

For Immediate Release:
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Contact: Angie Ham
Phone: 303.839.5197

Denver, CO – Governor Bill Ritter signed into law today House Bill 09-1027, Concerning The Duty of Drivers to Yield The Right- of-Way To Transit Buses Entering Traffic. This legislation was proposed by the Colorado Association of Transit Agencies (CASTA) in response to a member agency's request and allows transit agencies to post LED yield signs on the backs of their buses.

The bill originated with Philo Shelton, Public Works Director for the City of Steamboat Springs. The City of Steamboat Springs recently studied congestion in their downtown area. The study concluded that the yield-to-bus sign is one of the most cost-effective methods to help transit buses keep to tight schedules without impeding traffic. Ann Rajewski, CASTA Executive Director, adds that "Public transit has seen increased ridership in the double digits with last year's spike in the cost of gasoline. Ridership increases have been maintained despite lowered fuel costs. These figures point to the increasing role of transit and the public's growing dependence on it. The yield-to-bus legislation is not only one of the most economical ways to relieve congestion on bus routes, but it also serves to provide increased safety for transit vehicles and Colorado drivers. Everyone wins."

House Bill 09-1027 was sponsored by Representative Joe Rice and Senator Dan Gibbs.

CASTA is Colorado's statewide trade association for transit providers, vendors, government agencies and other interested organizations. CASTA promotes the development, operation and enhancement of safe and effective public transportation by working with local, state and federal legislators; providing training; speaking for the industry to the public and media and building coalitions.



CASTA staff and Board member with bill sponsors, Representative Joe Rice and Senator Dan Gibbs, as Governor Ritter signs House Bill 09-1027.