



Fiscal Note

Legislative Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

HB 26-1278: LOC GOV APPROVAL OF TRANSMISSION INFRASTRUCTURE

Prime Sponsors:

Rep. Richardson
Sen. Pelton R.; Snyder

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Published for: House Energy & Environment**Drafting number:** LLS 26-0106**Version:** Initial Fiscal Note**Date:** March 3, 2026**Fiscal note status:** The fiscal note reflects the introduced bill.

Summary Information

Overview. The bill requires investor-owned electric utilities to obtain local government land use approvals and permits before condemning a property for a high-voltage transmission infrastructure project.

Types of impacts. The bill is projected to affect the following areas on an ongoing basis:

- Local Government

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, an investor-owned electric utility must receive a certificate of public convenience and necessity from the Public Utilities Commission before initiating condemnation proceedings related to a high-voltage transmission infrastructure project. The bill requires the utility to also obtain all necessary local government land use permits and approvals before condemning a property. The bill does not apply to a local government's initial permits and approvals required for utilities' transmission infrastructure.

Local Government

The bill may minimally increase workload for local governments to ensure that utilities have followed all multijurisdictional codes and applications for land use permits prior to actions of eminent domain by the utility.

Effective Date

The bill takes effect January 1, 2027, assuming no referendum petition is filed. It applies to condemnation proceedings initiated on or after this date.

State and Local Government Contacts

Counties

Municipal Utilities

Local Affairs

Regulatory Agencies