

Second Regular Session
Seventy-second General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO

DRAFT
10.11.19

BILL 4

LLS NO. 20-0379.01 Nicole Myers x4326

INTERIM COMMITTEE BILL

Wildfire Matters Review Committee

BILL TOPIC: "Fire Prevention & Control Employee Benefits"

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 **CONCERNING THE INCLUSION OF FIREFIGHTERS EMPLOYED BY THE**
102 **DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY IN THE DIVISION OF FIRE**
103 **PREVENTION AND CONTROL IN CERTAIN EMPLOYEE BENEFITS.**

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/>.)

Wildfire Matters Review Committee. Currently, certain employers of firefighters are required to maintain insurance to provide benefits to a firefighter if he or she has a heart and circulatory malfunction in connection with a stressful or strenuous activity related to an emergency response activity. In addition, certain employers of

*Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material to be added to existing statute.
Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.*

firefighters may make contributions into a multiple employer health trust established to provide benefits to volunteer firefighters diagnosed with certain covered cancers.

Beginning July 1, 2020, the bill adds the division of fire prevention and control in the department of public safety (division) to the definition of "employer" for the purpose of providing benefits for a heart and circulatory malfunction and to the definition of "employer" for the purpose of providing benefits for certain covered cancers.

In addition, beginning July 1, 2020, the bill expands the definition of "state trooper" for purposes of the public employees' retirement association to include all current and future employees of the division that are classified as a firefighter I through firefighter VII class titles.

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

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 29-5-301, **amend** (1)
3 as follows:

4 **29-5-301. Definitions.** As used in this part 3, unless the context
5 otherwise requires:

6 (1) "Employer" means a municipality, special district, fire
7 authority, or county improvement district that employs one or more
8 firefighters. BEGINNING JULY 1, 2020, "EMPLOYER" ALSO MEANS THE
9 DIVISION OF FIRE PREVENTION AND CONTROL CREATED IN SECTION
10 24-33.5-1201. "Employer" does not include a power authority created
11 pursuant to section 29-1-204 or a municipally owned utility.

12 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 29-5-402, **amend** (3)
13 as follows:

14 **29-5-402. Definitions.** As used in this part 4, unless the context
15 otherwise requires:

16 (3) "Employer" means a municipality, special district, fire
17 authority, or county improvement district that employs one or more
18 firefighters, part-time firefighters, or volunteer firefighters. BEGINNING
19 JULY 1, 2020, "EMPLOYER" ALSO MEANS THE DIVISION OF FIRE

1 PREVENTION AND CONTROL CREATED IN SECTION
2 24-33.5-1201."Employer" does not include a power authority created
3 pursuant to section 29-1-204 or a municipally owned utility.

4 **SECTION 3.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-51-101, **amend**
5 (46) as follows:

6 **24-51-101. Definitions.** As used in this article 51, unless the
7 context otherwise requires and except as otherwise defined in part 17 of
8 this article 51:

9 (46) "State trooper" means an employee of the Colorado state
10 patrol, Colorado bureau of investigation, or successors to these agencies,
11 who is vested with the powers of peace officers as provided for in section
12 24-33.5-409. In addition, for members who were not members, inactive
13 members, or retirees on December 31, 2019, "state trooper" includes a
14 county sheriff, undersheriff, deputy sheriff, noncertified deputy sheriff,
15 or detention officer hired by a local government division employer on or
16 after January 1, 2020, and a corrections officer classified as I through IV
17 hired by a state division employer on or after January 1, 2020. BEGINNING
18 JULY 1, 2020, "STATE TROOPER" ALSO INCLUDES AN EMPLOYEE OF THE
19 DIVISION OF FIRE PREVENTION AND CONTROL IN THE DEPARTMENT OF
20 PUBLIC SAFETY WHO IS CLASSIFIED IN THE FIREFIGHTER I THROUGH
21 FIREFIGHTER VII CLASS TITLES.

22 **SECTION 4. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds,
23 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate
24 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety. <{*A safety clause is*
25 *required for a July 1, 2020, start date.*>