



## SB19-040

**SHORT TITLE:** Establish Colorado Fire Commission

**LONG TITLE:** Concerning the establishment of the Colorado Fire Commission

**SPONSORS:** Sen. Hisey (Wildfire Matters Interim bill)

**COMMITTEES:** Senate Agriculture & Natural Resources Committee

**PURPOSE OF THE BILL:** To enhance public safety through a coordinated approach by setting up a statewide system within the department of public safety.

**PROPONENTS OF THE BILL:** Colorado Department of Public Safety

**POTENTIAL STAKEHOLDERS:** County sheriffs, emergency responders, fire districts, Dept. of Public Safety, FEMA

**BACKGROUND:** The Division of Fire Prevention and Control has engaged in a two-year strategic plan which included stakeholders. As a result, the desirability of establishing a state fire commission was discussed during the Wildfire Interim committee. There was general agreement that a state level coordination effort could be helpful; most discussion of concern was with the range of participants on the Commission, with some members expressing the concern that local officials with fire-fighting experience and community members should be included. The bill now reflects 19 voting members including a wide range of fire professionals, volunteer firefighters and others.

**Is this bill necessary this year?** There is no deadline

**How does the bill change current law?** No such commission currently exists. The new commission would meet at least every three months to study fire related issues, and is authorized to appoint task forces on specific topics if necessary.

**Does the bill affect the prior appropriations system?** No

**How is the bill implemented?** The Executive Director (of Dept. of Public Safety?) shall appoint the members, whose criteria are set forth in the bill, by August 5, 2019.

**Fiscal Impact:** There is no fiscal note yet