Second Regular Session Seventy-third General Assembly STATE OF COLORADO

REVISED

This Version Includes All Amendments Adopted on Second Reading in the Second House HOUSE BILL 22-1383

LLS NO. 22-0154.02 Alana Rosen x2606

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A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 **CONCERNING INCREASING THE WORKFORCE BY REMOVING BARRIERS**

102 TO EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR JUVENILES.

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 the general assembly to make an appropriation from the general fund to the department of human services (department). The department shall use the appropriation to fund career and technical education and vocational training programs in designated youth facilities for juveniles in the custody of the department.

The bill prevents an employer from requiring an applicant for





Amended 2nd Reading April 29, 2022

HOUSE

employment of any age to disclose information related to an arrest, detention, processing, diversion, supervision, adjudication, or court disposition that occurred while the applicant was subject to the process and jurisdiction of the juvenile court. As a factor in determining any condition of employment, an employer shall not seek from any source any record related to an arrest, detention, processing, diversion, supervision, adjudication, or court disposition that occurred while the applicant was subject to the process and jurisdiction of the juvenile court, except for records that are publicly available and that are specifically related to the tasks or functions of the job. Records that are publicly available include juvenile offenses that constitute unlawful sexual behavior or a crime of violence. The bill does not apply to the screening of applicants who have direct contact with vulnerable persons.

The bill prohibits state or local agencies from denying or taking adverse action against an applicant who has been adjudicated for a delinquent act in a juvenile proceeding, but who is otherwise qualified for a license, certification, permit, or registration.

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

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

- 4 (a) The COVID-19 pandemic has led to extensive job loss and
 5 long-term economic impacts statewide;
- 6 (b) Increasing job skills training immediately will provide a 7 positive and long-lasting benefit on the state's economy at a critical time 8 in Colorado's recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic;
- 9 (c) In addition to providing for the care and supervision of a 10 juvenile committed by the juvenile court to the custody of the department 11 of human services, the department of human services also provides career 12 and technical education and vocational training programs;
- (d) Custody-based education and vocational training results in
 greater employment opportunities, higher wages, and a lower rate of
 recidivism;
 - (e) The department of human services' career and technical

education and vocational training programs increase workforce readiness
 in juveniles so they may transition out of the juvenile justice system into
 skilled employment;

4 (f) Expanding job skills and workforce readiness training for 5 juveniles reduces future expenditures on social services programs and 6 reincarceration, and will positively impact Colorado's long-term 7 economic stability;

8 (g) Juvenile adjudications can negatively impact employment 9 opportunities, and it is an important expansion of state policy that juvenile 10 records do not impact employment decisions; and

11 (h) In creating employment opportunities for youth with 12 involvement in the juvenile justice system, this act seeks to minimize 13 hiring discrimination based on an applicant's past involvement in the 14 juvenile justice system. The act does not limit the current application of 15 section 19-1-304 (1)(b.5) or (5), Colorado Revised Statutes, as those 16 provisions relate to specific information for certain offenses, including 17 unlawful sexual behavior, crimes of violence, possession of a handgun, 18 class 1, 2, 3, or 4 felonies, and crimes involving the use or possession of 19 a weapon.

(2) Therefore, the general assembly declares that investing state
dollars into career and technical education and vocational training
programs for juveniles will enhance the department of human services'
ability to improve outcomes for juveniles and the state and prohibiting the
use of juvenile adjudication records in employment decisions will
improve employment opportunities for Coloradans.

26 SECTION 2. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 19-2.5-1526, add (4)
27 as follows:

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19-2.5-1526. Facility rules - academic and vocational courses
 - repeal. (4) (a) FOR THE 2022-23 STATE FISCAL YEAR, THE DEPARTMENT
 MAY SPEND MONEY APPROPRIATED TO THE DEPARTMENT BY THE GENERAL
 ASSEMBLY FROM THE GENERAL FUND IN HOUSE BILL 22-1329 TO EXPAND
 THE DEPARTMENT'S CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND
 VOCATIONAL TRAINING PROGRAMS IN DESIGNATED JUVENILE FACILITIES
 AS FOLLOWS:

8 (I) PURCHASING VOCATIONAL PROGRAM EQUIPMENT AND 9 OUTDOOR STORAGE STRUCTURES TO ADVANCE THE SKILLS OF JUVENILES 10 IN CAREERS THAT JUVENILES CAN MAINTAIN ONCE RELEASED FROM THE 11 CUSTODY OF THE DEPARTMENT;

(II) UPDATING EXISTING PHYSICAL SPACE FOR LEARNING AND
 REPLACING OUTDATED VOCATIONAL AND TECHNICAL EQUIPMENT;

(III) CONTRACTING WITH COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY - PUEBLO,
 AS ESTABLISHED IN SECTION 23-31.5-101, AND OTHER INSTITUTIONS OF
 HIGHER EDUCATION, AS APPROPRIATE, FOR MOBILE LEARNING LABS; AND
 (IV) UPDATING TECHNOLOGY AND COMPUTER EQUIPMENT FOR
 EDUCATION PROGRAMMING EXPANSION.

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(b) This subsection (4) is repealed, effective July 1, 2024.

21 SECTION 3. In Colorado Revised Statutes, amend 19-2.5-108
22 as follows:

19-2.5-108. Effect of proceedings - definition. (1) An
adjudication or proceeding pursuant to this article 2.5 IS NOT EQUIVALENT
TO AN ADULT CONVICTION OF A CRIMINAL OFFENSE AND must not impose
any civil disability upon a juvenile or disqualify OR PREJUDICE the
juvenile from holding any position under the state personnel system or

submitting any governmental or military service application or receiving
 any governmental or military service appointment or from holding public
 office.

4 (2) (a) AN EMPLOYER, WHETHER A PUBLIC ENTITY OR PRIVATE 5 INDIVIDUAL OR ENTITY, SHALL NOT ASK AN APPLICANT FOR EMPLOYMENT 6 OF ANY AGE TO DISCLOSE INFORMATION RELATED TO AN ARREST, 7 DETENTION, PROCESSING, DIVERSION, SUPERVISION, ADJUDICATION, OR 8 COURT DISPOSITION THAT OCCURRED WHILE THE APPLICANT WAS SUBJECT 9 TO THE PROCESS AND JURISDICTION OF THE JUVENILE COURT AND AN 10 APPLICANT OF ANY AGE IS NOT REQUIRED TO DISCLOSE SUCH INFORMATION 11 IN RESPONSE TO ANY EMPLOYER INQUIRY.

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13 (b) NOTHING IN THIS SECTION LIMITS PUBLIC ACCESS TO
14 INFORMATION AS SET FORTH IN SECTION 19-1-304 (1)(b.5) OR (5).

(c) THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SUBSECTION (2) DO NOT APPLY TO THE
SCREENING OF APPLICANTS WHO HAVE DIRECT CONTACT WITH
VULNERABLE PERSONS PURSUANT TO SECTION 27-90-111 OR THE
SCREENING OF APPLICANTS REQUIRED BY LICENSED CHILD CARE CENTERS
PURSUANT TO SECTION 26-6-905 OR 26.5-5-309.

20 (d) The provisions of this subsection (2) do not apply to
21 ANY LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY OF THE STATE OR TO ANY POLITICAL
22 SUBDIVISION.

(e) AS USED IN THIS SUBSECTION (2), A "CONDITION OF
EMPLOYMENT" MEANS HIRING, PROMOTION, TERMINATION, PARTICIPATING
IN AN APPRENTICESHIP TRAINING PROGRAM, OR A TRAINING PROGRAM
THAT LEADS TO EMPLOYMENT.

27 SECTION 4. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-5-101, amend

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1 (2)(b)(III) and (2)(b)(IV); and **add** (2)(b)(V) as follows:

2 24-5-101. Effect of criminal conviction on employment rights.
3 (2) (b) In evaluating an applicant, an agency shall comply with
4 subsection (4) of this section and shall not use the determination of the
5 following information as a basis for denial or taking adverse action
6 against any applicant otherwise qualified:

7 (III) The applicant has been convicted of a criminal offense but
8 records of the conviction have been sealed or expunged; or

9 (IV) A court has issued an order of collateral relief specific to the
10 credential sought by the applicant; OR

(V) THE APPLICANT HAS BEEN ADJUDICATED FOR COMMITTING A
 DELINQUENT ACT IN A JUVENILE PROCEEDING.

13 SECTION 5. Act subject to petition - effective date. This act 14 takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the 15 ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly; except 16 that, if a referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V 17 of the state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this 18 act within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take 19 effect unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in November 2022 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the 20 21 official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.