HOUSE BILL 20-1010

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.)

For purposes of the census, the federal census bureau counts prisoners in the correctional facility in which they were housed as of April 1 of the year in which the census was taken. For redistricting purposes, the bill reassigns those persons to their last known residence in Colorado prior to incarceration. If the last known residence is outside of Colorado or the last known residence is unknown, the prisoners are not
counted for purposes of redistricting.

The bill requires the department of corrections (department) to begin collecting and maintaining specified information on inmates to be able to provide that information following a federal census. It directs the department to report the information to the legislative council staff and the office of legislative legal services (nonpartisan staff) and nonpartisan staff to develop a database of population to be used in all redistricting.

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

SECTION 1. Short title. The short title of this act is the "Colorado Accurate Residence for Redistricting Act".

SECTION 2. In Colorado Revised Statutes, add 2-2-902 as follows:

2-2-902. Accurate census data - electronic record of prisoner home address - adjustment of census data - definitions. (1) As used in this section, unless the context otherwise requires:

(a) "Decennial census day" means April 1 of the year 2020 and every year ending in zero thereafter.

(b) "Department" means the Department of Corrections.

(c) "Necessary census data" means the federal decennial Pub.L. 94-171 data published for the state by the United States census bureau and adjusted by the general assembly’s nonpartisan staff to reflect the changes pursuant to subsections (5) and (6) of this section.

(d) "Nonpartisan staff" means the staff of the legislative council and office of legislative legal services, or any successor offices.

(2) (a) Starting as soon as practicable after the effective date of this section, the department shall collect and maintain an electronic record of the legal residence, presumptively
OUTSIDE OF THE CORRECTIONAL FACILITY, AND OTHER DEMOGRAPHIC
DATA, FOR ANY PERSON ENTERING ITS CUSTODY. AT A MINIMUM, THIS
RECORD MUST CONTAIN THE LAST KNOWN COMPLETE STREET ADDRESS
PRIOR TO INCARCERATION, THE PERSON'S RACE, WHETHER THE PERSON IS
OF HISPANIC [ ] ORIGIN, AND WHETHER THE PERSON IS OVER EIGHTEEN
YEARS OF AGE. TO THE DEGREE POSSIBLE, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ALSO
ALLOW THE LEGAL RESIDENCE TO BE UPDATED AS APPROPRIATE.

(b) ON OR BEFORE MAY 1 OF EACH YEAR IN WHICH THE FEDERAL
DECENNIAL CENSUS IS TAKEN AND IN WHICH THE UNITED STATES CENSUS
BUREAU COUNTS INCARCERATED PERSONS AS RESIDENTS OF
CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL DELIVER TO
NONPARTISAN STAFF A REPORT THAT INCLUDES, FOR EACH PERSON
INCARCERATED IN A FACILITY OPERATED BY OR UNDER CONTRACT WITH
THE DEPARTMENT FOR WHOM THE RECORDS OF THE DEPARTMENT
INDICATE A LEGAL RESIDENCE IN THIS STATE:

(I) A UNIQUE IDENTIFIER, NOT INCLUDING THE NAME OF THE
PERSON OR THE STATE OFFENDER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER. THE UNIQUE
IDENTIFIER MUST ENABLE NONPARTISAN STAFF TO ADDRESS INQUIRIES
ABOUT SPECIFIC ADDRESS RECORDS TO THE DEPARTMENT WITHOUT
MAKING IT POSSIBLE FOR ANYONE OUTSIDE OF THE DEPARTMENT TO
IDENTIFY THE PERSON TO WHOM THE ADDRESS RECORD PERTAINS.

(II) THE STREET ADDRESS OF THE CORRECTIONAL FACILITY IN
WHICH SUCH PERSON WAS INCARCERATED ON THE DECENNIAL CENSUS
DAY;

(III) THE LAST KNOWN ADDRESS OF SUCH PERSON PRIOR TO
INCARCERATION OR OTHER LEGAL RESIDENCE, IF KNOWN;

(IV) THE PERSON'S RACE, WHETHER THE PERSON IS OF HISPANIC [ ]
ORIGIN, AND WHETHER THE PERSON IS OVER EIGHTEEN YEARS OF AGE, IF KNOWN; AND

(V) ANY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION NONPARTISAN STAFF MAY REQUEST PURSUANT TO LAW.

(c) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL PROVIDE THE DATA SPECIFIED IN SUBSECTION (2)(b) OF THIS SECTION IN AN ELECTRONIC FORMAT AS SPECIFIED BY NONPARTISAN STAFF.

(d) THE INFORMATION REQUIRED TO BE PROVIDED TO NONPARTISAN STAFF PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION (2) MUST NOT INCLUDE THE NAME OF ANY INCARCERATED PERSON AND MUST NOT ALLOW FOR THE IDENTIFICATION OF ANY SUCH PERSON EXCEPT TO THE DEPARTMENT. NOTWITHSTANDING THE "COLORADO OPEN RECORDS ACT", PART 2 OF ARTICLE 72 OF TITLE 24, OR ANY OTHER PROVISION OF LAW, THE INFORMATION IS CONFIDENTIAL AND NONPARTISAN STAFF OR ANY OTHER STATE AGENCY OR LOCAL GOVERNMENT ENTITY SHALL NOT DISCLOSE ANY INFORMATION FROM THE REPORT EXCEPT AS REDISTRICTING DATA AGGREGATED BY CENSUS BLOCK FOR PURPOSES SPECIFIED IN SUBSECTION (4) OF THIS SECTION.

(3) NONPARTISAN STAFF SHALL REQUEST EACH AGENCY THAT OPERATES A FEDERAL FACILITY IN THIS STATE THAT INCARCERATES PERSONS CONVICTED OF A CRIMINAL OFFENSE TO PROVIDE IT WITH A REPORT INCLUDING THE INFORMATION LISTED IN SUBSECTION (2)(b) OF THIS SECTION.

(4) PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (5) OF THIS SECTION, NONPARTISAN STAFF SHALL PREPARE REDISTRICTING POPULATION DATA TO REFLECT INCARCERATED PERSONS AT THEIR RESIDENTIAL ADDRESSES IN THIS STATE RATHER THAN THEIR PLACE OF INCARCERATION. THIS DATA PREPARED BY
NONPARTISAN STAFF IS THE NECESSARY CENSUS DATA PROVIDED TO AND TO BE USED BY THE INDEPENDENT LEGISLATIVE AND CONGRESSIONAL REDISTRICTING COMMISSIONS ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO SECTIONS 44 AND 46 OF ARTICLE V OF THE STATE CONSTITUTION. THE DATA IS THE POPULATION BASIS OF CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS, STATE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICTS, AND STATE SENATE DISTRICTS. NONPARTISAN STAFF SHALL MAKE THIS CENSUS DATA AVAILABLE TO THE INDEPENDENT LEGISLATIVE AND CONGRESSIONAL REDISTRICTING COMMISSIONS AND TO MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AND ANY COUNTY OR LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL ENTITY OF COLORADO UPON REQUEST.

(5) (a) For each person included in a report received pursuant to subsections (2)(b) and (3) of this section, nonpartisan staff shall determine the geographic units for which population counts are reported in the federal decennial census that contain the facility of incarceration and the legal residence in this state as listed in the report.

(b) For each person included in a report received pursuant to subsections (2)(b) and (3) of this section, if the legal residence is known and in this state, nonpartisan staff shall:

(I) Ensure that the person is not included in any population counts reported by nonpartisan staff for the geographic units that include the facility at which the person was incarcerated, unless that geographic unit also includes the person's legal residence; and

(II) Ensure that any population counts reported by nonpartisan staff reflect the person's residential address in this state as reported pursuant to subsections (2)(b) and (3) of this section.
SECTION.

(6) THE DATA PREPARED BY NONPARTISAN STAFF PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION MUST BE COMPLETED AND PUBLISHED NO LATER THAN THIRTY DAYS AFTER THE DATE THAT FEDERAL DECENNIAL PUB.L. 94-171 DATA FOR THE STATE IS DELIVERED TO THE STATE.

(7) THE DATA PREPARED BY NONPARTISAN STAFF PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION SHALL NOT BE USED IN THE DISTRIBUTION OF ANY STATE OR FEDERAL AID.

SECTION 3. In Colorado Revised Statutes, amend 2-2-901 as follows:

2-2-901. Population data for redistricting. (1) The general assembly hereby finds and declares that:
(a) Section 44 of article V of the state constitution requires the general assembly to divide the state into congressional districts after each new apportionment of seats in the United States house of representatives, and a new apportionment occurs after each federal decennial census;
(b) Section 48 of article V of the state constitution requires that a reapportionment commission be appointed after each federal census to establish, revise, and alter the state senatorial and representative districts;
(c) These sections imply that the general assembly and the reapportionment commission must perform their constitutional duty to redraw the boundaries of congressional and state legislative districts using population data derived from the latest federal census, so that the equal population requirements of the federal and state constitutions can be satisfied;
(d) Federal officials have proposed using statistical sampling techniques to modify the traditional headcount of the population;

(e) The United States supreme court has held that the federal census act prohibits the use of statistically adjusted population data to apportion seats in the United States house of representatives among the states;

(f) Many have argued that statistically adjusted population data does not satisfy the requirement of the federal constitution for an "actual enumeration" of the population;

(g) There is no reason for congress to use one set of population data for apportionment of seats in congress and for state redistricting authorities to use a different set of data to redraw congressional and state legislative district boundaries, and the federal government would incur additional costs by furnishing two sets of data to the states;

(h) Using different population data for redistricting would subject the state of Colorado to the risk of litigation over the appropriate population figures, which form the very foundation of any congressional or state legislative redistricting plan;

(i) It is therefore necessary to establish the intent of the general assembly that the same population data be used in the congressional and state legislative redistricting processes as is used for purposes of apportioning seats in the United States house of representatives among the states:

(2) For purposes of redrawing the boundaries of congressional, state senatorial, and state representative districts after the EACH federal census, in the year 2010, the general assembly and the Colorado reapportionment commission THE INDEPENDENT LEGISLATIVE AND
CONGRESSIONAL REDISTRICTING COMMISSIONS ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO SECTIONS 44 AND 46 OF ARTICLE V OF THE STATE CONSTITUTION shall use population data supplied by the United States bureau of the census that has been used to apportion the seats in the United States house of representatives among the states BUREAU AS ADJUSTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL STAFF AND OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE LEGAL SERVICES, OR ANY SUCCESSOR OFFICES, PURSUANT TO SECTION 2-2-902.

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