HOUSE BILL 02-1084

BY REPRESENTATIVE(S) Stengel, Alexander, Coleman, Kester, Rippy, and Young;
also SENATOR(S) Hanna and Tupa.

AN ACT

CONCERNING COMPOSITION OF THE WILDLIFE COMMISSION MEMBERSHIP.

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

SECTION 1. 33-1-103 (1) (b) and (5), Colorado Revised Statutes, are amended to read:

33-1-103.  Wildlife commission - wildlife division - enterprise status.  
(1) (b) (I)  The commission shall consist of ELEVEN members with at least one voting member from each of the five districts created under subsection (2) of this section, and FOUR voting members from the public at large, the commissioner of agriculture, and the executive director of the department of natural resources, or their designees, both of whom shall serve as ex officio nonvoting members.  Neither the commissioner of agriculture, the executive director of the department of natural resources, nor their designees shall be considered as representatives of any political party for purposes of subsection (5) of this section.  No more than two voting members shall be from any one of the five districts; EXCEPT THAT ONE OF THE AT LARGE MEMBERS MAY BE APPOINTED FROM ANY DISTRICT SO THAT A DISTRICT MAY HAVE THREE VOTING MEMBERS. The members of the commission shall be appointed by the governor, with the consent of the senate. Members of the commission shall be residents of this state, and each member appointed from a district created under subsection (2) of this section shall, at the time of the member's appointment and at all times during the member's term of office, be a bona fide resident of the district from which appointed. All members of the commission shall have a reasonable knowledge of wildlife issues, wildlife habitat, or wildlife management. Members shall be removed from office by the governor only for cause.

(II) The governor shall appoint two members of the commission on March 1 of each year and the terms of office for members of the commission shall be four years;
EXCEPT THAT, AS SOON AS POSSIBLE BUT NO LATER THAN JUNE 1, 2002, THE GOVERNOR SHALL APPOINT THE NEW MEMBER FROM THE PUBLIC AT LARGE AUTHORIZED BY SUBPARAGRAPH (III) OF THIS PARAGRAPH (b). COMMENCING MARCH 1, 2006, AND EVERY FOURTH YEAR THEREAFTER, THE GOVERNOR SHALL APPOINT THREE MEMBERS TO THE COMMISSION. No member shall serve more than two four-year consecutive terms. Vacancies on the commission shall be filled for the unexpired term by the governor, with the consent of the senate. A request for removal of a member shall be submitted to the governor by the secretary of the commission confirming that a member has failed, for reasons other than temporary mental or physical disability or illness, to attend any combination of three regular meetings of the commission or commission workshops during any twelve-month period without the commission having entered upon its minutes an approval for any such absences. The governor, in his or her discretion, may remove such member.

(III) One member of the commission shall be appointed from each of the following categories: Livestock producers, agricultural or produce growers, sportsmen or outfitters, sportsmen or sportswomen, wildlife organizations, and boards of county commissioners. Two members of the commission shall be appointed from the public at large. With the exception of members serving on the commission on January 1, 2000, a member shall serve his or her entire term, and any subsequent term, representing the category for which such member was originally appointed.

(5) Not more than four members of the commission shall be members of the same political party.

SECTION 2. Appropriation. In addition to any other appropriation, there is hereby appropriated, out of any moneys in the wildlife cash fund created in section 33-1-112, Colorado Revised Statutes, not otherwise appropriated, to the department of natural resources, for allocation to the division of wildlife, for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2002, the sum of five thousand eight hundred and sixty-eight dollars ($5,868), or so much thereof as may be necessary, for the implementation of this act.

SECTION 3. Safety clause. The general assembly hereby finds, determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, and safety.

Approved: May 24, 2002