A BILL FOR AN ACT

Concerning requirements governing meetings of the boards of county commissioners of the larger counties.

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://www.leg.state.co.us/billsummaries.)

Under current law, each board of county commissioners (board) of a county containing more than 100,000 inhabitants is required to hold at least 2 meetings in each week of each year, with exceptions for meetings in July and August.

Under the bill, in those same counties, the board may hold fewer
than 2 meetings in each week of each year on the basis of, without limitation, the following circumstances:

! A lack of a quorum caused by illness;
! Scheduling conflicts with meetings of professional organizations whose membership includes county commissioners;
! Inclement weather;
! Natural disasters or emergency conditions;
! Special events; or
! Any other circumstance that a majority of the board deems reasonable justification for not holding the meeting in the majority's sole discretion.

The bill allows the board chair to cancel a regularly scheduled meeting of the board. If the decision to cancel a meeting is made more than 24 hours in advance of the meeting, the board is required to promptly provide notice to the public of the cancellation in the same manner in which it customarily provides the public notice of its meetings.

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

1 SECTION 1. In Colorado Revised Statutes, amend 30-10-304 as follows:

30-10-304. Meetings of board in counties over one hundred thousand.

(1) EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PERMITTED UNDER SUBSECTION (2) OF THIS SECTION, each board of county commissioners of counties containing more than one hundred thousand inhabitants shall hold at least two meetings in each week of each year; but in the months of July and August of each year the board will not be required to hold more than two meetings in each of those months.

(2) EACH BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF A COUNTY CONTAINING MORE THAN ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND INHABITANTS MAY HOLD FEWER THAN TWO MEETINGS IN EACH WEEK OF EACH YEAR ON THE BASIS OF, WITHOUT LIMITATION, THE FOLLOWING CIRCUMSTANCES:

(a) A LACK OF A QUORUM CAUSED BY ILLNESS;
(b) SCHEDULING CONFLICTS WITH MEETINGS OF PROFESSIONAL
ORGANIZATIONS WHOSE MEMBERSHIP INCLUDES COUNTY COMMISSIONERS;
(c) INCLEMENT WEATHER;
(d) NATURAL DISASTERS OR EMERGENCY CONDITIONS;
(e) SPECIAL EVENTS; OR
(f) ANY OTHER CIRCUMSTANCE THAT A MAJORITY OF THE BOARD
DEEMS REASONABLE JUSTIFICATION FOR NOT HOLDING THE MEETING IN
THE MAJORITY’S SOLE DISCRETION.

(3) THE BOARD CHAIR MAY CANCEL A REGULARLY SCHEDULED
MEETING OF THE BOARD. IF THE DECISION TO CANCEL A MEETING IS MADE
MORE THAN TWENTY-FOUR HOURS IN ADVANCE OF THE MEETING, THE
BOARD SHALL PROMPTLY PROVIDE NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC OF THE
CANCELLATION IN THE SAME MANNER IN WHICH IT CUSTOMARILY
PROVIDES THE PUBLIC NOTICE OF ITS MEETINGS.

SECTION 2. Act subject to petition - effective date. This act
takes effect September 1, 2014; except that, if a referendum petition is
filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V of the state constitution against
this act or an item, section, or part of this act within the ninety-day period
after final adjournment of the general assembly, then the act, item,
section, or part will not take effect unless approved by the people at the
general election to be held in November 2014 and, in such case, will take
effect on the date of the official declaration of the vote thereon by the
governor.