

**First Regular Session  
Seventieth General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO**

**PREAMENDED**

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

LLS NO. 15-0965.01 Michael Dohr x4347

**SENATE BILL 15-217**

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**SENATE SPONSORSHIP**

**Roberts and Cooke,**

**HOUSE SPONSORSHIP**

**Williams,**

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**Senate Committees**

Judiciary  
Appropriations

**House Committees**

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**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

101    **CONCERNING DATA COLLECTION RELATED TO PEACE**  
102    **OFFICER-INVOLVED SHOOTINGS OF A PERSON.**

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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>.)*

After an officer-involved shooting occurs, the peace officer's law enforcement agency shall provide the division of criminal justice (division) with demographic information on the officer and individual shot and search, citation, and arrest information related to the incident. Each law enforcement agency shall provide the information for all shootings that occurred between January 1, 2010, and June 30, 2015, by

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.*

September 1, 2015, and the information for each successive fiscal years until 2019-20 by September 1 of the following fiscal year. The division shall compile and report the data to the house and senate judiciary committees.

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

2 **SECTION 1. Legislative declaration.** (1) The general assembly  
3 hereby finds and declares that:

4 (a) A founding principle and fundamental purpose of government  
5 as established by the founding fathers is to provide for public safety. This  
6 purpose is the linchpin element of civilized society that sets the United  
7 States apart from the majority of countries that do not believe in the rights  
8 and freedoms guaranteed to all Americans under the U.S. Constitution.

9 (b) Integral to this fundamental role of government is the need for  
10 the state and federal legislatures to continually and carefully examine and  
11 balance the authority granted to our thousands of peace officers across the  
12 country with these freedoms and rights in a manner that protects and  
13 serves the best interests of our communities while simultaneously  
14 respecting and protecting the rights of those accused of crimes;

15 (c) In light of recent national events and local concerns related to  
16 violent incidents occurring between citizens, suspects, and law  
17 enforcement officers, it is imperative that better data collection occur in  
18 these matters in order to responsibly and effectively consider and propose  
19 future legislation related to criminal procedure and law enforcement  
20 standards and policies;

21 (d) Across the United States, 2014 resulted in a twenty-four  
22 percent increase in the number of law enforcement officers dying in the  
23 line of duty, including sixty-two deaths resulting from felonious incidents

1 involving suspects. This number represents a forty-one percent increase  
2 in felonious killing of peace officers from 2012. Most disturbing is the  
3 fact that ambushes were the leading cause of officer fatalities in 2014,  
4 with fifteen officers around the country being shot and killed in  
5 ambush-style attacks.

6 (e) In Colorado, there are more than nineteen thousand active  
7 peace officers working for more than three hundred law enforcement  
8 agencies around the state. In 2013, more than five hundred seventy-five  
9 individuals were charged with felony-level assaults against these  
10 Colorado peace officers in the performance of their duties. In Colorado,  
11 one peace officer was killed in the line of duty in 2013, and one was  
12 killed in 2014.

13 (f) Of equal concern is the fact that, in 2013, there were twenty  
14 fatal shootings of suspects by Colorado peace officers. In these twenty  
15 encounters, fifteen suspects threatened officers with either a real or  
16 simulated firearms, three brandished a knife, one assaulted an officer with  
17 a car, and one reached for an officer's gun.

18 (g) As violence against officers increases, it is likely that increases  
19 in deaths or injuries to suspects will rise also;

20 (h) Currently, information related to these types of incidents in  
21 Colorado is both inconsistent and difficult to find. Gathering and  
22 analyzing data related to officer-involved shootings is the first requisite  
23 step toward seeking solutions to minimize the number of violent  
24 encounters between Colorado's law enforcement officers and those  
25 suspected of criminal activity.

26 (2) Accordingly, the general assembly determines that it is in the  
27 interest of public safety and responsible government that the general

1 assembly act to assist the state in better accessing and recoding data  
2 related to officer-involved shootings.

3 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 24-33.5-517 as  
4 follows:

5 **24-33.5-517. Criminal justice data collection - definitions -**  
6 **repeal.** (1) ANY STATE OR LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY THAT  
7 EMPLOYS A PEACE OFFICER WHO IS INVOLVED IN AN OFFICER-INVOLVED  
8 SHOOTING THAT RESULTS IN A PERSON SUSPECTED OF CRIMINAL ACTIVITY  
9 BEING SHOT AT BY THE OFFICER SHALL REPORT THE FOLLOWING  
10 INFORMATION TO THE DIVISION, IN A FORMAT SPECIFIED BY THE DIVISION:

11 (a) IF KNOWN, THE AGE, GENDER, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, RACE,   
12 ETHNICITY, AND MEDICALLY-DOCUMENTED PHYSICAL OR MENTAL  
13 DISABILITY OF THE SUSPECT;

14 (b) IF KNOWN, THE AGE, GENDER, RACE, AND ETHNICITY OF THE  
15 PEACE OFFICER;

16 (c) THE OFFICER'S BASIS FOR THE CONTACT OR STOP THAT LED TO  
17 THE OFFICER-INVOLVED SHOOTING;

18 (d) THE OFFICER'S BASIS FOR THE SHOOTING;

19 (e) WHETHER THE OFFICER OR ANY OTHER OFFICER RESPONDING  
20 TO THE SCENE CONDUCTED A SEARCH AND, IF SO, WHETHER THE SEARCH  
21 WAS CONDUCTED PURSUANT TO PROBABLE CAUSE, WITH CONSENT, OR  
22 PURSUANT TO ANY OTHER LAWFUL EXCEPTION TO THE WARRANT  
23 REQUIREMENT, AND WHETHER CONTRABAND WAS FOUND AND, IF SO, THE  
24 NATURE OF THE CONTRABAND;

25 (f) WHETHER THE OFFICER OR ANY OTHER OFFICER RESPONDING TO  
26 THE SCENE ISSUED A VERBAL WARNING BEFORE SHOOTING; AND

27 (g) WHETHER THE OFFICER OR ANY OTHER OFFICER RESPONDING

1 TO THE SCENE ARRESTED OR ISSUED A CITATION TO ANYONE AND, IF SO,  
2 THE CRIMES CHARGED AS A RESULT OF THE ARREST OR CITATION.

3

4 (2) (a) (I) IF A STATE OR LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY  
5 EMPLOYED OR EMPLOYS A PEACE OFFICER AS DESCRIBED IN SECTION  
6 16-2.5-101, C.R.S., WHO IS INVOLVED IN AN OFFICER-INVOLVED SHOOTING  
7 FROM JANUARY 1, 2010, THROUGH JUNE 30, 2015, IT SHALL REPORT, IF  
8 AVAILABLE, THE INFORMATION REQUIRED BY SUBSECTION (1) OF THIS  
9 SECTION TO THE DIVISION BY SEPTEMBER 1, 2015.

10 (II) THE DIVISION SHALL COMPILE AND REPORT THE DATA  
11 RECEIVED PURSUANT TO SUBPARAGRAPH (I) OF THIS PARAGRAPH (a) BY  
12 MARCH 1, 2016. THE REPORT SHALL BE PROVIDED TO THE JUDICIARY  
13 COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND SENATE, OR ANY  
14 SUCCESSOR COMMITTEES, AND SHALL BE POSTED ON THE DIVISION'S WEB  
15 SITE.

16 (b) (I) IF A STATE OR LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY EMPLOYS  
17 A PEACE OFFICER AS DESCRIBED IN SECTION 16-2.5-101, C.R.S., WHO IS  
18 INVOLVED IN AN OFFICER-INVOLVED SHOOTING DURING FISCAL YEAR  
19 2015-16, OR ANY SUCCESSIVE FISCAL YEAR THROUGH FISCAL YEAR  
20 2019-20, IT SHALL REPORT THE INFORMATION REQUIRED BY SUBSECTION  
21 (1) OF THIS SECTION TO THE DIVISION BY SEPTEMBER 1 OF THE FOLLOWING  
22 FISCAL YEAR.

23 (II) THE DIVISION SHALL COMPILE AND REPORT THE DATA  
24 RECEIVED PURSUANT TO SUBPARAGRAPH (I) OF THIS PARAGRAPH (b) BY  
25 MARCH 1 OF THE FOLLOWING YEAR. THE REPORT SHALL BE PROVIDED TO  
26 THE JUDICIARY COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND  
27 SENATE, OR ANY SUCCESSOR COMMITTEES, AND SHALL BE POSTED ON THE

1 DIVISION'S WEB SITE.

2 (3) AS USED IN THIS SECTION, UNLESS THE CONTEXT REQUIRES  
3 OTHERWISE, "STATE OR LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY" MEANS:

4 (a) THE COLORADO STATE PATROL CREATED PURSUANT TO  
5 SECTION 24-33.5-201;

6 (b) THE COLORADO BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION CREATED  
7 PURSUANT TO SECTION 24-33.5-401;

8 (c) A COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE;

9 (d) A MUNICIPAL POLICE DEPARTMENT;

10 (e) THE DIVISION OF PARKS AND WILDLIFE WITHIN THE  
11 DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES CREATED PURSUANT TO SECTION  
12 24-1-124; OR

13 (f) A TOWN MARSHAL'S OFFICE.

14 (4) THIS SECTION IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2021.

15 **SECTION 3. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds,  
16 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate  
17 preservation of the public peace, health, and safety.