

Second Regular Session
Seventy-third General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 22-0430.01 Megan McCall x4215

SENATE BILL 22-080

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Donovan,

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Roberts,

Senate Committees

Agriculture & Natural Resources

House Committees

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 CONCERNING A DUTY OF THE DIVISION OF FIRE PREVENTION AND
102 CONTROL TO CONDUCT WILDLAND FIRE INVESTIGATIONS, AND,
103 IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, MAKING AN APPROPRIATION.

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>.)

The bill establishes that conducting investigations of wildland fires in the state is a duty of the division of fire prevention and control within the department of public safety and makes an appropriation to fund such investigations.

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

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

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-33.5-1203, **add**
3 (1)(x) as follows:

4 **24-33.5-1203. Duties of division.** (1) The division shall perform
5 the following duties:

6 (x) CONDUCT INVESTIGATIONS INTO THE CAUSES OF WILDLAND
7 FIRES THAT OCCUR WITHIN THE STATE AND, AT A MINIMUM, CONDUCTING
8 INVESTIGATIONS FOR NINETY PERCENT OF WILDLAND FIRES THAT OCCUR
9 IN THE STATE OVER A THREE-YEAR ROLLING AVERAGE.

10 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-33.5-1203.5,
11 **amend** (3) as follows:

12 **24-33.5-1203.5. Powers and duties of director - report.**

13 (3) Commencing in 2014, the director shall report annually to the
14 wildfire matters review committee created in section 2-3-1602 ~~C.R.S.~~,
15 regarding the current nature and magnitude of the state's ~~wildfire~~
16 WILDLAND FIRE situation, THE NUMBER OF WILDLAND FIRE
17 INVESTIGATIONS THE DIVISION CONDUCTED IN THE PRECEDING CALENDAR
18 YEAR, AND THE STATUS OF OR, IF THE INVESTIGATION IS COMPLETED, THE
19 RESULTS OF, EACH INVESTIGATION, ~~the status of wildfire~~ WILDLAND FIRE
20 preparedness and prescribed burns in the state, including available
21 resources, and the challenges to addressing the state's ~~wildfire~~ WILDLAND
22 FIRE threat. The report required by this subsection (3) is exempt from the
23 automatic expiration described in section 24-1-136 (11).

24 **SECTION 3. Appropriation.** For the 2022-23 state fiscal year,
25 \$204,649 is appropriated to the department of public safety for use by the
26 division of fire prevention and control for investigations of the causes of

1 wildland fires that occur within the state. This appropriation is from the
2 general fund. To implement this section, the division may use this
3 appropriation for conducting wildland fire investigations as set forth in
4 section 24-33.5-1203 (1)(x), C.R.S.

5 **SECTION 4. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act
6 takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the
7 ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly; except
8 that, if a referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V
9 of the state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this
10 act within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take
11 effect unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in
12 November 2022 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the
13 official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.