



Fiscal Note

Legislative Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

SB 26-012: COMPENSABLE LOSSES FOR TRIBAL MEMBERS

Prime Sponsors:

Sen. Danielson
Rep. Velasco

Fiscal Analyst:

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Published for: Senate Judiciary**Drafting number:** LLS 26-0602**Version:** Initial Fiscal Note**Date:** January 27, 2026

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

Summary Information

Overview. The bill includes expenses for traditional Native American healing ceremonies as compensable losses under the Crime Victim Compensation Act.

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

- Minimal State Expenditures

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

The bill includes expenses for traditional Native American healing ceremonies as compensable losses under the Crime Victim Compensation Act. Expenses must be for enrolled members of a federally recognized tribe and include:

- counseling and healing from an elder or spiritual healer;
- sweat lodge and smudging ceremonies;
- ceremonial burials and other expenses related to traditional giveaway or gifting practices;
- child care during burial ceremonies; and
- reimbursement for gifts to individuals who perform ceremonial services.

State Expenditures

The bill will minimally increase workload and spending in the Judicial Department to include the bill's provisions into victim compensation determinations. Based on the total estimated cases impacted, any increase in costs for the Judicial Department or to the Crime Victim Compensation Fund is expected to be minimal. The fund is continuously appropriated and receives its funds from state and federal criminal fines and surcharges.

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

Public Safety