

**First Regular Session
Sixty-eighth General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO**

REENGROSSED

*This Version Includes All Amendments
Adopted in the House of Introduction*

LLS NO. 11-0268.01 Bob Lackner

HOUSE BILL 11-1065

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Balmer, Ferrandino, Priola

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Cadman,

House Committees
Finance

Senate Committees

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 **CONCERNING RESTRICTIONS ON THE APPEARANCE BY PUBLIC**
102 **OFFICIALS IN COMMUNICATIONS PAID FOR WITH STATE MONEYS.**

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://www.leg.state.co.us/billsummaries>.)

The bill prohibits state moneys from being used in whole or in part for the payment of the cost of any advertisement or other form of communication containing the proper name or visual or audio likeness of any person who is either currently serving as a public official, which the bill defines to mean an elected state official or an elected official of the

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.
*Capital letters indicate new material to be added to existing statute.
Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.*

HOUSE
3rd Reading Unamended
March 11, 2011

HOUSE
Amended 2nd Reading
March 2, 2011

federal or a local government, but excluding an employee of such government. These requirements do not apply to any advertisement or other form of communication that is required by law in order for the public official to undertake his or her official duties or functions, including:

- ! A legal notice in which the name of the public official is required to appear; and
- ! Any communication that is disseminated or distributed by means of a web site owned, operated, or maintained by the state or the federal or any local government.

The bill permits a person alleging a violation of the prohibition to file a written complaint. Any person who commits a violation of the prohibition is subject to and personally liable for a civil penalty of either an amount that is at least double and up to 5 times the sum total of state moneys expended in violation of the bill's requirements or in the amount of \$20,000 for each such violation, whichever is greater.

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

2 **SECTION 1.** Article 45 of title 1, Colorado Revised Statutes, is
3 amended BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW SECTION to read:

4 **1-45-117.7. Public service advertising - prohibited**
5 **expenditures - penalties - definitions.** (1) AS USED IN THIS SECTION,
6 UNLESS THE CONTEXT OTHERWISE REQUIRES:

7 (a) "ADVERTISEMENT" MEANS ANY REPRESENTATION
8 DISSEMINATED IN ANY MANNER OR BY ANY MEANS THAT IS SPECIFICALLY
9 DESIGNED TO REACH A LARGE AUDIENCE. "ADVERTISEMENT" INCLUDES
10 AN ADVERTISEMENT PLACED BY THE STATE LOTTERY DIVISION PURSUANT
11 TO PART 2 OF ARTICLE 35 OF TITLE 24, C.R.S., A BILLBOARD, A BUS BENCH
12 ADVERTISEMENT, OR ANY SIMILAR TYPE OF PUBLIC COMMUNICATION.

13 (b) "ELECTED STATE OFFICIAL" OR "OFFICIAL" MEANS THE
14 GOVERNOR, LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR, SECRETARY OF STATE, STATE
15 TREASURER, ATTORNEY GENERAL, OR A MEMBER OF THE GENERAL
16 ASSEMBLY.

1 (c) "SOCIAL MEDIA" MEANS ANY ON-LINE TECHNOLOGY TOOL THAT
2 ENABLES PEOPLE TO COMMUNICATE EASILY BY MEANS OF THE INTERNET
3 TO SHARE INFORMATION AND RESOURCES. "SOCIAL MEDIA" WEB SITES ARE
4 DISTINGUISHED BY A HIGH DEGREE OF CONTENT THAT IS USER GENERATED,
5 A HIGH DEGREE OF PARTICIPATION OR INTERACTION BETWEEN OR AMONG
6 USERS, AND EASY INTEGRATION WITH OTHER WEB SITES. "SOCIAL MEDIA"
7 INCLUDES TEXT, AUDIO, VIDEO, IMAGES, PODCASTS, AND OTHER FORMS OF
8 MULTIMEDIA CONTENT.

9 (2) (a) EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED IN THIS SUBSECTION (2),
10 NO STATE MONEYS MAY BE USED IN WHOLE OR IN PART FOR THE PAYMENT
11 OF THE COST OF ANY ADVERTISEMENT CONTAINING THE PROPER NAME OR
12 VISUAL OR AUDIO LIKENESS OF ANY PERSON WHO IS CURRENTLY SERVING
13 AS AN ELECTED STATE OFFICIAL; EXCEPT THAT THIS PARAGRAPH (a) SHALL
14 NOT APPLY TO ANY ADVERTISEMENT THAT IS REQUIRED BY LAW IN ORDER
15 FOR THE OFFICIAL TO UNDERTAKE HIS OR HER OFFICIAL DUTIES OR
16 FUNCTIONS, INCLUDING A LEGAL NOTICE IN WHICH THE NAME OF THE
17 OFFICIAL IS REQUIRED TO APPEAR.

18 (b) THE PROHIBITION SPECIFIED IN PARAGRAPH (a) OF THIS
19 SUBSECTION (2) SHALL NOT APPLY TO THE FOLLOWING FORMS OF PUBLIC
20 COMMUNICATION:

21 (I) ANY COMMUNICATION THAT IS DISSEMINATED OR DISTRIBUTED
22 BY MEANS OF A WEB SITE OWNED, OPERATED, OR MAINTAINED BY THE
23 STATE;

24 (II) AN EMAIL COMMUNICATION DISSEMINATED BY AN ELECTED
25 STATE OFFICIAL;

26 (III) A TOWN HALL OR OTHER INFORMAL TYPE OF MEETING THAT
27 DRAWS PEOPLE IN A GIVEN GEOGRAPHIC AREA TOGETHER WITH AN

1 ELECTED STATE OFFICIAL TO DISCUSS PUBLIC BUSINESS, ANY
2 ADVERTISEMENT OR SIMILAR FORM OF COMMUNICATION DESIGNED TO
3 SOLICIT ATTENDANCE AT SUCH AN EVENT, AND ANY COMMUNICATION
4 SENT BY A PERSON EMPLOYED BY THE OFFICIAL INTENDED TO SOLICIT
5 ATTENDANCE AT SUCH AN EVENT;

6 (IV) ANY FORM OF MAILING DISTRIBUTED BY THE UNITED STATES
7 POSTAL SERVICE; AND

8 (V) ANY INTERACTION BY AN ELECTED STATE OFFICIAL ON A
9 SOCIAL MEDIA WEB SITE.

10 (3) ANY PERSON ALLEGING A VIOLATION OF SUBSECTION (2) OF
11 THIS SECTION MAY FILE A WRITTEN COMPLAINT PURSUANT TO SECTION
12 1-45-111.5 (1.5) (a). ANY PERSON WHO COMMITS A WILLFUL AND
13 INTENTIONAL VIOLATION OF THIS SECTION SHALL BE SUBJECT TO AND
14 PERSONALLY LIABLE FOR A CIVIL PENALTY EITHER OF AN AMOUNT THAT
15 IS AT LEAST DOUBLE AND UP TO FIVE TIMES THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF STATE
16 MONEYS EXPENDED IN VIOLATION OF THIS SECTION OR OF TWENTY
17 THOUSAND DOLLARS FOR EACH SUCH VIOLATION, WHICHEVER IS GREATER.
18 NO OFFICIAL ENGAGED IN A SUPERVISORY CAPACITY WITH RESPECT TO
19 ANOTHER PERSON MAY BE SUBJECT TO THE CIVIL PENALTY AS A RESULT OF
20 A VIOLATION CAUSED BY SUCH OTHER PERSON UNLESS THE OFFICIAL KNEW
21 OR SHOULD HAVE KNOWN IN THE EXERCISE OF REASONABLE DILIGENCE
22 THAT THE PERSON WAS COMMITTING A VIOLATION OF THIS SECTION.

23 **SECTION 2. Effective date.** This act shall take effect July 1,
24 2011.

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