

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

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 25-0367.02 Owen Hatch x2698

HOUSE BILL 25-1290

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Lindstedt and Valdez,

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Mullica,

House Committees

Transportation, Housing & Local Government

Senate Committees

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.

1 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 18-3-201, **amend** the
2 introductory portion; and **add** (4) as follows:

3 **18-3-201. Definitions.** As used in ~~sections 18-3-201~~ THIS SECTION
4 AND SECTIONS 18-3-202 to 18-3-204, unless the context otherwise
5 requires:

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

13 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 18-3-204, **amend**
14 (1)(b); and **add** (1)(c) and (1)(d) as follows:

15 **18-3-204. Assault in the third degree.** (1) A person commits the
16 crime of assault in the third degree if:

17 (b) The person, with intent to harass, annoy, threaten, or alarm
18 another person whom the actor knows or reasonably should know to be
19 a peace officer, a firefighter, an emergency medical care provider, or an
20 emergency medical service provider, causes the other person to come into
21 contact with blood, seminal fluid, urine, feces, saliva, mucus, vomit, or
22 toxic, caustic, or hazardous material by any means, including throwing,
23 tossing, or expelling the fluid or material; OR

24 (c) WITH INTENT TO HARASS, ANNOY, THREATEN, OR ALARM
25 ANOTHER PERSON WHOM THE PERSON KNOWS OR SHOULD KNOW TO BE A
26 TRANSIT WORKER, THE PERSON CAUSES THE TRANSIT WORKER TO COME
27 INTO CONTACT WITH BLOOD, SEMINAL FLUID, URINE, FECES, SALIVA,

1 MUCUS, VOMIT, OR TOXIC, CAUSTIC, OR HAZARDOUS MATERIAL BY ANY
2 MEANS, INCLUDING THROWING, TOSSING, OR EXPELLING THE FLUID OR
3 MATERIAL; OR

4 (d) WITH INTENT TO PREVENT ONE WHOM THE PERSON KNOWS, OR
5 SHOULD KNOW, TO BE A TRANSIT WORKER FROM PERFORMING A LAWFUL
6 DUTY, THE PERSON RECKLESSLY CAUSES BODILY INJURY TO THE TRANSIT
7 WORKER.

8 **SECTION 3.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **amend** 24-33.5-538
9 as follows:

10 **24-33.5-538. Appropriation.** The ~~General Assembly~~ GENERAL
11 ASSEMBLY shall appropriate \$350 million to the peace officer training and
12 support fund for the purpose of:

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

15 (a) Increase annual pay for police, sheriff, and other law
16 enforcement officials, INCLUDING REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION DISTRICT
17 TRANSIT POLICE OFFICERS;

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

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

27 (d) Initial and continuing education for law enforcement,

1 INCLUDING REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION DISTRICT TRANSIT POLICE
2 OFFICERS, including use of force training, restraint and non-lethal force
3 training, physical fitness training or enhancement, post-secondary
4 education advancement in criminal justice or other related areas of study,
5 and other programs and disciplines that contribute to a comprehensive
6 training and retraining of law enforcement officials in the state of
7 Colorado; and

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

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