

Second Regular Session  
Seventy-fifth General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO

**ENGROSSED**

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

LLS NO. 26-0391.02 Richard Sweetman x4333

**HOUSE BILL 26-1255**

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**HOUSE SPONSORSHIP**

Story,

**SENATE SPONSORSHIP**

Cutter,

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**House Committees**  
Judiciary

**Senate Committees**

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**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

101      **CONCERNING PROTECTIONS FOR USERS OF ELECTRONIC MEDIA, AND,**  
102            **IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, REQUIRING AN OPERATOR OF A**  
103            **SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORM TO ENSURE THE SOCIAL MEDIA**  
104            **PLATFORM PROVIDES A STREAMLINED PROCESS TO ALLOW A**  
105            **LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY TO CONTACT THE SOCIAL MEDIA**  
106            **PLATFORM CONCERNING A SEARCH WARRANT AND REQUIRING**  
107            **AN OPERATOR TO REPORT TO A LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT**  
108            **AGENCY IF THE OPERATOR'S SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORM TAKES**  
109            **AN ADVERSE ACTION AGAINST A USER OF THE SOCIAL MEDIA**  
110            **PLATFORM.**

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**Bill Summary**

*(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does*

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.*

HOUSE  
Amended 2nd Reading  
May 1, 2026

*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 requires an operator of a social media platform (operator) to ensure that its social media platform provides a streamlined process to allow law enforcement agencies to contact the social media platform. The process must be available to law enforcement agencies at all times and make available a staffed hotline for the purposes of:

- Receiving and responding to questions about search warrants;
- Acknowledging the receipt of a search warrant within 8 hours after receipt; and
- Providing status updates on search warrant compliance to a requesting law enforcement agency.

An operator must comply with a search warrant within 24 hours if certain conditions apply. A court may reasonably extend this time if the court makes a written finding that the operator or social media platform has shown good cause for the extension and that an extension would not cause an adverse result. The bill sets forth enforcement options for the attorney general regarding operators' compliance with search warrants.

The bill also requires an operator to report to a social media platform user's (user's) local law enforcement agency within 24 hours if the operator's social media platform receives a flag or other notice that the user has posted content that:

- Threatens imminent and specific harm to themselves or another individual;
- Expresses an intention to commit an imminent and specific crime under Colorado law; or
- Attempts to entice an individual to commit an imminent and specific crime under Colorado law.

A violation of the reporting requirement is a violation of the "Colorado Consumer Protection Act".

In current law, "social media platform" is defined as an internet-based service, website, or application that satisfies certain criteria, including having more than 100,000 active users in Colorado. The bill removes this criterion.

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

2           **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 16-3-313 as  
3 follows:

1           **16-3-313. Search warrants served on social media platforms**  
2           **- process required - definitions.**

3           (1) AS USED IN THIS SECTION, UNLESS THE CONTEXT OTHERWISE  
4 REQUIRES:

5           (a) "OPERATOR" MEANS A PERSON, BUSINESS, OR OTHER LEGAL  
6 ENTITY THAT OPERATES OR PROVIDES A SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORM.

7           (b) (I) "SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORM" MEANS A PUBLIC OR SEMIPUBLIC  
8 WEBSITE, ONLINE SERVICE, ONLINE APPLICATION, OR MOBILE APPLICATION  
9 THAT:

10           (A) HAS AT LEAST ONE MILLION DISCRETE MONTHLY USERS;

11           (B) ALLOWS A USER TO CONSTRUCT A PUBLIC OR SEMIPUBLIC  
12 PROFILE FOR THE PURPOSE OF USING THE WEBSITE, SERVICE, OR  
13 APPLICATION; AND

14           (C) ALLOWS A USER TO CREATE OR POST CONTENT THAT IS  
15 VIEWABLE BY OTHER USERS, INCLUDING ON MESSAGE BOARDS, IN CHAT  
16 ROOMS, OR THROUGH LANDING PAGES OR MAIN FEEDS THAT PRESENT A  
17 USER WITH CONTENT GENERATED BY OTHER USERS OR BY ARTIFICIAL  
18 INTELLIGENCE. A WEBSITE, ONLINE SERVICE, ONLINE APPLICATION, OR  
19 MOBILE APPLICATION SHALL NOT BE DEEMED TO SATISFY THE CRITERION  
20 DESCRIBED IN THIS SUBSECTION (1)(b)(I)(C) SOLELY BECAUSE THE  
21 WEBSITE, ONLINE SERVICE, ONLINE APPLICATION, OR MOBILE APPLICATION  
22 PROVIDES THE ABILITY TO POST AND VIEW COMMENTS FOR THE PURPOSE  
23 OF RATING OR REVIEWING PRODUCTS OR SERVICES OR, IN THE CASE OF A  
24 WEBSITE, ONLINE SERVICE, ONLINE APPLICATION, OR MOBILE APPLICATION  
25 THAT PREDOMINANTLY OR EXCLUSIVELY PROVIDES NEWS, SPORTS,  
26 ENTERTAINMENT, OR E-COMMERCE CONTENT THAT IS PRESELECTED BY  
27 THE PROVIDER AND NOT USER-GENERATED, SOLELY BECAUSE THE

1 WEBSITE, ONLINE SERVICE, ONLINE APPLICATION, OR MOBILE APPLICATION  
2 HAS CHAT, COMMENT, OR INTERACTIVE FUNCTIONALITY THAT IS DIRECTLY  
3 RELATED TO, OR DEPENDENT UPON, THE PROVISION OF THAT CONTENT.

4 (II) "SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORM" INCLUDES FEATURES OR SERVICES  
5 OF A SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORM.

6 (III) "SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORM" INCLUDES AN INTERNET-BASED  
7 SERVICE OR APPLICATION IN WHICH THE PREDOMINANT OR EXCLUSIVE  
8 FUNCTION IS INTERACTIVE GAMING, VIRTUAL GAMING, OR AN ONLINE  
9 SERVICE THAT ALLOWS THE CREATION AND UPLOADING OF CONTENT FOR  
10 THE PURPOSE OF INTERACTIVE OR VIRTUAL GAMING, AS DESCRIBED IN  
11 SECTION 6-1-1601 (4)(b)(VII).

12 (IV) "SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORM" DOES NOT INCLUDE A SERVICE OR  
13 APPLICATION THAT:

14 (A) IS USED TO FACILITATE COMMUNICATION WITHIN A BUSINESS  
15 OR ENTERPRISE AMONG EMPLOYEES OR AFFILIATES OF THE BUSINESS OR  
16 ENTERPRISE, SO LONG AS ACCESS TO THE SERVICE OR APPLICATION IS  
17 RESTRICTED TO EMPLOYEES OR AFFILIATES OF THE BUSINESS OR  
18 ENTERPRISE USING THE SERVICE OR APPLICATION; OR

19 (B) HAS THE EXCLUSIVE PURPOSES OF OFFERING THE COMMERCIAL  
20 SALE OF GOODS AND FACILITATING COMMERCIAL TRANSACTIONS BETWEEN  
21 BUYERS AND SELLERS, SO LONG AS THE SERVICE OR APPLICATION IS NOT  
22 A FEATURE OR SERVICE OF, OR OTHERWISE ASSOCIATED OR AFFILIATED  
23 WITH, A SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORM.

24 (c) "USER" MEANS A USER OF A SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORM IN  
25 COLORADO WHO IS NOT ACTING AS AN OPERATOR, OR AN AGENT OR  
26 AFFILIATE OF AN OPERATOR, OF THE SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORM OR ANY  
27 PORTION OF THE SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORM.

1 (2) AN OPERATOR SHALL ENSURE THAT ITS SOCIAL MEDIA  
2 PLATFORM PROVIDES A STREAMLINED PROCESS TO ALLOW LAW  
3 ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES TO CONTACT THE SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORM. THE  
4 PROCESS MUST, AT A MINIMUM:

5 (a) BE AVAILABLE TO LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES AT ALL TIMES;  
6 AND

7 (b) MAKE AVAILABLE AT ALL TIMES A STAFFED HOTLINE FOR LAW  
8 ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS FOR THE PURPOSES OF:

9 (I) RECEIVING AND RESPONDING TO QUESTIONS ABOUT SEARCH  
10 WARRANTS;

11 (II) ACKNOWLEDGING THE RECEIPT OF A SEARCH WARRANT WITHIN  
12 EIGHT HOURS AFTER RECEIPT; AND

13 (III) PROVIDING STATUS UPDATES ON SEARCH WARRANT  
14 COMPLIANCE TO A REQUESTING LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY.

15 (3) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (4) OF THIS SECTION OR  
16 ANY OTHER LAW, INCLUDING SECTION 32 OF ARTICLE II OF THE STATE  
17 CONSTITUTION; THE "COLORADO PRIVACY ACT", PART 13 OF ARTICLE 1 OF  
18 TITLE 6; SECTION 16-3-301 (4); AND THE "REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH EQUITY  
19 ACT", PART 4 OF ARTICLE 6 OF TITLE 25, AN OPERATOR SHALL COMPLY  
20 WITH A SEARCH WARRANT WITHIN TWENTY-FOUR HOURS AFTER RECEIVING  
21 THE SEARCH WARRANT IF ALL OF THE FOLLOWING APPLY:

22 (a) THE SEARCH WARRANT IS PROVIDED TO THE OPERATOR OR THE  
23 OPERATOR'S SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORM BY A LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY;

24 (b) THE SUBJECT OF THE SEARCH WARRANT IS INFORMATION  
25 ASSOCIATED WITH A USER'S ACCOUNT ON A SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORM  
26 OPERATED BY THE OPERATOR; AND

27 (c) THE INFORMATION IS CONTROLLED BY A USER OR OPERATOR OF

1 THE SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORM.

2 (4) A COURT MAY REASONABLY EXTEND THE TIME REQUIRED TO  
3 COMPLY WITH A SEARCH WARRANT ISSUED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (3)  
4 OF THIS SECTION IF THE COURT MAKES A WRITTEN FINDING THAT THE  
5 OPERATOR OR SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORM HAS SHOWN GOOD CAUSE FOR THE  
6 EXTENSION AND THAT AN EXTENSION WOULD NOT CAUSE AN ADVERSE  
7 RESULT, AS DEFINED IN 18 U.S.C. SEC. 2705 (a)(2).

8 (5) ON OR AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS SECTION, IF IT  
9 APPEARS TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL OR A DISTRICT ATTORNEY, UPON  
10 COMPLAINT OR OTHERWISE, THAT ANY PERSON WITHIN OR OUTSIDE THE  
11 STATE HAS VIOLATED THIS SECTION, THE ATTORNEY GENERAL OR DISTRICT  
12 ATTORNEY MAY BRING AN ACTION OR PROCEEDING TO:

- 13 (a) ENJOIN THE VIOLATION;
- 14 (b) OBTAIN RESTITUTION OF ANY MONEY OR PROPERTY OBTAINED  
15 DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY AS A RESULT OF THE VIOLATION;
- 16 (c) OBTAIN DISGORGEMENT OF ANY PROFITS OR GAINS OBTAINED  
17 DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY AS A RESULT OF THE VIOLATION;
- 18 (d) OBTAIN DAMAGES CAUSED DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY BY THE  
19 VIOLATION;
- 20 (e) OBTAIN CIVIL PENALTIES OF UP TO TWO HUNDRED FIFTY  
21 THOUSAND DOLLARS PER VIOLATION; AND
- 22 (f) OBTAIN SUCH OTHER RELIEF AS THE COURT MAY DEEM PROPER,  
23 INCLUDING PRELIMINARY RELIEF.

24 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 6-1-1602 as  
25 follows:

26 **6-1-1602. Social media platforms - duty to report adverse**  
27 **actions to local law enforcement agency - definitions - rules.**

1 (1) AS USED IN THIS SECTION, UNLESS THE CONTEXT OTHERWISE  
2 REQUIRES:

3 (a) "ADVERSE ACTION" MEANS AN ACTION TAKEN BY A SOCIAL  
4 MEDIA PLATFORM AFTER HUMAN REVIEW AGAINST A USER IN RESPONSE TO  
5 THE USER POSTING CONTENT THAT IS AVAILABLE TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC  
6 IN VIOLATION OF THE SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORM'S POLICIES CONCERNING  
7 SPECIFIC OR IMMINENT THREATS. "ADVERSE ACTION" INCLUDES A  
8 RESTRICTION, SUSPENSION, OR TERMINATION OF A USER'S ACCOUNT ON A  
9 SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORM.

10 (b) "LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY" MEANS EITHER:

11 (I) THE MUNICIPAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY OF THE  
12 MUNICIPALITY IN WHICH A USER RESIDES; OR

13 (II) THE COUNTY SHERIFF OF THE COUNTY IN WHICH A USER  
14 RESIDES.

15 (c) "OPERATOR" MEANS A PERSON, BUSINESS, OR OTHER LEGAL  
16 ENTITY THAT OPERATES OR PROVIDES A SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORM.

17 (d) "SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORM" HAS THE MEANING SET FORTH IN  
18 SECTION 6-1-1601 (4).

19 (e) "USER" MEANS A USER OF A SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORM IN  
20 COLORADO WHO IS NOT ACTING AS AN OPERATOR, OR AN AGENT OR  
21 AFFILIATE OF AN OPERATOR, OF THE SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORM OR ANY  
22 PORTION OF THE SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORM.

23 (2) NOT LATER THAN TWENTY-FOUR HOURS AFTER A SOCIAL MEDIA  
24 PLATFORM TAKES AN ADVERSE ACTION AGAINST A USER, THE OPERATOR  
25 OF THE SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORM SHALL REPORT THE ADVERSE ACTION TO  
26 THE LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY, INCLUDING THE CONTENT IN  
27 QUESTION THAT WAS ALLEGEDLY POSTED BY THE USER.

1           (3) A PERSON THAT VIOLATES THIS SECTION COMMITS AN UNFAIR  
2 OR DECEPTIVE TRADE PRACTICE, AS DESCRIBED IN SECTION 6-1-105  
3 (1)(qqqq).

4           (4) THE ATTORNEY GENERAL MAY ADOPT RULES FOR THE PURPOSE  
5 OF CARRYING OUT THIS SECTION.

6           **SECTION 3.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 6-1-105, **add**  
7 (1)(qqqq) as follows:

8           **6-1-105. Unfair or deceptive trade practices - definitions.**

9           (1) A person engages in a deceptive trade practice when, in the  
10 course of the person's business, vocation, or occupation, the person:

11           (qqqq) VIOLATES SECTION 6-1-1602.

12           **SECTION 4.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 6-1-1601, **amend**  
13 (4)(a)(I) as follows:

14           **6-1-1601. Social media platform - youth users - definition.**

15           (4) (a) As used in this section, "social media platform" means an  
16 internet-based service, website, or application that:

17           (I) Has ONE OR more ~~than one hundred thousand~~ active users in  
18 Colorado;

19           **SECTION 5.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 16-3-313, **amend as**  
20 **added by Senate Bill 26-011** (4) introductory portion and (7)(e) as  
21 follows:

22           **16-3-313. Search warrants provided to covered platforms -**  
23 **process required - enforcement - severability - definitions.**

24           (4) Except as provided in subsection (5) of this section, or any  
25 other law, including section 32 of article II of the state constitution; the  
26 "Colorado Privacy Act", part 13 of article 1 of title 6; section 16-3-301  
27 (4); and the "Reproductive Health Equity Act", part 4 of article 6 of title

1 25, an operator shall comply with a search warrant within ~~seventy-two~~  
2 TWENTY-FOUR hours after receiving the search warrant if all of the  
3 following apply:

4 (7) On or after the effective date of this section, if it appears to the  
5 attorney general or to a district attorney with jurisdiction, upon complaint  
6 or otherwise, that a person within or outside the state has violated this  
7 section, in addition to seeking any other relief available under this part 3,  
8 the attorney general or district attorney may bring an action or proceeding  
9 to:

10 (e) Obtain civil penalties of up to ~~five thousand~~ TWO HUNDRED  
11 FIFTY THOUSAND dollars per violation; and

12 **SECTION 6. Act subject to petition - effective date.** (1) Except  
13 as provided in subsection (2) of this section, this act takes effect at 12:01  
14 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the ninety-day period after  
15 final adjournment of the general assembly (August 12, 2026, if  
16 adjournment sine die is on May 13, 2026); except that, if a referendum  
17 petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V of the state  
18 constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this act within  
19 such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take effect unless  
20 approved by the people at the general election to be held in November  
21 2026 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the official  
22 declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.

23 (2) Section 16-3-313, Colorado Revised Statutes, as amended in  
24 section 5 of this act, takes effect only if Senate Bill 26-011 becomes law,  
25 in which case section 5 of this act takes effect on the applicable effective  
26 date of this act or Senate Bill 26-011, whichever is later.