

Document: Colo. Const. Art. V, Section 19

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Colorado Revised Statutes Annotated Constitution of the State of Colorado Article V
Legislative Department

Section 19. WHEN LAWS TAKE EFFECT - INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

An act of the general assembly shall take effect on the date stated in the act, or, if no date is stated in the act, then on its passage. A bill may be introduced at any time during the session unless limited by action of the general assembly. No bill shall be introduced by title only.

History

Source: Entire article added, effective August 1, 1876, see **L. 1877**, P. 40. **L. 1883:** Entire section amended, p. 21. **L. 18:** Entire section amended, see **L. 19**, P. 344. **L. 50:** Entire section amended, see **L. 51**, P. 554.

▼ Annotations

Research References & Practice Aids

Hierarchy Notes:

Colo. Const. Art. V

State Notes

ANNOTATION

Law reviews. For article, "The Desirability of Change in Colorado's Legislative Organization and Procedure", see 23 Dicta 119 (1946). For article, "Legislative Bill Drafting", see 26 Rocky Mt. L. Rev. 368 (1954). For article, "Legislative Procedure in Colorado", see 26 Rocky Mt. L. Rev. 386 (1954).

Section limited to situation in which act "becomes law" prior to effective date. The language in this section to the effect that a legislative act "shall take effect on the date stated in the act" is limited to the situation in which the act "becomes a law" pursuant to § 11 of art. IV, Colo. Const., prior to the stated effective date. *People v. Glenn*, 200 Colo. 416, 615 P.2d 700 (1980).

And when executive approval necessary, approval date deemed passage date. When approval by the executive is necessary, his signature is the last act, and the date of passage is the date of his approval. *Tacorante v. People*, 624 P.2d 1324 (Colo. 1981).

No constitutional prohibition prevents different effective dates for different portions of same act. Because the effective date stated in an act and the date a bill becomes a law are not necessarily identical, nothing in the constitution prevents different portions of the same act from taking effect on different dates. *Tacorante v. People*, 624 P.2d 1324 (Colo. 1981).

Sections 17-22 of this article mandatory. *Watrous v. Golden Chamber of Commerce*; 121 Colo. 521, 218 P.2d 498 (1950).

Applied in *In re Appropriations by Gen. Ass'y*, 13 Colo. 316, 22 P. 464 (1889); *In re Medley*, 134 U.S. 160 (1890); *Nesbit v. People*, 19 Colo. 441, 36 P. 221 (1894); *Edelstein v. Carlile*, 33 Colo. 54, 78 P. 680 (1904); *Denver & R. G. R. R. v. Brennaman*, 45 Colo. 264, 100 P. 414 (1909); *Thirteenth St. Corp. v. A-1 Plumbing & Heating Co.*, 640 P.2d 1130 (Colo. 1982); *United Bank of Denver Nat'l Ass'n v. Wright*, 660 P.2d 510 (Colo. App. 1983).

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