A BILL FOR AN ACT

CONCERNING AMENDMENTS TO THE COLORADO DISASTER EMERGENCY ACT TO ADDRESS ALL PHASES OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT.

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 updates the Colorado disaster emergency act to include provisions related specifically to recovery, mitigation, and resiliency and to establish the roles and responsibilities of state and local agencies at all stages of emergency management. Section 3 of the bill adds language defining the stages of response and recovery, as well as definitions of
emergency, resiliency, and mitigation. **Section 4** allows the governor to convene a disaster policy group to coordinate the response and recovery from disaster emergencies. If the governor convenes the policy group, the governor is required to appoint a chair and to delegate to the chair the authority to manage cross-departmental and interjurisdictional coordination of recovery efforts.

**Sections 5 and 21** repeal and relocate existing language establishing the governor's expert emergency epidemic response committee, update the language to reflect amendments throughout the bill, and add the executive director of the department of local affairs or his or her designee to the committee.

The bill creates the Colorado resiliency office in the division of local government within the department of local affairs in **sections 17 and 18**. The office is required to develop a resiliency and community recovery program for the state that must address coordination among state and local agencies and risk and vulnerability reduction. The office is required to consult with other state agencies and stakeholders in developing the program.

**Sections 6, 8, 9, 10, 12, 13, and 14** amend existing statutes concerning disaster planning and response at the state and local level to include references to recovery, mitigation, and preparedness. The requirement for a state disaster plan is amended to require a comprehensive emergency management program that addresses preparation, prevention, mitigation, response, and recovery from emergencies and disasters.

Local and interjurisdictional disaster agencies are renamed as emergency management agencies. The emergency management agencies are required to develop a local or interjurisdictional plan that includes provisions for preparation, prevention, mitigation, response, and recovery from emergencies and disasters. Agencies may incorporate by reference existing locally adopted plans, plans approved by the office of emergency management or the federal emergency management agency, and other relevant plans.

**Section 15** amends a requirement in existing law that the governor consider steps that could be taken on a continuing basis to prevent and reduce the harmful consequences of disasters and adds language requiring the governor to also consider mitigation and recovery from disasters.

**Sections 16, 19, and 20** make conforming amendments.

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1 Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:
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3 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, amend 24-33.5-701 as follows:

-2- 1394
24-33.5-701. Short title. The short title of this part 7 shall be known and may be cited as IS the "Colorado Disaster Emergency Act".

SECTION 2. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-33.5-702, amend (1)(a), (1)(c), and (1)(g) as follows:

24-33.5-702. Purposes and limitations. (1) The purposes of this part 7 are to:

(a) Reduce vulnerability of people and communities of this state to damage, injury, and loss of life and property resulting from all-hazards, including natural catastrophes or catastrophes of human origin, civil disturbance, or hostile military or paramilitary action;

(c) Provide a setting conducive to the rapid and orderly start of recovery, restoration, and rehabilitation of persons and property affected by disasters;

(g) Provide a disaster and emergency management system embodying all aspects of predisaster PRE-DISASTER and pre-emergency preparedness, prevention, mitigation, and postdisaster POST-DISASTER and postemergency POST-EMERGENCY response and recovery; and

SECTION 3. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-33.5-703, amend (2); and add (3.5), (4.3), (4.5), (7.3), (7.5), and (7.7) as follows:

24-33.5-703. Definitions. As used in this part 7, unless the context otherwise requires:

(2) "Committee" means the governor's expert emergency epidemic response committee created in section 24-33.5-704.

(3.5) "EMERGENCY" MEANS AN UNEXPECTED EVENT THAT PLACES LIFE OR PROPERTY IN DANGER AND REQUIRES AN IMMEDIATE RESPONSE THROUGH THE USE OF STATE AND COMMUNITY RESOURCES AND
PROCEDURES.

(4.3) "EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT" MEANS THE ACTIONS TAKEN TO PREPARE FOR, RESPOND TO, AND RECOVER FROM EMERGENCIES AND DISASTERS AND MITIGATE AGAINST CURRENT AND FUTURE RISK.

(4.5) "Mitigation" means the sustained action to reduce or eliminate risk to people and property from hazards and their effects.

(7.3) "Recovery" means the short, intermediate, and long-term actions taken to restore community functions, services, vital resources, facilities, programs, continuity of local government services and functions, and infrastructure to the affected area.

(7.5) "Resiliency" means the ability of communities to rebound, positively adapt to, or thrive amidst changing conditions or challenges, including human-caused and natural disasters, and to maintain quality of life, healthy growth, durable systems, economic vitality, and conservation of resources for present and future generations.

(7.7) "Response" means the actions taken directly following the onset of an emergency or disaster to provide immediate assistance to maintain life, improve health, protect property, restore essential functions, and ensure the security of the affected population.

SECTION 4. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-33.5-704, amend (4); and add (6.5) as follows:

24-33.5-704. The governor and disaster emergencies - response - recovery - duties and limitations. (4) A disaster emergency shall be
declared by executive order or proclamation of the governor if the
governor finds a disaster has occurred or that this occurrence or the threat
thereof is imminent. The state of disaster emergency shall continue until
the governor finds that the threat of danger has passed or that the disaster
has been dealt with to the extent that emergency conditions no longer
exist and the governor terminates the state of disaster emergency by
executive order or proclamation, but no state of disaster emergency may
continue for longer than thirty days unless renewed by the governor. The
general assembly, by joint resolution, may terminate a state of disaster
emergency at any time. Thereupon, the governor shall issue an executive
order or proclamation ending the state of disaster emergency. All
executive orders or proclamations issued under this subsection (4) shall
indicate the nature of the disaster, the area threatened, and the conditions
which have brought it about or which make possible
termination of the state of disaster emergency. An executive order or
proclamation shall be disseminated promptly by means calculated to bring
its contents to the attention of the general public and, unless the
circumstances attendant upon the disaster prevent or impede, shall be
promptly filed with the office of emergency management IN THE DIVISION
OF HOMELAND SECURITY AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT, the secretary
of state, and the county clerk and recorder, and disaster EMERGENCY
MANAGEMENT agencies in the area to which it applies.

(6.5) (a) DURING THE RESPONSE TO OR RECOVERY FROM ANY
STATE OF DISASTER EMERGENCY, THE GOVERNOR MAY CONVENE A
DISASTER POLICY GROUP IF NEEDED TO EFFECTIVELY AND EFFICIENTLY
COORDINATE POLICY-LEVEL DECISION-MAKING AND TO ADVISE THE
GOVERNOR ON THE RESPONSE TO AND RECOVERY FROM THE EVENT. THE
POLICY GROUP MUST INCLUDE A REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE DEPARTMENT
OF LOCAL AFFAIRS AND APPROPRIATE STATE AGENCIES INVOLVED IN THE
RESPONSE AND RECOVERY EFFORT.

(b) If the Governor convenes a disaster policy group
pursuant to subsection (6.5)(a) of this section, the Governor
shall appoint a chair and shall delegate to the chair the
authority to manage cross-departmental and
interjurisdictional coordination for recovery efforts.

SECTION 5. In Colorado Revised Statutes, add with amended
and relocated provisions 24-33.5-704.5 as follows:

24-33.5-704.5. Governor's expert emergency epidemic
response committee - creation. (1) [Similar to 24-33.5-704
(8)] (a) There is hereby created a governor's expert emergency
epidemic response committee. The committee shall:

(I) Meet at least annually to review and amend, as
necessary, the supplement to the state comprehensive
emergency management program created in section 24-33.5-705
(2) that is concerned with the public health response to acts of
bioterrorism, pandemic influenza, and epidemics caused by novel
and highly fatal infectious agents; and

(II) Provide expert public health advice to the governor
in the event of an emergency epidemic.

(b) (I) State members of the committee include:

(A) The executive director of the department of public
health and environment;

(B) The chief medical officer of the department of public
health and environment;
(C) The chief public information officer of the Department of Public Health and Environment;

(D) The emergency response coordinator for the Department of Public Health and Environment;

(E) The state epidemiologist for the Department of Public Health and Environment;

(F) The attorney general or the attorney general's designee;

(G) The president of the state board of health or the president's designee;

(H) The president of the state medical society or the president's designee;

(I) The president of the Colorado Health and Hospital Association or the president's designee;

(J) The state veterinarian of the Department of Agriculture;

(K) The director of the Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management; and

(L) The executive director of the Department of Local Affairs or the executive director's designee.

(II) In addition to the state members of the committee, the governor shall appoint to the committee an individual from each of the following categories:

(A) A licensed physician who specializes in infectious diseases;

(B) A licensed physician who specializes in emergency medicine;
(C) A medical examiner;
(D) A specialist in post-traumatic stress management;
(E) A director of a county, district, or municipal public health agency;
(F) A hospital infection control practitioner;
(G) A wildlife disease specialist with the division of wildlife; and
(H) A pharmacist member of the state board of pharmacy.

(III) The executive director of the department of public health and environment shall serve as the chair of the committee. A majority of the membership of the committee, not including vacant positions, constitutes a quorum.

(IV) The executive director of the department of public safety or the executive director’s designee shall serve as an ex officio member of the committee and is not able to vote on decisions of the committee. He or she shall serve as a liaison between the committee and the emergency planning subcommittee of the homeland security and all-hazards senior advisory committee created in section 24-33.5-1614 (3.5) in the event of an emergency epidemic.

(c) The committee shall include in the supplement to the state disaster plan a proposal for the prioritization, allocation, storage, protection, and distribution of antibiotic medicines, antiviral medicines, antidotes, and vaccines that may be needed and in short supply in the event of an emergency epidemic.

(d) The committee shall convene at the call of the governor or the executive director of the department of public health.
HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT TO CONSIDER EVIDENCE PRESENTED BY THE DEPARTMENT'S CHIEF MEDICAL OFFICER OR STATE EPIDEMIOLOGIST THAT THERE IS AN OCCURRENCE OR IMMINENT THREAT OF AN EMERGENCY EPIDEMIC. IF THE COMMITTEE FINDS THAT THERE IS AN OCCURRENCE OR IMMINENT THREAT OF AN EMERGENCY EPIDEMIC, THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT SHALL ADVISE THE GOVERNOR TO DECLARE A DISASTER EMERGENCY.

(e) In the event of an emergency epidemic that has been declared a disaster emergency, the committee shall convene as rapidly and as often as necessary to advise the governor, who shall act by executive order, regarding reasonable and appropriate measures to reduce or prevent spread of the disease, agent, or toxin and to protect the public health. Such measures may include:

(I) Procuring or taking supplies of medicines and vaccines;

(II) Ordering physicians and hospitals to transfer or cease admission of patients or perform medical examinations of persons;

(III) Isolating or quarantining persons or property;

(IV) Determining whether to seize, destroy, or decontaminate property or objects that may threaten the public health;

(V) Determining how to safely dispose of corpses and infectious waste;

(VI) Assessing the adequacy and potential contamination of food and water supplies;

(VII) Providing mental health support to affected
PERSONS; AND

(VIII) INFORMING THE CITIZENS OF THE STATE HOW TO PROTECT THEMSELVES, WHAT ACTIONS ARE BEING TAKEN TO CONTROL THE EPIDEMIC, AND WHEN THE EPIDEMIC IS OVER.


SECTION 6. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-33.5-705, amend (1), (2), (3), (4), and (5) as follows:

24-33.5-705. Office of emergency management - creation. (1) (a) There is hereby created in the division of homeland security and emergency management The office of emergency management is CREATED WITHIN THE DIVISION OF HOME LAND SECURITY AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY. THE OFFICE OF
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT EXERCISES ITS POWERS, DUTIES, AND
FUNCTIONS AS A TYPE 2 ENTITY, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 24-1-105.
Pursuant to section 13 of article XII of the state constitution, the director
of the division of homeland security and emergency management shall
appoint a director as head of the office of emergency management.

(b) The office of emergency management and the office of the
director thereof shall exercise their powers and perform their duties and
functions under the department and the executive director as if the same
were transferred to the department by a type 2 transfer, as such transfer
is defined in the "Administrative Organization Act of 1968", article 1 of
this title:

(2) The office of emergency management shall prepare, maintain,
and keep current a state disaster plan that complies with all applicable
federal and state regulations CREATE A COMPREHENSIVE EMERGENCY
MANAGEMENT PROGRAM THAT INCLUDES POLICIES, PLANS, AND
PROCEDURES THAT ADDRESS THE PREPARATION, PREVENTION, MITIGATION,
RESPONSE, AND RECOVERY FROM EMERGENCIES AND DISASTERS. THE
OFFICE SHALL PREPARE, MAINTAIN, AND KEEP THE PROGRAM CURRENT IN
ORDER TO MEET THE NEEDS OF THE STATE.

(3) The office of emergency management shall take part in the
development and revision of local and interjurisdictional disaster
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT plans prepared under section 24-33.5-707. To
this end the office of emergency management shall employ or otherwise
secure the services of professional and technical personnel capable of
providing expert assistance to political subdivisions, their disaster
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT agencies and interjurisdictional planning and
disaster agencies. Such personnel shall consult with political subdivisions
and disaster EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT agencies and shall make field examinations.

(4) In preparing and revising the state disaster plan EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PROGRAM, the office of emergency management may seek the advice and SHALL ENSURE A PARTICIPATORY PROCESS THAT INCLUDES THE assistance of local government, business, labor, industry, agriculture, civic and volunteer organizations, ACADEMIA, OTHER STATE GOVERNMENT AGENCIES, and community leaders.

(5) The state disaster plan EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PROGRAM or any part thereof may be incorporated in regulations of the office of emergency management or executive orders that have the force and effect of law.

SECTION 7. In Colorado Revised Statutes, add 24-33.5-705.2 as follows:

24-33.5-705.2. Resiliency and community recovery program. SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE GRANT FUNDING, THE COLORADO RESILIENCY OFFICE CREATED IN SECTION 24-32-121 SHALL CREATE A RESILIENCY AND COMMUNITY RECOVERY PROGRAM AS PROVIDED IN SECTION 24-32-122 TO PROVIDE LONG-TERM, LASTING SOLUTIONS AND EFFORTS FOR RESILIENCY.

SECTION 8. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-33.5-705.3, amend (2)(b), (3), and (4); and add (2)(a.5) as follows:

24-33.5-705.3. Statewide all-hazards resource database - creation - definitions. (2)(a.5) NOT LATER THAN JUNE 30, 2019, THE OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT, USING EXISTING COMPUTER RESOURCES, SHALL UPDATE THE CENTRALIZED RESPONSE COMPUTER DATABASE CREATED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (2)(a) OF THIS SECTION TO INCLUDE A LISTING OF ALL-HAZARDS RECOVERY RESOURCES LOCATED IN
COLORADO. THE OFFICE SHALL CONTINUE TO MAINTAIN AND UPDATE THE DATABASE REGULARLY.

(b) The database created pursuant to paragraph (a) of this subsection (2) shall contain resource inventories, personnel counts, resource status, such other information relevant to the efficient tracking and allocation of all-hazards response and recovery resources, and a listing of all supplemental funding sources available to tribal, state, and local all-hazards response and recovery agencies. The information in this database shall be included with the information required to be collected and maintained pursuant to section 25-1.5-101 (1)(p). C.R.S. No. The data gathered for or stored in this database shall not contain personally identifying information without prior notice to the involved individual. The database is not intended to be used in place of the existing interagency wildland fire dispatch system.

(3) (a) The office of emergency management shall encourage tribal, state, and local response agencies to enter the information described in paragraph (b) of subsection (2) of this section into the database via the internet and provide a means for such data entry. All data entered into the database shall be verifiable by the office of emergency management. The office of emergency management shall encourage participating tribal, state, regional, and local response agencies to update the data as necessary.

(b) The database shall be accessible via the internet to all tribal, state, regional, and local response agencies for the purpose of efficiently tracking and allocating response and recovery resources in the event of a disaster or local incident that requires more resources than
those available under any existing interjurisdictional or mutual aid arrangement.

(4) The office of emergency management shall establish guidelines for the development and maintenance of the database created pursuant to subsection (2) of this section so that tribal, state, regional, and local response AND RECOVERY agencies can easily access the database. The guidelines shall be developed with input from tribal, state, regional, and local response AND RECOVERY agencies and private sector agencies and organizations.

SECTION 9. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-33.5-705.4, amend (1)(a) introductory portion, (1)(b), (2)(b), (2)(g), (2)(k), (3)(a), (4)(b)(I), (4)(b)(II), and (4)(c) as follows:

24-33.5-705.4. All-hazards resource mobilization system - creation - plan - duties - reimbursement for expenses incurred by mobilized entities - eligibility - resource mobilization fund - creation - definitions - legislative declaration. (1) (a) The general assembly hereby finds, determines, and declares that the statewide all-hazards resource mobilization system, which provides for efficient mobilizing, tracking, allocating, and demobilizing OF emergency AND DISASTER resources and ensures that a requesting unit of government receives proper equipment and qualified personnel, is necessary to provide resources to any emergency incident beyond local capabilities and thus necessary to protect life, property, the environment, and cultural and economic resources. The general assembly further finds and declares that the need to ensure that the state is adequately prepared and able to address large-scale emergencies and disasters requires a mechanism to reimburse state agencies, tribal governments, and local jurisdictions that respond to
requests for help from other jurisdictions in times of need. It is therefore necessary to:

(b) In accordance with section 24-33.5-713, it is the intent of the legislature to encourage political subdivisions to enter into mutual aid and other interjurisdictional agreements. Such agreements produce enhanced emergency response AND RECOVERY and are thus essential to protecting the public peace, safety, health, and welfare, including the lives and property, of the people of the state of Colorado.

(2) As used in this section, unless the context otherwise requires:

(b) "Emergency manager" means the director or coordinator of the local or interjurisdictional disaster EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT agency, as described in section 24-33.5-707 (4), or other person, identified pursuant to section 24-33.5-707 (6), responsible for local or interjurisdictional disaster preparedness, and PREVENTION, MITIGATION, response, AND RECOVERY.

(g) "Mobilization" means the process of providing, upon request and subject to availability, emergency resources beyond those available through existing interjurisdictional or mutual aid agreements in response to a request from a jurisdiction in which an emergency or disaster situation or local emergency incident that has exceeded or will exceed the capabilities of available local resources. The term includes the nonhost jurisdiction's authorization and approval for redistribution of resources either to direct emergency incident assignments or to assignment in communities where resources are needed to provide coverage when those communities' resources have been mobilized to assist other jurisdictions.

(k) "Nonhost jurisdiction" means a jurisdiction providing disaster or emergency response resources to a host jurisdiction.
(3) **Powers and duties.** (a) The director shall develop and maintain a statewide all-hazards resource mobilization plan that sets forth procedures for mobilization, allocation, deployment, coordination, tracking, cost accounting, and demobilization of resources during disasters and other large-scale emergencies and local incidents that require more resources than those available under any existing interjurisdictional or mutual aid agreement. In developing the mobilization plan, the director shall consult with and solicit recommendations from the homeland security and all-hazards senior advisory committee created in section 24-33.5-1614 and other appropriate representatives of state, tribal, and local governmental and private sector emergency management organizations. The director shall ensure that the mobilization plan is consistent with, and incorporated into, the Colorado state emergency operations plan COMPREHENSIVE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PROGRAM DESCRIBED IN SECTION 24-33.5-705 (2).

(4) **Mobilization.** (b) Upon and for the duration of mobilization:

(I) The executive director OR THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S DESIGNEE shall serve as a resource mobilization liaison AGENCY ADMINISTRATOR to the local unified coordination group, incident commander, or the host jurisdiction's disaster EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT agency under unified command to support the mobilization effort consistent with the LOCAL JURISDICTIONAL incident command system and mobilization plan and procedures;

(II) The resources, including those of the host jurisdiction and those of nonhost jurisdictions that responded earlier under an existing interjurisdictional or mutual aid or other agreement, may remain mobilized, based on capability to do so and pursuant to agreement
between the executive director, the incident commander, EMERGENCY MANAGER, and the host jurisdiction or nonhost jurisdiction that provided the resources;

(c) The executive director, in consultation with the local incident commander OR EMERGENCY MANAGER, AS APPROPRIATE, shall determine when mobilization is no longer required and, at that time, shall declare the end to the mobilization.

SECTION 10. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-33.5-705.5, amend (1)(c), (3)(c), and (4)(a) as follows:

24-33.5-705.5. Auxiliary emergency communications unit - powers and duties of unit and office of emergency management regarding auxiliary communications - definitions. (1) As used in this section:

(c) "Office" means the office of emergency management created in section 24-33.5-705 (1)(a) SECTION 24-33.5-705 (1).

(3) The unit has the following powers and duties:

(c) Ensure that auxiliary emergency communicators are authorized volunteers entitled to the protections and benefits of part 8 of this article ARTICLE 33.5 when assisting with the installation, maintenance, or demolition of communication facilities of any county sheriff, local government, local emergency planning committee, LOCAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY, or state agency, whether or not such activities occur during a disaster; except that the provisions of sections 24-33.5-825 and 24-33.5-826 do not apply to a training exercise, drill, or class without the express prior consent and approval of the volunteer's employer.

(4) In connection with the powers and duties of the unit as specified in this section, the director of the office may:
(a) Develop and issue a credential that is recognized throughout the state for the purpose of granting access to government facilities, EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTERS, incident command posts, and disaster scenes;

SECTION 11. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-33.5-706, amend (4) and (5); and repeal (3) as follows:

24-33.5-706. Disaster emergency fund - established - financing - legislative intent - repeal. (3) The council shall review in detail each expenditure of disaster emergency moneys.

(4) (a) It is the legislative intent that first recourse be to funds regularly appropriated to state and local agencies. If the governor finds that the demands placed upon these funds in coping with a particular disaster are unreasonably great, the governor may with the concurrence of the council, make funds available from the disaster emergency fund.

(b) If moneys available from the disaster emergency fund are insufficient, the governor with the concurrence of the council, may transfer to the fund and expend moneys appropriated for other purposes.

(5) The director of the division of homeland security and emergency management is authorized to establish, pursuant to article 4 of this title, the rules and regulations which will govern the reimbursement of funds to state agencies and political subdivisions and to promulgate such rules.

SECTION 12. In Colorado Revised Statutes, amend 24-33.5-707 as follows:

24-33.5-707. Local and interjurisdictional emergency
management agencies and services. (1) Each political subdivision is within the jurisdiction of and served by the office of emergency management and by a local or interjurisdictional EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT agency responsible for the coordination of disaster preparedness, and coordination of response. PREVENTION, MITIGATION, RESPONSE, AND RECOVERY.

(2) Each county shall maintain a disaster AN EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT agency or participate in a local or interjurisdictional disaster EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT agency which, except as otherwise provided under this part 7, has jurisdiction over and serves the entire county.

(3) The governor shall determine which municipal corporations need disaster EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT agencies of their own and require that they be established and maintained. The governor shall make such determination on the basis of the municipality's disaster vulnerability and capability of response and recovery related to population size and concentration. The disaster EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT agency of a county shall cooperate with the disaster EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT agencies of municipalities situated within its borders but shall not have jurisdiction within a municipality having its own disaster EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT agency. The office of emergency management shall publish and keep current a list of municipalities required to have disaster EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT agencies under this subsection (3).

(4) The minimum composition of a disaster AN EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT agency is a director or coordinator appointed and governed by the chief executive officer or governing body of the appointing jurisdiction. The director or coordinator is responsible for the planning,
and coordination, AND EXECUTION of the local disaster PRE- AND POST-DISASTER services.

(5) Any provision of this part 7 or other law to the contrary notwithstanding, the governor may require a political subdivision to establish and maintain a disaster AN EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT agency jointly with one or more contiguous political subdivisions if the governor finds that the establishment and maintenance of an agency or participation therein is made necessary by circumstances or conditions that make it unusually difficult to provide disaster prevention, preparedness, mitigation, response, or recovery services under other provisions of this part 7.

(6) Each political subdivision that does not have a disaster agency and has not made arrangements to secure or participate in the services of an agency shall have an elected official designated as liaison officer to facilitate the cooperation and protection of that subdivision in the work of disaster prevention, preparedness, response, and recovery.

(7) The mayor, chairman of the board of county commissioners, or other principal executive officer of each political subdivision in the state shall notify the office of emergency management of the manner in which the political subdivision is providing or securing disaster planning and emergency PREPAREDNESS, PREVENTION, MITIGATION, RESPONSE, and RECOVERY services, identify the person who heads the agency OR AGENCIES from which the services are obtained, and furnish additional information relating thereto as the office of emergency management requires.

(8) Each local and interjurisdictional disaster EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT agency shall prepare and keep current a local locally
DEFINED or interjurisdictional disaster emergency MANAGEMENT plan for its area, INCLUDING PROVISIONS FOR THE PREPARATION, PREVENTION, MITIGATION, RESPONSE, AND RECOVERY FROM EMERGENCIES AND DISASTERS. EXISTING LOCALLY ADOPTED RECOVERY PLANS, PLANS APPROVED BY THE OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OR THE FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY, AND OTHER RELEVANT EMERGENCY PLANS MAY BE INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE, BUT ONLY IF THOSE PLANS ARE SPECIFICALLY IDENTIFIED AND PUBLICLY AVAILABLE.

(9) The local or interjurisdictional disaster EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT agency, as the case may be, shall prepare and distribute to all appropriate officials in written form a clear and complete statement of the emergency responsibilities of all local agencies and officials and of the disaster chain of command.

(10) The sheriff of each county shall:

(a) Be the official responsible for coordination of all search and rescue operations within the sheriff’s jurisdiction;

(b) Make use of the search and rescue capability and resources available within the county and request assistance from the office of emergency management only when and if the sheriff determines such additional assistance is required.

(11) When authorized by the governor and executive director and approved by the director of the office of emergency management, expenses incurred in meeting contingencies and emergencies arising from search and rescue operations may be reimbursed from the disaster emergency fund.

(12) Any person providing information to a local or interjurisdictional disaster EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT agency may
request, in writing, that such information be disseminated only to persons
connected with or involved in the preparation, update, or implementation
of any disaster emergency management plan, and said information shall
thereafter not be released to any person without the expressed written
consent of the person providing the information.

SECTION 13. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-33.5-708, amend (1) and (2)(b); repeal (4); and add (2.5) as follows:

24-33.5-708. Establishment of interjurisdictional emergency management service area. (1) If the governor finds that two or more adjoining counties would be better served by an interjurisdictional arrangement than by maintaining separate disaster emergency management agencies and services, the governor may delineate by executive order an interjurisdictional area adequate to plan for, prevent, or respond to disaster and recover from disasters in that area and direct steps to be taken as necessary, including the creation of an interjurisdictional relationship, a joint disaster emergency management plan, mutual aid, or an area organization for emergency planning and services.

(2) A finding of the governor pursuant to subsection (1) of this section shall be based on one or more factors related to the difficulty of maintaining an efficient and effective disaster prevention, preparedness, response, and recovery system on a separate basis, such as:

(b) Limitations on public financial resources severe enough to make maintenance of a separate disaster emergency management agency and services unreasonably burdensome;

(2.5) Nothing in this section limits a county's authority to enter into an interjurisdictional arrangement with one or more
ADJOINING COUNTIES WITHOUT ACTION BY THE GOVERNOR.

(4) If the other jurisdictions with which the governor proposes to cooperate pursuant to subsection (3) of this section have not enacted the interstate civil defense and disaster compact, the governor may negotiate special agreements with such jurisdictions. Any agreement, if sufficient authority for the making thereof does not otherwise exist, becomes effective only after its text has been communicated to the general assembly and if neither house of the general assembly has disapproved it before adjournment sine die of the next ensuing session competent to consider it or within thirty days of its submission, whichever is longer.

SECTION 14. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-33.5-709, amend (3) as follows:

24-33.5-709. Local disaster emergencies. (3) No interjurisdictional disaster emergency management agency or official thereof may declare a local disaster emergency unless expressly authorized by the agreement pursuant to which the agency functions. An interjurisdictional disaster emergency management agency shall provide aid and services in accordance with the agreement pursuant to which it functions.

SECTION 15. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-33.5-710, amend (1), (2), and (3) as follows:

24-33.5-710. Disaster prevention, mitigation, and recovery. (1) In addition to disaster prevention and mitigation measures as included in the state, local, and interjurisdictional disaster emergency management plans, the governor shall consider steps that could be taken on a continuing basis to prevent or reduce the harmful consequences of and effectively recover from disasters. At the governor's direction,
and pursuant to any other authority and competence they have, state agencies, including those charged with responsibilities in connection with floodplain management, stream encroachment and flow regulation, weather modification, fire prevention and control, HAZARD MITIGATION, air quality, public works, land use and land-use planning, and construction standards, shall make studies of matters related to disaster prevention. The governor and the executive director, from time to time, shall make recommendations to the general assembly, local governments, and such other appropriate public and private entities as may facilitate measures for prevention or reduction of the harmful consequences of disasters.

(2) All state departments in conjunction with the office of emergency management, shall conduct studies and adopt measures to reduce the impact of, and actions contributory to, a disaster. The studies shall concentrate on means of reducing or avoiding the dangers caused by such occurrences or the consequences thereof. STATE DEPARTMENTS SHALL PROVIDE INFORMATION ABOUT THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND SUCCESSES OF THESE PROJECTS WHEN REQUESTED BY THE OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OR THE COLORADO RESILIENCY OFFICE FOR REPORTING PURPOSES.

(3) If the DIRECTOR OF THE office of emergency management believes, on the basis of the studies or other competent evidence, that an area is susceptible to a disaster of catastrophic proportions without adequate warning, that existing building standards and land-use controls in that area are inadequate and could add substantially to the magnitude of the disaster, and that changes in zoning regulations, other land-use regulations, or building requirements are essential in order to further the
purposes of this section, it THE DIRECTOR shall specify the essential
changes to the executive director and to the governor. If the governor,
upon review of the recommendations, finds after public hearing that the
changes are essential, the governor shall so recommend to the agencies
or local governments with jurisdictions over the area and subject matter.
If no action or insufficient action pursuant to the governor's
recommendations is taken within the time specified by the governor, the
governor shall so inform the general assembly and request legislative
action appropriate to mitigate the impact of disaster.

SECTION 16. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-33.5-711.5, amend (1) as follows:

24-33.5-711.5. Governor's expert emergency epidemic response committee - compensation - liability. (1) Neither the state nor the members of the expert emergency epidemic response committee designated or appointed pursuant to section 24-33.5-704 (8) are liable for any claim based upon the committee's advice to the governor or the alleged negligent exercise or performance of, or failure to exercise or perform an act relating to an emergency epidemic. Liability against a member of the committee may be found only for wanton or willful misconduct or willful disregard of the best interests of protecting and maintaining the public health. Damages awarded on the basis of such liability shall not exceed one hundred thousand dollars for any injury to or damage suffered by one person or three hundred thousand dollars for an injury to or damage suffered by three or more persons in the course of an emergency epidemic.

SECTION 17. In Colorado Revised Statutes, add 24-32-121 and 24-32-122 as follows:
24-32-121. Colorado resiliency office - creation - director.

Subject to available grant funding, the Colorado resiliency office is created in the Division of Local Government within the Department of Local Affairs. The head of the office is the director of the Colorado resiliency office. The director of the Division of Local Government shall appoint the director of the office in accordance with Section 13 of Article XII of the State Constitution. The office exercises its powers, duties, and functions under the Division and the Department as a Type 2 entity, as defined in Section 24-1-105.

24-32-122. Duties and powers. (1) (a) The Colorado resiliency office shall create, maintain, and keep current the resiliency and community recovery program as described in Section 24-33.5-705.2. The program must address, at a minimum:

(I) Coordination among state agencies and local jurisdictions to support community and economic recovery efforts; and

(II) Risk and vulnerability reduction.

(b) The Colorado resiliency office shall maintain and keep the resiliency and community recovery program current and in compliance to meet the needs of the state.

(2) The Colorado resiliency office shall consult with the governor's office, the Department of Public Safety, the Department of Public Health and Environment, and all other affected state agencies in developing the resiliency and community recovery program.

(3) In developing the program, the Colorado resiliency
OFFICE SHALL ENSURE A PARTICIPATORY PROCESS THAT INCLUDES LOCAL
GOVERNMENT, STATE AGENCIES, BUSINESS, LABOR, INDUSTRY,
AGRICULTURE, CIVIC AND VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATIONS, ACADEMIA,
COMMUNITY LEADERS, AND OTHER STAKEHOLDERS.

(4) THE DUTIES, POWERS, AND OBLIGATIONS OF THE COLORADO
RESILIENCY OFFICE SET FORTH IN SUBSECTIONS (1) TO (3) OF THIS SECTION
ARE TO BE ACCOMPLISHED SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE GRANT FUNDING OR
WITHIN EXISTING RESOURCES.

(5) THE DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL AFFAIRS AND THE COLORADO
RESILIENCY OFFICE MAY SEEK, ACCEPT, AND EXPEND GIFTS, GRANTS, OR
DONATIONS FROM PRIVATE OR PUBLIC SOURCES FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS
SECTION AND SECTION 24-32-121.

SECTION 18. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-1-125, amend
(2)(a) as follows:

24-1-125. Department of local affairs - creation. (2) The
department of local affairs shall consist of the following divisions:

(a) (I) Division of local government, the head of which shall be
the director of local government. The division of local government and
the office of the director thereof, created by part 1 of article 32 of this
title TITLE 24, and their powers, duties, and functions are transferred by
a type 2 transfer to the department of local affairs as the division of local
government.

(II) THE DIVISION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT INCLUDES THE
COLORADO RESILIENCY OFFICE, THE HEAD OF WHICH IS THE DIRECTOR OF
THE COLORADO RESILIENCY OFFICE. THE COLORADO RESILIENCY OFFICE
EXERCISES ITS POWERS, DUTIES, AND FUNCTIONS UNDER THE DIVISION AND
THE DEPARTMENT AS A TYPE 2 ENTITY, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 24-1-105.
SECTION 19. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 2-3-1502, amend (6) as follows:

2-3-1502. Definitions. As used in this part 15, unless the context otherwise requires:

(6) "GEEERC" means the governor's expert emergency epidemic response committee created in section 24-33.5-704 (8), C.R.S. SECTION 24-33.5-704.5.

SECTION 20. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 25-1.5-102, amend (1)(b)(I) as follows:

25-1.5-102. Epidemic and communicable diseases - powers and duties of department. (1) The department has, in addition to all other powers and duties imposed upon it by law, the powers and duties provided in this section as follows:

(b) (I) To investigate and monitor the spread of disease that is considered part of an emergency epidemic as defined in section 24-33.5-703 (4), C.R.S.; to determine the extent of environmental contamination resulting from the emergency epidemic, and to rapidly provide epidemiological and environmental information to the governor's expert emergency epidemic response committee, created in section 24-33.5-704 (8), C.R.S. SECTION 24-33.5-704.5.

SECTION 21. Repeal of provisions being relocated in this act. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-33.5-704, repeal (8) and (9).

SECTION 22. Act subject to petition - effective date. This act takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly (August 8, 2018, if adjournment sine die is on May 9, 2018); except that, if a referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V of the
state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this act
within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take effect
unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in
November 2018 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the
official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.