

Second Regular Session  
Seventy-fifth General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 26-0461.01 Sarah Lozano x3858

HOUSE BILL 26-1034

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HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Johnson and Lukens,

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Pelton R.,

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House Committees

Agriculture, Water & Natural Resources

Senate Committees

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A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 CONCERNING MODIFICATIONS TO ENVIRONMENTAL STANDARDS FOR  
102 CERTAIN IRRIGATION EQUIPMENT.

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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>.)*

House Bill 23-1161 established environmental standards for irrigation controllers and spray sprinkler bodies that are sold or leased in the state on and after January 1, 2026, and are not specifically excluded from the federal WaterSense program (program).

The bill repeals the environmental standard for irrigation controllers. The bill also modifies the environmental standard for spray

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.*

sprinkler bodies to:

- No longer require that spray sprinkler bodies include a check valve; and
- Require that spray sprinkler bodies are certified to the program, rather than requiring that spray sprinkler bodies meet the water efficiency and performance criteria of the program.

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

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 6-7.5-102, **repeal**  
3 (10) and (38) as follows:

4 **6-7.5-102. Definitions.**

5 As used in this article 7.5, unless the context otherwise requires  
6 and except as determined by rule pursuant to section 6-7.5-106 (1):

7 ~~(10) "Check valve" means a component that is internal to a spray~~  
8 ~~sprinkler body and prevents system drainage during periods of~~  
9 ~~nonoperation.~~

10 ~~(38) "Irrigation controller" means a standalone controller, an~~  
11 ~~add-on device, or a plug-in device that is used to operate an automatic~~  
12 ~~irrigation system such as a lawn sprinkler or drip irrigation system~~  
13 ~~designed and intended for nonagricultural purposes. "Irrigation~~  
14 ~~controller" includes:~~

15 ~~(a) A soil moisture-based irrigation controller that inhibits or~~  
16 ~~allows an irrigation event based on a reading from a soil moisture sensor~~  
17 ~~mechanism; and~~

18 ~~(b) A weather-based irrigation controller that uses current weather~~  
19 ~~data as a basis for scheduling irrigation.~~

20 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 6-7.5-104, **repeal**  
21 (1)(j.7) as follows:

22 **6-7.5-104. Scope and applicability.**

1 (1) Subject to subsection (2) of this section and as further  
2 specified in section 6-7.5-105, this article 7.5 applies to the following  
3 products sold as new in Colorado:

4 (j.7) ~~Irrigation controllers;~~

5 **SECTION 3.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 6-7.5-105, **amend**  
6 (5)(k); and **repeal** (5)(h) as follows:

7 **6-7.5-105. Standards - effective dates.**

8 (5) On and after January 1, 2026, a person shall not sell, offer to  
9 sell, lease, or offer to lease any of the following new products in Colorado  
10 unless the efficiency of the new product meets or exceeds the following  
11 efficiency standards, as applicable:

12 (h) ~~Irrigation controllers must comply with the following~~  
13 ~~requirements:~~

14 ~~(I) Weather-based irrigation controllers included within the scope~~  
15 ~~of the WaterSense program product specification for weather-based~~  
16 ~~irrigation controllers must meet the water efficiency and performance~~  
17 ~~criteria and other requirements for that specification; and~~

18 ~~(II) Soil moisture-based irrigation controllers included within the~~  
19 ~~scope of the WaterSense program product specification for soil~~  
20 ~~moisture-based irrigation controllers must meet the water efficiency and~~  
21 ~~performance criteria and other requirements for that specification.~~

22 (k) Spray sprinkler bodies that are not specifically excluded from  
23 the scope of the WaterSense program product specification for spray  
24 sprinkler bodies must include an integral pressure regulator and a check  
25 valve and must meet the water efficiency and performance criteria and  
26 other requirements of MUST BE CERTIFIED TO that specification.

27 **SECTION 4. Act subject to petition - effective date -**

1     **applicability.** (1) This act takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following  
2     the expiration of the ninety-day period after final adjournment of the  
3     general assembly (August 12, 2026, if adjournment sine die is on May 13,  
4     2026); except that, if a referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1  
5     (3) of article V of the state constitution against this act or an item, section,  
6     or part of this act within such period, then the act, item, section, or part  
7     will not take effect unless approved by the people at the general election  
8     to be held in November 2026 and, in such case, will take effect on the  
9     date of the official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.

10           (2) This act applies to conduct occurring on or after the applicable  
11     effective date of this act.