



# Fiscal Note

## Legislative Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

### SB 26-052: COAL TRANSITION COMMUNITY INVESTMENT

**Prime Sponsors:**

Sen. Roberts; Catlin  
Rep. Lukens; Mauro

**Fiscal Analyst:**

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**Published for:** Senate Ag. & Natural Resources**Drafting number:** LLS 26-0331**Version:** Initial Fiscal Note**Date:** January 30, 2026

**Fiscal note status:** The fiscal note reflects the introduced bill.

#### Summary Information

**Overview.** The bill creates a hiring preference for coal transition workers and allows a public entity to deposit or invest public funds from a payment the public entity has received to offset the socioeconomic impacts from the closure of a coal mine or coal power generating station.

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

- Minimal State Workload
- 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**

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Beginning January 1, 2027, the bill creates a hiring preference for qualified coal transition workers. Businesses operating in a coal transition community, and that are engaged in construction, railroad operation, utilities, energy generation facilities, or advanced manufacturing facilities are required to hire qualified coal transition workers if the minimum qualifications for the position are met.

Affected businesses are required to consult with the Just Transition Office in the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment (CDLE), with operators of existing coal-fueled generation facilities scheduled for retirement, and with organizations representing qualified coal transition workers to identify qualified workers.

An affected business must report annually to the Just Transition Office in CDLE with information on the titles of positions filled, number of qualified workers hired, number of non-qualified worker hires and recruitment efforts in the prior year. The office must develop policies and procedures for reporting from affected business implementing the hiring preference.

The bill permits a public entity to deposit or invest, either directly or through an investment firm or other third party, any payment or settlement funds the public entity has received offsetting the socioeconomic impacts from the closure of a coal mine or coal power generating station.

## **State Expenditures**

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The bill increases workload in the Just Transition Office in CDLE to develop a reporting system allowing affected business to provide annual information on implementing the hiring preference for coal transition workers. This effort does not require any additional appropriations.

## **Local Government**

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The bill provides flexibility to public entities, including local governments, with respect to the investment of settlement funds the entity received for a coal mine or generating station closure. Any change in investment income or administrative effort will depend on decisions made by qualifying local governments and is not estimated in the fiscal note.

## **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	Local Affairs
Labor	Municipalities
Law	Public Health & Environment
Treasury	