HOUSE COMMITTEE OF REFERENCE REPORT

Chairman of Committee

<u>April 29, 2014</u> Date

Committee on Business, Labor, Economic, & Workforce Development.

After consideration on the merits, the Committee recommends the following:

<u>HB14-1389</u> be amended as follows, and as so amended, be referred to the Committee on <u>Finance</u> with favorable recommendation:

1 Amend printed bill, strike everything below the enacting clause and 2 substitute:

3 "SECTION 1. In Colorado Revised Statutes, add 39-26-727 as
4 follows:

5 39-26-727. Qualified data centers - legislative declaration definitions. (1) (a) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY HEREBY FINDS AND
DECLARES THAT:

8 (I) COLORADO'S ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY INDUSTRY DIRECTLY 9 PROVIDES AND CONTRIBUTES BILLIONS OF DOLLARS TO THE STATE'S 10 ECONOMY;

(II) AS A COMPONENT OF THAT INDUSTRY, DATA CENTERS ARE AN
IMPORTANT ASSET AND CREATE A SIGNIFICANT AMOUNT OF ECONOMIC
BENEFIT TO THE STATE, INCLUDING HIGH-END INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY,
CONSULTING, AND CONSTRUCTION EMPLOYMENT;

(III) THESE ASSETS, ONCE BUILT, ARE A KEY COMPONENT OF A
COMPANY'S OVERALL OPERATING ENVIRONMENT AND CAN CREATE A
LONG-TERM INVESTMENT IN A COMMUNITY;

(IV) STUDIES INDICATE THAT THE STATE WOULD BENEFIT
 SIGNIFICANTLY FROM STATE-IMPLEMENTED INCENTIVES DESIGNED TO
 STIMULATE PRIVATE-SECTOR INDUSTRY GROWTH;

(V) DATA CENTERS CAN BE A SIGNIFICANT SOURCE OF NEW
REVENUE, EVEN MORE SO THAN TYPICAL ECONOMIC GROWTH SUCH AS
MANUFACTURING, HEADQUARTERS, AND DISTRIBUTION CENTERS; AND
(MI) SPICE 2005 APPROVINCE TELLS SEVENTEEN STATES HAVE

24 (VI) SINCE 2005, APPROXIMATELY SEVENTEEN STATES HAVE

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PASSED LEGISLATION TO PROVIDE CUSTOMIZED INCENTIVES FOR DATA
 CENTERS, AND THOSE STATES ARE ACTIVELY RECRUITING DATA CENTER
 INVESTMENTS.

4 (b) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FURTHER FINDS AND DECLARES THAT
5 ENACTING A TAX INCENTIVE TO ENCOURAGE THE EXPANSION OF CURRENT
6 DATA CENTER BUSINESSES, ENCOURAGE NEW DATA CENTER BUSINESSES TO
7 LOCATE TO THE STATE, AND INVIGORATE THE STATE'S CURRENT
8 ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY INDUSTRY'S BUSINESS ACTIVITIES IS SOUND
9 PUBLIC POLICY.

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(2) AS USED IN THIS SECTION:

(a) "FACILITY" MEANS A FACILITY AND THE RELATED PREMISES
THAT IS PRIMARILY USED TO HOUSE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
EQUIPMENT IN A DATA CENTER AND THAT HAS ALL OF THE FOLLOWING
CHARACTERISTICS:

(I) SOPHISTICATED FIRE SUPPRESSION AND PREVENTION SYSTEMS
AND ENHANCED SYSTEMS TO CONTROL THE CLIMATE WITHIN THE
FACILITY; AND

(II) ENHANCED SECURITY MEASURES. A FACILITY IS CONSIDERED
TO HAVE ENHANCED SECURITY IFIT HAS RESTRICTED ACCESS TO SELECTED
PERSONNEL, PERMANENT SECURITY GUARDS, VIDEO CAMERA
SURVEILLANCE, AN ELECTRONIC SYSTEM REQUIRING PASS CODES,
KEYCARDS, OR BIOMETRIC SCANS, SUCH AS HAND SCANS OR RETINAL OR
FINGERPRINT RECOGNITION, OR SIMILAR ENHANCED SECURITY FEATURES.
(b) (I) "INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY EQUIPMENT" MEANS

24 (b) (c) INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY EQUIPMENT MEANS
25 EQUIPMENT NECESSARY FOR THE MAINTENANCE AND OPERATION OF A
26 QUALIFIED DATA CENTER OR QUALIFIED REFURBISHED DATA CENTER,
27 INCLUDING:

(A) COMPUTERS AND EQUIPMENT SUPPORTING COMPUTING,
NETWORKING, OR DATA STORAGE, INCLUDING SERVERS, TABLETS,
SWITCHES, CROSS-CONNECTS, ROUTERS, AND THE APPLICATION SYSTEMS
AND OPERATING SYSTEMS THAT ENABLE THE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
EQUIPMENT;

33 (B) COOLING SYSTEMS, COOLING TOWERS, AND OTHER
 34 TEMPERATURE CONTROL INFRASTRUCTURE;

35 (C) POWER INFRASTRUCTURE FOR TRANSFORMATION,
36 DISTRIBUTION, OR MANAGEMENT OF ELECTRICITY USED FOR THE
37 MAINTENANCE AND OPERATION OF A QUALIFIED DATA CENTER OR
38 QUALIFIED REFURBISHED DATA CENTER, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO
39 EXTERIOR DEDICATED BUSINESS-OWNED SUBSTATIONS, ON-SITE POWER
40 GENERATION SYSTEMS, BACKUP POWER GENERATION SYSTEMS, BATTERY
41 SYSTEMS, UNINTERRUPTIBLE POWER SUPPLIES, STRUCTURES ERECTED TO

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PROTECT ALL INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY EQUIPMENT FROM ANY
 ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS, AND OTHER RELATED INFRASTRUCTURE;
 AND

4 (D) RACKING SYSTEMS, CABLING, AND TRAYS, WHICH ARE
5 NECESSARY FOR THE MAINTENANCE AND OPERATION OF THE QUALIFIED
6 DATA CENTER OR QUALIFIED REFURBISHED DATA CENTER.

7 (II) "INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY EQUIPMENT" INCLUDES ANY
8 EQUIPMENT THAT HAS THE CAPABILITY TO REPLACE THE FUNCTIONALITY
9 OF ANY OF THE EQUIPMENT SPECIFIED IN SUBPARAGRAPH (I) OF THIS
10 PARAGRAPH (b).

11 (c) "QUALIFIED DATA CENTER" MEANS A FACILITY THAT IS
12 LOCATED IN THE STATE THAT SATISFIES THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA:

(I) THE FACILITY IS COMPRISED OF ONE OR MORE BUILDINGS THAT
CONSIST IN THE AGGREGATE OF AT LEAST TWENTY-FIVE THOUSAND
SQUARE FEET. IN DETERMINING WHETHER THE FACILITY HAS THE
REQUIRED SQUARE FOOTAGE, THE SQUARE FOOTAGE OF OFFICE SPACE,
MEETING SPACE, AND MECHANICAL AND OTHER SUPPORT FACILITIES SHALL
BE INCLUDED IF THE SPACES ARE IN DIRECT SUPPORT OF THE OPERATION OF
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY EQUIPMENT LOCATED AT THE FACILITY.

20 (II) THE FACILITY IS LOCATED ON A SINGLE PARCEL OR ON 21 CONTIGUOUS OR ADJACENT PARCELS;

(III) INVESTMENT IN THE FACILITY COMMENCED ON OR AFTERJUNE 30, 2010; AND

(IV) THE TOTAL COST OF CONSTRUCTION OF THE FACILITY AND
INVESTMENT IN INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY EQUIPMENT FOR THE FACILITY
IS AT LEAST THIRTY MILLION DOLLARS WITHIN A FIVE-YEAR PERIOD. THE
TOTAL COST OF CONSTRUCTION AND INVESTMENT INCLUDES THE
INVESTMENTS BY THE OWNER OF THE FACILITY AND ALL OTHER
TAXPAYERS THAT OWN INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY EQUIPMENT LOCATED
AT THE FACILITY.

31 (d) "OUALIFIED REFURBISHED DATA CENTER" MEANS A FACILITY 32 THAT IS LOCATED IN THE STATE THAT SATISFIES THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA: 33 (I) THE FACILITY IS COMPRISED OF ONE OR MORE BUILDINGS THAT 34 CONSIST IN THE AGGREGATE OF AT LEAST TWENTY-FIVE THOUSAND 35 SQUARE FEET. IN DETERMINING WHETHER THE FACILITY HAS THE 36 REQUIRED SQUARE FOOTAGE, THE SQUARE FOOTAGE OF OFFICE SPACE, 37 MEETING SPACE, AND MECHANICAL AND OTHER SUPPORT FACILITIES SHALL 38 BE INCLUDED IF THE SPACES ARE IN DIRECT SUPPORT OF THE OPERATION OF 39 INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY EQUIPMENT LOCATED AT THE FACILITY.

40 (II) THE FACILITY IS LOCATED ON A SINGLE PARCEL OR ON 41 CONTIGUOUS OR ADJACENT PARCELS;

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(III) THE FACILITY IS SUBSTANTIALLY REFURBISHED AFTER JUNE
 30,2013. A FACILITY WILL BE CONSIDERED SUBSTANTIALLY REFURBISHED
 IF AT LEAST TWENTY-FIVE THOUSAND SQUARE FEET IN THE FACILITY HAS
 BEEN REBUILT OR MODIFIED, INCLUDING THE INSTALLATION OF
 INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY EQUIPMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL,
 ENERGY EFFICIENCY IMPROVEMENTS, AND OTHER BUILDING
 IMPROVEMENTS.

8 (IV) THE TOTAL COST OF REFURBISHMENT OF THE FACILITY AND 9 INVESTMENT IN INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY EQUIPMENT IS AT LEAST 10 FIFTEEN MILLION DOLLARS WITHIN A TWO-YEAR PERIOD. THE TOTAL COST 11 OF REFURBISHMENT AND INVESTMENT INCLUDES THE INVESTMENTS BY 12 THE OWNER OF THE FACILITY AND ALL OTHER TAXPAYERS THAT OWN 13 INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY EQUIPMENT LOCATED AT THE FACILITY.

14 (3) (a) SUBJECT TO THE LIMITATIONS IN PARAGRAPHS (b) AND (c) 15 OF THIS SUBSECTION (3), ON AND AFTER JULY 1, 2015, ALL SALES, 16 STORAGE, AND USE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY EQUIPMENT THAT IS 17 USED IN A QUALIFIED DATA CENTER OR QUALIFIED REFURBISHED DATA 18 CENTER, INCLUDING INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY EQUIPMENT THAT IS 19 PURCHASED TO REPLACE OR UPGRADE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY 20 EQUIPMENT IN A QUALIFIED DATA CENTER OR QUALIFIED REFURBISHED 21 DATA CENTER AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY EQUIPMENT THAT IS 22 RELOCATED TO A OUALIFIED DATA CENTER OR OUALIFIED REFURBISHED 23 DATA CENTER FROM OUTSIDE OF THE STATE, ARE EXEMPT FROM TAXATION 24 UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF PARTS 1 AND 2 OF THIS ARTICLE. THE 25 EXEMPTION APPLIES TO ALL INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY EQUIPMENT THAT 26 IS USED AND MAINTAINED AT THE QUALIFIED DATA CENTER OR QUALIFIED 27 REFURBISHED DATA CENTER, REGARDLESS OF WHETHER THE OWNER OF 28 THE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY EQUIPMENT IS THE OWNER OF THE 29 QUALIFIED DATA CENTER OR QUALIFIED REFURBISHED DATA CENTER.

(b) THE EXEMPTION ALLOWED IN PARAGRAPH (a) OF THIS
SUBSECTION (3) APPLIES TO ANY INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY EQUIPMENT
THAT IS SOLD, STORED, USED, OR RELOCATED TO THE STATE TO BE USED IN
A QUALIFIED DATA CENTER OR A QUALIFIED REFURBISHED DATA CENTER
WITHIN TWENTY YEARS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST INVESTMENT IN THE
FACILITY FOR THE PURPOSE OF BECOMING A QUALIFIED DATA CENTER OR
A QUALIFIED REFURBISHED DATA CENTER.

37 (c) INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY EQUIPMENT MUST BE USED IN A
38 QUALIFIED DATA CENTER OR A QUALIFIED REFURBISHED DATA CENTER FOR
39 AT LEAST ONE YEAR DURING THE PERIOD THAT THE FACILITY IS A
40 QUALIFIED DATA CENTER OR QUALIFIED REFURBISHED DATA CENTER.
41 (4) (a) FOR PURPOSES OF THE EXEMPTION SPECIFIED IN SUBSECTION

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(3) OF THIS SECTION, THE OWNER OF A FACILITY SHALL CERTIFY ON A FORM
 PRESCRIBED BY THE COLORADO OFFICE OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT THAT
 THE FACILITY MEETS THE CRITERIA TO BE A QUALIFIED DATA CENTER OR
 A QUALIFIED REFURBISHED DATA CENTER. THE OWNER SHALL INCLUDE
 DETAILED INFORMATION REGARDING:

6 (I) THE COST TO CONSTRUCT OR REFURBISH THE FACILITY, AS 7 APPLICABLE, AND THE AMOUNT OF THE INVESTMENT IN INFORMATION 8 TECHNOLOGY EQUIPMENT; AND

9 (II) WHEN THE COSTS TO CONSTRUCT OR REFURBISH THE FACILITY
10 WERE INCURRED AND WHEN THE INVESTMENT COSTS IN INFORMATION
11 TECHNOLOGY WERE INCURRED.

(b) IN SUBMITTING THE INFORMATION REQUIRED BY PARAGRAPH
(a) OF THIS SUBSECTION (4), IF THE OWNER IS NOT ABLE TO OBTAIN
ORIGINAL PURCHASE DOCUMENTATION FROM THIRD PARTIES THAT
MAINTAIN EQUIPMENT WITHIN THE FACILITY, THE OWNER MAY USE
REASONABLE ESTIMATION METHODS TO PROJECT THE INVESTMENT COSTS.

17 (c) DURING THE CERTIFICATION PROCESS PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION (4), THE COLORADO OFFICE OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT 18 19 MAY REQUIRE THAT THE OWNER OF A FACILITY OR THE OWNER OF 20 INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY EQUIPMENT THAT IS HOUSED IN A FACILITY 21 SUBMIT CERTAIN INFORMATION TO THE OFFICE REGARDING THE IMPACT 22 THAT THE EXEMPTION ALLOWED IN THIS SECTION HAD ON THE OWNER'S 23 DECISION TO LOCATE OR EXPAND A BUSINESS, MAKE INVESTMENTS, AND 24 HIRE EMPLOYEES IN THE STATE.

25 (5) (a) BASED ON THE INFORMATION PROVIDED PURSUANT TO 26 SUBSECTION (4) OF THIS SECTION, THE COLORADO OFFICE OF ECONOMIC 27 DEVELOPMENT SHALL DETERMINE WHETHER A FACILITY IS A QUALIFIED 28 DATA CENTER OR A QUALIFIED REFURBISHED DATA CENTER FOR PURPOSES 29 OF THIS SECTION. PRIOR TO FINALIZING THE CERTIFICATION OF A 30 QUALIFIED DATA CENTER OR A QUALIFIED REFURBISHED DATA CENTER, 31 THE OFFICE SHALL CONSULT WITH THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT 32 COMMISSION CREATED IN SECTION 24-46-102, C.R.S., REGARDING 33 WHETHER THE FACILITY SATISFIES THE CRITERIA TO BE A QUALIFIED DATA 34 CENTER OR A QUALIFIED REFURBISHED DATA CENTER.

(b) IF THE COLORADO OFFICE OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
DETERMINES THAT A FACILITY IS A QUALIFIED DATA CENTER OR A
QUALIFIED REFURBISHED DATA CENTER, THE FACILITY SHALL RETAIN ITS
QUALIFIED STATUS FOR TWENTY YEARS FROM THE DATE OF THE FIRST
EXEMPTION ALLOWED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (3) OF THIS SECTION.

40 (c) AFTER MAKING A DETERMINATION THAT A FACILITY IS A 41 QUALIFIED DATA CENTER OR A QUALIFIED REFURBISHED DATA CENTER,

1 THE OFFICE SHALL NOTIFY THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND ISSUE A 2 CERTIFICATION TO THE OWNER OF THE QUALIFIED DATA CENTER OR 3 OUALIFIED REFURBISHED DATA CENTER STATING THAT INFORMATION 4 TECHNOLOGY EQUIPMENT THAT IS STORED IN THE QUALIFIED DATA CENTER 5 OR QUALIFIED REFURBISHED DATA CENTER IS ELIGIBLE FOR THE 6 EXEMPTION ALLOWED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (3) OF THIS SECTION FOR 7 TWENTY YEARS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST INVESTMENT IN THE 8 FACILITY FOR THE PURPOSE OF BECOMING A OUALIFIED DATA CENTER OR 9 A QUALIFIED REFURBISHED DATA CENTER.

(6) (a) THE COLORADO OFFICE OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SHALL
DEVELOP A PROCEDURE BY WHICH A TAXPAYER THAT USES AND
MAINTAINS INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY EQUIPMENT AT A QUALIFIED DATA
CENTER OR A QUALIFIED REFURBISHED DATA CENTER BUT IS NOT THE
OWNER OF THE FACILITY MAY OBTAIN CERTIFICATION THAT THE TAXPAYER
IS A QUALIFIED TENANT OF THE FACILITY AND IS ELIGIBLE TO CLAIM THE
EXEMPTION ALLOWED IN SUBSECTION (3) OF THIS SECTION.

(b) A TAXPAYER THAT SEEKS TO OBTAIN CERTIFICATION AS A
QUALIFIED TENANT OF A FACILITY SHALL APPLY TO THE COLORADO OFFICE
OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT USING THE PROCEDURE ESTABLISHED BY THE
OFFICE. THE OFFICE SHALL VERIFY THAT THE TAXPAYER IS USING AND
MAINTAINING INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY EQUIPMENT IN A QUALIFIED
DATA CENTER OR A QUALIFIED REFURBISHED DATA CENTER AND IS A
QUALIFIED TENANT OF THE FACILITY.

24 (c) AFTER MAKING A DETERMINATION THAT A TAXPAYER IS A 25 QUALIFIED TENANT OF A FACILITY, THE OFFICE SHALL NOTIFY THE 26 DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND ISSUE A CERTIFICATION TO THE TAXPAYER 27 AND THE APPLICABLE QUALIFIED DATA CENTER OR QUALIFIED 28 REFURBISHED DATA CENTER STATING THAT INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY 29 EQUIPMENT THAT IS STORED IN THE QUALIFIED DATA CENTER OR 30 QUALIFIED REFURBISHED DATA CENTER BY THE QUALIFIED TENANT IS 31 ELIGIBLE FOR THE EXEMPTION ALLOWED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (3) OF 32 THIS SECTION FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE PERIOD THAT THE FACILITY 33 RETAINS ITS QUALIFIED STATUS AS DETERMINED PURSUANT TO PARAGRAPH 34 (b) OF SUBSECTION (5) OF THIS SECTION.

(7) NOTWITHSTANDING THE PROVISIONS OF SECTION 39-26-703 (2)
(d), ALL SALES, STORAGE, AND USE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
EQUIPMENT THAT IS USED IN A QUALIFIED DATA CENTER IS ELIGIBLE FOR
THE EXEMPTION ALLOWED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (3) OF THIS SECTION
FOR FIVE YEARS AFTER THE DATE OF THE SALE, STORAGE, OR USE OF SUCH
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY EQUIPMENT. UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES
SHALL THE EXEMPTION ALLOWED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (3) OF THIS

SECTION BE ALLOWED FOR THE SALE, STORAGE, OR USE OF INFORMATION
 TECHNOLOGY EQUIPMENT PRIOR TO JANUARY 1, 2015.

3 (8) (a) ON OR BEFORE NOVEMBER 1, 2021, AND ON OR BEFORE
4 NOVEMBER 1 EVERY SIX YEARS THEREAFTER, THE COLORADO OFFICE OF
5 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SHALL SUBMIT A REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF
6 THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY THAT ANALYZES AND ESTIMATES THE ECONOMIC
7 BENEFITS OF THE EXEMPTION ALLOWED IN THIS SECTION.

8 (b) ANY QUALIFIED DATA CENTER OR QUALIFIED REFURBISHED
9 DATA CENTER SHALL SUBMIT TO THE COLORADO OFFICE OF ECONOMIC
10 DEVELOPMENT INFORMATION REQUESTED BY THE OFFICE FOR THE PURPOSE
11 OF TRACKING AND MONITORING QUALIFIED DATA CENTERS AND QUALIFIED
12 REFURBISHED DATA CENTERS AND FOR THE PURPOSE OF THE REPORT
13 REQUIRED BY PARAGRAPH (a) OF THIS SUBSECTION (8).

SECTION 2. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 29-2-105, add (1) (d)
(I) (M) as follows:

16 **29-2-105.** Contents of sales tax ordinances and proposals. 17 (1) The sales tax ordinance or proposal of any incorporated town, city, 18 or county adopted pursuant to this article shall be imposed on the sale of 19 tangible personal property at retail or the furnishing of services, as 20 provided in paragraph (d) of this subsection (1). Any countywide or 21 incorporated town or city sales tax ordinance or proposal shall include the 22 following provisions:

23 (d) (I) A provision that the sale of tangible personal property and 24 services taxable pursuant to this article shall be the same as the sale of 25 tangible personal property and services taxable pursuant to section 26 39-26-104, C.R.S., except as otherwise provided in this paragraph (d). 27 The sale of tangible personal property and services taxable pursuant to 28 this article shall be subject to the same sales tax exemptions as those 29 specified in part 7 of article 26 of title 39, C.R.S.; except that the sale of 30 the following may be exempted from a town, city, or county sales tax only 31 by the express inclusion of the exemption either at the time of adoption 32 of the initial sales tax ordinance or resolution or by amendment thereto:

(M) THE EXEMPTION FOR SALES, STORAGE, AND USE OF
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY EQUIPMENT USED IN A QUALIFIED DATA
CENTER OR QUALIFIED REFURBISHED DATA CENTER AS SPECIFIED IN
SECTION 39-26-727, C.R.S.

37 SECTION 3. Act subject to petition - effective date. This act
38 takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the
39 ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly (August
40 6, 2014, if adjournment sine die is on May 7, 2014); except that, if a
41 referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V of the

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state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this act within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take effect unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in November 2014 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.".

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