

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

REVISED

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

LLS NO. 26-0852.01 Ken Fowler x2372

HOUSE BILL 26-1318

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Nguyen and Froelich, Boesenecker, Brown, Duran, Goldstein, Hamrick, Joseph, Lindsay, Rutinel, Stewart R., Story, Willford

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Cutter,

House Committees

Transportation, Housing & Local Government

Senate Committees

Transportation & Energy

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 **CONCERNING TRAFFIC SAFETY NEAR SCHOOLS.**

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 defines "school zones" as all roadways within at least 1,000 feet of a school property boundary and adds and modifies additional corresponding definitions. The bill limits requirements the state, a county, a city and county, or a municipality must complete regarding placing and using an automated vehicle identification system along a safe route to school.

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
Amended 2nd Reading
April 27, 2026

HOUSE
3rd Reading Unamended
April 2, 2026

HOUSE
Amended 2nd Reading
March 30, 2026

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

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 42-4-615, **amend (2);**
3 **and add (4) and (5)** as follows:

4 **42-4-615. School zones - increase in penalties for moving**
5 **traffic violations.**

6 (2) (a) ~~For the purposes of AS USED IN this section, "school zone"~~
7 ~~means an area that is designated as a school zone and has~~ ALL ROADWAYS
8 WITHIN AT LEAST ONE THOUSAND FEET OF A SCHOOL PROPERTY
9 BOUNDARY; EXCEPT THAT:

10 (I) STATE HIGHWAYS, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 42-4-110.5, ARE NOT
11 INCLUDED IN A SCHOOL ZONE UNLESS DESIGNATED AS PART OF A SCHOOL
12 ZONE BY THE COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION OR BY A
13 COUNTY, CITY AND COUNTY, OR MUNICIPALITY WITH THE WRITTEN
14 APPROVAL OF THE COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION;

15 (II) A SCHOOL ZONE THAT EXISTS ON THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS
16 SUBSECTION (2) THAT EXTENDS MORE THAN TWO HUNDRED FEET FROM A
17 SCHOOL PROPERTY BOUNDARY IS THE SCHOOL ZONE FOR THAT SCHOOL
18 PROPERTY; AND

19 (III) IF A COUNTY, CITY AND COUNTY, OR MUNICIPALITY THAT HAS
20 JURISDICTION OVER A SCHOOL ZONE REDUCES THE SIZE OF THE SCHOOL
21 ZONE PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (4) OF THIS SECTION, THEN ONLY THE
22 REDUCED SCHOOL ZONE IS THE SCHOOL ZONE FOR THAT SCHOOL
23 PROPERTY.

24 (b) IF A SCHOOL ZONE EXISTING PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION
25 (2)(a)(II) OF THIS SECTION IS LESS THAN TWO HUNDRED FEET FROM A
26 SCHOOL PROPERTY, THE COUNTY, CITY AND COUNTY, OR MUNICIPALITY
27 THAT HAS JURISDICTION OVER THE SCHOOL ZONE MUST INCREASE THE

1 SCHOOL ZONE TO A MINIMUM OF TWO HUNDRED FEET.

2 (c) A SCHOOL ZONE MUST HAVE appropriate signs posted
3 indicating A SCHOOL ZONE AND INDICATING that the penalties and
4 surcharges WITHIN A SCHOOL ZONE will be doubled. The state or local
5 government having jurisdiction over the placement of traffic signs and
6 traffic control devices in ~~the~~ A school zone area shall designate ~~when~~ the
7 area ~~will be~~ deemed to be a school zone for the purposes of this section,
8 ~~In making such designation, the state or local government shall consider~~
9 ~~when increased penalties are necessary to protect the safety of school~~
10 ~~children~~ WHICH, EXCEPT IF REDUCED AS PERMITTED IN SUBSECTION (4) OF
11 THIS SECTION, MUST INCLUDE ALL ROADWAYS WITHIN ONE THOUSAND
12 FEET OF THE SCHOOL PROPERTY BOUNDARY AND SHALL POST THE SIGNS
13 REQUIRED BY THIS SECTION. FOR SCHOOL ZONES EXISTING PURSUANT TO
14 SUBSECTION (2)(a)(II) OF THIS SECTION, SIGNAGE THAT EXISTS ON THE
15 EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS SUBSECTION (2) MEETS THE SIGNAGE
16 REQUIREMENTS FOR THIS SUBSECTION.

17 (d) A COUNTY, CITY AND COUNTY, OR MUNICIPALITY SHALL
18 COMPILE A LIST OF SCHOOLS FOR WHICH IT MUST DETERMINE SCHOOL
19 ZONES FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION. A COUNTY, A CITY AND
20 COUNTY, OR MUNICIPALITY HAS THE AUTHORITY TO DETERMINE WHICH
21 SCHOOLS TO INCLUDE ON THE LIST.

22 (4) A COUNTY, CITY AND COUNTY, OR MUNICIPALITY THAT HAS
23 JURISDICTION OVER A SCHOOL ZONE MAY REDUCE THE SIZE OF THE SCHOOL
24 ZONE TO EXTEND TO LESS THAN ONE THOUSAND FEET FROM A SCHOOL
25 PROPERTY BOUNDARY BUT SHALL NOT REDUCE THE SIZE OF THE SCHOOL
26 ZONE TO LESS THAN TWO HUNDRED FEET FROM A SCHOOL PROPERTY
27 BOUNDARY. A COUNTY, CITY AND COUNTY, OR MUNICIPALITY SHALL NOT

1 REDUCE THE SIZE OF A SCHOOL ZONE WITHOUT FIRST HOLDING A PUBLIC
2 HEARING.

3 (5) NOTHING IN THIS SECTION PROHIBITS A COUNTY, CITY AND
4 COUNTY, OR MUNICIPALITY FROM INCREASING THE SIZE OF A SCHOOL ZONE
5 TO LARGER THAN ONE THOUSAND FEET FROM A SCHOOL PROPERTY
6 BOUNDARY OR, IN COLLABORATION WITH A LOCAL SCHOOL BOARD, FROM
7 RAISING REVENUE THROUGH BONDING TO FINANCE INCREASED SCHOOL
8 ZONE SIGNAGE.

9 SECTION 2. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 42-4-110.5, amend
10 (1.1)(a)(II) and (2)(g)(III); and add (1.1)(a.5) as follows:

11 42-4-110.5. Automated vehicle identification systems - school
12 buses - safe route to school - exceptions to liability - penalty -
13 contracting - limits on use of photographs and video - rules -
14 legislative declaration - definitions.

15 (1.1) As used in this section, unless the context otherwise
16 requires:

17 (a) (II) "Automated vehicle identification system" includes a
18 system used to detect a violation of part 11 of this article 4 or a local
19 speed ordinance; a system used to detect violations of traffic restrictions
20 imposed by traffic signals or traffic signs; a system used to detect the
21 overtaking of a stopped school bus with actuated visual signal lights in
22 violation of section 42-4-1903 (1)(a); A SYSTEM USED TO DETECT A
23 MOVING TRAFFIC VIOLATION IN A SCHOOL ZONE OR ALONG A SAFE ROUTE
24 TO SCHOOL; and a system used to detect violations of bus lane or bicycle
25 lane restrictions.

26 (a.5) "SAFE ROUTE TO SCHOOL" MEANS A ROADWAY THAT IS
27 FREQUENTED BY PEDESTRIANS AND BICYCLISTS ON THEIR WAY TO OR FROM

1 A NEARBY SCHOOL THAT A COUNTY, A CITY AND COUNTY, OR A
2 MUNICIPALITY DESIGNATES TO INCREASE PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLIST
3 SAFETY.

4 (2) A county, city and county, or municipality may adopt an
5 ordinance authorizing the use of an automated vehicle identification
6 system to detect violations of traffic regulations adopted by the county,
7 city and county, or municipality, or the state, a county, a city and county,
8 or a municipality may utilize an automated vehicle identification system
9 to detect traffic violations under state law, subject to the following
10 conditions and limitations and, as applicable, the requirements for state
11 highways set forth in and any rules adopted by the department of
12 transportation pursuant to subsection (2.5) of this section:

13 (g) (III) This subsection (2)(g) does not apply to an automated
14 vehicle identification system designed to detect disobedience to a traffic
15 control signal, ~~or~~ the overtaking of a school bus with actuated visual
16 signal lights, OR A MOVING VIOLATION ALONG A SAFE ROUTE TO SCHOOL

17 **SECTION 3.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add 42-4-119** as
18 follows:

19 **42-4-119. Establishment of a school street - speed limit -**
20 **definition.**

21 (1) AS USED IN THIS SECTION, "SCHOOL STREET" MEANS A PORTION
22 OF A ROADWAY IMMEDIATELY ADJACENT TO A SCHOOL PROPERTY
23 BOUNDARY THAT IS DESIGNATED AS A SCHOOL STREET.

24 (2) A COUNTY, CITY AND COUNTY, OR MUNICIPALITY MAY
25 DESIGNATE A ROADWAY AS A SCHOOL STREET; EXCEPT THAT A STATE
26 HIGHWAY, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 42-4-110.5, MUST NOT BE DESIGNATED
27 AS A SCHOOL STREET, UNLESS DESIGNATED IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION

1 42-4-615 (2).

2 (3) A COUNTY, CITY AND COUNTY, OR MUNICIPALITY SHALL NOT
3 DESIGNATE A ROADWAY THAT DIRECTLY CONNECTS TO A STATE HIGHWAY
4 AS A SCHOOL STREET WITHOUT THE WRITTEN APPROVAL OF THE
5 COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION.

6 (4) A COUNTY, CITY AND COUNTY, OR MUNICIPALITY THAT
7 DESIGNATES A ROADWAY AS A SCHOOL STREET MAY CLOSE THE SCHOOL
8 STREET TO VEHICLES.

9 (5) ALL VEHICLES TRAVELING ALONG A SCHOOL STREET SHALL
10 YIELD THE RIGHT-OF-WAY TO A PEDESTRIAN, BICYCLIST, OR
11 MICROMOBILITY USER. A BICYCLIST OR OPERATOR OF A MICROMOBILITY
12 DEVICE SHALL YIELD THE RIGHT-OF-WAY TO A PEDESTRIAN ON A SCHOOL
13 STREET.

14 (6) A STATE OR LOCAL GOVERNMENT HAVING JURISDICTION OVER
15 THE PLACEMENT OF TRAFFIC SIGNS AND TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES ON A
16 SCHOOL STREET SHALL POST CONSPICUOUS TRAFFIC SIGNS INDICATING AN
17 AREA DESIGNATED AS A SCHOOL STREET AS A SCHOOL STREET.

18 (7) THE MAXIMUM SPEED LIMIT ON A SCHOOL STREET IS TEN MILES
19 PER HOUR. A STATE OR LOCAL GOVERNMENT HAVING JURISDICTION OVER
20 THE PLACEMENT OF TRAFFIC SIGNS SHALL POST SPEED LIMIT SIGNS ON A
21 SCHOOL STREET.

22 (8) SECTIONS 42-4-801, 42-4-803, AND 42-4-805 (1) AND (2) DO
23 NOT APPLY TO SCHOOL STREETS.

24 (9) A COUNTY, CITY AND COUNTY, OR MUNICIPALITY THAT
25 DESIGNATES A ROADWAY AS A SCHOOL STREET MAY SUSPEND ADDITIONAL
26 TRAFFIC PROVISIONS ON THE SCHOOL STREET THAT ENDANGER
27 PEDESTRIANS, BICYCLISTS, OR MICROMOBILITY USERS AND FRUSTRATE

1 EASE OF PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLE MOVEMENT.

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