



Legislative  
Council Staff

*Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature*

# Initiative 61

## Fiscal Summary

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<b>Date:</b>	February 28, 2022	<b>Fiscal Analyst:</b>	Aaron Carpenter (303-866-4918)
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### LCS TITLE: LEGAL POSSESSION AND USE OF ENTHEOGENIC PLANTS AND FUNGI

#### Fiscal Summary of Initiative 61

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 [www.ColoradoBlueBook.com](http://www.ColoradoBlueBook.com). This fiscal summary identifies the following impact.

**State revenue.** By decriminalizing possession and use of entheogenic plants and fungi by individuals over the age of 21, there may be fewer persons convicted for possession of a controlled substance. To the extent that convictions are reduced, Initiative 61 will decrease state revenue from criminal fines and court fees.

**State expenditures.** Initiative 61 may decrease state expenditures in the criminal justice system. If the measure results in fewer individuals charged with the possession and use of entheogenic plants and fungi, it will decrease costs to the courts for trials, to probation to monitor individuals sentenced to probation, and to the Department of Corrections to incarcerate individuals sentenced to prison. These potential cost savings cannot be determined at this time.

**Local government impact.** Local law enforcement agencies and district attorneys may have a reduction in workload to investigate and prosecute cases related to the possession and use of entheogenic plants and fungi. Consequently, costs to counties will be reduced as fewer persons may be sentenced to county jail.

**Economic impacts.** The measure may decrease the number of individuals convicted of a crime. To the extent this prevents people from being incarcerated or having a criminal record, more individuals may be able to stay in the labor force, which may increase income and spending in their households and communities.