

Second Regular Session  
Seventieth General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 16-0971.01 Richard Sweetman x4333

HOUSE BILL 16-1309

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HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Lontine,

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Marble,

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House Committees  
Judiciary

Senate Committees

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A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 CONCERNING A DEFENDANT'S RIGHT TO COUNSEL IN CERTAIN CASES

102 CONSIDERED BY MUNICIPAL COURTS.

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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>.)*

At the time of first appearance on a municipal charge, if the defendant is in custody and the charged offense includes a possible sentence of incarceration, the court shall appoint counsel to represent the defendant for purposes of the initial appearance unless, after a full advisement, the defendant makes a knowing, intelligent, and voluntary waiver of his or her right to counsel.

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.*

If the defendant remains in custody, the appointment of counsel continues until the defendant is released from custody. If the defendant is released from custody, he or she may apply for court-appointed counsel, and the court shall appoint counsel if the court determines that the defendant is indigent and the charged offense includes a possible sentence of incarceration.

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

2           **SECTION 1. Legislative declaration.** The general assembly  
3 hereby finds and declares that the both the United States and Colorado  
4 constitutions provide that an accused person has the right to be  
5 represented by counsel in criminal prosecutions. This constitutional right  
6 has been interpreted to mean that counsel will be provided at government  
7 expense for indigent persons in all cases in which incarceration is a  
8 possible penalty, unless there is a knowing, intelligent, and voluntary  
9 waiver of the right to counsel.

10           **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 13-10-114.5 as  
11 follows:

12           **13-10-114.5. Representation by counsel.** (1) AT THE TIME OF  
13 FIRST APPEARANCE ON A MUNICIPAL CHARGE, IF THE DEFENDANT IS IN  
14 CUSTODY AND THE CHARGED OFFENSE INCLUDES A POSSIBLE SENTENCE OF  
15 INCARCERATION, THE COURT SHALL APPOINT COUNSEL TO REPRESENT THE  
16 DEFENDANT FOR PURPOSES OF THE INITIAL APPEARANCE UNLESS, AFTER A  
17 FULL ADVISEMENT PURSUANT TO C.M.C.R. 210 AND SECTION 16-7-207,  
18 C.R.S., THE DEFENDANT MAKES A KNOWING, INTELLIGENT, AND  
19 VOLUNTARY WAIVER OF HIS OR HER RIGHT TO COUNSEL.

20           (2) IF THE DEFENDANT REMAINS IN CUSTODY, THE APPOINTMENT  
21 OF COUNSEL CONTINUES UNTIL THE DEFENDANT IS RELEASED FROM  
22 CUSTODY. IF THE DEFENDANT IS RELEASED FROM CUSTODY, HE OR SHE

1 MAY APPLY FOR COURT-APPOINTED COUNSEL, AND THE COURT SHALL  
2 APPOINT COUNSEL IF THE COURT DETERMINES THAT THE DEFENDANT IS  
3 INDIGENT AND THE CHARGED OFFENSE INCLUDES A POSSIBLE SENTENCE OF  
4 INCARCERATION.

5 **SECTION 3.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 16-7-207, **add** (3) as  
6 follows:

7 **16-7-207. Court's duty to inform on first appearance in court**  
8 **and on pleas of guilty.** (3) THIS SECTION APPLIES TO PROSECUTIONS FOR  
9 VIOLATIONS OF MUNICIPAL CHARTERS AND PROSECUTIONS FOR  
10 VIOLATIONS OF MUNICIPAL ORDINANCES.

11 **SECTION 4. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act  
12 takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the  
13 ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly (August  
14 10, 2016, if adjournment sine die is on May 11, 2016); except that, if a  
15 referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V of the  
16 state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this act  
17 within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take effect  
18 unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in  
19 November 2016 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the  
20 official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.