

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

PREAMENDED

*This Unofficial Version Includes Committee
Amendments Not Yet Adopted on Second Reading*

LLS NO. 22-0999.01 Nicole Myers x4326

SENATE BILL 22-211

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Fields and Hinrichsen,

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Valdez A.,

Senate Committees

Health & Human Services
Appropriations

House Committees

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 **CONCERNING THE REPURPOSING OF THE RIDGE VIEW CAMPUS INTO A**
102 **SUPPORTIVE RESIDENTIAL COMMUNITY FOR PEOPLE**
103 **EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS.**

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>.)

In 2001, the state began operating an academic model juvenile facility on the parcel of real property formerly known as the Lowry bombing range and currently referred to as the Ridge View campus. The juvenile facility, known as the Ridge View Youth Services Center, operated for 20 years at the Ridge View campus until the state closed the

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.

facility in 2021. The bill requires that the Ridge View campus be repurposed and converted into the Ridge View Supportive Residential Community to provide transitional housing, a continuum of behavioral health service treatment, medical care, vocational training, and skill development for its residents and the general public.

The department of human services (department) is required to transfer ownership of all or part of the Ridge View campus to the department of personnel for use by the division of housing (division) for the purposes of repurposing the Ridge View campus. The division, in collaboration with the behavioral health administration and the department of human services, is required to develop a feasible master plan for the redevelopment and operations of the Ridge View campus and is required to enter into one or more contracts with private contractors to establish the Ridge View Supportive Residential Community at the Ridge View campus.

The Ridge View Supportive Residential Community is required to provide the following services and programs:

- A transitional housing program for individual adults with case management, care coordination, and vocational and housing placement assistance;
- A continuum of behavioral health services and treatment, informed by American Society of Addiction Medicine standards, available to people coming from the transitional housing program and to the general public; and
- A federally qualified health clinic at which people have access to medical treatments that help facilitate recovery, including medical and dental care and a continuum of behavioral health services. The health clinic and all behavioral health services and treatment are required to be accessible to people receiving other treatment at the Ridge View Supportive Residential Community, people residing in the transitional housing, and the general public.

The bill specifies eligibility criteria for the programs and services that will be offered at the Ridge View Supportive Residential Community and specifies how individuals may be referred to the community.

For the 2022-23 state fiscal year, the bill requires the general assembly to appropriate money from the economic recovery and relief cash fund to the division for the repurposing of the Ridge View campus and authorizes the division to use up to 10% of the amount appropriated for its administrative costs in connection with the repurposing of the Ridge View campus. The bill requires the division to comply with specified reporting requirements.

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

1 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-32-703, **add** (7.5)
2 as follows:

3 **24-32-703. Definitions.** As used in this part 7, unless the context
4 otherwise requires:

5 (7.5) "RIDGE VIEW CAMPUS" MEANS THE REAL PROPERTY
6 FORMERLY KNOWN AS THE LOWRY BOMBING RANGE THAT WAS
7 REDEVELOPED BY THE STATE IN 2001 AND THAT HOUSED THE RIDGE VIEW
8 YOUTH SERVICES CENTER UNTIL 2021.

9 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 24-32-726 as
10 follows:

11 **24-32-726. Ridge View Supportive Residential Community at**
12 **the Ridge View campus - report - legislative declaration.**

13 (1) **Legislative declaration.** (a) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY HEREBY FINDS,
14 DETERMINES, AND DECLARES THAT:

15 (I) AS THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN
16 DEVELOPMENT STATED AFTER THE PASSAGE OF THE "AMERICAN RESCUE
17 PLAN ACT OF 2021", THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC HAS EXACERBATED OUR
18 NATION'S ALREADY SEVERE HOUSING AFFORDABILITY CRISIS;

19 (II) TODAY, ONE IN FIVE RENTERS IS BEHIND ON RENT AND JUST
20 OVER TEN MILLION HOME OWNERS ARE BEHIND ON MORTGAGE PAYMENTS;

21 (III) PEOPLE OF COLOR FACE EVEN GREATER HARDSHIPS AND ARE
22 MORE LIKELY TO HAVE DEFERRED OR MISSED PAYMENTS, PUTTING THEM
23 AT A GREATER RISK OF EVICTION AND FORECLOSURE;

24 (IV) AT THE SAME TIME, OUR NATION'S HOMELESSNESS CRISIS HAS
25 WORSENERED DURING THE PANDEMIC, AS PEOPLE EXPERIENCING
26 HOMELESSNESS ARE HIGHLY VULNERABLE TO COVID-19 TRANSMISSION,
27 ILLNESS, AND SEVERITY DUE TO THEIR USE OF CONGREGATE SHELTERS AND

1 THEIR HIGH PREVALENCE OF UNDERLYING HEALTH CONDITIONS;

2 (V) COLORADO IS NO EXCEPTION, AS THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC
3 HAS HIT LOW- AND EXTREMELY LOW-INCOME INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES
4 WHO WERE ALREADY SEVERELY COST-BURDENED, INCREASING THEIR RISK
5 OF EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS OR INABILITY TO RESOLVE THEIR
6 HOMELESSNESS;

7 (VI) IN THE DENVER METRO AREA ALONE, SHELTERS SAW A
8 NINETY-NINE PERCENT INCREASE IN PEOPLE EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS
9 FOR THE FIRST TIME FROM JANUARY 2020 TO JANUARY 2021; AND

10 (VII) THE NUMBER OF DEATHS DUE TO OVERDOSE AMONG PEOPLE
11 EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS IN THE CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER
12 INCREASED BY THIRTY-FOUR PERCENT FROM 2020 TO 2021.

13 (b) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FURTHER FINDS AND DECLARES THAT:

14 (I) THE RIDGE VIEW CAMPUS, THAT FORMERLY OPERATED AS THE
15 RIDGE VIEW YOUTH SERVICES CENTER, IS NO LONGER BEING USED AS OF
16 JULY 1, 2021, AND THE STATE HAS THE OPPORTUNITY TO REPURPOSE THE
17 CAMPUS TO ENSURE THAT IT CONTINUES TO SUPPORT COLORADANS MOST
18 IN NEED;

19 (II) CONVERTING THE RIDGE VIEW CAMPUS INTO A
20 RECOVERY-ORIENTED COMMUNITY FOR INDIVIDUAL ADULTS WITHOUT
21 STABLE HOUSING WHO WISH TO FOCUS ON RECOVERY FROM A SUBSTANCE
22 USE DISORDER WILL PROVIDE LOW-BARRIER ACCESS TO COMPREHENSIVE
23 CARE AND TREATMENTS AND WILL ALLOW PEOPLE TO RECOVER AND HEAL
24 IN A SAFE AND STABLE ENVIRONMENT;

25 (III) THE RIDGE VIEW SUPPORTIVE RESIDENTIAL COMMUNITY AT
26 THE RIDGE VIEW CAMPUS WILL INCLUDE MULTIPLE COMPONENTS TO
27 PROVIDE COMPREHENSIVE SUPPORT ACROSS A CONTINUUM OF SUBSTANCE

1 USE RECOVERY TREATMENTS AND PROGRAMMING, AND THE GOAL WILL BE
2 TO HAVE INDIVIDUALS LEAVE THE RIDGE VIEW SUPPORTIVE RESIDENTIAL
3 COMMUNITY IN ACTIVE RECOVERY AND IMPROVED HEALTH SO THEY CAN
4 TRANSITION TO STABLE HOUSING AND COMMUNITY-BASED SUPPORTS, AS
5 WELL AS EMPLOYMENT WHERE POSSIBLE; ==

6 (IV) WHILE THE RIDGE VIEW CAMPUS WILL SERVE AN IMPORTANT
7 NEED AS A RECOVERY-ORIENTED COMMUNITY PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION,
8 THE STATE CONTINUES TO EXPERIENCE A YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS.
9 COLORADO REMAINS COMMITTED TO ADDRESSING THE BEHAVIORAL
10 HEALTH CRISIS THROUGH COLLABORATION ACROSS STATE GOVERNMENT
11 TO ENSURE THAT CHILDREN HAVE ACCESS TO THE CARE THEY NEED IN THE
12 MOST APPROPRIATE SETTING.

13 (V) PROVIDING SUPPORT AND PROGRAMMING PURSUANT TO THIS
14 SECTION AT THE RIDGE VIEW SUPPORTIVE RESIDENTIAL COMMUNITY IS
15 AN IMPORTANT GOVERNMENT SERVICE.

16 (2) **Administration.** (a) BEGINNING JULY 1, 2022, THE RIDGE
17 VIEW CAMPUS IS DESIGNATED AS A SUPPORTIVE RESIDENTIAL COMMUNITY
18 FOR PEOPLE EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS THAT SHALL BE KNOWN AS THE
19 RIDGE VIEW SUPPORTIVE RESIDENTIAL COMMUNITY. THE PURPOSE OF
20 THE RIDGE VIEW SUPPORTIVE RESIDENTIAL COMMUNITY IS TO PROVIDE
21 TRANSITIONAL HOUSING, A CONTINUUM OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES
22 AND TREATMENT, MEDICAL CARE, VOCATIONAL TRAINING, AND SKILL
23 DEVELOPMENT FOR THE RESIDENTS AND THE GENERAL PUBLIC. THE
24 DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES SHALL TRANSFER OWNERSHIP OF ALL
25 OR PART OF THE RIDGE VIEW CAMPUS TO THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL
26 FOR USE BY THE DIVISION OF HOUSING FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION.
27 THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES MAY RETAIN OWNERSHIP OF ANY

1 VACANT PORTION OF THE RIDGE VIEW CAMPUS THAT IS NOT REQUIRED FOR
2 THE PURPOSES SPECIFIED IN THIS SECTION AND USE, OR ALLOW ANOTHER
3 STATE AGENCY TO USE, ANY SUCH PORTION OF THE RIDGE VIEW CAMPUS
4 FOR ANY OTHER LAWFUL PURPOSE.

5 (b) THE DIVISION, IN COLLABORATION WITH THE BEHAVIORAL
6 HEALTH ADMINISTRATION, CREATED IN PART 2 OF ARTICLE 60 OF TITLE 27,
7 AND THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES, SHALL DEVELOP A FEASIBLE
8 MASTER PLAN FOR THE REDEVELOPMENT AND OPERATION OF THE RIDGE
9 VIEW CAMPUS INTO THE RIDGE VIEW SUPPORTIVE RESIDENTIAL
10 COMMUNITY, INCLUDING A FINANCIAL PLAN FOR START-UP AND ONGOING
11 OPERATIONAL COSTS. THE DIVISION SHALL ENTER INTO ONE OR MORE
12 CONTRACTS WITH PUBLIC OR PRIVATE CONTRACTORS TO ESTABLISH THE
13 COMMUNITY. THE CONTRACTOR OR CONTRACTORS SELECTED BY THE
14 DIVISION MUST BE EXPERIENCED IN PROVIDING STATEWIDE INTEGRATED
15 HOUSING, HEALTH CARE, RECOVERY TREATMENT, AND SUPPORTIVE
16 SERVICE PROGRAMS FOR PEOPLE EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS OR
17 SIMILAR POPULATIONS.

18 (c) THE RIDGE VIEW SUPPORTIVE RESIDENTIAL COMMUNITY
19 SHALL PROVIDE FOOD AND ROOM AND BOARD TO EACH INDIVIDUAL WHILE
20 RESIDING AT THE COMMUNITY AT NO COST TO THE INDIVIDUAL.

21 (d) THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES, IN PARTNERSHIP WITH
22 THE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADMINISTRATION AND THE DEPARTMENT OF
23 HEALTH CARE POLICY AND FINANCING, WILL WORK TO ENSURE THAT
24 YOUTH BED CAPACITY WILL BE CREATED ELSEWHERE IN A MANNER THAT
25 MOST APPROPRIATELY SERVES THE MENTAL HEALTH NEEDS OF
26 COLORADO'S YOUTH.

27 (3) **Transitional housing program.** (a) THE RIDGE VIEW

1 SUPPORTIVE RESIDENTIAL COMMUNITY SHALL PROVIDE TRANSITIONAL
2 HOUSING FOR INDIVIDUAL ADULTS FOR UP TO TWO YEARS WITH CASE
3 MANAGEMENT, CARE COORDINATION, AND VOCATIONAL AND HOUSING
4 PLACEMENT ASSISTANCE. IN ALIGNMENT WITH BEST PRACTICES, THE
5 TRANSITIONAL HOUSING PROGRAM SHALL PROVIDE CASE MANAGERS AND
6 PEER SUPPORTS AT AN AVERAGE RATIO OF ONE CASE MANAGER FOR EVERY
7 FIFTEEN TRANSITIONAL HOUSING RESIDENTS.

8 (b) THE TRANSITIONAL HOUSING PROGRAM SHALL:

9 (I) FOCUS ON PERSON-CENTERED GOAL PLANNING AND CARE
10 COORDINATION;

11 (II) CONNECT INDIVIDUALS TO PERMANENT HOUSING OPTIONS IN
12 THEIR COMMUNITY OF CHOICE;

13 (III) PROVIDE EMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE SUCH AS VOCATIONAL
14 EDUCATION AND INDIVIDUAL PLACEMENT AND SUPPORT; AND

15 (IV) CONNECT INDIVIDUALS TO SAFETY-NET PROGRAMS FOR
16 WHICH THEY ARE ELIGIBLE, SUCH AS SNAP, MEDICAID, SSI, SSDI, TANF,
17 HOUSING VOUCHER PROGRAMS, AND UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE
18 BENEFITS.

19 (4) **Substance use recovery treatment and services.** THE RIDGE
20 VIEW SUPPORTIVE RESIDENTIAL COMMUNITY SHALL PROVIDE A
21 CONTINUUM OF CARE INFORMED BY AMERICAN SOCIETY OF ADDICTION
22 MEDICINE STANDARDS, WHICH SHALL BE AVAILABLE TO PEOPLE COMING
23 FROM THE TRANSITIONAL HOUSING PROGRAM AND TO THE GENERAL
24 PUBLIC DEEMED TO BE IN MEDICAL NEED OF THE CARE.

25 (5) **Federally qualified health center.** THE RIDGE VIEW
26 SUPPORTIVE RESIDENTIAL COMMUNITY SHALL PROVIDE A FEDERALLY
27 QUALIFIED HEALTH CENTER, AS DEFINED IN THE FEDERAL "SOCIAL

1 SECURITY ACT", 42 U.S.C. SEC. 1395x (aa)(4), OR OTHER PRIMARY CARE
2 CLINIC, AT WHICH PEOPLE HAVE ACCESS TO MEDICAL TREATMENTS THAT
3 HELP FACILITATE RECOVERY, INCLUDING MEDICAL AND DENTAL CARE AND
4 A CONTINUUM OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES. THE HEALTH CENTER
5 AND ALL TREATMENT SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE CENTER SHALL BE
6 ACCESSIBLE TO PEOPLE IN THE TRANSITIONAL HOUSING PROGRAM AND TO
7 MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL PUBLIC DEEMED TO BE IN MEDICAL NEED OF
8 THE TREATMENT.

9 (6) **Eligibility.** (a) TO BE ELIGIBLE TO RESIDE IN AND RECEIVE
10 SERVICES AT THE TRANSITIONAL HOUSING PROGRAM, AN INDIVIDUAL MUST
11 BE:

12 (I) EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS OR BE AT RISK OF EXPERIENCING
13 HOMELESSNESS;

14 (II) CHOOSING TO FOCUS ON RECOVERY VOLUNTARILY; AND

15 (III) IN A POSITION WHERE IT IS MEDICALLY SAFE FOR THE
16 INDIVIDUAL TO BE IN TRANSITIONAL HOUSING.

17 (b) THE RIDGE VIEW SUPPORTIVE RESIDENTIAL COMMUNITY
18 SHALL PRIORITIZE ACCESS FOR INDIVIDUALS BASED ON NEED, THE LENGTH
19 OF TIME THE INDIVIDUAL HAS BEEN EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS, WITH
20 PRIORITY FOR INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE BEEN EXPERIENCING HOMELESS FOR
21 THE LONGEST PERIOD, AND THE FREQUENCY WITH WHICH THE INDIVIDUAL
22 USES PUBLIC SYSTEMS, WITH PRIORITY FOR INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE THE
23 MOST FREQUENT USERS OF SUCH SYSTEMS.

24 (7) **Referral coordination.** THE ORGANIZATION OR
25 ORGANIZATIONS THAT ADMINISTER THE RIDGE VIEW SUPPORTIVE
26 RESIDENTIAL COMMUNITY SHALL WORK WITH LOCAL PROVIDERS ACROSS
27 THE STATE TO SET UP A REFERRAL SYSTEM FOR CLIENTS TO LIVE AT THE

1 COMMUNITY. THE REFERRAL SYSTEM SHALL EMPHASIZE THE CRITERIA
2 SPECIFIED IN SUBSECTION (6) OF THIS SECTION, COORDINATE
3 TRANSPORTATION TO AND FROM THE RIDGE VIEW SUPPORTIVE
4 RESIDENTIAL COMMUNITY, AND ASSIST INDIVIDUALS IN THE TRANSITION
5 BACK TO THE GENERAL COMMUNITY AFTER RESIDING AT THE RIDGE VIEW
6 SUPPORTIVE RESIDENTIAL COMMUNITY.

7 **(8) Source of money for repurposing the Ridge View campus.**

8 (a) FOR THE 2022-23 STATE FISCAL YEAR, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SHALL
9 APPROPRIATE FORTY-FIVE MILLION DOLLARS FROM THE ECONOMIC
10 RECOVERY AND RELIEF CASH FUND CREATED IN SECTION 24-75-228 (2)(a)
11 TO THE DIVISION FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION. ANY MONEY
12 APPROPRIATED IN THE 2022-23 STATE FISCAL YEAR THAT IS NOT
13 ENCUMBERED OR EXPENDED AT THE END OF THAT STATE FISCAL YEAR
14 REMAINS AVAILABLE FOR EXPENDITURE BY THE DIVISION IN SUBSEQUENT
15 STATE FISCAL YEARS WITHOUT FURTHER APPROPRIATION, SUBJECT TO THE
16 REQUIREMENTS FOR OBLIGATING AND EXPENDING MONEY RECEIVED
17 UNDER THE FEDERAL "AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT OF 2021", PUB.L.
18 117-2, AS SPECIFIED IN SECTION 24-75-226 (4)(d).

19 (b) THE DIVISION MAY USE UP TO TEN PERCENT OF THE AMOUNT
20 APPROPRIATED PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION FOR ITS COSTS ASSOCIATED
21 WITH ADMINISTERING THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SECTION, INCLUDING
22 THE REQUIREMENTS SPECIFIED IN SUBSECTION (2)(b) OF THIS SECTION.

23 **(9) Reporting requirement.** (a) THE DIVISION SHALL COMPLY
24 WITH THE COMPLIANCE, REPORTING, RECORD-KEEPING, AND PROGRAM
25 EVALUATION REQUIREMENTS ESTABLISHED BY THE OFFICE OF STATE
26 PLANNING AND BUDGETING AND THE STATE CONTROLLER IN ACCORDANCE
27 WITH SECTION 24-75-226 (5).

1 (b) IN ADDITION TO THE REPORTING REQUIREMENTS SPECIFIED IN
2 SUBSECTION (9)(a) OF THIS SECTION, THE DIVISION SHALL PREPARE AN
3 ANNUAL REPORT REGARDING THE OPERATIONS OF THE RIDGE VIEW
4 SUPPORTIVE RESIDENTIAL COMMUNITY, INCLUDING AN UPDATE ON THE
5 IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS SECTION, THE SUCCESS OF THE PROGRAMS
6 REQUIRED BY SUBSECTIONS (3), (4), AND (5) OF THIS SECTION, THE
7 NUMBER OF PEOPLE WHO HAVE RECEIVED SERVICES AT THE RIDGE VIEW
8 SUPPORTIVE RESIDENTIAL COMMUNITY, THE CONTRACTORS THAT THE
9 DIVISION SELECTED TO ESTABLISH AND OPERATE THE RIDGE VIEW
10 SUPPORTIVE RESIDENTIAL COMMUNITY PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (2)(b)
11 OF THIS SECTION, AND ANY OTHER INFORMATION DEEMED RELEVANT BY
12 THE DIVISION. THE DIVISION SHALL SUBMIT THE REPORT TO THE
13 COMMITTEES OF REFERENCE OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF
14 REPRESENTATIVES THAT HAVE OVERSIGHT OVER LOCAL AFFAIRS. IN
15 ADDITION, THE DIVISION SHALL UPDATE ITS COMMITTEE OF REFERENCE AS
16 A PART OF ITS PRESENTATION AT A HEARING HELD PURSUANT TO SECTION
17 2-7-203 (2)(a) OF THE "STATE MEASUREMENT FOR ACCOUNTABLE,
18 RESPONSIVE, AND TRANSPARENT (SMART) GOVERNMENT ACT",
19 REGARDING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS SECTION AND THE OPERATION
20 OF THE RIDGE VIEW SUPPORTIVE RESIDENTIAL COMMUNITY.
21 NOTWITHSTANDING THE REQUIREMENT IN SECTION 24-1-136 (11)(a)(I),
22 THE REQUIREMENT TO SUBMIT THE REPORT REQUIRED IN THIS SUBSECTION
23 (9)(b) CONTINUES INDEFINITELY.

24 **SECTION 3.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **repeal** 19-2.5-1521.

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