

**First Regular Session
Seventy-second General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO**

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 19-0287.01 Jerry Barry x4341

HOUSE BILL 19-1160

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Landgraf and Singer, Pelton, Bockenfeld, Larson, Wilson, McKean, Catlin, Gonzales-Gutierrez, Mullica

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Gardner,

House Committees

Public Health Care & Human Services
Appropriations

Senate Committees

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 **CONCERNING A MENTAL HEALTH FACILITY PILOT PROGRAM.**

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 creates a new 3-year mental health facility pilot program to provide residential care, treatment, and services to persons with both a mental health diagnosis and a physical health diagnosis. It contains requirements for applicants and directs the department of public health and environment to select one or 2 applicants for the pilot program.

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 *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:

4 (a) There are individuals with physical health or significant mental
5 health needs who are often cared for in expensive acute care hospitals or
6 acute care psychiatric hospitals. The taxpayers of Colorado often bear the
7 costs of these individuals remaining in these expensive settings.

8 (b) Regulations limit the percentage of individuals with a mental
9 health diagnosis or intellectual and developmental disability who may
10 reside in a nursing home, further limiting the places where these
11 individuals may reside; and

12 (c) These individuals would benefit from being in a facility that,
13 in addition to serving their physical or mental health needs, may assist the
14 individuals in transitioning to living on their own, but the current federal
15 and state regulations and rules do not allow for this treatment model.

16 (2) Therefore, it is the intent of the general assembly that a pilot
17 program be established to create a new licensed facility model to provide
18 a variety of services to individuals with dual diagnosis in a less costly
19 setting that also prepares the individual to live on his or her own if
20 possible.

21 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 25-3-120 as
22 follows:

23 **25-3-120. Mental health facility pilot program - establishment**
24 **- rules - definitions.** (1) AS USED IN THIS SECTION, UNLESS THE CONTEXT
25 OTHERWISE REQUIRES:

26 (a) "MENTAL HEALTH FACILITY" MEANS A FACILITY APPROVED TO
27 PARTICIPATE IN THE PILOT PROGRAM PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (2) OF

1 THIS SECTION.

2 (b) "PILOT PROGRAM" MEANS THE MENTAL HEALTH FACILITY PILOT
3 PROGRAM ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION.

4 (2) THERE IS ESTABLISHED IN THE DEPARTMENT THE MENTAL
5 HEALTH FACILITY PILOT PROGRAM TO AUTHORIZE NOT MORE THAN TWO
6 ENTITIES TO PARTICIPATE IN A THREE-YEAR PILOT PROGRAM TO ALLOW
7 INDIVIDUALS WITH BOTH A PHYSICAL HEALTH DIAGNOSIS AND SIGNIFICANT
8 MENTAL HEALTH DIAGNOSIS TO RESIDE IN A FACILITY THAT TREATS BOTH
9 THE PHYSICAL AND MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES AND PROVIDES ADDITIONAL
10 SERVICES TO HELP THE INDIVIDUAL TRANSITION TO INDEPENDENT LIVING.

11 (3) ON OR BEFORE OCTOBER 1, 2019, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL
12 DEVELOP AN APPLICATION FOR INTERESTED ENTITIES TO APPLY TO BE
13 AUTHORIZED AS A MENTAL HEALTH FACILITY. THE APPLICATION MUST
14 REQUIRE THE APPLICANT TO SHOW, AT A MINIMUM, THAT IT:

15 (a) IS SERVING INDIVIDUALS WITH BOTH PHYSICAL AND MENTAL
16 HEALTH DIAGNOSES;

17 (b) OFFERS STAFF SECURE ENVIRONMENTS RATHER THAN
18 PHYSICALLY SECURE SPACES;

19 (c) HAS THE CAPABILITY TO PROVIDE INTEGRATED SERVICES WITH
20 COMMUNITY MEDICAL AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PROVIDERS;

21 (d) HAS SUFFICIENT STAFFING LEVELS OF LICENSED NURSES,
22 NURSING ASSISTANTS, AND OCCUPATIONAL AND RECREATIONAL
23 PROFESSIONALS;

24 (e) HAS A PARTNERSHIP WITH EITHER AN ACUTE CARE HOSPITAL OR
25 PSYCHIATRIC HOSPITAL AND WITH A SKILLED NURSING FACILITY, SO IT HAS
26 THE ABILITY TO TRANSFER AN INDIVIDUAL IN NEED OF A HIGHER LEVEL OF
27 CARE;

1 (f) DEMONSTRATES A COLLABORATIVE RELATIONSHIP WITH THE
2 HOSPITAL, INCLUDING CONSULTATION AND TREATMENT PLAN SUPPORT,
3 ONE-ON-ONE STAFFING SUPPORT, AND ONGOING TRAINING FOR STAFF AT
4 THE MENTAL HEALTH FACILITY;

5 (g) IS IN A COMMUNITY THAT HAS RESOURCES TO SUPPORT
6 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT TO MOVE AN INDIVIDUAL TO LESS RESTRICTIVE
7 ENVIRONMENTS AS AN INDIVIDUAL PROGRESSES;

8 (h) DEMONSTRATES COST SAVINGS OR COST NEUTRALITY FOR THE
9 STATE MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM;

10 (i) IS WILLING AND ABLE TO CONTRIBUTE ONE-THIRD OF THE
11 INCREASED COSTS THAT THE APPLICANT WILL INCUR DUE TO THE PILOT
12 PROGRAM AND HAS IDENTIFIED SOURCES FOR THE OTHER TWO-THIRDS;

13 AND

14 (j) IS WILLING TO PREPARE REPORTS ON THE PILOT PROGRAM.

15 (4) ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 1, 2019, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL
16 SELECT UP TO TWO APPLICANTS TO BECOME MENTAL HEALTH FACILITIES
17 UNDER THE PILOT PROGRAM; EXCEPT THAT, IF MORE THAN ONE APPLICANT
18 IS SELECTED:

19 (a) ONE APPLICANT MUST BE IN A COMMUNITY WITH A POPULATION
20 OF OVER ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND AND ONE APPLICANT IN A COMMUNITY
21 WITH A POPULATION OF UNDER ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND UNLESS THERE
22 IS NO QUALIFIED APPLICANT FROM SUCH A COMMUNITY; AND

23 (b) BOTH APPLICANTS MUST NOT BE LOCATED IN THE SAME CITY
24 AND MUST NOT BE ASSISTED LIVING FACILITIES.

25 (5) THE DEPARTMENT IS AUTHORIZED TO ADOPT RULES TO
26 IMPLEMENT THE PILOT PROGRAM.

27 **SECTION 3. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act

1 takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the
2 ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly (August
3 2, 2019, if adjournment sine die is on May 3, 2019); except that, if a
4 referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V of the
5 state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this act
6 within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take effect
7 unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in
8 November 2020 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the
9 official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.