



# Fiscal Note

## Legislative Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado’s Legislature

### SB 26-018: LEGAL PROTECTIONS FOR DIGNITY OF MINORS

**Prime Sponsors:**

Sen. Wallace; Kolker  
Rep. Froelich; Garcia

**Fiscal Analyst:**

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**Published for:** House Judiciary

**Drafting number:** LLS 26-0200

**Version:** First Revised Note

**Date:** March 20, 2026

**Fiscal note status:** This revised fiscal note reflects the reengrossed bill.

### Summary Information

**Overview.** The bill requires a court to suppress name change petition records for petitioners under 18 years old.

**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 (General Fund)	\$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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Starting July 1, 2026, the bill requires a court to suppress the court record for a name change petition if the petitioner is under 18 years old. The suppressed record may be used for administrative purposes by a court, but may not be published and can only be accessed by other persons with a valid court order or affidavit authorizing access. This process does not apply to name changes that are granted pursuant to an exception for a person adjudicated for a felony. Additionally, a person who filed a name change petition prior to July 1, 2026, may petition to suppress the record of the name change petition, which the court must grant.

## State Revenue

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Starting in FY 2026-27, state revenue may minimally increase in the Judicial Department if individuals file petitions to suppress the record of a name change petition initiated prior to July 1, 2026. Revenue from filing fees is subject to TABOR. The fiscal note assumes these circumstances apply in a narrow set of cases, and that any increase in revenue will be minimal.

## State Expenditures

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Starting in FY 2026-27, workload will increase in the trial courts of the Judicial Department to update policies and procedures to ensure petitions are suppressed, which will include updating IT systems and new form creation. Judicial officer time will increase to hear any additional petitions to suppress records for name change petitions prior to July 1, 2026. The overall impact is expected to be minimal, and no change in appropriations is required.

## Technical Note

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The safety clause in the bill results in an effective date that will make timely implementation difficult for the department and may result in noncompliance with certain provisions of the bill; a January 1, 2027, effective date would allow the department to train staff and make systems updates.

## Effective Date

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The bill takes effect upon signature of the Governor, or upon becoming law without his signature.

## State and Local Government Contacts

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Counties

Judicial

Human Services

Personnel and Administration