

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

PREAMENDED

*This Unofficial Version Includes Committee
Amendments Not Yet Adopted on Second Reading*

LLS NO. 24-0106.01 Nicole Myers x4326

SENATE BILL 24-084

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Cutter,

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Garcia,

Senate Committees

Judiciary
Appropriations

House Committees

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 **CONCERNING A REQUIREMENT THAT THE ATTORNEY GENERAL**
102 **UNDERTAKE CERTAIN MEASURES IN AN EFFORT TO PREVENT THE**
103 **PROLIFERATION OF MISINFORMATION AND DISINFORMATION,**
104 **AND, IN 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>.)

To prevent and combat the sharing and spreading of misinformation and disinformation, the attorney general is required to:

- Establish an initiative to encourage respectful engagement

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.

- and discourse;
- Develop and share a curriculum to facilitate productive and honest conversations regarding statewide and national issues to help people find common ground; and
- Collaborate with organizations across the state to develop and update the materials that are used in connection with the curriculum.

The attorney general is also required to study how the internet and other media channels, including social media platforms, are used to share and spread misinformation and disinformation. In addition, the attorney general is required to review relevant state and federal constitutional provisions and federal laws and regulations to address preemption and the intersection of state and federal authority. The attorney general may invite experts to collaborate or consult with the attorney general or to provide other assistance to the attorney general in performing the duties specified in the bill.

The attorney general is required to publish a report of its findings and to submit the report to the judiciary committees of the senate and the house of representatives. The report must include recommendations for state legislation.

For the 2024-2025 state fiscal year, \$150,000 is appropriated to the department of law for the implementation of the bill.

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

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 24-31-117 as
3 follows:

4 **24-31-117. Misinformation and disinformation prevention**
5 **campaign - study - report - appropriation - repeal.** (1) TO PREVENT
6 AND COMBAT THE SHARING AND SPREADING OF MISINFORMATION AND
7 DISINFORMATION, THE ATTORNEY GENERAL SHALL, AT A MINIMUM:

8 (a) ESTABLISH AN INITIATIVE TO ENCOURAGE RESPECTFUL
9 ENGAGEMENT AND DISCOURSE;

10 (b) DEVELOP AND SHARE RESOURCES THAT CAN BE USED BY
11 SCHOOLS, ORGANIZATIONS, AND COMMUNITY LEADERS TO FACILITATE
12 PRODUCTIVE AND HONEST CONVERSATIONS REGARDING STATEWIDE AND
13 NATIONAL ISSUES TO HELP PEOPLE FIND COMMON GROUND; AND

1 (c) COLLABORATE WITH ORGANIZATIONS ACROSS THE STATE TO
2 DEVELOP AND UPDATE THE MATERIALS THAT ARE USED IN CONNECTION
3 WITH THE RESOURCES AND COORDINATE WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF
4 EDUCATION TO MAKE THE RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO SCHOOLS AND
5 SCHOOL DISTRICTS IN THE STATE.

6 (2) (a) THE ATTORNEY GENERAL SHALL STUDY HOW THE INTERNET
7 AND OTHER MEDIA CHANNELS, INCLUDING SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS, ARE
8 USED TO SHARE AND SPREAD MISINFORMATION AND DISINFORMATION. THE
9 STUDY MUST, AT A MINIMUM:

10 (I) EXAMINE THE PREVALENCE OF MISINFORMATION AND
11 DISINFORMATION ON THE INTERNET AND OTHER MEDIA CHANNELS;

12 (II) IDENTIFY THE ROLES OF THE STATE AND FEDERAL
13 GOVERNMENTS IN PREVENTING AND ADDRESSING MISINFORMATION AND
14 DISINFORMATION;

15 (III) IDENTIFY LAWS IMPLEMENTED BY OTHER STATES OR THE
16 FEDERAL GOVERNMENT THAT ARE INTENDED TO PREVENT THE USE OF THE
17 INTERNET AND OTHER MEDIA CHANNELS FOR SHARING AND SPREADING
18 MISINFORMATION AND DISINFORMATION;

19 (IV) EXAMINE ANY OTHER RELEVANT DATA, INFORMATION, OR
20 RESOURCES, AS DEEMED NECESSARY BY THE ATTORNEY GENERAL,
21 CONCERNING THE USE OF THE INTERNET FOR SHARING AND SPREADING
22 MISINFORMATION AND DISINFORMATION; AND

23 (V) EXAMINE THE LEGAL FRAMEWORK GOVERNING THE
24 REGULATION OF ONLINE SPEECH AND ONLINE ACTIVITIES, INCLUDING BUT
25 NOT LIMITED TO THE FIRST AMENDMENT TO THE UNITED STATES
26 CONSTITUTION AND THE PROVISIONS OF 47 U.S.C. SEC. 230 OF THE
27 FEDERAL "COMMUNICATIONS DECENCY ACT OF 1996".

1 (b) IN ADDITION, THE ATTORNEY GENERAL SHALL REVIEW
2 RELEVANT STATE AND FEDERAL CONSTITUTIONAL PROVISIONS AND
3 FEDERAL LAWS AND REGULATIONS TO ADDRESS PREEMPTION AND THE
4 INTERSECTION OF STATE AND FEDERAL AUTHORITY.

5 (3) THE ATTORNEY GENERAL MAY INVITE EXPERTS IN
6 CONSTITUTIONAL LAW, TECHNOLOGY, AND OTHER RELEVANT AREAS TO
7 COLLABORATE OR CONSULT WITH THE ATTORNEY GENERAL OR TO PROVIDE
8 OTHER ASSISTANCE IN THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S PERFORMANCE OF THE
9 DUTIES SPECIFIED IN THIS SECTION.

10 (4) BY MARCH 1, 2025, THE ATTORNEY GENERAL SHALL
11 COMPLETE, PUBLISH, AND SUBMIT TO THE JUDICIARY COMMITTEES OF THE
12 SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, OR ANY SUCCESSOR
13 COMMITTEES, A REPORT OF ITS FINDINGS AS A RESULT OF THE STUDY AND
14 RESEARCH CONDUCTED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (2) OF THIS SECTION.
15 THE REPORT MUST ALSO INCLUDE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR STATE
16 LEGISLATION:

17 (a) TO PREVENT THE USE OF THE INTERNET FOR CONVEYING
18 MISINFORMATION AND DISINFORMATION;

19 (b) CONCERNING CIVIL LIABILITY FOR A COMPANY THAT ENABLES
20 OR FAILS TO ACT IN PREVENTING THE SHARING AND PROLIFERATION OF
21 MISINFORMATION AND DISINFORMATION WITH ITS ALGORITHM AND
22 WEBSITES;

23 (c) TO ADDRESS THE IMPACTS OF MISINFORMATION AND
24 DISINFORMATION ON YOUTH AND ON THE MENTAL HEALTH OF THE
25 GENERAL POPULATION;

26 (d) CONCERNING TRANSPARENCY, EDUCATION, AND PUBLIC
27 AWARENESS CAMPAIGNS REGARDING MISINFORMATION AND

1 DISINFORMATION; AND

2 (e) CONCERNING ANY OTHER PUBLIC POLICY CHANGES NECESSARY
3 TO REDUCE OR ELIMINATE THE USE OF THE INTERNET FOR MISINFORMATION
4 AND DISINFORMATION.

5 (5) THIS SECTION IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026.

6 **SECTION 2. Appropriation.** For the 2024-25 state fiscal year,
7 \$150,000 is appropriated to the department of law. This appropriation is
8 from the general fund. The department may use this appropriation to
9 implement this act.

10 **SECTION 3. Safety clause.** The general assembly finds,
11 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate
12 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety or for appropriations for
13 the support and maintenance of the departments of the state and state
14 institutions.