

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

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 25-0201.02 Pierce Lively x2059

HOUSE BILL 25-1198

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Froelich and Brown,

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Winter F.,

House Committees

Transportation, Housing & Local Government

Senate Committees

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 **CONCERNING THE CREATION OF A REGIONAL PLANNING ROUNDTABLE**
102 **COMMISSION.**

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>.)

Section 2 of the bill creates the regional planning roundtable commission (commission) within the department of local affairs. The commission is a 15-member board with members who serve 2-year terms. The purposes of the commission include:

- Assisting local governments in complying with statutory housing, land use, or other planning requirements;

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.*

- Assisting local governments in accessing state and federal resources and technical assistance for complying with statutory housing, land use, or other planning requirements;
- In cooperation with local governments, creating, managing, and revising regions as necessary for the purpose of establishing a regional roundtable to address regional housing, land use, or other planning challenges and opportunities; and
- Assisting local governments in establishing a regional roundtable to address regional housing, land use, or other planning challenges and opportunities.

Section 3 allows money in the housing needs planning technical assistance fund to be used for the planning, establishment, and implementation of the commission.

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

2 **SECTION 1. Legislative declaration.** (1) The general assembly
3 finds and declares that:

4 (a) Uncoordinated and unplanned growth, together with a lack of
5 common goals expressing the public's interest in the wise use of state
6 lands, poses a threat to economic resources and resiliency, the
7 environment and climate, affordable and decent housing, access to
8 adequate public facilities and services, and the health, safety, and high
9 quality of life enjoyed by Colorado residents;

10 (b) It is in the public interest that communities, local governments,
11 regional and state agencies, and both the public and the private sectors
12 take integrated and comprehensive actions to manage growth and
13 economic opportunity;

14 (c) It is in the public interest to ensure that the use of land, the
15 provision of adequate facilities and services, wise use of resources, and
16 the availability of housing for all occur in a manner that protects citizens,
17 communities, economic interests, businesses, and the environment from

1 preventable threats and hardships;

2 (d) Local governments, in partnership with regional and state
3 agencies, are key to providing support, knowledge, insight, and
4 encouragement to help communities thrive and to be sustainable, resilient,
5 and equitable;

6 (e) Laws, rules, and regulations addressing local master planning,
7 as well as regional and state strategic planning, have been developed at
8 different points in time and vary in their content, character, and intent;

9 (f) Some laws, rules, and regulations that address planning are
10 advisory, while others address requirements of statewide, regional, and
11 local significance;

12 (g) There are many state laws that address planning issues
13 incrementally and independently of other related issues, which leads to
14 planning that is piecemeal and often one-dimensional;

15 (h) Contemporary planning requires integrated approaches to
16 complex interrelated challenges through a more unified framework;

17 (i) Successfully and efficiently addressing 21st century planning
18 challenges require an integrated and comprehensive approach;

19 (j) A unified planning framework that recognizes
20 interrelationships among contemporary topics and issues is needed to
21 achieve truly comprehensive planning;

22 (k) A unified planning framework will simplify the planning
23 process by addressing challenges that are interdependent and mutually
24 reinforcing;

25 (l) A unified planning framework makes planning more accessible
26 and easier to understand for community members, decision-makers, and
27 staff and for both the public and private sectors;

1 (m) Where there are common borders and related regional issues
2 among jurisdictions, regional roundtables provide an opportunity to
3 provide consistency and compatibility among planning policies and
4 implementation;

5 (n) A unified planning framework allows for local customization
6 and tailoring among Colorado's distinct regional and local places;

7 (o) A common planning framework provides a mechanism for
8 ensuring that interrelated topics and issues can be addressed in distinct
9 regional and local contexts; and

10 (p) Resource lands, rural lands, urban lands, and resort
11 communities are each distinct and have their own challenges and
12 opportunities that require customized planning approaches.

13 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add 24-32-3709.5** as
14 follows:

15 **24-32-3709.5. Regional planning roundtable commission -**
16 **establishment - facilitating - definition.** (1) THE REGIONAL PLANNING
17 ROUNDTABLE COMMISSION IS CREATED IN THE DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL
18 AFFAIRS.

19 (2) THE COMMISSION IS A **TYPE 2** ENTITY, AS DEFINED IN SECTION
20 24-1-105, AND EXERCISES ITS POWERS AND PERFORMS ITS DUTIES AND
21 FUNCTIONS UNDER THE DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL AFFAIRS.

22 (3) (a) THE COMMISSION CONSISTS OF FIFTEEN MEMBERS
23 APPOINTED AS FOLLOWS:

24 (I) ONE MEMBER REPRESENTING THE COLORADO MUNICIPAL
25 LEAGUE, OR ANY SUCCESSOR ORGANIZATION, APPOINTED BY THE
26 COLORADO MUNICIPAL LEAGUE OR THE SUCCESSOR ORGANIZATION;

27 (II) ONE MEMBER REPRESENTING COLORADO COUNTIES, INC., OR

1 ANY SUCCESSOR ORGANIZATION, APPOINTED BY COLORADO COUNTIES,
2 INC., OR THE SUCCESSOR ORGANIZATION;

3 (III) ONE MEMBER REPRESENTING THE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL
4 RESOURCES, APPOINTED BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE
5 DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES;

6 (IV) ONE MEMBER REPRESENTING THE COLORADO ENERGY OFFICE,
7 APPOINTED BY THE DIRECTOR OF THE COLORADO ENERGY OFFICE;

8 (V) ONE MEMBER REPRESENTING THE COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF
9 TRANSPORTATION, APPOINTED BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE
10 COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION;

11 (VI) ONE MEMBER REPRESENTING THE DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL
12 AFFAIRS, APPOINTED BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT
13 OF LOCAL AFFAIRS;

14 (VII) ONE MEMBER REPRESENTING THE SPECIAL DISTRICT
15 ASSOCIATION OF COLORADO, OR ANY SUCCESSOR ORGANIZATION,
16 APPOINTED BY THE SPECIAL DISTRICT ASSOCIATION OF COLORADO OR THE
17 SUCCESSOR ORGANIZATION;

18 (VIII) ONE MEMBER WITH EXPERTISE IN AFFORDABLE HOUSING,
19 APPOINTED BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL
20 AFFAIRS;

21 (IX) ONE MEMBER REPRESENTING A REGIONAL COUNCIL OF
22 GOVERNMENTS, APPOINTED BY THE REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
23 SELECTED FOR THIS PURPOSE BY THE GOVERNOR;

24 (X) ONE MEMBER WITH EXPERTISE IN CLIMATE AND
25 ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES, APPOINTED BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE
26 DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT;

27 (XI) ONE MEMBER WITH EXPERTISE IN TOURISM, APPOINTED BY

1 THE COLORADO TOURISM OFFICE; AND

2 (XII) FOUR MEMBERS, EACH REPRESENTING A DISTINCT REGION OF
3 THE STATE, EACH APPOINTED BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE
4 DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL AFFAIRS.

5 (b) APPOINTMENTS TO THE COMMISSION SHALL BE MADE WITH A
6 CONSIDERATION OF THE ETHNICITY, GENDER, AND GEOGRAPHIC
7 REPRESENTATION OF THE MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION.

8 (c) THE INITIAL APPOINTMENTS TO THE COMMISSION SHALL BE
9 MADE NO LATER THAN SEPTEMBER 30, 2025.

10 (d) EACH MEMBER OF THE COMMISSION WHO IS APPOINTED
11 PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (3)(a) OF THIS SECTION SERVES AT THE
12 PLEASURE OF THE RELEVANT APPOINTING AUTHORITY. THE TERM OF
13 APPOINTMENT IS THREE YEARS; EXCEPT THAT THE TERM OF THE MEMBERS
14 INITIALLY APPOINTED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTIONS (3)(a)(IX) AND
15 (3)(a)(XII) OF THIS SECTION IS TWO YEARS.

16 (4) MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION SERVE WITHOUT
17 COMPENSATION AND WITHOUT REIMBURSEMENT FOR EXPENSES.

18 (5) (a) THE MEMBER OF THE COMMISSION APPOINTED BY THE
19 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL AFFAIRS PURSUANT
20 TO SUBSECTION (3)(a)(VI) SHALL CONVENE THE FIRST MEETING OF THE
21 COMMISSION NO LATER THAN DECEMBER 31, 2025.

22 (b) THE COMMISSION SHALL ELECT A CHAIR FROM AMONG THE
23 COMMISSION'S MEMBERS TO SERVE FOR A TERM NOT TO EXCEED THREE
24 YEARS, AS DETERMINED BY THE COMMISSION.

25 (c) THE COMMISSION SHALL MEET AT LEAST FOUR TIMES EVERY
26 YEAR. THE CHAIR MAY CALL SUCH ADDITIONAL MEETINGS AS ARE
27 NECESSARY FOR THE COMMISSION TO COMPLETE ITS DUTIES.

1 (6) THE COMMISSION SHALL:

2 (a) ASSIST LOCAL GOVERNMENTS IN COMPLYING WITH STATUTORY
3 HOUSING, LAND USE, OR OTHER PLANNING REQUIREMENTS;

4 (b) ASSIST LOCAL GOVERNMENTS IN ACCESSING STATE AND
5 FEDERAL RESOURCES AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR COMPLYING WITH
6 STATUTORY HOUSING, LAND USE, OR OTHER PLANNING REQUIREMENTS;

7 (c) IN COOPERATION WITH LOCAL GOVERNMENTS, CREATE,
8 MANAGE, AND REVISE REGIONS AS NECESSARY FOR THE PURPOSE OF
9 ESTABLISHING A REGIONAL ROUNDTABLE TO ADDRESS REGIONAL HOUSING,
10 LAND USE, OR OTHER PLANNING CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES; AND

11 (d) ASSIST LOCAL GOVERNMENTS IN ESTABLISHING A REGIONAL
12 ROUNDTABLE TO ADDRESS REGIONAL HOUSING, LAND USE, OR OTHER
13 PLANNING CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES.

14 (7) THE COMMISSION MAY:

15 (a) CONSIDER ASSISTING IN THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN
16 INTEGRATED FRAMEWORK FOR PLANNING, WHICH FRAMEWORK SHALL
17 CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING TOPICS, AT A MINIMUM:

18 (I) NATURAL ENVIRONMENT SYSTEMS;

19 (II) DEVELOPMENT PATTERNS;

20 (III) HOUSING AND HOUSING NEEDS;

21 (IV) TRANSPORTATION;

22 (V) SUSTAINABLE INFRASTRUCTURE;

23 (VI) ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY AND EMPLOYMENT; AND

24 (VII) HEALTHY COMMUNITIES; AND

25 (b) HEAR PRESENTATIONS FROM AND HAVE DISCUSSIONS WITH
26 RELEVANT PERSONS.

27 (8) ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 31, 2027, AND ON OR BEFORE

1 DECEMBER 31 EACH YEAR THEREAFTER, THE COMMISSION SHALL REPORT
2 TO THE TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING, AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT
3 COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND THE LOCAL
4 GOVERNMENT AND HOUSING COMMITTEE OF THE SENATE, OR ANY
5 SUCCESSOR COMMITTEES. THE REPORT MUST INCLUDE A DESCRIPTION OF
6 ANY ASSISTANCE THAT THE COMMISSION HAS PROVIDED TO LOCAL
7 GOVERNMENTS.

8 (9) AS USED IN THIS SECTION, UNLESS THE CONTEXT OTHERWISE
9 REQUIRES, "COMMISSION" MEANS THE REGIONAL PLANNING ROUNDTABLE
10 COMMISSION.

11 **SECTION 3.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-32-3709, **amend**
12 (6)(b) as follows:

13 **24-32-3709. Technical assistance.** (6) (b) Money in the housing
14 needs planning technical assistance fund is continuously appropriated to
15 the department for the purposes of providing technical assistance; ~~and~~
16 implementing a grant program pursuant to this section; AND PLANNING,
17 ESTABLISHING, AND IMPLEMENTING THE REGIONAL PLANNING
18 ROUNDTABLE COMMISSION PURSUANT TO SECTION 24-32-3709.5.

19 **SECTION 4. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act
20 takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the
21 ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly; except
22 that, if a referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V
23 of the state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this
24 act within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take
25 effect unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in
26 November 2026 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the
27 official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.