Second Regular Session Seventy-third General Assembly STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 22-0708.01 Conrad Imel x2313

SENATE BILL 22-019

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Winter,

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Woodrow,

Senate Committees

House Committees

Judiciary

101

102

A BILL FOR AN ACT

CONCERNING ACCESS TO AUTOMATICALLY SUPPRESSED COURT RECORDS OF EVICTION PROCEEDINGS.

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.)

Under existing law, a court record in an eviction proceeding is automatically suppressed and only available to judges; court staff; a party to the case and, if represented, the party's attorneys; authorized judicial department staff; and a person with a valid court order authorizing access to the court record. The bill permits an attorney, with permission of a party included in a suppressed court record, to access the record for the

purpose of providing legal advice to, or evaluating whether to enter an appearance on behalf of, the party included in the record.

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

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2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 13-40-110.5, add (5) 3 as follows: 4 13-40-110.5. Automatic suppression of court records -5 **definition.** (5) IN ADDITION TO THE PERSONS DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION 6 (1) OF THIS SECTION, A COURT SHALL ALLOW A PERSON TO ACCESS A 7 SUPPRESSED COURT RECORD IF THE PERSON AFFIRMS TO THE COURT, IN 8 PERSON OR ELECTRONICALLY, THAT: 9 THE PERSON IS AN ATTORNEY, OTHER THAN A PARTY'S 10 ATTORNEY DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (1) OF THIS SECTION, OR IS ACTING 11 ON BEHALF OF THE ATTORNEY; 12 (b) A PARTY INCLUDED IN THE COURT RECORD HAS GIVEN WRITTEN 13 OR VERBAL PERMISSION FOR THE PERSON TO ACCESS THE SUPPRESSED 14 COURT RECORD; 15 (c) THE PERSON IS ONLY ACCESSING THE RECORD FOR THE PURPOSE 16 OF PROVIDING LEGAL ADVICE TO, OR EVALUATING WHETHER TO ENTER AN 17 APPEARANCE ON BEHALF OF, THE PARTY WHO GAVE PERMISSION FOR THE 18 PERSON TO ACCESS THE RECORD; AND 19 (d) THE PERSON IS NOT ACCESSING THE RECORD FOR COMMERCIAL 20 PURPOSES, OTHER THAN AS DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (5)(c) OF THIS 21 SECTION. 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

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- of the state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this
- 2 act within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take
- 3 effect unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in
- 4 November 2022 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the
- official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.

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