

Second Regular Session
Sixty-ninth General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO

DRAFT
10.25.13

BILL 10

LLS NO. 14-0284.01 Kate Meyer x4348

INTERIM COMMITTEE BILL

Wildfire Matters Review Committee

SHORT TITLE: "Create Wildfire Information & Resource Center"

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 **CONCERNING THE CREATION OF THE WILDFIRE INFORMATION AND**
102 **RESOURCE CENTER IN THE DIVISION OF FIRE PREVENTION AND**
103 **CONTROL IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY.**

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://www.leg.state.co.us/billsummaries>.)

Wildfire Matters Review Committee. The bill creates the wildfire information and resource center in the division of fire prevention and control in the department of public safety.

*Capital letters indicate new material to be added to existing statute.
Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.*

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

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-33.5-1203, **add**

3 (1) (v) as follows:

4 **24-33.5-1203. Duties of division.** (1) The division shall perform
5 the following duties:

6 (v) ESTABLISH AND OPERATE THE WILDFIRE INFORMATION AND
7 RESOURCE CENTER CREATED IN SECTION 24-33.5-1229.

8 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 24-33.5-1229 as
9 follows:

10 **24-33.5-1229. Wildfire information and resource center.**

11 (1) (a) IN ORDER TO IMPROVE PROTECTION OF THE PUBLIC BY ENHANCING
12 ACCESS TO INFORMATION BY HOMEOWNERS, WILDLAND FIRE
13 PROFESSIONALS, THE MEDIA, AND EDUCATORS, THERE IS HEREBY CREATED
14 IN THE DIVISION THE WILDFIRE INFORMATION AND RESOURCE CENTER,
15 ALSO REFERRED TO IN THIS SECTION AS THE "CENTER".

16 (b) THE CENTER MUST BE OPERATIONAL WITHIN SIXTY DAYS OF
17 THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS SECTION.

18 (2) (a) THE CENTER IS AN ON-LINE SOURCE OF WILDFIRE
19 INFORMATION FOR HOMEOWNERS, WILDLAND FIRE PROFESSIONALS, THE
20 MEDIA, AND EDUCATORS.

21 (b) THE CENTER'S WEB SITE MUST INCLUDE INFORMATION, OR
22 HYPERLINKS TO INFORMATION, REGARDING:

23 (I) CURRENT WILDFIRES IN COLORADO;

24 (II) HOW TO PREVENT AND PREPARE FOR A WILDFIRE;

25 (III) STATEWIDE FIRE DANGER AND CURRENT BURNING
26 RESTRICTIONS;

1 (IV) CURRENT PRESCRIBED BURN ACTIVITY, WITH CONTACT
2 INFORMATION FOR THE RESPONSIBLE AGENCY;

3 (V) WILDLAND AND PRESCRIBED FIRE TRAINING;

4 (VI) SOURCES OF FUNDING FOR WILDFIRE MITIGATION ACTIVITIES;
5 AND

6 (VII) OTHER INFORMATION THAT THE DIRECTOR DEEMS
7 PERTINENT, SUCH AS RESULTS OF LOCAL, STATE, OR NATIONAL RESEARCH
8 RELATED TO WILDFIRE.

9 (3) THE DIRECTOR MAY FULFILL ANY OF THE DUTIES CONTAINED
10 IN SUBSECTION (2) OF THIS SECTION THROUGH THE USE OF PUBLIC-PRIVATE
11 PARTNERSHIPS WITH ONE OR MORE PRIVATE OR PUBLIC ENTITIES.

12 (4) (a) THE DIVISION IS AUTHORIZED TO SEEK AND ACCEPT GIFTS,
13 GRANTS, DONATIONS, OR REIMBURSEMENTS FROM PRIVATE OR PUBLIC
14 SOURCES FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION.

15 (b) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FINDS THAT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF
16 THIS SECTION DOES NOT RELY ENTIRELY OR IN ANY PART ON THE RECEIPT
17 OF ADEQUATE FUNDING THROUGH GIFTS, GRANTS, OR DONATIONS.
18 THEREFORE, THE DIVISION IS NOT SUBJECT TO THE NOTICE REQUIREMENTS
19 SPECIFIED IN SECTION 24-75-1303 (3).

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