First Regular Session Seventy-fifth General Assembly STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 25-0799.01 Brita Darling x2241

HOUSE BILL 25-1196

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Woog and Phillips, Barron, Bird

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

(None),

House Committees

Senate Committees

Transportation, Housing & Local Government

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 CONCERNING PROCEDURES RELATING TO THE REMOVAL OF TENANTS
102 RENTING DWELLINGS.

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.)

Under current law, based on a tenant's failure to pay one or more late fees, a landlord cannot:

- Remove or exclude a tenant from a dwelling;
- Terminate a tenancy or other estate at will; or
- Terminate a lease in a mobile home park.

The bill clarifies that a landlord can take such actions if there is another

legal reason and the landlord is not taking the action solely because the landlord is owed one or more late fees.

Additionally, a landlord cannot issue a written demand notice for a tenant to give up possession of the premises (demand letter) based solely on the tenant's failure to pay one or more late fees, but must have another legal reason to issue the demand letter.

Under current law, the demand letter must be written in English, Spanish, or any other language that the landlord knows, or has reason to know, is the primary language of the tenant. The bill instead requires that the demand letter must be written in English or, if requested by the tenant at the time the tenant enters into the lease, in another language that is the tenant's primary language.

Under current law, a landlord is permitted to post a notice to vacate in a conspicuous place on the premises after at least one unsuccessful attempt at service on 2 separate days. The bill allows the landlord to post the notice in a conspicuous place on the premises after only one unsuccessful attempt to serve the tenant with the notice.

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

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 38-12-105, amend 3

(1) introductory portion, (1)(d), and (1)(e) as follows:

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38-12-105. Late fees charged to tenants and mobile home owners - maximum late fee amounts - prohibited acts - penalties period to cure violations - remedies - unfair or deceptive trade **practice.** (1) A landlord shall not take any of the following actions or direct any AN agent to take any of the following actions on the landlord's behalf:

- (d) Remove or exclude a tenant from a dwelling or initiate a court process for the removal or exclusion of a tenant from a dwelling SOLELY because the tenant fails to pay one or more late fees to the landlord;
- (e) Terminate a tenancy or other estate at will or a lease in a mobile home park SOLELY because a tenant or home owner fails to pay one or more late fees to the landlord;

16 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 13-40-106, amend

> -2-HB25-1196

(1) and (3) as follows:

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2 13-40-106. Written demand. (1) The demand or notice required 3 by section 13-40-104 or 38-12-1303 shall be made MUST BE in writing, 4 specifying the grounds of the demandant's right to the possession of the 5 premises, including a specific description of the alleged violation or 6 no-fault eviction grounds, describing the premises, and indicating the date 7 and time when the premises shall be delivered up. and shall be signed by 8 The person claiming such possession, the person's agent, or the person's 9 attorney SHALL SIGN THE DEMAND NOTICE. A DEMANDANT SHALL NOT 10 ISSUE A DEMAND NOTICE SOLELY BECAUSE THE TENANT FAILS TO PAY ONE OR MORE LATE FEES.

(3) The demand or notice required by section 13-40-104 or 38-12-1303 must be written in English, Spanish, or any other language that the landlord knows, or has reason to know, is the primary language of the tenant ENGLISH OR, IF REQUESTED BY THE TENANT AT THE TIME THE TENANT ENTERS INTO THE LEASE, IN ANOTHER LANGUAGE THAT IS THE TENANT'S PRIMARY LANGUAGE.

SECTION 3. In Colorado Revised Statutes, **amend** 13-40-108 as follows:

13-40-108. Service of notice to vacate or demand. A written notice to vacate or demand as required by section 13-40-104, 38-12-202, 38-12-204, or 38-12-1303 may be served by delivering a copy of the notice to a known tenant occupying the premises, or by leaving such A copy with some person AN INDIVIDUAL OR a member of the tenant's family above the age of fifteen years OF AGE OR OLDER residing on or in charge of the premises, or, in case no one is on the premises after attempts AN ATTEMPT at personal service, at least once on two separate days, by

> -3-HB25-1196

posting the copy in some conspicuous place on the premises.

| SECTION 4. Act subject to petition - effective date. This act |
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| takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the |
| ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly; 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 2026 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the |
| official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor. |

-4- HB25-1196