

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

PREAMENDED

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

LLS NO. 21-0161.01 Thomas Morris x4218

HOUSE BILL 21-1230

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Baisley and Titone,

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Zenzinger and Woodward, Bridges

House Committees

State, Civic, Military, & Veterans Affairs
Appropriations

Senate Committees

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 **CONCERNING CREATION OF A USER-FRIENDLY STATE INTERNET**
102 **PORTAL RELATING TO STATE AGENCY RULES, AND, IN**
103 **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 directs the office of information technology, in consultation with the secretary of state, the statewide internet portal authority, the department of regulatory agencies, and an appointee of the governor who has experience with digital transformation, to take primary responsibility to develop a centralized, statewide internet portal for access

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.

to all agency rule-making that is highly visible on the state's main website portal, and to make the portal available for use by June 30, 2022.

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

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-37.5-105, **add**
3 (15) as follows:

4 **24-37.5-105. Office - responsibilities - state search interface -**
5 **rules - legislative declaration - definitions.** (15) (a) THE GENERAL
6 ASSEMBLY HEREBY:

7 (I) FINDS THAT:

8 (A) RULES ADOPTED BY AGENCIES AFFECT MANY AREAS OF LIFE
9 FOR COLORADO CITIZENS, INCLUDING WATER, AIR, FOOD, ENERGY,
10 MOBILITY, EMPLOYMENT, AND HEALTH CARE;

11 (B) MAINTAINING A VIBRANT BUSINESS ECONOMY IN THE STATE IS
12 A GOAL SHARED BY ALL COLORADANS; AND

13 (C) PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN THE RULE-MAKING PROCESS
14 PROMOTES FAIRNESS, ACCEPTABILITY, AND PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY AND
15 CAN HELP FOSTER GREATER PUBLIC TRUST;

16 (II) DETERMINES THAT:

17 (A) ENGAGING THE ASSISTANCE OF LAWYERS, LOBBYISTS, AND
18 TECHNICAL EXPERTS SHOULD NOT BE REQUIRED FOR COLORADANS TO
19 ACCESS THE RULES THAT AFFECT THEIR LIVES AND BUSINESSES;

20 (B) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY CREATED THE ONLINE
21 TRANSPARENCY TASK FORCE IN HOUSE BILL 20-1039, ENACTED IN 2020,
22 TO RECOMMEND ONLINE TRANSPARENCY IMPROVEMENTS TO THE GENERAL
23 ASSEMBLY; AND

24 (C) THE TASK FORCE FOUND THAT IT IS UNNECESSARILY
25 BURDENSOME TO REQUIRE BOTH AGENCY AND PUBLIC USERS TO NAVIGATE

1 WITHIN AND BETWEEN INDEPENDENT DEPARTMENTAL RESOURCES AND
2 REINFORCED THAT ESTABLISHING A CLEAR, CENTRALIZED AGENCY RULE
3 AND RULE-MAKING RESOURCE IS NECESSARY;

4 (III) DECLARES THAT THIS SUBSECTION (15) IS NECESSARY TO
5 IMPROVE ACCESS TO STATE RULES FOR ALL COLORADANS AND TO
6 MODERNIZE AND ENHANCE THE SEARCH FUNCTIONALITY AND
7 TRANSPARENCY OF EXISTING WEB PLATFORMS, WHICH ARE SPREAD ACROSS
8 MULTIPLE AGENCIES, BY CREATING A SINGLE, PUBLIC-FACING SEARCH
9 INTERFACE FOR ACCESSING AGENCY RULES AND STATE RULE-MAKING
10 THAT MEETS THE MINIMUM STANDARDS ESTABLISHED IN THIS SUBSECTION
11 (15).

12 [REDACTED]
13 (b) STANDARDS FOR THE SEARCH INTERFACE MUST INCLUDE BUT
14 ARE NOT LIMITED TO:

15 (I) A CENTRALIZED SEARCH INTERFACE FOR ACCESS TO ALL
16 AGENCY RULE-MAKING THAT IS HIGHLY VISIBLE ON THE STATE'S MAIN
17 WEBSITE AND THAT USES SEARCH ENGINE OPTIMIZATION TO ENABLE IT TO
18 BE LOCATED ON THE INTERNET;

19 (II) AN OPTIMIZED, INTUITIVE, AND FULL-TEXT SEARCH ENGINE
20 THAT IS CONTINUOUSLY OPTIMIZED TO INCREASE ACCURACY AND SEARCH
21 SPEED AND PROVIDE ROBUST SEARCH RESULTS FOR USERS;

22 [REDACTED]
23 (III) AN APPLICATION PROGRAMMING INTERFACE THAT ENABLES
24 QUANTIFIABLE RESEARCH ON STATE RULES;

25 (IV) A PUBLIC COMMENT PROCESS THAT DIRECTS USERS TOWARD
26 THE OPEN COMMENT PROCESS ON THE RESPECTIVE AGENCIES' WEBSITES
27 WHEN AVAILABLE;

1 (V) AN INTEGRATED, SUBSCRIBABLE CALENDAR OF ALL AGENCIES'
2 RULE-MAKING HEARINGS;

3 (VI) A FULLY RESPONSIVE DESIGN THAT IS COMPATIBLE WITH
4 MOBILE AND TABLET DEVICE; AND

5 (VII) COMPLIANCE WITH SECTION 24-85-103, THE FEDERAL
6 "AMERICANS DISABILITIES ACT OF 1990", 42 U.S.C. SEC. 12101 ET SEQ.,
7 AS AMENDED, AND SECTION 508 OF THE FEDERAL "REHABILITATION ACT
8 OF 1973", 29 U.S.C. SEC. 794d, AS AMENDED, TO MAKE THE SEARCH
9 INTERFACE ACCESSIBLE TO PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES.

10 (c) TO FACILITATE OPERATION OF THE SEARCH INTERFACE,
11 AGENCIES SHALL PROVIDE TO THE OFFICE INFORMATION ACCESS TO THEIR
12 DATABASES AND INFORMATION SOURCES THAT CONTAIN INFORMATION
13 FOR RULE-MAKING PROCEEDINGS. THE OFFICE, IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE
14 SECRETARY OF STATE, SHALL TAKE PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY TO DEVELOP
15 THE SEARCH INTERFACE AS SPECIFIED IN THIS SUBSECTION (15) AND MAKE
16 THE SEARCH INTERFACE AVAILABLE FOR USE BY JUNE 30, 2022; EXCEPT
17 THAT, IF AN UNFORESEEN TECHNOLOGICAL IMPEDIMENT PREVENTS
18 ACHIEVEMENT OF THIS DEADLINE, THE OFFICE SHALL:

19 (I) IDENTIFY THE IMPEDIMENT, IDENTIFY A PROPOSED SOLUTION,
20 AND EXECUTE NECESSARY STEPS TO RESOLVE THE IMPEDIMENT WITHIN
21 EXISTING APPROPRIATIONS;

22 (II) NOTIFY THE JOINT TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE OF THE GENERAL
23 ASSEMBLY IN WRITING THAT IT WILL NOT MEET THE DEADLINE AND
24 INCLUDE IN THE NOTICE A DESCRIPTION OF THE IMPEDIMENT, THE
25 INDIVIDUAL TASKS COMPRISING THE PROPOSED SOLUTION, AND THE
26 ANTICIPATED COMPLETION DATE; AND

27 (III) APPEAR BEFORE THE JOINT TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE AT THE

1 FIRST PRACTICABLE OPPORTUNITY AFTER JUNE 30, 2022, TO DISCUSS THE
2 IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SEARCH INTERFACE.

3 (d) THE OFFICE MAY SEEK, ACCEPT, AND EXPEND GIFTS, GRANTS,
4 OR DONATIONS FROM PRIVATE OR PUBLIC SOURCES FOR THE PURPOSES OF
5 THIS SUBSECTION (15).

6 (e) AS USED IN THIS SUBSECTION (15), "AGENCY" HAS THE
7 MEANING ESTABLISHED IN SECTION 24-4-102 (3).

8 **SECTION 2. Appropriation.** (1) For the 2021-22 state fiscal
9 year, \$368,194 is appropriated to the office of the governor for use by the
10 office of information technology. This appropriation is from the general
11 fund and is based on the assumption that the office will require an
12 additional 2.1 FTE. To implement this act, the office may use this
13 appropriation for enterprise solutions.

14 (2) For the 2021-22 state fiscal year, \$108,718 is appropriated to
15 the department of state. This appropriation is from the department of state
16 cash fund created in section 24-21-104 (3)(b), C.R.S. To implement this
17 act, the department may use this appropriation as follows:

18 (a) \$69,000 for use by the information technology division for
19 personal services;

20 (b) \$1,795 for use by the information technology division for
21 operating expenses;

22 (c) \$32,573 for use by the business and licensing division for
23 personal services, which amount is based on an assumption that the
24 division will require an additional 0.7 FTE; and

25 (d) \$5,350 for use by the business and licensing division for
26 operating expenses.

27 **SECTION 3. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds,

- 1 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate
- 2 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety.