

Second Regular Session
Seventy-fourth General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 24-1159.01 Jed Franklin x5484

HOUSE BILL 24-1462

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Bird and Sirota, Taggart

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Bridges and Zenzinger, Kirkmeyer

House Committees
Appropriations

Senate Committees

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.

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.

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.

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, AND
12 OPERATIONAL COSTS DRIVEN BY CASELOAD. THE THIRD-PARTY
13 CONSULTANT SHALL MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE DEPARTMENT OF
14 CORRECTIONS THROUGHOUT THE EVALUATION AND UPDATE THE JOINT
15 BUDGET COMMITTEE AND LEGISLATIVE AUDIT COMMITTEE WITH
16 PRELIMINARY FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS BY MARCH 1, 2025. THE
17 THIRD-PARTY CONSULTANT SHALL REPORT ITS FINAL FINDINGS AND
18 RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE DEPARTMENT, THE JOINT BUDGET COMMITTEE,
19 AND THE LEGISLATIVE AUDIT COMMITTEE BY JUNE 30, 2025.

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

5 **SECTION 3. Safety clause.** The general assembly finds,
6 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate
7 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety or for appropriations for
8 the support and maintenance of the departments of the state and state
9 institutions.