

HB 18-1376: Host Home Legislation Fact Sheet

By Rep. Dan Pabon

Summary

The State of Colorado partners with approximately 3,200 Host Homes to provide care-giving services to individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD). Under current law, Host Home providers include services for up to three individuals with IDD's. The State of Colorado provides funds to Host Home providers through Medicaid reimbursements, monitors the Host Homes through the Colorado Department of Health Care Policy and Financing (HCPF), and contracts with private sector organizations to provide care-giving services. Host Homes are referenced as "Individual Residential Services and Supports Providers" in HB 18-1376.

In 2016, a fire occurred in a Host Home in Arvada, Colorado and two individuals perished, including an individual with an IDD. The Host Home was in violation of various regulations, such as smoke alarms and egress pathways.

HB 18-1376 attempts to improve standards for the approximate 3,200 Host Homes in Colorado while not placing an undue burden on existing and future Host Home providers. During the past three months, Representative Pabon has facilitated multiple meetings with nearly 30 stakeholders to find a consensus. HB 18-1376 (and the accompany amendments L001, L002, and L003) are the results of intensive stakeholder input.

Highlights from 18-1376

HB 18-1376 provides clarity in both Colorado statute and in the HCPF rule making process to provide improved care to individuals with IDD's in a Host Home setting:

- Improved oversight at Host Homes for fire and safety standards.
- Role and capacity of HCPF staff, and partners at Division of Housing, to implement Host Home onsite surveys or inspections every two years and to hold bad actors accountable.
- Role and capacity of local fire safety personnel to conduct fire and safety surveys at Host Homes.