Amendment Q

Colorado Legislative Council Staff

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

Date: September 1, 2010 **Fiscal Analyst:** Bill Zepernick, 303-866-4777

BALLOT TITLE: TEMPORARY LOCATION FOR THE SEAT OF GOVERNMENT

Summary of Measure

Colorado's constitution requires that the state seat of government be located in the City and County of Denver. This location may only be changed if approved by two-thirds of voters at a general election.

Amendment Q allows the government to temporarily move the state seat of government in certain emergency situations. In the event or imminent threat of a disaster, the governor may issue an executive order declaring a disaster emergency and designate a temporary meeting location for the General Assembly. Upon convening at this location, the General Assembly may then designate, by bill, a temporary location for the state seat of government for a specified period of time.

Assessment

Amendment Q is assessed as having no fiscal impact. Permitting the governor to designate a temporary meeting location for the General Assembly does not in itself impact state revenue or expenditures. Depending on the nature of an emergency, the state could have costs to relocate staff and to conduct the General Assembly in a temporary location. However, these costs would likely be incurred by the state with or without this referendum, as the state would likely take steps in an emergency to prevent interruption to normal government operations. This analysis assumes any costs will be addressed through appropriations made during a session of the General Assembly at the temporary location.