



COLORADO
MUNICIPAL
LEAGUE

303 831 6411 / 866 578 0936

303 860 8175

www.cml.org

1144 Sherman St., Denver, CO 80203

SB 20-056

TRANSPORTATION

SURPLUS MILITARY VEHICLES USE FOR FIREFIGHTING

SB 20-056 – YOUR “YES” VOTE RESPECTFULLY REQUESTED

SB 20-056 exempts surplus military vehicles used by local governments and fire protection districts for fire protection purposes from the definition of an “off-highway vehicle.”

Last year, the Colorado General Assembly passed SB 19-054 that defines surplus military vehicles as “off highway vehicles” in order to properly record them within the state’s new DRIVES title and registration system. This legislation ensured that 349 surplus military vehicles in Colorado could now be properly registered in a manner that meets general safety guidelines.

Surplus military vehicles are not deemed roadworthy in Colorado under federal safety standards so applying the “off-highway vehicle” definition to these types of vehicles expressly prohibits them from being driven on state highways.

Unfortunately, an unintended consequence of last year’s legislation is that it inadvertently preempted local governments that use these types of military vehicles for fire protection purposes from driving these vehicles on state highways.

Currently, 58 surplus military vehicles in Colorado are used by local governments and fire protection districts for this expressed purpose.

SB 20-056 simply creates a statutory exemption for local governments that use surplus military vehicles for firefighting so that they can continue to be driven on public roads.

CML respectfully requests a “yes” vote on SB 20-056.

For more information, contact Legislative and Policy Advocate Morgan Cullen at mcullen@cml.org or 303-831-6411.