



**COLORADO**  
State Patrol  
Department of Public Safety

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## Fact Sheet – HB 1173 Talking Points – State Patrol

Prepared for Rep. Diane Mitsch Bush – April 2015

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- The 4/32” requirement is not a new requirement. Current statute, 42-4-106 (5)(a)(I), requires ALL motor vehicles to have “adequate tires” when CDOT restricts use of the highways during a snow emergency. CDOT rules define “adequate tires”, in part, as having at least 1/8” inch tread. This is also 4/32”.
- The fines in HB 1173 are NOT new fines. The current fines stipulated in 42-4-106 are:

Passenger vehicle violating the restriction: \$100 + \$32 surcharge. **\$132 total fine.**  
 Passenger vehicle causing a closure: \$500 + \$156 surcharge. **\$656 total fine.**  
 Commercial vehicle violating restriction: \$500 + \$78 surcharge. **\$578 total fine.**  
 Commercial vehicle causing a closure: \$1000 + \$156 surcharge. **\$1156 total fine.**

These are the same fines HB 1173 indicates.

- This bill WILL help the Colorado State Patrol prevent a vehicle that could potentially cause a severe back-up by allowing us to be proactive in enforcing a vehicle to have adequate tire traction prior to entering the I-70 corridor.
- This bill simply allows the Patrol to try and fix problems before they happen, rather than waiting for CDOT to declare a snow emergency. Currently, by the time CDOT can declare an emergency, it's too late to fix anything.
- This bill will help citizens by making it clear when they need to have adequate tire traction to travel in the I-70 corridor. Currently, they have to operate under different rules when CDOT declares a snow emergency. Motorists have no way of knowing what CDOT has declared if they are already enroute to the corridor. This bill will clear up the confusion, allowing motorists to know EXACTLY what the requirements are, where they are, and when they are.
- This bill is not the “end all” solution to I-70 corridor congestion, but will go a long way toward helping us get there. This problem can only be fixed by with a mixture of responsibility from motorists and the on-going efforts of all stakeholders in the region. The Colorado State Patrol STRONGLY supports HB 1173 as introduced in the House and amended in the Senate Transportation Committee.

