

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

REREVISED

*This Version Includes All Amendments
Adopted in the Second House*

LLS NO. 13-0630.01 Kate Meyer x4348

HOUSE BILL 13-1293

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Rosenthal, Foote, Melton, Tyler

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Heath,

House Committees

Agriculture, Livestock, & Natural Resources

Senate Committees

Transportation

A BILL FOR AN ACT

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

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.*

SENATE
3rd Reading Unamended
May 3, 2013

SENATE
2nd Reading Unamended
May 2, 2013

HOUSE
3rd Reading Unamended
April 19, 2013

HOUSE
Amended 2nd Reading
April 17, 2013

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.