

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

PREAMENDED

*This Unofficial Version Includes Committee
Amendments Not Yet Adopted on Second Reading*

LLS NO. 25-0367.02 Owen Hatch x2698

HOUSE BILL 25-1290

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Lindstedt and Valdez, Bird, Boesenecker, Lieder, McCluskie, Phillips

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Mullica,

House Committees

Transportation, Housing & Local Government

Senate Committees

Judiciary

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 **CONCERNING TRANSIT WORKER 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://leg.colorado.gov>.)

The bill creates a specific criminal offense related to assault of a transit worker. The bill also adds regional transportation district transit police officers to the list of law enforcement officials who can access the peace officer training and support fund.

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

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.

HOUSE
3rd Reading Unamended
March 25, 2025

HOUSE
Amended 2nd Reading
March 20, 2025

1 SECTION 1. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 18-9-101, add
2 (3) as follows:

3 18-9-101. Definitions. As used in this part 1, unless the context
4 otherwise requires:

5 (3) "TRANSIT WORKER" MEANS A BUS OPERATOR, TRAIN
6 OPERATOR, TICKET INSPECTOR, CONDUCTOR, STATION CUSTOMER
7 ASSISTANT, OR A PERSON WHOSE OFFICIAL DUTIES INCLUDE THE
8 MAINTENANCE, REPAIR, INSPECTION, TROUBLESHOOTING, TESTING, OR
9 CLEANING OF BUSES, TRAINS, OR FACILITIES OF A MASS TRANSPORTATION
10 SYSTEM, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 32-9-103, OR A COMMUTER RAIL AGENCY,
11 AUTHORITY, OR COMPANY, PUBLIC OR PRIVATE, WHOSE OPERATION IS
12 AUTHORIZED BY THE STATE, WHETHER THE PERSON IS EMPLOYED BY A
13 POLITICAL SUBDIVISION OR A PRIVATE ENTITY.

14 SECTION 2. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 18-9-111, amend (1)
15 introductory portion, (1)(h), and (2)(a); and add (1)(i) as follows:

16 18-9-111. Harassment - Kiana Arellano's Law. (1) A person
17 commits harassment if, with intent to harass, annoy, or alarm another
18 person, ~~he or she~~ THE PERSON:

19 (h) Repeatedly insults, taunts, challenges, or makes
20 communications in offensively coarse language to another in a manner
21 likely to provoke a violent or disorderly response; OR

22 (i) WRONGFULLY INTERFERES WITH A TRANSIT WORKER
23 PERFORMING A LAWFUL DUTY.

24 (2) (a) A person who violates subsection (1)(a), ~~or~~ (1)(c), OR (1)(i)
25 of this section or violates ~~any provision of~~ subsection (1) of this section
26 with the intent to intimidate or harass another person, in whole or in part,
27 because of that person's actual or perceived race; color; religion; ancestry;

1 national origin; physical or mental disability, as defined in section
2 18-9-121; sexual orientation, as defined in section 18-9-121; or
3 transgender identity commits a class 1 misdemeanor.

4 **SECTION 3.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-4.1-302, **add**
5 **(1)(cc.2)** as follows:

6 **24-4.1-302. Definitions.** As used in this part 3, and for no other
7 purpose, including the expansion of the rights of any defendant:

8 (1) "Crime" means any of the following offenses, acts, and
9 violations as defined by the statutes of the state of Colorado, whether
10 committed by an adult or a juvenile:

11 (cc.2) HARASSMENT IN VIOLATION OF SECTION 18-9-111 (1)(i);

12 **SECTION 4.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 32-9-160, **amend (1)**
13 **as follows:**

14 **32-9-160. Misdemeanors.** (1) Any person who wrongfully
15 damages, injures, or destroys, or in any manner impairs the usefulness of
16 any facility, property, structure, improvement, equipment, or other
17 property of the district acquired under the provisions of this article 9, or
18 who wrongfully interferes with any officer, agent, or employee of the
19 district in the proper discharge of the officer's, agent's, or employee's
20 duties, commits a class 2 misdemeanor.

21 **SECTION 5.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **amend** 24-33.5-538
22 as follows:

23 **24-33.5-538. Appropriation.** The ~~General Assembly~~ GENERAL
24 ASSEMBLY shall appropriate \$350 million to the peace officer training and
25 support fund for the purpose of:

26 (1) Granting funds to law enforcement agencies in municipalities
27 and counties for operating money to:

1 (a) Increase annual pay for police, sheriff, and other law
2 enforcement officials, INCLUDING REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION DISTRICT
3 TRANSIT POLICE OFFICERS;

4 (b) Provide one-time hiring, retention, or merit bonuses to attract,
5 maintain, or reward exceptional law enforcement officials, INCLUDING
6 REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION DISTRICT TRANSIT POLICE OFFICERS;

7 (c) Hire additional police or law enforcement officials, INCLUDING
8 REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION DISTRICT TRANSIT POLICE OFFICERS, to
9 address specific geographic areas or specific types of criminal activity,
10 including gang activity, drug cartels, human trafficking, stolen vehicle
11 units, and drug interdiction at the state's borders and along the state's
12 interstate highways;

13 (d) Initial and continuing education for law enforcement,
14 INCLUDING REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION DISTRICT TRANSIT POLICE
15 OFFICERS, including use of force training, restraint and non-lethal force
16 training, physical fitness training or enhancement, post-secondary
17 education advancement in criminal justice or other related areas of study,
18 and other programs and disciplines that contribute to a comprehensive
19 training and retraining of law enforcement officials in the state of
20 Colorado; and

21 (e) Money from the general fund as may be needed to pay the
22 surviving spouse or children or estate of police, INCLUDING REGIONAL
23 TRANSPORTATION DISTRICT TRANSIT POLICE OFFICERS, AND fire or other
24 first responders killed in the line of duty.

25 (2) AN ELIGIBLE LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY MAY GRANT FUNDS
26 RECEIVED FROM THE PEACE OFFICER TRAINING AND SUPPORT FUND TO THE
27 REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION DISTRICT, AS DESCRIBED IN ARTICLE 9 OF

1 TITLE 32, FOR THE PURPOSES DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (1) OF THIS
2 SECTION.

3 **SECTION 6. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act
4 takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the
5 ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly; except
6 that, if a referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V
7 of the state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this
8 act within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take
9 effect unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in
10 November 2026 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the
11 official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.