



# Fiscal Note

## Legislative Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

### HCR 25-1003: PERSON'S RIGHTS RELATED TO THEIR CHILDREN

**Prime Sponsors:**

Rep. DeGraaf

**Fiscal Analyst:**

John Armstrong, 303-866-6289

john.armstrong@coleg.gov

**Bill Outcome:** Postponed Indefinitely

**Drafting number:** LLS 25-0811

**Version:** Final Fiscal Note

**Date:** July 15, 2025

**Fiscal note status:** The final fiscal note reflects the introduced resolution. This resolution was postponed indefinitely by the House State Civic, Military & Veteran's Affairs Committee on April 21, 2025; therefore, the impacts identified in this analysis do not take effect.

#### Summary Information

**Overview.** This resolution would have referred a ballot question to the 2026 general election to amend the state constitution that, if approved by voters, would have expanded the definition of "inalienable rights" to include a person's right to direct the upbringing, education, and care of their children.

**Types of impacts.** If approved by voters, the measure would have affected the following areas on an ongoing basis:

- State Expenditures
- Local Government

**Appropriations.** No appropriation was required.

**Table 1**  
**State Fiscal Impacts**

Type of Impact	Budget Year FY 2025-26	Out Year FY 2026-27
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 concurrent resolution refers a ballot measure to voters at the November 2026 election. If approved, the measure expands the definition of "inalienable rights" to include a person's right to direct the upbringing, education and care of their children.

## **State Expenditures**

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As outlined below, the bill will increase state election expenditures to refer a measure to the ballot, paid using existing appropriations. It may also result in future laws passed by the General Assembly or decisions by the courts concerning the upbringing, care and education of children. The impact of any future legislation or court decisions has not been estimated.

### **Election Expenditures—Existing Appropriations**

This resolution includes a referred measure that will appear before voters at the November 2026 general election. While no additional appropriation is required, certain election costs are incurred by the state when ballot measures are referred. These include reimbursing counties for certain election costs; publishing the text and title of the measure in newspapers across the state; and preparing and mailing the ballot information booklet.

### **Future Impacts concerning the Care and Education of Children**

Depending on future legislation, court decisions, and other policy changes in response to this amendment, if adopted, state expenditures regarding children, health care, education, and other areas may change. Workload and costs in the trial courts and appellate courts may also increase if legal questions arise on how to apply or interpret the rights outlined in the measure. It is assumed that any costs will be addressed through future legislation or the annual budget process if necessary.

## **Local Government**

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Similar to the state, costs for school districts, counties, and other local governments may change if the amendment is approved by voters. Any potential impacts will depend on future legislation, court decisions, and other policy changes to apply the rights outlined in the measure.

## **Effective Date**

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The resolution takes effect upon enactment by the General Assembly. If approved by voters, the referred measure takes effect upon proclamation of the Governor, no later than 30 days after the election results are canvassed.

## **State and Local Government Contacts**

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Early Childhood

Human Services

Education

Law