First Regular Session Seventy-third General Assembly STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 21-0603.01 Megan Waples x4348

HOUSE BILL 21-1088

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Pico,

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

(None),

House Committees State, Civic, Military and Veterans Affairs **Senate Committees**

A BILL FOR AN ACT

- 101 CONCERNING AN ANNUAL AUDIT OF THE STATEWIDE VOTER
- 102 **REGISTRATION SYSTEM.**

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 <u>http://leg.colorado.gov</u>.)

The bill requires the state auditor to conduct an annual audit of the statewide voter registration system. The audit must include at least 20% of the active registered electors in each county, unduplicated over 5 consecutive years. The auditor is required to determine whether the data in the statewide voter registration list can be validated against other official records including death records, property records, and tax records.

The secretary of state must reimburse the state for the full cost of the audit from the department of state cash fund.

1 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:* 2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, add 2-3-126 as 3 follows: 4 2-3-126. Annual audit of statewide voter registration list -5 reports. (1) ON OR BEFORE JUNE 1, 2022, AND ON OR BEFORE JUNE 1 OF 6 EACH YEAR THEREAFTER, THE STATE AUDITOR SHALL COMPLETE OR CAUSE 7 TO BE COMPLETED AN AUDIT OF THE DATA IN THE COMPUTERIZED 8 STATEWIDE VOTER REGISTRATION SYSTEM MAINTAINED BY THE 9 SECRETARY OF STATE PURSUANT TO SECTION 1-2-301 (1). THE STATE 10 AUDITOR SHALL PREPARE A REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS ON EACH 11 AUDIT CONDUCTED AND SHALL PRESENT THE REPORT AND 12 RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE COMMITTEE. 13 (2) EACH AUDIT CONDUCTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS SECTION 14 MUST INCLUDE A RANDOM SAMPLE OF AT LEAST TWENTY PERCENT OF THE 15 ACTIVE REGISTERED ELECTORS IN EACH COUNTY, UNDUPLICATED OVER 16 FIVE CONSECUTIVE YEARS, AND DETERMINE WHETHER THE INFORMATION 17 IN THE COMPUTERIZED STATEWIDE VOTER REGISTRATION SYSTEM CAN BE 18 VALIDATED AGAINST DATA FROM OTHER OFFICIAL RECORDS INCLUDING 19 DEATH RECORDS, PROPERTY RECORDS, TAX RECORDS, AND OTHER DATA 20 SOURCES AS DETERMINED BY THE STATE AUDITOR.

(3) THE SECRETARY OF STATE SHALL REIMBURSE THE STATE
AUDITOR FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE CASH FUND CREATED IN
SECTION 24-21-104 (3)(b) FOR THE FULL COST OF EACH ANNUAL AUDIT
CONDUCTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS SECTION.

25 SECTION 2. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 2-3-107, amend

HB21-1088

-2-

1 (2)(a)(I)(C) and (2)(a)(I)(D); and **add** (2)(a)(I)(E) as follows:

2 **2-3-107.** Authority to subpoena witnesses - access to records. 3 (2) (a) (I) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the state 4 auditor or his or her designated representative shall have access at all 5 times, except as provided by sections 39-1-116, 39-4-103, and 39-5-120, 6 to all of the books, accounts, reports, vouchers, or other records or 7 information in any department, institution, or agency, including but not 8 limited to records or information required to be kept confidential or 9 exempt from public disclosure upon subpoena, search warrant, discovery 10 proceedings, or otherwise. The authority of the state auditor or his or her 11 designated representative to access at all times the books, accounts, 12 reports, vouchers, or other records or information in accordance with this 13 subsection (2)(a) also extends to any fiscal or performance audit the state 14 auditor or his or her designated representative conducts of: 15 (C) The health benefit exchange created in section 10-22-104 in 16 accordance with section 10-22-105 (4)(c); and 17 (D) Community-centered boards in accordance with section 18 25.5-10-209 (4); AND 19 (E) THE COMPUTERIZED STATEWIDE VOTER REGISTRATION SYSTEM 20 IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 2-3-126. 21 **SECTION 3.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **amend** 39-5-129 as 22 follows: 23 **39-5-129.** Delivery of tax warrant - public inspection. (1) As 24 soon as practicable after the requisite taxes for the year have been levied 25 but in no event later than January 10 of each year, the assessor shall 26 deliver the tax warrant under his THE ASSESSOR'S hand and official seal

to the treasurer, which shall be made readily available to the general

1 public during the collection year in a convenient location in the 2 courthouse. The assessor shall retain one or more true copies thereof, 3 which shall be made readily available to the general public during the 4 collection year in a convenient location in the courthouse. Such tax 5 warrant shall set forth the assessment roll, reciting the persons in whose 6 names taxable property in the county has been listed, the class of such 7 taxable property and the valuation for assessment thereof, the several 8 taxes levied against such valuation, and the amount of such taxes 9 extended against each separate valuation. At the end of the warrant, the 10 aggregate of all taxes levied shall be totaled, balanced, and prorated to the 11 several funds of each levying authority, and the treasurer shall be 12 commanded to collect all such taxes.

(2) UPON REQUEST BY THE STATE AUDITOR, THE ASSESSOR OR THE
TREASURER SHALL PROVIDE THE STATE AUDITOR WITH TAXPAYER NAMES,
ADDRESSES, AND OTHER IDENTIFYING INFORMATION, IF AVAILABLE, FOR
THE PURPOSE OF COMPLETING THE AUDIT REQUIRED BY SECTION 2-3-126.

SECTION 4. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 39-21-113, add (27)
as follows:

19 **39-21-113. Reports and returns - rule.** (27) NOTWITHSTANDING 20 THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION, THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE 21 DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE SHALL SUPPLY THE STATE AUDITOR WITH 22 TAXPAYER NAMES, ADDRESSES, AND YEARS OF BIRTH, IF AVAILABLE, FOR 23 THE PURPOSE OF COMPLETING THE AUDIT REQUIRED BY SECTION 2-3-126. 24 THOSE PERSONS WHO RECEIVE TAXPAYER INFORMATION UNDER THIS 25 SUBSECTION (27) SHALL BE SUBJECT TO THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION, 26 INCLUDING LIMITATIONS IN SUBSECTION (4) OF THIS SECTION AND PENALTIES IN SUBSECTION (6) OF THIS SECTION REGARDING DISCLOSURE 27

1 OF TAXPAYER INFORMATION.

2 SECTION 5. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 42-1-206, add
3 (3.7)(g) as follows:

4 42-1-206. Records open to inspection - furnishing of copies rules. (3.7) (g) UPON REQUEST BY THE STATE AUDITOR, THE DEPARTMENT
SHALL PROVIDE AT NO COST A BULK ELECTRONIC TRANSFER OF
INFORMATION AS SET FORTH IN SUBSECTION (3.7)(a) OF THIS SECTION TO
THE STATE AUDITOR FOR THE PURPOSE OF COMPLETING THE AUDIT
REQUIRED BY SECTION 2-3-126.

10 SECTION 6. Act subject to petition - effective date. This act 11 takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the 12 ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly; except 13 that, if a referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V 14 of the state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this 15 act within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take 16 effect unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in 17 November 2022 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the 18 official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.