pursue an opt-out.

Additional Jury Summons

To maintain an adequate jury pool, the Judicial Department will have to send additional summons to make up for the expected number of older adults opting out under the bill. The cost of printing and mailing additional summons is estimated at \$0.68 per summons. Costs for FY 2026-27 are prorated for a half-year impact because jurors cannot opt out under the bill until January 1, 2027. The Judicial Department can handle the workload to process opt-outs and to send additional summons within existing staffing levels.

Jury Summon Redesign

Additionally, the department will have one-time costs of \$2,000 to update the jury summons template to include necessary information on the new opt-out process.

Local Government

Municipalities that operate courts and the Denver County Court may have similar costs to send additional jury summons and to redesign their jury summons templates. These costs will vary by jurisdiction. These courts are funded by local governments.

Effective Date

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

State Appropriations

For FY 2026-27, the bill requires a General Fund appropriation of \$9,480 to the Judicial Department.

State and Local Government Contacts

Denver County Courts

Municipalities

Judicial