

HOUSE COMMITTEE OF REFERENCE REPORT

Chairman of Committee

May 9, 2016
Date

Committee on State, Veterans, & Military Affairs.

After consideration on the merits, the Committee recommends the following:

SB16-056 be amended as follows, and as so amended, be referred to the Committee of the Whole with favorable recommendation:

- 1 Amend reengrossed bill, page 2, line 4, strike "**declaration.**" and
2 substitute "**declaration - repeal.**"
- 3 Page 3, line 8, after "(2)" insert "(a)".
- 4 Page 3, after line 16, insert:
5 "(b) THIS SUBSECTION (2) IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE MAY 15,
6 2018."
- 7 Page 3, line 19, strike "**Definitions.**" and substitute "**Definitions -
8 repeal.**"
- 9 Page 3, line 21, after "(6)" insert "(a)".
- 10 Page 3, after line 26, insert:
11 "(b) THIS SUBSECTION (6) IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE MAY 15,
12 2018."
- 13 Page 4, line 2, strike "**prohibited.**" and substitute "**prohibited - repeal.**"
- 14 Page 8, after line 23 insert:

1 "(11) SUBSECTIONS (3) TO (10) OF THIS SECTION AND THIS
2 SUBSECTION (11) ARE REPEALED, EFFECTIVE MAY 15, 2018.

3 **SECTION 4.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 24-50.5-108 as
4 follows:

5 **24-50.5-108. Working group - broadening protections for state**
6 **employee whistleblowers - confidential information subject of**
7 **whistleblowing - preserving confidentiality of confidential**
8 **information - repeal.** (1) THE GOVERNOR SHALL CONVENE A WORKING

9 GROUP ON BROADENING PROTECTIONS FOR STATE EMPLOYEE
10 WHISTLEBLOWERS WHO MAY BE REQUIRED TO DISCLOSE CONFIDENTIAL
11 INFORMATION THAT IS THE SUBJECT OF WHISTLEBLOWING. THE WORKING
12 GROUP CONSISTS OF THE FOLLOWING:

13 (a) A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR,
14 DESIGNATED BY THE GOVERNOR;

15 (b) THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL
16 OR THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S DESIGNEE;

17 (c) A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL,
18 DESIGNATED BY THE ATTORNEY GENERAL;

19 (d) THE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE LEGAL SERVICES
20 OR THE DIRECTOR'S DESIGNEE.

21 (2) (a) THE WORKING GROUP SHALL EXAMINE THE
22 WHISTLEBLOWER PROTECTION LAWS OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AND
23 OF OTHER STATES AND COMPARE THOSE LAWS TO COLORADO'S
24 WHISTLEBLOWER PROTECTION LAW AS CONTAINED IN THIS ARTICLE. THE
25 WORKING GROUP SHALL DETERMINE MEANS OF BROADENING THE
26 WHISTLEBLOWER PROTECTIONS IN COLORADO LAW FOR SITUATIONS
27 WHERE THE SUBJECT OF WHISTLEBLOWING INVOLVES CONFIDENTIAL
28 INFORMATION THAT WOULD NEED TO BE DISCLOSED IN SOME MANNER IN
29 ORDER TO BRING TO LIGHT ACTIVITIES INCLUDING THE WASTE OF PUBLIC
30 FUNDS, ABUSE OF AUTHORITY, OR MISMANAGEMENT. THE WORKING GROUP
31 SHALL DETERMINE METHODS BY WHICH CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION
32 COULD BE DISCLOSED WHILE PRESERVING THE CONFIDENTIAL NATURE OF
33 THE INFORMATION. THE WORKING GROUP SHALL INCLUDE INPUT FROM
34 ADVOCACY ORGANIZATIONS INCLUDING BUSINESS, PRIVACY ADVOCATES,
35 AND EMPLOYEE ADVOCATES.

36 (b) MEETINGS OF THE WORKING GROUP ARE SUBJECT TO PART 4 OF
37 ARTICLE 6 OF THIS TITLE, AND THE WORKING GROUP IS SUBJECT TO THE
38 "COLORADO OPEN RECORDS ACT", PART 2 OF ARTICLE 72 OF THIS TITLE.

39 (3) BY NOVEMBER 1, 2016, THE WORKING GROUP SHALL REPORT

- 1 ITS RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE COMMITTEE ON LEGAL SERVICES AND TO
- 2 THE JOINT BUDGET COMMITTEE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.
- 3 (4) THIS SECTION IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2018."
- 4 Renumber succeeding sections accordingly.

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