First Regular Session Seventy-third General Assembly STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 21-0775.01 Michael Dohr x4347

HOUSE BILL 21-1250

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Herod and Gonzales-Gutierrez,

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

(None),

House Committees

Senate Committees

Judiciary

101

102

A BILL FOR AN ACT

CONCERNING MEASURES TO ADDRESS LAW ENFORCEMENT ACCOUNTABILITY.

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 makes changes to the provisions of Senate Bill 20-217, enacted in 2020, (SB 217) to provide clarity and address issues discovered since the passage of the bill. SB 217 used the term "exonerated", but never defined it; the bill defines "exonerated". The bill clarifies some of the circumstances when a body-worn camera must be operating and provisions related to the release of the footage. The bill

requires an officer to comply with the body-worn camera requirements if the officer is wearing a body camera, even though the requirement for all officers to wear a body camera does not take effect until July 1, 2023.

SB 217 required law enforcement to report certain information related to each contact an officer has with a person beginning January 1, 2023. The bill changes the start date of the reporting requirement to January 1, 2022. The bill expands the definition of "contact" to include welfare checks. The bill clarifies and adds to some of the information that must be reported.

SB 217 required the peace officers standards and training (P.O.S.T.) board to permanently decertify a peace officer if the officer failed to intervene and serious bodily injury or death occurred. The bill changes the penalty to a suspension of the officer's certification for one year.

Under current law, there is a civil action that permits suit against employers of local law enforcement officers for misconduct. The bill permits the Colorado state patrol to also be sued via that civil action. The bill also requires the employer to conduct an investigation of an officer prior to determining if the officer acted in good faith.

If a person believes that a law enforcement agency has violated the investigation requirement, the person must submit a complaint to the P.O.S.T. board, which shall refer the complaint to an administrative law judge to determine whether a violation occurred. The administrative law judge shall notify the P.O.S.T. board chair of a finding that a violation occurred. If a violation is found, the P.O.S.T. board shall not provide P.O.S.T. cash fund money to the employer for one full year from the date of the finding.

The bill requires a peace officer to use de-escalation techniques prior to the use of physical force and requires the use of physical force to be objectively reasonable.

The bill requires that prior to hiring a new employee, appointing a new employee, or transferring an existing employee to a position requiring P.O.S.T. certification, a law enforcement agency shall determine if the person has a record contained in the P.O.S.T. misconduct database. If the person is listed in the database and the law enforcement agency proceeds to employ the person in a position requiring P.O.S.T. certification, the agency shall notify the P.O.S.T. board of the hire, appointment, or transfer.

The bill clarifies and adds to some of the information required to be included in the P.O.S.T. board database related to peace officer misconduct.

-2- HB21-1250

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

1	SECTION 1. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-31-901, amend
2	(1); and add (2.5), (4.5), and (7) as follows:
3	24-31-901. Definitions. As used in this part 9, unless the context
4	otherwise requires:
5	(1) "Contacts" "CONTACT" means an IN-PERSON interaction with
6	an individual, whether or not the person is in a motor vehicle, initiated by
7	a peace officer, whether consensual or nonconsensual, for the purpose of
8	enforcing the law, or investigating possible violations of the law,
9	"Contacts" do or conducting welfare checks. "Contact" does not
10	include routine interactions with the public at the point of entry or exit
11	from a controlled area.
12	(2.5) "EXONERATED" MEANS A NOT GUILTY VERDICT IN A
13	CRIMINAL PROSECUTION, A FINDING OF NO LIABILITY IN A CIVIL ACTION, A
14	FINDING OF NO CULPABILITY OR NO LIABILITY IN AN ADMINISTRATIVE
15	PROCEEDING, OR BEING CLEARED BY AN INTERNAL INVESTIGATION;
16	EXCEPT THAT A FINDING OF NO CULPABILITY OR NO LIABILITY IN AN
17	ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEEDING OR BEING CLEARED BY AN INTERNAL
18	INVESTIGATION DOES NOT MEAN "EXONERATED" IF THE OFFICER IS FOUND
19	GUILTY IN A SUBSEQUENT CRIMINAL PROSECUTION FOR THE SAME
20	CONDUCT OR FOUND LIABLE FOR THE SAME CONDUCT IN A CIVIL ACTION.
21	(4.5) "P.O.S.T. BOARD" MEANS THE PEACE OFFICERS STANDARDS
22	AND TRAINING BOARD CREATED IN SECTION 24-31-302.
23	(7) "Weapon" means a firearm, long gun, taser, baton, nun
24	CHUCKS, OR PROJECTILE.
25	SECTION 2. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-31-902, amend
26	as they will become effective July 1, 2023, $(1)(a)(II)(A)$, $(1)(a)(II)(B)$,
27	(1)(a)(II)(D), (1)(a)(III), (1)(a)(IV)(B), (1)(a)(IV)(C), (2)(a), (2)(b)(II)(A),

-3- HB21-1250

(2)(b)(II)(B), (2)(b)(II)(C), and (2)(c); and add (3) as follows:

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2 24-31-902. Incident recordings - release - tampering - fine. 3 (1) (a) (II) (A) Except as provided in subsection (1)(a)(II)(B) or 4 (1)(a)(II)(C) of this section, a peace officer shall wear and activate a 5 body-worn camera or dash camera, if the peace officer's vehicle is 6 equipped with a dash camera, when responding to a call for service, 7 ENTERING INTO A PREMISES FOR THE PURPOSES OF ENFORCING THE LAW OR 8 IN RESPONSE TO A CALL FOR SERVICE, or during any interaction with the 9 public initiated by the peace officer, whether consensual or 10 nonconsensual, for the purpose of enforcing the law or investigating possible violations of the law. THE BODY-WORN CAMERA OR DASH 12 CAMERA DOES NOT NEED TO BE ON WHEN EN ROUTE TO A CALL FOR 13 SERVICE, BUT SHOULD BE TURNED ON SHORTLY BEFORE THE VEHICLE 14 APPROACHES THE SCENE.

- (B) A peace officer may turn off a body-worn camera to avoid recording personal information that is not case related; when working on an unrelated assignment; when there is a long break in the incident; or contact that is not related to the initial incident; and in administrative, tactical, and management discussions WHEN CIVILIANS ARE NOT PRESENT.
- (D) The provisions of this subsection (1)(a)(II) do not apply to jail peace officers or staff of a local law enforcement agency if the WORKING IN ANY PLACE IN THE jail THAT has FUNCTIONING video cameras; except that this subsection (1)(a)(II) applies to jail peace officers when performing a task that requires an anticipated use of force, including cell extractions and restraint chairs. The provisions of this subsection (1)(a)(II) also do not apply to the civilian or administrative staff of the Colorado state patrol or a local law enforcement agency, the executive

-4-HB21-1250 detail of the Colorado state patrol, and peace officers working in a courtroom.

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(III) If a peace officer fails to activate a body-worn camera or dash camera as required by this section or tampers with body-worn- or dash-camera footage or operation when required to activate the camera, there is a permissive inference in any investigation or legal proceeding, excluding criminal proceedings against the peace officer, that the missing footage would have reflected misconduct by the peace officer. If a peace officer fails to activate or reactivate his or her body-worn camera as required by this section or tampers with body-worn- or dash-camera footage or operation when required to activate the camera, any statements OR CONDUCT sought to be introduced in a prosecution through the peace officer related to the incident that were not recorded due to the peace officer's failure to activate or reactivate the body-worn camera as required by this section or if the statement OR CONDUCT was not recorded by other means creates a rebuttable presumption of inadmissibility. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, this subsection (1)(a)(III) does not apply if the body-worn camera was not activated due to a malfunction of the body-worn camera and the peace officer was not aware of the malfunction, or was unable to rectify it, prior to the incident, provided that the law enforcement agency's documentation shows the peace officer checked the functionality of the body-worn camera at the beginning of his or her shift.

(IV) (B) In addition to any criminal liability and penalty under the law, if a court, administrative law judge, hearing officer, or a final decision in an internal investigation finds that a peace officer intentionally failed to activate a body-worn camera or dash camera or tampered with

-5- HB21-1250

any body-worn or dash camera, except as permitted in this section, with the intent to conceal unlawful or inappropriate actions or obstruct justice, the P.O.S.T. board shall suspend the peace officer's certification for a period of not less than one year and the suspension may only be lifted within the period of the suspension if the peace officer is exonerated by a court, ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE, OR INTERNAL AFFAIRS INVESTIGATION.

(C) In addition to any criminal liability and penalty under the law, if a court, administrative law judge, hearing officer, or a final decision in an internal investigation finds that a peace officer intentionally failed to activate a body-worn camera or dash camera or tampered with any body-worn or dash camera, except as permitted in this section, with the intent to conceal unlawful or inappropriate actions, or obstruct justice, in an incident resulting in a civilian death OR SERIOUS BODILY INJURY, the P.O.S.T. board shall permanently revoke the peace officer's certification and the revocation may only be overturned if the peace officer is exonerated by a court, ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE, OR INTERNAL AFFAIRS INVESTIGATION.

(2) (a) For all incidents in which there is a complaint of peace officer misconduct by another peace officer, a civilian, or nonprofit organization, through notice to the law enforcement agency involved in the alleged misconduct, the local law enforcement agency or the Colorado state patrol shall release, UPON REQUEST, all unedited video and audio recordings of the incident, including those from body-worn cameras, dash cameras, or otherwise collected through investigation, to the public within twenty-one days after the local law enforcement agency or the Colorado state patrol received the complaint of misconduct.

-6- HB21-1250

(b) (II) (A) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, any video that raises substantial privacy concerns for criminal defendants, victims, witnesses, juveniles, or informants, including video depicting nudity; a sexual assault; a medical emergency; private medical information; a mental health crisis; a victim interview; a minor, including any images or information that might undermine the requirement to keep certain juvenile records confidential; any personal information other than the name of any person not arrested, cited, charged, or issued a written warning, including a government-issued identification number, date of birth, address, or financial information; significantly explicit and gruesome bodily injury, unless the injury was caused by a peace officer; or the interior of a home or treatment facility, shall be redacted or blurred to protect the substantial privacy interest while still allowing public release. Unredacted UNBLURRED footage shall not be released without the written authorization of the victim or, if the victim is deceased or incapacitated, the written authorization of the victim's next of kin. A person seventeen years of age and under is considered incapacitated, unless legally emancipated. THIS SUBSECTION (2)(b)(II)(A) DOES NOT PERMIT THE REMOVAL OF ANY PORTION OF THE VIDEO.

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(B) If redaction or blurring is insufficient to protect the substantial privacy interest, the local law enforcement agency or the Colorado state patrol shall, upon request, release the video to the victim or, if the victim is deceased or incapacitated, to the victim's spouse, parent, legal guardian, child, sibling, grandparent, grandchild, significant other, or other lawful representative within twenty days after receipt of the complaint of misconduct. In cases in which the recording is not released to the public pursuant to this subsection (2)(b)(II)(B), the local law enforcement

-7- HB21-1250

agency shall notify the person whose privacy interest is implicated, if contact information is known, within twenty days after receipt of the complaint of misconduct, and inform the person of his or her right to waive the privacy interest.

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- (C) A witness, victim, or criminal defendant may waive in writing the individual privacy interest that may be implicated by public release. Upon receipt of a written waiver of the applicable privacy interest, accompanied by a request for release, the law enforcement agency may not redact or withhold release to protect that privacy interest. The hearing shall be considered a critical stage pursuant to section 24-4.1-302 and gives victims the right to be heard pursuant to 24-4.1-302.5.
- (c) If criminal charges have been filed against any party to the incident, that party must file any constitutional objection to release of the recording in the pending criminal case before the twenty-one-day period expires. Only in cases in which there is a pending criminal investigation or prosecution of a party to the incident, the twenty-one-day period shall begin from the date of appointment of counsel, the filing of an entry of appearance by counsel, or the election to proceed pro se by the defendant, RECEIPT OF THE CRIMINAL COMPLAINT, AND THE DEFENDANT'S RECEIPT OF THE VIDEO IN DISCOVERY in the criminal prosecution made on the record before a judge. If the defendant elects to proceed pro se in the criminal case, the court shall advise the defendant of the twenty-one-day deadline for the defendant to file any constitutional objection to release of the recording in the pending criminal case as part of the court's advisement. The court shall hold a hearing on any objection no later than seven days after it is filed and issue a ruling no later than three days after the hearing. THE HEARING IS CONSIDERED A CRITICAL STAGE AS DEFINED IN SECTION

-8- HB21-1250

1	24-4.1-302 AND GIVES VICTIMS THE RIGHT TO BE HEARD PURSUANT TO
2	SECTION 24-4.1-302.5.
3	(3) This section applies on and after the effective date of
4	THIS SUBSECTION (3) WHEN A PEACE OFFICER IS WEARING A BODY-WORN
5	CAMERA OR THE OFFICER'S VEHICLE IS EQUIPPED WITH A DASH CAMERA.
6	THIS SECTION DOES NOT REQUIRE A LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY TO
7	PROVIDE ITS LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS BODY-WORN CAMERAS PRIOR
8	TO JULY 1, 2023.
9	SECTION 3. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-31-903, amend
10	(2) introductory portion, (2)(a) introductory portion, (2)(a)(VI),
11	(2)(a)(VII), (2)(a)(VIII), (2)(a)(IX), (2)(c) introductory portion,
12	(2)(c)(VIII)(B), (2)(c)(VIII)(D), (2)(c)(VIII)(E), (2)(d)(III), and
13	(2)(d)(IV); and add $(2)(a)(X)$, $(2)(a)(XI)$, and $(2)(e)$ as follows:
14	24-31-903. Division of criminal justice report. (2) Beginning
15	January 1, 2023 JANUARY 1, 2022, the Colorado state patrol and each
16	local law enforcement agency that employs peace officers shall report to
17	the division of criminal justice THE FOLLOWING USING DATA-COLLECTION
18	METHODS DEVELOPED FOR THIS PURPOSE BY THE DIVISION OF CRIMINAL
19	JUSTICE IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE COLORADO BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
20	AND LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES:
21	(a) All use of force by its peace officers that results in death or
22	serious bodily injury OR THAT INVOLVES THE USE OF A WEAPON, including:
23	(VI) Whether a peace officer unholstered OR BRANDISHED a
24	weapon during the incident, AND, IF SO, THE TYPE OF WEAPON;
25	(VII) Whether a peace officer discharged a firearm WEAPON
26	during the incident;
27	(VIII) Whether the use of force resulted in a law enforcement

-9- HB21-1250

1	agency investigation and the result of the investigation; and
2	(IX) Whether the use of force resulted in a citizen CIVILIAN
3	complaint and the resolution of that complaint;
4	(X) WHETHER AN AMBULANCE WAS CALLED TO THE SCENE AND
5	WHETHER A PERSON WAS TRANSPORTED TO A HOSPITAL FROM THE SCENE
6	WHETHER IN AN AMBULANCE OR OTHER TRANSPORTATION; AND
7	(XI) WHETHER THE PERSON CONTACTED EXHIBITED A WEAPON
8	DURING THE INTERACTION LEADING UP TO THE INJURY OR DEATH, AND, IF
9	SO, THE TYPE OF WEAPON AND WHETHER IT WAS DISCOVERED BEFORE OR
10	AFTER THE USE OF FORCE;
11	(c) All data relating to contacts AND ENTRIES INTO A RESIDENCE,
12	INCLUDING A FORCIBLE ENTRY, conducted by its peace officers, including:
13	(VIII) The actions taken by the peace officer during the contact,
14	including but not limited to whether:
15	(B) The peace officer searched the person, A VEHICLE, or any
16	property, and, if so, the basis for the search and the type of contraband or
17	evidence discovered, if any;
18	(D) A peace officer unholstered OR BRANDISHED a weapon during
19	the contact, AND, IF SO, THE TYPE OF WEAPON; and
20	(E) A peace officer discharged a firearm WEAPON during the
21	contact;
22	(d) All instances of unannounced entry into a residence, with or
23	without a warrant, including:
24	(III) Whether a peace officer unholstered OR BRANDISHED a
25	weapon during the unannounced entry, AND, IF SO, THE TYPE OF WEAPON;
26	and
27	(IV) Whether a peace officer discharged a firearm WEAPON during

-10- HB21-1250

1	the unannounced entry.
2	(e) THE NUMBER OF OFFICER-INVOLVED CIVILIAN DEATHS.
3	SECTION 4. In Colorado Revised Statutes, amend 24-31-904 as
4	follows:
5	24-31-904. Peace officer certification discipline.
6	(1)(a) Notwithstanding any provision of law, THE P.O.S.T. BOARD SHALL
7	PERMANENTLY REVOKE A PEACE OFFICER'S CERTIFICATION if: any peace
8	officer is
9	(I) THE P.O.S.T. CERTIFIED PEACE OFFICER IS convicted of or
10	pleads guilty or nolo contendere to a crime involving the unlawful use or
11	threatened use of physical force OR a crime involving the failure to
12	intervene in the use of unlawful force or AND THE INCIDENT RESULTED IN
13	SERIOUS BODILY INJURY OR DEATH TO ANOTHER PERSON:
14	(II) THE P.O.S.T. CERTIFIED PEACE OFFICER is found civilly liable
15	for the use of unlawful physical force, or is found civilly liable for failure
16	to intervene in the use of unlawful force the P.O.S.T. board shall
17	permanently revoke the peace officer's certification AND THE INCIDENT
18	RESULTED IN SERIOUS BODILY INJURY OR DEATH TO ANOTHER PERSON; OR
19	(III) AN ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE, HEARING OFFICER, OR
20	INTERNAL INVESTIGATION FINDS THAT A PEACE OFFICER USED UNLAWFUL
21	PHYSICAL FORCE, FAILED TO INTERVENE, OR VIOLATED SECTION 18-1-707,
22	AND THE INCIDENT RESULTED IN SERIOUS BODILY INJURY OR DEATH TO
23	ANOTHER PERSON.
24	(b) The P.O.S.T. board shall not, under any circumstances,
25	reinstate the peace officer's certification or grant new certification to the
26	peace officer unless the peace officer is exonerated by a AN
27	ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE, HEARING OFFICER, OR court. The P.O.S.T.

-11- HB21-1250

1	board shall record each decertified peace officer WHOSE CERTIFICATION
2	IS REVOKED PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION in the database created pursuant
3	to section 24-31-303 (1)(r).
4	(2) (a) Notwithstanding any provision of law, the P.O.S.T.
5	BOARD SHALL SUSPEND A PEACE OFFICER'S CERTIFICATION FOR AT LEAST
6	A YEAR IF:
7	(I) THE P.O.S.T. CERTIFIED PEACE OFFICER IS CONVICTED OF OR
8	PLEADS GUILTY OR NOLO CONTENDERE TO A CRIME INVOLVING THE
9	UNLAWFUL USE OR THREATENED USE OF PHYSICAL FORCE OR A CRIME
10	INVOLVING THE FAILURE TO INTERVENE IN THE USE OF UNLAWFUL FORCE
11	AND THE INCIDENT DID NOT RESULT IN SERIOUS BODILY INJURY OR DEATH
12	TO ANOTHER PERSON;
13	(II) THE P.O.S.T. CERTIFIED PEACE OFFICER IS FOUND CIVILLY
14	LIABLE FOR THE USE OR THREATENED USE OF UNLAWFUL PHYSICAL FORCE,
15	OR IS FOUND CIVILLY LIABLE FOR FAILURE TO INTERVENE IN THE USE OF
16	UNLAWFUL FORCE AND THE INCIDENT DID NOT RESULT IN SERIOUS BODILY
17	INJURY OR DEATH TO ANOTHER PERSON; OR
18	(III) AN ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE, HEARING OFFICER, OR
19	INTERNAL INVESTIGATION FINDS THAT A PEACE OFFICER USED OR
20	THREATENED TO USE UNLAWFUL PHYSICAL FORCE, FAILED TO INTERVENE,
21	OR VIOLATED SECTION 18-1-707, AND THE INCIDENT DID NOT RESULT IN
22	SERIOUS BODILY INJURY OR DEATH TO ANOTHER PERSON.
23	(b) THE P.O.S.T. BOARD SHALL REINSTATE THE PEACE OFFICER'S
24	CERTIFICATION IF THE PEACE OFFICER IS EXONERATED BY AN
25	ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE, HEARING OFFICER, OR COURT.
26	(3) NOTWITHSTANDING THIS SECTION, THE P.O.S.T. BOARD SHALL
27	NOT SUSPEND OR REVOKE THE PEACE OFFICER'S CERTIFICATION BASED ON

-12- HB21-1250

1	A FINAL DECISION OF AN INTERNAL INVESTIGATION UNLESS AND UNTIL AN
2	ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE HAS PERFORMED A DE NOVO REVIEW
3	UPHOLDING THE INTERNAL INVESTIGATION DECISION. THE
4	ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE SHALL COMPLETE THE DE NOVO REVIEW
5	WITHIN NINETY DAYS FROM THE FINAL DETERMINATION FROM THE
6	INTERNAL INVESTIGATION.
7	SECTION 5. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 13-21-131, amend
8	(1) and (4) as follows:
9	13-21-131. Civil action for deprivation of rights. (1) A peace
10	officer, as defined in section 24-31-901 (3), employed by a local
11	government who, under color of law, subjects or causes to be subjected,
12	including failing to intervene, any other person to the deprivation of any
13	individual rights that create binding obligations on government actors
14	secured by the bill of rights, article II of the state constitution, is liable to
15	the injured party for legal or equitable relief or any other appropriate
16	relief.
17	(4) (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a peace
18	officer's employer shall indemnify its peace officers for any liability
19	incurred by the peace officer and for any judgment or settlement entered
20	against the peace officer for claims arising pursuant to this section; except
21	that, if the peace officer's employer determines ON A CASE-BY-CASE BASIS
22	that the officer did not act upon a good faith and reasonable belief that the
23	action was lawful, then the peace officer is personally liable and shall not
24	be indemnified by the peace officer's employer for five percent of the
25	judgment or settlement or twenty-five thousand dollars, whichever is less.
26	Notwithstanding any provision of this section to the contrary, if the peace
27	officer's portion of the judgment is uncollectible from the peace officer,

-13- HB21-1250

1 the peace officer's employer or insurance shall satisfy the full amount of 2 the judgment or settlement. A public entity does not have to indemnify a 3 peace officer if the peace officer was convicted of a criminal violation for 4 the conduct from which the claim arises UNLESS THE PEACE OFFICER'S 5 EMPLOYER WAS A CASUAL FACTOR IN THE VIOLATION, THROUGH ITS 6 ACTION OR INACTION. 7 (b) (I) AN EMPLOYER SHALL NOT: 8 (A) PREEMPTIVELY DETERMINE WHETHER A PEACE OFFICER ACTED 9 IN GOOD FAITH BEFORE SUCH ACTION IN QUESTION HAS OCCURRED; OR 10 (B) PROVIDE A DETERMINATION PROVIDING THAT ANY PEACE 11 OFFICER OR PEACE OFFICERS ARE DEEMED TO HAVE ACTED IN GOOD FAITH 12 UNTIL COMPLETION OF A DOCUMENTED INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED BY 13 THE EMPLOYER. 14 (II) IF A PERSON BELIEVES THAT AN EMPLOYER HAS VIOLATED THE 15 PROVISIONS OF SUBSECTION (4)(b)(I) OF THIS SECTION, THE PERSON SHALL 16 SUBMIT A COMPLAINT TO THE P.O.S.T. BOARD, CREATED IN SECTION 17 24-31-302, WHICH SHALL REFER THE COMPLAINT TO AN ADMINISTRATIVE 18 LAW JUDGE TO DETERMINE WHETHER A VIOLATION OCCURRED. THE 19 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE SHALL NOTIFY THE P.O.S.T. BOARD CHAIR 20 OF A FINDING THAT A VIOLATION OF SUBSECTION (4)(b)(I) OF THIS SECTION 21 OCCURRED. IF A VIOLATION IS FOUND, THE P.O.S.T. BOARD SHALL NOT 22 PROVIDE P.O.S.T. CASH FUND MONEY TO THE EMPLOYER FOR ONE FULL 23 YEAR FROM THE DATE OF THE FINDING. 24 (III) FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SUBSECTION (4)(b), AN EMPLOYER 25 INCLUDES THE ELECTED SHERIFF, CHIEF OF POLICE, CITY OR TOWN 26 ADMINISTRATOR, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR, MAYOR, CITY OR TOWN 27

COUNCIL, COUNTY COMMISSION, OR ANY OTHER PUBLIC BODY WITH

-14-HB21-1250

1	FORMAL SUPERVISION AND OVERSIGHT OF A LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY.
2	SECTION 6. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 16-2.5-301, amend
3	(1) as follows:
4	16-2.5-301. Peace officer actions leading to injury or death
5	investigations - protocol. (1) Each police department, sheriff's office,
6	and district attorney within the state shall develop protocols for
7	participating in a multi-agency team, which shall include at least one
8	other police department or sheriff's office, or the Colorado bureau of
9	investigation, in conducting any investigation, evaluation, and review of
10	an incident involving the discharge of a firearm, USE OF FORCE OR OTHER
11	ACTION, by a peace officer that resulted in injury or death. The law
12	enforcement agencies participating need not be from the same judicial
13	district.
14	SECTION 7. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 18-1-707, amend (1),
15	(2)(b), (2.5), (3)(b), and (8)(a); repeal (2)(a) and (9); and add (2)(b.5),
16	(2.3), and (11) as follows:
17	18-1-707. Use of force by peace officers - definitions - repeal.
18	(1) Peace officers, in carrying out their duties, shall apply nonviolent
19	means, when possible, before resorting to the use of physical force. A
20	peace officer may use physical force only if nonviolent means would be
21	ineffective in effecting an arrest, preventing an escape, or preventing an
22	imminent threat of serious bodily injury or death to the peace officer or
23	another person. PEACE OFFICERS SHALL AVOID THE USE OF PHYSICAL
24	FORCE WHEN POSSIBLE. A LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER SHALL NOT USE
25	PHYSICAL FORCE UPON ANOTHER PERSON UNLESS THE OFFICER HAS
26	EXHAUSTED ALL REASONABLE DE-ESCALATION TACTICS AND TECHNIQUES
27	AND, BASED ON THE TOTALITY OF THE CIRCUMSTANCES, SUCH FORCE IS

-15- HB21-1250

1	PROPORTIONATE AND NECESSARY TO EFFECT AN ARREST, PREVENT AN
2	ESCAPE, OR PREVENT AN IMMINENT THREAT OF HARM TO THE PEACE
3	OFFICER OR ANOTHER PERSON.
4	(2) When physical force is used, a peace officer shall:
5	(a) Not use deadly physical force to apprehend a person who is
6	suspected of only a minor or nonviolent offense;
7	(b) Use only a degree of force consistent with the minimization of
8	injury to others A PERSON SUBJECT TO THE USE OF FORCE;
9	(b.5) IMMEDIATELY MODULATE THE USE OF PHYSICAL FORCE AS
10	THE THREAT DIMINISHES AND SHALL CEASE THE USE OF PHYSICAL FORCE
11	AS SOON AS THE JUSTIFICATION FOR USE OF FORCE HAS DISSIPATED.
12	(2.3) A PEACE OFFICER SHALL NOT USE DEADLY PHYSICAL FORCE
13	UPON ANOTHER PERSON UNLESS IT IS USED AS A LAST RESORT, AFTER THE
14	OFFICER HAS EXHAUSTED ALL REASONABLE DE-ESCALATION TACTICS AND
15	TECHNIQUES AND, BASED ON THE TOTALITY OF THE CIRCUMSTANCES, SUCH
16	FORCE IS NECESSARY TO PREVENT IMMINENT DEATH OR SERIOUS BODILY
17	INJURY TO ANOTHER AND THE AMOUNT OF FORCE USED IS PROPORTIONAL
18	TO THE THREAT OF IMMINENT HARM POSED BY THE SUBJECT OF THE USE OF
19	FORCE. THE USE OF DEADLY FORCE AGAINST A PERSON WHO POSES A
20	DANGER ONLY TO THE PERSON'S SELF IS NOT JUSTIFIED. A PEACE OFFICER
21	MAY NOT USE DEADLY PHYSICAL FORCE TO APPREHEND A PERSON WHO IS
22	SUSPECTED OF ONLY A MINOR OR NONVIOLENT OFFENSE.
23	(2.5) (a) A peace officer is prohibited from using a chokehold
24	upon another person.
25	(b) (I) As used in this subsection (2.5), "chokehold" means a
26	method by which a person applies sufficient pressure to a person to make
27	breathing difficult or impossible and includes but is not limited to any

-16- HB21-1250

1	pressure to the neck, throat, or windpipe that may prevent or hinder
2	breathing or reduce intake of air.
3	(II) "Chokehold" also means applying pressure to a person's neck
4	on either side of the windpipe, but not to the windpipe itself, to stop the
5	flow of blood to the brain via the carotid arteries.
6	(3) A peace officer is justified in using deadly physical force to
7	make an arrest only when all other means of apprehension are
8	unreasonable given the circumstances and:
9	(b) The suspect poses an immediate IMMINENT threat OF DEATH OR
10	SERIOUS BODILY INJURY to the peace officer or another person;
11	(8) A guard or peace officer employed in a detention facility is
12	justified:
13	(a) In using deadly physical force when he reasonably believes it
14	necessary to prevent the escape of a prisoner convicted of, charged with,
15	or held for a felony or confined under the maximum security rules of any
16	detention facility as such facility is defined in subsection (9) of this
17	section (11)(c) of this section;
18	(9) "Detention facility" as used in subsection (8) of this section
19	means any place maintained for the confinement, pursuant to law, of
20	persons charged with or convicted of an offense, held pursuant to the
21	"Colorado Children's Code", held for extradition, or otherwise confined
22	pursuant to an order of a court.
23	(11) AS USED IN THIS SECTION, UNLESS THE CONTEXT OTHERWISE
24	REQUIRES:
25	(a) (I) "CHOKEHOLD" MEANS A METHOD BY WHICH A PERSON
26	APPLIES SUFFICIENT PRESSURE TO A PERSON TO MAKE BREATHING
27	DIFFICULT OR IMPOSSIBLE AND INCLUDES BUT IS NOT LIMITED TO ANY

-17- HB21-1250

1	PRESSURE TO THE NECK, THROAT, OR WINDPIPE THAT MAY PREVENT OF
2	HINDER BREATHING OR REDUCE INTAKE OF AIR.

- 3 (II) "CHOKEHOLD" ALSO MEANS APPLYING PRESSURE TO A
 4 PERSON'S NECK ON EITHER SIDE OF THE WINDPIPE, BUT NOT TO THE
 5 WINDPIPE ITSELF, TO STOP THE FLOW OF BLOOD TO THE BRAIN VIA THE
 6 CAROTID ARTERIES.
- 7 "DE-ESCALATION TACTICS AND TECHNIQUES" MEANS (b) 8 PROACTIVE ACTIONS AND APPROACHES USED BY A LAW ENFORCEMENT 9 OFFICER TO STABILIZE A LAW ENFORCEMENT SITUATION SO THAT MORE 10 TIME, OPTIONS, AND RESOURCES ARE AVAILABLE TO GAIN A PERSON'S 11 VOLUNTARY COMPLIANCE AND TO REDUCE OR ELIMINATE THE NEED TO 12 USE PHYSICAL FORCE, INCLUDING VERBAL PERSUASION, WARNINGS, 13 SLOWING DOWN THE PACE OF AN INCIDENT, WAITING OUT A PERSON, 14 CREATING DISTANCE BETWEEN THE LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER AND A 15 THREAT, AND REQUESTING ADDITIONAL RESOURCES TO RESOLVE THE 16 INCIDENT, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO CALLING IN MEDICAL OR 17 MENTAL HEALTH PROFESSIONALS TO ADDRESS A POTENTIAL MEDICAL OR 18 MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS.
 - (c) "DETENTION FACILITY" MEANS ANY PLACE MAINTAINED FOR THE CONFINEMENT, PURSUANT TO LAW, OF PERSONS CHARGED WITH OR CONVICTED OF AN OFFENSE, HELD PURSUANT TO THE "COLORADO CHILDREN'S CODE", HELD FOR EXTRADITION, OR OTHERWISE CONFINED PURSUANT TO AN ORDER OF A COURT.

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(d) "Necessary" means when, after all reasonable alternatives have been exhausted, no reasonable alternative was known or should have been known to a reasonable person in the circumstances.

-18- HB21-1250

1	(e) "PROPORTIONAL" MEANS NOT EXCESSIVE IN RELATION TO A
2	DIRECT AND LEGITIMATE LAW ENFORCEMENT OBJECTIVE.
3	SECTION 8. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 18-8-802, amend
4	(1.5) as follows:
5	18-8-802. Duty to report use of force by peace officers - duty
6	to intervene. (1.5) (a) A peace officer, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 24-31-901
7	(3), shall intervene to prevent or stop another peace officer from using
8	physical force that exceeds the degree of force permitted, if any, by
9	section 18-1-707 in pursuance of the other peace officer's law
10	enforcement duties in carrying out an arrest of any person, placing any
11	person under detention, taking any person into custody, booking any
12	person, or in the process of crowd control or riot control, without regard
13	for chain of command.
14	(b) (I) A peace officer, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 24-31-901 (3), who
15	intervenes as required by subsection (1.5)(a) of this section shall report
16	the intervention to his or her immediate supervisor.
17	(II) At a minimum, the report required by this subsection (1.5)(b)
18	must include the date, time, and place of the occurrence; the identity, if
19	known, and description of the participants; and a description of the
20	intervention actions taken. This report shall be made MUST BE in writing
21	within ten days of the occurrence of the use of such force and shall be
22	appended to MUST BE INCLUDED WITH all other reports of the incident.
23	(c) A member of a law enforcement agency shall not discipline or
24	retaliate in any way against a peace officer, AS DEFINED IN SECTION
25	24-31-901 (3), for intervening as required by subsection (1.5)(a) of this
26	section, or for reporting unconstitutional conduct, or for failing to follow
2.7	what the officer reasonably believes is an unconstitutional directive.

-19- HB21-1250

(d) Any peace officer, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 24-31-901 (3), who fails to intervene to prevent the use of unlawful force as prescribed in this subsection (1.5) commits a class 1 misdemeanor. Nothing in this subsection (1.5) shall prohibit or discourage prosecution of any other criminal offense related to failure to intervene, including a higher charge, if supported by the evidence.

- (e) When an administrative law judge or internal investigation finds that a peace officer, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 24-31-901 (3), failed to intervene to prevent the use of unlawful physical force as prescribed in this subsection (1.5), this finding must be presented to the district attorney so that he or she THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY can determine whether charges should be filed pursuant to subsection (1.5)(d) of this section. However, nothing in this subsection (1.5)(e) prohibits OR IS INTENDED TO DISCOURAGE the district attorney from charging an officer with failure to intervene before the conclusion of any internal investigation.
- (f) In addition to any criminal liability and penalty under the law, when an administrative law judge, hearing officer, or internal investigation finds that a peace officer, failed to intervene as required by subsection (1.5)(a) of this section in an incident resulting in serious bodily injury or death to any person, the peace officer's employer shall subject the peace officer to discipline, up to and including termination, to the extent permitted by applicable constitutional and statutory personnel laws and case law, and the P.O.S.T. board shall permanently decertify the peace officer upon receipt of notice of the peace officer's discipline. The revocation may only be overturned if the peace officer is exonerated by a court.
 - (g) In a case in which the prosecution charges a peace officer, AS

-20- HB21-1250

1	DEFINED IN SECTION 24-31-901 (3), with offenses related to and based
2	upon the use of excessive force but does not file charges against any other
3	peace officer or officers who were at the scene during the use of force,
4	the district attorney shall prepare a written report explaining the district
5	attorney's basis for the decision not to charge any other peace officer with
6	any criminal conduct and shall publicly disclose the report to the public;
7	except that if disclosure of the report would substantially interfere with
8	or jeopardize an ongoing criminal investigation, the district attorney may
9	delay public disclosure for up to forty-five days. The district attorney
10	shall post the written report on its website or, if it does not have a
11	website, make it publicly available upon request. Nothing in this section
12	is intended to prohibit or discourage criminal prosecution of an officer
13	who failed to intervene for conduct in which the facts support a criminal
14	charge, including under a complicity theory, or for an inchoate offense.
15	Nothing in this subsection (1.5) prohibits or discourages
16	PROSECUTION OF ANY OTHER CRIMINAL OFFENSE RELATED TO FAILURE TO
17	INTERVENE, INCLUDING A HIGHER CHARGE, IF SUPPORTED BY THE
18	EVIDENCE.
19	SECTION 9. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-31-101, amend
20	(1)(n); repeal (3) and (4); and add (1)(p) and (1)(q) as follows:
21	24-31-101. Powers and duties of attorney general. (1) The
22	attorney general:
23	(n) Shall, pursuant to section 24-30-1507, represent expert
24	witnesses and consultants described in section 24-30-1510 (3)(h); and
25	(p) MAY BRING A CIVIL ACTION TO ENFORCE THE PROVISIONS OF
26	SECTION 24-31-113; AND
27	(q) MAY BRING A CIVIL ACTION TO ENFORCE THE PROVISIONS OF

-21- HB21-1250

1	SECTION 24-31-307 (2) OR A CRIMINAL ACTION TO ENFORCE THE
2	PROVISIONS OF SECTION 24-31-307 (3).
3	(3) The attorney general may bring a civil action to enforce the
4	provisions of section 24-31-113.
5	(4) The attorney general may bring a civil action to enforce the
6	provisions of section 24-31-307 (2) or a criminal action to enforce the
7	provisions of section 24-31-307 (3).
8	SECTION 10. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-31-305, add (5)
9	as follows:
10	24-31-305. Certification - issuance - renewal - revocation -
11	rules - definition. (5) If a law enforcement agency hires a new
12	EMPLOYEE, APPOINTS A NEW EMPLOYEE, OR TRANSFERS AN EXISTING
13	EMPLOYEE TO A POSITION REQUIRING P.O.S.T. CERTIFICATION, PRIOR TO
14	SUCH HIRE, APPOINTMENT, OR TRANSFER THE LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY
15	SHALL DETERMINE IF THE PERSON HAS A RECORD CONTAINED IN THE
16	Database created in section 24-31-303 (1)(r). If the person is listed
17	IN THE DATABASE AND THE LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY PROCEEDS TO
18	EMPLOY THE PERSON IN A POSITION REQUIRING P.O.S.T. CERTIFICATION,
19	THE AGENCY SHALL NOTIFY THE P.O.S.T. BOARD OF THE HIRE,
20	APPOINTMENT, OR TRANSFER IN A FORMAT DETERMINED BY THE P.O.S.T.
21	BOARD.
22	SECTION 11. In Colorado Revised Statutes, amend 24-31-113
23	as follows:
24	24-31-113. Public integrity - patterns and practices. It is
25	unlawful for any governmental authority, or any agent thereof, or any
26	person acting on behalf of a governmental authority, to engage in a
27	pattern or practice of conduct by peace officers or by officials or

-22- HB21-1250

1	employees of any governmental agency that deprives persons of rights,
2	privileges, or immunities secured or protected by the constitution or laws
3	of the United States or the state of Colorado. Whenever the attorney
4	general has reasonable cause to believe that a violation of this section has
5	occurred, the attorney general, for or in the name of the state of Colorado,
6	may in a civil action obtain any and all appropriate relief to eliminate the
7	pattern or practice. Before filing suit, the attorney general shall notify the
8	government authority or any agent thereof, and provide it with the factual
9	basis that supports his or her reasonable cause to believe a violation
10	occurred. Upon receipt of the factual basis, the government authority, or
11	any agent thereof, has sixty days to change or eliminate the identified
12	pattern or practice. If the identified pattern or practice is not changed or
13	AND PERMANENTLY eliminated after sixty days, the attorney general may
14	file a civil lawsuit. The attorney general may issue subpoenas for
15	ANY PURPOSE IN CONDUCTING AN INVESTIGATION UNDER THIS SECTION.
16	SECTION 12. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-31-303, amend
17	(1)(r) as follows:
18	24-31-303. Duties - powers of the P.O.S.T. board - definition.
19	(1) The P.O.S.T. board has the following duties:
20	(r) (I) Beginning on January 1, 2022, to create and maintain a
21	database containing information related to a peace officer's:
22	(I) (A) Untruthfulness;
23	(H) (B) Repeated failure Three or more failures to follow
24	P.O.S.T. board training requirements WITHIN TEN CONSECUTIVE YEARS;
25	(HI) (C) Decertification REVOCATION OF THE CERTIFICATION by
26	the P.O.S.T. board, and INCLUDING THE BASIS FOR THE REVOCATION;
27	(IV) (D) Termination for cause BY THE PEACE OFFICER'S

-23- HB21-1250

1	EMPLOYER UNLESS THE TERMINATION IS OVERTURNED OR REVERSED BY
2	AN APPELLATE PROCESS. A NOTATION MUST BE PLACED NEXT TO THE
3	OFFICER'S NAME DURING THE PENDENCY OF ANY APPELLATE PROCESS.
4	(E) RESIGNATION OR RETIREMENT WHILE UNDER INVESTIGATION.
5	(II) LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES SHALL REPORT TO THE P.O.S.T.
6	BOARD THE INFORMATION REQUIRED IN THIS SUBSECTION (1)(r) IN A
7	FORMAT DETERMINED BY THE P.O.S.T. BOARD. FAILURE TO SUBMIT SUCH
8	INFORMATION IS SUBJECT TO A FINE SET IN RULE BY THE P.O.S.T. BOARD.
9	(III) FOR PURPOSES OF THIS SUBSECTION $(1)(r)$,
10	"UNTRUTHFULNESS" MEANS A PEACE OFFICER KNOWINGLY MADE AN
11	UNTRUTHFUL STATEMENT CONCERNING A MATERIAL FACT OR KNOWINGLY
12	OMITTED A MATERIAL FACT ON AN OFFICIAL CRIMINAL JUSTICE RECORD,
13	WHILE TESTIFYING UNDER OATH, OR DURING AN INTERNAL AFFAIRS
14	INVESTIGATION OR ADMINISTRATIVE INVESTIGATION AND DISCIPLINARY
15	PROCESS.
16	SECTION 13. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-31-305, amend
17	(1.7)(a) and (1.7)(b) as follows:
18	24-31-305. Certification - issuance - renewal - revocation -
19	rules - definition. (1.7) (a) Unless revoked OR VOLUNTARILY
20	SURRENDERED, a basic certification or reserve certification issued
21	pursuant to this part 3 is valid as long as the certificate holder is
22	continuously serving as a peace officer or reserve peace officer.
23	(b) If a basic or reserve certificate holder has not served as a peace
24	officer or reserve peace officer for a total of at least six months during
25	any consecutive three-year period, the certification automatically expires
26	at the end of such three-year period, unless the certificate holder is then
27	serving as a peace officer or reserve peace officer OR HAD PREVIOUSLY

-24- HB21-1250

1	VOLUNTARILY SURRENDERED HIS OR HER CERTIFICATE.
2	SECTION 14. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-31-307, amend
3	(3); and add (3.5) as follows:
4	24-31-307. Enforcement. (3) The attorney general may bring
5	criminal charges for violations of this part 3 if THE violation is willful or
6	wanton KNOWINGLY OR INTENTIONAL, or impose fines, as set in P.O.S.T.
7	board rule, upon any individual officer or agency for failure to comply
8	with this part 3 or any rule promulgated under this part 3.
9	(3.5) Any person or law enforcement agency that
10	KNOWINGLY OR INTENTIONALLY PROVIDES INACCURATE DATA FOR THE
11	DATABASE CREATED PURSUANT TO SECTION 24-31-303 (1)(r) IS SUBJECT
12	TO A FINE SET IN RULE BY THE P.O.S.T. BOARD, AND, IF THE PERSON IS A
13	P.O.S.T. CERTIFIED PEACE OFFICER, THE OFFICER IS SUBJECT TO
14	REVOCATION OR SUSPENSION OF THE OFFICER'S P.O.S.T. CERTIFICATION BY
15	THE P.O.S.T. BOARD. A PERSON OR LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY THAT
16	TRUTHFULLY AND ACCURATELY REPORTS INFORMATION PURSUANT TO
17	SECTION 24-31-303 (1)(r) IN GOOD FAITH IS NOT LIABLE UNDER THIS
18	SUBSECTION (3.5).
19	SECTION 15. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-31-309, amend
20	(3.5)(h)(II), (3.5)(h)(IV), and (3.5)(h)(V) as follows:
21	24-31-309. Profiling - officer identification - training. (3.5) A
22	peace officer shall have a legal basis for making a contact, whether
23	consensual or nonconsensual, for the purpose of enforcing the law or
24	investigating possible violations of the law. After making a contact, a
25	peace officer, as defined in section 24-31-901 (3), shall report to the
26	peace officer's employing agency:
27	(h) The actions taken by the peace officer during the contact,

-25- HB21-1250

1	including but not limited to whether:
2	(II) The peace officer searched the person, A VEHICLE, or any
3	property, and, if so, the basis for the search and the type of contraband or
4	evidence discovered, if any;
5	(IV) A peace officer unholstered OR BRANDISHED a weapon during
6	the contact, AND, IF SO, THE TYPE OF WEAPON; and
7	(V) A peace officer discharged a firearm WEAPON during the
8	contact.
9	SECTION 16. In Colorado Revised Statutes, add 24-31-317 as
10	follows:
11	24-31-317. Administrative law judge appointment. The
12	P.O.S.T. BOARD CHAIRPERSON MAY APPOINT AN ADMINISTRATIVE LAW
13	JUDGE OR HEARING OFFICER PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 4 OF TITLE 24 TO
14	CONDUCT HEARINGS, ADMINISTER OATHS, TAKE AFFIRMATIONS OF
15	WITNESSES, ISSUE SUBPOENAS COMPELLING THE ATTENDANCE OF
16	WITNESSES AND PRODUCTION OF RECORDS, RULE ON EVIDENCE, MAKE
17	FINDINGS, AND REPORT THE FINDINGS TO THE P.O.S.T. BOARD FOR ANY
18	PROCEEDINGS OR ACTIONS AUTHORIZED UNDER THIS PART 3.
19	SECTION 17. In Session Laws of Colorado 2020, amend section
20	18 of chapter 110 as follows:
21	Section 18. Effective date. This act takes effect upon passage;
22	except that:
23	(1) Section 24-31-902, Colorado Revised Statutes, as enacted in
24	section 2 of this act, takes effect July 1, 2023 on the effective date of
25	House Bill 21;
26	(2) Section 4 of this act takes effect September 1, 2020; and
27	(3) Section 5 of this act takes effect September 1, 2020; except

-26- HB21-1250

- that section 18-1-707 (2.5) and (3), Colorado Revised Statutes, as enacted
- 2 in section 5 of this act, takes effect upon passage.
- 3 **SECTION 18. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds,
- 4 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate
- 5 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety.