

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

**BILL E**

LLS NO. 25-0235.02 Rebecca Bayetti x4348

**HOUSE BILL**

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**HOUSE SPONSORSHIP**

**Froelich and Valdez**, Boesenecker, Jodeh, Lindsay, Mauro, Soper, Vigil

**SENATE SPONSORSHIP**

**Winter F. and Simpson**, Cutter

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**House Committees**

**Senate Committees**

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**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

101 **CONCERNING PARATRANSIT SERVICES.**

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**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/>.)*

**Transportation Legislation Review Committee.** Beginning on January 1, 2026, the bill imposes the following duties on any political subdivision of the state, public entity, or nonprofit corporation that provides paratransit services in the state, in addition to those duties otherwise provided by law:

- To establish, in coordination with local public entities providing emergency services, a plan to communicate information and provide paratransit services during

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.

- emergencies;
- To ensure that fare collection technology for paratransit services is comparable to that offered for regular or fixed route services; and
- Before reducing the service area for paratransit services, to consult with affected community members and conduct an impact analysis.

The bill also creates the paratransit task force (task force) in the department of transportation. The purpose of the task force is to study and make recommendations regarding the standardization of and best practices for paratransit services in the state. The task force consists of 16 members as follows:

- 3 legislative members, jointly appointed by the president of the senate and the speaker of the house of representatives, with 2 members of the majority party and one member of the minority party;
- 4 members representing disability advocacy organizations, with one member appointed by and from each of the following organizations:
  - Atlantis Community, Inc.;
  - American Disabled for Attendant Programs Today;
  - The Colorado Cross-Disability Coalition; and
  - The National Federation of the Blind;
- 5 members representing transit organizations, with one member appointed by and from each of the following organizations:
  - The department of transportation;
  - The Colorado Association of Transit Agencies;
  - The regional transportation district;
  - AARP; and
  - The Denver regional council of governments;
- One member representing a private company that partners with a transit agency to provide paratransit services, appointed by the governor;
- One member representing the Colorado disability opportunity office, appointed by the governor;
- One member determined by the governor to enhance and expand the expertise of the task force, appointed by the governor; and
- The lieutenant governor or the lieutenant governor's designee.

The task force is required to meet at least 3 times in 2025 to study and make recommendations on the standardization of and best practices for paratransit services in the state. On or before October 15, 2025, the task force must submit a report to the transportation legislation review

committee that includes a summary of the work accomplished by the task force and any recommendations to the general assembly concerning matters studied by the task force. The department of transportation must include a summary of the report and the recommendations of the task force in its annual presentation to the general assembly in January 2026.

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

2           **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 43-1-604 and  
3 43-1-605 as follows:

4           **43-1-604. Paratransit services - duties - definitions.** (1) As  
5 USED IN THIS SECTION, UNLESS THE CONTEXT OTHERWISE REQUIRES:

6           (a) "EMERGENCY" MEANS:

7           (I) A FIRE, RESCUE CALL, OR HAZARDOUS MATERIALS INCIDENT;

8           (II) A NATURAL OR HUMAN-CAUSED DISASTER SUCH AS AN  
9 EARTHQUAKE, WILDFIRE, FLOOD, OR SEVERE WEATHER EVENT; OR

10           (III) AN INCIDENT REASONABLY DETERMINED TO BE AN  
11 EMERGENCY BY A PUBLIC ENTITY PROVIDING EMERGENCY SERVICES.

12           (b) "PARATRANSIT SERVICES" MEANS COMPLEMENTARY PARALLEL  
13 TRANSIT SERVICES FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES WHO ARE UNABLE  
14 TO UTILIZE REGULAR OR FIXED ROUTE TRANSIT SERVICES FOR SOME OR ALL  
15 OF THEIR TRANSIT NEEDS.

16           (c) "PUBLIC ENTITY PROVIDING EMERGENCY SERVICES" MEANS  
17 ANY POLITICAL SUBDIVISION OF THE STATE OR AGENCY OF A POLITICAL  
18 SUBDIVISION OF THE STATE THAT RESPONDS IN A PROFESSIONAL CAPACITY  
19 TO AN EMERGENCY, INCLUDING A LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY, FIRE  
20 DEPARTMENT, OR FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT.

21           (d) "TRANSIT AGENCY" MEANS ANY POLITICAL SUBDIVISION OF THE  
22 STATE, PUBLIC ENTITY, OR NONPROFIT CORPORATION THAT PROVIDES  
23 PARATRANSIT SERVICES IN THE STATE.

1           (2) (a) EACH TRANSIT AGENCY HAS THE FOLLOWING DUTIES  
2 RELATED TO ACCESSIBILITY AND PARATRANSIT SERVICES, IN ADDITION TO  
3 THOSE DUTIES OTHERWISE PROVIDED BY LAW:

4           (I) ON AND AFTER JANUARY 1, 2026, IN COORDINATION WITH  
5 LOCAL PUBLIC ENTITIES PROVIDING EMERGENCY SERVICES, ESTABLISH A  
6 PLAN TO COMMUNICATE INFORMATION AND PROVIDE PARATRANSIT  
7 SERVICES DURING EMERGENCIES;

8           (II) ON AND AFTER JANUARY 1, 2026, ENSURE THAT FARE  
9 COLLECTION TECHNOLOGY FOR PARATRANSIT SERVICES IS COMPARABLE  
10 TO THAT OFFERED FOR REGULAR OR FIXED ROUTE SERVICES; AND

11           (III) ON AND AFTER JANUARY 1, 2026, BEFORE REDUCING THE  
12 SERVICE AREA FOR PARATRANSIT SERVICES, CONSULT WITH AFFECTED  
13 COMMUNITY MEMBERS AND CONDUCT AN IMPACT ANALYSIS THAT:

14           (A) IDENTIFIES THE NUMBER OF EXISTING PARATRANSIT SERVICE  
15 USERS WHO WILL BE IMPACTED BY THE PROPOSED REDUCTION;

16           (B) ESTIMATES THE TOTAL NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS RESIDING IN  
17 THE AREA IMPACTED BY THE PROPOSED REDUCTION;

18           (C) ASSESSES ALTERNATIVE TRANSIT OPTIONS IN THE AREA  
19 IMPACTED BY THE PROPOSED REDUCTION;

20           (D) ASSESSES THE SUSTAINABILITY OF PARATRANSIT FUNDING AND  
21 THE POTENTIAL FOR INCREASED FUNDING; AND

22           (E) EVALUATES THE USE OF DIFFERENT VEHICLES FOR DIFFERENT  
23 PASSENGER AND TRANSIT NEEDS.

24           (b) EACH TRANSIT AGENCY SHALL MONITOR COMPLIANCE WITH  
25 THE DUTIES SET FORTH IN SUBSECTION (2)(a) OF THIS SECTION.

26           **43-1-605. Paratransit task force - creation - membership -**  
27 **meetings - report - definitions - repeal. (1) Definitions.** AS USED IN

1 THIS SECTION, UNLESS THE CONTEXT OTHERWISE REQUIRES:

2 (a) "PARATRANSIT SERVICES" MEANS COMPLEMENTARY PARALLEL  
3 TRANSIT SERVICES FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES WHO ARE UNABLE  
4 TO UTILIZE REGULAR OR FIXED ROUTE TRANSIT SERVICES FOR SOME OR ALL  
5 OF THEIR TRANSIT NEEDS.

6 (b) "STUDY" MEANS THE STUDY ON THE STANDARDIZATION OF AND  
7 BEST PRACTICES FOR PARATRANSIT SERVICES CONDUCTED PURSUANT TO  
8 SUBSECTION (3) OF THIS SECTION.

9 (c) "TASK FORCE" MEANS THE PARATRANSIT TASK FORCE CREATED  
10 IN THIS SECTION.

11 (2) **Membership and meetings.** (a) THERE IS CREATED IN THE  
12 DEPARTMENT THE PARATRANSIT TASK FORCE. THE PURPOSE OF THE TASK  
13 FORCE IS TO STUDY AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE  
14 STANDARDIZATION OF AND BEST PRACTICES FOR PARATRANSIT SERVICES  
15 IN THE STATE.

16 (b) THE TASK FORCE CONSISTS OF SIXTEEN MEMBERS AS FOLLOWS:

17 (I) THREE LEGISLATIVE MEMBERS, JOINTLY APPOINTED BY THE  
18 PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE AND THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF  
19 REPRESENTATIVES, WITH TWO MEMBERS OF THE MAJORITY PARTY AND ONE  
20 MEMBER OF THE MINORITY PARTY;

21 (II) FOUR MEMBERS REPRESENTING DISABILITY ADVOCACY  
22 ORGANIZATIONS, WITH ONE MEMBER APPOINTED BY AND FROM EACH OF  
23 THE FOLLOWING ORGANIZATIONS:

24 (A) ATLANTIS COMMUNITY, INC.;

25 (B) AMERICAN DISABLED FOR ATTENDANT PROGRAMS TODAY;

26 (C) THE COLORADO CROSS-DISABILITY COALITION; AND

27 (D) THE NATIONAL FEDERATION OF THE BLIND;

1 (III) FIVE MEMBERS REPRESENTING TRANSIT ORGANIZATIONS,  
2 WITH ONE MEMBER APPOINTED BY AND FROM EACH OF THE FOLLOWING  
3 ORGANIZATIONS:

4 (A) THE DEPARTMENT;

5 (B) THE COLORADO ASSOCIATION OF TRANSIT AGENCIES;

6 (C) THE REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION DISTRICT ESTABLISHED IN  
7 ARTICLE 9 OF TITLE 32;

8 (D) AARP; AND

9 (E) THE DENVER REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS;

10 (IV) ONE MEMBER REPRESENTING A PRIVATE COMPANY THAT  
11 PARTNERS WITH A TRANSIT AGENCY TO PROVIDE PARATRANSIT SERVICES,  
12 APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR;

13 (V) ONE MEMBER REPRESENTING THE COLORADO DISABILITY  
14 OPPORTUNITY OFFICE CREATED IN PART 1 OF ARTICLE 88 OF TITLE 8,  
15 APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR;

16 (VI) ONE MEMBER DETERMINED BY THE GOVERNOR TO ENHANCE  
17 AND EXPAND THE EXPERTISE OF THE TASK FORCE, APPOINTED BY THE  
18 GOVERNOR; AND

19 (VII) THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR OR THE LIEUTENANT  
20 GOVERNOR'S DESIGNEE.

21 (c) (I) THE APPOINTING AUTHORITIES SHALL MAKE THE  
22 APPOINTMENTS DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (2)(b) OF THIS SECTION NO  
23 LATER THAN JUNE 15, 2025.

24 (II) THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR, OR THE LIEUTENANT  
25 GOVERNOR'S DESIGNEE, SHALL SERVE AS THE CHAIR OF THE TASK FORCE  
26 AND THE MEMBER REPRESENTING THE COLORADO DISABILITY  
27 OPPORTUNITY OFFICE SHALL SERVE AS THE VICE-CHAIR OF THE TASK

1 FORCE.

2 (III) EACH MEMBER OF THE TASK FORCE SERVES AT THE PLEASURE  
3 OF THE APPOINTING AUTHORITY. THE TERM OF APPOINTMENT IS FOR THE  
4 DURATION OF THE TASK FORCE'S EXISTENCE.

5 (IV) IF A VACANCY OCCURS ON THE TASK FORCE FOR ANY REASON,  
6 THE ORIGINAL APPOINTING AUTHORITY SHALL APPOINT AN INDIVIDUAL  
7 WHO MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE VACANT POSITION TO FILL THE  
8 VACANCY AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AFTER THE VACANCY OCCURS.

9 (d) (I) EACH LEGISLATIVE MEMBER OF THE TASK FORCE IS  
10 ENTITLED TO RECEIVE PAYMENT OF PER DIEM AND REIMBURSEMENT FOR  
11 ACTUAL AND NECESSARY EXPENSES AS AUTHORIZED IN SECTION 2-2-326.

12 (II) EACH NONLEGISLATIVE MEMBER OF THE TASK FORCE SERVES  
13 WITHOUT COMPENSATION BUT IS ENTITLED TO RECEIVE REIMBURSEMENT  
14 FOR ACTUAL AND NECESSARY TRAVEL EXPENSES INCURRED IN THE  
15 PERFORMANCE OF THE MEMBER'S DUTIES ON THE TASK FORCE.

16 (e) MEMBERS OF THE TASK FORCE MAY PARTICIPATE REMOTELY IN  
17 TASK FORCE MEETINGS AND OTHER ACTIVITIES.

18 (f) THE CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR OF THE TASK FORCE SHALL  
19 CONVENE THE FIRST MEETING OF THE TASK FORCE NO LATER THAN  
20 SEPTEMBER 1, 2025. THE TASK FORCE SHALL MEET AT LEAST THREE TIMES  
21 IN 2025 TO COMPLETE THE DUTIES SPECIFIED IN SUBSECTION (3) OF THIS  
22 SECTION. THE CHAIR MAY CALL ADDITIONAL MEETINGS AS NECESSARY FOR  
23 THE TASK FORCE TO COMPLETE ITS DUTIES.

24 (g) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL BE AVAILABLE TO ASSIST THE TASK  
25 FORCE IN CARRYING OUT ITS DUTIES.

26 (3) **Study and report.** (a) THE PURPOSE OF THE TASK FORCE IS TO  
27 STUDY AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE STANDARDIZATION OF AND

1 BEST PRACTICES FOR PARATRANSIT SERVICES IN THE STATE.

2 (b) IN COMPLETING THE STUDY REQUIRED BY THIS SUBSECTION (3),  
3 THE TASK FORCE SHALL, AT A MINIMUM:

4 (I) IDENTIFY BEST PRACTICES FOR PARATRANSIT SERVICES IN THE  
5 STATE;

6 (II) EXAMINE SOLUTIONS TO INCREASE CONTINUITY IN  
7 PARATRANSIT SERVICES OFFERED ACROSS SERVICE AREAS;

8 (III) ASSESS THE SUSTAINABILITY OF PARATRANSIT FUNDING AND  
9 THE POTENTIAL FOR INCREASED FUNDING; AND

10 (IV) EVALUATE THE USE OF DIFFERENT VEHICLES FOR DIFFERENT  
11 PASSENGER AND TRANSIT NEEDS.

12 (c) (I) ON OR BEFORE OCTOBER 15, 2025, THE TASK FORCE SHALL  
13 SUBMIT A REPORT TO THE TRANSPORTATION LEGISLATION REVIEW  
14 COMMITTEE THAT INCLUDES A SUMMARY OF THE WORK ACCOMPLISHED BY  
15 THE TASK FORCE, THE FINDINGS OF THE STUDY, AND ANY  
16 RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY CONCERNING MATTERS  
17 STUDIED BY THE TASK FORCE.

18 (II) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL INCLUDE A SUMMARY OF THE REPORT  
19 AND RECOMMENDATIONS IN ITS ANNUAL PRESENTATION TO THE GENERAL  
20 ASSEMBLY IN JANUARY 2026.

21 (4) **Repeal.** THIS SECTION IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026.

22 **SECTION 2. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act  
23 takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the  
24 ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly; except  
25 that, if a referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V  
26 of the state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this  
27 act within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take



1 effect unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in  
2 November 2026 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the  
3 official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.