

**UPDATED SUMMARY
SENATE BILL 14-164**

Second Regular Session - Sixty-ninth Colorado General Assembly

This summary applies to the reengrossed version of this bill as introduced in the second house. It does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. This summary reflects only the main points of the legislation.

Senate Bill 13-245 created the Colorado firefighting air corps (C-FAC) under the division of fire prevention and control (division) in the department of public safety and empowered the division to acquire firefighting aircraft for the C-FAC. Currently, the division has no such aircraft. *The bill directs the division to acquire or contract for firefighting aircraft for use during the 2014 fire season, in a manner that hews as closely to the division's "special report: Colorado firefighting air corps, report to the governor and general assembly on strategies to enhance the state's aerial firefighting capabilities", dated March 28, 2014, as feasible and appropriate within available appropriations.*

~~! For use during the 2014 fire season, the bill authorizes the division to purchase, lease, or contract for the use and operation of up to 3 firefighting helicopters.~~

~~! For use in the 2015 fire season and beyond, the bill authorizes the division to purchase, lease, or contract for the use of up to 4 large aircraft from the federal government or other sources. The division is further permitted to contract for the retrofitting, maintenance, storage, and operation of these planes. In awarding any such contract, the division is directed to consider certain specified factors, including whether bidders will perform the airplane modifications in Colorado or employ veterans.~~

~~The bill also allows also:~~

~~! Allows the division to establish a center of excellence for advanced technology aerial firefighting and specifies the functions that the center must perform, if so established;~~

~~! Directs the wildfire matters review committee to consider the creation of an advisory commission to assist the director of the division in performing his or her duties; and~~

~~! Requires the director of the division to annually report to that committee.~~