Second Regular Session Seventy-second General Assembly STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 20-0374.01 Jerry Barry x4341

SENATE BILL 20-093

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Foote and Fenberg, Danielson, Fields, Garcia, Ginal, Gonzales, Lee, Pettersen, Rodriguez, Story, Todd, Winter

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Jackson, Caraveo, Cutter, Froelich, Jaquez Lewis, Lontine, Singer, Sullivan

Senate Committees

House Committees

Judiciary

	A BILL FOR AN ACT			
101	CONCERNING PROTECTIONS RELATED TO MANDATORY AGREEMENT			
102	PROVISIONS, AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, ENACTING THE			
103	"CONSUMER AND EMPLOYEE DISPUTE RESOLUTION FAIRNESS			
104	ACT".			

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.)

The bill enacts the "Consumer and Employee Dispute Resolution Fairness Act" (act). For certain consumer and employment arbitrations, the act:

- ! Prohibits the waiver of standards for and challenges for evident partiality prior to a claim being filed and requires any waiver of such provisions after the claim is filed to be in writing;
- Provides that the right of a party to challenge an arbitrator based on evident partiality is waived if not raised within a reasonable time of learning of the information leading to the challenge but that such right is not waived if caused by the opposing party;
- ! Establishes ethical standards for arbitrators; and
- ! Requires specified public disclosures by arbitration services providers but includes protections for certain confidential information.

The bill also requires an individual arbitrator for certain consumer and employment arbitrations to make additional disclosures of information that might affect the arbitrator's impartiality.

The bill specifies how attorney fees and other reasonable expenses are to be awarded if a court vacates an award because of an arbitrator's evident partiality or failure to make required disclosures and clarifies when appeals of orders may be made in consumer and employee arbitrations.

The bill also provides that for a standard form contract involving a consumer or employee:

- ! Specified terms are unenforceable as against public policy;
- ! Including an unenforceable term constitutes a deceptive trade practice under the "Colorado Consumer Protection Act"; and
- ! How certain cost-shifting provisions are to be interpreted.

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

SECTION 1. The short title of this act is the "Consumer and
Employee Dispute Resolution Fairness Act".

SECTION 2. In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** part 8 to article

5 22 of title 13 as follows:

4

6 PART 8

7 CONSUMER AND EMPLOYEE

8 ARBITRATION FAIRNESS ACT

9 **13-22-801. Short title.** THE SHORT TITLE OF THIS PART 8 IS THE

-2- SB20-093

1	"CONSUMER AND EMPLOYEE ARBITRATION FAIRNESS ACT".					
2	13-22-802. Legislative declaration. (1) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY					
3	FINDS AND DECLARES THAT IT IS THE POLICY OF THE STATE, TO THE					
4	EXTENT PERMITTED UNDER FEDERAL LAW, TO PROTECT THE INTEGRITY OF					
5	THE ARBITRATION PROCESS, MINIMIZE WASTED TIME AND RESOURCES, AND					
6	ENSURE THAT ARBITRATIONS OF CONSUMER AND EMPLOYEE DISPUTES					
7	UNDER PRE-DISPUTE ARBITRATION AGREEMENTS ARE FAIR, AFFORDABLE,					
8	AND EXPEDITIOUS BY:					
9	(a) CLARIFYING INFORMATION RELEVANT TO EVALUATING					
10	EVIDENT PARTIALITY AND REQUIRING EARLY DISCLOSURE OF THE SAME;					
11	AND					
12	(b) Ensuring that arbitrators who preside over consumer					
13	AND EMPLOYMENT DISPUTES ARE NOT EVIDENTLY PARTIAL TOWARD ANY					
14	PARTY TO THE DISPUTE.					
15	13-22-803. Definitions. AS USED IN THIS PART 8, UNLESS THE					
16	CONTEXT OTHERWISE REQUIRES:					
17	(1) "ARBITRATION SERVICES PROVIDER" MEANS AN ASSOCIATION,					
18	AGENCY, BOARD, COMMISSION OR OTHER ENTITY, OR SOLE					
19	PROPRIETORSHIP THAT IS NEUTRAL AND INITIATES, SPONSORS, OR					
20	ADMINISTERS AN ARBITRATION PROCEEDING OR IS INVOLVED IN THE					
21	APPOINTMENT OF AN ARBITRATOR; EXCEPT THAT THIS TERM DOES NOT					
22	INCLUDE ANY PARTY TO THE ARBITRATION OR ANY LABOR ORGANIZATION					
23	OR OTHER PARTY TO A COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT THAT					
24	INITIATES AN ARBITRATION PURSUANT TO THE TERMS OF AN AGREEMENT					
25	BETWEEN A LABOR ORGANIZATION AND AN EMPLOYER.					
26	(2) "CONSUMER" MEANS A CLAIMANT THAT OBTAINS, MAINTAINS,					
2.7	LISES PURCHASES LEASES OR HAS STANDING TO ASSERT CLAIMS					

-3- SB20-093

1	RELATING TO GOODS, SERVICES, OR REAL OR PERSONAL PROPERTY USED
2	PRIMARILY FOR PERSONAL, FAMILY, RESIDENTIAL, OR HOUSEHOLD
3	PURPOSES.
4	(3) "CONSUMER DISPUTE" MEANS A DISPUTE INVOLVING A CLAIM
5	ASSERTED BY A CONSUMER THAT RELATES TO OR ARISES FROM THE
6	CONSUMER'S USE OF THE GOODS, SERVICES, OR REAL OR PERSONAL
7	PROPERTY PRIMARILY FOR PERSONAL, FAMILY, RESIDENTIAL, OR
8	HOUSEHOLD PURPOSES.
9	(4) "Employee" means:
10	(a) ANY PERSON EMPLOYED BY ANOTHER AS DEFINED BY STATE
11	LAW; OR
12	(b) Any person who is not classified by a business or
13	PURPORTED EMPLOYER AS AN EMPLOYEE BUT WHO CLAIMS TO BE AN
14	EMPLOYEE AND WHOSE CLAIMS AGAINST THE PURPORTED EMPLOYER THAT
15	ARE SUBJECT OR POTENTIALLY SUBJECT TO AN AGREEMENT GOVERNED BY
16	THIS PART 8 ARE RELATED TO THIS ALLEGED MISCLASSIFICATION.
17	(5) "EMPLOYMENT DISPUTE" MEANS ANY DISPUTE BETWEEN AN
18	EMPLOYEE AND A BUSINESS, EMPLOYER, OR PURPORTED EMPLOYER
19	RELATING TO THE TERMS OF THE EMPLOYEE'S WORK.
20	(6) "Pre-dispute arbitration agreement" means an
21	AGREEMENT TO ARBITRATE A DISPUTE OR DISPUTES THAT IS EXECUTED OR
22	BECOMES ENFORCEABLE BEFORE THE CLAIMANT ASSERTS THE CLAIM OR
23	CLAIMS TO WHICH THE ARBITRATION AGREEMENT APPLIES.
24	(7) "REASONABLE TIME" MEANS A REASONABLE TIME BASED ON
25	THE STAGE OF THE PROCEEDINGS, NOT TO EXCEED TWENTY-EIGHT DAYS.
26	13-22-804. Application. (1) This part 8 applies to any
2.7	ARBITRATION THAT

-4- SB20-093

1	(a) Is required by a pre-dispute arbitration agreement					
2	THAT WAS EXECUTED IN THE STATE OF COLORADO OR IS GOVERNED BY					
3	THE SUBSTANTIVE LAW OF THE STATE OF COLORADO; AND					
4	(b) INCLUDES A CLAIM OR COUNTERCLAIM ASSERTED BY A					
5	CONSUMER IN A CONSUMER DISPUTE OR AN EMPLOYEE IN AN EMPLOYMENT					
6	DISPUTE.					
7	(2) This part 8 is consistent with the procedures of the					
8	FEDERAL "ARBITRATION ACT", 9 U.S.C. SEC. 1 ET SEQ., AND IS INTENDED					
9	TO SUPPLEMENT ANY OTHER STANDARDS THAT AUTHORIZE A REVIEWING					
10	COURT TO VACATE AN ARBITRATION AWARD UPON A FINDING OF EVIDENT					
11	PARTIALITY.					
12	(3) THIS PART 8 DOES NOT APPLY TO AN ARBITRATION CONDUCTED					
13	PURSUANT TO A COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT OR TO					
14	ARBITRATIONS CONDUCTED OR ADMINISTERED BY A SELF-REGULATORY					
15	ORGANIZATION, AS DEFINED BY THE FEDERAL "SECURITIES EXCHANGE					
16	ACT OF 1934", 15 U.S.C. SEC. 78c (26), OR REGULATIONS ADOPTED					
17	PURSUANT TO THAT ACT.					
18	13-22-805. Limitation on pre-dispute waivers and automatic					
19	waiver for failure to raise a timely objection. (1) The Standards for					
20	AND RIGHT TO CHALLENGE AN ARBITRATION AWARD BASED ON EVIDENT					
21	PARTIALITY AS SET FORTH IN THIS PART 8 MAY NOT BE WAIVED BY THE					
22	PARTIES BEFORE THE CONSUMER OR EMPLOYEE ASSERTS A CLAIM OR					
23	COUNTERCLAIM SUBJECT TO THIS PART 8.					
24	(2) THE PARTIES TO A DISPUTE MAY EXPRESSLY WAIVE A RIGHT					
25	CONFERRED BY THIS SECTION ONLY IF THE WAIVER IS MADE IN WRITING					
26	AND SIGNED BY ALL PARTIES TO THE DISPUTE AFTER THE ARBITRATION					
27	DEMAND HAS BEEN EILED OD AFTED THE CLAIM IS COMDELLED TO					

-5- SB20-093

2	(3) THE RIGHT OF A PARTY TO CHALLENGE AN ARBITRATOR FOR
3	EVIDENT PARTIALITY BASED ON A KNOWN AND DISCLOSED INTEREST,
1	CIRCUMSTANCE, OR CONFLICT IS WAIVED IF THE PARTY DOES NOT OBJECT
5	TO THE PROPOSED OR DESIGNATED ARBITRATOR ON THIS BASIS WITHIN A
5	REASONABLE TIME AFTER THE DATE THE PARTY LEARNED OF OR WAS
7	PROVIDED WITH THIS INFORMATION.

- (4) THE RIGHT OF A PARTY TO CHALLENGE AN ARBITRATOR FOR EVIDENT PARTIALITY BASED ON THE ARBITRATOR'S FAILURE TO DISCLOSE RELEVANT INFORMATION, AS REQUIRED BY SECTION 13-22-806 (1)(a), IS WAIVED IF THE PARTY DOES NOT OBJECT TO THE PROPOSED OR DESIGNATED ARBITRATOR WITHIN A REASONABLE TIME AFTER THE PARTY LEARNED THAT THE PROPOSED OR DESIGNATED ARBITRATOR FAILED TO DISCLOSE REQUIRED INFORMATION.
- (5) IF ANY PARTY CAUSES A PROPOSED OR DESIGNATED ARBITRATOR'S DISCLOSURE STATEMENT TO BE DELAYED OR INCOMPLETE BY FAILING TO PROVIDE INFORMATION NECESSARY FOR THE PROPOSED OR DESIGNATED ARBITRATOR TO EVALUATE POTENTIAL CONFLICTS, THE PARTY MAY NOT CLAIM THAT AN OPPOSING PARTY WAIVED ITS RIGHT TO CHALLENGE AN ARBITRATION AWARD FOR THE EVIDENT PARTIALITY OF AN ARBITRATOR PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (3) OF THIS SECTION BY FAILING TO OBJECT TO THESE DELAYS AND OMISSIONS IN THE DISCLOSURES.
- 13-22-806. Ethical standards for neutral arbitrators in consumer and employment disputes definition. (1) Unless the parties have waived the right to challenge an arbitration award under the process for raising evident partiality set forth in section 13-22-805, an arbitrator has acted with evident

-6- SB20-093

1	PARTIALITY PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION IN THE ARBITRATION OF ANY					
2	CONSUMER OR EMPLOYMENT DISPUTE SUBJECT TO THIS PART 8 IF ANY OF					
3	THE FOLLOWING CIRCUMSTANCES EXIST:					
4	(a) THE ARBITRATOR FAILED TO DISCLOSE, OR INACCURATELY					
5	DISCLOSED, ANY INFORMATION RELEVANT TO THE ARBITRATOR'S					
6	PARTIALITY THAT THE ARBITRATOR COULD HAVE OBTAINED THROUGH					
7	REASONABLE EFFORTS, INCLUDING ALL INFORMATION REQUIRED TO BE					
8	DISCLOSED PURSUANT TO SECTION 13-22-212 (1) OR (1.5), EITHER:					
9	(I) WITHIN TWENTY-ONE DAYS AFTER BEING PROPOSED OR					
10	DESIGNATED AS AN ARBITRATOR; OR					
11	(II) WITHIN A REASONABLE TIME AFTER THE ARBITRATOR					
12	LEARNED OR SHOULD HAVE LEARNED OF ANY CIRCUMSTANCE					
13	NECESSITATING ADDITIONAL DISCLOSURES;					
14	(b) THE ARBITRATOR HAS OR HAD ANY INTEREST THAT WOULD					
15	DISQUALIFY A JUDICIAL OFFICER UNDER RULES 2.3(A) TO (D), 2.4(A) TO					
16	(C), AND $2.11(A)$ TO (C) OF THE COLORADO CODE OF JUDICIAL CONDUCT					
17	AND THE OFFICIAL COMMENTS AND CASE LAW INTERPRETING THOSE					
18	RULES;					
19	(c) THE ARBITRATOR HAS ANY INTEREST THAT WOULD DISQUALIFY					
20	AN ATTORNEY UNDER RULE 1.7(a) OF THE COLORADO RULES OF					
21	PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT AND THE OFFICIAL COMMENTS AND CASE LAW					
22	INTERPRETING THOSE RULES, SUBJECT TO THE FOLLOWING LIMITATIONS:					
23	(I) For purposes of rule 1.7 of the Colorado code of					
24	PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT, A CONCURRENT CONFLICT EXISTS IF:					
25	(A) THE MATTERS TO BE DECIDED IN THE ARBITRATION MAY BE					
26	DIRECTLY ADVERSE TO THE ARBITRATOR'S NON-ARBITRATION BUSINESS OR					
27	CLIENT; OR					

-7- SB20-093

1	$(B)\ There is a significant risk that the arbitrator's ability\\$
2	TO PRESIDE OVER THE ARBITRATION WILL BE MATERIALLY LIMITED BY THE
3	ARBITRATOR'S RESPONSIBILITIES TO THE ARBITRATOR'S NON-ARBITRATION
4	CLIENT OR FORMER CLIENT, OR TO A THIRD PARTY OR BY A PERSONAL
5	INTEREST OF THE ARBITRATOR;
6	(d) THE ARBITRATOR HAS OR HAD A SIGNIFICANT BUSINESS,
7	FAMILIAL, OR SOCIAL RELATIONSHIP WITH A PARTY OR PARTY'S LEGAL
8	REPRESENTATIVE;
9	(e) The arbitrator has significant experience as an
10	ATTORNEY, INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR, EXPERT WITNESS, AGENT, OR
11	OTHER REPRESENTATIVE OF OR FOR CONSUMERS OR EMPLOYEES
12	SIMILARLY SITUATED TO A CONSUMER OR EMPLOYEE PARTY AND DOES NOT
13	HAVE SIMILARLY SIGNIFICANT EXPERIENCE AS AN ATTORNEY,
14	INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR, EXPERT WITNESS, AGENT, OR OTHER
15	REPRESENTATIVE OF OR FOR A SOLE PROPRIETORSHIP OR ENTITY ENGAGED
16	IN A SUBSTANTIALLY SIMILAR INDUSTRY AS A NON-CONSUMER OR
17	EMPLOYER PARTY;
18	(f) The arbitrator has significant experience as an
19	ATTORNEY, INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR, EXPERT WITNESS, AGENT, OR
20	OTHER REPRESENTATIVE OF OR FOR A SOLE PROPRIETORSHIP OR ENTITY
21	ENGAGED IN A SUBSTANTIALLY SIMILAR INDUSTRY AS A NON-CONSUMER
22	OR EMPLOYER PARTY AND DOES NOT HAVE SIMILARLY SIGNIFICANT
23	EXPERIENCE AS AN ATTORNEY, INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR, EXPERT
24	WITNESS, AGENT, OR OTHER REPRESENTATIVE OF OR FOR CONSUMERS OR
25	EMPLOYEES SIMILARLY SITUATED TO A CONSUMER OR EMPLOYEE PARTY;
26	(g) (I) THE ARBITRATOR WILL BE ASKED TO RESOLVE A LEGAL
27	ISSUE THAT WOULD BE CONTRARY TO THE INTERESTS OF ONE OR MORE OF

-8- SB20-093

I	THE FOLLOWING:
2	(A) THE ARBITRATOR OR ARBITRATION SERVICES PROVIDER; OR
3	(B) THE ARBITRATOR'S EMPLOYER, THE ARBITRATOR'S CURRENT
4	CLIENTS OR THE ARBITRATOR'S CURRENT CLIENT'S INDUSTRY OR TRADE
5	GROUP.
6	(II) FOR PURPOSES OF THIS SUBSECTION (1)(g), "CLIENT" MEANS
7	A PERSON USING THE SERVICES OF AN ARBITRATOR OR PROPOSED
8	ARBITRATOR IN A CAPACITY OTHER THAN AS AN ARBITRATOR OR A
9	MEDIATOR.
10	(h) THE ARBITRATOR HAS BEEN PAID IN EXCESS OF FIVE HUNDRED
11	DOLLARS FOR SERVICES, EXCLUDING PAYMENT FOR ARBITRATION OF
12	MEDIATION SERVICES OR REIMBURSEMENT OF COSTS RELATING TO THE
13	PROVISION OF ARBITRATION OR MEDIATION SERVICES, FROM A PARTY, AN
14	ATTORNEY IN THE ARBITRATION, A LAW FIRM WITH WHICH AN ATTORNEY
15	IN THE ARBITRATION IS CURRENTLY ASSOCIATED, OR ANY OF THE PARTIES
16	LIABILITY INSURERS; OR
17	(i) THE ARBITRATOR HAS A FINANCIAL OR PERSONAL INTEREST IN
18	THE OUTCOME OF THE PROCEEDING.
19	(2) The list of circumstances that constitute evident
20	PARTIALITY AS DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (1) OF THIS SECTION IS NOT AN
21	EXCLUSIVE LIST FOR PURPOSES OF DETERMINING WHETHER EVIDENT
22	PARTIALITY HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO SECTION 13-22-223.
23	13-22-807. Arbitration services providers in consumer and
24	employment arbitrations - public disclosures. (1) AN ARBITRATION
25	SERVICES PROVIDER THAT ADMINISTERS ARBITRATIONS OF CONSUMER
26	DISPUTES OR EMPLOYMENT DISPUTES SHALL COLLECT, PUBLISH AT LEAST
7	OLIADTEDI V. AND MAKE DEASONARI V. AVAII ARI E TO THE DIRLIC FOR NO

-9- SB20-093

I	CHARGE ON THE WEBSITE OF THE ARBITRATION SERVICES PROVIDER, IF
2	ANY, AND IN WRITING UPON REQUEST, A SINGLE CUMULATIVE REPORT
3	THAT CONTAINS ALL OF THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION REGARDING EACH
4	CONSUMER OR EMPLOYMENT ARBITRATION ADMINISTERED, INCLUDING
5	THOSE CONDUCTED BY THE PROVIDER WITHIN THE PRECEDING FIVE YEARS:
6	(a) THE NAME OF THE NON-CONSUMER PARTY OR EMPLOYER AND
7	WHETHER THE NON-CONSUMER PARTY OR EMPLOYER INITIATED THE
8	ARBITRATION OR WAS THE RESPONDING PARTY, IF KNOWN;
9	(b) THE NATURE OF THE DISPUTE INVOLVED, CATEGORIZED AS ONE
10	OF THE FOLLOWING: GOODS; CREDIT; OTHER BANKING OR FINANCE;
11	INSURANCE; HEALTH CARE; CONSTRUCTION; REAL ESTATE;
12	TELECOMMUNICATIONS, INCLUDING SOFTWARE AND INTERNET USAGE;
13	DEBT COLLECTION; PERSONAL INJURY; EMPLOYMENT; OR OTHER;
14	(c) Whether the consumer, non-consumer, employee, or
15	EMPLOYER PARTY WAS THE PREVAILING PARTY;
16	(d) THE TOTAL NUMBER OF OCCASIONS, IF ANY, THAT THE
17	NON-CONSUMER OR EMPLOYER PARTY HAS PREVIOUSLY BEEN A PARTY IN
18	AN ARBITRATION ADMINISTERED BY THE ARBITRATION SERVICES
19	PROVIDER;
20	(e) THE TOTAL NUMBER OF OCCASIONS, IF ANY, THAT THE
21	NON-CONSUMER OR EMPLOYER PARTY HAS PREVIOUSLY BEEN A PARTY IN
22	A MEDIATION ADMINISTERED BY THE ARBITRATION SERVICES PROVIDER;
23	(f) THE NAME OF THE ATTORNEY AND THE FULL NAME OF THE LAW
24	FIRM THAT EMPLOYS THE ATTORNEY WHO REPRESENTED A PARTY, IF ANY;
25	(g) THE DATE THE ARBITRATION SERVICES PROVIDER RECEIVED
26	THE DEMAND FOR ARBITRATION, THE DATE THE ARBITRATOR WAS
7	ADDOINTED AND THE DATE OF DISDOSITION BY THE ADRITDATION OF

-10- SB20-093

1	ARBITRATION SERVICES PROVIDER;				
2	(h) THE NATURE OF THE DISPOSITION OF THE DISPUTE, IF KNOWN,				
3	IDENTIFIED AS ONE OF THE FOLLOWING: WITHDRAWAL, ABANDONMENT,				
4	SETTLEMENT, AWARD AFTER HEARING, AWARD WITHOUT HEARING,				
5	DEFAULT, OR DISMISSAL WITHOUT HEARING;				
6	(i) IF A MATTER WAS ADMINISTERED IN A HEARING, WHETHER THE				
7	HEARING WAS CONDUCTED IN PERSON, BY TELEPHONE OR VIDEO				
8	CONFERENCE, OR BY DOCUMENTS ONLY;				
9	(j) THE AMOUNT OF THE CLAIM, WHETHER EQUITABLE RELIEF WAS				
10	REQUESTED OR AWARDED, THE AMOUNT OF ANY MONETARY AWARD, AND				
11	ANY OTHER RELIEF GRANTED; AND				
12	(k) The name of the arbitrator, his or her total fee for the				
13	CASE, THE PERCENTAGE OF THE ARBITRATOR'S FEE ALLOCATED TO EACH				
14	PARTY, WHETHER A WAIVER OF ANY FEES WAS GRANTED, AND, IF SO, THE				
15	AMOUNT OF THE WAIVER; AND				
16	(1) THE IDENTITIES OF INDIVIDUALS AND ENTITIES THAT HAVE AN				
17	OWNERSHIP OR OTHER FINANCIAL INTEREST IN THE ARBITRATION SERVICES				
18	PROVIDER.				
19	(2) The information required by subsection (1) of this				
20	SECTION MUST BE MADE AVAILABLE IN A SPREADSHEET FORMAT THAT				
21	ALLOWS THE PUBLIC TO DOWNLOAD, EXPORT, SEARCH, AND SORT THE				
22	INFORMATION USING READILY AVAILABLE SOFTWARE AND MUST BE				
23	DIRECTLY ACCESSIBLE FROM A CONSPICUOUSLY DISPLAYED LINK ON THE				
24	WEBSITE OF THE ARBITRATION SERVICES PROVIDER WITH THE IDENTIFYING				
25	DESCRIPTION: "CONSUMER AND EMPLOYEE CASE INFORMATION".				
26	(3) An arbitration services provider is not liable for				
27	DAMAGES FOR FAILURE TO COLLECT, PUBLISH, OR DISTRIBUTE THE				

-11- SB20-093

INFORMA	TION RE	OUIRED	BY THIS	SECTION.

1

24

25

26

27

- (4) AN ARBITRATION SERVICES PROVIDER SHALL NOT CONDUCT
 CONSUMER OR EMPLOYMENT ARBITRATIONS UNLESS THE ARBITRATION
 SERVICES PROVIDER HAS SUBSTANTIALLY COMPLIED WITH THIS SECTION.
- 13-22-808. Protection for confidential information. (1) THE
 DISCLOSURE REQUIREMENTS IN SECTIONS 13-22-212 (1.5) AND 13-22-807
 DO NOT REQUIRE THE DISCLOSURE OF ANY INFORMATION SUBJECT TO THE
 ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGE OR OTHER RECOGNIZED PRIVILEGE OR
 IMMUNITY FROM DISCLOSURE.
- 10 (2) NOTWITHSTANDING SUCH PRIVILEGE OR IMMUNITY, WHEN 11 INFORMATION SUBJECT TO THE DISCLOSURE REQUIREMENTS IN SECTIONS 12 13-22-212 (1.5) AND 13-22-807 IS PRIVILEGED OR IMMUNE FROM 13 DISCLOSURE, THE FACT THAT SUCH INFORMATION EXISTS MUST BE 14 DISCLOSED. THE GENERAL NATURE OF THE INFORMATION, DESCRIBED IN 15 A MANNER TO ALLOW THE PARTIES TO EVALUATE THE POTENTIAL 16 CONFLICT, MUST ALSO BE DISCLOSED. INFORMATION NOT DISCLOSED ON 17 THE BASIS OF A CONFIDENTIALITY AGREEMENT THAT IS CLAIMED TO BE 18 PRIVILEGED OR IMMUNE FROM DISCLOSURE MUST BE IDENTIFIED BY 19 DISCLOSING THE NAMES OF THE PARTIES TO THE CONFIDENTIALITY 20 AGREEMENT, UNLESS THE NAMES THEMSELVES MUST BE WITHHELD TO 21 PROTECT THE PRIVACY CONCERNS OF A VICTIM, THE DATE OF THE 22 AGREEMENT, AND INFORMATION REGARDING ANY LEGAL PROCEEDING OR 23 CLAIM RELATED TO THE ENTRY INTO THE AGREEMENT.
 - (3) IF A PARTY CHALLENGES AN ARBITRATOR'S EVIDENT PARTIALITY PURSUANT TO SECTION 13-22-805, ANY INFORMATION THAT IS WITHHELD PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION MUST BE DISCLOSED IN CAMERA TO THE COURT AND CONSIDERED BY THE COURT WHEN DETERMINING

-12- SB20-093

1	WHETHER EVIDENT PARTIALITY EXISTS.
2	13-22-809. Severability. Every provision of this part 8 and
3	EACH OF ITS SECTIONS AND SUBSECTIONS IS SEVERABLE.
4	SECTION 3. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 13-22-212, amend
5	(1); and add (1.5) and (1.8) as follows:
6	13-22-212. Disclosure by arbitrator. (1) Before accepting an
7	appointment, an individual who is requested to serve as an arbitrator, after
8	making a reasonable inquiry IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROCESS SET
9	FORTH IN SUBSECTION (1.5)(b) OF THIS SECTION, shall disclose to all
10	parties to the agreement to arbitrate and arbitration proceeding and to any
11	other arbitrators any known facts that a reasonable person would consider
12	likely to affect the impartiality of the arbitrator in the arbitration
13	proceeding, including:
14	(a) A financial or personal interest in the outcome of the
15	arbitration proceeding; and
16	(b) A current or previous relationship with any of the parties to the
17	agreement to arbitrate or the arbitration proceeding, their counsel or
18	representatives, a witness, or another arbitrator; AND
19	(c) ANY INFORMATION REQUIRED TO BE DISCLOSED PURSUANT TO
20	SUBSECTION (1.5) OF THIS SECTION.
21	(1.5) (a) In addition to the information required by
22	SUBSECTION (1) OF THIS SECTION, AN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS REQUESTED TO
23	SERVE AS AN ARBITRATOR IN ANY CONSUMER OR EMPLOYMENT DISPUTE
24	GOVERNED BY PART 8 OF THIS ARTICLE 22 SHALL, BEFORE AGREEING TO
25	SERVE AS AN ARBITRATOR OF THE DISPUTE, DISCLOSE TO ALL PARTIES TO
26	THE AGREEMENT TO ARBITRATE AND ARBITRATION PROCEEDING AND TO
27	ANY OTHER ARBITRATORS ANY INFORMATION THAT A REASONABLE

-13- SB20-093

1	PERSON WOULD CONSIDER LIKELY TO AFFECT THE IMPARTIALITY OF THE
2	ARBITRATOR IN THE CONSUMER OR EMPLOYMENT ARBITRATION
3	PROCEEDING, TO THE EXTENT SUCH INFORMATION CAN BE ASCERTAINED
4	BY REASONABLE EFFORTS, INCLUDING:
5	(I) ANY PECUNIARY OR FINANCIAL INTEREST THE PROPOSED
6	ARBITRATOR MAY HAVE RELATING TO THE ISSUES IN THE ARBITRATION OR
7	THE OUTCOME OF THE ARBITRATION;
8	(II) EXCEPT FOR PAYMENT FOR ARBITRATION OR MEDIATION
9	SERVICES OR REIMBURSEMENT OF COSTS, WHETHER THE PROPOSED
10	ARBITRATOR HAS BEEN PAID AN AMOUNT EXCEEDING FIVE HUNDRED
11	DOLLARS FOR SERVICES BY A PARTY, AN ATTORNEY IN THE ARBITRATION,
12	A LAW FIRM WITH WHICH AN ATTORNEY IN THE ARBITRATION IS
13	CURRENTLY ASSOCIATED, OR ANY OF THE PARTIES' LIABILITY INSURERS;
14	(III) ANY EXPERIENCE AS AN OWNER OR EMPLOYEE OF AN ENTITY
15	OR SOLE PROPRIETORSHIP ENGAGED IN THE SAME OR SUBSTANTIALLY
16	SIMILAR INDUSTRY AS A PARTY;
17	(IV) ANY EXPERIENCE AS AN ATTORNEY, CONSULTANT,
18	INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR, EXPERT WITNESS, AGENT, OR OTHER
19	REPRESENTATIVE OF OR FOR AN ENTITY OR SOLE PROPRIETORSHIP
20	ENGAGED IN THE SAME OR SUBSTANTIALLY SIMILAR INDUSTRY AS A
21	NON-CONSUMER OR EMPLOYER PARTY;
22	(V) ANY EXPERIENCE AS A REPRESENTATIVE, ATTORNEY,
23	INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR, EXPERT WITNESS, AGENT, OR OTHER
24	REPRESENTATIVE OF OR FOR CONSUMERS OR EMPLOYEES SIMILARLY
25	SITUATED TO A CONSUMER OR EMPLOYEE PARTY;
26	(VI) ANY CURRENT OR FORMER RELATIONSHIP WITH ANY
27	LIABILITY OR OTHER INSURER THAT THE PROPOSED ARBITRATOR KNOWS

-14- SB20-093

1	MAY PROVIDE COVERAGE FOR THE AWARD;
2	(VII) A LIST OF ALL OF THE ARBITRATIONS, IDENTIFIED BY PARTY
3	NAMES, THAT THE PROPOSED ARBITRATOR HAS PARTICIPATED IN AS AN
4	ARBITRATOR DURING THE PRIOR FIVE YEARS, MODIFIED IF NECESSARY TO
5	PROTECT REASONABLE PRIVACY CONCERNS OF A CONSUMER OR EMPLOYEE
6	PARTY OR ENFORCEABLE CONFIDENTIALITY AGREEMENTS; AND
7	(VIII) THE NAMES OF THE PARTIES TO ARBITRATIONS IN WHICH THE
8	PROPOSED ARBITRATOR HAS PARTICIPATED AS AN ARBITRATOR DURING
9	THE PAST FIVE YEARS AND THEIR ATTORNEYS, AND COPIES OF ANY
10	DECISIONS AND AWARDS RENDERED, MODIFIED IF NECESSARY TO PROTECT
11	REASONABLE PRIVACY CONCERNS OF A CONSUMER OR EMPLOYEE PARTY
12	OR ENFORCEABLE CONFIDENTIALITY AGREEMENTS.
13	(b) To aid the proposed arbitrator of a consumer or
14	EMPLOYMENT DISPUTE GOVERNED BY PART 8 OF THIS ARTICLE 22 IN
15	DISCLOSING INFORMATION THAT MUST BE DISCLOSED PURSUANT TO
16	SUBSECTION $(1.5)(a)$ OF THIS SECTION, THE PROPOSED ARBITRATOR:
17	(I) MAY ASK EITHER PARTY ABOUT THE DISPUTED MATERIAL,
18	FACTUAL, AND LEGAL ISSUES TO BE RESOLVED IN THE ARBITRATION;
19	(II) MAY ASK EITHER PARTY ABOUT THE PARTY'S BUSINESS OR
20	OCCUPATION, COUNSEL, AGENTS, REPRESENTATIVES, EMPLOYEES,
21	INDEPENDENT CONTRACTORS, AND INSURERS, TO THE EXTENT SUCH
22	PERSONS OR ENTITIES MAY HAVE KNOWLEDGE RELEVANT TO A CLAIM OR
23	DEFENSE OR MAY PROVIDE POTENTIAL INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR AN
24	AWARD; AND
25	(III) MAY RESPOND TO INQUIRIES FROM A PARTY OR ITS COUNSEL
26	DESIGNED TO DETERMINE HIS OR HER SUITABILITY AND AVAILABILITY FOR
27	THE APPOINTMENT. IN ANY SUCH DIALOGUE, THE PROSPECTIVE

-15- SB20-093

1	ARBITRATOR MAY RECEIVE INFORMATION FROM A PARTY OR ITS COUNSEL
2	DISCLOSING THE GENERAL NATURE OF THE DISPUTE BUT SHOULD NOT
3	PERMIT THE PARTY OR ITS COUNSEL TO DISCUSS THE MERITS OF THE CASE.
4	(1.8) The disclosures required by subsections (1) and (1.5)
5	OF THIS SECTION MUST BE GIVEN TO THE PARTIES IN A SEPARATE
6	DOCUMENT IN AT LEAST FOURTEEN-POINT TYPE.
7	SECTION 4. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 13-22-225, add (4)
8	as follows:
9	13-22-225. Judgment on award - attorney fee and litigation
10	expenses. (4) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the
11	CONTRARY, WHEN A COURT VACATES AN AWARD ON THE BASIS OF AN
12	ARBITRATOR'S EVIDENT PARTIALITY, AS DESCRIBED IN SECTION 13-22-806,
13	THE COURT SHALL AWARD REASONABLE ATTORNEY FEES AND OTHER
14	REASONABLE EXPENSES INCURRED IN BOTH THE ARBITRATION AND COURT
15	PROCEEDINGS FROM THE EARLIEST OF:
16	(a) The date a party objected in writing to the
17	ARBITRATOR'S EVIDENT PARTIALITY ON A BASIS THAT WAS ULTIMATELY
18	FOUND TO CONSTITUTE EVIDENT PARTIALITY; OR
19	(b) THE DATE ON WHICH THE ARBITRATOR FAILED TO DISCLOSE OR
20	INACCURATELY DISCLOSED INFORMATION THAT WAS ULTIMATELY FOUND
21	TO CONSTITUTE EVIDENT PARTIALITY.
22	SECTION 5. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 13-22-228, add (3)
23	as follows:
24	13-22-228. Appeals - definitions. (3) (a) NOTWITHSTANDING
25	ANY PROVISION OF LAW TO THE CONTRARY, THE FOLLOWING LIMITATIONS
26	ON APPELLATE JURISDICTION APPLY IN A CIVIL ACTION IN WHICH A
7	CONSTIMED OD EMDLOVEE ASSEDTS A CLAIM OD COTINTED CLAIM:

-16- SB20-093

1	(1) APPELLATE COURTS DO NOT HAVE JURISDICTION TO REVIEW A
2	TRIAL COURT'S INTERLOCUTORY ORDER DENYING A MOTION TO COMPE
3	ARBITRATION OR OTHERWISE CONCLUDING THAT AN ARBITRATION
4	AGREEMENT IS UNENFORCEABLE OR DOES NOT COVER A PARTICULAR
5	CLAIM;
6	(II) APPELLATE REVIEW OF THE DENIAL OF A MOTION TO COMPE
7	ARBITRATION MAY BE HAD ONLY AFTER FINAL JUDGMENT HAS ISSUED; ANI
8	(III) AN INTERLOCUTORY APPEAL IS ALLOWED IF THE TRIAL COURT
9	ORDERS ARBITRATION AND DISMISSES THE SUIT OR ORDERS ARBITRATION
10	AND STAYS THE LITIGATION.
11	(b) FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SUBSECTION (3):
12	(I) "CONSUMER" MEANS A PARTY THAT OBTAINS, MAINTAINS
13	USES, PURCHASES, LEASES, OR HAS STANDING TO ASSERT CLAIMS
14	RELATING TO GOODS, SERVICES, OR REAL OR PERSONAL PROPERTY USEI
15	PRIMARILY FOR PERSONAL, FAMILY, RESIDENTIAL, OR HOUSEHOLD
16	PURPOSES.
17	(II) "EMPLOYEE" MEANS:
18	(A) ANY PERSON EMPLOYED BY ANOTHER AS DEFINED BY STATI
19	LAW; OR
20	(B) ANY PERSON WHO IS NOT CLASSIFIED BY A BUSINESS AS AN
21	EMPLOYEE BUT WHO CLAIMS TO BE AN EMPLOYEE AND WHOSE CLAIMS
22	AGAINST THE PURPORTED EMPLOYER RELATE TO THIS ALLEGE
23	MISCLASSIFICATION.
24	SECTION 6. In Colorado Revised Statutes, add part 9 to article
25	22 of title 13 as follows:
26	PART 9
27	ENFORCEABILITY OF CERTAIN

-17- SB20-093

1	STANDARD FORM CONTRACT TERMS
2	13-22-901. Standard form contract terms - enforceability -
3	definitions. (1) As used in this part 9, unless the context
4	OTHERWISE REQUIRES:
5	(a) "Consumer" means an individual, partnership,
6	ASSOCIATION, OR CORPORATION THAT OBTAINS, MAINTAINS, USES,
7	PURCHASES, LEASES, OR HAS LEGAL OR PRACTICAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR
8	GOODS, SERVICES, OR REAL OR PERSONAL PROPERTY USED PRIMARILY FOR
9	PERSONAL, FAMILY, OR HOUSEHOLD PURPOSES.
10	(b) "EMPLOYEE" MEANS:
11	(I) ANY PERSON EMPLOYED BY ANOTHER AS DEFINED BY STATE
12	LAW; OR
13	(II) ANY PERSON WHO IS NOT CLASSIFIED BY A BUSINESS AS AN
14	EMPLOYEE BUT WHO CLAIMS TO BE AN EMPLOYEE AND WHOSE CLAIMS
15	AGAINST THE PURPORTED EMPLOYER RELATE TO THIS ALLEGED
16	MISCLASSIFICATION.
17	$\left(c\right)\left(I\right)$ "STANDARD FORM CONTRACT" MEANS A WRITING IN WHICH
18	THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS STATED IN THE WRITING ARE SET BY ONE OR
19	MORE OF THE PARTIES WHILE THE CONSUMER OR EMPLOYEE PARTY OR
20	PARTIES HAVE LITTLE OR NO ABILITY TO NEGOTIATE THE WRITING'S
21	MATERIAL TERMS AT THE TIME THE WRITING IS EXECUTED OR BECAME
22	ENFORCEABLE AND AFFECTS THE CONSUMER'S OR EMPLOYEE'S INTEREST
23	IN:
24	(A) GOODS OR SERVICES;
25	(B) REAL OR PERSONAL PROPERTY; OR
26	(C) EMPLOYMENT.
27	(II) THE FACT THAT A CONSUMER OR EMPLOYEE PARTY MAY

-18- SB20-093

1	NEGOTIATE LIMITED TERMS WITHIN THE WRITING DOES NOT PRECLUDE A
2	FINDING THAT THE WRITING IS A STANDARD FORM CONTRACT.
3	(2) IN ORDER TO PROMOTE THE EFFICIENT ADMINISTRATION OF
4	JUSTICE, THE FOLLOWING CONTRACTUAL TERMS ARE NEVER ENFORCEABLE
5	AND ARE DECLARED VOID AS AGAINST PUBLIC POLICY WHEN INCLUDED IN
6	A STANDARD FORM CONTRACT:
7	(a) A REQUIREMENT THAT THE CONSUMER OR EMPLOYEE PARTY
8	ADJUDICATE A CLAIM ARISING IN COLORADO IN A LOCATION THAT IS MORE
9	THAN ONE HUNDRED MILES FROM WHERE THE CONSUMER OR EMPLOYEE
10	PARTY RESIDES OR WHERE THE CONTRACT WAS EXECUTED;
11	(b) A PRECONDITION TO INITIATING A LEGAL PROCEEDING THAT:
12	(I) WAIVES THE CONSUMER OR EMPLOYEE PARTY'S RIGHT TO
13	CLAIMS OR DAMAGES RESULTING FROM A FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THE
14	PRECONDITION; OR
15	(II) PREVENTS OR IS REASONABLY LIKELY TO PREVENT THE
16	CONSUMER OR EMPLOYEE PARTY FROM ASSERTING LEGAL CLAIMS FOR A
17	PERIOD OF MORE THAN SIXTY DAYS;
18	(c) A REQUIREMENT THAT A PARTY OR PARTIES TO THE CONTRACT
19	BE ALLOWED TO UNILATERALLY SELECT ONE OR MORE OF THE
20	INDIVIDUALS OR ENTITIES WHO WILL RESOLVE DISPUTES BETWEEN THE
21	PARTIES; OR
22	(d) A TERM THAT ATTEMPTS TO AWARD OR LIMIT COSTS OR FEES
23	IN A MANNER THAT IS INCONSISTENT WITH COLORADO STATUTE OR
24	CONTROLLING CASE LAW.
25	(3) THE FACT THAT A TERM IN A STANDARD FORM CONTRACT IS
26	NOT LISTED IN SUBSECTION (2) OF THIS SECTION DOES NOT MEAN THAT THE
27	TERM MAY NOT BE FOUND TO BE UNENFORCEABLE OR VOID AS AGAINST

-19- SB20-093

1	PUBLIC POLICY PURSUANT TO COMMON LAW.
2	(4) INCLUSION OF ANY OF THE UNENFORCEABLE TERMS DECLARED
3	VOID PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (2) OF THIS SECTION CONSTITUTES A
4	DECEPTIVE TRADE PRACTICE UNDER SECTION 6-1-105.
5	(5) IN ORDERING A REMEDY FOR AN UNENFORCEABLE TERM IN A
6	STANDARD FORM CONTRACT, A COURT SHALL CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING
7	FACTORS:
8	(a) Whether severing the unenforceable term and
9	ENFORCING THE CONTRACT IN ITS ABSENCE:
10	(I) CREATES AN INCENTIVE FOR DRAFTERS TO INCLUDE
11	UNENFORCEABLE TERMS IN STANDARD FORM CONTRACTS; OR
12	(II) REMOVES IN WHOLE OR IN PART THE INCENTIVE FOR DRAFTERS
13	TO DRAFT ENFORCEABLE STANDARD FORM CONTRACTS THAT DO NOT
14	INCLUDE SUCH TERMS;
15	(b) Whether inclusion of an unenforceable term might
16	DETER THE CONSUMER OR EMPLOYEE PARTY FROM ASSERTING THE
17	PARTY'S RIGHTS UNDER THE CONTRACT OR MIGHT DETER THE CONSUMER
18	OR EMPLOYEE PARTY FROM CHALLENGING THE ENFORCEMENT OF THE
19	UNENFORCEABLE TERM;
20	(c) Whether the drafting party acted in bad faith, for
21	EXAMPLE, BY INCLUDING A TERM THAT WAS, AT THE TIME THE CONTRACT
22	WAS EXECUTED OR BECAME ENFORCEABLE, UNENFORCEABLE UNDER
23	ESTABLISHED LAW; AND
24	(d) THE PARTIES' ACTUAL PURPOSES.
25	(6) (a) NOTWITHSTANDING SUBSECTION (2)(d) OF THIS SECTION,
26	WHEN A STANDARD FORM CONTRACT PROVIDES FOR AN AWARD OF
27	ATTORNEY FEES OR LITIGATION EXPENSES TO ONE OR MORE PARTIES TO A

-20- SB20-093

1	CONTRACT, THE PROVISION MUST BE CONSTRUED AS AWARDING SUCH FEES
2	AND EXPENSES TO THE PREVAILING PARTY AS A MATTER OF RIGHT, BUT IF
3	A MORE SPECIFIC STATUTE PROVIDES ATTORNEY FEES SOLELY TO ONE
4	PARTY, A FEE SHIFTING OR LOSER PAYS TERM IS VOID.
5	(b) When an action has been voluntarily dismissed or
6	DISMISSED PURSUANT TO A SETTLEMENT OF THE CASE, THERE IS NO
7	PREVAILING PARTY FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION.
8	SECTION 7. Effective date - applicability. This act takes effect
9	upon passage and applies to actions, including arbitrations filed or
10	arbitrators selected, on or after said date.
11	SECTION 8. Safety clause. The general assembly hereby finds,
12	determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate
13	preservation of the public peace, health, or safety.

-21- SB20-093