

**First Regular Session  
Seventy-fourth General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO**

**INTRODUCED**

LLS NO. 23-0721.01 Zach Blaes x4348

**HOUSE BILL 23-1149**

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**HOUSE SPONSORSHIP**

**Holtorf,**

**SENATE SPONSORSHIP**

**Pelton B.,**

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**House Committees**

State, Civic, Military, & Veterans Affairs

**Senate Committees**

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**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

101      **CONCERNING MODIFICATION OF THE CONDUCT OF ELECTIONS IN**  
102            **SMALL COUNTIES, AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, ALLOWING**  
103            **A SMALL COUNTY TO REDUCE THE NUMBER OF VOTER SERVICE**  
104            **AND POLLING CENTERS REQUIRED FOR A GENERAL ELECTION**  
105            **UNDER CERTAIN CONDITIONS AND ALLOWING THE COUNTY**  
106            **CLERK AND RECORDER OF A SMALL COUNTY TO APPOINT A**  
107            **MEMBER OF THE COUNTY CLERK AND RECORDER'S STAFF AS ONE**  
108            **OF THE REQUIRED ELECTION JUDGES.**

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**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*

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.*

<http://leg.colorado.gov>.)

Current law requires a county clerk and recorder to designate a minimum number of voter service and polling centers depending on the number of active electors. The bill allows a county clerk and recorder of a county with between 10,000 and 37,500 active electors to apply to the secretary of state for permission to reduce the number of required voter service and polling centers if the county clerk and recorder submits data showing how many registered electors voted at one or more of the county's required voter service and polling centers compared to the county's available resources and showing that the number of designated voter service and polling centers was not required for the number of registered electors.

For partisan elections, current law requires a county clerk and recorder to appoint 3 election judges for each voter service and polling center. The bill allows a county clerk and recorder of a county with less than 37,500 active electors (small county) to appoint a member of the county clerk and recorder's staff to serve as one of the required election judges for each voter service and polling center.

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

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 1-5-102.9, **add** (1)(f)  
3 as follows:

4 **1-5-102.9. Voter service and polling centers - number required**  
5 **- services provided - drop-off locations - definition.** (1) (f) A COUNTY  
6 CLERK AND RECORDER IN A COUNTY DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (1)(a)(III)  
7 OR (1)(a)(IV) OF THIS SECTION MAY APPLY TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE  
8 TO REDUCE THE NUMBER OF VOTER SERVICE AND POLLING CENTERS  
9 REQUIRED BY THIS SUBSECTION (1). THE APPLICATION MUST INCLUDE  
10 DATA SHOWING HOW MANY REGISTERED ELECTORS VOTED AT ONE OR  
11 MORE OF THE COUNTY'S REQUIRED VOTER SERVICE AND POLLING CENTERS  
12 COMPARED TO THE COUNTY'S AVAILABLE RESOURCES AND SHOWING THAT  
13 THE NUMBER OF DESIGNATED VOTER SERVICE AND POLLING CENTERS WAS  
14 NOT REQUIRED FOR THE NUMBER OF REGISTERED ELECTORS. THE

1 APPLICATION MUST STATE THAT AFTER CONSIDERATION OF THE FACTORS  
2 SET FORTH IN SUBSECTION (1)(c)(I) OF THIS SECTION, THE CLERK AND  
3 RECORDER HAS DETERMINED THAT THE REMAINING VOTER SERVICE AND  
4 POLLING CENTERS WILL ADDRESS THE NEEDS OF THE COUNTY. THE  
5 APPLICATION MUST BE INCLUDED WITH AN ELECTION PLAN FILED WITH THE  
6 SECRETARY OF STATE PURSUANT TO SECTION 1-7.5-105, AND THE  
7 SECRETARY OF STATE SHALL ACT ON THE APPLICATION AS PART OF  
8 APPROVING OR DISAPPROVING AN ELECTION PLAN PURSUANT TO SECTION  
9 1-7.5-105 (2). THE SECRETARY OF STATE SHALL DEVELOP DETAILED  
10 GUIDELINES FOR THE APPLICATION SPECIFIED IN THIS SUBSECTION (1)(f)  
11 AND THE DATA REQUIRED TO BE SUBMITTED WITH THE APPLICATION.

12 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 1-6-111, **amend** (1)  
13 as follows:

14 **1-6-111. Number of election judges.** (1) (a) For partisan  
15 elections, the county clerk and recorder shall appoint at least three  
16 election judges to serve as judges for each voter service and polling  
17 center to perform the designated functions, one of whom may be a student  
18 election judge appointed pursuant to section 1-6-101 (7). THE COUNTY  
19 CLERK AND RECORDER OF A SMALL COUNTY MAY APPOINT A MEMBER OF  
20 THE COUNTY CLERK AND RECORDER'S STAFF TO SERVE AS ONE OF THE  
21 REQUIRED ELECTION JUDGES FOR A VOTER SERVICE AND POLLING CENTER.  
22 In each voter service and polling center, notwithstanding any other  
23 provision of this article and subject to the availability of election judges  
24 who meet the affiliation requirements of section 1-6-109, of the election  
25 judges appointed to serve as voter service and polling center judges  
26 pursuant to this subsection (1), there shall be at least one election judge  
27 from each major political party who is not a student election judge.

1           (b) AS USED IN THIS SUBSECTION (1), "SMALL COUNTY" MEANS A  
2 COUNTY WITH A POPULATION OF LESS THAN THIRTY-SEVEN THOUSAND  
3 FIVE HUNDRED ACTIVE ELECTORS.

4           **SECTION 3. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act  
5 takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the  
6 ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly; except  
7 that, if a referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V  
8 of the state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this  
9 act within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take  
10 effect unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in  
11 November 2024 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the  
12 official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.