

(3/11/25) Bill Amendment Analysis
SB25-003: Semiautomatic Firearms & Rapid-Fire Devices

On March 11, the House Judiciary Committee approved seven new amendments to SB25-003; the resulting changes are summarized within. Note: Colorado General Assembly bill amendments are sequentially entitled 'L.XXX'.

Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW)

[L.048, L.051, and L.052]

- The Director of CPW is permitted to transfer unlimited funds from The Wildlife Cash Fund and The Parks and Outdoor Recreation Cash Fund to the “Firearms Training and Safety Course Cash Fund”. The funds are supposed to be returned from the “Firearms Training and Safety Course Cash Fund” by June 30, 2030. [L.052]
- The “Firearms Training and Safety Course Record Fee”, representing direct and indirect costs of the record system which must be passed from course instructors to the “Firearms Training and Safety Course Cash Fund” (pre-amendment) are (after-amendment) considered Taxpayer's Bill of Rights (*TABOR*) exempt. [L. 051]
- The pre-'3/11 amendment' language allowing for other appropriations and transfers from the General Assembly into the “Firearms Training and Safety Course Cash Fund” remains unchanged.
- CPW must determine the curricular content of the “Basic Firearms Safety Course” and the “Extended Firearms Safety Course” detailed within the bill. [L. 051]
- CPW is required to create the “Firearms Safety Course Eligibility Card” application form and make it available online. [L. 051]

Permit Approval Process

[L.049, L.050, and L.054]

- Sheriffs are required to positively identify anyone seeking a “Firearms Safety Course Eligibility Card”. [L. 050]
 - *For readers outside of Law Enforcement: “**Positive identification**” typically refers to a method of confirming a person's identity using reliable biometric techniques, such as fingerprints, rather than just names or other non-unique identifiers. DNA Index Systems are commonly used in “**positive identification**.”*
- Sheriffs are required to electronically submit each the name of and other information required by CPW about each person issued a “Firearms Safety Course Eligibility Card.” [L.054]
- The applicant must now also submit to the sheriff the results of a completed name-based background check of national and Colorado public criminal history and judicial databases completed by a third-party vendor that conducts those checks as a normal part of the vendor's business and an attestation from the vendor that the vendor performed the background check. [L. 049]
- A sheriff is not liable for any damages that may result from good faith compliance with the provisions of the program, including damages that may result from issuance or denial of a “Firearms Safety Course Eligibility Card.” [L.054]

Department of Revenue- Firearms Dealer Division Powers

[L.043]

- The division in the Department of Revenue responsible for issuing state firearms dealer permits shall provide guidance and clarification to assist in the implementation of **Section 18-12-116** proposed within the bill.
 - ***Proposed Colo. Rev. Stat. § 18-12-116** includes: regulation of the manufacture, distribution, transfer, sale, and purchase of a “specified semiautomatic firearm.” regulatory definitions, penalties, exemptions, and programs including the “Basic Firearms Safety Course.” “Extended Firearm Safety Course.” “Firearms Safety Course Eligibility Card.” and sheriffs' and instructors' entries to the “Firearms Training and Safety Course Record System.”*