

**Second Regular Session
Seventy-fifth General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO**

REVISED

*This Version Includes All Amendments Adopted
on Second Reading in the Second House*

LLS NO. 26-0382.01 Owen Hatch x2698

HOUSE BILL 26-1103

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Garcia and Goldstein, Bacon, Boesenecker, Camacho, Clifford, Duran, English, Espenoza, Froelich, Gilchrist, Gonzalez R., Hamrick, Jackson, Lindsay, Lukens, Mabrey, Marshall, McCluskie, Nguyen, Rutinel, Sirota, Stewart K., Story, Titone

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

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A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 **CONCERNING AMENDING SPECIFIC LEGAL PROCESSES FOR CERTAIN**
102 **VULNERABLE POPULATIONS.**

Bill Summary

(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <http://leg.colorado.gov>.)

The bill requires a law enforcement entity that receives a report alleging an offense involving sexual assault or abuse of a child to contact a child advocacy center within the judicial district where the alleged crime occurred, or the nearest child advocacy center if the judicial district where the alleged crime occurred does not have a child advocacy center, within 24 hours after taking the report. The law enforcement entity is

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.
*Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material to be added to existing law.
Dashes through the words or numbers indicate deletions from existing law.*

SENATE
Amended 2nd Reading
March 16, 2026

HOUSE
3rd Reading Unamended
February 25, 2026

HOUSE
Amended 2nd Reading
February 24, 2026

required to collaborate with the child advocacy center in requesting a forensic interview for the alleged child victim.

The bill creates a rebuttable presumption that a witness who is a child or a person who has an intellectual and developmental disability will suffer serious emotional distress or trauma from courtroom testimony when the defendant is present.

1 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

2 **SECTION 1. Legislative declaration.** (1) The general assembly
3 finds and declares that:

4 (a) This act seeks to provide further pathways for justice and
5 healing for child victims and does not usurp or otherwise interfere with
6 the current mandatory reporting structure; and

7 (b) This act does not impose a required timeline for an
8 investigation, or for a forensic interview to be completed, but instead
9 ensures that a child victim receives professional care as early as is
10 feasible after an allegation of sexual abuse.

11 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 24-31-908 as
12 follows:

13 **24-31-908. Required notification of child sexual abuse -**
14 **definition.**

15 (1) WHEN A LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY, THE COLORADO
16 STATE PATROL, OR THE COLORADO BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION, OR A
17 PEACE OFFICER THEREOF, TAKES A REPORT ALLEGING AN OFFENSE LISTED
18 IN SECTION 18-3-411 (1) AND CONDUCTS A MINIMAL FACTS INTERVIEW
19 WITH THE ALLEGED VICTIM, THE LAW ENFORCEMENT ENTITY OR PEACE
20 OFFICER SHALL, WITHIN ONE WEEK AFTER CONDUCTING THE MINIMAL
21 FACTS INTERVIEW, NOTIFY THE FOLLOWING OF THE ALLEGATION:

22 (a) A CHILD ADVOCACY CENTER LOCATED WITHIN THE JUDICIAL

1 DISTRICT WHERE THE ALLEGED CRIME OCCURRED; OR

2 (b) IF THE ALLEGED OFFENSE OCCURRED IN A JURISDICTION OTHER
3 THAN THE JURISDICTION IN WHICH IT WAS REPORTED, THE CHILD
4 ADVOCACY CENTER IN THE APPROPRIATE JURISDICTION, AS DETERMINED
5 BY THE RECEIVING LAW ENFORCEMENT ENTITY OR PEACE OFFICER. IN ALL
6 CASES, A LAW ENFORCEMENT ENTITY OR PEACE OFFICER SHALL NOTIFY A
7 CHILD ADVOCACY CENTER WITHIN THE STATE.

8 (2) A LAW ENFORCEMENT ENTITY OR PEACE OFFICER SHALL
9 INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION WHEN NOTIFYING A CHILD
10 ADVOCACY CENTER REGARDING AN ALLEGATION PURSUANT TO THIS
11 SECTION:

12 (a) THE CHILD'S NAME;

13 (b) THE CHILD'S FAMILY MEMBER OR GUARDIAN'S CONTACT
14 INFORMATION;

15 (c) THE ALLEGED OFFENDER'S NAME;

16 (d) THE APPROXIMATE DATE OF THE ALLEGED OFFENSE; AND

17 (e) A SUMMARY OF THE ALLEGED INCIDENT.

18 (3) IF EXTENUATING CIRCUMSTANCES EXIST THAT PROHIBIT THE
19 LAW ENFORCEMENT ENTITY OR PEACE OFFICER FROM NOTIFYING THE
20 CHILD ADVOCACY CENTER OF THE ALLEGATION WITHIN ONE WEEK, THE
21 LAW ENFORCEMENT ENTITY OR PEACE OFFICER MUST PROVIDE
22 INFORMATION ABOUT THE EXTENUATING CIRCUMSTANCES TO THE CHILD
23 ADVOCACY CENTER WHEN THE ENTITY OR OFFICER REPORTS THE
24 ALLEGATION.

25 (4) A LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY, THE COLORADO STATE
26 PATROL, OR THE COLORADO BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION, OR A PEACE
27 OFFICER THEREOF, SHALL, IN COLLABORATION WITH THE CHILD ADVOCACY

1 CENTER THAT THE LAW ENFORCEMENT ENTITY OR PEACE OFFICER
2 REPORTED THE ALLEGED OFFENSE TO, COORDINATE A FORENSIC INTERVIEW
3 PURSUANT TO THE REQUIREMENTS SET FORTH IN SECTION 19-3-308.5 FOR
4 THE ALLEGED VICTIM, IF THE LAW ENFORCEMENT ENTITY OR PEACE
5 OFFICER DEEMS A FORENSIC INTERVIEW NECESSARY AND APPROPRIATE.

6 (5) AS USED IN THIS SECTION, UNLESS THE CONTEXT OTHERWISE
7 REQUIRES, "MINIMAL FACTS INTERVIEW" MEANS A SHORT, LIMITED
8 CONVERSATION WITH A CHILD CONDUCTED BY A LAW ENFORCEMENT
9 OFFICER IN THE FIELD TO GATHER BASIC FACTS NECESSARY TO DETERMINE
10 WHETHER ABUSE OR NEGLECT MAY HAVE OCCURRED, ASSESS IMMEDIATE
11 SAFETY CONCERNS, AND DECIDE WHETHER A FORENSIC INTERVIEW OR
12 FURTHER INVESTIGATION IS NEEDED.

13 **SECTION 3.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 16-10-402, **amend**
14 (1)(a) introductory portion and (1)(a)(II); and **add** (6) as follows:

15 **16-10-402. Use of closed-circuit television - child or witness**
16 **with intellectual and developmental disabilities - definition.**

17 (1) (a) When a witness at the time of a trial is a child ~~less than~~
18 ~~twelve~~ UNDER EIGHTEEN years ~~of age~~, OLD or is a person who has an
19 intellectual and developmental disability as defined in section
20 25.5-10-202, ~~C.R.S.~~, the court may, upon motion of a party or upon its
21 own motion, order that the witness's testimony be taken in a room other
22 than the courtroom and be televised by closed-circuit television in the
23 courtroom if:

24 (II) The judge determines that testimony by the witness in the
25 courtroom and in the presence of the defendant would result in the
26 witness suffering serious emotional distress or trauma. ~~such that the~~
27 ~~witness would not be able to reasonably communicate~~ THE TRIAL COURT

1 SHALL MAKE FINDINGS ON THE RECORD REGARDING THE WITNESS'S
2 ABILITY TO TESTIFY IN THE COURTROOM AND IN THE PRESENCE OF THE
3 DEFENDANT; and

4 (6) AS USED IN THIS SECTION, UNLESS THE CONTEXT OTHERWISE
5 REQUIRES, "CLOSED-CIRCUIT TELEVISION" MEANS A DIRECT, CLOSED-LOOP
6 AUDIO AND VIDEO TRANSMISSION SYSTEM THAT ALLOWS PRIVATE VIEWING
7 AND IS NOT PUBLICLY BROADCAST, AND MAY INCLUDE THE USE OF OTHER
8 DIGITAL OR WIRELESS TECHNOLOGIES.

9 **SECTION 4. Safety clause.** The general assembly finds,
10 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate
11 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety or for appropriations for
12 the support and maintenance of the departments of the state and state
13 institutions.