

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

**ENGROSSED**

*This Version Includes All Amendments Adopted  
on Second Reading in the House of Introduction*

LLS NO. 23-1030.01 Michael Dohr x4347

**SENATE BILL 23-302**

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**SENATE SPONSORSHIP**

**Pelton B. and Hinrichsen,**

**HOUSE SPONSORSHIP**

**Ortiz and Hartsook,**

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**Senate Committees**

State, Veterans, & Military Affairs  
Appropriations

**House Committees**

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**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

101 **CONCERNING CHANGES TO THE COLORADO VETERANS'**  
102 **SERVICE-TO-CAREER PROGRAM.**

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**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>.)*

Current law includes a Colorado veterans' service-to-career program (program), which authorizes nonprofit agencies to partner with work force centers selected by the department of labor and employment to provide veterans and other eligible participants with skills training, internships, work placements, mentorship opportunities, career and professional counseling, and support services. The program requires that

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.*

SENATE  
Amended 2nd Reading  
May 1, 2023

if a program participant is eligible for federal funding that federal funding must be used first. The bill repeals that requirement. Obsolete language related to the program is repealed. The bill extends the repeal date for the program to January 1, 2029.

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

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 8-14.3-201.5, **amend**  
3 (1) as follows:

4 **8-14.3-201.5. Legislative declaration.** (1) The general assembly  
5 finds, determines, and declares that

6 (a) the pilot program enacted in House Bill 16-1267, which  
7 created the Colorado veterans' service-to-career pilot program that  
8 authorized nonprofit agencies to partner with work force centers selected  
9 by the department to provide veterans and other eligible participants with  
10 skills training, internships, work placements, mentorship opportunities,  
11 career and professional counseling, and support services, has been  
12 successful in increasing the employment rates for veterans, veterans'  
13 spouses, and eligible participants. ~~and~~

14 (b) ~~The services offered through the pilot program were designed~~  
15 ~~to enhance work force center services not available under the federal act.~~

16         
17 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 8-14.3-203, **amend**  
18 (6)(c); and **repeal** (2)(b), (6)(b), and (6)(d); and **add** (3.5) as follows:

19 **8-14.3-203. Colorado veterans' service-to-career program -**  
20 **report.** (2) (b) ~~If an eligible participant is eligible for funding through~~  
21 ~~the act, this funding must be used first. If funding is not available or is~~  
22 ~~limited or if the use of funds is not allowable under the act, the eligible~~  
23 ~~participant may use program funding.~~

1           (3.5) WORK FORCE CENTER STAFF SHALL VET POTENTIAL PROGRAM  
2           PARTICIPANTS AND LEVERAGE ADDITIONAL FUNDING SOURCES, INCLUDING  
3           THE ACT, TO DELIVER COMPREHENSIVE SERVICES.

4           (6) (b) ~~The department shall develop an evaluation methodology~~  
5           ~~to measure program outcomes and effectiveness prior to initiating the bid~~  
6           ~~process for awarding grants. To the extent feasible, the evaluation process~~  
7           ~~must enable a comparison between programs serving similar populations.~~  
8           ~~It is the intent of the general assembly that the department award the~~  
9           ~~grants no later than January 1, 2019. The grant period may be extended~~  
10           ~~for one year subject to money appropriated by the general assembly. The~~  
11           ~~grant award must include data tracking requirements that will be used to~~  
12           ~~measure outcomes and effectiveness.~~

13           (c) ~~Any unspent money remaining in the department's fiscal year~~  
14           ~~2017-18 appropriation for administrative costs may be used for the~~  
15           ~~purpose of designing an evaluation methodology or contracting out the~~  
16           ~~design. Any unspent money for direct program services remaining as of~~  
17           ~~June 30, 2018, may be used by the programs in effect as of June 30, 2018,~~  
18           ~~for the fiscal year starting July 1, 2018. Unspent money available at the~~  
19           ~~end of each fiscal year rolls over to the next fiscal year to be spent in that~~  
20           ~~year.~~

21           (d) ~~In analyzing and reporting on the performance data described~~  
22           ~~in subsections (6)(a) and (6)(b) of this section, the department shall~~  
23           ~~separately account for data pertaining to significant barriers to~~  
24           ~~employment.~~

25           **SECTION 3.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **amend** 8-14.3-205  
26           as follows:

27           **8-14.3-205. Repeal of part.** This part 2 is repealed, effective

1 January 1, ~~2024~~ 2029.

2           **SECTION 4. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act  
3 takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the  
4 ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly; except  
5 that, if a referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V  
6 of the state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this  
7 act within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take  
8 effect unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in  
9 November 2024 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the  
10 official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.