# Second Regular Session Seventy-fourth General Assembly STATE OF COLORADO

## **PREAMENDED**

This Unofficial Version Includes Committee Amendments Not Yet Adopted on Second Reading

LLS NO. 24-0333.01 Shelby Ross x4510

**SENATE BILL 24-064** 

#### SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Mullica,

#### **HOUSE SPONSORSHIP**

Bird,

#### **Senate Committees**

APPROPRIATION.

#### **House Committees**

Judiciary Appropriations

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# A BILL FOR AN ACT CONCERNING REQUIRING THE JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT TO MAKE RESIDENTIAL EVICTION-RELATED INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC, AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, MAKING AN

### **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 <a href="http://leg.colorado.gov">http://leg.colorado.gov</a>.)

The bill requires the judicial department to collect, compile, and publish online, on a monthly basis, aggregate residential eviction data for all forcible entry and detainer actions filed in each county in the

immediately preceding month. The judicial department shall make individual case level residential eviction data available upon request. The bill requires the judicial department to publish online in a searchable format, and make available free of charge, every final order issued by Colorado district courts regarding residential eviction actions.

The bill requires the complaint for an eviction action to include the street address and the zip code.

| 1  | Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:  |
|----|--|
| 2  | SECTION 1. In Colorado Revised Statutes, add 13-40-128 as        |
| 3  | follows:   |
| 4  | 13-40-128. Monthly residential eviction data - report -          |
| 5  | definitions. (1) As used in this section, unless the context     |
| 6  | OTHERWISE REQUIRES:  |
| 7  | (a) "QUALIFIED ENTITY" MEANS:                                    |
| 8  | (I) A PRINCIPAL DEPARTMENT OF THE STATE DESCRIBED IN             |
| 9  | <u>SECTION 24-1-110;</u>   |
| 10 | (II) AN ORGANIZATION IN GOOD STANDING WITH THE SECRETARY         |
| 11 | OF STATE THAT IS EXEMPT FROM TAXATION UNDER SECTION 501(c)(3) OF |
| 12 | THE FEDERAL "INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1986", AS AMENDED, THAT    |
| 13 | HAS A DEMONSTRATED HISTORY OF CREDIBLE HOUSING-RELATED           |
| 14 | RESEARCH AND PUBLICATIONS; OR                                    |
| 15 | (III) AN INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION THAT HAS A              |
| 16 | DEMONSTRATED HISTORY OF CREDIBLE HOUSING-RELATED RESEARCH AND    |
| 17 | PUBLICATIONS.  |
| 18 | (b) "QUALIFIED REQUEST" MEANS A REQUEST FOR COMPILED DATA        |
| 19 | FROM RESIDENTIAL FORCIBLE ENTRY AND DETAINER ACTIONS THAT IS     |
| 20 | FILED IN COMPLIANCE WITH DIRECTIVES AND POLICIES GOVERNING THE   |
| 21 | JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT'S RESPONSE TO REQUESTS FOR COMPILED AND      |
| 22 | AGGREGATE DATA.  |

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| 1  | (c) "RESIDENTIAL EVICTION DATA" MEANS, FOR EACH RESIDENTIAL       |
|----|---|
| 2  | FORCIBLE ENTRY AND DETAINER ACTION FILED PURSUANT TO THIS ARTICLE |
| 3  | 40:   |
| 4  | (I) THE DATE THE COMPLAINT WAS FILED;                             |
| 5  | (II) THE RETURN DATE;   |
| 6  | (III) THE DATE OF THE SCHEDULED HEARING;                          |
| 7  | (IV) Whether the plaintiff was represented by legal               |
| 8  | COUNSEL;  |
| 9  | (V) Whether the tenant was represented by legal                   |
| 10 | COUNSEL;  |
| 11 | (VI) WHETHER THE TENANT FILED AN ANSWER;                          |
| 12 | (VII) ANY OF THE FOLLOWING CASE OUTCOMES:                         |
| 13 | (A) DEFAULT JUDGMENT;   |
| 14 | (B) JUDGMENT FOR POSSESSION;                                      |
| 15 | (C) STIPULATED AGREEMENT;   |
| 16 | (D) Writ of restitution; or                                       |
| 17 | (E) DISMISSAL;  |
| 18 | (VIII) THE ZIP CODE OF THE PROPERTY AT ISSUE;                     |
| 19 | (IX) WHETHER THE ACTION WAS FILED FOR:                            |
| 20 | (A) NONPAYMENT OF RENT OR UTILITIES; OR                           |
| 21 | (B) OTHER LEASE VIOLATIONS;                                       |
| 22 | (X) The total amount of unpaid rent or <u>utilities at the</u>    |
| 23 | TIME OF FILING, AND ANY LATE FEES THAT THE PLAINTIFF CLAIMS THE   |
| 24 | TENANT OWES;  |
| 25 | (XI) Whether the tenant elected to participate in Person          |
| 26 | OR REMOTELY; AND  |
| 27 | (XII) WHETHER THE PLAINTIFF ELECTED TO PARTICIPATE IN             |

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| 1   | PERSON OR REMOTELY.   |
|-----|---|
| 2   | (2) (a) Beginning July 1, 2024, <u>Denver county court shall</u>      |
| 3   | ELECTRONICALLY PROVIDE RESIDENTIAL EVICTION DATA FOR ALL ACTIONS      |
| 4   | FILED IN DENVER COUNTY TO THE JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT, AND THE            |
| 5   | JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT SHALL ELECTRONICALLY COLLECT RESIDENTIAL          |
| 6   | EVICTION DATA FOR ALL ACTIONS FILED IN EACH COUNTY, INCLUDING         |
| 7   | <u>DATA PROVIDED BY</u> DENVER COUNTY COURT, PURSUANT TO THIS ARTICLE |
| 8   | 40.   |
| 9   | (b) Beginning January 1, 2025, the judicial department                |
| 10  | SHALL, ON A MONTHLY BASIS, COMPILE AND PUBLISH ONLINE IN A            |
| 11  | SEARCHABLE FORMAT, AND MAKE AVAILABLE FREE OF CHARGE,                 |
| 12  | AGGREGATE RESIDENTIAL EVICTION DATA FOR ALL ACTIONS FILED IN EACH     |
| 13  | COUNTY, INCLUDING RESIDENTIAL EVICTION DATA PROVIDED TO THE           |
| 14  | JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT BY DENVER COUNTY COURT, PURSUANT TO THIS          |
| 15  | ARTICLE 40 THAT CONCLUDED IN THE IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING MONTH;         |
| 16  | EXCEPT THAT ON JANUARY 1, 2025, THE JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT SHALL         |
| 17  | COMPILE AND PUBLISH ONLINE THE AGGREGATE RESIDENTIAL EVICTION         |
| 18  | DATA FOR JULY 1, 2024, THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2024. THE JUDICIAL        |
| 19  | DEPARTMENT SHALL POST THE RESIDENTIAL EVICTION DATA IN A              |
| 20  | CONSPICUOUS PLACE ON THE JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT'S WEBSITE.               |
| 21  | (c) (I) AFTER RECEIVING A QUALIFIED REQUEST FROM A QUALIFIED          |
| 22  | ENTITY, THE JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT SHALL MAKE DATA FROM RESIDENTIAL      |
| 23  | FORCIBLE ENTRY AND DETAINER ACTIONS ELECTRONICALLY AVAILABLE          |
| 24  | ON AN INDIVIDUAL CASE LEVEL. A REQUEST FOR INDIVIDUAL CASE LEVEL      |
| 25  | DATA MUST NOT BE USED FOR THE PURPOSE OF IDENTIFYING INDIVIDUAL       |
| 26  | PLAINTIFFS OR TENANTS, FOR ANY ACTION AGAINST INDIVIDUAL              |
| 2.7 | PLAINTIFFS OR TENANTS OR TO ADVERTISE OR SELL ANY GOODS OR            |

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| 1  | <u>SERVICES.</u>  |
|----|---|
| 2  | (II) A QUALIFYING ENTITY SHALL AGREE TO COMPLY WITH DATA                |
| 3  | CONFIDENTIALITY AND SUPPRESSION REQUIREMENTS AS DETERMINED BY           |
| 4  | THE JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT. AT A MINIMUM, THE AGREEMENT MUST               |
| 5  | ENSURE THAT THE REQUESTING QUALIFIED ENTITY SHALL NOT DISCLOSE          |
| 6  | ANY PERSONALLY IDENTIFIABLE INFORMATION ABOUT THE PLAINTIFF OR          |
| 7  | TENANT, NOR MAKE THE DATA PUBLICLY ACCESSIBLE IN ANY WAY THAT           |
| 8  | WOULD ENABLE A THIRD PARTY TO DISCERN THE IDENTITY OF AN                |
| 9  | INDIVIDUAL PLAINTIFF OR TENANT.   |
| 10 | _   |
| 11 | (3) BEGINNING JANUARY 2025 AND EACH JANUARY THEREAFTER                  |
| 12 | Until January 2035, the judicial department shall report to the         |
| 13 | HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES JUDICIARY COMMITTEE AND THE SENATE             |
| 14 | JUDICIARY COMMITTEE, OR THEIR SUCCESSOR COMMITTEES, DURING THE          |
| 15 | JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT'S "SMART ACT" HEARING PURSUANT TO PART 2            |
| 16 | of article 7 of title 2, on the compiled residential eviction data      |
| 17 | COLLECTED AND PUBLISHED PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION IN THE                 |
| 18 | AGGREGATE FOR THE PREVIOUS CALENDAR YEAR. AT A MINIMUM, THE             |
| 19 | REPORT MUST INCLUDE THE NUMBER OF REQUESTS FOR INDIVIDUAL CASE          |
| 20 | LEVEL RESIDENTIAL EVICTION DATA PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (2)(c) OF        |
| 21 | THIS SECTION AND THE NAMES OF THE REQUESTING ENTITIES.                  |
| 22 | SECTION 2. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 13-40-110, amend               |
| 23 | (1)(a) introductory portion; and add (1)(f) as follows:                 |
| 24 | 13-40-110. Action - how commenced - report. (1) (a) An action           |
| 25 | under PURSUANT TO this article 40 is commenced by filing with the court |
| 26 | a complaint in writing describing USING THE STANDARD FORM OF            |
| 27 | EVICTION COMPLAINT AND AFFIDAVIT FOR A RESIDENTIAL TENANCY THAT         |

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| 1  | IS AVAILABLE ONLINE THROUGH THE JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT'S WEBSITE TO              |
|----|---|
| 2  | <u>DESCRIBE</u> the property with reasonable certainty; THE STREET ADDRESS    |
| 3  | AND THE ZIP CODE, LISTED SEPARATELY; the grounds for the recovery;            |
| 4  | thereof, the name of the person in possession or occupancy; a prayer for      |
| 5  | recovery of possession; and a signed affidavit that states:                   |
| 6  | (f) NOTWITHSTANDING THE REQUIREMENT TO FILE A COMPLAINT                       |
| 7  | USING THE STANDARD FORM OF EVICTION PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (1)(a)             |
| 8  | OF THIS SECTION, THE COURT SHALL ACCEPT A COMPLAINT FILED ON A                |
| 9  | DIFFERENT FORM IF THE COMPLAINT MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS                |
| 10 | <u>SECTION.</u>   |
| 11 | SECTION 3. Appropriation. (1) For the 2024-25 state fiscal                    |
| 12 | year, \$136,122 is appropriated to the judicial department for use by courts  |
| 13 | administration. This appropriation is from the general fund. To implement     |
| 14 | this act, the department may use this appropriation as follows:               |
| 15 | (a) \$128,922 for general courts administration, which amount is              |
| 16 | based on an assumption that the department will require an additional 0.9     |
| 17 | FTE; and  |
| 18 | (b) \$7,200 for capital outlay.   |
| 19 | SECTION 4. Safety clause. The general assembly finds,                         |
| 20 | determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate         |
| 21 | preservation of the public peace, health, or safety or for appropriations for |
| 22 | the support and maintenance of the departments of the state and state         |
| 23 | institutions.   |

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