

Second Regular Session
Sixty-ninth General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 14-0804.03 Nicole Myers x4326

HOUSE BILL 14-1351

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Nordberg and Ryden,

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Todd and Herpin, Carroll

House Committees
State, Veterans, & Military Affairs

Senate Committees

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 **CONCERNING A REQUIREMENT THAT THE COLORADO OFFICE OF**
102 **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT WORK TO MAINTAIN THE STATE'S**
103 **POSITIVE RELATIONSHIP WITH THE UNITED STATES ARMED**
104 **FORCES.**

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 office of economic development (office), in addition to its general duties, to maintain the state's positive

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.

interactions with the United States armed forces by advocating for the state's involvement in current and potential military missions, supporting private Colorado businesses that bid for contracts with the United States military, and assisting the state's congressional delegation in protecting Colorado's current United States armed forces commands from future military base realignments or closures.

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

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 24-48.5-120 as
3 follows:

4 **24-48.5-120. Maintain relationship with United States armed**
5 **forces - legislative declaration.** (1) (a) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY HEREBY
6 FINDS AND DECLARES THAT:

7 (I) THE DEFENSE SECTOR IS ONE OF THE STATE'S LARGEST
8 ECONOMIC SECTORS, WITH AN IMPACT EXCEEDING TEN BILLION DOLLARS
9 PER YEAR;

10 (II) THE UNITED STATES MILITARY PRESENCE IN THE STATE IS
11 DIRECTLY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE MAJORITY OF THE ECONOMIC ACTIVITY
12 IN CONNECTION WITH THE DEFENSE SECTOR;

13 (III) THE DEFENSE SECTOR, UNLIKE MOST SECTORS OF THE STATE'S
14 ECONOMY, IS DISPROPORTIONATELY IMPACTED BY DECISIONS MADE IN
15 WASHINGTON, D.C.;

16 (IV) THE BRANCHES OF THE UNITED STATES ARMED SERVICES ARE
17 FACING MULTIPLE YEARS OF DECLINING BUDGETS AND ARE MAKING
18 IMPORTANT DECISIONS ABOUT WHERE TO CONDUCT NECESSARY ACTIVITIES
19 AND PROGRAMS;

20 (V) STATES ACROSS THE COUNTRY ARE PLACING GREATER FOCUS
21 ON THE DEFENSE SECTOR AND ARE CREATING STRONGER COMPETITION FOR
22 JOBS TIED TO THAT SECTOR; AND

1 (VI) THE DEFENSE INDUSTRY IS EXPERIENCING CONSOLIDATIONS
2 AND ALSO MAKING DECISIONS ABOUT WHERE IT WILL CONTINUE TO
3 OPERATE.

4 (b) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FURTHER FINDS AND DECLARES THAT
5 THE COLORADO OFFICE OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IS ABLE TO HELP THE
6 STATE PROTECT AND GROW ITS ECONOMY BY BEING FULLY ENGAGED IN
7 SUPPORTING THE DEFENSE SECTOR.

8 (2) IN ADDITION TO THE POWERS AND DUTIES SPECIFIED IN SECTION
9 24-48.5-101, THE COLORADO OFFICE OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SHALL
10 PROTECT AND GROW THE STATE'S ECONOMY BY BEING FULLY ENGAGED IN
11 SUPPORTING THE DEFENSE SECTOR AND INFLUENCING THE DEFENSE
12 SECTOR DECISION MAKING PROCESSES THAT OCCUR AT THE FEDERAL
13 LEVEL. THE OFFICE SHALL MAINTAIN THE STATE'S POSITIVE INTERACTIONS
14 WITH THE UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES BY ADVOCATING FOR THE
15 STATE'S INVOLVEMENT IN CURRENT AND POTENTIAL MILITARY MISSIONS,
16 SUPPORTING PRIVATE COLORADO BUSINESSES THAT BID FOR CONTRACTS
17 WITH THE UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES, AND ASSISTING THE STATE'S
18 CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION IN PROTECTING COLORADO'S CURRENT
19 UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES COMMANDS FROM FUTURE MILITARY BASE
20 REALIGNMENTS OR CLOSURES.

21 **SECTION 2. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds,
22 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate
23 preservation of the public peace, health, and safety.