

Second Regular Session  
Seventy-fourth General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO

DRAFT  
10/11/23

**BILL 2**

LLS NO. 24-0420.01 Pierce Lively x2059

**INTERIM COMMITTEE BILL**

**Wildfire Matters Review Committee**

---

**BILL TOPIC:** Emergency Management Plan Individuals With Animals

---

**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

101      **CONCERNING THE NEEDS OF AN INDIVIDUAL WITH AN ANIMAL DURING**  
102            **AN EMERGENCY, AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, STRONGLY**  
103            **ENCOURAGING THAT EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PLANS**  
104            **ADDRESS THE NEEDS OF AN INDIVIDUAL WITH AN ANIMAL**  
105            **DURING AN EMERGENCY AND THAT LOCAL GOVERNMENTS MAKE**  
106            **CERTAIN INFORMATION PUBLICLY AVAILABLE RELATING TO AN**  
107            **INDIVIDUAL WITH AN ANIMAL DURING AN EMERGENCY.**

---

**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/>.)*

*Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material to be added to existing law.  
Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing law.*

**Wildfire Matters Review Committee.** The bill strongly encourages a locally defined or interjurisdictional emergency management plan amended or created on or after July 1, 2024, to address the needs of an individual with an animal during an emergency by:

- Including provisions for the evacuation, shelter, and transport of an individual with an animal and that animal; and
- Requiring, to the extent practicable, that at least one shelter established during an emergency is designated to accommodate an individual with an animal and that animal.

The bill also strongly encourages a city, county, or city and county to make available to the public information for animal emergency preparedness, including:

- Information for creating an evacuation plan and emergency checklist for individuals with animals consistent with recommendations publicly published by the United States department of agriculture and the federal emergency management agency;
- Local organizations that may provide emergency animal assistance; and
- Local emergency shelters, cooling centers, or warming centers, when active, that can accommodate an individual with an animal.

---

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

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-33.5-707, **add**  
3 (8.5) as follows:

4 **24-33.5-707. Local and interjurisdictional emergency**  
5 **management agencies and services.** (8.5) (a) A LOCALLY DEFINED OR  
6 INTERJURISDICTIONAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PLAN AMENDED OR  
7 CREATED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (8) OF THIS SECTION ON OR AFTER  
8 JULY 1, 2024, IS STRONGLY ENCOURAGED TO ADDRESS THE NEEDS OF AN  
9 INDIVIDUAL WITH AN ANIMAL DURING AN EMERGENCY BY:

10 (I) INCLUDING PROVISIONS FOR THE EVACUATION, SHELTER, AND  
11 TRANSPORT OF AN INDIVIDUAL WITH AN ANIMAL AND THAT ANIMAL; AND

1           (II) REQUIRING, TO THE EXTENT PRACTICABLE, THAT AT LEAST ONE  
2 SHELTER ESTABLISHED DURING AN EMERGENCY IS DESIGNATED TO  
3 ACCOMMODATE AN INDIVIDUAL WITH AN ANIMAL AND THAT ANIMAL.

4           (b) ON OR AFTER JANUARY 1, 2025, A CITY, COUNTY, OR CITY AND  
5 COUNTY IS STRONGLY ENCOURAGED TO MAKE AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC  
6 INFORMATION FOR ANIMAL EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS, INCLUDING:

7           (I) INFORMATION FOR CREATING AN EVACUATION PLAN AND  
8 EMERGENCY CHECKLIST FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH ANIMALS CONSISTENT  
9 WITH RECOMMENDATIONS PUBLICLY PUBLISHED BY THE UNITED STATES  
10 DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND THE FEDERAL EMERGENCY  
11 MANAGEMENT AGENCY;

12           (II) LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS THAT MAY PROVIDE EMERGENCY  
13 ANIMAL ASSISTANCE; AND

14           (III) LOCAL EMERGENCY SHELTERS, COOLING CENTERS, OR  
15 WARMING CENTERS, WHEN ACTIVE, THAT CAN ACCOMMODATE AN  
16 INDIVIDUAL WITH AN ANIMAL.

17           (c) AS USED IN THIS SUBSECTION (8.5), UNLESS THE CONTEXT  
18 OTHERWISE REQUIRES, "ANIMAL" MEANS BOTH A "PET ANIMAL", AS  
19 DEFINED IN SECTION 38-20-101 (3.5), AND A "SERVICE ANIMAL", AS  
20 DEFINED IN SECTION 12-240-144 (4)(c).

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