First Regular Session Seventy-fifth General Assembly STATE OF COLORADO

REENGROSSED

This Version Includes All Amendments Adopted in the House of Introduction

LLS NO. 25-0919.01 Chelsea Princell x4335

SENATE BILL 25-240

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Bridges and Kirkmeyer, Amabile, Roberts, Weissman

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Bird and Taggart, Sirota

Senate Committees

House Committees

Appropriations

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 CONCERNING THE CREATION OF THE ELECTRONIC DISCOVERY IN
102 CRIMINAL CASES TASK FORCE.

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/.)

Joint Budget Committee. The bill creates the electronic discovery in criminal cases task force (task force), which consists of 13 task force members. The purpose of the task force is to study the costs and management of electronic discovery in criminal cases.

SENATE rd Reading Unamended April 3, 2025

SENATE 2nd Reading Unamended April 2, 2025

1	Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:
2	SECTION 1. In Colorado Revised Statutes, add 16-18-106 as
3	follows:
4	16-18-106. Electronic discovery in criminal cases task force -
5	creation - purpose - membership - report - repeal. (1) THERE IS
6	CREATED THE ELECTRONIC DISCOVERY IN CRIMINAL CASES TASK FORCE,
7	REFERRED TO IN THIS SECTION AS THE "TASK FORCE".
8	(2) THE PURPOSE OF THE TASK FORCE IS TO STUDY THE COSTS AND
9	MANAGEMENT OF ELECTRONIC DISCOVERY IN CRIMINAL CASES.
10	(3) THE TASK FORCE CONSISTS OF THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS:
11	(a) The executive director of the Colorado district
12	ATTORNEYS' COUNCIL, OR THE DIRECTOR'S DESIGNEE, WHO IS THE CHAIR
13	OF THE TASK FORCE;
14	(b) An attorney employed by the office of state public
15	DEFENDER, WHO IS THE VICE-CHAIR OF THE TASK FORCE AND IS APPOINTED
16	BY THE STATE PUBLIC DEFENDER;
17	(c) AN ATTORNEY EMPLOYED BY, OR UNDER CONTRACT WITH, THE
18	OFFICE OF ALTERNATE DEFENSE COUNSEL, APPOINTED BY THE OFFICE OF
19	ALTERNATE DEFENSE COUNSEL;
20	(d) AN ATTORNEY WITHIN THE ANTITRUST UNIT OF THE ATTORNEY
21	GENERAL'S OFFICE, APPOINTED BY THE ATTORNEY GENERAL;
22	(e) One information technology professional employed by
23	THE COLORADO DISTRICT ATTORNEYS' COUNCIL, AND ONE DISTRICT
24	ATTORNEY WHO HAS KNOWLEDGE OF ELECTRONIC DISCOVERY, APPOINTED
25	BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE COLORADO DISTRICT ATTORNEYS'
26	COUNCIL;
27	(f) AN INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYED BY

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1	THE OFFICE OF STATE PUBLIC DEFENDER, APPOINTED BY THE STATE PUBLIC
2	DEFENDER;
3	(g) ONE EMPLOYEE OF A SHERIFF'S OFFICE WHO HAS KNOWLEDGE
4	OF ELECTRONIC DISCOVERY, APPOINTED BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF
5	THE COUNTY SHERIFFS OF COLORADO;
6	(h) AN EMPLOYEE OF A POLICE DEPARTMENT WHO HAS
7	KNOWLEDGE OF ELECTRONIC DISCOVERY, APPOINTED BY THE COLORADO
8	ASSOCIATION OF THE CHIEFS OF POLICE;
9	(i) AN EMPLOYEE OF THE COLORADO STATE PATROL WHO HAS
10	KNOWLEDGE OF ELECTRONIC DISCOVERY, APPOINTED BY THE CHIEF OF THE
11	COLORADO STATE PATROL; AND
12	(j) A COUNTY COMMISSIONER WHO HAS KNOWLEDGE OF LOCAL
13	ELECTRONIC DISCOVERY COSTS AND LOCAL CONTRACTS RELATED TO
14	ELECTRONIC DISCOVERY, APPOINTED BY COLORADO COUNTIES,
15	INCORPORATED.
16	(4)(a) The appointing authorities shall appoint members to
17	THE TASK FORCE WITHIN THIRTY DAYS AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS
18	SECTION AND PROMPTLY NOTIFY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE
19	COLORADO DISTRICT ATTORNEYS' COUNCIL OF THE APPOINTMENT.
20	(b) THE MEMBERS APPOINTED TO THE TASK FORCE SERVE FOR THE
21	DURATION OF THE TASK FORCE.
22	(c) ANY VACANCY OCCURRING IN THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE TASK
23	FORCE MUST BE FILLED IN THE SAME MANNER AS THE ORIGINAL
24	APPOINTMENT.
25	(d) THE MEMBERS OF THE TASK FORCE SERVE ON THE TASK FORCE
26	WITHOUT COMPENSATION.
27	(5) THE TASK FORCE SHALL:

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1	(a) HOLD ITS FIRST MEETING ON OR BEFORE JULY 1, 2025, AT A
2	TIME AND PLACE DETERMINED BY THE CHAIR OF THE TASK FORCE;
3	(b) Meet at least once every month or more often as
4	DIRECTED BY THE CHAIR OF THE TASK FORCE;
5	(c) COMMUNICATE WITH AND OBTAIN INPUT FROM LAW
6	ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES, PROSECUTORS, AND DEFENSE ATTORNEYS
7	THROUGHOUT THE STATE AFFECTED BY THE ISSUES IDENTIFIED IN
8	SUBSECTION (6) OF THIS SECTION; AND
9	(d) Create subcommittees, as needed, to carry out the
10	DUTIES OF THE TASK FORCE. THE SUBCOMMITTEES MAY CONSIST, IN PART,
11	OF PERSONS WHO ARE NOT MEMBERS OF THE TASK FORCE AND WHO MAY
12	VOTE ON ISSUES BEFORE THE SUBCOMMITTEE BUT WHO ARE NOT ENTITLED
13	TO A VOTE AT TASK FORCE MEETINGS.
14	(6) THE TASK FORCE SHALL EXAMINE AND GATHER INFORMATION
15	REGARDING THE FOLLOWING:
16	(a) THE CURRENT CONTRACTS IN PLACE BETWEEN A LAW
17	ENFORCEMENT AGENCY, A DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE, THE OFFICE OF
18	THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, THE OFFICE OF STATE PUBLIC DEFENDER, THE
19	OFFICE OF ALTERNATE DEFENSE COUNSEL, OR, IF AVAILABLE, PRIVATE
20	CRIMINAL DEFENSE ATTORNEYS AND A VENDOR FOR ELECTRONIC
21	DISCOVERY SERVICES AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SERVICES, AND
22	INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION REGARDING EACH CONTRACT:
23	(I) THE LENGTH AND EXPIRATION DATE OF THE CONTRACT;
24	(II) THE COST OF THE CONTRACT;
25	(III) THE TERMS, CONTRACTED SERVICES, LICENSING
26	REQUIREMENTS, AND ANY OTHER KEY COMPONENT OF THE CONTRACT;
27	AND

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1	(IV) THE EXPECTED FUTURE COSTS OF THE CONTRACT, IF KNOWN;
2	(b) THE AMOUNT AND TYPE OF INFORMATION PLACED INTO
3	ELECTRONIC DISCOVERY, INCLUDING:
4	(I) THE NUMBER, SIZE, AND TYPE OF FILES PLACED INTO THE
5	STATEWIDE ELECTRONIC DISCOVERY PORTAL THAT CAN BE FULLY
6	DOWNLOADED, ACCESSED, OR UTILIZED THROUGH THE ELECTRONIC
7	DISCOVERY PORTAL;
8	(II) THE NUMBER, SIZE, AND TYPE OF FILES THAT REQUIRE
9	PROSECUTION AND DEFENSE TO USE AN OUTSIDE VENDOR OR WEBSITE TO
10	FULLY DOWNLOAD, ACCESS, OR UTILIZE THE ELECTRONIC DISCOVERY
11	DOCUMENTS; AND
12	(III) THE NUMBER, SIZE, AND TYPE OF FILES THAT ARE PLACED ON
13	PHYSICAL INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DEVICES SUCH AS FLASH DRIVES,
14	EXTERNAL HARD DRIVES, OR PHYSICAL COPIES IN ORDER FOR PROSECUTION
15	AND DEFENSE TO ACCESS AND UTILIZE THE ELECTRONIC DISCOVERY
16	DOCUMENTS;
17	(c) The extent to which prosecutors, public defenders,
18	ALTERNATE DEFENSE COUNSEL ATTORNEYS, PRIVATE DEFENSE
19	ATTORNEYS, AND PRO SE DEFENDANTS HAVE EQUITABLE ACCESS AND THE
20	ABILITY TO REVIEW AND UTILIZE ELECTRONIC DISCOVERY DOCUMENTS
21	COMPARED TO OTHER PROSECUTORS, PUBLIC DEFENDERS, ALTERNATE
22	DEFENSE COUNSEL ATTORNEYS, PRIVATE DEFENSE ATTORNEYS, AND PRO
23	SE DEFENDANTS, INCLUDING:
24	(I) THE TIME IT TAKES TO DOWNLOAD INFORMATION TO VIEW;
25	(II) THE ABILITY TO SEARCH DISCOVERY DOCUMENTS
26	ELECTRONICALLY;
27	(III) THE ABILITY TO SEE AUTOMATED TRANSCRIPTIONS, USE

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1	ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE TO GENERATE TRANSCRIPTIONS, OR USE ANY
2	OTHER TOOLS TO EXPEDITE REVIEW OF DISCOVERY DOCUMENTS; AND
3	(IV) THE ABILITY TO IDENTIFY WHICH OFFICER THE BODY CAMERA
4	FOOTAGE IS FROM OR THE ABILITY TO IDENTIFY WHERE ANOTHER SOURCE
5	OF VIDEO FOOTAGE WAS TAKEN FROM;
6	(d) How the amount and type of information placed into
7	ELECTRONIC DISCOVERY HAS CHANGED SINCE THE CREATION OF THE
8	STATEWIDE ELECTRONIC DISCOVERY PORTAL AND, TO THE EXTENT
9	KNOWN, HOW ELECTRONIC DISCOVERY IS PROJECTED TO CHANGE OVER
10	THE NEXT TEN YEARS;
11	(e) THE FEASIBILITY OF CREATING A SYSTEM THAT WOULD MAKE
12	THE ELECTRONIC DISCOVERY PROCESS MORE EFFICIENT AND EQUITABLE,
13	AVOID OR MINIMIZE THE NEED FOR OUTSIDE VENDORS, AND BETTER
14	CONTROL COSTS;
15	(f) The possible coordination of law enforcement
16	AGENCIES, PROSECUTING AGENCIES, THE OFFICE OF STATE PUBLIC
17	DEFENDER, THE OFFICE OF ALTERNATE DEFENSE COUNSEL, AND PRIVATE
18	DEFENSE ATTORNEY CONTRACTS TO MAKE THE ELECTRONIC DISCOVERY
19	PROCESS MORE EFFICIENT AND EQUITABLE, AVOID OR MINIMIZE THE NEED
20	FOR OUTSIDE VENDORS, AND BETTER CONTROL COSTS;
21	(g) The expected costs to the state, county, and local
22	GOVERNMENT IF CHANGES ARE NOT MADE TO THE ELECTRONIC DISCOVERY
23	PROCESS OVER THE NEXT TEN YEARS; AND
24	(h) RECOMMENDATIONS, INCLUDING POSSIBLE LEGISLATION, THAT
25	WOULD ASSIST IN:
26	(I) CONTROLLING THE COST OF ELECTRONIC DISCOVERY,
27	INCLUDING WHAT CONTRACT OR STATUTORY CHANGES ARE NEEDED TO

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1	ALLOW FOR COORDINATED CONTRACT NEGOTIATION AND PAYMENT TO
2	VENDORS BY THE STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS;
3	(II) Ensuring the flow of electronic discovery from one
4	ENTITY TO ANOTHER;
5	(III) WORK EFFICIENCY, INCLUDING SAVING TIME FOR EMPLOYEES
6	WHO CREATE OR USE ELECTRONIC DISCOVERY;
7	(IV) PROVIDING EQUITABLE ACCESS TO AND USE OF ELECTRONIC
8	DISCOVERY WHILE PROTECTING THE WORK PRODUCT AND MENTAL
9	PROCESSES OF PROSECUTION AND DEFENSE; AND
10	(V) CONSIDERING PROCEDURAL CHANGES TO EXISTING STATUTES;
11	COLORADO RULES OF CRIMINAL PROCEDURE; OR PRACTICES RELATED TO
12	THE DISCOVERY OBLIGATIONS OF PROSECUTION, DEFENSE, AND LAW
13	ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES TO IMPROVE DISCOVERY COMPLIANCE AND
14	PROCESSES.
15	(7) (a) LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES, DISTRICT ATTORNEYS'
16	OFFICES, THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, THE OFFICE OF STATE
17	PUBLIC DEFENDER, AND THE OFFICE OF ALTERNATE DEFENSE COUNSEL
18	SHALL SHARE INFORMATION REQUESTED BY THE TASK FORCE REGARDING
19	CONTRACTS, VENDORS, THE ELECTRONIC DISCOVERY PROCESS, AND COSTS
20	BUT SHALL NOT SHARE INFORMATION THAT WOULD VIOLATE STATE OR
21	FEDERAL LAWS, REGULATIONS, OR RULES OR THAT WOULD VIOLATE THE
22	RIGHTS OF A PERSON INVOLVED IN A CRIMINAL CASE.
23	(b) The entities specified in subsection (7)(a) of this section
24	SHALL RESPOND TO REQUESTS FROM THE TASK FORCE FOR INFORMATION
25	PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (7)(a) OF THIS SECTION IN GOOD FAITH AND
26	PROVIDE INFORMATION WITHIN A REASONABLE TIME.
27	(8) On or before November 1, 2025, the task force shall

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1	SUBMIT A REPORT TO THE JOINT BUDGET COMMITTEE AND THE JOINT
2	TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE THAT, AT A MINIMUM, DESCRIBES THE
3	FOLLOWING:
4	(a) THE WORK AND STUDY OF THE TASK FORCE;
5	(b) The findings and recommendations regarding the
6	ISSUES AND TOPICS CONSIDERED BY THE TASK FORCE AS DESCRIBED IN
7	SUBSECTION (6) OF THIS SECTION; AND
8	(c) Legislative proposals and expected related costs
9	BASED ON THE TASK FORCE'S FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS.
10	(9) This section is repealed, effective January 1, 2027.
11	SECTION 2. Safety clause. The general assembly finds,
12	determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate
13	preservation of the public peace, health, or safety or for appropriations for
14	the support and maintenance of the departments of the state and state
15	institutions.

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