

**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. 25-0490.02 Nicole Myers x4326

HOUSE BILL 25-1195

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Johnson and Martinez, Bradfield

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Mullica and Baisley,

House Committees

State, Civic, Military, & Veterans Affairs
Appropriations

Senate Committees

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 **CONCERNING THE ABILITY OF A FIRST RESPONDER OR THE SPOUSE OF**
102 **A FIRST RESPONDER TO REQUEST THAT THE ADDRESS IN THEIR**
103 **VOTER REGISTRATION RECORDS MAINTAINED BY THE COUNTY**
104 **CLERK AND RECORDER OR THE SECRETARY OF STATE BE KEPT**
105 **CONFIDENTIAL.**

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>.)

Beginning January 1, 2026, an elector or the spouse of an elector who is or has been a peace officer, firefighter, volunteer firefighter,

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.

emergency medical service provider, or other individual who responds to a public safety emergency (first responder) may request that the address included in the following records concerning the first responder be kept confidential (address confidentiality):

- Voter registration records in the custody of a county clerk and recorder; and
- Voter registration records in the centralized statewide registration system maintained by the secretary of state (secretary).

A first responder may request address confidentiality on the electronic voter registration form or record created by the secretary. The secretary is required to ensure that the electronic voter registration form and an elector's voter registration record includes a place for a first responder to indicate that they are a first responder and request address confidentiality. The secretary is also required to ensure that when a first responder indicates on their voter registration form or record that they are requesting address confidentiality, the first responder is automatically directed to an electronic application form that requests certain information to allow the secretary to implement the address confidentiality request.

The secretary is required to provide a copy of each completed application to the clerk and recorder of the county where the first responder is registered to vote for the purpose of implementing address confidentiality for the records maintained by the county clerk and recorder.

The secretary is prohibited from charging a fee in connection with a first responder's request for address confidentiality.

The custodian of any voter registration records that concern a first responder who has requested address confidentiality is required to deny the right of inspection of the first responder's address contained in the records on the ground that disclosure would be contrary to the public interest.

A first responder's request for address confidentiality is not a public record subject to public inspection.

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

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-72-204, **amend**

3 (3.5)(a), (3.5)(b), (3.5)(c) introductory portion, and (3.5)(e); and **add**

4 (3.5)(h) as follows:

5 **24-72-204. Allowance or denial of inspection - grounds -**

1 **procedure - appeal - definitions - repeal.** (3.5) (a) Effective January 1,
2 1992, Any individual who meets the requirements of this subsection (3.5)
3 may request that ~~the address of such individual~~ THEIR ADDRESS included
4 in any public records concerning ~~that individual which~~ THEM THAT are
5 required to be made, maintained, or kept pursuant to ~~the following~~
6 ~~sections~~ SECTIONS 1-2-227, 1-2-301, OR 24-6-202 be kept confidential.

7 ~~(I) Sections 1-2-227 and 1-2-301, C.R.S.;~~

8 ~~(II) (Deleted by amendment, L. 2000, p. 1337, § 1, effective May~~
9 ~~30, 2000.)~~

10 ~~(III) Section 24-6-202.~~

11 (b) (I) An individual may make the request of confidentiality
12 allowed by this subsection (3.5) if ~~such~~ THE individual IS A FIRST
13 RESPONDER OR IF THE INDIVIDUAL has reason to believe that ~~such~~ THE
14 individual, or any member of ~~such~~ THE individual's immediate family who
15 resides in the same household as ~~such~~ THE individual, will be exposed to
16 criminal harassment as prohibited in section 18-9-111, ~~C.R.S.~~, or
17 otherwise be in danger of bodily harm, if ~~such~~ THE individual's address
18 is not kept confidential in accordance with this subsection (3.5).

19 ~~(II) A request of confidentiality with respect to records described~~
20 ~~in subparagraph (I) of paragraph (a) of this subsection (3.5) shall be made~~
21 ~~in person in the office of~~ AN INDIVIDUAL MUST MAKE THE REQUEST FOR
22 CONFIDENTIALITY ALLOWED BY SUBSECTION (3.5)(a) OF THIS SECTION TO
23 the county clerk and recorder of the county where the individual making
24 the request resides. ~~Requests shall be made on application forms~~
25 ~~approved by the secretary of state, after consultation with county clerk~~
26 ~~and recorders~~ THE SECRETARY OF STATE SHALL APPROVE THE
27 APPLICATION FORM FOR A REQUEST FOR CONFIDENTIALITY. The

1 application form shall provide space for the applicant to provide ~~his or~~
2 ~~her~~ THEIR name and address, date of birth, and any other identifying
3 information determined by the secretary of state to be necessary to carry
4 out ~~the provisions of~~ this subsection (3.5). In addition, an affirmation
5 ~~shall~~ MUST be printed on the form, in the area immediately above a line
6 for the applicant's signature and the date, stating the following: "I swear
7 or affirm, under penalty of perjury, that I have reason to believe that I, or
8 a member of my immediate family who resides in my household, will be
9 exposed to criminal harassment, or otherwise be in danger of bodily harm,
10 if my address is not kept confidential OR THAT I AM OR HAVE BEEN A FIRST
11 RESPONDER OR AM OR HAVE BEEN THE SPOUSE OR CIVIL UNION PARTNER
12 OF A FIRST RESPONDER AND AM ELIGIBLE TO HAVE MY ADDRESS KEPT
13 CONFIDENTIAL PURSUANT TO SECTION 24-72-204 (3.5)." Immediately
14 below the signature line, there ~~shall~~ MUST be printed a notice, in a type
15 that is larger than the other information contained on the form, that the
16 applicant may be prosecuted for perjury in the second degree under
17 section 18-8-503 C.R.S., if the applicant signs ~~such~~ THE affirmation and
18 does not believe ~~such~~ THE affirmation to be true OR IS NOT OR HAS NOT
19 BEEN A FIRST RESPONDER OR THE SPOUSE OR CIVIL UNION PARTNER OF A
20 FIRST RESPONDER.

21 (III) ~~The county clerk and recorder of each county shall provide~~
22 ~~an opportunity for any individual to make the request of confidentiality~~
23 ~~allowed by this subsection (3.5) in person at the time such individual~~
24 ~~makes application to the county clerk and recorder to register to vote or~~
25 ~~to make any change in such individual's registration, and at any other time~~
26 ~~during normal business hours of the office of the county clerk and~~
27 ~~recorder. The county clerk and recorder shall forward a copy of each~~

1 completed application to the secretary of state for purposes of the records
2 maintained by him or her pursuant to subparagraph (I) of paragraph (a)
3 of this subsection (3.5). The county clerk and recorder shall collect a
4 processing fee in the amount of five dollars of which amount two dollars
5 and fifty cents shall be transmitted to the secretary of state for the purpose
6 of offsetting the secretary of state's costs of processing applications
7 forwarded to the secretary of state pursuant to this subparagraph (III). All
8 processing fees received by the secretary of state pursuant to this
9 subparagraph (III) shall be transmitted to the state treasurer, who shall
10 credit the same to the department of state cash fund EACH COUNTY CLERK

11 AND RECORDER SHALL:

12 (A) MAKE THE CONFIDENTIALITY REQUEST APPLICATION FORMS
13 AVAILABLE IN THEIR OFFICE;

14 (B) PROVIDE THE CONFIDENTIALITY REQUEST APPLICATION FORMS
15 TO INTERESTED PERSONS BY UNITED STATES MAIL, EMAIL DELIVERY, OR
16 FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION, IF REQUESTED;

17 (C) PERMIT INDIVIDUALS TO SUBMIT COMPLETED AND SIGNED
18 CONFIDENTIALITY REQUEST APPLICATION FORMS BY UNITED STATES MAIL,
19 PERSONAL DELIVERY, EMAIL DELIVERY, OR FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION; AND

20 (D) PROCESS AN INDIVIDUAL'S REQUEST FOR CONFIDENTIALITY
21 PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION (3.5) WITHOUT IMPOSING A PROCESSING
22 FEE OR ANY OTHER CHARGE.

23 (IV) The secretary of state shall provide an opportunity for any
24 individual to make the request of confidentiality allowed by paragraph (a)
25 of this subsection (3.5), with respect to the records described in
26 subparagraph (III) of paragraph (a) of this subsection (3.5). The secretary
27 of state may charge a processing fee, not to exceed five dollars, for each

1 such request. All processing fees collected by the secretary of state
2 pursuant to this subparagraph (IV) or subparagraph (III) of this paragraph
3 (b) shall be transmitted to the state treasurer, who shall credit the same to
4 the department of state cash fund.

5 (V) Notwithstanding the amount specified for any fee in
6 subparagraph (III) or (IV) of this paragraph (b), the secretary of state by
7 rule or as otherwise provided by law may reduce the amount of one or
8 more of the fees credited to the department of state cash fund if necessary
9 pursuant to section 24-75-402 (3), to reduce the uncommitted reserves of
10 the fund to which all or any portion of one or more of the fees is credited.
11 After the uncommitted reserves of the fund are sufficiently reduced, the
12 secretary of state by rule or as otherwise provided by law may increase
13 the amount of one or more of the fees as provided in section 24-75-402
14 (4).

15 (c) The custodian of any records described in subsection (3.5)(a)
16 of this section that concern an individual who has made a request of FOR
17 confidentiality pursuant to this subsection (3.5) and paid any required
18 processing fee shall deny the right of inspection of the individual's
19 address contained in such records on the ground that disclosure would be
20 contrary to the public interest; except that the custodian shall allow the
21 inspection of the records by the individual, by any person authorized in
22 writing by that individual, and by any individual employed by one of the
23 following entities who makes a request to the custodian to inspect the
24 records and who provides evidence satisfactory to the custodian that the
25 inspection is reasonably related to the authorized purpose of the
26 employing entity:

27 (e) No A person shall NOT make any false statement in requesting

1 any information pursuant to ~~paragraph (a) or (b) of this subsection (3.5)~~
2 ~~SUBSECTION (3.5)(c) OR (3.5)(d) OF THIS SECTION.~~

3 (h) AS USED IN THIS SUBSECTION (3.5), UNLESS THE CONTEXT
4 OTHERWISE REQUIRES, "FIRST RESPONDER" MEANS AN ELECTOR, AS
5 DEFINED IN SECTION 1-1-104 (12), WHO IS OR WHO HAS BEEN ONE OF THE
6 FOLLOWING:

7 (I) A PEACE OFFICER, AS DESCRIBED IN SECTION 16-2.5-101;

8 (II) A FIREFIGHTER, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 29-5-203 (10);

9 (III) A VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER, AS DEFINED IN SECTION
10 31-30-1102 (9)(a);

11 (IV) AN EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE PROVIDER, AS DEFINED IN
12 SECTION 25-3.5-103 (8);

13 (V) AN EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS SPECIALIST, AS DEFINED IN
14 SECTION 29-11-101 (10.5);

15 (VI) THE SPOUSE OR CIVIL UNION PARTNER OF AN INDIVIDUAL
16 SPECIFIED IN SUBSECTION (3.5)(h)(I), (3.5)(h)(II), (3.5)(h)(III),
17 (3.5)(h)(IV), OR (3.5)(h)(V) OF THIS SECTION.

18 **SECTION 2. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act
19 takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the
20 ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly; except
21 that, if a referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V
22 of the state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this
23 act within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take
24 effect unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in
25 November 2026 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the
26 official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.