

Second Regular Session
Sixty-ninth General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO

PREAMENDED

*This Unofficial Version Includes Committee
Amendments Not Yet Adopted on Second Reading*

LLS NO. 14-0684.01 Kate Meyer x4348

HOUSE BILL 14-1303

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Scott and Ferrandino,

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Schwartz,

House Committees

State, Veterans, & Military Affairs
Appropriations

Senate Committees

State, Veterans, & Military Affairs
Legislative Council

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 **CONCERNING THE RECEIPT OF PUBLIC TESTIMONY FROM REMOTE**
102 **LOCATIONS AROUND THE STATE BY LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEES,**
103 **AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, MAKING AND REDUCING**
104 **APPROPRIATIONS.**

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://www.leg.state.co.us/billsummaries>.)

The bill vests the executive committee of the legislative council with the power and duty to consider, recommend, and establish policies

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.
Capital letters indicate new material to be added to existing statute.
Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.

HOUSE
3rd Reading Unamended
April 15, 2014

HOUSE
Amended 2nd Reading
April 14, 2014

regarding legislative committees taking public testimony from remote locations around the state.

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

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 2-3-303, **amend** (2)
3 introductory portion; and **add** (2) (g) as follows:

4 **2-3-303. Functions - report - definitions.** (2) In addition to any
5 other powers and duties set forth in law, the executive committee ~~shall~~
6 ~~have~~ OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL HAS the following powers and duties:

7 (g) (I) (A) TO CONSIDER, RECOMMEND, AND ESTABLISH POLICIES
8 ALLOWING LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEES TO TAKE REMOTE TESTIMONY FROM
9 ONE OR MORE CENTRALIZED REMOTE SITES LOCATED AROUND THE STATE.

10 (B) IF REMOTE TESTIMONY IS APPROVED, AT LEAST ONE REMOTE
11 SITE ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO SUB-SUBPARAGRAPH (A) OF THIS
12 SUBPARAGRAPH (I) MUST BE LOCATED IN THE WESTERN SLOPE AREA OF
13 THE STATE.

14 (C) THE VIDEO TELECONFERENCING TECHNOLOGY NEED NOT
15 TELEWISE, NOR OTHERWISE ALLOW TESTIFYING MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC
16 TO SEE, THE COMMITTEE OF REFERENCE PROCEEDINGS, SO LONG AS THE
17 MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE ABLE TO HEAR SUCH PROCEEDINGS AND
18 COMMUNICATE WITH THE COMMITTEE.

19 (II) IN IMPLEMENTING THIS PARAGRAPH (g), THE EXECUTIVE
20 COMMITTEE MAY ENTER INTO AGREEMENTS WITH STATE INSTITUTIONS OF
21 HIGHER EDUCATION TO USE THOSE INSTITUTIONS AS THE CENTRALIZED
22 REMOTE SITES AND TO USE THE RESOURCES, INCLUDING FACILITIES,
23 EQUIPMENT, AND STAFF, OF THOSE INSTITUTIONS.

24 (III) THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MAY, IN ITS DISCRETION,
25 IMPLEMENT THE USE OF VIDEO TELECONFERENCING IN PHASES.

1 (IV) NOTHING IN THIS PARAGRAPH (g) SUPERSEDES THE POWER OF
2 THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OR THE SENATE TO ADOPT RULES OR
3 JOINT RULES, OR BOTH, FOR THE ORDERLY CONDUCT OF THEIR AFFAIRS.

4 (V) AFTER THE ADJOURNMENT OF THE SECOND REGULAR SESSION
5 OF THE SEVENTIETH GENERAL ASSEMBLY, BUT PRIOR TO AUGUST 1, 2016,
6 THE DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL SHALL SUBMIT
7 TO THE MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY A REPORT CONTAINING THE
8 FOLLOWING INFORMATION PERTAINING TO REMOTE TESTIMONY TAKEN
9 PURSUANT TO THIS PARAGRAPH (g):

10 (A) THE TOTAL NUMBER OF PERSONS WHO TESTIFIED REMOTELY;

11 (B) THE LOCATIONS OF THE SITES FROM WHICH SUCH PERSONS
12 TESTIFIED;

13 (C) THE AVERAGE LENGTH OF HEARINGS AT WHICH REMOTE
14 TESTIMONY WAS ACCEPTED;

15 (D) THE ESTIMATED CALCULATION OF TRAVEL MILES SAVED BY
16 ALLOWING PERSONS TO TESTIFY REMOTELY;

17 (E) THE COST TO IMPLEMENT THE REMOTE TESTIMONY PROCESS;

18 (F) THE TECHNOLOGICAL OR OTHER ISSUES, IF ANY, THAT AROSE;

19 (G) IDENTIFICATION OF OTHER SUITABLE SITES FROM WHICH
20 REMOTE TESTIMONY CAN BE TAKEN, IN A MANNER THAT ENSURES THAT
21 ADEQUATE GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION OF SITES IS ACHIEVED;

22 (H) ANY RECOMMENDATIONS THAT THE DIRECTOR BELIEVES
23 WOULD IMPROVE THE TAKING OF REMOTE TESTIMONY; AND

24 (I) ANY OTHER INFORMATION THAT THE DIRECTOR BELIEVES
25 RELEVANT OR USEFUL.

26 **SECTION 2. Appropriation - adjustments to 2014 long bill.**

27 (1) For the implementation of this act, the general fund appropriation

1 made in the annual general appropriation act to the controlled
2 maintenance trust fund created in section 24-75-302.5 (2) (a), Colorado
3 Revised Statutes, for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2014, is decreased
4 by \$135,354.

5 (2) In addition to any other appropriation, there is hereby
6 appropriated, out of any moneys in the general fund, not otherwise
7 appropriated, to the legislative department, for the fiscal year beginning
8 July 1, 2014, the sum of \$135,354 and 1.0 FTE, or so much thereof as
9 may be necessary, to be allocated to legislative council staff for the
10 implementation of this act.

11 **SECTION 3. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act
12 takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the
13 ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly (August
14 6, 2014, if adjournment sine die is on May 7, 2014); except that, if a
15 referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V of the
16 state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this act
17 within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take effect
18 unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in
19 November 2014 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the
20 official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.