

**NOTE: This bill has been prepared for the signatures of the appropriate legislative officers and the Governor. To determine whether the Governor has signed the bill or taken other action on it, please consult the legislative status sheet, the legislative history, or the Session Laws.**

# An Act

HOUSE BILL 24-1461

BY REPRESENTATIVE(S) Martinez and Pugliese, Amabile, Armagost, Bird, Boesenecker, Bradley, Brown, Daugherty, Duran, English, Epps, Froelich, Garcia, Hamrick, Herod, Jodeh, Joseph, Kipp, Lieder, Lindsay, Mabrey, Marshall, Mauro, McLachlan, Ortiz, Ricks, Rutinel, Sirota, Snyder, Titone, Valdez, Velasco, Weissman, Woodrow, Young, McCluskie; also SENATOR(S) Gonzales, Buckner, Cutter, Exum, Fields, Hinrichsen, Jaquez Lewis, Kolker, Michaelson Jenet, Priola, Smallwood.

CONCERNING AN EXEMPTION FROM THE LIMIT ON EARNED TIME FOR EARNED TIME AWARDED TO NONVIOLENT OFFENDERS WHO COMPLETE AN ACCREDITED HIGHER EDUCATION PROGRAM.

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

**SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 17-22.5-405, **amend** (4)(a); and **add** (3.7)(c) as follows:

**17-22.5-405. Earned time - earned release time - achievement earned time - definition.** (3.7) (c) THE LIMITATION DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (4)(a) OF THIS SECTION DOES NOT APPLY TO EARNED TIME AWARDED PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION (3.7).

*Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material added to existing law; dashes through words or numbers indicate deletions from existing law and such material is not part of the act.*

(4) (a) Except as described in subsection (3.7), (4)(b), (6), or (9) of this section, ~~or in paragraph (b) of this subsection (4)~~; and notwithstanding any other provision of this section, earned time may not reduce the sentence of an inmate as defined in section 17-22.5-402 (1) by a period of time that is more than thirty percent of the sentence.

**SECTION 2. Act subject to petition - effective date - applicability.** (1) This act takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly; except that, if a referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V of the state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this act within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take effect unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in November 2024 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.

(2) This act applies to earned time awarded on or after the applicable effective date of this act.

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Julie McCluskie  
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE  
OF REPRESENTATIVES

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Steve Fenberg  
PRESIDENT OF  
THE SENATE

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Robin Jones  
CHIEF CLERK OF THE HOUSE  
OF REPRESENTATIVES

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Cindi L. Markwell  
SECRETARY OF  
THE SENATE

APPROVED \_\_\_\_\_  
(Date and Time)

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Jared S. Polis  
GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF COLORADO