

Immigrants-bail bill killed

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A prosecutors' bill aimed at bail bondsmen who get illegal immigrants out of jail died a bipartisan death Monday in a Senate committee.

Surety companies, bail bondsmen, and immigrant attorneys and activists united to lobby against the measure.

Tamar Wilson, with the Colorado District Attorneys Council, argued that the bill had nothing to do with illegal immigration.

"It has everything to do with fairness," she said.

She said bonding agents are collecting a "windfall" when an illegal immigrant with a jail bond is deported from the country, a contention hotly in dispute. The district attorneys wanted the law to change so that bonding agents are liable for all of a defendant's bail even if he or she is deported.

House Bill 1088 died on a 4-1 vote with Sen. Bill Cadman, R-Colorado Springs, voting with the three Democrats on the Senate panel. Two El Paso County Republicans, Sen. Kent Lambert and Rep. Mark Barker, sponsored the bill.

Read more: [Immigrants-bail bill killed - The Denver Post](http://www.denverpost.com/news/ci_17668896#ixzz1HcFDe9dN)
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