

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

**PREAMENDED**

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

LLS NO. 19-0422.02 Jerry Barry x4341

**SENATE BILL 19-030**

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**SENATE SPONSORSHIP**

**Gonzales,**

**HOUSE SPONSORSHIP**

**(None),**

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**Senate Committees**

Judiciary  
Appropriations

**House Committees**

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**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

101 **CONCERNING A REMEDY FOR IMPROPERLY ENTERED GUILTY PLEAS.**

**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 finds that some criminal defendants who, when they entered a guilty plea in connection with a deferred judgment, were not advised that there may be additional penalties that attach to the plea even if the plea is later withdrawn and the case is dismissed. These defendants did not knowingly, intelligently, and voluntarily enter the plea of guilty as required by law. The bill authorizes these persons to petition the court for an order vacating the guilty plea.

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.

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

2 SECTION 1. In Colorado Revised Statutes, add 18-1-110.5 as  
3 follows:

4 18-1-410.5. Relief from improperly entered guilty pleas -  
5 legislative declaration. (1) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FINDS THAT:

6 (a) A CRIMINAL DEFENDANT CANNOT CHALLENGE AN  
7 UNCONSTITUTIONAL GUILTY PLEA WHEN THAT PLEA HAS BEEN  
8 WITHDRAWN AND THE UNDERLYING CHARGES DISMISSED FOLLOWING THE  
9 SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF A DEFERRED JUDGMENT;

10 (b) BASED ON THE STATUTORY LANGUAGE OF SECTION 18-1.3-102,  
11 TOGETHER WITH THE WRITTEN DEFERRED JUDGMENT AGREEMENT AND  
12 COURT COLLOQUY THAT ACCOMPANIES SUCH AGREEMENTS, MANY  
13 NONCITIZEN DEFENDANTS DID NOT UNDERSTAND THAT THE GUILTY PLEA  
14 WOULD CONTINUE TO CONSTITUTE A CONVICTION FOR IMMIGRATION  
15 PURPOSES AND RESULT IN ADVERSE IMMIGRATION CONSEQUENCES,  
16 DESPITE THE SUBSEQUENT WITHDRAWAL OF THE GUILTY PLEA AND  
17 DISMISSAL OF THE CHARGES UPON SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF THE  
18 DEFERRED JUDGMENT; AND

19 (c) IN THE ABSENCE OF AN APPROPRIATE MECHANISM, MANY  
20 NONCITIZEN DEFENDANTS HAVE BEEN UNFAIRLY DEPRIVED OF THE  
21 OPPORTUNITY TO CHALLENGE GUILTY PLEAS THAT WERE ENTERED IN  
22 VIOLATION OF THE CONSTITUTION OR LAWS OF THE UNITED STATES OR OF  
23 THIS STATE THAT RESULTED IN ADVERSE IMMIGRATION CONSEQUENCES.

24 (2) AT ANY TIME FOLLOWING THE WITHDRAWAL OF THE GUILTY  
25 PLEA AND DISMISSAL OF THE CHARGES UPON SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF  
26 A DEFERRED JUDGMENT, A CRIMINAL DEFENDANT MAY CHALLENGE THE

1 GUILTY PLEA ON THE GROUNDS SET FORTH IN SUBSECTION (3) OF THIS  
2 SECTION. THE COURT IN WHICH THE GUILTY PLEA WAS ORIGINALLY  
3 ENTERED HAS JURISDICTION AND AUTHORITY TO DECIDE THE MOTION.

4 (3) A DEFENDANT MOVING TO VACATE A GUILTY PLEA THAT HAS  
5 ALREADY BEEN WITHDRAWN FOLLOWING THE SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION  
6 OF A DEFERRED JUDGMENT MUST, IN GOOD FAITH, ALLEGE THE  
7 FOLLOWING:

8 (a) AS A RESULT OF THE GUILTY PLEA, THE DEFENDANT HAS  
9 SUFFERED, IS CURRENTLY SUFFERING, OR WILL SUFFER, AN ADVERSE  
10 IMMIGRATION CONSEQUENCE; AND

11 (b) THE GUILTY PLEA WAS OBTAINED IN VIOLATION OF THE  
12 CONSTITUTION OR LAWS OF THE UNITED STATES OR OF THIS STATE UNDER  
13 ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING GROUNDS:

14 (I) THE DEFENDANT WAS NOT INFORMED THAT THE GUILTY PLEA  
15 WOULD CONTINUE TO RESULT IN ADVERSE IMMIGRATION CONSEQUENCES  
16 DESPITE THE SUBSEQUENT WITHDRAWAL OF THE GUILTY PLEA AND  
17 DISMISSAL OF THE CHARGES WITH PREJUDICE;

18 (II) THE DEFENDANT WAS NOT ADEQUATELY ADVISED OF THE  
19 IMMIGRATION CONSEQUENCES OF THE GUILTY PLEA; OR

20 (III) THE GUILTY PLEA WAS CONSTITUTIONALLY INFIRM FOR ANY  
21 OTHER REASON SET FORTH IN SECTION 18-1-410 (1).

22 (4) (a) UPON RECEIPT OF THE MOTION, THE COURT SHALL DIRECT  
23 THE PROSECUTION TO RESPOND WITHIN TWENTY-ONE DAYS OR REQUEST  
24 ADDITIONAL TIME FOR GOOD CAUSE SHOWN. IF A RESPONSE IS NOT FILED,  
25 THE MOTION IS DEEMED UNOPPOSED, AND THE COURT SHALL GRANT THE  
26 MOTION. IF THE PROSECUTION OPPOSES THE MOTION, IT SHALL ALLEGE, IN  
27 GOOD FAITH, THE FACTS UPON WHICH IT BASES ITS OPPOSITION. IF THE

1 RESPONSE RAISES AN ISSUE OF MATERIAL FACT, THE COURT SHALL SET THE  
2 MATTER FOR AN EVIDENTIARY HEARING.

3 (b) UNLESS THE PROSECUTION PROVES BY A PREPONDERANCE OF  
4 THE EVIDENCE THAT THE DEFENDANT WILL NOT SUFFER AN IMMIGRATION  
5 CONSEQUENCE OR THAT THE GUILTY PLEA WAS CONSTITUTIONALLY  
6 ENTERED, THE COURT SHALL GRANT THE MOTION.

7 (c) FOR CLAIMS RAISED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (3)(b)(I) OF  
8 THIS SECTION, THE PROSECUTION CAN NEITHER RAISE AN ISSUE OF  
9 MATERIAL FACT TO OBTAIN AN EVIDENTIARY HEARING NOR DEFEAT A  
10 CLAIM AT THE HEARING BY RELYING ON WRITTEN DOCUMENTS, SUCH AS A  
11 DEFERRED JUDGMENT AGREEMENT, PLEA PAPERWORK, OR TRANSCRIPT OF  
12 A COURT COLLOQUY, UNLESS THOSE DOCUMENTS CLEARLY SHOW THAT  
13 THE DEFENDANT WAS INFORMED THAT THE IMMIGRATION CONSEQUENCES  
14 RESULTING FROM A GUILTY PLEA WOULD REMAIN DESPITE THE  
15 SUBSEQUENT WITHDRAWAL OF THAT GUILTY PLEA AND THE DISMISSAL OF  
16 THE CHARGES WITH PREJUDICE.

17 (5) IF THE DEFENDANT SUCCEEDS IN CHALLENGING A GUILTY PLEA  
18 UNDER SUBSECTION (3) OF THIS SECTION, THE COURT SHALL VACATE THE  
19 GUILTY PLEA AS CONSTITUTIONALLY INFIRM. THE ORDER CONSTITUTES AN  
20 ADDITIONAL INDEPENDENT BASIS FOR THE VACATUR OF THE GUILTY PLEA  
21 AND DOES NOT RESULT IN THE REINSTATEMENT OF CHARGES.

22 **SECTION 2. Applicability.** This act applies to charges dismissed  
23 before, on, or after the effective date of this act.

24 **SECTION 3. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds,  
25 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate  
26 preservation of the public peace, health, and safety.