

**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. 24-0743.01 Conrad Imel x2313

HOUSE BILL 24-1135

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Soper and Snyder, Bird, Evans

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Roberts and Will, Hansen, Michaelson Jenet, Priola

House Committees

Judiciary
Finance
Appropriations

Senate Committees

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 **CONCERNING OFFENSES RELATED TO REQUIREMENTS FOR OPERATING**
102 **A VEHICLE.**

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>.)

Under existing law, it is a class A traffic infraction to operate a commercial motor vehicle without a commercial driver's license, to operate a commercial motor vehicle if the operator is under 21 years of age, or to drive a commercial motor vehicle if the person has more than one driver's license. The bill makes each a class 1 misdemeanor; except that, if a person presents a valid commercial driver's license to the court

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.
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.

within 30 days, the offense is a class A traffic infraction.

The bill creates the offense of unlawful direction to operate a commercial motor vehicle. An employer who knowingly authorizes or permits an employee to operate a commercial motor vehicle without a commercial driver's license, or permits an employee who is under 21 years of age to operate a commercial motor vehicle, commits unlawful direction to operate a commercial motor vehicle, a class 1 misdemeanor traffic offense.

The bill requires a driver to comply with a search warrant to conduct a blood draw. Failure to comply with a warrant to conduct a blood draw is a misdemeanor; except that it is a class 4 felony if the violation occurred after 3 or more prior convictions, arising out of separate and distinct criminal episodes, for driving under the influence (DUI), DUI per se, or driving while ability impaired (collectively, impaired driving offenses); vehicular homicide; vehicular assault; or any combination thereof. A driver who fails to comply with a warrant to conduct a blood draw is subject to the same criminal penalties as for DUI.

Under existing law, a person whose privilege to drive was revoked for multiple convictions for any combination of impaired driving offenses must have an interlock-restricted license for 2 to 5 years. The bill requires a person whose privilege to drive was revoked following a conviction for a DUI or DUI per se to hold an interlock-restricted license for at least:

- 2 years, if the DUI or DUI per se conviction is a second conviction for any combination of impaired driving offenses;
- 3 years, if the DUI or DUI per se conviction is a third conviction for any combination of impaired driving offenses; and
- 4 years, if the DUI or DUI per se conviction is a fourth conviction for any combination of impaired driving offenses.

Under existing law, a persistent drunk driver is required to hold the interlock-restricted license for at least 2 years following reinstatement. The bill requires a persistent drunk driver to hold an interlock-restricted license for at least 3 years following a second violation for refusal to take or complete a test for the purpose of determining the alcoholic content of the driver's blood or breath upon a law enforcement officer's request.

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

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 42-2-404, **amend** (3)

3 as follows:

4 **42-2-404. Commercial driver's license - limitations - unlawful**

1 **direction to operate a commercial motor vehicle - rules.** (3) (a) In
2 addition to any applicable federal penalty concerning commercial motor
3 vehicle operators, any person who violates subsection (1) or (2) of this
4 section, or any rule or regulation promulgated by the department pursuant
5 to this part 4, commits a CLASS 1 MISDEMEANOR TRAFFIC OFFENSE;
6 EXCEPT THAT, IF A PERSON WHO VIOLATES SUBSECTION (1) OR (2) OF THIS
7 SECTION PRESENTS A VALID COMMERCIAL DRIVER'S LICENSE TO THE COURT
8 WITHIN THIRTY DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF THE VIOLATION OR AT THE
9 PERSON'S FIRST SCHEDULED COURT APPEARANCE, THE PERSON, IF
10 CONVICTED, IS GUILTY OF A class A traffic infraction.

11 (b) (I) AN EMPLOYER OR AN OFFICER OR AGENT OF AN EMPLOYER
12 SHALL NOT AUTHORIZE OR PERMIT AN EMPLOYEE TO OPERATE A
13 COMMERCIAL MOTOR VEHICLE IF THE EMPLOYER, OFFICER, OR AGENT
14 KNOWS OR REASONABLY SHOULD KNOW THAT THE EMPLOYEE DOES NOT
15 SATISFY THE REQUIREMENTS IN SUBSECTION (1) OF THIS SECTION TO
16 OPERATE A COMMERCIAL MOTOR VEHICLE.

17 (II) AN EMPLOYER, OFFICER, OR AGENT WHO VIOLATES
18 SUBSECTION (3)(b)(I) OF THIS SECTION COMMITS UNLAWFUL
19 DIRECTION TO OPERATE A COMMERCIAL MOTOR VEHICLE. UNLAWFUL
20 DIRECTION TO OPERATE A COMMERCIAL MOTOR VEHICLE IS A CLASS 1
21 MISDEMEANOR TRAFFIC OFFENSE.

22

23 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 43-2-145, **add** (2.1)
24 as follows:

25 **43-2-145. Transportation legislation review - committee -**
26 **definition - repeal.** (2.1) (a) DURING THE 2024 LEGISLATIVE INTERIM,
27 THE COMMITTEE SHALL ANALYZE THE ISSUE OF ENFORCEMENT OF

1 IMPAIRED DRIVING OFFENSES, INCLUDING SITUATIONS INVOLVING A
2 DRIVER WHO REFUSES TO TAKE OR COMPLETE A BLOOD OR BREATH TEST
3 AS REQUIRED BY LAW.

4 (b) THE COMMITTEE MAY REQUEST AND RECEIVE INPUT FROM THE
5 COLORADO STATE PATROL AND THE COLORADO TASK FORCE ON DRUNK
6 AND IMPAIRED DRIVING CREATED IN SECTION 42-4-1306 AND TAKE
7 TESTIMONY FROM INTERESTED OR KNOWLEDGEABLE PEOPLE ABOUT THE
8 ISSUE OF ENFORCEMENT OF IMPAIRED DRIVING OFFENSES AND MAY
9 OTHERWISE RESEARCH THE ISSUE.

10 (c) THE COMMITTEE MAY MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNING
11 THE ISSUE OF ENFORCEMENT OF IMPAIRED DRIVING OFFENSES DESCRIBED
12 IN THIS SUBSECTION (2.1) TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, AND, IF THE
13 COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS LEGISLATION, THE LEGISLATION IS TREATED AS
14 LEGISLATION RECOMMENDED BY AN INTERIM LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE
15 FOR PURPOSES OF ANY INTRODUCTION DEADLINES OR BILL LIMITATIONS
16 IMPOSED BY THE JOINT RULES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

17 (d) THIS SUBSECTION (2.1) IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025.

18 **SECTION 3.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 43-2-145, **add** (2.3)
19 as follows:

20 **43-2-145. Transportation legislation review - committee -**
21 **definition - repeal.** (2.3) (a) DURING THE 2024 LEGISLATIVE INTERIM,
22 THE COMMITTEE SHALL STUDY THE ISSUE OF THE APPROPRIATE PENALTY
23 FOR FAILING TO MAINTAIN MOTOR VEHICLE OR LOW-POWERED SCOOTER
24 INSURANCE AND PRESENT EVIDENCE OF INSURANCE TO A REQUESTING
25 OFFICER, AS REQUIRED IN SECTION 42-4-1409. ANY REQUIREMENT TO
26 MAINTAIN INSURANCE TO OPERATE A COMMERCIAL VEHICLE, AND THE
27 PENALTY FOR NOT MAINTAINING COMMERCIAL VEHICLE INSURANCE, IS

1 NOT WITHIN THE SCOPE OF THE STUDY REQUIRED IN THIS SUBSECTION
2 (2.3).

3 (b) AS PART OF ITS STUDY, THE COMMITTEE SHALL REQUEST INPUT
4 FROM COUNTY COURT JUDGES, THE COLORADO STATE PATROL AND OTHER
5 LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES, THE COLORADO DISTRICT ATTORNEYS'
6 COUNCIL, THE OFFICE OF STATE PUBLIC DEFENDER, PRIVATE ATTORNEYS
7 WHO DEFEND PERSONS IN ACTIONS RELATED TO MAINTAINING MOTOR
8 VEHICLE INSURANCE, VICTIMS OF PERSONS DRIVING WITHOUT INSURANCE,
9 PERSONS WHO WERE CONVICTED OF DRIVING WITHOUT INSURANCE, THE
10 DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE, AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM
11 ORGANIZATIONS IN COLORADO. UPON APPROVAL OF THE EXECUTIVE
12 COMMITTEE OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, THE COMMITTEE MAY HOLD
13 HEARINGS AWAY FROM THE CAPITOL AS PART OF THE STUDY.

14 (c) THE COMMITTEE MAY MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE
15 GENERAL ASSEMBLY CONCERNING THE APPROPRIATE PENALTY FOR
16 FAILING TO MAINTAIN INSURANCE AND PRESENT EVIDENCE OF INSURANCE
17 TO A REQUESTING OFFICER. IF THE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS
18 LEGISLATION, THE LEGISLATION IS TREATED AS LEGISLATION
19 RECOMMENDED BY AN INTERIM LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE FOR PURPOSES
20 OF ANY INTRODUCTION DEADLINES OR BILL LIMITATIONS IMPOSED BY THE
21 JOINT RULES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY. IF THE COMMITTEE DOES NOT
22 RECOMMEND LEGISLATION, THE COMMITTEE SHALL REPORT TO THE
23 GENERAL ASSEMBLY, IN WRITING, THE FINDINGS OF ITS STUDY AND ANY
24 RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE COMMITTEE. THE WRITTEN FINDINGS AND
25 RECOMMENDATIONS MAY BE INCLUDED IN THE COMMITTEE'S FINAL
26 REPORT MADE FOLLOWING ITS WORK DURING THE 2024 LEGISLATIVE
27 INTERIM.

1 (d) THIS SUBSECTION (2.3) IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025.

2 **SECTION 4. Applicability.** This act applies to offenses
3 committed on or after the effective date of this act.

4 **SECTION 5. Safety clause.** The general assembly finds,
5 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate
6 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety or for appropriations for
7 the support and maintenance of the departments of the state and state
8 institutions.