

**First Regular Session  
Sixty-fourth General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO**

**PREAMENDED**

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

LLS NO. 03-0756.01 Bob Lackner

**HOUSE BILL 03-1290**

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**HOUSE SPONSORSHIP**

**Lee,**

**SENATE SPONSORSHIP**

**(None),**

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**House Committees**  
State, Veterans, & Military Affairs

**Senate Committees**

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**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

101 **CONCERNING DECLARATIONS OF A STATE OF EMERGENCY.**

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**Bill Summary**

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

Terminates any existing state of emergency currently in effect that has been declared by any branch of state government and that has resulted in the exercise of extraordinary powers by the governor or any other officer, employee, department, agency, or office of the state unless extended by the legislature at the request of the governor in accordance with the procedures specified in the act.

Defines the circumstances and conditions that constitute a predicate for a declaration of a state of emergency. Specifies that no state of emergency shall be declared unless the governor's request for the

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.*

declaration has been approved by a 2/3 majority of all of the members of both houses of the general assembly. In connection with requests made by the governor for a declaration of a state of emergency in cases where the general assembly is and is not in session, specifies requirements pertaining to the content of the governor's request for a declaration, the process by which the request is considered by the general assembly, the expiration date of a state of emergency, and an extension of a state of emergency. Specifies that the failure of either house to approve the mandatory joint resolution requesting the declaration of a state of emergency by the required majority shall void and nullify any declaration of a state of emergency that is the subject of the resolution.

When the general assembly is not in session, authorizes the governor to declare a state of emergency and to simultaneously convene a special session of the general assembly for the purpose of considering the ratification of the governor's declaration. Specifies that the failure of either house to approve the mandatory joint resolution requesting ratification by the required majority shall void and nullify any declaration of a state of emergency that is the subject of the resolution.

Specifies that any statutory enactment that becomes law to address the emergency and any rule promulgated by any department, agency, or office of state government to address the emergency shall be temporary and shall automatically be repealed on the date of the expiration of the emergency.

Specifies that any state of emergency that has been declared in accordance with the requirements of the act may be extended upon a request by the governor to preserve the state of emergency for an additional period, and the length of any one extension authorized shall not exceed a specified period past the original expiration date. Provides that no state of emergency shall be extended unless the joint resolution requesting the extension has been approved by a 2/3 majority of all of the members of both houses of the general assembly. Specifies that no state of emergency shall be extended on more than a specified number of occasions.

Repeals existing statutory provisions authorizing the governor to prohibit certain activity in connection with firearms or ammunition in the event of a riot, insurrection, or invasion, and requiring any person to obtain a permit from the governor to undertake certain activity in connection with any firearm or ammunition in such circumstances.

Makes legislative findings and declarations. Makes conforming amendments.

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

2 **SECTION 1.** 24-32-2103 (1.5), Colorado Revised Statutes, is

1 amended to read:

2 **24-32-2103. Definitions.** As used in this part 21, unless the  
3 context otherwise requires:

4 (1.5) "Disaster" means the occurrence or imminent threat of  
5 widespread or severe damage, injury, or loss of life or property resulting  
6 from any natural cause or cause of human origin, including but not  
7 limited to fire, flood, earthquake, wind, storm, wave action, hazardous  
8 substance incident, oil spill or other water contamination requiring  
9 emergency action to avert danger or damage, volcanic activity, epidemic,  
10 air pollution, blight, drought, infestation, explosion, civil disturbance, or  
11 hostile military or paramilitary action, OR A CONDITION OF RIOT,  
12 INSURRECTION, OR INVASION EXISTING IN THE STATE OR IN ANY COUNTY,  
13 CITY, TOWN, OR DISTRICT IN THE STATE.

14 **SECTION 2. Repeal.** 24-20-201, Colorado Revised Statutes, is  
15 repealed as follows:

16 **24-20-201. Insurrection - firearms prohibited.** ~~When, in the~~  
17 ~~opinion of the governor, a condition of riot, insurrection, or invasion~~  
18 ~~exists in this state or in any county, city, town, or district in this state, he~~  
19 ~~shall have the right to declare the state or any such county, city, town, or~~  
20 ~~district to be in a state of riot, or insurrection, or invasion, by~~  
21 ~~proclamation, and to prohibit the purchase, manufacture for sale or use,~~  
22 ~~receiving, carrying, or use, or the selling, giving away, transportation, or~~  
23 ~~otherwise disposing, or the permitting of others to obtain possession of~~  
24 ~~any firearms or ammunition in the places covered by said proclamation~~  
25 ~~or in any other portion of the state designated by him during the time that~~  
26 ~~said proclamation remains in force.~~

27 **SECTION 3. Repeal.** 24-20-202, Colorado Revised Statutes, is

1 repealed as follows:

2 **24-20-202. Permit to bear arms.** If the governor at any time  
3 issues his proclamation as provided in section 24-20-201 declaring the  
4 state or any county, city, town, or district within the state to be in a state  
5 of riot, or insurrection, or invasion, it is unlawful while said proclamation  
6 is in force for any person, firm, or corporation within the territory  
7 covered by said proclamation to purchase, manufacture for sale or use,  
8 receive, transport, carry, or use any firearm or ammunition or to sell, give  
9 away, or otherwise dispose of or permit others to obtain possession of  
10 any firearm or ammunition without a written permit from the governor or  
11 his regularly authorized representative. No permit shall be issued by the  
12 governor or his representative unless and until the person so desiring such  
13 permit satisfies the governor or his representative that the same is to be  
14 used in defense of his home, person, or property. This section shall not  
15 apply to legally authorized peace officers, or sheriffs, designated by the  
16 governor or his representative, or members of the national guard of  
17 Colorado. No permit shall be issued to allow the purchase, manufacture  
18 for sale or use, receipt, use, transportation, or disposing of firearms or  
19 ammunition by anyone not a citizen of the United States or to anyone  
20 who has not been a resident of the state of Colorado for more than one  
21 year prior to the issuance of the proclamation mentioned in section  
22 24-20-201.

23 **SECTION 4. Repeal.** 24-20-204, Colorado Revised Statutes, is  
24 repealed as follows:

25 **24-20-204. Violation - penalty.** Any person, firm, or corporation  
26 violating the provisions of section 24-20-202 is guilty of a misdemeanor  
27 and, upon conviction thereof, shall be punished by a fine of not less than

1 ~~one hundred dollars nor more than one thousand dollars, or by~~  
2 ~~imprisonment in the county jail for not more than one year, or by both~~  
3 ~~such fine and imprisonment.~~

4           **SECTION 5. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds,  
5 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate  
6 preservation of the public peace, health, and safety.