

**First Regular Session  
Seventy-third General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO**

**REVISED**

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

LLS NO. 21-0161.01 Thomas Morris x4218

**HOUSE BILL 21-1230**

---

**HOUSE SPONSORSHIP**

**Baisley and Titone**, Bennett, Bird, Boesenecker, Hooton, Jackson, Jodeh, Lontine, McCormick, Mullica, Neville, Ortiz, Ricks, Snyder, Valdez A., Woodrow

**SENATE SPONSORSHIP**

**Zenzinger and Woodward**, Bridges

---

**House Committees**

State, Civic, Military, & Veterans Affairs  
Appropriations

**Senate Committees**

State, Veterans, & Military Affairs  
Appropriations

---

**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

101 **CONCERNING CREATION OF A USER-FRIENDLY STATE INTERNET**  
102 **PORTAL RELATING TO STATE AGENCY RULES, AND, IN**  
103 **CONNECTION THEREWITH, MAKING AN APPROPRIATION.**

---

**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 directs the office of information technology, in consultation with the secretary of state, the statewide internet portal authority, the department of regulatory agencies, and an appointee of the governor who has experience with digital transformation, to take primary responsibility to develop a centralized, statewide internet portal for access

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.  
*Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material to be added to existing statute.*  
*Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.*

SENATE  
2nd Reading Unamended  
June 3, 2021

HOUSE  
3rd Reading Unamended  
May 22, 2021

HOUSE  
Amended 2nd Reading  
May 21, 2021

to all agency rule-making that is highly visible on the state's main website portal, and to make the portal available for use by June 30, 2022.

---

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

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-37.5-105, **add**  
3 (15) as follows:

4 **24-37.5-105. Office - responsibilities - state search interface -**  
5 **rules - legislative declaration - definitions.** (15) (a) THE GENERAL  
6 ASSEMBLY HEREBY:

7 (I) FINDS THAT:

8 (A) RULES ADOPTED BY AGENCIES AFFECT MANY AREAS OF LIFE  
9 FOR COLORADO CITIZENS, INCLUDING WATER, AIR, FOOD, ENERGY,  
10 MOBILITY, EMPLOYMENT, AND HEALTH CARE;

11 (B) MAINTAINING A VIBRANT BUSINESS ECONOMY IN THE STATE IS  
12 A GOAL SHARED BY ALL COLORADANS; AND

13 (C) PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN THE RULE-MAKING PROCESS  
14 PROMOTES FAIRNESS, ACCEPTABILITY, AND PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY AND  
15 CAN HELP FOSTER GREATER PUBLIC TRUST;

16 (II) DETERMINES THAT:

17 (A) ENGAGING THE ASSISTANCE OF LAWYERS, LOBBYISTS, AND  
18 TECHNICAL EXPERTS SHOULD NOT BE REQUIRED FOR COLORADANS TO  
19 ACCESS THE RULES THAT AFFECT THEIR LIVES AND BUSINESSES;

20 (B) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY CREATED THE ONLINE  
21 TRANSPARENCY TASK FORCE IN HOUSE BILL 20-1039, ENACTED IN 2020,  
22 TO RECOMMEND ONLINE TRANSPARENCY IMPROVEMENTS TO THE GENERAL  
23 ASSEMBLY; AND

24 (C) THE TASK FORCE FOUND THAT IT IS UNNECESSARILY  
25 BURDENSOME TO REQUIRE BOTH AGENCY AND PUBLIC USERS TO NAVIGATE

1 WITHIN AND BETWEEN INDEPENDENT DEPARTMENTAL RESOURCES AND  
2 REINFORCED THAT ESTABLISHING A CLEAR, CENTRALIZED AGENCY RULE  
3 AND RULE-MAKING RESOURCE IS NECESSARY;

4 (III) DECLARES THAT THIS SUBSECTION (15) IS NECESSARY TO  
5 IMPROVE ACCESS TO STATE RULES FOR ALL COLORADANS AND TO  
6 MODERNIZE AND ENHANCE THE SEARCH FUNCTIONALITY AND  
7 TRANSPARENCY OF EXISTING WEB PLATFORMS, WHICH ARE SPREAD ACROSS  
8 MULTIPLE AGENCIES, BY CREATING A SINGLE, PUBLIC-FACING SEARCH  
9 INTERFACE FOR ACCESSING AGENCY RULES AND STATE RULE-MAKING  
10 THAT MEETS THE MINIMUM STANDARDS ESTABLISHED IN THIS SUBSECTION  
11 (15).

12 [REDACTED]

13 (b) STANDARDS FOR THE SEARCH INTERFACE MUST INCLUDE BUT  
14 ARE NOT LIMITED TO:

15 (I) A CENTRALIZED SEARCH INTERFACE FOR ACCESS TO ALL  
16 AGENCY RULE-MAKING THAT IS HIGHLY VISIBLE ON THE STATE'S MAIN  
17 WEBSITE AND THAT USES SEARCH ENGINE OPTIMIZATION TO ENABLE IT TO  
18 BE LOCATED ON THE INTERNET;

19 (II) AN OPTIMIZED, INTUITIVE, AND FULL-TEXT SEARCH ENGINE  
20 THAT IS CONTINUOUSLY OPTIMIZED TO INCREASE ACCURACY AND SEARCH  
21 SPEED AND PROVIDE ROBUST SEARCH RESULTS FOR USERS;

22 [REDACTED]

23 (III) AN APPLICATION PROGRAMMING INTERFACE THAT ENABLES  
24 QUANTIFIABLE RESEARCH ON STATE RULES;

25 (IV) A PUBLIC COMMENT PROCESS THAT DIRECTS USERS TOWARD  
26 THE OPEN COMMENT PROCESS ON THE RESPECTIVE AGENCIES' WEBSITES  
27 WHEN AVAILABLE;

1 (V) AN INTEGRATED, SUBSCRIBABLE CALENDAR OF ALL AGENCIES'  
2 RULE-MAKING HEARINGS;

3 (VI) A FULLY RESPONSIVE DESIGN THAT IS COMPATIBLE WITH  
4 MOBILE AND TABLET DEVICE; AND

5 (VII) COMPLIANCE WITH SECTION 24-85-103, THE FEDERAL  
6 "AMERICANS DISABILITIES ACT OF 1990", 42 U.S.C. SEC. 12101 ET SEQ.,  
7 AS AMENDED, AND SECTION 508 OF THE FEDERAL "REHABILITATION ACT  
8 OF 1973", 29 U.S.C. SEC. 794d, AS AMENDED, TO MAKE THE SEARCH  
9 INTERFACE ACCESSIBLE TO PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES.

10 (c) TO FACILITATE OPERATION OF THE SEARCH INTERFACE, THE  
11 SECRETARY OF STATE SHALL PROVIDE TO THE OFFICE INFORMATION  
12 ACCESS TO THE CODE OF COLORADO REGULATIONS AND COLORADO  
13 REGISTER. TO FACILITATE OPERATION OF THE SEARCH INTERFACE, ALL  
14 OTHER AGENCIES SHALL PROVIDE TO THE OFFICE ACCESS TO THEIR  
15 DATABASES AND INFORMATION SOURCES THAT CONTAIN INFORMATION  
16 FOR RULE-MAKING PROCEEDINGS. THE OFFICE SHALL DEVELOP THE  
17 SEARCH INTERFACE AS SPECIFIED IN THIS SUBSECTION (15). THE  
18 SECRETARY OF STATE SHALL ADVISE THE OFFICE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF  
19 THE SEARCH INTERFACE AS NECESSARY AND UPON REQUEST. THE OFFICE  
20 SHALL MAKE THE SEARCH INTERFACE AVAILABLE FOR USE BY JUNE 30,  
21 2022; EXCEPT THAT, IF AN UNFORESEEN TECHNOLOGICAL IMPEDIMENT  
22 PREVENTS ACHIEVEMENT OF THIS DEADLINE, THE OFFICE SHALL:

23 (I) IDENTIFY THE IMPEDIMENT, IDENTIFY A PROPOSED SOLUTION,  
24 AND EXECUTE NECESSARY STEPS TO RESOLVE THE IMPEDIMENT WITHIN  
25 EXISTING APPROPRIATIONS;

26 (II) NOTIFY THE JOINT TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE OF THE GENERAL  
27 ASSEMBLY IN WRITING THAT IT WILL NOT MEET THE DEADLINE AND

1 INCLUDE IN THE NOTICE A DESCRIPTION OF THE IMPEDIMENT, THE  
2 INDIVIDUAL TASKS COMPRISING THE PROPOSED SOLUTION, AND THE  
3 ANTICIPATED COMPLETION DATE; AND

4 (III) APPEAR BEFORE THE JOINT TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE AT THE  
5 FIRST PRACTICABLE OPPORTUNITY AFTER JUNE 30, 2022, TO DISCUSS THE  
6 IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SEARCH INTERFACE.

7 (d) THE OFFICE MAY SEEK, ACCEPT, AND EXPEND GIFTS, GRANTS,  
8 OR DONATIONS FROM PRIVATE OR PUBLIC SOURCES FOR THE PURPOSES OF  
9 THIS SUBSECTION (15).

10 (e) AS USED IN THIS SUBSECTION (15), "AGENCY" HAS THE  
11 MEANING ESTABLISHED IN SECTION 24-4-102 (3).

12 **SECTION 2. Appropriation.** (1) For the 2021-22 state fiscal  
13 year, \$368,194 is appropriated to the office of the governor for use by the  
14 office of information technology. This appropriation is from the general  
15 fund and is based on the assumption that the office will require an  
16 additional 2.1 FTE. To implement this act, the office may use this  
17 appropriation for enterprise solutions.

18 (2) For the 2021-22 state fiscal year, \$108,718 is appropriated to  
19 the department of state. This appropriation is from the department of state  
20 cash fund created in section 24-21-104 (3)(b), C.R.S. To implement this  
21 act, the department may use this appropriation as follows:

22 (a) \$69,000 for use by the information technology division for  
23 personal services;

24 (b) \$1,795 for use by the information technology division for  
25 operating expenses;

26 (c) \$32,573 for use by the business and licensing division for  
27 personal services, which amount is based on an assumption that the

1 division will require an additional 0.7 FTE; and

2 (d) \$5,350 for use by the business and licensing division for  
3 operating expenses.

4 **SECTION 3. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds,  
5 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate  
6 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety.