

**First Regular Session  
Seventy-fourth General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO**

**INTRODUCED**

LLS NO. 23-0363.01 Megan McCall x4215

**HOUSE BILL 23-1096**

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**HOUSE SPONSORSHIP**

**Snyder,**

**SENATE SPONSORSHIP**

**(None),**

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**House Committees**

Agriculture, Water & Natural Resources

**Senate Committees**

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**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

101      **CONCERNING THE PROMOTION OF WILDFIRE RESILIENT HOUSES IN**  
102                    **AREAS OF THE STATE AT HIGH RISK FOR WILDFIRES THROUGH**  
103                    **EXPANSION OF THE WILDFIRE MITIGATION RESOURCES AND BEST**  
104                    **PRACTICES GRANT PROGRAM.**

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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://leg.colorado.gov>.)*

The bill expands the wildfire mitigation resources and best practices grant program to allow grant recipients to expend grant money on programs, education, and resources for ways in which houses located

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.*

in areas of the state at high risk of wildfires may be built, rebuilt, or improved to make such houses more resilient to the risks posed by wildfires and requires the Colorado state forest service to promote the benefits of adopting the ways in which houses can be made more wildfire resilient.

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

2           **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 23-31-313, **amend**  
3 (9.7)(a), (9.7)(b), and (9.7)(d) as follows:

4           **23-31-313. Healthy forests - vibrant communities - funds**  
5 **created - outreach working group - definitions - legislative**  
6 **declaration - repeal. (9.7) Wildfire mitigation resources and best**  
7 **practices grant program.** (a) There is hereby created in the forest  
8 service the wildfire mitigation resources and best practices grant program,  
9 referred to in this section as the "grant program". Grant recipients may  
10 use the money to conduct outreach among landowners to inform them of  
11 resources available for wildfire mitigation and best practices for wildfire  
12 mitigation AND TO IMPLEMENT PROGRAMS FOR LANDOWNERS,  
13 HOMEOWNERS, DEVELOPERS, AND HOME BUILDERS AS TO WAYS IN WHICH  
14 HOUSES LOCATED IN AREAS OF THE STATE IDENTIFIED BY THE FOREST  
15 SERVICE IN ITS STATEWIDE RISK ASSESSMENT MAP AS HIGH RISK,  
16 HIGH-VERY HIGH RISK, AND VERY HIGH RISK FOR WILDFIRES MAY BE BUILT,  
17 REBUILT, OR IMPROVED TO MAKE SUCH HOUSES MORE RESILIENT TO THE  
18 RISKS POSED BY WILDFIRES.

19           (b) The forest service shall administer the grant program and,  
20 subject to available appropriations, shall award grants as provided in this  
21 section. The forest service shall develop and publish policies and  
22 procedures to implement the grant program in accordance with this  
23 section. At a minimum, the policies and procedures must specify the time

1 frames for applying for grants, the form of the grant program application,  
2 and the grant program evaluation and reporting requirements for grant  
3 recipients. THE FOREST SERVICE SHALL PROMOTE THE BENEFITS OF  
4 ADOPTING STRATEGIES, TECHNOLOGY, AND BUILDING CODES THAT  
5 INCREASE A HOUSE'S RESILIENCY AGAINST WILDFIRES AND MAY PREPARE  
6 EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS FOR GRANT RECIPIENTS TO USE FOR OUTREACH  
7 TO LANDOWNERS, HOMEOWNERS, DEVELOPERS, AND HOME BUILDERS,  
8 INCLUDING EXAMPLES OF AND GUIDELINES FOR BUILDING CODES TO  
9 PROMOTE WILDFIRE RESILIENT HOUSES. THE FOREST SERVICE MAY  
10 IDENTIFY ACCEPTABLE PROGRAMS FOR IMPLEMENTATION TO BUILD,  
11 REBUILD, OR IMPROVE HOUSES TO BE MORE WILDFIRE RESILIENT.  
12 PROGRAMS MUST INCLUDE RESEARCH-BASED RESILIENCY STANDARDS,  
13 INSPECTIONS, AND CERTIFICATION OF PROPERTIES THAT MEET A  
14 PROGRAM'S REQUIREMENTS.

15 (d) The forest service shall review the applications received  
16 pursuant to this section. The forest service shall only award grants to  
17 applicants proposing to conduct outreach OR IMPLEMENT PROGRAMS  
18 among landowners, HOMEOWNERS, DEVELOPERS, OR HOME BUILDERS in  
19 ~~high wildfire hazard~~ areas OF THE STATE IDENTIFIED BY THE FOREST  
20 SERVICE IN ITS STATEWIDE RISK ASSESSMENT MAP AS HIGH RISK,  
21 HIGH-VERY HIGH RISK, AND VERY HIGH RISK FOR WILDFIRES and shall  
22 consider the potential impact of the applicants' proposed outreach OR  
23 PROGRAMS when awarding grants.

24 **SECTION 2. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds,  
25 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate  
26 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety.