

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

PREAMENDED

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

LLS NO. 23-0352.02 Jane Ritter x4342

HOUSE BILL 23-1223

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Bacon and English,

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

(None),

House Committees

Public & Behavioral Health & Human Services
Appropriations

Senate Committees

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 **CONCERNING THE CREATION OF A TASK FORCE TO ESTABLISH SHARED**
102 **GUIDANCE FOR ENTITIES TO UTILIZE IN PRIORITIZING GRANT**
103 **MONEY TO ACHIEVE MAXIMUM IMPACT TO REDUCE NEGATIVE**
104 **OUTCOMES FOR YOUTH, AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH,**
105 **MAKING AN APPROPRIATION.**

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 task force (task force) to establish shared goals, objectives, and guidelines for entities to utilize in prioritizing new and

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.

existing grant money to achieve maximum impact to reduce youth violence, suicide, and delinquency risk factors. The task force shall identify target communities with the highest rates of youth violence, suicide, and delinquency risk factors. The task force shall create shared goals, objectives, and guidelines for governmental and community-based organizations to prioritize the use of new and existing grant money, as well as help community-based organizations reduce youth violence, suicide, and delinquency risk factors in the target communities by using the shared goals, objectives, and guidelines when working in intervention, prevention, and tracking statistics.

Membership in the task force is outlined.

The task force shall make a preliminary "SMART Act" report in January 2024 followed by a final report in January 2025.

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

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add 25-1-137** as
3 follows:

4 **25-1-137. Task force to establish shared goals, objectives, and**
5 **guidelines for entities to achieve maximum impact to reduce youth**
6 **violence, suicide, and delinquency risk factors - creation -**
7 **membership - reporting - definitions.** (1) ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 31,
8 2023, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL CONVENE A TASK FORCE TO ESTABLISH
9 SHARED GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND GUIDELINES FOR GOVERNMENTAL
10 AGENCIES AND COMMUNITY-BASED AGENCIES TO ACHIEVE MAXIMUM
11 IMPACT IN REDUCING YOUTH VIOLENCE, SUICIDE, AND DELINQUENCY RISK
12 FACTORS FOR TARGET COMMUNITIES WITH THE HIGHEST RATES OF YOUTH
13 VIOLENCE, SUICIDE, OR DELINQUENCY RISK FACTORS.

14 (2) THE PURPOSE OF THE TASK FORCE IS TO BRING TOGETHER
15 DIVERSE GROUPS AND PERSPECTIVES FROM GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES
16 AND COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATIONS TO:

17 (a) IDENTIFY TARGET COMMUNITIES IN THE STATE WHERE
18 DISPROPORTIONATELY HIGH LEVELS OF YOUTH VIOLENCE, SUICIDE, AND

1 DELINQUENCY RISK FACTORS EXIST. THE TARGET COMMUNITIES MAY
2 INCLUDE ANY ZIP CODE OR CONTIGUOUS ZIP CODES WITH THE TOP THREE
3 TO FIVE RATES OF YOUTH VIOLENCE, SUICIDE, OR DELINQUENCY RISK
4 FACTORS, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, SCHOOL PERFORMANCE,
5 AVERAGE EDUCATION LEVEL, INCOME LEVEL, EMPLOYMENT LEVELS, CRIME
6 STATISTICS, AND HOUSING AND FOOD INSECURITY.

7 (b) BEGINNING JULY 1, 2025, AND FOR A MINIMUM OF THREE
8 YEARS THEREAFTER, ESTABLISH CLEAR AND SHARED GOALS, OBJECTIVES,
9 AND GUIDELINES TO PRIORITIZE, ALIGN, AND POOL AGENCY RESOURCES,
10 INCLUDING NEW AND STATE GRANT MONEY, TO GUIDE INTERVENTION,
11 PREVENTION, AND TRACKING STATISTICS TO ACHIEVE THE MAXIMUM
12 IMPACT ON REDUCING YOUTH VIOLENCE, SUICIDE, AND DELINQUENCY RISK
13 FACTORS; AND

14 (c) BEGINNING JULY 1, 2025, AND FOR A MINIMUM OF THREE
15 YEARS THEREAFTER, ESTABLISH CLEAR AND SHARED GOALS, OBJECTIVES,
16 AND GUIDELINES TO PRIORITIZE THE DISTRIBUTION OF NEW GRANT
17 MONEY ACROSS MULTIPLE GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES TO GUIDE
18 INTERVENTION, PREVENTION, AND TRACKING STATISTICS TO ACHIEVE THE
19 MAXIMUM IMPACT ON REDUCING YOUTH VIOLENCE, SUICIDE, AND
20 DELINQUENCY RISK FACTORS. THIS INCLUDES CREATING:

21 (I) A PROCESS FOR STREAMLINING STATE GRANT APPLICATIONS
22 ACROSS AGENCIES THAT DOES NOT VIOLATE FEDERAL LAWS, RULES, OR
23 GUIDELINES FOR FEDERAL DOLLARS AS IT PERTAINS TO STATE GRANT
24 MAKING AMONG AGENCIES;

25 (II) A COMMON APPLICATION FORM TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE
26 WITHOUT VIOLATING FEDERAL LAWS, RULES, OR GUIDELINES AND IS
27 PRACTICAL AND ACCESSIBLE FOR GRANTEEES TO USE;

1 (III) A CLEARINGHOUSE OF RESOURCES FOR APPLICANTS; AND
2 (IV) A JOB DESCRIPTION FOR A FULL-TIME EMPLOYEE SUPPORT FOR
3 THE FIVE AGENCIES OF THE TASK FORCE TO PROVIDE TECHNICAL SUPPORT
4 AND ASSISTANCE TO GRANT APPLICANTS WHO MAY LACK THE
5 ORGANIZATIONAL CAPACITY TO COMPLETE COMPETITIVE AND COMPLETE
6 APPLICATIONS.

7 (3) THE TASK FORCE CONSISTS OF THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS, AT
8 A MINIMUM:

9 (a) TWO REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC
10 HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT. ONE REPRESENTATIVE MUST HAVE
11 EXPERIENCE IN SUBSTANCE USE AND BE APPOINTED BY THE EXECUTIVE
12 DIRECTOR. THE OTHER REPRESENTATIVE MUST BE FROM THE OFFICE OF
13 GUN VIOLENCE PREVENTION AND BE APPOINTED BY THE DIRECTOR OF THE
14 OFFICE OF GUN VIOLENCE PREVENTION.

15 (b) A REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF EARLY
16 CHILDHOOD, APPOINTED BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE
17 DEPARTMENT OF EARLY CHILDHOOD;

18 (c) TWO REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE OFFICE OF CHILDREN,
19 YOUTH, AND FAMILIES IN THE DIVISION OF CHILD WELFARE IN THE
20 DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES;

21 (d) TWO REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF
22 EDUCATION, ONE WITH EXPERTISE IN WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AND ONE
23 WITH EXPERTISE IN POST-SECONDARY PATHWAYS, BOTH APPOINTED BY
24 THE COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION;

25 (e) TWO REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
26 ADMINISTRATION IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES AND
27 APPOINTED BY THE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COMMISSIONER. ONE

1 REPRESENTATIVE MUST HAVE EXPERIENCE IN SUBSTANCE USE AND DRUG
2 PREVENTION AND ONE REPRESENTATIVE MUST HAVE EXPERIENCE WITH
3 MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES.

4 (f) TWO REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE DIVISION OF CRIMINAL
5 JUSTICE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY, APPOINTED BY THE
6 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY; ■

7 (g) FIVE REPRESENTATIVES FROM COMMUNITY-BASED
8 ORGANIZATIONS, AS WELL AS CURRENT AGENCY GRANTEEES, WORKING IN
9 THE TARGET COMMUNITIES, AS IDENTIFIED BY THE TASK FORCE PURSUANT
10 TO SUBSECTION (2)(a) OF THIS SECTION AND APPOINTED BY THE TASK
11 FORCE. TWO OF THE REPRESENTATIVES FROM COMMUNITY-BASED
12 ORGANIZATIONS MUST BE ONES THAT FOCUS ON INDIVIDUALS WITH
13 INTELLECTUAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES OR SEVERE MENTAL OR
14 BEHAVIORAL HEALTH DISORDERS.

15 (h) THE TASK FORCE MUST ALSO INCLUDE EITHER:

16 (I) A NON-VOTING MEMBER WHO IS A PERSON WITH EXPERIENCE IN,
17 OR REPRESENTS AN ORGANIZATION WITH EXPERIENCE IN, DELIVERY OF
18 ACTIONABLE DATA INFORMATION AND ANALYSIS AND DATA READINESS;
19 OR

20 (II) ALLOW FOR PRESENTATIONS ON ACTIONABLE DATA
21 INFORMATION AND ANALYSIS AND DATA READINESS.

22 (4) FOR INSIGHTS INTO GRANT ALIGNMENT PRACTICES, THE TASK
23 FORCE SHALL CONSULT WITH THE FOLLOWING AGENCIES:

24 (a) THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND ADMINISTRATION; AND

25 (b) THE DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION.

26 (5) AFTER THE TASK FORCE IDENTIFIES THE TARGET COMMUNITIES
27 PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (2)(a) OF THIS SECTION, THE TASK FORCE SHALL

1 CONSULT WITH LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES THAT INCLUDE, BUT ARE
2 NOT LIMITED TO, CITY AND COUNTY GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS; LOCAL LAW
3 ENFORCEMENT AND DISTRICT ATTORNEYS; LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDERS;
4 LOCAL AND REGIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH ADMINISTRATORS; AND ANY LOCAL
5 COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATIONS THAT HAVE RECEIVED STATE-LEVEL
6 GRANTS IN THE AREA OF YOUTH SUICIDE, VIOLENCE PREVENTION AND
7 INTERVENTION, AND REDUCING YOUTH RISK FACTORS.

8 (6) THE TASK FORCE MUST HAVE AN EMPLOYEE TO SUPPORT WORK
9 OF THE TASK FORCE.

10 (7) THE MEMBERS OF THE TASK FORCE SHALL SERVE ON A
11 VOLUNTARY BASIS WITHOUT COMPENSATION, EXCEPT FOR THE
12 REPRESENTATIVES FROM NONGOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES, WHO MAY
13 RECEIVE A PER DIEM STIPEND. ALL MEMBERS ARE ENTITLED TO
14 COMPENSATION FOR ACTUAL AND NECESSARY EXPENSES INCURRED IN THE
15 PERFORMANCE OF THE TASK FORCE MEMBERS' DUTIES.

16 (8) (a) THE TASK FORCE SHALL PRESENT ITS PRELIMINARY
17 FINDINGS, GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND GUIDELINES TO THE JUDICIARY
18 COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND THE SENATE AND
19 TO THE PUBLIC AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
20 COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND THE HEALTH AND
21 HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE OF THE SENATE, OR ANY SUCCESSOR
22 COMMITTEES, DURING THE DEPARTMENT'S "SMART ACT" HEARINGS HELD
23 IN JANUARY 2024. THE 2024 "SMART ACT" REPORT MUST INCLUDE
24 FURTHER DESCRIPTIONS OF HOW THE TASK FORCE IDENTIFIED WHICH
25 TARGET COMMUNITIES TO PRIORITIZE, INCLUDING WHETHER OR IF CERTAIN
26 FACTORS WERE WEIGHTED OR ASSESSED. THE TASK FORCE SHALL REPORT
27 A TIMELINE WITH SPECIFIC DELIVERABLES, INCLUDING WHEN TARGET

1 COMMUNITIES WILL BE DEFINED, WHEN DATA SOURCES WILL BE
2 IDENTIFIED, AND WHEN DATA SHARING AGREEMENTS WILL BE CONFORMED.

3 (b) IN JANUARY 2025, THE TASK FORCE SHALL PRESENT ITS FINAL
4 REPORT THAT ESTABLISHES CLEAR AND SHARED GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND
5 GUIDELINES TO PRIORITIZE, ALIGN, AND POOL AGENCY RESOURCES,
6 INCLUDING NEW AND EXISTING GRANT MONEY, THAT WOULD GUIDE
7 INTERVENTION, PREVENTION, AND TRACKING STATISTICS TO ACHIEVE THE
8 MAXIMUM IMPACT ON REDUCING YOUTH VIOLENCE, SUICIDE, AND
9 DELINQUENCY RISK FACTORS IN PRIORITY COMMUNITIES. THE TASK FORCE
10 SHALL INCLUDE IN ITS REPORT HOW IT WILL DISPLAY AND TRACK DATA
11 TOWARDS THE EFFICACY OF THE STRATEGIES AND GOALS; HOW THE TASK
12 FORCE WILL COLLECT FUTURE DATA FROM STREAMLINED GRANT
13 APPLICATIONS, SUCH AS REFLECTED IN ANNUAL REPORTS, AS NARRATIVE
14 OR DATA TABLES; AND HOW OR IF THE TASK FORCE WILL REASSESS
15 FACTORS AND DATA ON AN ONGOING BASIS. THE TASK FORCE SHALL MAKE
16 ITS PRESENTATION TO THE JUDICIARY COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE OF
17 REPRESENTATIVES AND THE SENATE AND TO THE PUBLIC AND BEHAVIORAL
18 HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE OF
19 REPRESENTATIVES AND THE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE OF
20 THE SENATE, OR ANY SUCCESSOR COMMITTEES, DURING THE
21 DEPARTMENT'S "SMART ACT" HEARINGS HELD IN JANUARY 2025.

22 (9) AS USED IN THIS SECTION, UNLESS THE CONTEXT OTHERWISE
23 REQUIRES:

24 (a) "COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATION" MEANS A PERSON,
25 PRIVATE NONPROFIT AGENCY, CORPORATION, ASSOCIATION, OR OTHER
26 NONGOVERNMENTAL AGENCY.

27 (b) "GOVERNMENTAL UNIT" MEANS ANY COUNTY, CITY AND

1 COUNTY, CITY, TOWN, DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE, OR SCHOOL DISTRICT.

2 (c) "TARGET COMMUNITIES" MEANS THE COMMUNITIES IDENTIFIED
3 BY THE TASK FORCE AS PART OF THE TASK FORCE'S DUTIES PURSUANT TO
4 SUBSECTION (2)(a) OF THIS SECTION.

5 (d) "TASK FORCE" MEANS THE TASK FORCE CREATED IN
6 SUBSECTION (1) OF THIS SECTION TO ESTABLISH SHARED GOALS,
7 OBJECTIVES, AND GUIDELINES FOR ENTITIES TO UTILIZE IN PRIORITIZING
8 NEW AND EXISTING GRANT MONEY TO ENSURE ACHIEVING A MAXIMUM
9 IMPACT IN REDUCING YOUTH VIOLENCE, SUICIDE, AND DELINQUENCY RISK
10 FACTORS FOR TARGET COMMUNITIES WITH THE HIGHEST RATES OF YOUTH
11 VIOLENCE, SUICIDE, OR DELINQUENCY RISK FACTORS.

12 **SECTION 2. Appropriation.** For the 2023-24 state fiscal year,
13 \$92,447 is appropriated to the department of public health and
14 environment for use by the prevention services division. This
15 appropriation is from the general fund and is based on an assumption that
16 the division will require an additional 1.0 FTE. To implement this act, the
17 division may use this appropriation for the grant prioritization task force
18 related to administration.

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