



**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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**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

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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

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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

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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

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Judicial

Public Safety

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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](#).