First Regular Session Seventy-fifth General Assembly STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 25-0767.01 Christopher McMichael x4775

SENATE BILL25-133

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Snyder,

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Soper and Camacho,

Senate Committees

Finance

House Committees

| | A BILL FOR AN ACT |
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| 101 | CONCERNING VOIDABLE TRANSACTIONS, AND, IN CONNECTION |
| 102 | THEREWITH, UPDATING THE "COLORADO UNIFORM |
| 103 | FRAUDULENT TRANSFERS ACT" AND RENAMING IT THE |
| 104 | "COLORADO VOIDABLE TRANSACTIONS ACT". |

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.)

Under current law, fraudulent transactions are controlled by the "Colorado Uniform Fraudulent Transfers Act". The bill makes updates to the "Colorado Uniform Fraudulent Transfers Act" and renames it as the

"Colorado Voidable Transactions Act" (act). The bill changes references in the act from "fraudulent transfers" to "voidable transactions".

The bill proposes changes to the act that would make the act align better with uniform law regarding voidable transactions, as well as makes updates to some of the definitions and terminology used in the act.

The bill establishes burdens of proof and evidentiary requirements for various claims under the act. The bill also establishes which jurisdictional laws control certain types of claims based on the location of a debtor and makes numerous technical amendments throughout the act.

1 Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado: 2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **amend** 38-8-101 as 3 follows: 4 38-8-101. Short title. This article shall be known and may be 5 cited The short title of this article 8, which was formerly known 6 as the "Colorado Uniform Fraudulent Transfer Act", IS THE "COLORADO 7 VOIDABLE TRANSACTIONS ACT". 8 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 38-8-102, amend the 9 introductory portion, (1)(a) introductory portion, (1)(a)(II), (1)(b) 10 introductory portion, (1)(b)(I), (1)(d), (3), (8) introductory portion, and 11 (10); and **add** (7.5), (7.7), (11.5), and (12.5) as follows: 12 **38-8-102. Definitions.** As used in this article ARTICLE 8, unless 13 the context otherwise requires: 14 (1) "Affiliate" means: 15 (a) A person who THAT directly or indirectly owns, controls, or 16 holds with power to vote twenty percent or more of the outstanding 17 voting securities of the debtor, other than a person who THAT holds the 18 securities: 19 (II) Solely to secure a debt, if the person has not IN FACT exercised 20 the power to vote;

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| 1 | (b) A corporation, twenty percent or more of whose outstanding |
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| 2 | voting securities are directly or indirectly owned, controlled, or held with |
| 3 | power to vote, by the debtor or a person who THAT directly or indirectly |
| 4 | owns, controls, or holds with power to vote, twenty percent or more of the |
| 5 | outstanding voting securities of the debtor, other than a person who THAT |
| 6 | holds the securities: |
| 7 | (I) As a fiduciary or agent without sole DISCRETIONARY power to |
| 8 | vote the securities; or |
| 9 | (d) A person who THAT operates the debtor's business under a |
| 10 | lease or other agreement or controls substantially all of the debtor's assets. |
| 11 | (3) "Claim", EXCEPT AS THE TERM IS USED IN "CLAIM FOR RELIEF", |
| 12 | means a right to payment, whether or not the right is reduced to judgment, |
| 13 | liquidated, unliquidated, fixed, contingent, matured, unmatured, disputed, |
| 14 | undisputed, legal, equitable, secured, or unsecured. |
| 15 | (7.5) "Electronic" means technology having electrical, |
| 16 | DIGITAL, MAGNETIC, WIRELESS, OPTICAL, ELECTROMAGNETIC, OR SIMILAR |
| 17 | CAPABILITIES. |
| 18 | (7.7) "ENTITY" HAS THE SAME MEANING AS SET FORTH IN SECTION |
| 19 | 7-90-102 (20). |
| 20 | (8) "Insider" means INCLUDES: |
| 21 | (10) "Person" means an individual, partnership, corporation, |
| 22 | association, organization, government or governmental subdivision or |
| 23 | agency, business trust, estate, trust, or any other legal or commercial |
| 24 | entity HAS THE MEANING SET FORTH IN SECTION 7-90-102 (49). |
| 25 | (11.5) "RECORD" MEANS INFORMATION THAT IS INSCRIBED ON A |
| 26 | TANGIBLE MEDIUM OR THAT IS STORED IN AN ELECTRONIC OR OTHER |
| 27 | MEDIUM AND IS RETRIEVABLE IN PERCEIVABLE FORM. |

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| 1 | (12.3) "SIGN" OR "SIGNATURE" HAS THE MEANING SET FORTH IN |
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| 2 | SECTION 7-90-102 (60.5). |
| 3 | SECTION 3. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 38-8-103, amend (2) |
| 4 | and (3) as follows: |
| 5 | 38-8-103. Insolvency. (2) A debtor who THAT is generally not |
| 6 | paying his THEIR debts as they become due, OTHER THAN AS A RESULT OF |
| 7 | A BONA FIDE DISPUTE, is presumed to be insolvent. THE PRESUMPTION |
| 8 | IMPOSES ON THE DEBTOR THE BURDEN OF PROVING THAT THE |
| 9 | NONEXISTENCE OF INSOLVENCY IS MORE PROBABLE THAN THE EXISTENCE |
| 10 | OF INSOLVENCY. |
| 11 | (3) A partnership is insolvent under subsection (1) of this section |
| 12 | if the sum of the partnership's debts is greater than the aggregate of all of |
| 13 | the partnership's assets, at a fair valuation, and the sum of the excess of |
| 14 | the value of each general partner's nonpartnership assets over the partner's |
| 15 | nonpartnership debts A DEBTOR THAT IS INSOLVENT AS DEFINED IN 11 |
| 16 | U.S.C. SEC. 101 (32) OF THE FEDERAL BANKRUPTCY CODE IS INSOLVENT. |
| 17 | SECTION 4. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 38-8-105, amend (1) |
| 18 | introductory portion, (1)(b)(II), (2) introductory portion, and (2)(k); and |
| 19 | add (3) as follows: |
| 20 | 38-8-105. Transfer or obligation voidable as to present and |
| 21 | future creditors. (1) A transfer made or obligation incurred by a debtor |
| 22 | is fraudulent VOIDABLE as to a creditor, whether the creditor's claim arose |
| 23 | before or after the transfer was made or the obligation was incurred, if the |
| 24 | debtor made the transfer or incurred the obligation: |
| 25 | (b) Without receiving a reasonably equivalent value in exchange |
| 26 | for the transfer or obligation, and the debtor: |
| 2.7 | (II) Intended to incur, or believed or reasonably should have |

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| 1 | believed that he THE DEBTOR would incur, debts beyond his THE DEBTOR'S |
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| 2 | ability to pay as they became due. |
| 3 | (2) In determining actual intent under paragraph (a) of subsection |
| 4 | (1) SUBSECTION (1)(a) of this section, consideration may be given, among |
| 5 | other factors, to whether: |
| 6 | (k) The debtor transferred the essential assets of the business to |
| 7 | a lienor who THAT transferred the assets to an insider of the debtor. |
| 8 | (3) A CREDITOR MAKING A CLAIM FOR RELIEF UNDER SUBSECTION |
| 9 | (1) of this section has the burden of proving the elements of the |
| 10 | CLAIM FOR RELIEF BY A PREPONDERANCE OF THE EVIDENCE. |
| 11 | SECTION 5. In Colorado Revised Statutes, amend 38-8-106 as |
| 12 | follows: |
| 13 | 38-8-106. Transfers or obligation voidable as to present |
| 14 | creditors. (1) A transfer made or obligation incurred by a debtor is |
| 15 | fraudulent VOIDABLE as to a creditor whose claim arose before the |
| 16 | transfer was made or the obligation was incurred if the debtor made the |
| 17 | transfer or incurred the obligation without receiving a reasonably |
| 18 | equivalent value in exchange for the transfer or obligation and the debtor |
| 19 | was insolvent at that time or the debtor became insolvent as a result of the |
| 20 | transfer or obligation. |
| 21 | (2) A transfer made by a debtor is fraudulent VOIDABLE as to a |
| 22 | creditor whose claim arose before the transfer was made if the transfer |
| 23 | was made to an insider for an antecedent debt, the debtor was insolvent |
| | at that time, and the insider had reasonable cause to believe that the |
| 24 | at that time, and the insider had reasonable educe to believe that the |
| 24 25 | debtor was insolvent. |
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| 1 | SECTION HAS THE BURDEN OF PROVING THE ELEMENTS OF THE CLAIM FOR |
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| 2 | RELIEF BY A PREPONDERANCE OF THE EVIDENCE. |
| 3 | SECTION 6. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 38-8-107, amend (1) |
| 4 | introductory portion, (1)(a)(I), and (5)(b) as follows: |
| 5 | 38-8-107. When transfer is made or obligation is incurred. |
| 6 | (1) For the purposes of this article ARTICLE 8: |
| 7 | (a) A transfer is made: |
| 8 | (I) With respect to an asset that is real property other than a |
| 9 | fixture, but including the interest of a seller or purchaser under a contract |
| 10 | for the sale of the asset, when the transfer is so far perfected that a good |
| 11 | faith purchaser of the asset from the debtor against whom WHICH |
| 12 | applicable law permits the transfer to be perfected cannot acquire an |
| 13 | interest in the asset that is superior to the interest of the transferee; and |
| 14 | (5) An obligation is incurred: |
| 15 | (b) If evidenced by a writing RECORD, when the writing executed |
| 16 | RECORD SIGNED by the obligor is delivered to or for the benefit of the |
| 17 | obligee. |
| 18 | SECTION 7. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 38-8-108, amend (1) |
| 19 | introductory portion, (1)(b), and (1)(c) as follows: |
| 20 | 38-8-108. Remedies of creditors. (1) In an action for relief |
| 21 | against a transfer or obligation under this article ARTICLE 8, a creditor, |
| 22 | subject to the limitations in section 38-8-109, may obtain: |
| 23 | (b) An attachment or other provisional remedy against the asset |
| 24 | transferred or other property of the transferee in accordance with the |
| 25 | procedure prescribed by the Colorado rules of civil procedure IF |
| 26 | AVAILABLE UNDER APPLICABLE STATE LAW; |
| 27 | (c) With respect to a transfer made or obligation incurred that is |

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| fraudulent VOIDABLE under section 38-8-105 (1)(a), a j | udgment for one |
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| and one-half the value of the asset transferred or for one | and one-half the |
| amount necessary to satisfy the creditor's claim, wh | nichever is less, |
| together with the creditor's actual costs; except that | any A judgment |
| entered against a person under this paragraph (c) SUBSEC | CTION (1)(c) is in |
| lieu of, not in addition to, a judgment against the sar | ne person under |
| section 38-8-109 (2). No A judgment may NOT be entered | d pursuant to this |
| paragraph (c) SUBSECTION (1)(c) against a person other | r than the debtor |
| unless that person also acts with wrongful intent as de | efined in section |
| 38-8-105 (1)(a); otherwise, judgment for money damages | s against a person |
| other than the debtor may be entered only as prov | rided in section |
| 38-8-109. No A judgment may NOT be entered under the | nis paragraph (c) |
| SUBSECTION (1)(c) unless a court of competent jurisdict | ion enters or has |
| entered a judgment or order establishing the validity | of the creditor's |
| claim against the debtor. | |
| SECTION 8. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 38-8- | -109, amend (1), |
| (2), (4) introductory portion, (4)(a), (4)(b), (5)(b), and (6 | (a); and add (7) |
| and (8) as follows: | |
| 38-8-109. Defenses, liability, and protection | of transferee or |
| obligee. (1) A transfer or obligation is not voidable | e under section |
| 38-8-105 (1)(a) against a person who THAT took in goo | d faith and for a |
| reasonably equivalent value GIVEN TO THE DEBTOR of | or against any A |
| subsequent transferee or obligee. | |
| (2) TO THE EXTENT A TRANSFER IS VOIDABLE IN | AN ACTION BY A |
| CREDITOR UNDER SECTION 38-8-108 (1)(a), THE FOLLOWI | NG RULES APPLY: |
| (a) Except as otherwise provided in this section | |

transfer is voidable in an action by a creditor under section 38-8-108

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| 1 | (1)(a), the creditor may recover judgment for the value of the asset |
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| 2 | transferred, as adjusted under subsection (3) of this section, or the amount |
| 3 | necessary to satisfy the creditor's claim, whichever is less. The judgment |
| 4 | may be entered against: |
| 5 | (a) (I) The first transferee of the asset or the person for whose |
| 6 | benefit the transfer was made; or |
| 7 | $\overline{\text{(b)}}$ (II) Any subsequent An immediate or mediate transferee of |
| 8 | THE FIRST TRANSFEREE, other than: |
| 9 | (A) A good faith transferee or obligee who THAT took for value; |
| 10 | or from any subsequent transferee or obligee. |
| 11 | (B) AN IMMEDIATE OR MEDIATE GOOD FAITH TRANSFEREE OF A |
| 12 | PERSON DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (2)(a)(II)(A) OF THIS SECTION; |
| 13 | (b) Recovery pursuant to section $38-8-108(1)(a)$ or (2) of or |
| 14 | FROM THE ASSET TRANSFERRED OR ITS PROCEEDS, BY LEVY OR OTHERWISE, |
| 15 | IS AVAILABLE ONLY AGAINST A PERSON DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION |
| 16 | (2)(a)(I) or $(2)(a)(II)$ of this section. |
| 17 | (4) Notwithstanding voidability of a transfer or an obligation |
| 18 | under this article ARTICLE 8, a good faith transferee or obligee is entitled, |
| 19 | to the extent of the value given the debtor for the transfer or obligation, |
| 20 | to: |
| 21 | (a) A lien on or a right to retain any AN interest in the asset |
| 22 | transferred; |
| 23 | (b) Enforcement of any AN obligation incurred; or |
| 24 | (5) A transfer is not voidable under section 38-8-105 (1)(b) or |
| 25 | 38-8-106 if the transfer results from: |
| 26 | (b) Enforcement of a security interest in compliance with the |
| 27 | provisions of the "Uniform Commercial Code - Secured Transactions", |

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| 1 | article 9 of title 4, C.R.S. OTHER THAN THE ACCEPTANCE OF COLLATERAL |
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| 2 | IN FULL OR PARTIAL SATISFACTION OF THE OBLIGATION IT SECURES. |
| 3 | (6) A transfer is not voidable under section 38-8-106 (2): |
| 4 | (a) To the extent the insider gave new value to or for the benefit |
| 5 | of the debtor after the transfer was made, unless EXCEPT TO THE EXTENT |
| 6 | the new value was secured by a valid lien; |
| 7 | (7) The burden of proving matters referred to in this |
| 8 | SECTION IS DETERMINED ACCORDING TO THE FOLLOWING: |
| 9 | (a) A party that seeks to invoke subsection (1) , (4) , (5) , or |
| 10 | (6) OF THIS SECTION HAS THE BURDEN OF PROVING THE APPLICABILITY OF |
| 11 | THAT SECTION; |
| 12 | (b) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTIONS (7)(c) AND (7)(d) OF |
| 13 | THIS SECTION, THE CREDITOR HAS THE BURDEN OF PROVING EACH |
| 14 | APPLICABLE ELEMENT OF SUBSECTION (2) OR (3) OF THIS SECTION; |
| 15 | (c) The transferee has the burden of proving the |
| 16 | APPLICABILITY TO THE TRANSFEREE OF SUBSECTION (2)(a)(II)(A) OR |
| 17 | (2)(a)(II)(B) OF THIS SECTION; AND |
| 18 | (d) A PARTY THAT SEEKS ADJUSTMENT UNDER SUBSECTION (3) OF |
| 19 | THIS SECTION HAS THE BURDEN OF PROVING THE ADJUSTMENT. |
| 20 | (8) THE STANDARD OF PROOF REQUIRED TO ESTABLISH MATTERS |
| 21 | REFERRED TO IN THIS SECTION IS PREPONDERANCE OF THE EVIDENCE. |
| 22 | SECTION 9. In Colorado Revised Statutes, amend 38-8-110 as |
| 23 | follows: |
| 24 | 38-8-110. Extinguishment of a claim for relief. (1) A cause of |
| 25 | action CLAIM FOR RELIEF with respect to a fraudulent VOIDABLE transfer |
| 26 | or obligation under this article ARTICLE 8 is extinguished unless action is |
| 27 | brought: |

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| 1 | (a) Under section 38-8-105 (1)(a), within NOT LATER THAN four |
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| 2 | years after the transfer was made or the obligation was incurred or, if |
| 3 | later, within NOT LATER THAN one year after the transfer or obligation was |
| 4 | or could reasonably have been discovered by the claimant; |
| 5 | (b) Under section 38-8-105 (1)(b) or 38-8-106 (1), within NOT |
| 6 | LATER THAN four years after the transfer was made or the obligation was |
| 7 | incurred; or |
| 8 | (c) Under section 38-8-106 (2), within NOT LATER THAN one year |
| 9 | after the transfer was made. or the obligation was incurred. |
| 10 | SECTION 10. In Colorado Revised Statutes, add 38-8-110.5 as |
| 11 | follows: |
| 12 | 38-8-110.5. Governing law - location and jurisdiction. (1) A |
| 13 | DEBTOR'S LOCATION FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION IS DETERMINED |
| 14 | BASED ON THE FOLLOWING: |
| 15 | (a) A DEBTOR WHO IS AN INDIVIDUAL IS LOCATED AT THE |
| 16 | INDIVIDUAL'S PRINCIPAL RESIDENCE; |
| 17 | (b) A DEBTOR THAT IS AN ENTITY AND HAS ONLY ONE PLACE OF |
| 18 | BUSINESS IS LOCATED AT ITS PLACE OF BUSINESS; AND |
| 19 | (c) A DEBTOR THAT IS AN ENTITY AND HAS MORE THAN ONE PLACE |
| 20 | OF BUSINESS IS LOCATED AT THE ENTITY'S CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE. |
| 21 | (2) A CLAIM FOR RELIEF IN THE NATURE OF A CLAIM FOR RELIEF |
| 22 | UNDER THIS ARTICLE 8 IS GOVERNED BY THE LAWS OF THE JURISDICTION |
| 23 | IN WHICH THE DEBTOR OR ASSET IS LOCATED WHEN THE TRANSFER IS MADE |
| 24 | OR THE OBLIGATION IS INCURRED. |
| 25 | SECTION 11. In Colorado Revised Statutes, add 38-8-113 as |
| 26 | follows: |
| 2.7 | 38-8-113. Relation to electronic signatures in the federal |

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| 1 | "Electronic Signatures in Global and National Commerce Act". THIS |
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| 2 | ARTICLE 8 MODIFIES, LIMITS, OR SUPERSEDES THE FEDERAL "ELECTRONIC |
| 3 | SIGNATURES IN GLOBAL AND NATIONAL COMMERCE ACT", 15 U.S.C. SEC. |
| 4 | 7001 et seq., but does not modify, limit, or supercede 15 U.S.C. sec. |
| 5 | 7001 (c) or authorize electronic delivery of any of the notices |
| 6 | DESCRIBED IN 15 U.S.C. SEC. 7003 (b). |
| 7 | SECTION 12. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 2-5-102, amend (7) |
| 8 | as follows: |
| 9 | 2-5-102. Inclusions - nonstatutory. (7) There shall be included |
| 10 | in the publication of the "Colorado Uniform Fraudulent Transfer Act" |
| 11 | "COLORADO VOIDABLE TRANSACTIONS ACT", as nonstatutory matter, |
| 12 | following each section of the article, the full text of the official comments |
| 13 | to that section contained in the official volume containing the 1984 |
| 14 | official text of the "Uniform Fraudulent Transfer Act" issued by the |
| 15 | national conference of commissioners on uniform state laws, INCLUDING |
| 16 | Changes to the official comments made by the $2014\mathrm{AMENDMENTS}$ |
| 17 | TO THE "UNIFORM VOIDABLE TRANSACTIONS ACT", with any changes in |
| 18 | the official comments or Colorado comments to correspond to Colorado |
| 19 | changes in the uniform act. The comments shall be prepared by the |
| 20 | revisor of statutes and approved for publication by the committee on legal |
| 21 | services. |
| 22 | SECTION 13. Act subject to petition - effective date - |
| 23 | applicability. (1) This act takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following |
| 24 | the expiration of the ninety-day period after final adjournment of the |
| 25 | general assembly; except that, if a referendum petition is filed pursuant |
| 26 | to section 1 (3) of article V of the state constitution against this act or an |
| 27 | item, section, or part of this act within such period, then the act, item, |

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- section, or part will not take effect unless approved by the people at the
- 2 general election to be held in November 2026 and, in such case, will take
- 3 effect on the date of the official declaration of the vote thereon by the
- 4 governor.
- 5 (2) This act applies to claims filed on or after the applicable
- 6 effective date of this act.

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