

**Second Regular Session  
Seventy-fifth General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO**

**REREVISED**

*This Version Includes All Amendments  
Adopted in the Second House*

LLS NO. 26-0621.01 Rebecca Bayetti x4348

**HOUSE BILL 26-1023**

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**House Committees**

State, Civic, Military, & Veterans Affairs

**Senate Committees**

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**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

101      **CONCERNING CLARIFICATION OF A POLITICAL PARTY'S LIABILITY FOR**  
102                      **CERTAIN ACCESSIBILITY REQUIREMENTS RELATING TO BALLOT**  
103                      **ACCESS FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES.**

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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>.)*

Under current law, the general assembly, the secretary of state, and each political party must ensure that it remains an option for a candidate in the state to access the ballot through the caucus process or any future alternative process that is accessible to persons with disabilities. A political party must also ensure that any person, upon request, is able to

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  
April 1, 2026

SENATE  
2nd Reading Unamended  
March 31, 2026

HOUSE  
3rd Reading Unamended  
February 26, 2026

HOUSE  
Amended 2nd Reading  
February 25, 2026

participate in a precinct caucus or a party assembly with the use of a video conferencing platform or alternative means of participation. The failure of any political party to make a reasonable effort to comply with these accessibility requirements constitutes discrimination on the basis of disability in a place of public accommodation.

The bill clarifies that these duties are duties of the state political party and that a person who is subjected to a violation of a state political party's duties regarding these accessibility requirements may file suit against the state political party. An individual, including a member of or volunteer for a political party, or a local political party may not be held liable for a violation of the state political party's duties regarding these accessibility requirements.

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

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 1-1-116, **amend (2)**  
3 and (3) as follows:

4 **1-1-116. Access to precinct caucus - party assembly.**

5   
6 (2) (a) Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary, within six  
7 months of August 7, 2024, any person WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE  
8 IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF SECTION 1-3-101, upon request,  
9 must be able to participate in a precinct caucus or a party assembly with  
10 the use of a video conferencing platform ~~The political party holding the~~  
11 ~~caucus or assembly must allow participation with the use of a video~~  
12 ~~conferencing platform~~ without requiring or requesting an explanation of  
13 the need for the use of the video conferencing platform. It is in a   
14 political party's discretion to determine which video conferencing  
15 platform will be used for precinct caucuses and party assemblies so long  
16 as the platform is accessible to persons with disabilities. Each  political  
17 party shall establish policies regarding the procedure and timeline for a  
18 person to request to participate in a precinct caucus or a party assembly  
19 with the use of a video conferencing platform.

1 (b) The requirements of subsection (2)(a) of this section do not  
2 apply when a precinct caucus or party assembly occurs in a geographic  
3 location that is in an unserved area of the state, as defined in section  
4 40-15-102 (32); EXCEPT THAT ANY PERSON IN SUCH UNSERVED AREA WHO  
5 IS ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF  
6 SECTION 1-3-101, UPON REQUEST, MUST BE ABLE TO PARTICIPATE IN SUCH  
7 PRECINCT CAUCUS OR PARTY ASSEMBLY WITH THE USE OF AN  
8 ALTERNATIVE TO A VIDEO CONFERENCING PLATFORM, SUCH AS A  
9 TELEPHONE CONFERENCE CALL. THE ALTERNATIVE MEANS OF  
10 PARTICIPATION USED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS SUBSECTION (2)(b) MUST  
11 BE ACCESSIBLE TO PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES.

12 (c) ~~A political party holding a precinct caucus or party assembly~~  
13 ~~that is exempt pursuant to subsection (2)(b) of this section from the~~  
14 ~~requirements of subsection (2)(a) of this section must allow participation~~  
15 ~~with the use of an alternative to a video conferencing platform, such as~~  
16 ~~a telephone conference call. The alternative means of participation used~~  
17 ~~by a political party in accordance with this subsection (2)(c) must be~~  
18 ~~accessible to persons with disabilities.~~

19 (d) A [REDACTED] political party may require that a person request to  
20 participate in a precinct caucus or a party assembly with the use of a video  
21 conferencing platform, or an alternative to a video conferencing platform  
22 as provided in ~~subsection (2)(c)~~ SUBSECTION (2)(b) of this section, not  
23 more than thirty days in advance of the precinct caucus or party assembly.

24 (3) The failure of any [REDACTED] political party to make a reasonable  
25 effort to comply with the requirements of this section constitutes  
26 discrimination on the basis of disability in violation of ~~section 24-34-602~~  
27 SECTION 24-34-601. Any person who is subjected to a violation of this

1 section is entitled to seek all relief provided in ~~section 24-34-602~~ SECTION  
2 24-34-602 (1.5) ONLY AGAINST THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE  
3 POLITICAL PARTY HOLDING THE CAUCUS OR ASSEMBLY. AN INDIVIDUAL,  
4 INCLUDING A MEMBER OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE POLITICAL  
5 PARTY OR A VOLUNTEER FOR THE POLITICAL PARTY, MAY NOT BE HELD  
6 LIABLE FOR A VIOLATION OF THIS SECTION.

7 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-34-602, **add** (1.5)  
8 as follows:

9 **24-34-602. Penalty and civil liability.**

10 (1.5) (a) A PERSON AGGRIEVED BY A VIOLATION OF SECTION  
11 1-1-116 MAY BRING AN ACTION IN ANY COURT OF COMPETENT  
12 JURISDICTION. UPON FINDING A VIOLATION OF SECTION 1-1-116, THE  
13 PLAINTIFF IS ENTITLED TO A COURT ORDER REQUIRING COMPLIANCE WITH  
14 THE PROVISIONS OF THE APPLICABLE SECTION AND EITHER:

15 (I) THE RECOVERY OF ACTUAL MONETARY DAMAGES; OR

16 (II) A STATUTORY FINE OF THREE THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED  
17 DOLLARS, PAYABLE TO EACH PLAINTIFF FOR EACH VIOLATION.

18 (b) FOR A CLAIM BROUGHT FOR A VIOLATION OF SECTION 1-1-116,  
19 EACH CAUCUS OR ASSEMBLY IS CONSIDERED A SINGLE INCIDENT AND NOT  
20 AS SEPARATE VIOLATIONS.

21 **SECTION 3. Safety clause.** The general assembly finds,  
22 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate  
23 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety or for appropriations for  
24 the support and maintenance of the departments of the state and state  
25 institutions.