



Please Vote YES on HB20-1207

Reps. Melton and Wilson
Sens. Foote and Cooke

Private Investigators provide a vital, yet often overlooked role in many arenas relating to legal matters and consumer protections. Consumers call upon PIs when they are in vulnerable moments of their lives for services that are sensitive, confidential, and proprietary in nature.

Licensing of PIs - Because of licensure, PIs are required to have background checks, take a jurisprudence exam, and adhere to standards of practice, confidentiality, conflicts of interest, and ethics.

- The fees in Colorado are some of the lowest in the country with an initial license costing \$165 and the renewal each year after that being \$32.
- There are close to 1000 licensed private investigators in Colorado, and Colorado was the first state to license PIs in 1887.

Types of Cases - PIs are hired to investigate:

- missing and exploited children
- custodial kidnapping and interference
- elder abuse and elder fraud
- defense of the wrongfully accused to include death penalty exonerations
- insurance fraud cases and workers compensation claims
- identify theft cases
- second opinion in death investigations
- credibility of witnesses

Why Require PI Licensing - PI licensing was passed during the 2014 legislative session in reaction to documented consumer harms.

- PIs are an integral cog in the judicial system. Private investigators will assist law enforcement, attorneys, and insurance companies with their investigations when they aren't able to provide those services themselves.
- PI licensing is the single most effective way to protect the public from nefarious and predatory operators and provides the confidence consumers need for their delicate and confidential matters.

Impacts of No Licensing –

- A non-licensed environment can have a significant impact on the outcome of legal cases. Licensing legitimizes the documentation of PIs in legal settings. In an unvetted environment, credibility is immediately called into question.
- An unscrupulous investigator could impersonate a law enforcement officer, illegally record an individual, violate an individual's expectation of privacy, or bring physical harm to an individual.

For more information:

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