

CHAPTER 428

GOVERNMENT - STATE

SENATE BILL 19-020

BY SENATOR(S) Coram and Fields, Cooke, Marble, Bridges, Crowder, Danielson, Donovan, Fenberg, Gardner, Ginal, Gonzales, Hisey, Lundeen, Moreno, Priola, Rankin, Scott, Story, Tate, Todd, Williams A., Winter, Woodward, Garcia;
also REPRESENTATIVE(S) McLachlan, Hooton, Arndt, Bird, Buckner, Buentello, Catlin, Cutter, Duran, Esgar, Exum, Galindo, Gray, Hansen, Jackson, Jaquez Lewis, Kipp, McCluskie, Melton, Michaelson Jenet, Roberts, Sandridge, Snyder, Tipper, Titone, Valdez A., Valdez D., Van Winkle, Will, Becker.

AN ACT

**CONCERNING DEVELOPMENT OF A SYSTEM TO PATROL THE AIRSPACE ABOVE WILDLAND FIRES,
AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, MAKING AN APPROPRIATION.**

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

SECTION 1. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-33.5-1228, **add (2.5)(e)** as follows:

24-33.5-1228. Colorado firefighting air corps - creation - powers - aircraft acquisitions required - center of excellence - unmanned aircraft systems study and pilot program - Colorado firefighting air corps fund - creation - report - rules. (2.5) (e) SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS, THE CENTER OF EXCELLENCE SHALL STUDY AND, IF FEASIBLE, IMPLEMENT A SYSTEM TO PATROL THE AIRSPACE ABOVE A WILDLAND FIRE. THE PATROL SYSTEM MUST BE CAPABLE OF DETERMINING WHETHER THE AIRSPACE ABOVE WILDLAND FIRES IS CLEAR OF OBSTACLES, INCLUDING PRIVATE UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS, THAT MAY INTERFERE WITH AERIAL FIREFIGHTING.

SECTION 2. Appropriation. For the 2019-20 state fiscal year, \$350,000 is appropriated to the department of public safety for use by the division of fire prevention and control. This appropriation is from the general fund. To implement this act, the division may use this appropriation for wildland fire management services.

SECTION 3. 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

Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material added to existing law; dashes through words or numbers indicate deletions from existing law and such material is not part of the act.

adjournment of the general assembly (August 2, 2019, if adjournment sine die is on May 3, 2019); 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 2020 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.

Approved: June 3, 2019