

**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. 24-0860.01 Conrad Imel x2313

**HOUSE BILL 24-1348**

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**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

101      **CONCERNING A REQUIREMENT TO SECURELY STORE A FIREARM IN A**  
102      **VEHICLE.**

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**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 knowingly leaving a firearm in an unattended vehicle unless the firearm is stored in a locked hard-sided container that is not left in plain view or that is in the locked trunk of the vehicle. Unsafe storage of a firearm in a vehicle is a civil infraction, punishable by a maximum \$500 fine.

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.*

HOUSE  
3rd Reading Unamended  
March 25, 2024

HOUSE  
Amended 2nd Reading  
March 22, 2024

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

2           **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 18-12-114.5 as  
3 follows:

4           **18-12-114.5. Secure firearm storage in a vehicle - penalty -**  
5 **definition.** (1) (a) A PERSON SHALL NOT KNOWINGLY LEAVE A HANDGUN  
6 IN AN UNATTENDED VEHICLE UNLESS THE HANDGUN IS STORED IN ANY OF  
7 THE FOLLOWING:

8           (I) A LOCKED HARD-SIDED CONTAINER THAT IS PLACED OUT OF  
9 PLAIN VIEW, INCLUDING A CONTAINER THAT IS PERMANENTLY AFFIXED TO  
10 THE VEHICLE'S INTERIOR AND NOT IN PLAIN VIEW; OR

11           (II) A LOCKED HARD-SIDED CONTAINER THAT IS IN THE LOCKED  
12 TRUNK OF THE VEHICLE OR A LOCKED RECREATIONAL VEHICLE, AS  
13 DEFINED IN SECTION 24-32-902.

14           (b) A PERSON SHALL NOT KNOWINGLY LEAVE A FIREARM THAT IS  
15 NOT A HANDGUN IN AN UNATTENDED VEHICLE UNLESS THE FIREARM IS  
16 STORED IN ANY OF THE FOLLOWING:

17           (I) A LOCKED HARD-SIDED OR SOFT-SIDED CONTAINER THAT IS  
18 PLACED OUT OF PLAIN VIEW, INCLUDING A CONTAINER THAT IS  
19 PERMANENTLY AFFIXED TO THE VEHICLE'S INTERIOR AND NOT IN PLAIN  
20 VIEW; OR

21           (II) A LOCKED HARD-SIDED OR SOFT-SIDED CONTAINER THAT IS IN  
22 THE LOCKED TRUNK OF THE VEHICLE OR A LOCKED RECREATIONAL  
23 VEHICLE, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 24-32-902.

24           (c) A FIREARM THAT IS NOT A HANDGUN THAT IS STORED IN A  
25 SOFT-SIDED CONTAINER MUST HAVE A LOCKING DEVICE INSTALLED ON THE  
26 FIREARM WHILE THE FIREARM IS STORED IN THE SOFT-SIDED CONTAINER.

1 (d) FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SUBSECTION (1), A GLOVE  
2 COMPARTMENT OR THE CENTER CONSOLE OF A VEHICLE IS NOT A LOCKED  
3 HARD-SIDED CONTAINER.

4 (2) A PERSON WHO VIOLATES SUBSECTION (1) OF THIS SECTION  
5 COMMITS UNLAWFUL STORAGE OF A FIREARM IN A VEHICLE. UNLAWFUL  
6 STORAGE OF A FIREARM IN A VEHICLE IS A CIVIL INFRACTION AND, UPON  
7 CONVICTION THEREOF, SHALL BE PUNISHED BY A FINE OF NO MORE THAN  
8 FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS.

9 (3) THIS SECTION DOES NOT APPLY TO:

10 (a) STORING AN ANTIQUE FIREARM, AS DEFINED IN 18 U.S.C. SEC.  
11 921 (a)(16), AS AMENDED;

12 (b) STORING A FIREARM THAT IS A NOT A HANDGUN IN A VEHICLE  
13 THAT IS BEING USED FOR FARM OR RANCH OPERATIONS THAT IS ON THE  
14 PERSON'S PRIVATE FARM OR RANCH. AS USED IN THIS SUBSECTION (3)(b),  
15 "FARM" AND "RANCH" HAVE THE SAME MEANINGS AS SET FORTH IN  
16 SECTION 39-1-102.

17 (c) A PERSON WHO LIVES IN A VEHICLE OR IN A RECREATIONAL  
18 VEHICLE, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 24-32-902, IN WHICH THE FIREARM IS  
19 STORED. A PERSON WHO LIVES IN A VEHICLE OR RECREATIONAL VEHICLE  
20 MUST STORE FIREARMS IN THE VEHICLE OR RECREATIONAL VEHICLE IN  
21 ACCORDANCE WITH THE STORAGE REQUIREMENT DESCRIBED IN SECTION  
22 18-12-114.

23 (d) A PEACE OFFICER;

24 (e) A PERSON WHO HOLDS A VALID RESIDENT OR OUT-OF-STATE  
25 HUNTING LICENSE WHO IS ENGAGED IN LAWFUL HUNTING ACTIVITIES;

26 (f) A PERSON ENGAGED IN THE INSTRUCTION OF HUNTER  
27 EDUCATION COURSES AND OUTREACH OFFERED BY THE DIVISION OF PARKS

1 AND WILDLIFE; AND

2 (g) AN ACTIVE MEMBER OF THE UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES  
3 WHILE ON DUTY.

4 (4) NOTWITHSTANDING THE REQUIREMENT IN SUBSECTION (1) OF  
5 THIS SECTION TO STORE A FIREARM IN A LOCKED HARD-SIDED CONTAINER,  
6 A PERSON WHO IS CONSIDERED TO HAVE A DISABILITY, AS DEFINED IN 42  
7 U.S.C. SEC. 12102, WHO STORES A FIREARM IN A LOCKED SOFT-SIDED  
8 CONTAINER DOES NOT VIOLATE THIS SECTION WITH RESPECT TO THE  
9 STORAGE OF THE FIREARM THAT IS IN THE LOCKED SOFT-SIDED CONTAINER.

10 (5) AS USED IN THIS SECTION, UNLESS THE CONTEXT OTHERWISE  
11 REQUIRES, "VEHICLE" HAS THE SAME MEANING AS SET FORTH IN SECTION  
12 42-1-102.

13 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 18-12-113, **amend**  
14 (5) as follows:

15 **18-12-113. Failure to report a lost or stolen firearm -**  
16 **exception.** (5) A person who reports a lost or stolen firearm pursuant to  
17 subsection (1) of this section is immune from criminal prosecution for an  
18 offense in this part 1 related to the storage of firearms AND FROM  
19 PROSECUTION FOR THE CIVIL INFRACTION OF UNLAWFUL STORAGE OF A  
20 FIREARM IN A VEHICLE AS DESCRIBED IN SECTION 18-12-114.5.

21 **SECTION 3.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 18-12-105.6, **amend**  
22 (2)(a) as follows:

23 **18-12-105.6. Limitation on local ordinances regarding**  
24 **firearms in private vehicles.** (2) (a) Based on the findings specified in  
25 subsection (1) of this section, the general assembly concludes that the  
26 carrying of weapons in private automobiles or other private means of  
27 conveyance for hunting or for lawful protection of a person's or another's

1 person or property while traveling into, through, or within a municipal,  
2 county, or city and county jurisdiction, regardless of the number of times  
3 the person stops in a jurisdiction, is a matter of statewide concern and,  
4 EXCEPT AS DESCRIBED IN SECTION 18-12-114.5, is not an offense.

5 **SECTION 4.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 18-12-214, **amend**  
6 (3)(a) as follows:

7 **18-12-214. Authority granted by permit - carrying restrictions**  
8 **- local authority.** (3) A permit issued pursuant to this part 2 does not  
9 authorize a person to carry a concealed handgun onto the real property,  
10 or into any improvements erected thereon, of a public elementary, middle,  
11 junior high, or high school; except that:

12 (a) A permittee may have a handgun on the real property of the  
13 public school so long as the handgun remains in ~~his or her~~ THE  
14 PERMITTEE'S vehicle and, if the permittee ~~is not in the vehicle, the~~  
15 ~~handgun is in a compartment within the vehicle and the vehicle is locked~~  
16 LEAVES THE VEHICLE UNATTENDED, THE PERMITTEE STORES THE FIREARM  
17 PURSUANT TO SECTION 18-12-114.5;

18 **SECTION 5.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 18-12-405, **amend**  
19 (2) as follows:

20 **18-12-405. Locking device required - penalty.** (2) Every  
21 licensed gun dealer shall post, in a conspicuous location on its premises  
22 and at any other location at which the dealer sells a firearm, either the  
23 notice developed as part of the firearms safe storage education campaign  
24 described in section 25-1-131 (2) or the following notice, in writing, on  
25 a printed card, with each letter at a minimum of one inch in height:

26 NOTICE  
27 Unlawful storage of a **firearm ON PREMISES YOU OWN OR**

1 CONTROL may result in imprisonment or fine. UNLAWFUL  
2 STORAGE OF A FIREARM IN A VEHICLE MAY RESULT IN A  
3 FINE.

4 SECTION 6. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 25-1-131, amend  
5 (1)(a)(I) and (2) as follows:

6 25-1-131. Firearms safe storage education campaign.

7 (1) (a) The office of suicide prevention within the department shall  
8 include on a public page of the department's website information about  
9 the following:

10 (I) The unlawful storage of a firearm offense described in section  
11 18-12-114 AND THE UNLAWFUL STORAGE OF A FIREARM IN A VEHICLE  
12 OFFENSE DESCRIBED IN SECTION 18-12-114.5;

13 (2) The department shall develop a notice intended to be displayed  
14 on the premises of a licensed gun dealer, and designed to be printed with  
15 each letter at a minimum of one inch in height, that informs firearms  
16 purchasers that unlawful storage of a firearm, INCLUDING IN A VEHICLE,  
17 may result in imprisonment or fine. The department shall make electronic  
18 copies of the notice publicly available for download from its website  
19 without charge.

20 SECTION 7. Effective date - applicability. This act takes effect  
21 January 1, 2025, and applies to offenses committed on or after said date.

22 SECTION 8. Safety clause. The general assembly finds,  
23 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate  
24 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety or for appropriations for  
25 the support and maintenance of the departments of the state and state  
26 institutions.