

SUPPORT SB 24-191
Concerning the Operation of Host Homes for Youth
Senators Zenzinger and Simpson
Representatives Kipp and Frizell

Why is SB24-191 needed?

During the 2023 Child Welfare Interim Committee it was discussed many times that there are not enough providers to serve the number of children who need placement services.

In 2011 the original host home legislation (HB11-1079) created the opportunity for host homes for youth and SB20-106 sought to provide better coordination between those agencies providing host home services throughout the state, however, it was difficult for rural Colorado to provide allowable services.

To date, more than 1,178¹ youth in rural Colorado are homeless. SB24-191 will provide safe, temporary homes for juveniles who are homeless.

What does the bill do?

The host home program provides support to a host home provider. The host home must be a nonprofit organization, which serves youth who are not in the custody of the Colorado Department of Human Services (for example, a youth shelter). The host home program will perform background checks on the host home residents and a physical inspection of the home. The program will provide case management services to the youth and provide a minimum of 60 days of aftercare for the youth.

The Federal Runaway and Homeless Youth and Human Trafficking provides funds through Colorado's Rural Collaborative to pay for any costs associated with background checks and home inspections.

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¹ Colorado Balance of State – Youth HUD Demonstration Project Coordinated Community Plan