

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

**REREVISED**

*This Version Includes All Amendments  
Adopted in the Second House*

LLS NO. 24-1159.01 Jed Franklin x5484

**HOUSE BILL 24-1462**

**HOUSE SPONSORSHIP**

**Bird and Sirota**, Taggart, Bacon, Clifford, Frizzell, Hamrick, Jodeh, McCluskie, Ortiz, Pugliese, Snyder, Soper, Velasco, Weissman

**SENATE SPONSORSHIP**

**Bridges and Zenzinger**, Kirkmeyer, Baisley, Buckner, Coleman, Cutter, Exum, Fields, Ginal, Gonzales, Hansen, Hinrichsen, Jaquez Lewis, Kolker, Liston, Marchman, Michaelson Jenet, Mullica, Pelton B., Pelton R., Priola, Smallwood, Will

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**House Committees**  
Appropriations

**Senate Committees**  
Appropriations

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**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

101     **CONCERNING A THIRD-PARTY EVALUATION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF**  
102             **CORRECTIONS' BUDGET PRACTICES, AND, IN CONNECTION**  
103             **THEREWITH, MAKING AN APPROPRIATION.**

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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/>.)*

**Joint Budget Committee.** The bill requires the state auditor to engage a third party to conduct an evaluation of the department of corrections' (department) budget practices. The state auditor shall engage the third party by October 1, 2024. The third party shall provide an update to the joint budget committee and the legislative audit committee by

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  
3rd Reading Unamended  
May 7, 2024

SENATE  
Amended 2nd Reading  
May 6, 2024

HOUSE  
3rd Reading Unamended  
May 3, 2024

HOUSE  
Amended 2nd Reading  
May 2, 2024

March 1, 2025. The third-party consultant shall release a final report to the department, joint budget committee, and legislative audit committee by June 30, 2025. The evaluation must review the department's personnel-related costs, contract staff spending, and operational costs driven by caseload.

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

2           **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 2-3-129 as  
3 follows:

4           **2-3-129. Audit - department of corrections - budget practices**  
5 **- third-party auditor.** AS SOON AS PRACTICABLE, BUT NO LATER THAN  
6 OCTOBER 1, 2024, THE STATE AUDITOR SHALL ENGAGE A THIRD-PARTY  
7 CONSULTANT TO CONDUCT AN EVALUATION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF  
8 CORRECTIONS, CREATED IN SECTION 24-1-128.5. IN PARTNERSHIP WITH  
9 THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS, THE EVALUATION MUST EXAMINE THE  
10 DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS' BUDGET PRACTICES, INCLUDING  
11 PERSONNEL-RELATED COSTS, CONTRACT STAFF SPENDING, CONTRACT  
12 AGENCY STAFF COSTS, FINANCIAL IMPACT OF STAFF VACANCIES ON THE  
13 AVAILABILITY AND OUTCOMES OF REHABILITATIVE PROGRAMMING AND  
14 SEX OFFENDER TREATMENT, THE CHANGE IN INMATE PAY SINCE JULY 1,  
15 2014, GROWTH AND UTILIZATION OF HOUSING AND CASH ASSISTANCE  
16 SINCE JULY 1, 2014, OPERATIONAL COSTS DRIVEN BY CASELOAD, USER  
17 FEES LEVIED, AND THE CASH FUNDS ASSOCIATED WITH THE DEPARTMENT  
18 OF CORRECTIONS. THE THIRD-PARTY CONSULTANT SHALL MAKE  
19 RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS THROUGHOUT

1 THE EVALUATION AND UPDATE THE JOINT BUDGET COMMITTEE AND  
2 LEGISLATIVE AUDIT COMMITTEE WITH PRELIMINARY FINDINGS AND  
3 RECOMMENDATIONS BY MARCH 1, 2025. THE THIRD-PARTY CONSULTANT  
4 SHALL REPORT ITS FINAL FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE  
5 DEPARTMENT, THE JOINT BUDGET COMMITTEE, AND THE LEGISLATIVE  
6 AUDIT COMMITTEE BY JUNE 30, 2025.

7 **SECTION 2. Appropriation.** For the 2024-25 state fiscal year,  
8 \$400,000 is appropriated to the legislative department for use by the  
9 office of the state auditor. This appropriation is from the general fund.  
10 The office may use this appropriation to implement this act.

11 **SECTION 3. Safety clause.** The general assembly finds,  
12 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate  
13 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety or for appropriations for  
14 the support and maintenance of the departments of the state and state  
15 institutions.