

First Regular Session
Seventy-fourth General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO

PREAMENDED

*This Unofficial Version Includes Committee
Amendments Not Yet Adopted on Second Reading*

LLS NO. 23-0681.01 Shelby Ross x4510

HOUSE BILL 23-1142

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Pugliese,

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Kirkmeyer,

House Committees
Public & Behavioral Health & Human Services

Senate Committees

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 **CONCERNING REQUIRING A REPORT OF KNOWN OR SUSPECTED CHILD**
102 **ABUSE OR NEGLECT TO INCLUDE INFORMATION RELATED TO THE**
103 **PERSON MAKING THE REPORT.**

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>.)

Current law requires reports of known or suspected child abuse or neglect to include the source of the report and the name, address, and occupation of the person making the report whenever possible. The bill requires a report of this information in all circumstances.

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.

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

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 26-5-111, amend
3 (4)(h) and (4)(i); and **add** (4)(j) and (6) as follows:

4 **26-5-111. Statewide child abuse reporting hotline system -**
5 **child abuse hotline steering committee - rules on consistent processes**
6 **in response to reports and inquiries for information - working group**
7 **- legislative declaration - definitions.** (4) The state board is authorized
8 to adopt rules, based upon the recommendations of the child abuse hotline
9 steering committee, and may revise rules, as necessary, including, but not
10 limited to, the following:

11 (h) A consistent screening process with criteria and steps for the
12 county department to follow in responding to a report or inquiry; **and**

13 (i) Rules establishing a consistent decision-making process with
14 criteria and steps for the county department to follow when deciding how
15 to act on a report or inquiry or when to take no action on a report or
16 inquiry; **AND**

17 (j) **THE DEVELOPMENT OF LANGUAGE TO BE USED BY THE HOTLINE**
18 **SYSTEM AND COUNTY DEPARTMENTS TO NOTIFY CALLERS THAT THE CALL**
19 **IS BEING RECORDED.**

20 (6) (a) **THE STATE DEPARTMENT SHALL CONVENE A WORKING**
21 **GROUP TO REVIEW THE QUESTIONS THAT ARE ASKED WHEN A PERSON**
22 **CALLS IN TO THE HOTLINE SYSTEM TO REPORT SUSPECTED CHILD ABUSE OR**
23 **NEGLECT. NO LATER THAN NOVEMBER 15, 2023, THE WORKING GROUP**
24 **SHALL DEVELOP RECOMMENDATIONS TO STANDARDIZE THE QUESTIONS AS**
25 **MUCH AS PRACTICABLE. THE WORKING GROUP CONSISTS OF THE**
26 **FOLLOWING MEMBERS:**

1 (I) TWO MEMBERS WHO REPRESENT A COUNTY DEPARTMENT, ONE
2 FROM AN URBAN COUNTY AND ONE FROM A RURAL COUNTY;

3 (II) TWO MEMBERS WHO ARE COUNTY ATTORNEYS, ONE FROM AN
4 URBAN COUNTY AND ONE FROM A RURAL COUNTY;

5 (III) THE HOTLINE SYSTEM COORDINATOR, OR THE COORDINATOR'S
6 DESIGNEE;

7 (IV) THE CHILD PROTECTION OMBUDSMAN, OR THE OMBUDSMAN'S
8 DESIGNEE;

9 (V) ONE MEMBER WHO REPRESENTS A DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
10 PROGRAM, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 26-7.5-102 (3);

11 (VI) ONE MEMBER WHO REPRESENTS THE OFFICE OF RESPONDENT
12 PARENTS' COUNSEL CREATED IN SECTION 13-92-103;

13 (VII) ONE MEMBER WHO REPRESENTS THE OFFICE OF THE CHILD'S
14 REPRESENTATIVE CREATED IN SECTION 13-91-104;

15 (VIII) TWO MEMBERS WHO ARE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ADVOCATES,
16 ONE WHO REPRESENTS DISPROPORTIONATELY IMPACTED COMMUNITIES
17 AND ONE WHO IS A STATEWIDE MEMBER;

18 (IX) ONE MEMBER WHO IS A CHILD ABUSE ADVOCATE;

19 (X) ONE MEMBER WHO REPRESENTS LAW ENFORCEMENT
20 AGENCIES; AND

21 (XI) ONE MEMBER WHO REPRESENTS A NONPROFIT ASSOCIATION
22 THAT ADVOCATES FOR CIVIL LIBERTIES.

23 (b) THE WORKING GROUP MAY COORDINATE WITH OTHER TASK
24 FORCES AND WORKING GROUPS, AS NECESSARY, TO DISCUSS RELATED
25 TOPICS.

26 **SECTION 2. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds,

1 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate
2 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety.