

Second Regular Session
Seventy-fifth General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO

PREAMENDED

*This Unofficial Version Includes Committee
Amendments Not Yet Adopted on Second Reading*

LLS NO. 26-0391.02 Richard Sweetman x4333

HOUSE BILL 26-1255

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Story, Bacon, Duran, Garcia, Goldstein, Hamrick, Joseph, Lieder, Lindsay, Nguyen, Titone,
Willford

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Cutter,

House Committees
Judiciary

Senate Committees
Judiciary

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.**

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
3rd Reading Unamended
May 4, 2026

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.

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

14 (c) "USER" MEANS A USER OF A SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORM IN
15 COLORADO WHO IS NOT ACTING AS AN OPERATOR, OR AN AGENT OR
16 AFFILIATE OF AN OPERATOR, OF THE SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORM OR ANY
17 PORTION OF THE SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORM.

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

22 (a) BE AVAILABLE TO LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES AT ALL TIMES;

23

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

26 (I) RECEIVING AND RESPONDING TO QUESTIONS ABOUT SEARCH
27 WARRANTS;

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

3 (III) PROVIDING STATUS UPDATES ON SEARCH WARRANT
4 COMPLIANCE TO A REQUESTING LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY; AND

5 (c) REQUIRE A LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY THAT ACCESSES THE
6 STAFFED HOTLINE ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (2)(b) OF THIS
7 SUBSECTION TO PROVIDE, PRIOR TO OR CONTEMPORANEOUSLY WITH ANY
8 REQUEST FOR USER INFORMATION OR SEARCH WARRANT COMPLIANCE, A
9 SWORN WRITTEN AFFIRMATION ATTESTING THAT:

10 (I) THE REQUEST IS NOT MADE IN CONNECTION WITH AN
11 INVESTIGATION INTO CONDUCT THAT CONSTITUTES LEGALLY PROTECTED
12 HEALTH-CARE ACTIVITY, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 12-30-121 (1)(d); AND

13 (II) THE REQUESTING AGENCY HAS NOT RECEIVED, AND IS NOT
14 ACTING ON BEHALF OF, A REQUEST FROM AN OUT-OF-STATE LAW
15 ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITY SEEKING INFORMATION RELATED TO LEGALLY
16 PROTECTED HEALTH-CARE ACTIVITY UNDER COLORADO LAW. AN
17 OPERATOR THAT RECEIVES AN AFFIRMATION PURSUANT TO THIS
18 SUBSECTION (2)(c) SHALL RETAIN THE AFFIRMATION FOR AT LEAST THREE
19 YEARS.

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

27 (a) THE SEARCH WARRANT IS PROVIDED TO THE OPERATOR OR THE

1 OPERATOR'S SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORM BY A LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY;

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

5 (c) THE INFORMATION IS CONTROLLED BY A USER OR OPERATOR OF
6 THE SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORM.

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

13 (5) ON OR AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS SECTION, IF IT
14 APPEARS TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL OR A DISTRICT ATTORNEY, UPON
15 COMPLAINT OR OTHERWISE, THAT ANY PERSON WITHIN OR OUTSIDE THE
16 STATE HAS VIOLATED THIS SECTION, THE ATTORNEY GENERAL OR DISTRICT
17 ATTORNEY MAY BRING AN ACTION OR PROCEEDING TO:

18 (a) ENJOIN THE VIOLATION;

19 (b) OBTAIN RESTITUTION OF ANY MONEY OR PROPERTY OBTAINED
20 DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY AS A RESULT OF THE VIOLATION;

21 (c) OBTAIN DISGORGEMENT OF ANY PROFITS OR GAINS OBTAINED
22 DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY AS A RESULT OF THE VIOLATION;

23 (d) OBTAIN DAMAGES CAUSED DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY BY THE
24 VIOLATION;

25 (e) OBTAIN CIVIL PENALTIES OF UP TO TWO HUNDRED FIFTY
26 THOUSAND DOLLARS PER VIOLATION; AND

27 (f) OBTAIN SUCH OTHER RELIEF AS THE COURT MAY DEEM PROPER,

1 INCLUDING PRELIMINARY RELIEF.

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

4 **6-1-1602. Social media platforms - duty to report adverse**
5 **actions to local law enforcement agency - definitions - rules.**

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

8 (a)(I) "ADVERSE ACTION" MEANS A RESTRICTION, SUSPENSION, OR
9 TERMINATION OF A USER'S ACCOUNT ON A SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORM AFTER
10 HUMAN REVIEW, WHICH RESTRICTION, SUSPENSION, OR TERMINATION IS
11 IMPLEMENTED AGAINST A USER IN RESPONSE TO THE USER POSTING
12 CONTENT THAT IS AVAILABLE TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC IN VIOLATION OF
13 THE SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORM'S POLICIES CONCERNING SPECIFIC OR
14 IMMINENT THREATS.

15 (II) "ADVERSE ACTION" DOES NOT INCLUDE AN ACTION TAKEN
16 SOLELY IN RESPONSE TO CONTENT THAT CONSTITUTES, DESCRIBES,
17 FACILITATES, OR DISCUSSES LEGALLY PROTECTED HEALTH-CARE ACTIVITY
18 AS DEFINED IN SECTION 12-30-121 (1)(d), INCLUDING DISCUSSION OF,
19 REFERRAL TO, OR ASSISTANCE WITH OBTAINING REPRODUCTIVE
20 HEALTH-CARE SERVICES THAT ARE LAWFUL UNDER COLORADO LAW.

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

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

24 (II) THE COUNTY SHERIFF OF THE COUNTY IN WHICH A USER
25 RESIDES.

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

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

3 (e) "USER" MEANS A USER OF A SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORM IN
4 COLORADO WHO IS NOT ACTING AS AN OPERATOR, OR AN AGENT OR
5 AFFILIATE OF AN OPERATOR, OF THE SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORM OR ANY
6 PORTION OF THE SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORM.

7 (2) (a) NOT LATER THAN TWENTY-FOUR HOURS AFTER A SOCIAL
8 MEDIA PLATFORM TAKES AN ADVERSE ACTION AGAINST A USER, THE
9 OPERATOR OF THE SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORM SHALL REPORT THE ADVERSE
10 ACTION TO THE LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY, INCLUDING THE
11 CONTENT IN QUESTION THAT WAS ALLEGEDLY POSTED BY THE USER.

12 (b) NOTWITHSTANDING SUBSECTION (2)(a) OF THIS SECTION, AN
13 OPERATOR SHALL NOT REPORT AN ADVERSE ACTION TO A LOCAL LAW
14 ENFORCEMENT AGENCY IF THE OPERATOR HAS A GOOD FAITH BELIEF THAT
15 THE CONTENT AT ISSUE CONSTITUTES LEGALLY PROTECTED HEALTH-CARE
16 ACTIVITY AS DEFINED IN SECTION 12-30-121 (1)(d).

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

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

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

24 **6-1-105. Unfair or deceptive trade practices - definitions.**

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

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

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

3 **6-1-1601. Social media platform - youth users - definition.**

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

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

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

11 **16-3-313. Search warrants provided to covered platforms -**
12 **process required - enforcement - severability - definitions.**

13 (4) Except as provided in subsection (5) of this section, or any
14 other law, including section 32 of article II of the state constitution; the
15 "Colorado Privacy Act", part 13 of article 1 of title 6; section 16-3-301
16 (4); and the "Reproductive Health Equity Act", part 4 of article 6 of title
17 25, an operator shall comply with a search warrant within ~~seventy-two~~
18 **TWENTY-FOUR** hours after receiving the search warrant if all of the
19 following apply:

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

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

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

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