

**Second 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. 22-0877.01 Megan McCall x4215

**SENATE BILL 22-184**

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**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

101      **CONCERNING AUTHORITY FOR A MEMBER OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY**  
102              **TO BE ABSENT DURING THE LEGISLATIVE SESSION WITHOUT**  
103              **FORFEITING COMPENSATION.**

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**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 allows a member of the general assembly who is absent for a long-term illness, parental leave in excess of the permitted maximum period, or another similar purpose, subject to approval by the president of the senate or the speaker of the house of representatives, respective to the member's house, to be exempted from forfeiture of their

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.*

HOUSE  
2nd Reading Unamended  
April 26, 2022

SENATE  
3rd Reading Unamended  
April 7, 2022

SENATE  
Amended 2nd Reading  
April 6, 2022

compensation, and allows a member of the general assembly to receive compensation for an absence due to parental leave for a maximum of 12 weeks, and an additional 4 weeks for complications due to pregnancy or childbirth. Under current law, the exemption from forfeiture of compensation is only for an approved absence for a long-term illness.

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

2           **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 2-2-307, **amend**  
3 (2)(a) and (2)(b); and **add** (2)(e) as follows:

4           **2-2-307. Compensation of members - reimbursement of**  
5 **expenses.** (2) The compensation for the services of the members of the  
6 general assembly shall be adjusted as follows:

7           (a) EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (2)(e) OF THIS  
8 SECTION, if any member of the general assembly is absent for any purpose  
9 ~~other than long-term illness approved by the president of the senate or the~~  
10 ~~speaker of the house of representatives~~ from two-thirds or more of the  
11 sessions of ~~his or her~~ THE MEMBER'S respective house, two-thirds of the  
12 compensation allowed under this section ~~shall be~~ IS forfeited.

13           (b) EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (2)(e) OF  
14 THIS SECTION, if any member of the general assembly is absent for any  
15 purpose ~~other than long-term illness approved by the president of the~~  
16 ~~senate or the speaker of the house of representatives~~, from one-third or  
17 more, but less than two-thirds, of the sessions of ~~his or her~~ THE MEMBER'S  
18 respective house, one-third of the compensation allowed under this  
19 section ~~shall be~~ IS forfeited.

20           (e) (I) THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE OR THE SPEAKER OF THE  
21 HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES MAY APPROVE A MEMBER OF THEIR  
22 RESPECTIVE HOUSE FOR AN ABSENCE FOR PURPOSES OF A LONG-TERM  
23 ILLNESS, PARENTAL LEAVE IN EXCESS OF THE MAXIMUM PERIOD SET FORTH

1 IN SUBSECTION (2)(e)(II) OF THIS SECTION, OR ANOTHER SIMILAR PURPOSE,  
2 AND A MEMBER RECEIVING SUCH APPROVAL SHALL NOT BE REQUIRED TO  
3 FORFEIT COMPENSATION AS SET FORTH IN SUBSECTIONS (2)(a) AND (2)(b)  
4 OF THIS SECTION.

5 (II) ANY MEMBER OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY MAY BE ABSENT  
6 FOR PURPOSES OF PARENTAL LEAVE FOR A MAXIMUM OF TWELVE WEEKS,  
7 PLUS UP TO AN ADDITIONAL FOUR WEEKS FOR A SERIOUS HEALTH  
8 CONDITION RELATED TO PREGNANCY COMPLICATIONS OR CHILDBIRTH  
9 COMPLICATIONS, DURING SESSION AND SHALL NOT FORFEIT  
10 COMPENSATION AS SET FORTH IN SUBSECTIONS (2)(a) AND (2)(b) OF THIS  
11 SECTION. HOWEVER, NOTHING IN THIS SUBSECTION (2)(e)(II) EXEMPTS A  
12 MEMBER OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FROM RECEIVING ANY APPROVAL  
13 REQUIRED BY SUBSECTION (2)(e)(I) OF THIS SECTION OR LEGISLATIVE  
14 RULES FOR ANY PERIOD OF ABSENCE FOR PURPOSES OF PARENTAL LEAVE  
15 THAT IS LONGER THAN THE DURATION SPECIFIED IN THIS SUBSECTION  
16 (2)(e)(II).

17 **SECTION 2. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act  
18 takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the  
19 ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly; except  
20 that, if a referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V  
21 of the state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this  
22 act within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take  
23 effect unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in  
24 November 2022 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the  
25 official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.