

Second Regular Session  
Seventy-fifth General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO

**REENGROSSED**

*This Version Includes All Amendments  
Adopted in the House of Introduction*

LLS NO. 26-0114.02 Jacob Baus x2173

**SENATE BILL 26-031**

**SENATE SPONSORSHIP**

**Lindstedt and Rich**, Bridges, Coleman, Hinrichsen

**HOUSE SPONSORSHIP**

**Camacho and Soper**,

**Senate Committees**  
Health & Human Services

**House Committees**

**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

101 **CONCERNING THE LAWFUL USE OF A PRESCRIPTION DRUG PRODUCT**  
102 **CONTAINING A SCHEDULE I CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE.**

**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 exempts from schedule I a prescription drug product containing the schedule I controlled substance (product) if the product is:

- Approved for prescription use by the United States food and drug administration; and
- Designated or rescheduled by the United States drug enforcement agency (DEA).

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.*

SENATE  
3rd Reading Unamended  
February 24, 2026

SENATE  
Amended 2nd Reading  
February 23, 2026

The exemption applies upon the DEA's designation or rescheduling.

The bill requires that the product be controlled in Colorado in the same manner as the product is controlled by the DEA.

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

2 **SECTION 1. Legislative declaration.** The general assembly  
3 declares that it is in the best interests of the people of Colorado that  
4 health-care professionals in Colorado are able to treat patients with  
5 medicine that is approved by the federal food and drug administration for  
6 prescription use.

7 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 18-18-203, **add** (3)  
8 as follows:

9 **18-18-203. Schedule I.**

10 (3) (a) NOTWITHSTANDING SUBSECTION (1) OR (2) OF THIS  
11 SECTION, A CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE LISTED ON SCHEDULE I PURSUANT TO  
12 THIS SECTION DOES NOT INCLUDE A PRESCRIPTION DRUG PRODUCT  
13 CONTAINING THE SCHEDULE I CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE IF THE  
14 PRESCRIPTION DRUG PRODUCT IS:

15 (I) APPROVED FOR PRESCRIPTION USE BY THE FEDERAL FOOD AND  
16 DRUG ADMINISTRATION AND DESIGNATED OR RESCHEDULED BY THE  
17 FEDERAL DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION ON A SCHEDULE OTHER  
18 THAN SCHEDULE I, PURSUANT TO 21 U.S.C. SEC. 812 AND 21 CFR PART  
19 1308, OR IS EXEMPT PURSUANT TO 21 CFR PART 1308;

20 (II) DISPENSED BY A PHARMACY OR PRESCRIPTION DRUG OUTLET  
21 REGISTERED BY THE STATE OF COLORADO, OR ADMINISTERED BY A  
22 PHYSICIAN LICENSED PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 240 OF TITLE 12; AND

23 (III) POSSESSED ONLY BY A PERSON AUTHORIZED TO POSSESS A

1 CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE PURSUANT TO SECTION 18-18-302.

2 (b) A PRESCRIPTION DRUG PRODUCT CONTAINING A SCHEDULE I  
3 CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE THAT IS APPROVED FOR PRESCRIPTION USE BY  
4 THE FEDERAL FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION MUST BE CONTROLLED IN  
5 COLORADO IN THE SAME MANNER AS THE PRODUCT IS CONTROLLED BY  
6 THE FEDERAL DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION PURSUANT TO 21  
7 U.S.C. SEC. 812 AND 21 CFR PART 1308, OR IS EXEMPT PURSUANT TO 21  
8 CFR PART 1308, THE PROVISIONS SET FORTH IN PART 1 OF ARTICLE 280 OF  
9 TITLE 12, AND PART 3 OF THIS ARTICLE 18. NOTHING IN THIS SECTION  
10 EXEMPTS A PERSON FROM ANY VIOLATION OF PART 4 OF THIS ARTICLE 18.

11 (c) THE DESIGNATION OR RESCHEDULING OF A PRESCRIPTION DRUG  
12 PRODUCT IN COLORADO IS AUTOMATICALLY AND IMMEDIATELY EFFECTIVE  
13 UPON THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THE FEDERAL DRUG ENFORCEMENT  
14 ADMINISTRATION'S DESIGNATION OR RESCHEDULING PURSUANT TO 21  
15 U.S.C. SEC. 812 AND 21 CFR PART 1308, OR IS EXEMPT PURSUANT TO 21  
16 CFR PART 1308.

17 (d) (I) THIS SUBSECTION (3) DOES NOT APPLY TO, OR AFFECT THE  
18 REGULATION OF OR LAWFUL ACTIONS OR CONDUCT CONCERNING:

19 (A) NATURAL MEDICINE OR NATURAL MEDICINE PRODUCT;

20 (B) THE REGULATION OF OR LAWFUL ACTIONS OR CONDUCT  
21 PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 170 OF TITLE 12; OR

22 (C) THE REGULATION OF OR LAWFUL ACTIONS OR CONDUCT  
23 PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 50 OF TITLE 44.

24 (II) AS USED IN THIS SUBSECTION (3), UNLESS THE CONTEXT  
25 OTHERWISE REQUIRES:

26 (A) "NATURAL MEDICINE" HAS THE MEANING SET FORTH IN  
27 SECTION 12-170-104.

1           (B) "NATURAL MEDICINE PRODUCT" HAS THE MEANING SET FORTH  
2           IN SECTION 12-170-104.

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