# First Regular Session Seventy-first General Assembly STATE OF COLORADO

# REENGROSSED

This Version Includes All Amendments Adopted in the House of Introduction SENATE BILL 17-215

LLS NO. 17-0305.01 Duane Gall x4335

#### SENATE SPONSORSHIP

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Senate Committees Business, Labor, & Technology **House Committees** 

# A BILL FOR AN ACT

101	CONCERNING THE CONTINUATION UNDER THE SUNSET LAW OF THE
102	DIVISION OF REAL ESTATE, AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH,
103	IMPLEMENTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS CONTAINED IN THE
104	SUNSET REPORT PREPARED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF
105	<b>REGULATORY AGENCIES.</b>

### **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://leg.colorado.gov/.)

Sunset Process - Senate Business, Labor, and Technology Committee. Sections 1 through 4 of the bill continue the division of real SENATE Amended 3rd Reading March 28, 2017



estate, the real estate commission, and the regulation of real estate brokers and subdivision developers for 9 years, until 2026.

Sections 5 and 6 specifically identify, and create a license endorsement for, brokers who act as property managers, including prescribed education and financial surety as conditions for the endorsement.

Section 7 directs the real estate commission (commission) to establish, by rule, the number of transactions that a broker must have completed before becoming an employing broker.

Section 12 amends the current provisions on referral fees to conform to the requirements of federal law.

Sections 10 and 13 through 20 consolidate the various cash funds used for several licensing functions and programs administered by the division of real estate into a single cash fund.

Section 9 makes broker licenses expire uniformly on December 31 rather than requiring licensees to apply for renewal at various times throughout the year on their individual anniversary dates.

Section 11 defines "conviction" to include deferred judgments and deferred sentences, in provisions listing factors the commission may consider when determining whether to discipline a licensee.

Section 8 modifies the composition of the commission to require that one of the 3 broker members be a broker with experience and an active practice in property management.

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

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SECTION 1. In Colorado Revised Statutes, amend 12-61-123 as

3 follows:

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12-61-123. Repeal of part. This part 1 is repealed, effective July 5 1, 2017. Prior to such SEPTEMBER 1, 2026. BEFORE ITS repeal, the real 6 estate division, including the real estate commission, shall be reviewed as 7 provided for in ACCORDANCE WITH section 24-34-104. C.R.S.

- SECTION 2. In Colorado Revised Statutes, amend 12-61-204 as
- 9 follows:
- 12-61-204. Repeal of part. This part 2 is repealed, effective July 10
- 11 1, 2017. Prior to such repeal, the provisions in this part 2 shall be
- 12 reviewed as provided for in section 24-34-104, C.R.S. SEPTEMBER 1,

1	2026. Before its repeal, this part 2 is scheduled for review in
2	ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 24-34-104.
3	SECTION 3. In Colorado Revised Statutes, amend 12-61-408 as
4	follows:
5	12-61-408. Repeal of part. This part 4 is repealed, effective July
6	1, 2017. Prior to such repeal, the provisions in this part 4 shall be
7	reviewed as provided for in section 24-34-104, C.R.S. SEPTEMBER 1,
8	2026. Before its repeal, this part 4 is scheduled for review in
9	ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 24-34-104.
10	SECTION 4. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-34-104, amend
11	(27)(a) introductory portion; <b>repeal</b> (12)(a)(VI); and <b>add</b> (27)(a)(V) as
12	follows:
13	24-34-104. General assembly review of regulatory agencies
14	and functions for repeal, continuation, or reestablishment - legislative
15	declaration - repeal. (12) (a) The following agencies, functions, or both,
16	will repeal on July 1, 2017:
17	(VI) The division of real estate including the real estate
18	commission created in part 1 of article 61 of title 12, C.R.S.;
19	(27) (a) The following agencies, functions, or both, will ARE
20	SCHEDULED FOR repeal on September 1, 2026:
21	(V) The division of real estate, including the real estate
22	COMMISSION, CREATED IN PART 1 OF ARTICLE 61 OF TITLE 12, AND ITS
23	FUNCTIONS UNDER PARTS 1, 2, AND 4 OF ARTICLE 61 OF TITLE 12.
24	
25	SECTION 5. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 12-61-103, add
26	(6)(c)(III) as follows:
27	<b>12-61-103.</b> Application for license - rules. (6) (c) In addition to

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all other applicable requirements, the following provisions apply to
 brokers that did not hold a current and valid broker's license on December
 31, 1996:

4 (III) EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2019, A BROKER SHALL NOT ACT AS 5 AN EMPLOYING BROKER WITHOUT FIRST OBTAINING APPROPRIATE 6 EXPERIENCE IN ACCORDANCE WITH RULES OF THE COMMISSION. THE 7 COMMISSION'S RULES MUST SPECIFY THE NUMBER OF TRANSACTIONS THAT 8 THE BROKER MUST HAVE COMPLETED, AS APPROPRIATE TO THE BROKER'S 9 AREA OF SUPERVISION, AND MAY SPECIFY OTHER WAYS IN WHICH THE 10 BROKER IS REQUIRED TO DEMONSTRATE KNOWLEDGE SUFFICIENT TO 11 ENABLE THE BROKER TO EMPLOY AND ADEQUATELY SUPERVISE OTHER 12 BROKERS.

13 SECTION <u>6.</u> In Colorado Revised Statutes, 12-61-105, amend
14 (1) as follows:

15 12-61-105. Commission - compensation - immunity - subject to termination. (1) There shall be IS HEREBY CREATED a commission of 16 17 five members, appointed by the governor, which shall administer parts 1 18 3, and 4 of this article ARTICLE 61. This commission shall be IS known as 19 the real estate commission, also referred to in this part 1 as the 20 "commission", and shall consist CONSISTS of three real estate brokers who 21 have had not less than five years' experience in the real estate business in 22 Colorado, ONE OF WHOM HAS SUBSTANTIAL EXPERIENCE IN PROPERTY 23 MANAGEMENT, and two representatives of the public at large. Members 24 of the commission shall hold office for a period of three years. Upon the 25 death, resignation, removal, or otherwise of any member of the 26 commission, the governor shall appoint a member to fill out the unexpired 27 term. The governor may remove any member for misconduct, neglect of 1 duty, or incompetence.

2 SECTION <u>7.</u> In Colorado Revised Statutes, 12-61-110, amend
3 (4)(a) <u>introductory portion</u> as follows:

4 12-61-110. License fees - partnership, limited liability 5 company, and corporation licenses - rules. (4) (a) The commission 6 shall require that any person licensed under this part 1, whether on an 7 active or inactive basis, renew said THE license on an anniversary date 8 every three years ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 31 OF EVERY THIRD YEAR 9 AFTER ISSUANCE. Renewal shall be IS conditioned upon fulfillment of the 10 continuing education requirements set forth in section 12-61-110.5. and 11 submission of fingerprints as required in section 12-61-110.8; except that 12 any person licensed under this part 1 who maintains an inactive license 13 and wants to renew to an active status shall only submit fingerprints as 14 required in section 12-61-110.8 upon application to an active status and, 15 except that, the real estate commission may acquire a name-based 16 criminal history record check for an applicant who has twice submitted 17 to a fingerprint-based criminal history record check and whose 18 fingerprints are unclassifiable. For persons renewing or reinstating an 19 active license, written certification verifying completion for the previous 20 three-year licensing period of the continuing education requirements set 21 forth in said section SECTION 12-61-110.5 shall accompany and be 22 submitted to the commission with the application for renewal or 23 reinstatement. For persons who did not submit certification verifying 24 compliance with section 12-61-110.5 at the time a license was renewed 25 or reinstated on an inactive status, written certification verifying 26 completion for the previous three-year licensing period of the continuing 27 education requirements set forth in said section shall accompany and be

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1 submitted with any future application to reactivate the license. The 2 commission may, by rule, establish procedures to facilitate such a 3 renewal. Until such procedures are established, every license issued under 4 the provisions of this part 1 shall expire at 12 midnight on December 31 5 of the year in which issued; except that each renewal of such license shall 6 be for three years and shall expire at 12 midnight on December 31 of the 7 third year. In the absence of any reason or condition that might warrant 8 the refusal of the granting of a license or the revocation thereof, the 9 commission shall issue a new license upon receipt by the commission of 10 the written request of the applicant and the fees therefor, as required by 11 this section. Applications for renewal will be accepted thirty days prior 12 to January 1. A person who fails to renew a license before January 1 of 13 the year succeeding the year of the expiration of such license may 14 reinstate the license as follows: 15

16 SECTION 8. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 12-61-111.5, amend

17 (1), (2)(a), and (2)(b) as follows:

12-61-111.5. Fee adjustments - cash fund created - repeal.
(1) This section shall apply APPLIES to all activities of the division under
parts 1, <del>3,</del> 4, 7, and 10 of this article 9, AND 10 OF THIS ARTICLE 61.

(2) (a) (I) The division shall propose, as part of its annual budget
request, an adjustment in the amount of each fee that it is authorized by
law to collect under parts 1, <del>3,</del> 4, 7, <del>and 10 of this article</del> 9, AND 10 OF
THIS ARTICLE 61. The budget request and the adjusted fees for the division
shall reflect direct and indirect costs.

26 (II) The costs of the HOA information and resource center,
27 created in section 12-61-406.5, shall be paid from the HOA information

1 and resource center DIVISION OF REAL ESTATE cash fund created in THIS 2 section. <del>12-61-406.5.</del> The division of real estate shall estimate the direct 3 and indirect costs of operating the HOA information and resource center 4 and shall establish the amount of the annual registration fee to be 5 collected under section 38-33.3-401. C.R.S. The amount of the 6 registration fee shall be sufficient to recover such THESE costs, subject to 7 a maximum limit of fifty dollars. and subject to adjustment to reflect the 8 actual direct and indirect costs of operating the HOA information and 9 resource center pursuant to the general directive to adjust fees to avoid 10 exceeding the statutory limit on uncommitted reserves in administrative 11 agency cash funds as set forth in section 24-75-402 (3), C.R.S.

12 (b) (I) Based upon the appropriation made and subject to the 13 approval of the executive director of the department of regulatory 14 agencies, the division of real estate shall adjust its fees so that the revenue 15 generated from said THE fees approximates its direct and indirect costs 16 Such INCURRED IN ADMINISTERING THE PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES FROM 17 WHICH THE FEES ARE DERIVED. THE fees shall remain in effect for the 18 fiscal year for which the budget request applies. All fees collected by the 19 division, not including fees retained by contractors pursuant to contracts 20 entered into in accordance with section 12-61-103 or 24-34-101, C.R.S., 21 shall be transmitted to the state treasurer, who shall credit the same to the 22 division of real estate cash fund, which fund is hereby created. All 23 moneys MONEY credited to the division of real estate cash fund shall be 24 used as provided in this section OR IN SECTION 12-61-111 and shall not be 25 deposited in or transferred to the general fund of this state or any other 26 fund.

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(II) (A) ON JUNE 30, 2017, THE STATE TREASURER SHALL

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1 TRANSFER TO THE DIVISION OF REAL ESTATE CASH FUND ALL UNEXPENDED 2 AND UNENCUMBERED MONEY THAT REMAINED IN THE HOA INFORMATION 3 AND RESOURCE CENTER CASH FUND CREATED IN SECTION 12-61-406.5, THE 4 CONSERVATION EASEMENT HOLDER CERTIFICATION FUND CREATED IN 5 SECTION 12-61-724, THE CONSERVATION EASEMENT TAX CREDIT 6 CERTIFICATE REVIEW FUND CREATED IN SECTION 12-61-727, AND THE 7 MORTGAGE COMPANY AND LOAN ORIGINATOR LICENSING CASH FUND 8 CREATED IN SECTION 12-61-908 IMMEDIATELY PRIOR TO THE REPEAL OF 9 THOSE FUNDS.

10 (B) THIS SUBSECTION (2)(b)(II) IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE JULY 1,
11 2018.

SECTION <u>9.</u> In Colorado Revised Statutes, 12-61-113, amend
(1) introductory portion and (1)(m) as follows:

14 12-61-113. Investigation - revocation - actions against licensee 15 or applicant - repeal. (1) The commission, upon its own motion, may, 16 and, upon the complaint in writing of any person, shall, investigate the 17 activities of any licensee or any person who assumes to act in such THE 18 capacity OF A LICENSEE within the state, and the commission, after the 19 holding of a hearing pursuant to section 12-61-114, has the power to 20 impose an administrative fine not to exceed two thousand five hundred 21 dollars for each separate offense and to censure a licensee, to place the 22 licensee on probation and to set the terms of probation, or to temporarily 23 suspend A LICENSE, or permanently revoke a license, when the licensee 24 has performed, is performing, or is attempting to perform any of the 25 following acts and is guilty of:

26 (m) (I) Conviction of, entering a plea of guilty to, or entering a
27 plea of nolo contendere to any crime in article 3 of title 18; <del>C.R.S.;</del> parts

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1	1, 2, 3, and 4 of article 4 of title 18; <del>C.R.S.;</del> part 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, or 9 of
2	article 5 of title 18; C.R.S.; article 5.5 of title 18; C.R.S.; parts 3, 4, 6, 7,
3	and 8 of article 6 of title 18; <del>C.R.S.;</del> parts 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8 of article
4	7 of title 18; C.R.S.; part 3 of article 8 of title 18; C.R.S.; article 15 of
5	title 18; C.R.S.; article 17 of title 18; C.R.S.; section 18-18-404,
6	18-18-405, 18-18-406, 18-18-411, 18-18-412.5, 18-18-412.7,
7	18-18-412.8, 18-18-415, 18-18-416, 18-18-422, or 18-18-423; <del>C.R.S.,</del> or
8	any other like crime under Colorado law, federal law, or the laws of other
9	states. A certified copy of the judgment of a court of competent
10	jurisdiction of such conviction or other official record indicating that such
11	plea was entered shall be conclusive evidence of such conviction or plea
12	in any hearing under this part 1.
13	(II) As used in this subsection $(1)(m)$ , "conviction" includes
14	THE IMPOSITION OF A DEFERRED JUDGMENT OR DEFERRED SENTENCE.
15	SECTION 10. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 12-61-203.5,
16	amend (1) introductory portion as follows:
17	12-61-203.5. Referral fees - conformity with federal law
18	required - remedies for violation. (1) No licensee A PERSON LICENSED
19	under parts 1 to 4 of this article shall NOT pay OR RECEIVE a referral fee
20	EXCEPT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE FEDERAL "REAL ESTATE SETTLEMENT
21	PROCEDURES ACT OF 1974", AS AMENDED, 12 U.S.C. SEC. 2601 ET SEQ.,
22	AND unless reasonable cause for payment of the referral fee exists. A
23	reasonable cause for payment means:
24	SECTION 11. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 12-61-406.5,
25	amend (4) as follows:
26	12-61-406.5. HOA information and resource center - creation
27	- duties - rules - repeal. (4) The operating expenses of the HOA

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1 information and resource center shall be paid from the HOA information 2 and resource center DIVISION OF REAL ESTATE cash fund, which fund is 3 hereby created in the state treasury. The fund shall consist of annual 4 registration fees paid by unit owners' associations and collected by the 5 division of real estate pursuant to section 38-33.3-401, C.R.S. Interest 6 earned on moneys in the fund shall remain in the fund, and any 7 unexpended and unencumbered moneys in the fund at the end of any 8 fiscal year shall not revert to the general fund or any other fund. Payments 9 from the fund shall be SECTION 12-61-111.5, subject to annual 10 appropriation.

SECTION <u>12.</u> In Colorado Revised Statutes, 12-61-724, amend
(3) as follows:

13 12-61-724. Certification of conservation easement holders -14 rules - repeal - definition. (3) At the time of submission of an 15 application, and each year the entity is certified pursuant to this section, 16 the applicant shall pay the division a fee, as prescribed by the division, to 17 cover the costs of the division and the commission in administering the 18 certification program for entities that hold conservation easements for 19 which tax credits are claimed pursuant to section 39-22-522. C.R.S. The 20 division shall have the authority to accept and expend gifts, grants, and 21 donations for the purposes of this section. The state treasurer shall credit 22 fees, gifts, grants, and donations collected pursuant to this subsection (3) 23 to the conservation easement holder certification DIVISION OF REAL 24 ESTATE CASH fund which fund is hereby created in the state treasury. 25 Moneys in the fund are subject to annual appropriation to the division for 26 the purposes of implementing and administering this section and do not 27 revert to the general fund at the end of any fiscal year. The fund shall be

maintained in accordance with section 24-75-402, C.R.S. SECTION
12-61-111.5. On or before each January 1, the division shall certify to the
general assembly the amount of the fee prescribed by the division
pursuant to this subsection (3).

5 SECTION <u>13.</u> In Colorado Revised Statutes, 12-61-727, amend
6 (6) as follows:

7 12-61-727. Conservation easement tax credit certificate 8 application process - definitions - rules. (6) A landowner submitting an 9 application for a tax credit certificate pursuant to this section or an 10 application for an optional preliminary advisory opinion pursuant to 11 subsection (14) of this section shall pay the division a fee as prescribed 12 by the division. The application fee for an optional preliminary advisory 13 opinion may be a different dollar amount than the application fee for a tax 14 credit certificate. The fees must cover the costs of the division and the 15 commission in administering the requirements of this section. The state 16 treasurer shall credit the fees collected pursuant to this subsection (6) to 17 the conservation easement tax credit certificate review DIVISION OF REAL 18 ESTATE CASH fund which fund is hereby created in the state treasury. The 19 general assembly shall annually appropriate moneys in the fund to the 20 division for the purposes of implementing and administering this section. 21 The moneys shall not revert to the general fund at the end of any fiscal 22 year. The fund shall be maintained in accordance with section 24-75-402, 23 C.R.S. SECTION 12-61-111.5. On or before January 1, 2014, and on or 24 before each January 1 thereafter, the division shall certify to the general 25 assembly the amount of any fees prescribed by the division pursuant to 26 this subsection (6).

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SECTION 14. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 12-61-902.5,

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1 **amend** (3) as follows:

2 12-61-902.5. Board of mortgage loan originators - creation -3 compensation - enforcement of part after board creation - immunity. 4 (3) Each member of the board shall receive the same compensation and 5 reimbursement of expenses as those provided for members of boards and 6 commissions in the division of professions and occupations pursuant to 7 section 24-34-102 (13). C.R.S. Payment for all per diem compensation 8 and expenses shall be made out of annual appropriations from the 9 mortgage loan originator licensing DIVISION OF REAL ESTATE cash fund 10 created in section <del>12-61-908</del> 12-61-111.5. 11 SECTION 15. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 12-61-905, amend 12 (7)(c) as follows: 13 12-61-905. Powers and duties of the board. (7) (c) All fines 14 collected pursuant to this subsection (7) shall be transferred to the state 15 treasurer, who shall credit such moneys THEM to the mortgage company 16 and loan originator licensing DIVISION OF REAL ESTATE cash fund created 17 in section <del>12-61-908</del> 12-61-111.5. SECTION 16. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 12-61-905.1, 18 19 **amend** (2)(c) as follows: 20 12-61-905.1. Powers and duties of the board over mortgage 21 companies - fines - rules. (2) (c) All fines collected pursuant to this 22 section shall be transmitted to the state treasurer, who shall credit such 23 moneys THEM to the mortgage company and loan originator licensing 24 DIVISION OF REAL ESTATE cash fund created in section 12-61-908 25 12-61-111.5. 26 SECTION 17. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 12-61-905.5, 27 **amend** (7) as follows:

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12-61-905.5. Disciplinary actions - grounds - procedures rules. (7) All administrative fines collected pursuant to this section shall
 be transmitted to the state treasurer, who shall credit the same THEM to the
 mortgage company and loan originator licensing DIVISION OF REAL
 ESTATE cash fund created in section 12-61-908 12-61-111.5.

6 SECTION <u>18.</u> In Colorado Revised Statutes, amend 12-61-908
7 as follows:

8 **12-61-908. Fees.** (1) The board may set the fees for issuance and 9 renewal of licenses and registrations under this part 9. The fees shall be 10 set in amounts that offset the direct and indirect costs of implementing 11 this part 9 and section 38-40-105. C.R.S. The moneys MONEY collected 12 pursuant to this section shall be transferred to the state treasurer, who 13 shall credit them to the mortgage company and loan originator licensing 14 DIVISION OF REAL ESTATE cash fund CREATED IN SECTION 12-61-111.5.

(2) There is hereby created in the state treasury the mortgage
company and loan originator licensing cash fund. Moneys in the fund
shall be spent only to implement this part 9 and section 38-40-105,
C.R.S., and shall not revert to the general fund at the end of the fiscal
year. The fund shall be subject to annual appropriation by the general
assembly.

(3) For the 2009-10 fiscal year, the division is authorized to
expend up to one hundred twelve thousand dollars or such other amount
as may be appropriated by the general assembly from the mortgage
company and loan originator licensing cash fund for purposes of paying
the development costs assessed by the conference of state bank
supervisors, or its successor organization, for participating in the
nationwide mortgage licensing system and registry. However, the board

shall use its discretion in determining whether expenditure of these
 moneys is necessary for compliance with the federal "Secure and Fair
 Enforcement for Mortgage Licensing Act of 2008" or participation in the
 nationwide mortgage licensing system and registry.

5 SECTION <u>19.</u> Effective date. This act takes effect <u>June 30.</u>
6 2017.

SECTION <u>20.</u> 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.