

Second Regular Session  
Sixty-ninth General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 14-0231.01 Jery Payne

HOUSE BILL 14-1031

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HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Moreno, Fischer, Lee, Mitsch Bush, Peniston, Primavera, Tyler

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

(None),

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House Committees

Transportation & Energy

Senate Committees

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A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 CONCERNING THE WEIGHT OF MOTOR VEHICLES THAT ARE SUBJECT TO  
102 RATE REGULATION WHEN BEING TOWED WITHOUT THE OWNER'S  
103 CONSENT.

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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>.)*

**Transportation Legislation Review Committee.** Currently, the public utilities commission regulates rates for a nonconsensual tow of a motor vehicle if the vehicle is 10,000 pounds or less. The bill repeals the 10,000 pound limitation to apply the regulation to all vehicles.

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.*

The bill also creates a committee to advise the public utilities commission on rates and investigations of overcharges. The committee is made up of the following members:

- ! One member who represents the commission;
- ! One member who represents the chief of the Colorado state patrol;
- ! One member who represents a towing association;
- ! One member who represents towing carriers generally;
- ! One member who represents an association of automobile owners;
- ! One member who represents insurance companies;
- ! One member who represents an association of motor carriers;
- ! One member who represents local law enforcement agencies; and
- ! One member who represents consumers of towing services.

The commission must consult the committee when making rules about rate regulation. The committee sunsets in 2024.

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

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 40-10.1-403 as  
3 follows:

4 **40-10.1-403. Towing advisory committee - creation - rules -**  
5 **repeal.** (1) THE TOWING ADVISORY COMMITTEE IS HEREBY CREATED  
6 WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT OF REGULATORY AGENCIES.

7 (2) THE COMMITTEE CONSISTS OF NINE MEMBERS, APPOINTED AS  
8 FOLLOWS:

9 (a) ONE MEMBER, OR THE MEMBER'S DESIGNEE, APPOINTED BY THE  
10 COMMISSION TO REPRESENT THE COMMISSION;

11 (b) ONE MEMBER, OR THE MEMBER'S DESIGNEE, APPOINTED BY THE  
12 CHIEF OF THE COLORADO STATE PATROL;

13 (c) ONE MEMBER, OR THE MEMBER'S DESIGNEE, APPOINTED BY THE  
14 COMMISSION TO REPRESENT A TOWING ASSOCIATION WITHIN THE STATE;

15 (d) ONE MEMBER, OR THE MEMBER'S DESIGNEE, APPOINTED BY THE

1 COMMISSION TO REPRESENT TOWING CARRIERS WITHIN THE STATE BUT  
2 WHO DOES NOT REPRESENT A TOWING ASSOCIATION;

3 (e) ONE MEMBER, OR THE MEMBER'S DESIGNEE, APPOINTED BY THE  
4 COMMISSION TO REPRESENT AN ASSOCIATION OF AUTOMOBILE OWNERS  
5 WITHIN THE STATE;

6 (f) ONE MEMBER, OR THE MEMBER'S DESIGNEE, APPOINTED BY THE  
7 COMMISSION TO REPRESENT INSURANCE COMPANIES WITHIN THE STATE;

8 (g) ONE MEMBER, OR THE MEMBER'S DESIGNEE, APPOINTED BY THE  
9 COMMISSION TO REPRESENT AN ASSOCIATION OF MOTOR CARRIERS WITHIN  
10 COLORADO;

11 (h) ONE MEMBER, OR THE MEMBER'S DESIGNEE, APPOINTED BY THE  
12 COMMISSION TO REPRESENT LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES; AND

13 (i) ONE MEMBER, OR THE MEMBER'S DESIGNEE, APPOINTED BY THE  
14 COMMISSION TO REPRESENT CONSUMERS OF TOWING SERVICES.

15 (3) (a) THE MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE SERVE FOUR-YEAR  
16 TERMS; EXCEPT THAT THE MEMBERS APPOINTED UNDER PARAGRAPHS (a)  
17 TO (d) OF SUBSECTION (2) OF THIS SECTION SERVE INITIAL TERMS OF TWO  
18 YEARS.

19 (b) THE MEMBERS SHALL ELECT A CHAIR FROM AMONG THEIR  
20 MEMBERSHIP.

21 (4) (a) WHEN PROMULGATING OR AMENDING RULES CONCERNING  
22 RATE REGULATION OF TOW CARRIERS, THE COMMISSION SHALL CONSULT  
23 WITH THE COMMITTEE.

24 (b) AT THE DISCRETION OF THE COMMISSION, THE STAFF OF THE  
25 DEPARTMENT OF REGULATORY AGENCIES SHALL CONSULT WITH THE  
26 COMMITTEE CONCERNING INVESTIGATIONS OF OVERCHARGES MADE BY  
27 TOWING CARRIERS IN VIOLATION OF THIS TITLE.

1 (5) THE COMMITTEE HAS THE FOLLOWING DUTIES AND POWERS:

2 (a) TO MAKE COMPREHENSIVE RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE  
3 COMMISSION ABOUT THE MAXIMUM RATES THAT MAY BE CHARGED FOR  
4 THE RECOVERY, TOWING, AND STORAGE OF A VEHICLE THAT HAS BEEN  
5 TOWED WITHOUT THE OWNER'S CONSENT. THE COMMITTEE SHALL MAKE  
6 ITS FIRST COMPREHENSIVE RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE COMMISSION  
7 ABOUT THE MAXIMUM RATES BY SEPTEMBER 1, 2015.

8 (b) TO ADVISE THE COMMISSION OR THE STAFF OF THE  
9 DEPARTMENT OF REGULATORY AGENCIES CONCERNING INVESTIGATIONS  
10 OF OVERCHARGES MADE BY TOWING CARRIERS IN VIOLATION OF THIS  
11 TITLE.

12 (6) THIS SECTION IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 1, 2024.  
13 PRIOR TO THE REPEAL, THE DEPARTMENT OF REGULATORY AGENCIES  
14 SHALL REVIEW THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION  
15 2-3-1203, C.R.S.

16 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 42-4-1809, **amend**  
17 (2) introductory portion and (2) (a) as follows:

18 **42-4-1809. Proceeds of sale.** (2) If the sale of any motor vehicle  
19 and its attached accessories or equipment under ~~the provisions of~~ section  
20 42-4-1805 produces an amount greater than the sum of all charges of the  
21 operator who has perfected his or her lien:

22 (a) The ENTITY RECEIVING THE proceeds shall first satisfy the  
23 operator's reasonable fee arising from the sale of the motor vehicle and  
24 the cost and fees of towing and storing the abandoned motor vehicle, ~~with~~  
25 SUBJECT TO a maximum charge ~~that is~~ specified in rules promulgated by  
26 the public utilities commission that govern nonconsensual tows by towing  
27 carriers. ~~In the case of an abandoned motor vehicle weighing in excess of~~

1 ~~ten thousand pounds, the operator's charges shall be determined by~~  
2 ~~negotiated agreement between the operator and the responsible law~~  
3 ~~enforcement agency.~~

4 **SECTION 3.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 2-3-1203, **add** (3)  
5 (kk) as follows:

6 **2-3-1203. Sunset review of advisory committees.** (3) The  
7 following dates are the dates for which the statutory authorization for the  
8 designated advisory committees is scheduled for repeal:

9 (kk) SEPTEMBER 1, 2024:

10 (I) THE TOWING ADVISORY COMMITTEE;

11 **SECTION 4. Act subject to petition - effective date -**  
12 **applicability.** (1) This act takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following  
13 the expiration of the ninety-day period after final adjournment of the  
14 general assembly (August 6, 2014, if adjournment sine die is on May 7,  
15 2014); except that, if a referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1  
16 (3) of article V of the state constitution against this act or an item, section,  
17 or part of this act within such period, then the act, item, section, or part  
18 will not take effect unless approved by the people at the general election  
19 to be held in November 2014 and, in such case, will take effect on the  
20 date of the official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.

21 (2) This act applies to charges assessed on or after the applicable  
22 effective date of this act.