# First Regular Session Sixty-fifth General Assembly STATE OF COLORADO

## **PREAMENDED**

This Unofficial Version Includes Committee Amendments Not Yet Adopted on Second Reading

LLS NO. 05-0221.02 Bob Lackner

**SENATE BILL 05-198** 

### SENATE SPONSORSHIP

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**Senate Committees** 

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Local Government

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#### A BILL FOR AN ACT

#### CONCERNING THE CONDUCT OF ELECTIONS.

### **Bill Summary**

(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not necessarily reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted.)

In connection with the conduct of elections:

Expands the list of the types of documents that may be used to establish an elector's identification for purposes of the "Uniform Election Code of 1992" to include a valid student identification card with a photograph of the eligible elector issued by a secondary school or institution of higher education located within the state.

For elections held on or after January 1, 2006, entitles each eligible elector to inspect, verify, and correct the voter-verified

permanent paper record of his or her vote at the time the vote is cast. Specifies that the voter-verified permanent paper record of each eligible elector's vote, whether filled out by hand or produced by any voting machine or ballot marking device, shall be preserved as an election record and shall constitute the official record of the election for the purpose of conducting any audit or recount. Prohibits any voting machine from being remotely accessed or remotely accessible.

Provides that the hardware, software, and source codes of each electronic voting machine or other vote-counting machine used in the election are to be available for inspection and analysis by the designated election official or his or her designee, a representative of each major and minor political party, and an unaffiliated elector who expresses interest for a specified period.

Following each primary and general election, requires the secretary of state to initiate a surprise random audit, to be conducted by the designated election official, for the purpose of comparing the tallies reflected in the voter-verified permanent paper records with the tallies recorded by electronic voting machines or other vote tabulators. In initiating the audit, requires the secretary to select a sufficient number of voting machines to account for a specified percentage of the total statewide vote in the election just completed. Requires the audit to include a specified precinct in each county of the state. Requires the secretary to randomly select 5 candidate races, ballot issues, or ballot questions to audit.

Specifies that, if there is any discrepancy between the tallies recorded by the voter-verified permanent paper records and the tallies recorded by vote machines that is greater than a specified percent of the votes cast in any candidate race, ballot issue, or ballot question, and the discrepancy can not be accounted for by voter error or ambiguity of voter intent, the discrepancy triggers a further random audit. Specifies that any further audit required shall be of a specified percentage of the votes cast within a precinct or county, as applicable.

Specifies that any discrepancy under any of the required audits that is a specified percentage of the votes cast shall trigger a full recount of the total votes cast by the machines causing the discrepancy.

Following each primary and general election at a polling place where voting is by electronic voting machine or other vote tabulator, requires the election judge to compare the number of electors casting their ballots on the machines or other tabulators in the precinct with the number of electors who cast a ballot in the precinct in the election as reflected in the pollbooks at the

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precinct.

Requires any early voters' polling places to be open during any Saturday or Sunday that falls within the period during which early voting is authorized, with the exception of the Saturday or Sunday that falls immediately prior to election day. Authorizes the board of county commissioners by resolution to increase the hours that the early voters' polling place may be open to allow for early voters' polling places to remain open until a specified time, but prohibits an election judge from working more than a 9-hour shift in any one day, and authorizes an election judge to split his or her shift with another election judge.

Requires the elector to be offered a provisional ballot if an elector appears in a particular precinct to cast his or her vote, the elector's name is not listed on the registration list for the precinct, and the elector is unable to go to the precinct at which his or her name is listed on the registration list. If the information contained in a provisional ballot affidavit submitted by an elector provides sufficient information that the designated election official is able to verify that the elector is properly registered, requires the provisional ballot to be counted. Permits any elector who is issued a provisional ballot to cast a vote for any office listed on the ballot for which the elector is eligible to cast a vote, and provides that any such votes shall be counted.

Specifies that a recount shall be of the voter-verified permanent paper records of the votes created. Specifies that the voter-verified permanent paper records shall be recounted by means of either a hand or a machine count.

Defines terms. Makes conforming amendments.

1 Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado: 2 **SECTION 1.** 1-1-104 (19.5) (a), Colorado Revised Statutes, is 3 amended BY THE ADDITION OF THE FOLLOWING NEW 4 **SUBPARAGRAPHS** to read: 5 1-1-104. Definitions - repeal. As used in this code, unless the 6 context otherwise requires: 7 (19.5) (a) "Identification" means: 8 (XI) A VALID STUDENT IDENTIFICATION CARD WITH A PHOTOGRAPH 9 OF THE ELIGIBLE ELECTOR ISSUED BY A SECONDARY SCHOOL OR AN

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1	INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION WITHIN THE MEANING OF SECTION
2	<u>23-3.1-102 (5), C.R.S.; OR</u>
3	(XII) A CERTIFIED LETTER OF IDENTIFICATION FROM A FEDERAL,
4	STATE, COUNTY, OR MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT SERVICE ORGANIZATION, A
5	COLORADO COMMUNITY SERVICE ORGANIZATION, OR A CERTIFIED LETTER
6	OF REGISTRATION ISSUED BY A COUNTY CLERK AND RECORDER OR THE
7	DENVER ELECTION COMMISSION, AS APPLICABLE.
8	SECTION 2. 1-1-104, Colorado Revised Statutes, is amended
9	BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW SUBSECTION to read:
10	1-1-104. Definitions - repeal. As used in this code, unless the
11	context otherwise requires:
12	(50.6) "VOTER-VERIFIED PAPER RECORD" MEANS AN AUDITABLE
13	PAPER RECORD THAT:
14	(a) Is produced contemporaneously with or employed by
15	ANY VOTING SYSTEM;
16	(b) LISTS THE TITLE, ALONG WITH ANY NUMBER, AS APPLICABLE,
17	OF EACH CANDIDATE RACE, BALLOT ISSUE, OR BALLOT QUESTION, AND THE
18	ELECTOR'S CHOICES IN SUCH RACES, ISSUES, OR QUESTIONS. IF THE
19	ELECTOR MAKES NO SELECTION IN CONNECTION WITH ANY RACE, ISSUE, OR
20	QUESTION, THAT FACT SHALL ALSO BE NOTED ON THE RECORD PRODUCED.
21	(c) Is suitable for a manual audit or recount; and
22	(d) Is capable of being maintained as an election record in
23	ACCORDANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF SECTION 1-7-802.
24	SECTION 3. Part 3 of article 7 of title 1, Colorado Revised
25	Statutes, is amended BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW SECTION to
26	<u>read:</u>
27	1-7-310. Voter-verified paper record of vote - legislative

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1	declaration - definitions. (1) (a) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY HEREBY
2	FINDS AND DECLARES THAT:
3	(I) THE INTRODUCTION AND USE OF VOTE SYSTEMS SATISFYING THE
4	REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SECTION WILL PROMOTE VOTER CONFIDENCE IN
5	THE INTEGRITY OF ELECTIONS CONDUCTED IN THE STATE; AND
6	(II) Subsection (2) of this section obligates the
7	INTRODUCTION AND USE OF VOTE SYSTEMS THAT REQUIRE THE USE OF A
8	VOTER-VERIFIED PAPER RECORD IN EACH ELECTION HELD IN THE STATE ON
9	OR AFTER JANUARY 1, 2008, UNLESS THE DEADLINE HAS BEEN EXTENDED
10	IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF SUBSECTION (2) OF THIS
11	<u>SECTION.</u>
12	(b) In connection with any decision concerning the
13	PURCHASE OF ANY VOTE SYSTEMS TO BE MADE BY ANY COUNTY BETWEEN
14	THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS SECTION AND JANUARY 1, 2008, THE
15	GENERAL ASSEMBLY URGES THE COUNTIES OF THE STATE TO TAKE THE
16	REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SECTION INTO ACCOUNT IN MAKING SUCH
17	DECISIONS IN ORDER TO REDUCE THE FISCAL BURDEN ON THE TAXPAYERS
18	OF THE COUNTY THAT MAY RESULT FROM THE PURCHASE OF VOTE SYSTEMS
19	PRIOR TO JANUARY 1, 2008, THAT WOULD FAIL TO SATISFY THE
20	REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SECTION IF SUCH SYSTEMS WERE PURCHASED ON
21	OR AFTER JANUARY 1, 2008.
22	(2) Subject to the requirements of this subsection (2), in
23	EACH ELECTION HELD IN THE STATE OF COLORADO ON OR AFTER JANUARY
24	1, 2008, EACH ELIGIBLE ELECTOR SHALL, IN PRIVATE AND WITHOUT THE
25	NEED FOR ASSISTANCE, INSPECT AND VERIFY AS CORRECT THE
26	VOTER-VERIFIED PAPER RECORD OF THE ELECTOR'S VOTE BEFORE THE
27	ELECTOR'S VOTE IS CAST; EXCEPT THAT ANY COUNTY MAY APPLY TO THE

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1	SECRETARY OF STATE FOR AN EXTENSION OF THE DEADLINE SPECIFIED IN
2	THIS SUBSECTION (2) TO A DATE NOT LATER THAN JANUARY 1, 2010.
3	WHICH APPLICATION SHALL BE SUBMITTED NO LATER THAN JULY 1, 2007.
4	AND THE SECRETARY MAY GRANT SUCH EXTENSION UPON A SUFFICIENT
5	SHOWING OF ECONOMIC HARDSHIP ON THE PART OF THE COUNTY IN
6	SATISFYING THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SUBSECTION (2). THE SECRETARY
7	SHALL PROMULGATE SUCH RULES, IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE 4 OF
8	TITLE 24, C.R.S., AS SHALL PROVIDE GUIDANCE TO THE SECRETARY IN
9	DETERMINING WHETHER AN APPLICATION FOR AN EXTENSION UNDER THIS
10	SUBSECTION (2) SHALL BE GRANTED.
11	(3) UPON SATISFACTION BY A COUNTY OF THE REQUIREMENTS OF
12	SUBSECTION (2) OF THIS SECTION, THE VOTER-VERIFIED PAPER RECORD OF
13	EACH ELIGIBLE ELECTOR'S VOTE, WHETHER FILLED OUT BY HAND OR
14	PRODUCED BY ANY VOTING MACHINE OR BALLOT MARKING DEVICE, SHALL
15	BE PRESERVED AS AN ELECTION RECORD PURSUANT TO SECTION 1-7-802
16	AND SHALL CONSTITUTE THE OFFICIAL RECORD OF THE ELECTION FOR THE
17	PURPOSE OF CONDUCTING ANY AUDIT OR RECOUNT.
18	(4) Upon satisfaction by a county of the requirements of
19	SUBSECTION (2) OF THIS SECTION, NO VOTING SYSTEM SHALL BE REMOTELY
20	ACCESSED OR REMOTELY ACCESSIBLE UNTIL AFTER THE CLOSE OF VOTING
21	OR AN AUDIT TRAIL HAS BEEN PRINTED.
22	(5) On or after the effective date of this section, NO
23	VOTING SYSTEM SHALL BE CERTIFIED BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE IN
24	ACCORDANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF PART 6 OF ARTICLE 5 OF THIS
25	TITLE UNLESS THE SYSTEM IS CAPABLE OF PRODUCING A VOTER-VERIFIED
26	PAPER RECORD.
27	SECTION 4. Part 5 of article 7 of title 1, Colorado Revised

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1	Statutes, is amended BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW SECTION to
2	<u>read:</u>
3	1-7-509. Random audit - recount - election judges to compare
4	tallies. (1) (a) FOR AN ELECTION TAKING PLACE IN A COUNTY PRIOR TO
5	THE DATE THE COUNTY HAS SATISFIED THE REQUIREMENTS OF SECTION
6	1-7-310 (2), FOLLOWING EACH PRIMARY AND GENERAL ELECTION, THE
7	SECRETARY OF STATE SHALL PUBLICLY INITIATE A MANUAL RANDOM AUDIT
8	OF THE BALLOTS COUNTED, WHICH AUDIT SHALL BE CONDUCTED BY THE
9	DESIGNATED ELECTION OFFICIAL. IN INITIATING THE AUDIT, THE
10	SECRETARY SHALL SELECT NOT LESS THAN ONE VOTE SYSTEM USED IN
11	EACH COUNTY IN THE STATE. FOR PURPOSES OF THE AUDIT, THE
12	SECRETARY SHALL ALSO RANDOMLY SELECT FIVE CANDIDATE RACES,
13	BALLOT ISSUES, OR BALLOT QUESTIONS TO AUDIT, INCLUDING AT LEAST
14	TWO STATEWIDE RACES INVOLVING FEDERAL AND STATE OFFICES, AS
15	APPLICABLE.
16	(b) FOR AN ELECTION TAKING PLACE IN A COUNTY ON OR AFTER
17	THE DATE THE COUNTY HAS SATISFIED THE REQUIREMENTS OF SECTION
18	1-7-310 (2), FOLLOWING EACH PRIMARY AND GENERAL ELECTION, THE
19	SECRETARY OF STATE SHALL PUBLICLY INITIATE A MANUAL RANDOM
20	AUDIT, TO BE CONDUCTED BY THE DESIGNATED ELECTION OFFICIAL, FOR
21	THE PURPOSE OF COMPARING THE TALLIES REFLECTED IN THE
22	VOTER-VERIFIED PAPER RECORDS WITH THE TALLIES COUNTED AND
23	RELEASED BY VOTE SYSTEMS. IN INITIATING THE AUDIT, THE SECRETARY
24	SHALL SELECT NOT LESS THAN ONE VOTE SYSTEM USED IN EACH COUNTY
25	IN THE STATE. FOR PURPOSES OF THE AUDIT, THE SECRETARY SHALL ALSO
26	RANDOMLY SELECT FIVE CANDIDATE RACES, BALLOT ISSUES, OR BALLOT
27	QUESTIONS TO AUDIT, INCLUDING AT LEAST TWO STATEWIDE RACES

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1	INVOLVING FEDERAL AND STATE OFFICES, AS APPLICABLE.
2	(2) Upon completion of the audit required by subsection (1)
3	OF THIS SECTION, IF THERE IS ANY DISCREPANCY BETWEEN THE TALLIES
4	RECORDED BY THE VOTER-VERIFIED PAPER RECORDS AND THE TALLIES
5	RECORDED BY VOTE SYSTEMS, THE CANVASS BOARD OF THE COUNTY
6	ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO SECTION 1-10-101 SHALL INVESTIGATE THE
7	DISCREPANCY AND SHALL TAKE SUCH REMEDIAL ACTION AS NECESSARY IN
8	ACCORDANCE WITH ITS POWERS UNDER THIS TITLE.
9	(3) THE SECRETARY OF STATE SHALL POST THE RESULTS OF ANY
10	AUDIT CONDUCTED PURSUANT TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SECTION ON
11	THE OFFICIAL WEBSITE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE NOT LATER THAN
12	TWENTY-FOUR HOURS AFTER RECEIVING THE RESULTS OF THE AUDIT AND
13	SHALL PUBLISH ONCE IN A NEWSPAPER OF GENERAL CIRCULATION
14	THROUGHOUT THE STATE NOTIFICATION TO THE PUBLIC THAT THE RESULTS
15	HAVE BEEN POSTED ON THE WEBSITE.
16	(4) ANY AUDIT CONDUCTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE
17	REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SECTION MAY BE OBSERVED BY ONE OR A
18	REPRESENTATIVES OF THE CANVASS BOARD OF THE COUNTY FORMED
19	PURSUANT TO SECTION 1-10-101.
20	(5) THE SECRETARY OF STATE SHALL PROMULGATE SUCH RULES,
21	IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE 4 OF TITLE 24, C.R.S., AS MAY BE
22	NECESSARY TO ADMINISTER AND ENFORCE ANY REQUIREMENT OF THIS
23	SECTION, INCLUDING ANY RULES NECESSARY TO PROVIDE GUIDANCE TO
24	THE COUNTIES IN CONDUCTING ANY AUDIT REQUIRED BY THIS SECTION.
25	SECTION 5. 1-8-202, Colorado Revised Statutes, is amended to
26	<u>read:</u>
27	1-8-202 When eligible electors may vote by early hallot Farly

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1	voting shall be made available to any eligible elector in the manner
2	provided in this part 2 during regular business hours for ten days before
3	a primary election and a special legislative election and for fifteen days
4	before a general election or other November election conducted by the
5	county clerk and recorder. The board of county commissioners OR THE
6	DENVER ELECTION COMMISSION, AS APPLICABLE, may by resolution
7	increase OR CHANGE the hours that the early voters' polling place may be
8	open TO ALLOW FOR EARLY VOTERS' POLLING PLACES TO REMAIN OPEN ON
9	A SATURDAY OR UNTIL 9:00 P.M ON A WEEKDAY. WHERE EARLY VOTERS'
10	POLLING PLACES ARE AUTHORIZED TO REMAIN OPEN UNTIL 9:00 P.M. ON A
11	WEEKDAY IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SECTION,
12	VOTING IN SUCH POLLING PLACES MAY COMMENCE DURING THOSE DAYS AT
13	12:00 P.M. Eligible electors who appear in person at the early voters'
14	polling place during this time may cast their ballots in the same manner
15	as any ballot would be cast in a precinct polling place on election day.
16	SECTION 6. 1-9-303, Colorado Revised Statutes, is amended to
17	<u>read:</u>
18	1-9-303. Verification and counting of provisional ballots -
19	eligibility to cast provisional ballot when voting in the wrong precinct
20	- verification of registration - eligibility to cast a provisional ballot for
21	all offices on the ballot. (1) Upon receipt of a provisional ballot, the
22	county clerk and recorder or designated election official shall verify the
23	information contained in the provisional ballot affidavit using the
24	procedures that apply to absentee ballots SPECIFIED IN THIS SECTION. If
25	the information cannot be verified, the ballot shall be rejected. The
26	verification and counting of all provisional ballots shall be completed
27	within twelve TEN days after the PRIMARY election OR FOURTEEN DAYS

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1	AFTER A GENERAL, ODD-YEAR, OR COORDINATED ELECTION. All absentee
2	ballots cast in any election shall be counted before any provisional ballots
3	are counted.
4	(2) If an elector appears in a particular precinct to cast
5	HIS OR HER VOTE, THE ELECTOR'S NAME IS NOT LISTED ON THE
6	REGISTRATION LIST FOR THE PRECINCT, AND THE ELECTOR IS UNABLE OR
7	UNWILLING TO GO TO THE PRECINCT AT WHICH HIS OR HER NAME IS LISTED
8	ON THE REGISTRATION LIST, THE ELECTOR SHALL BE OFFERED A
9	PROVISIONAL BALLOT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS
10	SECTION.
11	(3) If the information contained in a provisional ballot
12	AFFIDAVIT SUBMITTED BY AN ELECTOR PROVIDES SUFFICIENT
13	INFORMATION THAT THE DESIGNATED ELECTION OFFICIAL IS ABLE TO
14	VERIFY THAT THE ELECTOR IS PROPERLY REGISTERED, THE PROVISIONAL
15	BALLOT SHALL BE COUNTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF
16	THIS SECTION.
17	(4) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any
18	ELECTOR WHO IS ISSUED A PROVISIONAL BALLOT IN ACCORDANCE WITH
19	THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS PART 3 MAY CAST A VOTE FOR ANY OFFICE,
20	BALLOT ISSUE, OR BALLOT QUESTION LISTED ON THE BALLOT, AND ANY
21	SUCH VOTES THAT THE ELECTOR IS ELIGIBLE TO CAST SHALL BE COUNTED.
22	SECTION 7. 1-10.5-102 (3), Colorado Revised Statutes, is
23	amended to read:
24	1-10.5-102. Recounts for congressional, state, and district
25	offices, state ballot questions, and state ballot issues. (3) FOR THE
26	PURPOSE OF CONDUCTING ANY RECOUNT, prior to any recount, the canvass
2.7	board shall choose a precinct at random and a test number of hallots on

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1	which to conduct a machine count and hand MANUAL count of ballots.
2	The precinct chosen shall have at least fifty ballots for the count. THE
3	NUMBER OF BALLOTS TO BE TESTED PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION (3)
4	SHALL CONSTITUTE NOT LESS THAN TWO PERCENT OF THE BALLOTS CAST
5	IN THE CANDIDATE RACE, BALLOT ISSUE, OR BALLOT QUESTION THAT IS THE
6	SUBJECT OF THE RECOUNT. If the results of the machine count and the
7	hand MANUAL count are identical, then the recount shall MAY be
8	conducted in the same manner as the original ballot count. UPON
9	SATISFACTION BY A COUNTY OF THE REQUIREMENTS OF SECTION 1-7-310
10	(2), ONLY THE VOTER-VERIFIED PAPER RECORDS SHALL BE USED AS, AND
11	SHALL CONSTITUTE, THE FINAL OFFICIAL RECORD OF THE ELECTION.
12	SECTION 8. 1-10.5-108, Colorado Revised Statutes, is amended
13	to read:
14	1-10.5-108. Method of recount. (1) (a) FOR AN ELECTION
15	TAKING PLACE IN A COUNTY PRIOR TO THE DATE THE COUNTY HAS
16	SATISFIED THE REQUIREMENTS OF SECTION 1-7-310 (2), the recount shall
17	be of the ballots cast, and the votes shall be recorded on sheets other than
18	those used at the election.
19	(b) FOR AN ELECTION TAKING PLACE IN A COUNTY ON OR AFTER
20	THE DATE ON WHICH THE COUNTY HAS SATISFIED THE REQUIREMENTS OF
21	SECTION 1-7-310 (2), THE RECOUNT SHALL BE OF THE VOTER-VERIFIED
22	PAPER RECORDS OF THE VOTES CAST PURSUANT TO SECTION 1-7-310, AND
23	THE VOTES SHALL BE RECORDED ON SHEETS OTHER THAN THOSE USED AT
24	THE ELECTION.
25	(2) (a) FOR AN ELECTION TAKING PLACE IN A COUNTY PRIOR TO THE
26	DATE THE COUNTY HAS SATISFIED THE REQUIREMENTS OF SECTION 1-7-310
27	(2), unless otherwise directed by the secretary of state, the ballots cast

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1	shall be recounted utilizing the same procedures, methods, and processes
2	that were utilized for the original count of the ballots cast.
3	(b) FOR AN ELECTION TAKING PLACE IN A COUNTY ON OR AFTER
4	THE DATE THE COUNTY HAS SATISFIED THE REQUIREMENTS OF SECTION
5	1-7-310(2), THE VOTER-VERIFIED PAPER RECORDS SHALL BE RECOUNTED
6	BY MEANS OF EITHER A MANUAL OR A MACHINE COUNT.
7	SECTION 9. Repeal. 1-10.5-110, Colorado Revised Statutes, is
8	repealed.
9	SECTION 10. Safety clause. The general assembly hereby
10	finds, determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate
11	preservation of the public peace, health, and safety.

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