

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

**PREAMENDED**

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

LLS NO. 13-0630.01 Kate Meyer x4348

**HOUSE BILL 13-1293**

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**HOUSE SPONSORSHIP**

**Rosenthal**, Foote, Melton, Tyler

**SENATE SPONSORSHIP**

(None),

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**House Committees**

Agriculture, Livestock, & Natural Resources

**Senate Committees**

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**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

101     **CONCERNING THE CREATION OF A POSITION BY THE GOVERNOR FOR**  
102     **CLIMATE CHANGE MATTERS.**

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**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 directs the governor to establish a position for climate change issues. The person appointed to that position is required to develop climate action plans and to report annually to the general assembly regarding how climate change affects the state.

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.*

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

2       **SECTION 1. Legislative declaration.** The general assembly  
3 hereby declares that climate change presents serious, diverse, and ongoing  
4 issues for the state's people, economy, and environment. In order to  
5 ensure that the state is apprised of the threats that climate change poses  
6 to Colorado and the progress made to mitigate and address those threats,  
7 the general assembly hereby directs the governor to create a climate  
8 change-related position in the executive branch.

9       **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 24-20-111 as  
10 follows:

11       **24-20-111. Climate change position created - duties - report.**

12 (1) (a) THERE SHALL BE A POSITION CREATED BY THE GOVERNOR WITHIN  
13 THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH, WHICH POSITION MUST INCLUDE THE TERM  
14 "CLIMATE CHANGE" IN ITS TITLE, TO ASSESS CLIMATE CHANGE ISSUES IN  
15 THE STATE.

16 (b) THE ORGANIZATIONAL LOCATION OF THE POSITION CREATED  
17 UNDER PARAGRAPH (a) OF THIS SUBSECTION (1) OF THIS SECTION SHALL BE  
18 AT THE DISCRETION OF THE GOVERNOR AND MAY UTILIZE EXISTING  
19 RESOURCES AS APPROPRIATE. IN ORDER TO REDUCE THE COSTS  
20 ASSOCIATED WITH CREATING THE CLIMATE CHANGE POSITION, NOTHING IN  
21 THIS SECTION PRECLUDES THE PERSON NAMED TO THE POSITION  
22 ESTABLISHED UNDER PARAGRAPH (a) OF THIS SUBSECTION (1) OF THIS  
23 SECTION FROM HOLDING OTHER TITLES OR PERFORMING OTHER FUNCTIONS  
24 WITHIN ANY DEPARTMENT OR OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH.

25 (2) THE DUTIES OF THE POSITION CREATED PURSUANT TO  
26 SUBSECTION (1) OF THIS SECTION INCLUDE, AT A MINIMUM:

1 (a) DEVELOPMENT AND PERIODIC UPDATE OF A CLIMATE ACTION  
2 PLAN OR SIMILAR DOCUMENT THAT SETS FORTH A STRATEGY, INCLUDING  
3 SPECIFIC POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS, THAT THE STATE COULD USE TO  
4 ADDRESS CLIMATE CHANGE AND REDUCE ITS GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS;  
5 AND

6 (b) COLLABORATION WITH OTHER ENTITIES REGARDING CLIMATE  
7 CHANGE PREPAREDNESS STUDIES.

8 (3) (a) THE GOVERNOR OR HIS OR HER DESIGNEE SHALL SUBMIT AN  
9 ANNUAL REPORT TO THE HOUSE AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK, AND NATURAL  
10 RESOURCES COMMITTEE, THE HOUSE TRANSPORTATION AND ENERGY  
11 COMMITTEE, AND THE SENATE AGRICULTURE, NATURAL RESOURCES, AND  
12 ENERGY COMMITTEE, OR ANY SUCCESSOR COMMITTEES, ON CLIMATE  
13 CHANGE ISSUES GENERALLY, THE CURRENT CLIMATE ACTION PLAN  
14 DEVELOPED UNDER THIS SECTION, AND THE SPECIFIC WAYS IN WHICH  
15 CLIMATE CHANGE AFFECTS THE STATE. THE REPORT MAY ADDRESS, AS  
16 APPROPRIATE, THE CORRELATIONS BETWEEN CLIMATE CHANGE AND  
17 WILDFIRES, BARK BEETLE INFESTATION, SNOWPACK, WATER STORAGE,  
18 DROUGHT, AND STATEWIDE EMISSIONS OF GREENHOUSE GASES. THE  
19 REPORT SHALL INCLUDE INFORMATION REGARDING EFFORTS TO REDUCE  
20 EMISSIONS OF GASES AND TO REFORM PRACTICES KNOWN TO EXACERBATE  
21 CLIMATE CHANGE EFFECTS. THE REPORT SHALL ALSO INCLUDE  
22 ADDITIONAL PROSPECTIVE PROPOSALS TO PREPARE THE STATE FOR THE  
23 EFFECTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE AND PROPOSALS TO FURTHER REDUCE THE  
24 FACTORS THAT CONTRIBUTE TO CLIMATE CHANGE WITHIN COLORADO.

25 (b) THE DEVELOPMENT OF A CLIMATE ACTION PLAN IN  
26 ACCORDANCE WITH THIS SECTION MUST TAKE INTO ACCOUNT PREVIOUS  
27 ACTION PLANS DEVELOPED BY THE STATE AND GOALS AND DIRECTIVES

1       CONTAINED IN EXECUTIVE ORDERS ISSUED BY THE GOVERNOR.

2               (c) THE REPORT REQUIRED BY THIS SUBSECTION (3) IS EXEMPT  
3 FROM THE AUTOMATIC EXPIRATION DESCRIBED IN SECTION 24-1-136(11).

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