# HB10-1291

*Colorado Legislative Council Staff Fiscal Note*

# STATE
# REVISED FISCAL IMPACT

(replaces fiscal note dated February 15, 2010)

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|---|---|---|---|
| **Drafting Number:** | LLS 10-0856 | **Date:** | March 8, 2010 |
| **Prime Sponsor(s):** | Rep. Priola<br>Sen. Newell | **Bill Status:** | House Appropriations |
| | | **Fiscal Analyst:** | Sara McPhee (303-866-4782) |

**TITLE:** CONCERNING THE ELIMINATION OF CERTAIN WITNESS FEES.

| Fiscal Impact Summary | FY 2010-2011 | FY 2011-2012 |
|---|---|---|
| **State Revenue** | | |
| **State Expenditures**<br>General Fund | ($17,300) | ($17,300) |
| **FTE Position Change** | | |
| **Effective Date:** Upon signature of the Governor, or upon becoming law without his signature. | | |
| **Appropriation Summary for FY 2010-2011:** See State Appropriations section. | | |
| **Local Government Impact:** None. | | |

**Note: The revised fiscal note reflects new information concerning check processing.**

## Summary of Legislation

The bill eliminates the daily fee that witnesses receive for attending court. The current fees range from $0.50 to $2.50, depending upon the type of court.

## State Expenditures

Beginning in FY 2010-11, the bill reduces General Fund expenditures by $17,300. This is the average annual amount that has been paid to witnesses over the past three years. In many instances, the witness fee is so small that the witnesses do not request reimbursement. Eliminating this fee also removes the administrative burden associated with paying witnesses; although, the courts still reimburse witnesses for mileage costs. The fiscal note estimates that the number of checks issued by the state each year will not decrease appreciably because the mileage reimbursement has not been eliminated; therefore, the overall administrative burden associated with paying witnesses remains the same.

## State Appropriations

In FY 2010-11, the Judicial Branch requires a General Fund reduction of $17,300.

## Departments Contacted

Judicial Law