

First Regular Session
Seventy-fourth General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO

DRAFT
9.7.22

BILL 2

LLS NO. 23-0137.01 Megan McCall x4215

INTERIM COMMITTEE BILL

Wildfire Matters Review Committee

BILL TOPIC: "Evacuation & Clearance Time Modeling"

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 **CONCERNING RESOURCES FOR EVACUATION MODELING BY LOCAL**
102 **ENTITIES.**

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/>.)

Wildfire Matters Review Committee. The bill directs the office of emergency management (office) to provide resources and technical assistance to an eligible entity to conduct evacuation and clearance time modeling and to publish the results to an interactive website. An eligible entity includes a fire department, governing body of a political subdivision, local or interjurisdictional emergency management agency,

*Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material to be added to existing statute.
Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.*

or homeowners' association that is located in or provides services to a wildfire risk area. The office is required to conduct an outreach and education campaign to advise eligible agencies of the program.

On and after July 1, 2026, each local and interjurisdictional emergency management agency that has jurisdiction in a wildfire risk area must perform evacuation and clearance time modeling and include the information in the emergency management plan for its area.

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

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 24-33.5-718 as
3 follows:

4 **24-33.5-718. Resources for evacuation modeling and clearance**
5 **times - definitions.** (1) AS USED IN THIS SECTION, UNLESS THE CONTEXT
6 OTHERWISE REQUIRES:

7 (a) "ELIGIBLE ENTITY" MEANS A LOCAL OR INTERJURISDICTIONAL
8 EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY, FIRE DEPARTMENT AS DEFINED IN
9 SECTION 24-33.5-1202 (3.9), GOVERNING BODY OF A POLITICAL
10 SUBDIVISION, OR HOMEOWNERS' ASSOCIATION THAT IS LOCATED IN OR
11 PROVIDES SERVICES TO TERRITORY IN A WILDFIRE RISK AREA.

12 (b) "STATE FOREST SERVICE" MEANS THE COLORADO STATE
13 FOREST SERVICE IDENTIFIED IN SECTION 23-31-302 AND THE DIVISION OF
14 FORESTRY CREATED IN SECTION 24-33-104.

15 (c) "WILDFIRE RISK AREA" MEANS AN AREA DESIGNATED AS HIGH
16 RISK OR HIGHEST RISK FOR WILDFIRE BY THE STATE FOREST SERVICE IN ITS
17 MOST RECENT PUBLICLY AVAILABLE STATEWIDE WILDFIRE RISK
18 ASSESSMENT MAP OR TOOL.

19 (2) AN ELIGIBLE ENTITY MAY REQUEST, AND THE OFFICE OF
20 EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT SHALL PROVIDE, RESOURCES AND TECHNICAL
21 ASSISTANCE TO:

22 (a) PERFORM EVACUATION AND CLEARANCE TIME MODELING FOR

1 THE ELIGIBLE ENTITY'S SERVICE AREA, TERRITORY, OR JURISDICTION; AND

2 (b) PUBLISH THE INFORMATION TO AN INTERACTIVE WEBSITE THAT:

3 (I) ALLOWS INDIVIDUALS TO LOOK UP INFORMATION ON
4 EVACUATION ROUTES, ZONES, AND CLEARANCE TIMES FOR A SPECIFIC
5 ADDRESS;

6 (II) PROVIDES INFORMATION ON HOW TO RECEIVE AND LOCATE
7 EVACUATION INFORMATION DURING AN EMERGENCY; AND

8 (III) EDUCATES INDIVIDUALS ON HOW TO MAKE EVACUATION
9 DECISIONS FOR THEIR OWN SAFETY DURING AN EMERGENCY.

10 (3) THE OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT SHALL CONDUCT AN
11 OUTREACH AND EDUCATION CAMPAIGN TO ADVISE ELIGIBLE ENTITIES OF
12 THE AVAILABILITY OF ASSISTANCE FOR EVACUATION AND CLEARANCE
13 TIME MODELING. THE OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT MAY
14 COLLABORATE WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL AFFAIRS, THE DIVISION
15 OF FIRE PREVENTION AND CONTROL IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC
16 SAFETY, AND OTHER STATE OR LOCAL AGENCIES TO PROMOTE AWARENESS
17 OF EVACUATION AND CLEARANCE TIME MODELING.

18 (4) ON AND AFTER JULY 1, 2026, EACH LOCAL AND
19 INTERJURISDICTIONAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY WITH
20 JURISDICTION IN A WILDFIRE RISK AREA SHALL PERFORM EVACUATION AND
21 CLEARANCE TIME MODELING AND INCLUDE THAT INFORMATION AS PART
22 OF THE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PLAN REQUIRED BY SECTION
23 24-33.5-707 (8) FOR ITS AREA.

24 **SECTION 2. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds,
25 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate
26 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety.