

**Second Regular Session
Seventy-fifth General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO**

PREAMENDED

*This Unofficial Version Includes Committee
Amendments Not Yet Adopted on Second Reading*

LLS NO. 26-0181.01 Shelby Ross x4510

SENATE BILL 26-048

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Hinrichsen and Marchman, Amabile, Ball, Bridges, Coleman, Cutter, Danielson, Daugherty, Exum, Gonzales J., Jodeh, Kipp, Kolker, Lindstedt, Mullica, Roberts, Sullivan, Wallace

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Joseph and Garcia,

Senate Committees

State, Veterans, & Military Affairs
Appropriations

House Committees

State, Civic, Military, & Veterans Affairs
Appropriations

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 **CONCERNING LIMITING THE AGE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN PARTIES TO A**
102 **MARRIAGE THAT REQUIRES JUDICIAL APPROVAL WHEN ONE**
103 **PARTY IS A MINOR.**

Bill Summary

(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <http://leg.colorado.gov>.)

Current law requires an individual to be at least 18 years old in order to obtain a marriage license; except that a minor who is 16 or 17 years old may obtain a marriage license with judicial approval. The bill repeals this exception, therefore requiring that an individual be at least 18 years old to obtain a marriage license.

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.
Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material to be added to existing law.
Dashes through the words or numbers indicate deletions from existing law.

SENATE
3rd Reading Unamended
March 30, 2026

SENATE
Amended 2nd Reading
March 27, 2026

1 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

2

3 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 14-2-108, **amend** (1)
4 as follows:

5 **14-2-108. Judicial approval.**

6 (1) The juvenile court, as defined in section 19-1-103, after a
7 reasonable effort has been made to notify the parents or legal guardians
8 of each underage party, may order the county clerk and recorder pursuant
9 to subsection (2) of this section to issue a marriage license and a marriage
10 certificate form to a person sixteen or seventeen years ~~of age~~ OLD, AS
11 LONG AS THE AGE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE TWO PARTIES TO THE
12 MARRIAGE IS NOT MORE THAN THE AGE DIFFERENCE DESCRIBED IN
13 SECTION 18-3-402 (1)(e).

14 **SECTION 2. Act subject to petition - effective date -**
15 **applicability.** (1) This act takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following
16 the expiration of the ninety-day period after final adjournment of the
17 general assembly (August 12, 2026, if adjournment sine die is on May 13,
18 2026); except that, if a referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1
19 (3) of article V of the state constitution against this act or an item, section,
20 or part of this act within such period, then the act, item, section, or part
21 will not take effect unless approved by the people at the general election
22 to be held in November 2026 and, in such case, will take effect on the
23 date of the official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.

24 (2) This act applies to marriage licenses issued on or after the
25 applicable effective date of this act.