



GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF  
BUDGET AND PROGRAM PLANNING

## Fiscal Note 2025 Biennium

**Bill information:**

HB0890 - Require certain govt boards to provide audio/video recordings of public meetings (Barker, Brad )

**Status:** As Introduced

- |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Significant Local Gov Impact | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Needs to be included in HB 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> Technical Concerns              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Included in the Executive Budget        | <input type="checkbox"/> Significant Long-Term Impacts           | <input type="checkbox"/> Dedicated Revenue Form Attached |

### FISCAL SUMMARY

	<b>FY 2024 Difference</b>	<b>FY 2025 Difference</b>	<b>FY 2026 Difference</b>	<b>FY 2027 Difference</b>
<b>Expenditures:</b>				
General Fund	\$5,000	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Revenue:</b>				
General Fund	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Net Impact-General Fund Balance:</b>	(\$5,000)	\$0	\$0	\$0

**Description of fiscal impact:** This bill provides for increased transparency and accountability in government by requiring certain governmental entities to record their public meetings in audio and video format. HB 890 appropriates \$5,000 from the general fund to the Department of Administration for the purpose of adopting administrative rules under 2-17-518, MCA.

### FISCAL ANALYSIS

**Assumptions:**

**Department of Administration**

1. HB 890 will appropriate \$5,000 from the general fund to the Department of Administration.
2. The department will provide guidance and best practices to local government entities using the appropriated general fund monies.

**Office of Public Instruction**

3. There is no direct state impact on the Office of Public Instruction associated with the provisions of HB 890 since these requirements relate to school district board meetings.

	<u>FY 2024</u> <u>Difference</u>	<u>FY 2025</u> <u>Difference</u>	<u>FY 2026</u> <u>Difference</u>	<u>FY 2027</u> <u>Difference</u>
<b><u>Fiscal Impact:</u></b>				
FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b><u>Expenditures:</u></b>				
Personal Services	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Operating Expenses	\$5,000	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>TOTAL Expenditures</b>	<b>\$5,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b><u>Funding of Expenditures:</u></b>				
General Fund (01)	\$5,000	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>TOTAL Funding of Exp.</b>	<b>\$5,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b><u>Revenues:</u></b>				
General Fund (01)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>TOTAL Revenues</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b><u>Net Impact to Fund Balance (Revenue minus Funding of Expenditures):</u></b>				
General Fund (01)	(\$5,000)	\$0	\$0	\$0

**Effect on County or Other Local Revenues or Expenditures:**

**Montana Association of Counties**

1. The impact of HB 890 will be substantial, and the ongoing maintenance and storage capabilities are not addressed in this estimate.
2. Based on survey results, audio and video equipment estimates range from \$2,500 to \$10,000 per entity.
3. Of the counties that either did not response to the survey, or responded that they did not have audio or video capability, it is estimated that the costs to fund both components for all counties is \$400,000 in equipment costs.
4. Very few counties have the capability to record, in audio or video, their Boards of Health. It is assumed there will be the ability to use existing spaces and equipment, but it is difficult to project costs for just these recordings.
5. Five counties do not have websites to host this information. The cost to create these websites is unknown.

**Montana League of Cities and Towns/Montana Municipal Interlocal Authority**

6. This bill has unquantifiable significant fiscal impacts to municipalities by requiring video recording and posting of their governing body meetings. Such a requirement will require significant capital outlay, information technology maintenance, and closed captioning of video recordings.

*BB*

Sponsor's Initials

20230331

Date

*AO*

Budget Director's Initials

3-30-23

Date