

Second Regular Session  
Sixty-ninth General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 14-0596.01 Michael Dohr x4347

SENATE BILL 14-069

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SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Brophy,

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

(None),

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Senate Committees  
Judiciary

House Committees

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A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 CONCERNING REQUIRING A RULING WITHIN THREE YEARS OF THE  
102 FILING OF THE NOTICE OF APPEAL ON A DEATH PENALTY  
103 UNITARY APPEAL.

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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 requires the Colorado supreme court to rule on a death penalty unitary appeal within 3 years of the filing of the notice of appeal unless extraordinary circumstances prevent compliance.

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.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 16-12-201, **amend**

3 (1) as follows:

4 **16-12-201. Legislative declaration.** (1) (a) The general assembly  
5 hereby declares that the purpose of this part 2 is to establish an expedited  
6 system of unitary review of class 1 felony cases in which a death sentence  
7 is imposed.

8 (b) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FURTHER DECLARES IT IS THE INTENT  
9 OF THIS PART 2 TO ENSURE THAT ALL APPEALS RECEIVE A FINAL RULING  
10 WITHIN THREE YEARS OF THE DATE OF THE FILING OF THE NOTICE OF  
11 APPEAL.

12 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 16-12-207, **amend**

13 (2) as follows:

14 **16-12-207. Supreme court - appeal - filing of notice.** (2) Any  
15 appeal to the Colorado supreme court filed by the defendant pursuant to  
16 this part 2 shall consolidate and resolve, in one proceeding, all direct  
17 appeal and postconviction review appeal issues FILED BY THE DEFENDANT  
18 PURSUANT TO THIS PART 2. THE COLORADO SUPREME COURT SHALL ISSUE  
19 A FINAL RULING WITHIN THREE YEARS FROM THE DATE OF THE FILING OF  
20 THE NOTICE OF APPEAL EXCEPT WHEN EXTRAORDINARY CIRCUMSTANCES  
21 PREVENT COMPLIANCE.

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