

Second Regular Session
Seventy-first General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 18-1245.01 Kip Kolkmeier x4510

SENATE BILL 18-270

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Jahn and Neville T.,

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Pettersen and Wist,

Senate Committees

State, Veterans, & Military Affairs

House Committees

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 CONCERNING ESTABLISHING A STATEWIDE PROGRAM TO COORDINATE
102 REFERRALS OF HIGH-RISK INDIVIDUALS IN NEED OF BEHAVIORAL
103 HEALTH TRANSITION SERVICES.

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 establishes the community transition specialist program (program) in the office of behavioral health (office) in the department of human services (department). The program coordinates referrals of high-risk individuals to transition specialists by certain behavioral health facilities and programs. High-risk individuals are under an emergency or

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

1 (I) AN EMERGENCY PROCEDURE FOR A SEVENTY-TWO-HOUR HOLD
2 PURSUANT TO SECTION 27-65-105;

3 (II) A CERTIFICATION FOR SHORT-TERM TREATMENT OR EXTENDED
4 SHORT-TERM TREATMENT PURSUANT TO SECTION 27-65-107 OR
5 27-65-108;

6 (III) LONG-TERM CARE AND TREATMENT PURSUANT TO SECTION
7 27-65-109;

8 (IV) AN EMERGENCY COMMITMENT PURSUANT TO SECTION
9 27-81-111 OR 27-82-107; OR

10 (V) AN INVOLUNTARY COMMITMENT PURSUANT TO SECTION
11 27-81-112 OR 27-82-108;

12 (b) HAS A SIGNIFICANT MENTAL HEALTH OR SUBSTANCE USE
13 DISORDER; AND

14 (c) IS NOT CURRENTLY ENGAGED IN CONSISTENT BEHAVIORAL
15 HEALTH TREATMENT.

16 (6) "OFFICE" MEANS THE OFFICE OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH IN THE
17 DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES.

18 (7) "TRANSITION SPECIALIST" MEANS A PERSON WHO ASSISTS
19 HIGH-RISK INDIVIDUALS WITH ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING SERVICES:

20 (a) ACCESS TO HOUSING OR RESIDENTIAL PROGRAM PLACEMENT;

21 (b) ACCESS TO BEHAVIORAL HEALTH TREATMENT OR BENEFITS;

22 (c) ADVOCACY TO INSURANCE COMPANIES AND PROVIDERS FOR
23 THE APPROPRIATE TYPE AND INTENSITY OF MENTAL HEALTH OR
24 SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER SERVICES;

25 (d) PLANNING FOR FOLLOW-UP SERVICES AFTER A
26 HOSPITALIZATION, DISCHARGE FROM A WITHDRAWAL MANAGEMENT
27 FACILITY, OR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CRISIS ENCOUNTER;

- 1 (e) ASSISTANCE WITH PREPARING ADVANCE DIRECTIVES;
- 2 (f) OBTAINING A REPRESENTATIVE PAYEE OR GUARDIAN;
- 3 (g) FAMILY SUPPORTIVE SERVICES; OR
- 4 (h) COMPLIANCE WITH COURT APPEARANCES OR PROBATION.
- 5 (8) "WITHDRAWAL MANAGEMENT FACILITY" MEANS A FACILITY
- 6 THAT PROVIDES TWENTY-FOUR-HOUR SUPERVISED WITHDRAWAL FROM
- 7 ALCOHOL OR DRUGS IN A RESIDENTIAL SETTING.

8 **27-66.5-103. Community transition specialist program -**
9 **program requirements - acceptance of referrals - contract for**
10 **services - rules.** (1) THE COMMUNITY TRANSITION SPECIALIST PROGRAM
11 IS ESTABLISHED IN THE OFFICE OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH. THE PROGRAM
12 MUST COORDINATE REFERRALS OF HIGH-RISK INDIVIDUALS FROM ACUTE
13 TREATMENT CENTERS, CRISIS SERVICES FACILITIES, WITHDRAWAL
14 MANAGEMENT FACILITIES, AND HOSPITALS TO APPROPRIATE TRANSITION
15 SPECIALISTS.

16 (2) ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 1, 2019, THE PROGRAM MUST BE
17 AVAILABLE STATEWIDE. THE PROGRAM MUST HAVE A PROCESS TO ACCEPT
18 REFERRALS FOR HIGH-RISK INDIVIDUALS AND COORDINATE CONTACT
19 BETWEEN REFERRED HIGH-RISK INDIVIDUALS AND APPROPRIATE
20 TRANSITION SPECIALISTS. TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE, THE COORDINATED
21 CONTACT MUST TAKE PLACE PRIOR TO THE RELEASE OR DISCHARGE OF THE
22 HIGH-RISK INDIVIDUAL FROM A FACILITY.

23 (3) THE PROGRAM MUST ENCOURAGE, BUT CANNOT REQUIRE,
24 ACUTE TREATMENT CENTERS, CRISIS SERVICES FACILITIES, WITHDRAWAL
25 MANAGEMENT FACILITIES, AND HOSPITALS TO CONTACT THE PROGRAM
26 BEFORE RELEASING OR DISCHARGING A HIGH-RISK INDIVIDUAL.

27 (4) THE OFFICE MAY CONTRACT WITH A VENDOR TO PROVIDE THE

1 REFERRAL AND COORDINATION SERVICES REQUIRED BY THIS ARTICLE 66.5.

2 (5) ON OR BEFORE OCTOBER 1, 2018, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL
3 PROMULGATE RULES NECESSARY FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS
4 ARTICLE 66.5.

5 **27-66.5-104. Data collection and recommendations.** (1) THE
6 OFFICE SHALL COLLECT INFORMATION ON THE FOLLOWING:

7 (a) CURRENT PRACTICES, CRITERIA, AND PROCEDURES REGARDING
8 FOLLOW-UP CARE FOR HIGH-RISK INDIVIDUALS RELEASED OR DISCHARGED
9 FROM EMERGENCY OR INVOLUNTARY HOLDS, CERTIFICATIONS, OR
10 COMMITMENTS; AND

11 (b) EXISTING CAPACITY TO SERVE HIGH-RISK INDIVIDUALS AFTER
12 RELEASE OR DISCHARGE.

13 (2) ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 1, 2020, AND ON OR BEFORE JANUARY
14 1 EACH YEAR THEREAFTER, THE OFFICE SHALL ANALYZE THE DATA
15 COLLECTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH SUBSECTION (1) OF THIS SECTION AND
16 PREPARE RECOMMENDATIONS TO INCREASE ACCESS TO, AND
17 COORDINATION OF, TRANSITION SPECIALIST SERVICES FOR HIGH-RISK
18 INDIVIDUALS. THE RECOMMENDATIONS SHALL BE REPORTED TO THE
19 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT AND SHALL BE INCLUDED IN
20 THE REPORTING REQUIREMENTS IN SECTION 27-66.5-105.

21 **27-66.5-105. Reporting requirements - "State Measurement**
22 **for Accountable, Responsive, and Transparent (SMART)**
23 **Government Act" report.** THE OFFICE SHALL REPORT INFORMATION ON
24 THE COMMUNITY TRANSITION SPECIALIST PROGRAM IN THE DEPARTMENT'S
25 ANNUAL PRESENTATION TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY REQUIRED UNDER
26 THE "STATE MEASUREMENT FOR ACCOUNTABLE, RESPONSIVE, AND
27 TRANSPARENT (SMART) GOVERNMENT ACT", PART 2 OF ARTICLE 7 OF

1 TITLE 2.

2 **SECTION 2. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds,
3 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate
4 preservation of the public peace, health, and safety.