### Second Regular Session Sixty-ninth General Assembly STATE OF COLORADO

## ENGROSSED

This Version Includes All Amendments Adopted on Second Reading in the House of Introduction

LLS NO. 14-1053.01 Bob Lackner x4350

HOUSE BILL 14-1390

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Duran and Gardner,

#### SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Brophy and Zenzinger,

House Committees Judiciary **Senate Committees** 

# A BILL FOR AN ACT

101	CONCERNING THE LEGAL STANDING OF A MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC IN
102	CHALLENGING A VIOLATION OF THE OPEN MEETINGS
103	REQUIREMENTS.

#### **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>.)

The bill clarifies the open meetings law (OML) to explicitly state that any person denied or threatened with denial of any of the rights that are conferred on the public by the OML has suffered an injury in fact, and therefore, has standing to challenge the violation of the OML.

HOUSE 2nd Reading Unamended April 25, 2014 1 Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:

2 SECTION 1. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-6-402, amend (9)
3 as follows:

4 24-6-402. Meetings - open to public - definitions. (9) (a) ANY
5 PERSON DENIED OR THREATENED WITH DENIAL OF ANY OF THE RIGHTS
6 THAT ARE CONFERRED ON THE PUBLIC BY THIS PART 4 HAS SUFFERED AN
7 INJURY IN FACT, AND THEREFORE, HAS STANDING TO CHALLENGE THE
8 VIOLATION OF THIS PART 4.

9 (b) The courts of record of this state shall have jurisdiction to 10 issue injunctions to enforce the purposes of this section upon application 11 by any citizen of this state. In any action in which the court finds a 12 violation of this section, the court shall award the citizen prevailing in 13 such action costs and reasonable attorney fees. In the event the court does 14 not find a violation of this section, it shall award costs and reasonable 15 attorney fees to the prevailing party if the court finds that the action was 16 frivolous, vexatious, or groundless.

SECTION 2. Applicability. This act applies to meetings held on
or after the effective date of this act.

SECTION 3. 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.