

Second Regular Session
Seventy-fourth General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 24-1179.01 Chelsea Princell x4335

SENATE BILL 24-225

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Marchman,

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

(None),

Senate Committees
Education

House Committees

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 CONCERNING THE USE OF TRAUMA-INFORMED PRACTICES IN
102 CONDUCTING SCHOOL SAFETY DRILLS FOR SCHOOL SAFETY
103 INCIDENTS, AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, RESPONDING TO
104 SCHOOL SAFETY INCIDENTS.

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>.)

The bill requires a school to provide written notification at least 5 days in advance of the scheduled date of a school safety drill to the parent, legal guardian, or legal custodian of a student detailing when the

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.

school safety drill will take place.

On or before July 1, 2025, the bill requires the office of school safety (office) to convene a work group to develop best practices for the use of trauma-informed practices to conduct school safety drills.

No later than August 1, 2026, the bill requires the work group to develop recommendations to support schools in training school personnel on the use of trauma-informed practices in conducting school safety drills, how to best conduct school safety drills in a trauma-informed manner, and how to best respond to school safety incidents.

Beginning August 1, 2027, the bill requires a school to conduct school safety drills in compliance with the work group's recommendations.

On or before December 31, 2027, the bill requires the work group to submit a report to the office summarizing the work group's recommendations and information from the schools on the implementation of the trauma-informed best practices.

The bill requires educator preparation programs and alternate teacher programs to include a training requirement on trauma-informed practices for a teacher candidate to learn how to conduct school safety drills and, beginning in the 2026-27 school year, requires educator preparation programs and alternate teacher programs to implement the work group's recommendations on best practices to incorporate trauma-informed practices into the conduct of school safety drills.

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

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 22-1-144 as
3 follows:

4 **22-1-144. Trauma-informed school safety drills - parental**
5 **notification - definitions.** (1) AS USED IN THIS SECTION, UNLESS THE
6 CONTEXT OTHERWISE REQUIRES:

7 (a) "SCHOOL" MEANS A SCHOOL OF A SCHOOL DISTRICT; DISTRICT
8 CHARTER SCHOOL, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 22-30.5-112.1; AN INSTITUTE
9 CHARTER SCHOOL, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 22-30.5-502; A SCHOOL
10 OPERATED BY A BOARD OF COOPERATIVE SERVICES, AS DEFINED IN
11 SECTION 22-5-103; OR AN APPROVED FACILITY SCHOOL, AS DEFINED IN
12 SECTION 22-2-402.

1 (b) "SCHOOL SAFETY DRILLS" MEANS AN OPERATIONS-BASED
2 EXERCISE THAT IS METICULOUSLY DESIGNED TO PREPARE STUDENTS AND
3 SCHOOL PERSONNEL TO RESPOND TO SPECIFIC EMERGENCIES IN AN EFFORT
4 TO REINFORCE SAFETY PROTOCOLS, NURTURE READINESS, AND REDUCE
5 PANIC DURING A SCHOOL SAFETY INCIDENT.

6 (c) "SCHOOL SAFETY INCIDENTS" MEANS THE OCCURRENCE OR
7 IMMINENT THREAT OF AN UNEXPECTED EVENT THAT PLACES THE LIVES OF
8 STUDENTS AND SCHOOL PERSONNEL OR SCHOOL PROPERTY IN DANGER AND
9 THAT REQUIRES AN IMMEDIATE RESPONSE. SCHOOL SAFETY INCIDENTS
10 INCLUDE A SCHOOL INVASION, ACTIVE ATTACKER, BOMB OR EXPLOSIVE
11 DEVICE, OR OTHER ACT OF VIOLENCE WITHIN A SCHOOL.

12 (d) "TRAUMA-INFORMED PRACTICES" MEANS A SYSTEMATIC
13 APPROACH TO SCHOOL SAFETY INCIDENT-READINESS THAT RECOGNIZES
14 THE PREVALENCE OF ADVERSE AND TRAUMATIC CHILDHOOD EXPERIENCES
15 AND EQUIPS TEACHERS AND SCHOOL PERSONNEL WITH KNOWLEDGE TO
16 RECOGNIZE TRAUMA AND STRATEGIES TO SUPPORT STUDENTS WHO
17 EXPERIENCE TRAUMA.

18 (2) BEGINNING AUGUST 1, 2027, A SCHOOL SHALL CONDUCT
19 SCHOOL SAFETY DRILLS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TRAUMA-INFORMED
20 BEST PRACTICE RECOMMENDATIONS ISSUED PURSUANT TO SECTION
21 24-33.5-2701 IN ORDER TO RESPOND TO SCHOOL SAFETY INCIDENTS.

22 (3) A SCHOOL SHALL PROVIDE WRITTEN NOTIFICATION AT LEAST
23 FIVE DAYS IN ADVANCE OF THE SCHEDULED DATE OF A SCHOOL SAFETY
24 DRILL TO A PARENT, LEGAL GUARDIAN, OR LEGAL CUSTODIAN OF A
25 STUDENT DETAILING WHEN THE SCHOOL SAFETY DRILL WILL TAKE PLACE.

26 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add 24-33.5-2704** as
27 follows:

1 **24-33.5-2704. Trauma-informed practices for school safety**
2 **drills - work group - creation - purpose - membership - definitions.**

3 (1) AS USED IN THIS SECTION, UNLESS THE CONTEXT OTHERWISE
4 REQUIRES:

5 (a) "SCHOOL" MEANS A SCHOOL OF A SCHOOL DISTRICT; DISTRICT
6 CHARTER SCHOOL, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 22-30.5-112.1; AN INSTITUTE
7 CHARTER SCHOOL, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 22-30.5-502; A SCHOOL
8 OPERATED BY A BOARD OF COOPERATIVE SERVICES, AS DEFINED IN
9 SECTION 22-5-103; OR AN APPROVED FACILITY SCHOOL, AS DEFINED IN
10 SECTION 22-2-402.

11 (b) "SCHOOL SAFETY DRILLS" MEANS AN OPERATIONS-BASED
12 EXERCISE THAT IS METICULOUSLY DESIGNED TO PREPARE STUDENTS AND
13 SCHOOL PERSONNEL TO RESPOND TO SPECIFIC EMERGENCIES IN AN EFFORT
14 TO REINFORCE SAFETY PROTOCOLS, NURTURE READINESS, AND REDUCE
15 PANIC DURING A SCHOOL SAFETY INCIDENT.

16 (c) "SCHOOL SAFETY INCIDENTS" MEANS THE OCCURRENCE OR
17 IMMINENT THREAT OF AN UNEXPECTED EVENT THAT PLACES THE LIVES OF
18 STUDENTS AND SCHOOL PERSONNEL OR SCHOOL PROPERTY IN DANGER AND
19 THAT REQUIRES AN IMMEDIATE RESPONSE. SCHOOL SAFETY INCIDENTS
20 INCLUDE A SCHOOL INVASION, ACTIVE ATTACKER, BOMB OR EXPLOSIVE
21 DEVICE, OR OTHER ACT OF VIOLENCE WITHIN A SCHOOL.

22 (d) "TRAUMA-INFORMED PRACTICES" MEANS A SYSTEMATIC
23 APPROACH TO SCHOOL SAFETY INCIDENT-READINESS THAT RECOGNIZES
24 THE PREVALENCE OF ADVERSE AND TRAUMATIC CHILDHOOD EXPERIENCES
25 AND EQUIPS TEACHERS AND SCHOOL PERSONNEL WITH KNOWLEDGE TO
26 RECOGNIZE TRAUMA AND STRATEGIES TO SUPPORT STUDENTS WHO
27 EXPERIENCE TRAUMA.

1 (2) ON OR BEFORE JULY 1, 2025, THE OFFICE SHALL CONVENE A
2 WORK GROUP OF STAKEHOLDERS DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (4) OF THIS
3 SECTION. THE PURPOSE OF THE WORK GROUP IS TO DEVELOP BEST
4 PRACTICES FOR THE USE OF TRAUMA-INFORMED PRACTICES TO CONDUCT
5 SCHOOL SAFETY DRILLS AND RESPOND TO SCHOOL SAFETY INCIDENTS.

6 (3) THE WORK GROUP SHALL OBTAIN INPUT FROM PARENTS, LEGAL
7 GUARDIANS, LEGAL CUSTODIANS OF STUDENTS, AND STUDENTS WHO
8 REFLECT THE DIVERSITY OF THE STATE WITH REGARD TO RACE, ETHNICITY,
9 IMMIGRATION STATUS, INCOME, AND DISABILITY.

10 (4) THE WORK GROUP MUST CONSIST OF THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS
11 APPOINTED BY THE DIRECTOR:

12 (a) A REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE OFFICE;

13 (b) THE COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION, OR THE COMMISSIONER OF
14 EDUCATION'S DESIGNEE;

15 (c) A REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
16 ADMINISTRATION;

17 (d) A REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER
18 EDUCATION;

19 (e) A REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY;

20 (f) THREE TEACHERS, ONE OF WHOM MUST REPRESENT AN URBAN
21 SCHOOL DISTRICT, ONE OF WHOM MUST REPRESENT A SUBURBAN SCHOOL
22 DISTRICT, AND ONE OF WHOM MUST REPRESENT A RURAL SCHOOL
23 DISTRICT;

24 (g) ONE TEACHER OR SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR WHO REPRESENTS
25 A DISTRICT CHARTER SCHOOL, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 22-30.5-112.1, OR
26 AN INSTITUTE CHARTER SCHOOL, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 22-30.5-502;

27 (h) THREE SCHOOL PRINCIPALS, ONE OF WHOM MUST REPRESENT

1 AN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, ONE OF WHOM MUST REPRESENT A MIDDLE
2 SCHOOL, AND ONE OF WHOM MUST REPRESENT A HIGH SCHOOL;

3 (i) TWO INDIVIDUALS REPRESENTING SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS,
4 ONE OF WHOM MUST REPRESENT AN URBAN OR SUBURBAN SCHOOL
5 DISTRICT AND ONE OF WHOM MUST REPRESENT A RURAL SCHOOL DISTRICT;

6 (j) TWO SPECIAL SERVICES PROVIDERS, AS DEFINED IN SECTION
7 23-76-102;

8 (k) TWO SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS OR SIMILAR SCHOOL
9 PERSONNEL, ONE OF WHOM MUST REPRESENT A RURAL SCHOOL DISTRICT;

10 (l) ONE INDIVIDUAL REPRESENTING A LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT
11 AGENCY;

12 (m) TWO PROFESSIONAL EXPERTS IN CHILD DEVELOPMENT,
13 MENTAL HEALTH, OR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH;

14 (n) AN INDIVIDUAL REPRESENTING A STATEWIDE ORGANIZATION
15 THAT REPRESENTS STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES;

16 (o) ONE INDIVIDUAL REPRESENTING AN EDUCATOR PREPARATION
17 PROGRAM, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 22-60.5-121;

18 (p) ONE INDIVIDUAL REPRESENTING AN ALTERNATIVE TEACHER
19 PROGRAM, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 22-60.5-102; AND

20 (q) ONE INDIVIDUAL REPRESENTING AN ORGANIZATION THAT
21 PROVIDES PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SERVICES TO EDUCATORS AND
22 HAS EXPERIENCE IN TRAUMA-INFORMED PRACTICES.

23 (5) THE WORK GROUP SHALL:

24 (a) DETERMINE THE TRAUMA-INFORMED PRACTICES NECESSARY
25 FOR SCHOOLS TO CONDUCT SCHOOL SAFETY DRILLS;

26 (b) DETERMINE THE INTENDED OUTCOMES OF THE
27 TRAUMA-INFORMED PRACTICES FOR SCHOOLS TO CONDUCT SCHOOL

1 SAFETY DRILLS;

2 (c) IDENTIFY BEST PRACTICES FOR INCORPORATING
3 TRAUMA-INFORMED PRACTICES INTO SCHOOL SAFETY DRILLS TO RESPOND
4 TO DIFFERENT TYPES OF SCHOOL SAFETY INCIDENTS;

5 (d) USE THE TRAUMA-INFORMED PRACTICES IDENTIFIED IN
6 SUBSECTION (5)(c) OF THIS SECTION TO DETERMINE HOW TO BEST
7 IMPLEMENT TRAUMA-INFORMED PRACTICES FOR SCHOOLS TO:

8 (I) PLAN AND EXECUTE DIFFERENT TYPES OF SCHOOL SAFETY
9 DRILLS;

10 (II) BEST RESPOND TO STUDENTS WHO HAVE AN EMOTIONAL
11 REACTION AS A RESULT OF SCHOOL SAFETY DRILLS; AND

12 (III) IMMEDIATELY RESPOND TO A SCHOOL SAFETY INCIDENT THAT
13 MAY ARISE; AND

14 (e) PROVIDE GUIDANCE FOR THE PARENTS, LEGAL GUARDIANS, OR
15 LEGAL CUSTODIANS OF STUDENTS ON HOW TO TALK TO STUDENTS ABOUT
16 SCHOOL SAFETY DRILLS.

17 (6) BEGINNING AUGUST 1, 2025, THE WORK GROUP SHALL MEET AT
18 LEAST TEN TIMES OVER THE COURSE OF THE YEAR. THE OFFICE, ON BEHALF
19 OF THE WORK GROUP, SHALL CONTRACT WITH AN INDEPENDENT
20 CONTRACTOR TO OBTAIN RESEARCH AND DATA NECESSARY TO
21 ADEQUATELY ANALYZE THE TOPICS DETAILED IN SUBSECTION (5) OF THIS
22 SECTION AND TO PROVIDE MEETING FACILITATION SUPPORT, AS
23 NECESSARY.

24 (7) NO LATER THAN AUGUST 1, 2026, AFTER ANALYZING THE
25 INFORMATION REQUIRED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (5) OF THIS SECTION,
26 THE WORK GROUP SHALL DEVELOP RECOMMENDATIONS TO SUPPORT
27 SCHOOLS IN TRAINING SCHOOL PERSONNEL ON THE USE OF

1 TRAUMA-INFORMED PRACTICES TO CONDUCT SCHOOL SAFETY DRILLS, HOW
2 TO BEST CONDUCT SCHOOL SAFETY DRILLS IN A TRAUMA-INFORMED
3 MANNER, AND HOW TO RESPOND TO SCHOOL SAFETY INCIDENTS. THE
4 RECOMMENDATIONS MUST DETAIL:

5 (a) THE TRAUMA-INFORMED PRACTICES THAT MUST BE USED TO
6 ADDRESS DIFFERENT TYPES OF SCHOOL SAFETY INCIDENTS;

7 (b) THE SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE NECESSARY TO TRAIN SCHOOLS
8 TO ADEQUATELY IMPLEMENT AND USE THE TRAUMA-INFORMED
9 PRACTICES;

10 (c) THE FREQUENCY OF SCHOOL SAFETY DRILLS NECESSARY TO
11 ADEQUATELY PREPARE FOR SCHOOL SAFETY INCIDENTS;

12 (d) GUIDANCE FOR ATTENDING TO SCHOOL SAFETY INCIDENTS;

13 (e) THE FREQUENCY OF SCHOOL PERSONNEL TRAINING NECESSARY
14 TO ENSURE THE ADEQUATE USE OF TRAUMA-INFORMED PRACTICES DURING
15 SCHOOL SAFETY DRILLS; AND

16 (f) GUIDANCE FOR THE PARENTS, LEGAL GUARDIANS, OR LEGAL
17 CUSTODIANS OF STUDENTS ON HOW TO BEST TALK TO STUDENTS ABOUT
18 THE SCHOOL SAFETY DRILLS.

19 (8) THE RECOMMENDATIONS CREATED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION
20 (7) OF THIS SECTION MUST BE WRITTEN IN A MANNER THAT IS CONDUCIVE
21 TO THE USE OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS BY ALL SCHOOL PERSONNEL,
22 INCLUDING TEACHERS, SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS, SCHOOL SECURITY
23 PERSONNEL OR SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS, AND ANY OTHER SCHOOL
24 EMPLOYEES OR THIRD-PARTY CONTRACTORS WHO PROVIDE A SERVICE IN
25 SCHOOLS AND WHO ARE REASONABLY EXPECTED TO RESPOND TO SCHOOL
26 SAFETY INCIDENTS OR PARTICIPATE IN SCHOOL SAFETY DRILLS.

27 (9) (a) ON OR BEFORE AUGUST 1, 2026, THE WORK GROUP SHALL

1 DEVELOP A PLAN TO ASSIST SCHOOLS IN IMPLEMENTING THE
2 RECOMMENDATIONS AND ENSURE SCHOOLS CAN CONDUCT TRAINING ON
3 TRAUMA-INFORMED PRACTICES NO LATER THAN AUGUST 1, 2027. THIS
4 PLAN MUST INCLUDE RESOURCES OR SUPPORT AVAILABLE TO ASSIST
5 SCHOOLS IN IMPLEMENTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS CREATED PURSUANT
6 TO SUBSECTION (7) OF THIS SECTION.

7 (b) SCHOOLS SHALL IMPLEMENT THE WORK GROUP
8 RECOMMENDATIONS NO LATER THAN AUGUST 1, 2027.

9 (10) ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 31, 2027, THE WORK GROUP SHALL
10 SUBMIT A REPORT TO THE OFFICE SUMMARIZING THE WORK GROUP'S
11 RECOMMENDATIONS FOR SCHOOLS TO IMPLEMENT TRAUMA-INFORMED
12 PRACTICES TO CONDUCT SCHOOL SAFETY DRILLS AND ADDRESS SCHOOL
13 SAFETY INCIDENTS.

14 **SECTION 3.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-60.5-121, **add**
15 (2.5) as follows:

16 **22-60.5-121. Educator preparation programs - requirements**
17 **- advisory committee - report - rules - legislative declaration -**
18 **definitions.** (2.5) (a) EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAMS MUST INCLUDE
19 A TRAINING REQUIREMENT ON TRAUMA-INFORMED PRACTICES FOR EACH
20 TEACHER PREPARATION CANDIDATE TO LEARN HOW TO CONDUCT SCHOOL
21 SAFETY DRILLS.

22 (b) BEGINNING IN THE 2026-27 SCHOOL YEAR, EDUCATOR
23 PREPARATION PROGRAMS MUST IMPLEMENT TRAUMA-INFORMED
24 PRACTICES CREATED PURSUANT TO SECTION 24-33.5-2701.

25 **SECTION 4.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-60.5-205, **amend**
26 (2)(b) as follows:

27 **22-60.5-205. One-year and two-year alternative teacher**

1 **programs - standards and evaluation - duties of department - duties**
2 **of the state board of education - fees - legislative declaration.**

3 (2) Designated agencies are authorized to implement one-year alternative
4 teacher programs or two-year alternative teacher programs, which
5 two-year programs were formerly known as teacher in residence
6 programs, as follows:

7 (b) An alternative teacher program ~~shall~~ MUST include, but need
8 not be limited to, supervision by mentor teachers, performance
9 evaluations, and a program minimum of two hundred twenty-five clock
10 hours of planned instruction and activities, which shall include training
11 in dropout prevention AND TRAUMA-INFORMED PRACTICES TO CONDUCT
12 SCHOOL SAFETY DRILLS. BEGINNING IN THE 2026-27 SCHOOL YEAR,
13 ALTERNATE TEACHER PROGRAMS MUST IMPLEMENT TRAUMA-INFORMED
14 PRACTICES CREATED PURSUANT TO SECTION 24-33.5-2701. The total
15 number of hours of planned instruction and activities may be modified by
16 the alternative teacher support team, as described in section 22-60.5-206,
17 for an alternative teacher based upon his or her qualifications, knowledge,
18 and experience.

19 **SECTION 5. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act
20 takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the
21 ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly; except
22 that, if a referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V
23 of the state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this
24 act within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take
25 effect unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in
26 November 2024 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the
27 official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.