Second Regular Session Seventy-fourth General Assembly STATE OF COLORADO

REENGROSSED

This Version Includes All Amendments Adopted in the House of Introduction

LLS NO. 24-1163.01 Jerry Barry x4341

HOUSE BILL 24-1454

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Ortiz and Pugliese, Bacon, Bird, Duran, Kipp, Lieder, Parenti, Young

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House Committees

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	A BILL FOR AN ACT
101	CONCERNING A ONE-YEAR EXTENSION OF THE DEADLINE FOR PUBLIC
102	AGENCIES TO COMPLY WITH DIGITAL ACCESSIBILITY STANDARDS
103	IF THE PUBLIC AGENCY DEMONSTRATES A GOOD FAITH EFFORT
104	TOWARD COMPLIANCE.

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.)

Current law requires state agencies and public entities to comply with digital accessibility standards on or before July 1, 2024. The bill provides a one-year extension to July 1, 2025, of immunity from liability

HOUSE
3rd Reading Unamended

HOUSE 2nd Reading Unamended April 29, 2024 for failure to comply with the digital accessibility standards for an agency that demonstrates good faith efforts toward compliance or toward resolution of any complaint of noncompliance.

1 Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado: 2 **SECTION 1. Legislative declaration.** (1) The general assembly 3 declares that: 4 (a) It is imperative to recognize the importance of ensuring full 5 accessibility for individuals with disabilities to state and local government 6 digital resources; 7 (b) The general assembly's commitment to inclusivity and equal 8 access is underscored by establishing a one-year grace period that extends 9 the current deadline for full digital accessibility compliance for state 10 agencies and public entities from July 1, 2024, to July 1, 2025, so that 11 applicable state agencies and public entities may achieve compliance with 12 established accessibility standards, provided that the public entity or state 13 agency has demonstrated good faith efforts toward compliance; 14 (c) The temporary grace period reflects the general assembly's 15 understanding of the reality of adapting the necessary accessibility 16 standards by state agencies and public entities and bases the grace period 17 on current progress made by each state agency and public entity; and 18 (d) The one-year grace period is made with the intent to encourage 19 continued diligent progress toward accessibility for all Coloradans with 20 disabilities without imposing immediate penalties on state agencies and 21 public entities. 22 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-34-802, amend 23 (1)(c) as follows: 24 24-34-802. Violations - penalties - immunity - repeal.

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1 (1) (c) (I) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (1)(c)(II) OF THIS 2 SECTION, discrimination pursuant to this section includes the failure of a 3 public entity or state agency, as those terms are defined in section 4 24-34-301, to fully comply, on or before July 1, 2024, with the 5 accessibility standards for individuals with a disability established by the 6 office of information technology pursuant to section 24-85-103. Liability 7 for noncompliance as to content lies with the public entity or state agency 8 that manages the content. Liability for noncompliance of the platform 9 hosting the content lies with the public entity or state agency that manages 10 the platform. 11 (II) (A) A PUBLIC ENTITY OR STATE AGENCY IS IMMUNE FROM 12 LIABILITY FOR A VIOLATION OF SUBSECTION (1)(c)(I) OF THIS SECTION 13 UNTIL JULY 1, 2025, IF THE PUBLIC ENTITY OR STATE AGENCY 14 DEMONSTRATES GOOD FAITH EFFORTS TOWARD COMPLIANCE WITH THE 15 ACCESSIBILITY STANDARDS ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO SECTION 16 24-85-103 OR, AS NECESSARY, MAKES GOOD FAITH EFFORTS TOWARD 17 RESOLUTION OF A COMPLAINT OF NONCOMPLIANCE. TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR 18 THE IMMUNITY AUTHORIZED PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION (1)(c)(II), BY 19 JULY 1, 2024, A PUBLIC ENTITY'S OR STATE AGENCY'S GOOD FAITH EFFORTS 20 MUST INCLUDE CREATING A PROGRESS-TO-DATE REPORT THAT 21 DEMONSTRATES CONCRETE AND SPECIFIC EFFORTS TOWARD COMPLIANCE 22 ON THE ENTITY'S OR AGENCY'S FRONT-FACING WEB PAGES; UPDATING THE 23 REPORT ON A QUARTERLY BASIS; AND CREATING A CLEAR, EASY-TO-FIND 24 PROCESS FOR REQUESTING REDRESS FOR INACCESSIBLE DIGITAL PRODUCTS, 25 INCLUDING CONTACT OPTIONS THAT ARE NOT DEPENDENT ON WEB ACCESS 26 OR DIGITAL ACCESSIBILITY AND ARE PROMINENTLY DISPLAYED ON ALL 27 FRONT-FACING WEB PAGES.

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1	(B) If a civil action is filed pursuant to this subsection
2	(1)(c) AND A PUBLIC ENTITY OR STATE AGENCY ALLEGES THAT IT HAS
3	MADE GOOD FAITH EFFORTS PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION $(1)(c)(II)$, THE
4	COURT IN WHICH THE CIVIL ACTION WAS FILED SHALL DETERMINE, BASED
5	ON A PREPONDERANCE OF THE EVIDENCE, WHETHER THE PUBLIC ENTITY OR
6	STATE AGENCY HAS MADE GOOD FAITH EFFORTS, AND, IF THE COURT
7	DETERMINES THAT GOOD FAITH EFFORTS HAVE BEEN MADE, THE COURT
8	SHALL DISMISS THE ACTION WITHOUT PREJUDICE.
9	(C) This subsection (1)(c)(II) is repealed, effective July 1,
10	2025.
11	SECTION 3. Safety clause. The general assembly finds,
12	determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate
13	preservation of the public peace, health, or safety or for appropriations for
14	the support and maintenance of the departments of the state and state
15	institutions.

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