

First Regular Session
Seventy-third General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO

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DRAFT

LLS NO. 21-0686.01 Conrad Imel x2313

SENATE BILL

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Kolker,

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Michaelson Jenet,

BILL TOPIC: "Expand Teen Behavioral Hlth Training For Educators"

DEADLINES: Finalize by: JAN 25, 2021 File by: JAN 29, 2021

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 CONCERNING EXPANDING BEHAVIORAL HEALTH TRAINING FOR
102 EDUCATORS IN SECONDARY SCHOOLS.

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 the department of education (department) to offer a train-the-trainer program (program) designed to improve school culture, promote youth behavioral and mental health, and prepare attendees to teach a teen behavioral and mental health training course to students in sixth through twelfth grades. The department must offer the program at no cost to employees of a school district, charter school, board of

*Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material to be added to existing statute.
Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.*

cooperative services, or the Colorado school for the deaf and the blind (local education provider). A local education provider and its employees are not required to participate in the program. The department may enter into an agreement with one or more organizations to provide the program. The department must annually evaluate the effectiveness of the program. The general assembly is required to annually appropriate \$250,000 for the program. _____

The program must include _____ instruction on, and prepare an attendee to teach a teen behavioral and mental health training course that includes, any of the following subjects:

- Using trauma-informed approaches to improve overall school climate and culture;
- Identifying behavioral and mental health challenges and substance use disorders;
- Restorative practices for addressing youth behavioral and mental health challenges;
- Improving youth social and emotional health;
- Bullying prevention and intervention strategies;
- Encouraging positive bystander behavior;
- Best practices for providing assistance in noncrisis situations;
- De-escalation of crisis situations; or
- Identifying and accessing available behavioral and mental health resources and substance use disorder support services and treatment.

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

SECTION 1. In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 22-2-146 as follows:

22-2-146. Department of education - behavioral and mental health train-the-trainer program - report - definitions - repeal.

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

(a) "ATTENDEE" MEANS AN EMPLOYEE OF A LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER WHO ATTENDS A TRAIN-THE-TRAINER PROGRAM.

(b) "LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER" MEANS A SCHOOL DISTRICT, A CHARTER SCHOOL AUTHORIZED BY A SCHOOL DISTRICT PURSUANT TO PART

1 1 OF ARTICLE 30.5 OF THIS TITLE 22, A CHARTER SCHOOL AUTHORIZED BY
2 THE STATE CHARTER SCHOOL INSTITUTE PURSUANT TO PART 5 OF ARTICLE
3 30.5 OF THIS TITLE 22, A BOARD OF COOPERATIVE SERVICES CREATED AND
4 OPERATING PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 5 OF THIS TITLE 22 THAT OPERATES ONE
5 OR MORE PUBLIC SCHOOLS, OR THE COLORADO SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF AND
6 THE BLIND.

7 (c) "TEEN BEHAVIORAL AND MENTAL HEALTH TRAINING COURSE"
8 MEANS A COURSE THAT TRAINS STUDENTS IN SIXTH THROUGH TWELFTH
9 GRADE TO IDENTIFY, UNDERSTAND, AND RESPOND TO SIGNS OF
10 BEHAVIORAL AND MENTAL HEALTH DISORDERS AMONG THEIR FRIENDS
11 AND PEERS.

12 (d) "TRAIN-THE-TRAINER PROGRAM" MEANS THE PROGRAM
13 DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (2) OF THIS SECTION THAT IS OFFERED BY THE
14 DEPARTMENT.

15 (2) (a) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL OFFER A TRAIN-THE-TRAINER
16 PROGRAM FOR EMPLOYEES OF A LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER, INCLUDING
17 EMPLOYEES WHO HOLD A SUBSTITUTE AUTHORIZATION, WHO REGULARLY
18 INTERACT WITH STUDENTS IN SIXTH THROUGH TWELFTH GRADE. THE
19 TRAIN-THE-TRAINER PROGRAM MUST BE DESIGNED TO IMPROVE OVERALL
20 SCHOOL CLIMATE, PROMOTE TEEN BEHAVIORAL AND MENTAL HEALTH,
21 AND PREPARE AN ATTENDEE TO TEACH A TEEN BEHAVIORAL AND MENTAL
22 HEALTH TRAINING COURSE.

23 (b) (I) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL OFFER THE TRAIN-THE-TRAINER
24 PROGRAM AT NO COST TO THE LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER OR ATTENDEE.

25 (II) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL NOT REQUIRE ANY LOCAL EDUCATION
26 PROVIDER TO PARTICIPATE IN OR COMPLETE THE TRAIN-THE-TRAINER
27 PROGRAM.

1 (III) A LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER SHALL NOT REQUIRE ANY
2 EMPLOYEE TO PARTICIPATE IN OR COMPLETE THE TRAIN-THE-TRAINER
3 PROGRAM.

4 (3) THE TRAIN-THE-TRAINER PROGRAM MUST PROVIDE _____
5 INSTRUCTION ON, AND PREPARE AN ATTENDEE TO TEACH A TEEN
6 BEHAVIORAL AND MENTAL HEALTH TRAINING COURSE THAT INCLUDES,
7 ANY OF THE FOLLOWING SUBJECTS:

8 (a) USING TRAUMA-INFORMED APPROACHES TO IMPROVE OVERALL
9 SCHOOL CLIMATE AND CULTURE;

10 (b) IDENTIFYING SIGNS OF BEHAVIORAL AND MENTAL HEALTH
11 CHALLENGES AND SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS THAT SIXTH THROUGH
12 TWELFTH GRADE STUDENTS ENROLLED IN A LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER
13 MAY EXPERIENCE;

14 (c) RESTORATIVE PRACTICES FOR ADDRESSING YOUTH
15 BEHAVIORAL AND MENTAL HEALTH CHALLENGES;

16 (d) IMPROVING YOUTH SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL HEALTH AND
17 FOSTERING A POSITIVE SCHOOL CLIMATE;

18 (e) EVIDENCE-BASED BULLYING PREVENTION AND INTERVENTION
19 STRATEGIES;

20 (f) ENCOURAGING POSITIVE BYSTANDER BEHAVIOR, INCLUDING
21 RECOGNIZING POTENTIALLY HARMFUL SITUATIONS SUCH AS BULLYING,
22 HARASSMENT, INTIMIDATION, OR THREATENING BEHAVIOR, AND TAKING
23 APPROPRIATE ACTION AS A BYSTANDER;

24 (g) BEST PRACTICES TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE TO STUDENTS IN
25 NONCRISIS SITUATIONS;

26 (h) SAFE DE-ESCALATION OF CRISIS SITUATIONS; OR

27 (i) IDENTIFYING AND ACCESSING AVAILABLE BEHAVIORAL AND

1 MENTAL HEALTH RESOURCES AND SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER SUPPORT
2 SERVICES AND TREATMENT APPROPRIATE FOR SIXTH THROUGH TWELFTH
3 GRADE STUDENTS.

4 (4) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ESTABLISH POLICIES AND RULES
5 NECESSARY TO SELECT ATTENDEES TO PARTICIPATE IN THE TRAIN-THE-
6 TRAINER PROGRAM IN THE EVENT THAT THE NUMBER OF APPLICANTS
7 EXCEEDS PROGRAM CAPACITY. IN DEVELOPING THE POLICIES, THE
8 DEPARTMENT SHOULD CONSIDER:

9 (a) THE GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION OF THE LOCAL EDUCATION
10 PROVIDER AND, TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE, ENSURE THAT EDUCATORS FROM
11 THROUGHOUT THE STATE PARTICIPATE IN THE PROGRAM; AND

12 (b) THE GRADE LEVEL TAUGHT BY EMPLOYEES OF A LOCAL
13 EDUCATION PROVIDER TO ENSURE THAT, TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE,
14 EDUCATORS EMPLOYED IN MIDDLE SCHOOLS AND IN HIGH SCHOOLS
15 PARTICIPATE IN THE PROGRAM.

16 (5) (a) THE DEPARTMENT MAY ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH
17 ONE OR MORE ORGANIZATIONS TO PROVIDE THE TRAIN-THE-TRAINER
18 PROGRAM. THE DEPARTMENT MAY ONLY ENTER INTO SUCH AN
19 AGREEMENT WITH AN ORGANIZATION THAT HAS EXPERIENCE PROVIDING
20 EVIDENCE-BASED YOUTH BEHAVIORAL AND MENTAL HEALTH TRAINING
21 PROGRAMS AND EDUCATING INSTRUCTORS USING A TRAIN-THE-TRAINER
22 MODEL. THE ORGANIZATION ALSO MUST HAVE THE CAPABILITY TO
23 MEASURE TRAINING OUTCOMES BY ASSESSING ATTENDEE KNOWLEDGE
24 BEFORE AND AFTER TRAINING IS PROVIDED. IN ORDER TO ENSURE THE
25 PROGRAM IS AVAILABLE TO THE GREATEST NUMBER OF EDUCATORS, THE
26 DEPARTMENT SHOULD CONSIDER WHETHER AN ORGANIZATION IT MAY
27 ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH WILL OFFER THE TRAIN-THE-TRAINER

1 PROGRAM TO EDUCATORS EMPLOYED IN MIDDLE SCHOOLS AND HIGH
2 SCHOOLS.

3 (6) (a) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ANNUALLY EVALUATE THE
4 EFFECTIVENESS OF THE TRAIN-THE-TRAINER PROGRAM. THE EVALUATION
5 MUST SOLICIT FEEDBACK FROM ATTENDEES AND CONSIDER THE EFFECT OF
6 THE PROGRAM ON SCHOOL CLIMATE AND YOUTH BEHAVIORAL AND
7 MENTAL HEALTH.

8 (b) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL INCLUDE A SUMMARY OF THE
9 EVALUATION CONDUCTED PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION (6) AND ANY
10 RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNING THE TRAIN-THE-TRAINER PROGRAM IN
11 THE DEPARTMENT'S ANNUAL PRESENTATION TO THE COMMITTEES OF
12 REFERENCE PURSUANT TO SECTION 2-7-203.

13 (7) FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2021, AND EACH
14 FISCAL YEAR THEREAFTER, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SHALL APPROPRIATE
15 TWO HUNDRED AND FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS TO THE DEPARTMENT FOR
16 THE ADMINISTRATION OF THIS SECTION. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL PAY ANY
17 COSTS RELATED TO THE ADMINISTRATION OF THIS SECTION FROM THE
18 APPROPRIATION MADE PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION (7).

19 (8) ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 31, 2025, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL
20 REPORT TO THE EDUCATION COMMITTEES OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE
21 OF REPRESENTATIVES, OR ANY SUCCESSOR COMMITTEES, CONCERNING THE
22 TRAIN-THE-TRAINER PROGRAM. THE REPORT MUST INCLUDE, AT A
23 MINIMUM, A SUMMARY OF THE PRIOR ANNUAL EVALUATIONS OF THE
24 PROGRAM CONDUCTED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (6) OF THIS SECTION,
25 THE NUMBER OF EDUCATORS THAT HAVE COMPLETED THE PROGRAM AND
26 THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS WHO HAVE COMPLETED A TEEN BEHAVIORAL
27 AND MENTAL HEALTH TRAINING COURSE TAUGHT BY PROGRAM

1 ATTENDEES, AND A RECOMMENDATION OF WHETHER TO MODIFY OR
2 CONTINUE THE PROGRAM.

3 **SECTION 2. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds,
4 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate
5 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety.