



Legislative Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

Fiscal Summary

Date: September 28, 2023 **Fiscal Analyst:** Matt Bishop (303-866-4796)

LCS TITLE: CONSUMER CHOICE IN ENERGY

Fiscal Summary of Initiative 85

This fiscal summary, prepared by the nonpartisan Director of Research of the Legislative Council, contains a preliminary assessment of the measure's fiscal impact. A full fiscal impact statement for this initiative is or will be available at <https://leg.colorado.gov/bluebook>. This fiscal summary identifies the following impact.

State expenditures. Initiative 85 prohibits the state or local governments from adopting rules or laws that inhibit an individual consumer's choice of an energy source for cooking, hot water, generators, or heating and cooling. The measure increases expenditures and workload for state agencies to revise technical assistance to local governments concerning housing and building codes. The measure may also increase workload and legal services for state agencies implementing the state's greenhouse gas emissions reduction plan.

Local government impact. Local governments that currently have or are considering building codes that prohibit certain energy hookups in commercial and residential development will have increased costs to conform the codes with state law, and to modify permitting, inspection, and compliance activities.

Economic impacts. In jurisdictions where certain energy sources have been or would be restricted, this measure may decrease consumption of alternative sources of energy and related goods. If the continued use of an energy source is less expensive than alternatives, consumers may have increased spending or saving elsewhere in the economy.