



*Colorado Legislative Council Staff*  
**NO FISCAL IMPACT**

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**Drafting Number:** LLS 03-0372**Date:** January 15, 2003**Prime Sponsor(s):** Rep. Cloer  
Sen. Hillman**Bill Status:** House Judiciary**Fiscal Analyst:** Teresa Wilson (303-866-4976)

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**TITLE:** CONCERNING RESTORATION OF SELF-DEFENSE AS A DEFENSE IN CRIMINAL CASES.**Summary of Assessment**

This bill allows self-defense as a defense in any case regardless of the mens rea charged as an element of the crime. It further requires the judge to provide a self-defense jury instruction. The Judicial Department has indicated that this will be considered as an additional issue at trial and initial motions filed with the court will have to interpret the statute. Furthermore, it is possible that cases that may not have gone to trial may do so now as a result of this change. However, Judicial anticipates the number of cases to be minimal and can absorb them within existing resources. Thus, this bill has no fiscal impact. This bill takes effect upon signature of the Governor.

**Departments Contacted**Alternate Defense Counsel  
Public Safety

Judicial

Law

Public Defender