

CHAPTER 266

HUMAN SERVICES - SOCIAL SERVICES

SENATE BILL 21-239

BY SENATOR(S) Kolker and Zenzinger, Bridges, Buckner, Danielson, Fenberg, Gardner, Ginal, Hansen, Hisey, Jaquez Lewis, Lee, Moreno, Pettersen, Rodriguez, Simpson, Story, Winter, Garcia;
 also REPRESENTATIVE(S) Amabile and Young, Bennett, Bird, Boesenecker, Caraveo, Cutter, Daugherty, Duran, Exum, Froelich, Gonzales-Gutierrez, Gray, Herod, Hooton, Jackson, Jodeh, Kipp, Lontine, McCluskie, McCormick, Michaelson Jenet, Mullica, Ortiz, Ricks, Sirota, Snyder, Sullivan, Titone, Valdez A., Valdez D., Woodrow.

AN ACT

CONCERNING THE STATEWIDE COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM FOR REFERRAL TO BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES, AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, MAKING AN APPROPRIATION.

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

SECTION 1. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 29-11-202, **add** (4) as follows:

29-11-202. Definitions. For purposes of this part 2, unless the context otherwise requires:

(4) "OFFICE OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH" MEANS THE OFFICE OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES.

SECTION 2. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 29-11-203, **amend** (3)(a) and (3)(c); and **add** (3)(b.5) and (3.2) as follows:

29-11-203. Human services referral service - immunity - grant - report - repeal. (3) (a) (I) The Colorado 2-1-1 collaborative shall provide necessary human services referral services in the state through December 30, 2020, relating to the COVID-19 public health emergency, including information on COVID-19 test site locations and referrals regarding equity, access, or discrimination concerning employment and health access, as well as other necessary referrals and intake services due to the presence of COVID-19 in the state.

(II) IN ADDITION, THE COLORADO 2-1-1 COLLABORATIVE SHALL PROVIDE NECESSARY REFERRALS FOR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES AS DEFINED IN SECTION

Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material added to existing law; dashes through words or numbers indicate deletions from existing law and such material is not part of the act.

2-4-401 AND PROVIDE ASSISTANCE FOR OTHER RESOURCES IN THE STATE TO SUPPORT COLORADANS, PARTICULARLY INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE UNEMPLOYED, REGARDLESS OF WHETHER THEY RECEIVE BENEFITS.

(III) (A) THE OFFICE OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SHALL CONTRACT WITH THE COLORADO 2-1-1 COLLABORATIVE TO ENSURE SPECIALIZED PERSONNEL ARE HIRED, TRAINED, AND CAN ASSIST COLORADANS TO ACCESS THE NECESSARY REFERRALS FOR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES AND PROVIDE ASSISTANCE FOR OTHER RESOURCES, SUCH AS ACCESS TO HOUSING AND FOOD. SPECIALIZED PERSONNEL MUST INCLUDE BILINGUAL OR MULTILINGUAL SPEAKERS TO ENSURE TRADITIONALLY UNDERSERVED COMMUNITIES CAN ACCESS THE NECESSARY REFERRALS FOR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES AND OTHER RESOURCES.

(B) THE OFFICE OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SHALL COLLABORATE WITH THE COLORADO 2-1-1 COLLABORATIVE TO ENGAGE IN TARGETED MARKETING AND OUTREACH TO COLORADO COMMUNITIES, PARTICULARLY TRADITIONALLY UNDERSERVED COMMUNITIES, SUCH AS IMMIGRANT, LOW-INCOME, AND COMMUNITIES OF COLOR. THE OFFICE OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SHALL FACILITATE THE PROVISION OF SERVICES BY UPDATING THE OFFICE OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH'S RELEVANT MARKETING MATERIALS AND SPECIFIED WEBSITES TO INCLUDE THE COLORADO 2-1-1 COLLABORATIVE PHONE NUMBER AND A LINK TO THE COLORADO 2-1-1 COLLABORATIVE'S WEBSITE IN ORDER TO PROVIDE THE NECESSARY REFERRALS FOR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES AND OTHER RESOURCES. IN ADDITION, THE OFFICE OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SHALL RUN TARGETED DIGITAL ADVERTISEMENTS TO SPECIFIC WEBSITES. THE UPDATED MARKETING MATERIALS, WEBSITE, AND DIGITAL ADVERTISEMENTS MUST BE ACCESSIBLE TO DIVERSE COMMUNITIES.

(IV) (A) THE COLORADO 2-1-1 COLLABORATIVE SHALL COORDINATE WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT TO TARGET, CONDUCT OUTREACH, AND MARKET TO INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE UNEMPLOYED, REGARDLESS OF WHETHER THEY RECEIVE BENEFITS, AND MAY NEED REFERRALS FOR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES AND OTHER RESOURCES.

(B) THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT SHALL FACILITATE THE PROVISION OF SERVICES BY IMPLEMENTING AN E-MAIL AND TEXT CAMPAIGN, WHICH MAY INCLUDE OUTREACH TO INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE UNEMPLOYED, REGARDLESS OF WHETHER THEY RECEIVE BENEFITS, TO MARKET THE COLORADO 2-1-1 COLLABORATIVE. THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT SHALL ALSO UPDATE ITS UNEMPLOYMENT APPLICATION WEB PAGE AND SPECIFIED WEBSITES TO INCLUDE THE COLORADO 2-1-1 COLLABORATIVE PHONE NUMBER AND A LINK TO THE COLORADO 2-1-1 COLLABORATIVE'S WEBSITE IN ORDER TO PROVIDE THE NECESSARY REFERRALS FOR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES AND OTHER RESOURCES.

(b.5) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SHALL APPROPRIATE FROM THE GENERAL FUND TO THE DEPARTMENT ONE MILLION DOLLARS FOR THE PURPOSES DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (3)(a) OF THIS SECTION, INCLUDING A GRANT TO THE COLORADO 2-1-1 COLLABORATIVE TO SERVE AS A RESOURCE AND PROVIDE THE NECESSARY REFERRALS FOR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES AND OTHER SERVICES DUE TO THE COVID-19 PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY.

(c) This subsection (3) is repealed, effective July 1, ~~2021~~ 2022.

(3.2) (a) DURING THE 2023 LEGISLATIVE SESSION, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL INCLUDE IN ITS REPORT TO THE COMMITTEES OF REFERENCE PURSUANT TO THE "STATE MEASUREMENT FOR ACCOUNTABLE, RESPONSIVE, AND TRANSPARENT (SMART) GOVERNMENT ACT" HEARING REQUIRED BY SECTION 2-7-203 INFORMATION FROM THE OFFICE OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH REGARDING ITS CONTRACT WITH THE COLORADO 2-1-1 COLLABORATIVE PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (3)(a) OF THIS SECTION PRIOR TO ITS REPEAL IN 2022, AND THE IMPACT OF THE STATEWIDE COMMUNICATION SYSTEM ON BEHAVIORAL HEALTH REFERRALS AND ACCESS TO BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES AND OTHER RESOURCES.

(b) THIS SUBSECTION (3.2) IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2023.

SECTION 3. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 8-72-101, **add** (4) as follows:

8-72-101. Duties and powers of division - repeal. (4) (a) THE DIVISION SHALL COORDINATE WITH THE COLORADO 2-1-1 COLLABORATIVE AS SET FORTH IN SECTION 29-11-203 TO TARGET, CONDUCT OUTREACH, AND MARKET TO INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE UNEMPLOYED, REGARDLESS OF WHETHER THEY RECEIVE BENEFITS, AND MAY NEED REFERRALS FOR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES AND OTHER RESOURCES.

(b) THIS SUBSECTION (4) IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2022.

SECTION 4. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 27-80-102, **add** (3) as follows:

27-80-102. Duties of the office of behavioral health - repeal. (3) (a) THE OFFICE OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SHALL:

(I) CONTRACT WITH THE COLORADO 2-1-1 COLLABORATIVE AS SET FORTH IN SECTION 29-11-203 TO HIRE AND TRAIN SPECIALIZED PERSONNEL;

(II) COLLABORATE WITH THE COLORADO 2-1-1 COLLABORATIVE TO ENGAGE IN TARGETED OUTREACH AND MARKETING TO INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE UNEMPLOYED, REGARDLESS OF WHETHER THEY RECEIVE BENEFITS; AND

(III) REPORT TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY EXPLAINING THE IMPACT OF THE COLORADO 2-1-1 COLLABORATIVE STATEWIDE COMMUNICATION SYSTEM ON BEHAVIORAL HEALTH REFERRALS AND ACCESS TO BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES AND OTHER RESOURCES.

(b) THIS SUBSECTION (3) IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2022.

SECTION 5. Appropriation. (1) For the 2020-21 state fiscal year, \$1,000,000 is appropriated to the department of human services. This appropriation is from the general fund. To implement this act, the department may use this appropriation for a grant to the Colorado 2-1-1 collaborative. Any money appropriated in this section not expended prior to July 1, 2021, is further appropriated to the department for the 2021-22 state fiscal year for the same purpose.

(2) For the 2021-22 state fiscal year, \$5,741 is appropriated to the department of labor and employment for use by the division of unemployment insurance. This appropriation is from the general fund. To implement this act, the division may use

this appropriation for program costs.

SECTION 6. Safety clause. The general assembly hereby finds, determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety.

Approved: June 18, 2021