



## Legislative Council Staff

*Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature*

### Fiscal Summary

---

**Date:** October 16, 2023

**Fiscal Analyst:** Shukria Maktabi | 303-866-4720

---

#### LCS TITLE: RIGHT TO ABORTION

#### Fiscal Summary of Initiative 89

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 and local government impact.** Under current law, an individual's right to reproductive autonomy, including the right to continue or terminate a pregnancy are outlined in state statute. This measure codifies the right to abortion specifically in the state constitution. This change will result in no fiscal impact to state and local governments, as it reflects current law and practices. The measure also removes the constitutional provision prohibiting the use of public funds for abortion. Currently state funds in Colorado are not used for abortion services, except when required under federal law to pay for abortion services under the state's Medicaid Program in certain limited cases. Repealing the prohibition on public funding for abortion creates the potential for additional programs or legislation to use state or local government funding for abortion-related health care services. At this time, no change in spending is estimated, as it will depend on future decisions by the state legislature and local governments.

**Economic impacts.** To the extent that additional public funding is provided for abortion-related health care services, increased spending and activity may occur in this sector of the economy. This may shift resources from other government or health services. It could also reduce out-of-pocket spending by individuals receiving these services, which would free up money for other uses in the economy. The degree to which any economic impacts are realized will depend on future spending decisions by state and local governments.