Second Regular Session Sixty-ninth General Assembly STATE OF COLORADO

PREAMENDED

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

LLS NO. 14-0709.01 Kristen Forrestal x4217

SENATE BILL 14-060

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Todd and King,

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Coram and Williams,

Senate Committees Transportation **House Committees**

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 CONCERNING THE AUTHORIZATION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF

102 TRANSPORTATION TO CONDUCT FLAGPERSON TRAINING.

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 <u>http://www.leg.state.co.us/billsummaries.</u>)

Current law allows state and local road authorities to train adult personnel as flagpersons to work within their respective jurisdictions. The bill changes this to allow the department of transportation (department) to authorize public and private entities to conduct flagperson training.

Current law requires drivers to obey the directions of flagpersons

and makes the failure to do so a class A traffic infraction. The bill relocates these provisions to another section. The bill requires flagpersons to wear high-visibility clothing, use a prescribed device while directing traffic, and abide by Colorado's manuals for traffic control. The bill clarifies that law enforcement personnel are exempt from these requirements.

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

2 SECTION 1. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 42-4-712, amend (3)
3 as follows:

4 42-4-712. Driving in highway work area. (3) State and local 5 road authorities, within their respective jurisdictions and in cooperation 6 with law enforcement agencies, may train and appoint adult civilian 7 personnel for special traffic duty as highway flagpersons within any 8 highway maintenance or construction work area. Whenever such duly 9 authorized flagpersons are wearing the badge, insignia, or uniform of 10 their office, are engaged in the performance of their respective duties, and 11 are displaying any official hand signal device of a type and in the manner 12 prescribed in the adopted state traffic control manual or supplement 13 thereto for signaling traffic in such areas to stop or to proceed, no person 14 shall willfully fail or refuse to obey the visible instructions or signals so 15 displayed by such flagpersons. Any alleged willful failure or refusal of a 16 driver to comply with such instructions or signals, including information 17 as to the identity of the driver and the license plate number of the vehicle 18 alleged to have been so driven in violation, shall be reported by the work 19 area supervisor in charge at the location to the district attorney for 20 appropriate penalizing action in a court of competent jurisdiction. Any 21 person who violates any provision of this section commits a class A 22 traffic infraction.

SECTION 2. In Colorado Revised Statutes, add 43-5-308 as
 follows:

43-5-308. Flagpersons - definition - penalty. (1) (a) A PERSON
SHALL NOT FAIL OR REFUSE TO OBEY THE VISIBLE INSTRUCTIONS, SIGNALS,
OR DIRECTION DISPLAYED OR GIVEN BY A FLAGPERSON. A PERSON WHO
VIOLATES THIS PARAGRAPH (a) COMMITS A CLASS A TRAFFIC INFRACTION.

7 (b) IF A DRIVER FAILS TO COMPLY WITH THE FLAGPERSON'S 8 INSTRUCTIONS, THE FLAGPERSON OR ANY OTHER PERSON WITH 9 INFORMATION AS TO THE IDENTITY OF THE DRIVER OR THE LICENSE PLATE 10 NUMBER OF THE DRIVER'S VEHICLE MAY, AND IF PRACTICABLE SHALL, 11 PROMPTLY RELAY THE INFORMATION TO THE APPROPRIATE LAW 12 ENFORCEMENT AGENCY.

13 (2) (a) ONLY A TRAINED PERSON MAY PROVIDE TEMPORARY
14 TRAFFIC CONTROL OR DIRECTION WITHIN ANY HIGHWAY, ROAD, OR STREET
15 MAINTENANCE OR CONSTRUCTION WORK AREA AS A FLAGPERSON.

16 (b) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL AUTHORIZE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE
17 ENTITIES TO CONDUCT FLAGPERSON CERTIFICATION TRAINING AND SHALL
18 DEVELOP AND PROVIDE, AT COST, EXAMINATION AND TRAINING
19 MATERIALS THAT AUTHORIZED ENTITIES MUST USE IN CONDUCTING
20 FLAGPERSON CERTIFICATION.

(c) WHILE DIRECTING TRAFFIC, A FLAGPERSON SHALL WEAR
HIGH-VISIBILITY GARMENTS AND DISPLAY AN OFFICIAL HAND SIGNAL
DEVICE PRESCRIBED IN THE STATE TRAFFIC CONTROL MANUAL ADOPTED
BY THE DEPARTMENT PURSUANT TO SECTION 42-4-104, C.R.S., OR ITS
SUPPLEMENT.

26 (d) A FLAGPERSON SHALL ABIDE BY THE COLORADO MANUAL OF
27 UNIFORM TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES AND SHALL NOT USE <u>ANY</u> DEVICE

-3-

060

THAT MIGHT DISTRACT THE FLAGPERSON'S VISION, HEARING, OR
 ATTENTION WHILE DIRECTING TRAFFIC.

3 (3) AS USED IN THIS SECTION, "FLAGPERSON" MEANS A PERSON:

4 (a) EIGHTEEN YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER;

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5 (b) TRAINED BY AN ENTITY AUTHORIZED BY THE DEPARTMENT;

6 (c) EMPLOYED BY THE DEPARTMENT, A DEPARTMENT
7 CONTRACTOR, A POLITICAL SUBDIVISION OF THE STATE, OR A CONTRACTOR
8 OF A POLITICAL SUBDIVISION; AND

9 (d) ACTING IN HIS OR HER OFFICIAL CAPACITY WHILE PERFORMING
10 WORK WITHIN A TEMPORARY TRAFFIC CONTROL ZONE.

11 (4) THIS SECTION DOES NOT APPLY TO LAW ENFORCEMENT
 12 PERSONNEL WHILE PERFORMING OFFICIAL LAW ENFORCEMENT DUTIES.

SECTION 3. Effective date. This act takes effect July 1, 2014.

SECTION <u>4.</u> Safety clause. The general assembly hereby finds,
determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate
preservation of the public peace, health, and safety.