

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

**REVISED**

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

LLS NO. 23-0819.01 Megan McCall x4215

**SENATE BILL 23-161**

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**SENATE SPONSORSHIP**

**Fenberg and Will**, Baisley, Bridges, Buckner, Coleman, Cutter, Gardner, Hansen, Jaquez  
Lewis, Liston, Lundeen, Marchman, Priola, Roberts, Smallwood, Van Winkle, Winter F.

**HOUSE SPONSORSHIP**

**Lynch and McCluskie**,

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**Senate Committees**

Finance  
Appropriations

**House Committees**

Finance  
Appropriations

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**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

101 **CONCERNING STATE FUNDING TO FINANCE THE PURCHASE OF A**  
102 **FIREFIGHTING AIRCRAFT TO RESPOND TO WILDFIRES.**

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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 directs the state, through the state treasurer, to execute a financed purchase of an asset or certificate of participation agreement (financing agreement) in an amount not to exceed \$4 million in annual payments and for a term of up to 20 years for the purchase of a fire hawk helicopter, configured for wildfire and other public safety response needs, for use by the division of fire prevention and control (division) within the

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  
2nd Reading Unamended  
April 21, 2023

SENATE  
3rd Reading Unamended  
April 10, 2023

SENATE  
Amended 2nd Reading  
April 6, 2023

department of public safety, subject to the availability of a suitable aircraft at a reasonable price as determined by the state treasurer in consultation with the division. Payments under the financing agreement are subject to annual appropriation by the general assembly from the Colorado firefighting air corps fund, from the general fund, or from any other legally available source of money. The financing agreement that is entered into must authorize the state or the division to receive fee title to the fire hawk helicopter on or before the expiration of the terms of the financing agreement.

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

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-33.5-1228, add  
3 **(3)(c)(IV)** as follows:

4 **24-33.5-1228. Colorado firefighting air corps - creation -**  
5 **powers - aircraft acquisitions required - center of excellence -**  
6 **unmanned aircraft systems study and pilot program - Colorado**  
7 **firefighting air corps fund - creation - report - rules.**

8 **(3) (c) (IV) ON THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS SECTION, THE STATE**  
9 **TREASURER SHALL TRANSFER TWENTY-SIX MILLION DOLLARS FROM THE**  
10 **GENERAL FUND TO THE COLORADO FIREFIGHTING AIR CORPS FUND**  
11 **CREATED IN SUBSECTION (3)(a) OF THIS SECTION. THE DIVISION SHALL USE**  
12 **THE MONEY TRANSFERRED PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION (3)(c)(IV) FOR**  
13 **THE PURPOSE OF PURCHASING A FIRE HAWK HELICOPTER CONFIGURED FOR**  
14 **WILDFIRE AND OTHER PUBLIC SAFETY RESPONSE NEEDS.**

15 **SECTION 2. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds,  
16 **determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate**  
17 **preservation of the public peace, health, or safety.**