First Regular Session Seventy-fourth General Assembly STATE OF COLORADO

REVISED

This Version Includes All Amendments Adopted on Second Reading in the Second House

LLS NO. 23-0369.01 Jason Gelender x4330

SENATE BILL 23-053

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Kirkmeyer and Rodriguez, Baisley, Bridges, Buckner, Coleman, Gardner, Ginal, Gonzales, Hansen, Kolker, Liston, Lundeen, Marchman, Mullica, Pelton B., Pelton R., Priola, Roberts, Simpson, Smallwood, Van Winkle, Will, Winter F.

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Woodrow and Evans,

Senate Committees

House Committees

State, Veterans, & Military Affairs

State, Civic, Military, & Veterans Affairs

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 CONCERNING RESTRICTIONS ON NONDISCLOSURE AGREEMENTS THAT
102 AFFECT GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES.

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 prohibits the state, counties, cities and counties, municipalities, schools districts, and any of their departments, institutions, or agencies from making it a condition of employment that an employee or a prospective employee executes a contract or other form of agreement that prohibits, prevents, or otherwise restricts the employee or prospective employee from disclosing factual circumstances concerning the

HOUSE Amended 2nd Reading

SENATE rd Reading Unamended March 24, 2023

SENATE Amended 2nd Reading March 23, 2023

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. <u>Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.</u>

Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material to be added to existing law.

Dashes through the words or numbers indicate deletions from existing law.

individual's employment with the government (nondisclosure agreement) unless the nondisclosure agreement is necessary to prevent disclosure of:

- Factual circumstances relating to the employment that reasonably implicate privacy interests held by the employee who is a party to the agreement; or
- Matters required to be kept confidential by federal law or rules, the state constitution, or state statute, or matters bearing on the specialized details of security arrangements or investigations.

The bill prohibits nondisclosure agreements that prohibit employees of the state, counties, city and counties, municipalities, school districts, or any of their departments, institutions, or agencies from disclosing factual circumstances concerning their employment. To the extent that an employer includes any such provision in any employment contract or agreement, the provision is deemed to be against public policy and unenforceable against a current or former employee who is a party to the contract or agreement unless the provision is intended to prevent disclosure of factual circumstances implicating the employee's privacy interests, matters required to be kept confidential under federal law or rules, the state constitution, or state statute, or matters bearing on the specialized details of security arrangements or investigations.

The bill prohibits the state, counties, city and counties, municipalities, or any of their departments, institutions, or agencies from taking any retaliatory action against an individual on the grounds that the individual does not enter into a contract or agreement deemed to be against public policy and unenforceable under the bill. Any person who enforces or attempts to enforce a provision deemed to be against public policy and unenforceable under the bill is liable for the employee's reasonable attorney fees and costs in defending against the action.

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

SECTION 1. Legislative declaration. (1) The general assembly finds and declares that:

(a) (I) Government employees, including employees of the state, counties, cities and counties, municipalities, school districts, and any

department, institution, or agency of any such government, are public

servants who are hired to undertake their job duties and responsibilities

8 to serve the public;

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(II) <u>Government</u> employees are paid with public money, and they and their employers are accountable to the public for the manner in which they carry out their public duties and responsibilities;

(III) The public has a fundamental interest in transparency concerning the conduct of government, including state government, county government, city and county government, municipal government, and school district government. From the free speech provisions of its founding constitution to the enactment of laws requiring that meetings be conducted in an open manner and that public records be broadly disclosed, the state of Colorado has been at the forefront of efforts to ensure that the formation of public policy is public business that may not be conducted in secret. These constitutional and statutory requirements are intended to provide the public with as much knowledge as possible about how public business is being conducted while it is being conducted;

(IV) Nondisclosure agreements imposed on _____ applicants for government employees, government employees, and past government employees that effectively prohibit such applicants and employees from disclosing details about their prospective, current, or past government service obstruct these fundamental principles of government transparency and public accountability. The details of public business should not be hidden from public view by means of nondisclosure agreements imposed on such applicants or employees as a condition of their hiring or employment or in connection with their leaving government service or their past government service; and

(V) In the absence of legitimate concerns about the protection of the privacy interests of <u>applicants for government employment</u>, government employees, and past government employees, or to protect

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against disclosure matters that are truly confidential and sensitive to the public interest, neither the state nor any of its departments, institutions, or agencies should be permitted to silence <u>such applicants and</u> employees from being able to speak openly about their <u>prospective</u>, <u>current</u>, <u>or past</u> government service through the imposition of nondisclosure agreements. Such <u>applicants and</u> employees should ordinarily be permitted to speak openly about their <u>prospective</u>, <u>current</u>, <u>or past</u> government service.

- (b) By enacting this act, the general assembly intends to restrict the ability of a government, including the state, a county, a city and county, a municipality, or a school district, or any department, institution, or agency of a government, from requiring applicants for employment or employees to enter into nondisclosure agreements as a condition of their being hired. Nor may such a government, department, institution, or agency insist upon the enforcement of a nondisclosure agreement when or after an employee ends their employment with the government, department, institution, or agency. The general assembly intends that, absent the presence of very select circumstances, enforcement of such nondisclosure agreements be prohibited and that such nondisclosure agreements be deemed void as against public policy and of no legal force and effect. The general assembly further intends that this act be liberally construed to further the fundamental principle that state government be conducted in public to the greatest extent possible; and
- (c) Transparency concerning the conduct of government is a matter of statewide concern and, therefore, the provisions of this act apply to all counties, cities and counties, municipalities, and school districts including home rule counties, cities and counties, and municipalities.

SECTION 2. In Colorado Revised Statutes, add 22-1-135.5 as

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2	22-1-135.5. Nondisclosure agreements - protection of school
3	district, board of cooperative services, and public school employees
4	<u>- definition</u> . (1) (a) No school district, board of cooperative
5	SERVICES, PUBLIC SCHOOL, OR ANY DEPARTMENT, INSTITUTION, OR
6	AGENCY OF A SCHOOL DISTRICT, BOARD OF COOPERATIVE SERVICES, OR
7	PUBLIC SCHOOL SHALL MAKE IT A CONDITION OF EMPLOYMENT THAT AN
8	EMPLOYEE EXECUTES A CONTRACT OR OTHER FORM OF AGREEMENT
9	THAT PROHIBITS, PREVENTS, OR OTHERWISE RESTRICTS THE EMPLOYEE
10	FROM DISCLOSING FACTUAL CIRCUMSTANCES CONCERNING THE
11	EMPLOYEE'S EMPLOYMENT WITH THE SCHOOL DISTRICT, BOARD OF
12	COOPERATIVE SERVICES, OR PUBLIC SCHOOL OR ANY OF ITS DEPARTMENTS,
13	INSTITUTIONS, OR AGENCIES UNLESS THE PROHIBITION OR RESTRICTION IN
14	THE CONTRACT OR AGREEMENT IS NECESSARY TO PREVENT DISCLOSURE
15	OF:
16	(I) THE EMPLOYEE'S IDENTITY, FACTS THAT MIGHT LEAD TO THE
17	<u>DISCOVERY OF THE EMPLOYEE'S IDENTITY, OR FACTUAL</u> CIRCUMSTANCES
18	RELATING TO THE EMPLOYMENT THAT REASONABLY IMPLICATE
19	<u>LEGITIMATE</u> PRIVACY INTERESTS OF THE EMPLOYEE WHO IS A PARTY TO
20	THE AGREEMENT IF THE EMPLOYEE ELECTS IN THE EMPLOYEE'S SOLE
21	DISCRETION TO RESTRICT DISCLOSURE OF THE EMPLOYEE'S IDENTITY OR
22	SUCH FACTS AND CIRCUMSTANCES;
23	(II) DATA; INFORMATION, INCLUDING PERSONAL IDENTIFYING
24	INFORMATION, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 24-74-102 (1); OR MATTERS THAT
25	ARE REQUIRED TO BE KEPT CONFIDENTIAL BY FEDERAL LAW OR
26	REGULATIONS, THE STATE CONSTITUTION, STATE LAW, STATE
27	REGULATIONS, OR STATE RULES, OR A COURT OF LAW OR AS

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1	ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGED COMMUNICATIONS, AS PRIVILEGED WORK
2	PRODUCT, AS COMMUNICATIONS RELATED TO A THREATENED OR PENDING
3	LEGAL OR ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION, OR AS MATERIALS RELATED TO
4	PERSONNEL OR REGULATORY INVESTIGATIONS BY THE EMPLOYER;
5	(III) Trade secrets or other confidential or sensitive
6	<u>INFORMATION PROVIDED TO OR MADE ACCESSIBLE TO THE EMPLOYEE BY</u>
7	A CURRENT OR PROSPECTIVE CONTRACTOR, VENDOR, GRANTEE OR AS PART
8	OF A PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP, OR ENTITY WORKING WITH THE STATE
9	AS PART OF AN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITY; OR
10	(IV) Information bearing on the specialized details of
11	SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS OR INVESTIGATIONS INCLUDING SECURITY
12	ARRANGEMENTS FOR OR INVESTIGATIONS INTO ELECTED OFFICIALS OR
13	OTHER INDIVIDUALS, PHYSICAL INFRASTRUCTURE, OR CYBERSECURITY;
14	(V) Information derived from communications of the
15	EMPLOYER RELATED TO THREATENED OR PENDING LEGAL OR
16	ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION;
17	(VI) DISCUSSIONS THAT OCCUR IN AN EXECUTIVE SESSION
18	AUTHORIZED BY SECTION 24-6-402; OR
19	(VII) TRADE SECRETS OR INFORMATION DERIVED FROM TRADE
20	SECRETS OR PROPRIETARY INFORMATION OF THE EMPLOYER.
21	(VIII) INFORMATION AND RECORDS NOT SUBJECT TO DISCLOSURE
22	UNDER THE "COLORADO OPEN RECORDS ACT", PART 2 OF ARTICLE 72 OF
23	TITLE 24; OR
24	(IX) TRADE SECRETS OWNED BY THE EMPLOYER.
25	(b) ANY PROVISION IN ANY CONTRACT OR AGREEMENT THAT
26	VIOLATES SUBSECTION $(1)(a)$ OF THIS SECTION OF THIS SECTION IS DEEMED
27	TO BE AGAINST DURING DOLICY AND IS UNENEODCEARIE AGAINST AN

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1	EMPLOYEE UNLESS THE PROVISION IS INTENDED TO PREVENT DISCLOSURE
2	OF:
3	(I) THE EMPLOYEE'S IDENTITY, FACTS THAT MIGHT LEAD TO THE
4	<u>DISCOVERY OF THE EMPLOYEE'S IDENTITY, OR FACTUAL</u> CIRCUMSTANCES
5	RELATING TO THE EMPLOYMENT THAT REASONABLY IMPLICATE
6	<u>LEGITIMATE</u> PRIVACY INTERESTS OF THE EMPLOYEE WHO IS A PARTY TO
7	THE AGREEMENT IF THE EMPLOYEE ELECTS IN THE EMPLOYEE'S SOLE
8	DISCRETION TO RESTRICT DISCLOSURE OF THE EMPLOYEE'S IDENTITY OR
9	SUCH FACTS AND CIRCUMSTANCES;
10	(II) Data; information, including personal identifying
11	INFORMATION, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 24-74-102 (1); OR MATTERS THAT
12	ARE REQUIRED TO BE KEPT CONFIDENTIAL BY FEDERAL LAW OR
13	REGULATIONS, THE STATE CONSTITUTION, STATE LAW, STATE
14	REGULATIONS, OR STATE RULES, OR A COURT OF LAW OR AS
15	ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGED COMMUNICATIONS, AS PRIVILEGED WORK
16	PRODUCT, AS COMMUNICATIONS RELATED TO A THREATENED OR PENDING
17	LEGAL OR ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION, OR AS MATERIALS RELATED TO
18	PERSONNEL OR REGULATORY INVESTIGATIONS BY THE EMPLOYER;
19	(III) TRADE SECRETS OR OTHER CONFIDENTIAL OR SENSITIVE
20	INFORMATION PROVIDED TO OR MADE ACCESSIBLE TO THE EMPLOYEE BY
21	A CURRENT OR PROSPECTIVE CONTRACTOR, VENDOR, GRANTEE OR AS PART
22	OF A PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP, OR ENTITY WORKING WITH THE STATE
23	AS PART OF AN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITY; OR
24	(IV) INFORMATION BEARING ON THE SPECIALIZED DETAILS OF
25	SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS OR INVESTIGATIONS INCLUDING FOR ELECTED
26	OFFICIALS OR OTHER INDIVIDUALS, PHYSICAL INFRASTRUCTURE, OR
2.7	CYBERSECURITY:

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1	(V) Information derived from communications of the
2	EMPLOYER RELATED TO THREATENED OR PENDING LEGAL OR
3	ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION;
4	(VI) DISCUSSIONS THAT OCCUR IN AN EXECUTIVE SESSION
5	AUTHORIZED BY SECTION 24-6-402; OR
6	(VII) TRADE SECRETS OR INFORMATION DERIVED FROM TRADE
7	SECRETS OR PROPRIETARY INFORMATION OF THE EMPLOYER.
8	(VIII) INFORMATION AND RECORDS NOT SUBJECT TO DISCLOSURE
9	UNDER THE "COLORADO OPEN RECORDS ACT", PART 2 OF ARTICLE 72 OF
10	TITLE 24; OR
11	(IX) TRADE SECRETS OWNED BY THE EMPLOYER.
12	(2) (a) NO SCHOOL DISTRICT, BOARD OF COOPERATIVE SERVICES,
13	PUBLIC SCHOOL, OR DEPARTMENT, INSTITUTION, OR AGENCY OF A SCHOOL
14	DISTRICT, A BOARD OF COOPERATIVE SERVICES, OR A PUBLIC SCHOOL
15	SHALL TAKE ANY MATERIALLY ADVERSE EMPLOYMENT-RELATED ACTION,
16	INCLUDING, WITHOUT LIMITATION, WITHDRAWAL OF AN OFFER OF
17	EMPLOYMENT, DISCHARGE, SUSPENSION, DEMOTION, DISCRIMINATION IN
18	THE TERMS, CONDITIONS, OR PRIVILEGES OF EMPLOYMENT, OR OTHER
19	ADVERSE ACTION AGAINST AN $\underline{EMPLOYEE}$ ON THE GROUNDS THAT THE
20	EMPLOYEE DOES NOT ENTER INTO A CONTRACT OR AGREEMENT DEEMED
21	TO BE AGAINST PUBLIC POLICY AND UNENFORCEABLE UNDER SUBSECTION
22	(1)(b) OF THIS SECTION. THE TAKING OF SUCH A MATERIALLY ADVERSE
23	EMPLOYMENT-RELATED ACTION AFTER AN EMPLOYEE HAS REFUSED TO
24	ENTER INTO SUCH A CONTRACT OR AGREEMENT IS PRIMA FACIE EVIDENCE
25	OF RETALIATION.
26	(b) ANY EMPLOYER WHO ENFORCES OR ATTEMPTS TO ENFORCE A
27	PROVISION DEEMED BY A COURT TO BE AGAINST PUBLIC POLICY AND

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1	UNENFORCEABLE PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (1) OF THIS SECTION IS
2	LIABLE FOR THE EMPLOYEE'S REASONABLE ATTORNEY FEES AND COSTS IN
3	DEFENDING AGAINST THE ACTION.
4	(c) AN ACTION TO ENFORCE A PROVISION OF THIS SECTION MUST BE
5	BROUGHT IN THE DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT IN WHICH THE
6	EMPLOYEE IS PRIMARILY EMPLOYED.
7	(3) A SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT BETWEEN AN EMPLOYER THAT IS
8	A SCHOOL DISTRICT, BOARD OF COOPERATIVE SERVICES, OR PUBLIC
9	SCHOOL OR A DEPARTMENT, INSTITUTION, OR AGENCY OF A SCHOOL
10	DISTRICT, A BOARD OF COOPERATIVE SERVICES, OR A PUBLIC SCHOOL AND
11	AN EMPLOYEE OF THE EMPLOYER MUST BE SIGNED BY BOTH THE EMPLOYER
12	AND THE EMPLOYEE.
13	(4) A NONDISCLOSURE AGREEMENT MAY NOT PROHIBIT THE
14	RELEASE OF INFORMATION REQUIRED TO BE RELEASED UNDER THE
15	"COLORADO OPEN RECORDS ACT", PART 2 OF ARTICLE 72 OF TITLE 24.
16	(5) Nothing in this section prevents an employer from
17	REQUIRING AN EMPLOYEE TO ENTER INTO A NONDISCLOSURE AGREEMENT
18	WITH A THIRD PARTY IN THE EMPLOYEE'S OFFICIAL CAPACITY AND ON
19	BEHALF OF THE EMPLOYER.
20	(6) AS USED IN THIS SECTION:
21	(a) "CONDITION OF EMPLOYMENT" MEANS AN
22	EMPLOYMENT-RELATED POLICY, PRACTICE, REQUIREMENT, OR
23	RESTRICTION DICTATED BY AN EMPLOYER THAT AN INDIVIDUAL MUST
24	AGREE TO ABIDE BY IN ORDER TO BE HIRED BY OR RETAIN EMPLOYMENT
25	WITH THE EMPLOYER.
26	(b) "EMPLOYEE" MEANS AN APPLICANT FOR EMPLOYMENT WITH OR
27	CURRENT OR PAST EMPLOYEE OF A SCHOOL DISTRICT, BOARD OF

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1	COOPERATIVE SERVICES, OR PUBLIC SCHOOL OR A DEPARTMENT,
2	INSTITUTION, OR AGENCY OF A SCHOOL DISTRICT, BOARD OF COOPERATIVE
3	SERVICES, OR PUBLIC SCHOOL.
4	SECTION 3. In Colorado Revised Statutes, add 24-50.5-105.5
5	as follows:
6	24-50.5-105.5. Nondisclosure agreements - protection of state
7	employees - definitions. (1) (a) Neither the state Nor any
8	DEPARTMENT, INSTITUTION, OR AGENCY OF THE STATE SHALL MAKE IT A
9	CONDITION OF EMPLOYMENT THAT AN EMPLOYEE EXECUTES A
10	CONTRACT OR OTHER FORM OF AGREEMENT THAT PROHIBITS, PREVENTS,
11	OR OTHERWISE RESTRICTS THE EMPLOYEE FROM DISCLOSING FACTUAL
12	CIRCUMSTANCES CONCERNING THE <u>EMPLOYEE'S</u> EMPLOYMENT WITH THE
13	STATE OR ANY OF ITS DEPARTMENTS, INSTITUTIONS, OR AGENCIES UNLESS
14	THE PROHIBITION OR RESTRICTION IN THE CONTRACT OR AGREEMENT IS
15	NECESSARY TO PREVENT DISCLOSURE OF:
16	(I) THE EMPLOYEE'S IDENTITY, FACTS THAT MIGHT LEAD TO THE
17	DISCOVERY OF THE EMPLOYEE'S IDENTITY, OR FACTUAL CIRCUMSTANCES
18	RELATING TO THE EMPLOYMENT THAT REASONABLY IMPLICATE
19	<u>LEGITIMATE</u> PRIVACY INTERESTS OF THE EMPLOYEE WHO IS A PARTY TO
20	THE AGREEMENT IF THE EMPLOYEE ELECTS IN THE EMPLOYEE'S SOLE
21	DISCRETION TO RESTRICT DISCLOSURE OF THE EMPLOYEE'S IDENTITY OR
22	SUCH FACTS AND CIRCUMSTANCES;
23	(II) Data; information, including personal identifying
24	INFORMATION, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 24-74-102 (1); OR MATTERS THAT
25	ARE REQUIRED TO BE KEPT CONFIDENTIAL BY FEDERAL LAW OR
26	REGULATIONS, THE STATE CONSTITUTION, STATE LAW, STATE
27	REGULATIONS, OR STATE RULES, OR A COURT OF LAW OR AS

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1	ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGED COMMUNICATIONS, AS PRIVILEGED WORK
2	PRODUCT, AS COMMUNICATIONS RELATED TO A THREATENED OR PENDING
3	LEGAL OR ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION, OR AS MATERIALS RELATED TO
4	
	PERSONNEL OR REGULATORY INVESTIGATIONS BY THE EMPLOYER;
5	(III) NONPUBLIC AND CONFIDENTIAL LABOR RELATIONS POSITIONS
6	AND STRATEGIES;
7	(IV) ATTORNEY WORK PRODUCT;
8	(V) VENDOR LISTS AND VENDOR PREFERENCES;
9	(VI) STATE BUSINESS-RELATED INFORMATION RECEIVED FROM A
10	THIRD PARTY THAT THE THIRD PARTY HAS DESIGNATED CONFIDENTIAL;
11	(VII) INFORMATION AND MATTERS RELATED TO STATE ACTIVE
12	DUTY ORDERS OF NATIONAL GUARD SOLDIERS AND AIRMEN AND
13	PERSONNEL DISPUTES SUBJECT TO THE JURISDICTION OF THE UNITED
14	STATES DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE;
15	(VIII) TRADE SECRETS OR OTHER CONFIDENTIAL OR SENSITIVE
16	INFORMATION PROVIDED TO OR MADE ACCESSIBLE TO THE EMPLOYEE BY
17	A CURRENT OR PROSPECTIVE CONTRACTOR, VENDOR, GRANTEE OR AS PART
18	OF A PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP, OR ENTITY WORKING WITH THE STATE
19	AS PART OF AN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITY; OR
20	(IX) Information bearing on the specialized details of
21	SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS OR INVESTIGATIONS INCLUDING FOR ELECTED
22	OFFICIALS OR OTHER INDIVIDUALS, PHYSICAL INFRASTRUCTURE, OR
23	CYBERSECURITY;
24	(X) Information derived from communications of the
25	EMPLOYER RELATED TO THREATENED OR PENDING LEGAL OR
26	ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION;
2.7	(XI) DISCUSSIONS THAT OCCUR IN AN EXECUTIVE SESSION

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1	AUTHORIZED BY SECTION 24-6-402; OR
2	(XII) TRADE SECRETS OR INFORMATION DERIVED FROM TRADE
3	SECRETS OR PROPRIETARY INFORMATION OF THE EMPLOYER.
4	(XIII) INFORMATION AND RECORDS NOT SUBJECT TO DISCLOSURE
5	UNDER THE "COLORADO OPEN RECORDS ACT", PART 2 OF ARTICLE 72 OF
6	TITLE 24; OR
7	(XIV) TRADE SECRETS OWNED BY THE EMPLOYER.
8	(b) ANY PROVISION IN ANY CONTRACT OR AGREEMENT THAT
9	VIOLATES SUBSECTION (1)(a) OF THIS SECTION OF THIS SECTION IS DEEMED
10	TO BE AGAINST PUBLIC POLICY AND IS UNENFORCEABLE AGAINST AN
11	EMPLOYEE UNLESS THE PROVISION IS INTENDED TO PREVENT DISCLOSURE
12	OF:
13	(I) THE EMPLOYEE'S IDENTITY, FACTS THAT MIGHT LEAD TO THE
14	DISCOVERY OF THE EMPLOYEE'S IDENTITY, OR FACTUAL CIRCUMSTANCES
15	RELATING TO THE EMPLOYMENT THAT REASONABLY IMPLICATE
16	<u>LEGITIMATE</u> PRIVACY INTERESTS OF THE EMPLOYEE WHO IS A PARTY TO
17	THE AGREEMENT IF THE EMPLOYEE ELECTS IN THE EMPLOYEE'S SOLE
18	DISCRETION TO RESTRICT DISCLOSURE OF THE EMPLOYEE'S IDENTITY OR
19	SUCH FACTS AND CIRCUMSTANCES;
20	(II) Data; information, including personal identifying
21	INFORMATION, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 24-74-102 (1); OR MATTERS THAT
22	ARE REQUIRED TO BE KEPT CONFIDENTIAL BY FEDERAL LAW OR
23	REGULATIONS, THE STATE CONSTITUTION, STATE LAW, STATE
24	REGULATIONS, OR STATE RULES, OR A COURT OF LAW OR AS
25	ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGED COMMUNICATIONS, AS PRIVILEGED WORK
26	PRODUCT, AS COMMUNICATIONS RELATED TO A THREATENED OR PENDING
2.7	LEGAL OR ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION OR AS MATERIALS RELATED TO

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1	PERSONNEL OR REGULATORY INVESTIGATIONS BY THE EMPLOYER;
2	(III) NONPUBLIC AND CONFIDENTIAL LABOR RELATIONS POSITIONS
3	AND STRATEGIES;
4	(IV) ATTORNEY WORK PRODUCT;
5	(V) VENDOR LISTS AND VENDOR PREFERENCES;
6	(VI) STATE BUSINESS-RELATED INFORMATION RECEIVED FROM A
7	THIRD PARTY THAT THE THIRD PARTY HAS DESIGNATED CONFIDENTIAL;
8	(VII) INFORMATION AND MATTERS RELATED TO STATE ACTIVE
9	DUTY ORDERS OF NATIONAL GUARD SOLDIERS AND AIRMEN AND
10	PERSONNEL DISPUTES SUBJECT TO THE JURISDICTION OF THE UNITED
11	STATES DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE;
12	(VIII) TRADE SECRETS OR OTHER CONFIDENTIAL OR SENSITIVE
13	INFORMATION PROVIDED TO OR MADE ACCESSIBLE TO THE EMPLOYEE BY
14	A CURRENT OR PROSPECTIVE CONTRACTOR, VENDOR, GRANTEE OR AS PART
15	OF A PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP, OR ENTITY WORKING WITH THE STATE
16	AS PART OF AN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITY; OR
17	(IX) Information bearing on the specialized details of
18	SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS OR INVESTIGATIONS INCLUDING FOR ELECTED
19	OFFICIALS OR OTHER INDIVIDUALS, PHYSICAL INFRASTRUCTURE, OR
20	CYBERSECURITY;
21	(X) Information derived from communications of the
22	EMPLOYER RELATED TO THREATENED OR PENDING LEGAL OR
23	ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION;
24	(XI) DISCUSSIONS THAT OCCUR IN AN EXECUTIVE SESSION
25	AUTHORIZED BY SECTION 24-6-402; OR
26	(XII) Trade secrets or information derived from trade
27	SECRETS OR PROPRIETARY INFORMATION OF THE EMPLOYER.

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1	(AIII) INFORMATION AND RECORDS NOT SUBJECT TO DISCLOSURE
2	UNDER THE "COLORADO OPEN RECORDS ACT", PART 2 OF ARTICLE 72 OF
3	TITLE 24; OR
4	(XIV) TRADE SECRETS OWNED BY THE EMPLOYER.
5	(2) (a) NEITHER THE STATE NOR ANY OF ITS DEPARTMENTS,
6	INSTITUTIONS, OR AGENCIES SHALL TAKE ANY MATERIALLY ADVERSE
7	EMPLOYMENT-RELATED ACTION, INCLUDING, WITHOUT LIMITATION,
8	WITHDRAWAL OF AN OFFER OF EMPLOYMENT, DISCHARGE, SUSPENSION,
9	DEMOTION, DISCRIMINATION IN THE TERMS, CONDITIONS, OR PRIVILEGES
10	OF EMPLOYMENT, OR OTHER ADVERSE ACTION AGAINST AN <u>EMPLOYEE</u> ON
11	THE GROUNDS THAT THE EMPLOYEE DOES NOT ENTER INTO A CONTRACT
12	OR AGREEMENT DEEMED TO BE AGAINST PUBLIC POLICY AND
13	UNENFORCEABLE UNDER SUBSECTION (1)(b) OF THIS SECTION. THE TAKING
14	OF SUCH A MATERIALLY ADVERSE EMPLOYMENT-RELATED ACTION AFTER
15	AN EMPLOYEE HAS REFUSED TO ENTER INTO SUCH A CONTRACT OR
16	AGREEMENT IS PRIMA FACIE EVIDENCE OF RETALIATION.
17	(b) ANY EMPLOYER WHO ENFORCES OR ATTEMPTS TO ENFORCE A
18	PROVISION DEEMED BY A COURT TO BE AGAINST PUBLIC POLICY AND
19	UNENFORCEABLE PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (1) OF THIS SECTION IS
20	LIABLE FOR THE EMPLOYEE'S REASONABLE ATTORNEY FEES AND COSTS IN
21	DEFENDING AGAINST THE ACTION.
22	(c) AN ACTION TO ENFORCE A PROVISION OF THIS SECTION MUST BE
23	BROUGHT IN THE DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT IN WHICH THE
24	EMPLOYEE IS PRIMARILY EMPLOYED.
25	(3) A SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT BETWEEN AN EMPLOYER THAT IS
26	THE STATE OR A DEPARTMENT, INSTITUTION, OR AGENCY OF THE STATE
27	AND AN EMPLOYEE OF THE STATE OR THE DEPARTMENT, INSTITUTION, OR

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1	AGENCY OF THE STATE MUST BE SIGNED BY BOTH THE EMPLOYER AND THE
2	EMPLOYEE.
3	(4) A NONDISCLOSURE AGREEMENT MUST STATE THAT STATE
4	EMPLOYEES ARE PROTECTED FROM RETALIATION FOR DISCLOSURE OF
5	INFORMATION ABOUT STATE AGENCIES THAT ARE WORKING OUTSIDE THE
6	PUBLIC INTEREST IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF ARTICLE 50.5
7	OF TITLE 24.
8	(5) A NONDISCLOSURE AGREEMENT MAY NOT PROHIBIT THE
9	RELEASE OF INFORMATION REQUIRED TO BE RELEASED UNDER THE
10	"COLORADO OPEN RECORDS ACT", PART 2 OF ARTICLE 72 OF TITLE 24.
11	(6) NOTHING IN THIS SECTION PREVENTS AN EMPLOYER FROM
12	REQUIRING AN EMPLOYEE TO ENTER INTO A NONDISCLOSURE AGREEMENT
13	WITH A THIRD PARTY IN THE EMPLOYEE'S OFFICIAL CAPACITY AND ON
14	BEHALF OF THE EMPLOYER.
15	(7) AS USED IN THIS SECTION:
16	(a) "CONDITION OF EMPLOYMENT" MEANS AN EMPLOYMENT-
17	RELATED POLICY, PRACTICE, REQUIREMENT, OR RESTRICTION DICTATED BY
18	AN EMPLOYER THAT AN INDIVIDUAL MUST AGREE TO ABIDE BY IN ORDER
19	TO BE HIRED BY OR RETAIN EMPLOYMENT WITH THE EMPLOYER.
20	(b) "EMPLOYEE" MEANS AN APPLICANT FOR EMPLOYMENT WITH OR
21	CURRENT OR PAST EMPLOYEE OF THE STATE OR A DEPARTMENT,
22	INSTITUTION, OR AGENCY OF THE STATE.
23	(c) "The state" includes without limitation each of the
24	STATE OFFICERS LISTED IN SECTION 1 OF ARTICLE IV OF THE STATE
25	CONSTITUTION AS WELL AS THE EXECUTIVE, LEGISLATIVE, AND JUDICIAL
26	DEPARTMENTS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE STATE.
2.7	SECTION 4. In Colorado Revised Statutes, add part 16 to article

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1	1 of title 29 as follows:
2	PART 16
3	LOCAL GOVERNMENT NONDISCLOSURE AGREEMENTS
4	29-1-1601. Nondisclosure agreements - protection of local
5	government employees - definitions. (1) (a) NEITHER A LOCAL
6	GOVERNMENT NOR A DEPARTMENT, INSTITUTION, OR AGENCY OF A LOCAL
7	GOVERNMENT SHALL MAKE IT A CONDITION OF EMPLOYMENT THAT AN
8	EMPLOYEE EXECUTES A CONTRACT OR OTHER FORM OF AGREEMENT
9	THAT PROHIBITS, PREVENTS, OR OTHERWISE RESTRICTS THE EMPLOYEE
10	FROM DISCLOSING FACTUAL CIRCUMSTANCES CONCERNING THE
11	EMPLOYEE'S EMPLOYMENT WITH THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT OR ANY OF ITS
12	DEPARTMENTS, INSTITUTIONS, OR AGENCIES UNLESS THE PROHIBITION OR
13	RESTRICTION IN THE CONTRACT OR AGREEMENT IS NECESSARY TO PREVENT
14	DISCLOSURE OF:
15	(I) THE EMPLOYEE'S IDENTITY, FACTS THAT MIGHT LEAD TO THE
16	DISCOVERY OF THE EMPLOYEE'S IDENTITY, OR FACTUAL CIRCUMSTANCES
17	RELATING TO THE EMPLOYMENT THAT REASONABLY IMPLICATE
18	<u>LEGITIMATE</u> PRIVACY INTERESTS OF THE EMPLOYEE WHO IS A PARTY TO
19	THE AGREEMENT IF THE EMPLOYEE ELECTS IN THE EMPLOYEE'S SOLE
20	DISCRETION TO RESTRICT DISCLOSURE OF THE EMPLOYEE'S IDENTITY OR
21	SUCH FACTS AND CIRCUMSTANCES;
22	(II) DATA; INFORMATION, INCLUDING PERSONAL IDENTIFYING
23	INFORMATION, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 24-74-102 (1); OR MATTERS THAT
24	ARE REQUIRED TO BE KEPT CONFIDENTIAL BY FEDERAL LAW OR
25	REGULATIONS, THE STATE CONSTITUTION, STATE LAW, STATE
26	REGULATIONS, OR STATE RULES, OR A COURT OF LAW OR AS
27	ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGED COMMUNICATIONS, AS PRIVILEGED WORK

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1	PRODUCT, AS COMMUNICATIONS RELATED TO A THREATENED OR PENDING
2	LEGAL OR ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION, OR AS MATERIALS RELATED TO
3	PERSONNEL OR REGULATORY INVESTIGATIONS BY THE EMPLOYER;
4	(III) TRADE SECRETS OR OTHER CONFIDENTIAL OR SENSITIVE
5	INFORMATION PROVIDED TO OR MADE ACCESSIBLE TO THE EMPLOYEE BY
6	A CURRENT OR PROSPECTIVE CONTRACTOR, VENDOR, GRANTEE OR AS PART
7	OF A PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP, OR ENTITY WORKING WITH THE STATE
8	AS PART OF AN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITY; OR
9	(IV) TRADE SECRETS OR OTHER CONFIDENTIAL OR SENSITIVE
10	INFORMATION PROVIDED TO OR MADE ACCESSIBLE TO THE EMPLOYEE BY
11	AN EMPLOYER'S CURRENT OR PROSPECTIVE CUSTOMER, CONTRACTOR,
12	LESSEE, LESSOR, BUSINESS PARTNER, OR AFFILIATE;
13	(V) Trade secrets or other confidential or sensitive
14	INFORMATION PROVIDED TO OR MADE ACCESSIBLE TO THE EMPLOYEE BY
15	A PURCHASER OR SELLER OF PROPERTY THAT IS ENGAGED IN
16	NEGOTIATIONS OR UNDER CONTRACT WITH THE EMPLOYER; OR
17	(VI) Information bearing on the specialized details of
18	SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS OR CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS INCLUDING FOR
19	ELECTED OFFICIALS OR OTHER INDIVIDUALS, PHYSICAL INFRASTRUCTURE,
20	OR CYBERSECURITY;
21	(VII) INFORMATION DERIVED FROM COMMUNICATIONS OF THE
22	EMPLOYER RELATED TO THREATENED OR PENDING LEGAL OR
23	ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION;
24	(VIII) DISCUSSIONS THAT OCCUR IN AN EXECUTIVE SESSION
25	AUTHORIZED BY SECTION 24-6-402; OR
26	(IX) TRADE SECRETS OR INFORMATION DERIVED FROM TRADE
27	SECRETS OR PROPRIETARY INFORMATION OF THE EMPLOYER.

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1	(X) Information and records not subject to disclosure
2	UNDER THE "COLORADO OPEN RECORDS ACT", PART 2 OF ARTICLE 72 OF
3	TITLE 24; OR
4	(XI) TRADE SECRETS OWNED BY THE EMPLOYER.
5	(b) ANY PROVISION IN ANY CONTRACT OR AGREEMENT THAT
6	VIOLATES SUBSECTION $(1)(a)$ OF THIS SECTION OF THIS SECTION IS DEEMED
7	TO BE AGAINST PUBLIC POLICY AND IS UNENFORCEABLE AGAINST AN
8	EMPLOYEE UNLESS THE PROVISION IS INTENDED TO PREVENT DISCLOSURE
9	OF:
10	(I) THE EMPLOYEE'S IDENTITY, FACTS THAT MIGHT LEAD TO THE
11	DISCOVERY OF THE EMPLOYEE'S IDENTITY, OR FACTUAL CIRCUMSTANCES
12	RELATING TO THE EMPLOYMENT THAT REASONABLY IMPLICATE
13	<u>LEGITIMATE</u> PRIVACY INTERESTS OF THE EMPLOYEE WHO IS A PARTY TO
14	THE AGREEMENT IF THE EMPLOYEE ELECTS IN THE EMPLOYEE'S SOLE
15	DISCRETION TO RESTRICT DISCLOSURE OF THE EMPLOYEE'S IDENTITY OR
16	SUCH FACTS AND CIRCUMSTANCES;
17	(II) Data; information, including personal identifying
18	INFORMATION, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 24-74-102 (1); OR MATTERS THAT
19	ARE REQUIRED TO BE KEPT CONFIDENTIAL BY FEDERAL LAW OR
20	REGULATIONS, THE STATE CONSTITUTION, STATE LAW, STATE
21	REGULATIONS, OR STATE RULES, OR A COURT OF LAW OR AS
22	ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGED COMMUNICATIONS, AS PRIVILEGED WORK
23	PRODUCT, AS COMMUNICATIONS RELATED TO A THREATENED OR PENDING
24	LEGAL OR ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION, OR AS MATERIALS RELATED TO
25	PERSONNEL OR REGULATORY INVESTIGATIONS BY THE EMPLOYER;
26	(III) TRADE SECRETS OR OTHER CONFIDENTIAL OR SENSITIVE
27	INFORMATION PROVIDED TO OR MADE ACCESSIBLE TO THE EMPLOYEE BY

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I	A CURRENT OR PROSPECTIVE CONTRACTOR, VENDOR, GRANTEE OR AS PART
2	OF A PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP, OR ENTITY WORKING WITH THE STATE
3	AS PART OF AN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITY; OR
4	(IV) Trade secrets or other confidential or sensitive
5	INFORMATION PROVIDED TO OR MADE ACCESSIBLE TO THE EMPLOYEE BY
6	AN EMPLOYER'S CURRENT OR PROSPECTIVE CUSTOMER, CONTRACTOR
7	LESSEE, LESSOR, BUSINESS PARTNER, OR AFFILIATE;
8	(V) Trade secrets or other confidential or sensitive
9	INFORMATION PROVIDED TO OR MADE ACCESSIBLE TO THE EMPLOYEE BY
10	A PURCHASER OR SELLER OF PROPERTY THAT IS ENGAGED IN
11	NEGOTIATIONS OR UNDER CONTRACT WITH THE EMPLOYER; OR
12	(VI) Information bearing on the specialized details of
13	SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS OR CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS INCLUDING FOR
14	ELECTED OFFICIALS OR OTHER INDIVIDUALS, PHYSICAL INFRASTRUCTURE
15	OR CYBERSECURITY;
16	(VII) INFORMATION DERIVED FROM COMMUNICATIONS OF THE
17	EMPLOYER RELATED TO THREATENED OR PENDING LEGAL OR
18	ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION;
19	(VIII) DISCUSSIONS THAT OCCUR IN AN EXECUTIVE SESSION
20	AUTHORIZED BY SECTION 24-6-402; OR
21	(IX) TRADE SECRETS OR INFORMATION DERIVED FROM TRADE
22	SECRETS OR PROPRIETARY INFORMATION OF THE EMPLOYER.
23	(X) INFORMATION AND RECORDS NOT SUBJECT TO DISCLOSURE
24	UNDER THE "COLORADO OPEN RECORDS ACT", PART 2 OF ARTICLE 72 OF
25	TITLE 24; OR
26	(XI) TRADE SECRETS OWNED BY THE EMPLOYER.
27	(2) (a) NEITHER A LOCAL GOVERNMENT NOR A DEPARTMENT, AN

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1	INSTITUTION, OR AN AGENCY OF A LOCAL GOVERNMENT SHALL TAKE ANY
2	MATERIALLY ADVERSE EMPLOYMENT-RELATED ACTION, INCLUDING,
3	WITHOUT LIMITATION, WITHDRAWAL OF AN OFFER OF EMPLOYMENT,
4	DISCHARGE, SUSPENSION, DEMOTION, DISCRIMINATION IN THE TERMS,
5	CONDITIONS, OR PRIVILEGES OF EMPLOYMENT, OR OTHER ADVERSE ACTION
6	AGAINST AN <u>EMPLOYEE</u> ON THE GROUNDS THAT THE <u>EMPLOYEE</u> DOES NOT
7	ENTER INTO A CONTRACT OR AGREEMENT DEEMED TO BE AGAINST PUBLIC
8	POLICY AND UNENFORCEABLE UNDER SUBSECTION (1)(b) OF THIS SECTION.
9	THE TAKING OF SUCH A MATERIALLY ADVERSE EMPLOYMENT-RELATED
10	ACTION AFTER AN EMPLOYEE HAS REFUSED TO ENTER INTO SUCH A
11	CONTRACT OR AGREEMENT IS PRIMA FACIE EVIDENCE OF RETALIATION.
12	(b) ANY EMPLOYER WHO ENFORCES OR ATTEMPTS TO ENFORCE A
13	PROVISION DEEMED BY A COURT AGAINST PUBLIC POLICY AND
14	UNENFORCEABLE PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (1) OF THIS SECTION IS
15	LIABLE FOR THE EMPLOYEE'S REASONABLE ATTORNEY FEES AND COSTS IN
16	DEFENDING AGAINST THE ACTION.
17	(c) AN ACTION TO ENFORCE A PROVISION OF THIS SECTION MUST BE
18	BROUGHT IN THE DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT IN WHICH THE
19	EMPLOYEE IS PRIMARILY EMPLOYED.
20	(3) A SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT BETWEEN AN EMPLOYER THAT IS
21	A LOCAL GOVERNMENT OR A DEPARTMENT, INSTITUTION, OR AGENCY OF
22	A LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND AN EMPLOYEE OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT
23	OR THE DEPARTMENT, INSTITUTION, OR AGENCY OF THE LOCAL
24	GOVERNMENT MUST BE SIGNED BY BOTH THE EMPLOYER AND THE
25	EMPLOYEE.
26	(4) A NONDISCLOSURE AGREEMENT MAY NOT PROHIBIT THE
27	RELEASE OF INFORMATION REQUIRED TO BE RELEASED UNDER THE

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1	"COLORADO OPEN RECORDS ACT", PART 2 OF ARTICLE 72 OF TITLE 24.
2	(5) NOTHING IN THIS SECTION PREVENTS AN EMPLOYER FROM
3	REQUIRING AN EMPLOYEE TO ENTER INTO A NONDISCLOSURE AGREEMENT
4	WITH A THIRD PARTY IN THE EMPLOYEE'S OFFICIAL CAPACITY AND ON
5	BEHALF OF THE EMPLOYER.
6	(6) AS USED IN THIS SECTION:
7	(a) "CONDITION OF EMPLOYMENT" MEANS AN
8	EMPLOYMENT-RELATED POLICY, PRACTICE, REQUIREMENT, OR
9	RESTRICTION DICTATED BY AN EMPLOYER THAT AN INDIVIDUAL MUST
10	AGREE TO ABIDE BY IN ORDER TO BE HIRED BY OR RETAIN EMPLOYMENT
11	WITH THE EMPLOYER.
12	(b) "EMPLOYEE" MEANS AN APPLICANT FOR EMPLOYMENT WITH OR
13	CURRENT OR PAST EMPLOYEE OF A LOCAL GOVERNMENT OR A
14	DEPARTMENT, INSTITUTION, OR AGENCY OF A LOCAL GOVERNMENT.
15	(c) "LOCAL GOVERNMENT" MEANS A STATUTORY OR HOME RULE
16	COUNTY, A CITY AND COUNTY, OR A STATUTORY OR HOME RULE
17	MUNICIPALITY.
18	SECTION 5. Act subject to petition - effective date -
19	applicability. (1) This act takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following
20	the expiration of the ninety-day period after final adjournment of the
21	general assembly; except that, if a referendum petition is filed pursuant
22	to section 1 (3) of article V of the state constitution against this act or an
23	item, section, or part of this act within such period, then the act, item,
24	section, or part will not take effect unless approved by the people at the
25	general election to be held in November 2024 and, in such case, will take
26	effect on the date of the official declaration of the vote thereon by the
27	governor.

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- 1 (2) This act applies to contracts and agreements entered into,
- 2 renewed, modified, or amended on or after the applicable effective date
- 3 of this act.

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