

Second Regular Session
Seventy-fourth General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO

Bill B

LLS NO. 24-0420.01 Pierce Lively x2059

HOUSE BILL

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Snyder and Velasco, Dickson

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Cutter and Jaquez Lewis, Ginal

House Committees

Senate Committees

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/>.)

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.

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 - definition.** (8.5) (a) A LOCALLY
6 DEFINED OR INTERJURISDICTIONAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PLAN
7 AMENDED OR CREATED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (8) OF THIS SECTION ON
8 OR AFTER JULY 1, 2024, IS STRONGLY ENCOURAGED TO ADDRESS THE
9 NEEDS OF AN 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 finds,
22 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate
23 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety or for appropriations for
24 the support and maintenance of the departments of the state and state
25 institutions.