

**First Regular Session
Seventy-third General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO**

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 21-0161.01 Thomas Morris x4218

HOUSE BILL 21-1230

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Baisley and Titone,

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Zenzinger and Woodward, Bridges

House Committees

State, Civic, Military, & Veterans Affairs

Senate Committees

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 **CONCERNING CREATION OF A USER-FRIENDLY STATE INTERNET**
102 **PORTAL RELATING TO STATE AGENCY RULES.**

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 directs the office of information technology, in consultation with the secretary of state, the statewide internet portal authority, the department of regulatory agencies, and an appointee of the governor who has experience with digital transformation, to take primary responsibility to develop a centralized, statewide internet portal for access to all agency rule-making that is highly visible on the state's main website

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.
Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material to be added to existing statute.
Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.

portal, and to make the portal available for use by June 30, 2022.

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

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-37.5-105, **add**
3 (15) as follows:

4 **24-37.5-105. Office - responsibilities - state web portal - rules**
5 **- legislative declaration - definitions.** (15) (a) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
6 HEREBY:

7 (I) FINDS THAT:

8 (A) RULES ADOPTED BY AGENCIES AFFECT MANY AREAS OF LIFE
9 FOR COLORADO CITIZENS, INCLUDING WATER, AIR, FOOD, ENERGY,
10 MOBILITY, EMPLOYMENT, AND HEALTH CARE;

11 (B) MAINTAINING A VIBRANT BUSINESS ECONOMY IN THE STATE IS
12 A GOAL SHARED BY ALL COLORADANS; AND

13 (C) PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN THE RULE-MAKING PROCESS
14 PROMOTES FAIRNESS, ACCEPTABILITY, AND PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY AND
15 CAN HELP FOSTER GREATER PUBLIC TRUST;

16 (II) DETERMINES THAT:

17 (A) ENGAGING THE ASSISTANCE OF LAWYERS, LOBBYISTS, AND
18 TECHNICAL EXPERTS SHOULD NOT BE REQUIRED FOR COLORADANS TO
19 ACCESS THE RULES THAT AFFECT THEIR LIVES AND BUSINESSES;

20 (B) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY CREATED THE ONLINE
21 TRANSPARENCY TASK FORCE IN HOUSE BILL 20-1039, ENACTED IN 2020,
22 TO RECOMMEND ONLINE TRANSPARENCY IMPROVEMENTS TO THE GENERAL
23 ASSEMBLY; AND

24 (C) THE TASK FORCE FOUND THAT IT IS UNNECESSARILY
25 BURDENSOME TO REQUIRE BOTH AGENCY AND PUBLIC USERS TO NAVIGATE

1 WITHIN AND BETWEEN INDEPENDENT DEPARTMENTAL RESOURCES AND
2 REINFORCED THAT ESTABLISHING A CLEAR, CENTRALIZED AGENCY RULE
3 AND RULE-MAKING RESOURCE IS NECESSARY;

4 (III) DECLARES THAT, IN ADDITION TO THE ACTIONS
5 RECOMMENDED IN THE TASK FORCE'S REPORT, THIS SUBSECTION (15) IS
6 NECESSARY TO IMPROVE ACCESS TO STATE RULES FOR ALL COLORADANS
7 AND TO MODERNIZE AND ENHANCE THE SEARCH FUNCTIONALITY AND
8 TRANSPARENCY OF EXISTING WEB PLATFORMS, WHICH ARE SPREAD ACROSS
9 MULTIPLE AGENCIES, BY CREATING A SINGLE, PUBLIC-FACING WEB PORTAL
10 FOR ACCESSING AGENCY RULES AND STATE RULE-MAKING THAT MEETS
11 THE MINIMUM STANDARDS ESTABLISHED IN THIS SUBSECTION (15); AND

12 (IV) INTENDS THAT THE PORTAL SHOULD, TO THE EXTENT
13 PRACTICABLE, BE DESIGNED TO:

14 (A) ENSURE THAT THE PORTAL'S UNIFORM RESOURCE LOCATOR IS
15 PROMINENTLY DISPLAYED ON THE STATE'S MAIN WEBSITE;

16 (B) MAKE THE PORTAL NAVIGATION DESCRIPTIVE AND
17 BEHAVIOR-BASED;

18 (C) LEVERAGE SEARCH ENGINE OPTIMIZATION TO IMPROVE THE
19 PORTAL'S VISIBILITY ON THE INTERNET;

20 (D) ENSURE THAT SEARCHES YIELD ACCURATE AND QUICK
21 RESULTS;

22 (E) LEVERAGE MACHINE LEARNING TO ENABLE CONTINUOUS
23 IMPROVEMENT IN THE EASE AND RELEVANCE OF RULE-MAKING SEARCHES;

24 (F) MAKE THE MACHINE LEARNING ALGORITHM TRANSPARENT,
25 CONFIGURABLE, AND SPECIALIZED FOR THE PORTAL'S PURPOSES;

26 (G) USE REPRESENTATIONAL STATE TRANSFER, STATELESS
27 PROTOCOL, AND STANDARD OPERATIONS FOR THE APPLICATION

1 PROGRAMMING INTERFACE;

2 (H) INCLUDE A REPOSITORY FOR EASE OF SHARING TEMPLATES,
3 FORMS, AND DOCUMENTS REQUIRED FOR COMPLIANCE WITH RULES;

4 (I) INCLUDE ROBUST INDEXING CAPABILITIES TO INCREASE
5 ACCURACY AND SPEED IN PROVIDING THE CORRECT DOCUMENT;

6 (J) ALLOW USERS' INTERACTIVE COMMENTING AND FACILITATE
7 THE MANAGEMENT OF THREADED COMMENTS, ANONYMOUS COMMENTS,
8 AND SPAM PROTECTION; AND

9 (K) MEET THE STATE'S SECURITY STANDARDS AND TECHNICAL
10 SPECIFICATIONS.

11 (b) STANDARDS FOR THE PORTAL MUST INCLUDE BUT ARE NOT
12 LIMITED TO:

13 (I) A CENTRALIZED PORTAL FOR ACCESS TO ALL AGENCY
14 RULE-MAKING THAT IS HIGHLY VISIBLE ON THE STATE'S MAIN WEBSITE AND
15 THAT USES SEARCH ENGINE OPTIMIZATION TO ENABLE IT TO BE LOCATED
16 ON THE INTERNET;

17 (II) AN OPTIMIZED, INTUITIVE, AND FULL-TEXT SEARCH ENGINE
18 THAT IS CONTINUOUSLY OPTIMIZED TO INCREASE ACCURACY AND SEARCH
19 SPEED AND PROVIDE ROBUST SEARCH RESULTS FOR USERS;

20 (III) SEARCH RESULTS THAT INCLUDE THE FORMS, TEMPLATES,
21 AND DOCUMENTS REQUIRED TO COMPLY WITH THE RULES THAT ARE
22 INCLUDED IN THE SEARCH RESULTS;

23 (IV) INTUITIVE WEBSITE NAVIGATION WITH IMPROVED ACCESS TO
24 NOTIFICATION SUBSCRIPTIONS;

25 (V) AN APPLICATION PROGRAMMING INTERFACE THAT ENABLES
26 QUANTIFIABLE RESEARCH ON STATE RULES;

27 (VI) A PUBLIC COMMENT PROCESS THAT INCLUDES A

1 STANDARDIZED ONLINE COMMENT FORM FOR FEEDBACK ON ALL RULES
2 REGARDLESS OF AGENCY OF ORIGIN;

3 (VII) AN INTERACTIVE, SEARCHABLE, AND DOWNLOADABLE
4 RULE-MAKING HEARINGS CALENDAR;

5 (VIII) A FULLY RESPONSIVE DESIGN THAT IS COMPATIBLE WITH
6 MOBILE AND TABLET DEVICES;

7 (IX) AN EASILY COMPREHENSIBLE COMPARISON OF COMMON
8 INDUSTRY TERMS AND THE CORRESPONDING REGULATORY TERMS USED
9 ACROSS AGENCIES THAT INCLUDES RULE-MAKING KEY WORDS; AND

10 (X) COMPLIANCE WITH THE FEDERAL "AMERICANS WITH
11 DISABILITIES ACT OF 1990", 42 U.S.C. SEC. 12101 ET SEQ., AS AMENDED,
12 AND SECTION 508 OF THE FEDERAL "REHABILITATION ACT OF 1973", 29
13 U.S.C. SEC. 794d, AS AMENDED, TO MAKE THE PORTAL ACCESSIBLE TO
14 PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES.

15 (c) THE OFFICE, IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE SECRETARY OF STATE,
16 THE STATEWIDE INTERNET PORTAL AUTHORITY CREATED IN SECTION
17 24-37.7-102, THE DEPARTMENT OF REGULATORY AGENCIES, AND AN
18 APPOINTEE OF THE GOVERNOR WHO HAS EXPERIENCE WITH DIGITAL
19 TRANSFORMATION, SHALL TAKE PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY TO DEVELOP
20 THE PORTAL AS SPECIFIED IN THIS SUBSECTION (15) AND MAKE THE PORTAL
21 AVAILABLE FOR USE BY JUNE 30, 2022; EXCEPT THAT, IF AN UNFORESEEN
22 TECHNOLOGICAL IMPEDIMENT PREVENTS ACHIEVEMENT OF THIS DEADLINE,
23 THE OFFICE SHALL:

24 (I) IDENTIFY THE IMPEDIMENT, IDENTIFY A PROPOSED SOLUTION,
25 AND EXECUTE NECESSARY STEPS TO RESOLVE THE IMPEDIMENT WITHIN
26 EXISTING APPROPRIATIONS;

27 (II) NOTIFY THE JOINT TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE OF THE GENERAL

1 ASSEMBLY IN WRITING THAT IT WILL NOT MEET THE DEADLINE AND
2 INCLUDE IN THE NOTICE A DESCRIPTION OF THE IMPEDIMENT, THE
3 INDIVIDUAL TASKS COMPRISING THE PROPOSED SOLUTION, AND THE
4 ANTICIPATED COMPLETION DATE; AND

5 (III) APPEAR BEFORE THE JOINT TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE AT THE
6 FIRST PRACTICABLE OPPORTUNITY AFTER JUNE 30, 2022, TO DISCUSS THE
7 IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PORTAL.

8 (d) AS USED IN THIS SUBSECTION (15), "AGENCY" HAS THE
9 MEANING ESTABLISHED IN SECTION 24-4-102 (3).

10 **SECTION 2. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds,
11 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate
12 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety.