

**Second Regular Session
Seventy-fifth General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO**

REREVISED

*This Version Includes All Amendments
Adopted in the Second House*

LLS NO. 26-0852.01 Ken Fowler x2372

HOUSE BILL 26-1318

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Nguyen and Froelich, Boesenecker, Brown, Duran, Goldstein, Hamrick, Joseph, Lindsay, Rutinel, Stewart R., Story, Willford

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Cutter, Amabile, Ball, Benavidez, Bridges, Carson, Catlin, Coleman, Daugherty, Exum, Frizell, Gonzales J., Hinrichsen, Jodeh, Kipp, Kirkmeyer, Kolker, Lindstedt, Liston, Marchman, Mullica, Pelton R., Roberts, Rodriguez, Simpson, Snyder, Sullivan, Wallace, Weissman

House Committees

Transportation, Housing & Local Government

Senate Committees

Transportation & Energy

SENATE
Amended 3rd Reading
April 29, 2026

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 **CONCERNING TRAFFIC SAFETY NEAR SCHOOLS.**

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>.)

The bill defines "school zones" as all roadways within at least 1,000 feet of a school property boundary and adds and modifies additional corresponding definitions. The bill limits requirements the state, a county, a city and county, or a municipality must complete regarding placing and using an automated vehicle identification system along a safe route to school.

SENATE
Amended 2nd Reading
April 27, 2026

HOUSE
3rd Reading Unamended
April 2, 2026

HOUSE
Amended 2nd Reading
March 30, 2026

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.
Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material to be added to existing law.
Dashes through the words or numbers indicate deletions from existing law.

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

2 **SECTION 1. Short title.** The short title of this act is the "Liam
3 Stewart School Zone Act".

4 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 42-4-615, **amend** (2);
5 and **add** (4) and (5) as follows:

6 **42-4-615. School zones - increase in penalties for moving**
7 **traffic violations.**

8 (2) (a) ~~For the purposes of AS USED IN this section, "school zone"~~
9 ~~means an area that is designated as a school zone and has~~ ALL ROADWAYS
10 WITHIN AT LEAST ONE THOUSAND FEET OF A SCHOOL PROPERTY
11 BOUNDARY; EXCEPT THAT:

12 (I) STATE HIGHWAYS, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 42-4-110.5, ARE NOT
13 INCLUDED IN A SCHOOL ZONE UNLESS DESIGNATED AS PART OF A SCHOOL
14 ZONE BY THE COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION OR BY A
15 COUNTY, CITY AND COUNTY, OR MUNICIPALITY WITH THE WRITTEN
16 APPROVAL OF THE COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION;

17 (II) A SCHOOL ZONE THAT EXISTS ON THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS
18 SUBSECTION (2) THAT EXTENDS MORE THAN TWO HUNDRED FEET FROM A
19 SCHOOL PROPERTY BOUNDARY IS THE SCHOOL ZONE FOR THAT SCHOOL
20 PROPERTY; AND

21 (III) IF A COUNTY, CITY AND COUNTY, OR MUNICIPALITY THAT HAS
22 JURISDICTION OVER A SCHOOL ZONE REDUCES THE SIZE OF THE SCHOOL
23 ZONE PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (4) OF THIS SECTION, THEN ONLY THE
24 REDUCED SCHOOL ZONE IS THE SCHOOL ZONE FOR THAT SCHOOL
25 PROPERTY.

26 (b) IF A SCHOOL ZONE EXISTING PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION
27 (2)(a)(II) OF THIS SECTION IS LESS THAN TWO HUNDRED FEET FROM A

1 SCHOOL PROPERTY, THE COUNTY, CITY AND COUNTY, OR MUNICIPALITY
2 THAT HAS JURISDICTION OVER THE SCHOOL ZONE MUST INCREASE THE
3 SCHOOL ZONE TO A MINIMUM OF TWO HUNDRED FEET.

4 (c) A SCHOOL ZONE MUST HAVE appropriate signs posted
5 indicating A SCHOOL ZONE AND INDICATING that the penalties and
6 surcharges WITHIN A SCHOOL ZONE will be doubled. The state or local
7 government having jurisdiction over the placement of traffic signs and
8 traffic control devices in ~~the~~ A school zone area shall designate ~~when~~ the
9 area ~~will be~~ deemed to be a school zone for the purposes of this section,
10 ~~In making such designation, the state or local government shall consider~~
11 ~~when increased penalties are necessary to protect the safety of school~~
12 ~~children~~ WHICH, EXCEPT IF REDUCED AS PERMITTED IN SUBSECTION (4) OF
13 THIS SECTION, MUST INCLUDE ALL ROADWAYS WITHIN ONE THOUSAND
14 FEET OF THE SCHOOL PROPERTY BOUNDARY AND SHALL POST THE SIGNS
15 REQUIRED BY THIS SECTION. FOR SCHOOL ZONES EXISTING PURSUANT TO
16 SUBSECTION (2)(a)(II) OF THIS SECTION, SIGNAGE THAT EXISTS ON THE
17 EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS SUBSECTION (2) MEETS THE SIGNAGE
18 REQUIREMENTS FOR THIS SUBSECTION.

19 (d) A COUNTY, CITY AND COUNTY, OR MUNICIPALITY SHALL
20 COMPILE A LIST OF SCHOOLS FOR WHICH IT MUST DETERMINE SCHOOL
21 ZONES FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION. A COUNTY, A CITY AND
22 COUNTY, OR MUNICIPALITY HAS THE AUTHORITY TO DETERMINE WHICH
23 SCHOOLS TO INCLUDE ON THE LIST.

24 (4) A COUNTY, CITY AND COUNTY, OR MUNICIPALITY THAT HAS
25 JURISDICTION OVER A SCHOOL ZONE MAY REDUCE THE SIZE OF THE SCHOOL
26 ZONE TO EXTEND TO LESS THAN ONE THOUSAND FEET FROM A SCHOOL
27 PROPERTY BOUNDARY BUT SHALL NOT REDUCE THE SIZE OF THE SCHOOL

1 ZONE TO LESS THAN TWO HUNDRED FEET FROM A SCHOOL PROPERTY
2 BOUNDARY. A COUNTY, CITY AND COUNTY, OR MUNICIPALITY SHALL NOT
3 REDUCE THE SIZE OF A SCHOOL ZONE WITHOUT FIRST HOLDING A PUBLIC
4 HEARING.

5 (5) NOTHING IN THIS SECTION PROHIBITS A COUNTY, CITY AND
6 COUNTY, OR MUNICIPALITY FROM INCREASING THE SIZE OF A SCHOOL ZONE
7 TO LARGER THAN ONE THOUSAND FEET FROM A SCHOOL PROPERTY
8 BOUNDARY OR, IN COLLABORATION WITH A LOCAL SCHOOL BOARD, FROM
9 RAISING REVENUE THROUGH BONDING TO FINANCE INCREASED SCHOOL
10 ZONE SIGNAGE.

11 **SECTION 3.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 42-4-110.5, **amend**
12 (1.1)(a)(II) and (2)(g)(III); and **add** (1.1)(a.5) as follows:

13 **42-4-110.5. Automated vehicle identification systems - school**
14 **buses - safe route to school - exceptions to liability - penalty -**
15 **contracting - limits on use of photographs and video - rules -**
16 **legislative declaration - definitions.**

17 (1.1) As used in this section, unless the context otherwise
18 requires:

19 (a) (II) "Automated vehicle identification system" includes a
20 system used to detect a violation of part 11 of this article 4 or a local
21 speed ordinance; a system used to detect violations of traffic restrictions
22 imposed by traffic signals or traffic signs; a system used to detect the
23 overtaking of a stopped school bus with actuated visual signal lights in
24 violation of section 42-4-1903 (1)(a); A SYSTEM USED TO DETECT A
25 MOVING TRAFFIC VIOLATION IN A SCHOOL ZONE OR ALONG A SAFE ROUTE
26 TO SCHOOL; and a system used to detect violations of bus lane or bicycle
27 lane restrictions.

1 (a.5) "SAFE ROUTE TO SCHOOL" MEANS A ROADWAY THAT IS
2 FREQUENTED BY PEDESTRIANS AND BICYCLISTS ON THEIR WAY TO OR FROM
3 A NEARBY SCHOOL THAT A COUNTY, A CITY AND COUNTY, OR A
4 MUNICIPALITY DESIGNATES TO INCREASE PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLIST
5 SAFETY.

6 (2) A county, city and county, or municipality may adopt an
7 ordinance authorizing the use of an automated vehicle identification
8 system to detect violations of traffic regulations adopted by the county,
9 city and county, or municipality, or the state, a county, a city and county,
10 or a municipality may utilize an automated vehicle identification system
11 to detect traffic violations under state law, subject to the following
12 conditions and limitations and, as applicable, the requirements for state
13 highways set forth in and any rules adopted by the department of
14 transportation pursuant to subsection (2.5) of this section:

15 (g) (III) This subsection (2)(g) does not apply to an automated
16 vehicle identification system designed to detect disobedience to a traffic
17 control signal, ~~or~~ the overtaking of a school bus with actuated visual
18 signal lights, OR A MOVING VIOLATION ALONG A SAFE ROUTE TO SCHOOL

19 **SECTION 4.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add 42-4-119** as
20 follows:

21 **42-4-119. Establishment of a school street - speed limit -**
22 **definition.**

23 (1) AS USED IN THIS SECTION, "SCHOOL STREET" MEANS A PORTION
24 OF A ROADWAY IMMEDIATELY ADJACENT TO A SCHOOL PROPERTY
25 BOUNDARY THAT IS DESIGNATED AS A SCHOOL STREET.

26 (2) A COUNTY, CITY AND COUNTY, OR MUNICIPALITY MAY
27 DESIGNATE A ROADWAY AS A SCHOOL STREET; EXCEPT THAT A STATE

1 HIGHWAY, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 42-4-110.5, MUST NOT BE DESIGNATED
2 AS A SCHOOL STREET, UNLESS DESIGNATED IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION
3 42-4-615 (2).

4 (3) A COUNTY, CITY AND COUNTY, OR MUNICIPALITY SHALL NOT
5 DESIGNATE A ROADWAY THAT DIRECTLY CONNECTS TO A STATE HIGHWAY
6 AS A SCHOOL STREET WITHOUT THE WRITTEN APPROVAL OF THE
7 COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION.

8 (4) A COUNTY, CITY AND COUNTY, OR MUNICIPALITY THAT
9 DESIGNATES A ROADWAY AS A SCHOOL STREET MAY CLOSE THE SCHOOL
10 STREET TO VEHICLES.

11 (5) ALL VEHICLES TRAVELING ALONG A SCHOOL STREET SHALL
12 YIELD THE RIGHT-OF-WAY TO A PEDESTRIAN, BICYCLIST, OR
13 MICROMOBILITY USER. A BICYCLIST OR OPERATOR OF A MICROMOBILITY
14 DEVICE SHALL YIELD THE RIGHT-OF-WAY TO A PEDESTRIAN ON A SCHOOL
15 STREET.

16 (6) A STATE OR LOCAL GOVERNMENT HAVING JURISDICTION OVER
17 THE PLACEMENT OF TRAFFIC SIGNS AND TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES ON A
18 SCHOOL STREET SHALL POST CONSPICUOUS TRAFFIC SIGNS INDICATING AN
19 AREA DESIGNATED AS A SCHOOL STREET AS A SCHOOL STREET.

20 (7) THE MAXIMUM SPEED LIMIT ON A SCHOOL STREET IS TEN MILES
21 PER HOUR. A STATE OR LOCAL GOVERNMENT HAVING JURISDICTION OVER
22 THE PLACEMENT OF TRAFFIC SIGNS SHALL POST SPEED LIMIT SIGNS ON A
23 SCHOOL STREET.

24 (8) SECTIONS 42-4-801, 42-4-803, AND 42-4-805 (1) AND (2) DO
25 NOT APPLY TO SCHOOL STREETS.

26 (9) A COUNTY, CITY AND COUNTY, OR MUNICIPALITY THAT
27 DESIGNATES A ROADWAY AS A SCHOOL STREET MAY SUSPEND ADDITIONAL

1 TRAFFIC PROVISIONS ON THE SCHOOL STREET THAT ENDANGER
2 PEDESTRIANS, BICYCLISTS, OR MICROMOBILITY USERS AND FRUSTRATE
3 EASE OF PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLE MOVEMENT.

4 **SECTION 5. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act
5 takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the
6 ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly
7 (August 12, 2026, if adjournment sine die is on May 13, 2026); except
8 that, if a referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article
9 V of the state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of
10 this act within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not
11 take effect unless approved by the people at the general election to be
12 held in November 2026 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of
13 the official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.