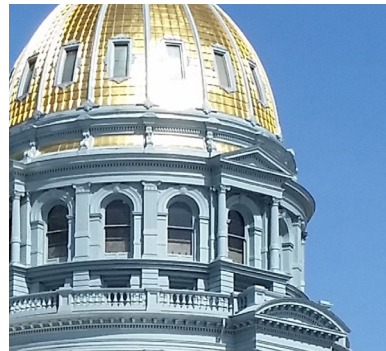


2021

Report to the Colorado General Assembly



Colorado Youth Advisory Council Review Committee



Prepared by Legislative Council Staff
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December 2021

Colorado Youth Advisory Council Review Committee

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December 2021

To Members of the Seventy-third General Assembly:

Submitted herewith is the final report of the Colorado Youth Advisory Council (COYAC) Review Committee. This committee was created pursuant to Section 2-2-1305.5, Colorado Revised Statutes. The purpose of this committee is to review the COYAC's work and to recommend legislation regarding issues affecting Colorado youth.

At its meeting on November 15, 2021 the Legislative Council reviewed the report of this committee. A motion to forward this report and the bills therein for consideration in the 2022 session was approved.

Sincerely,

/s/ Senator Leroy Garcia
Chair

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The text of each bill is included as Attachments A through C after the resource materials page.

This report is also available online at:

<https://leg.colorado.gov/committees/colorado-youth-advisory-council-committee/2021-regular-session>

Committee Charge

Pursuant to Section 2-2-1305.5, C.R.S., the Colorado Youth Advisory Council (COYAC) Review Committee was created to review the COYAC's work and to recommend legislation regarding issues affecting Colorado youth.

COYAC consists of 44 members and is charged with examining, evaluating, and discussing the issues, interests, and needs affecting Colorado youth. Members serve two-year terms and must be between 14 and 19 years old and be enrolled in and attending school in Colorado. Four legislative members of COYAC are appointed by House and Senate leadership to two-year terms. COYAC meets three to four times per year and receives organizational support from a vendor, Engaged Public, under contract with the General Assembly. Each school year, COYAC makes policy recommendations to the General Assembly.

COYAC is charged with examining, evaluating, and discussing the issues, interests, and needs affecting Colorado youth. The issues may include, but need not be limited to:

- education and skill development;
- employment, economic, and educational opportunities, including increased accessibility to opportunities for youth in rural communities;
- access to state and local government services;
- the environment;
- behavioral and physical health, including suicide prevention;
- safe environments for youth, including preventing bullying;
- substance abuse;
- poverty; and
- increased youth participation in state and local government.

Committee Activities

The committee held three meetings during the 2021 interim. Briefings and presentations were made by COYAC student members on the following subjects:

- youth mental health;
- foster care youth education waivers; and
- COYAC enabling legislation.

The following sections discuss the committee's activities during the 2021 interim.

Youth Mental Health

The committee heard presentations from the COYAC student representatives about the challenges youth face with mental health and accessing proper mental health supports. The students discussed aspects of Safe2Tell Colorado and Colorado Crisis Services and how these organizations are promoted in Colorado schools.

Safe2TellColorado. Safe2Tell Colorado is a model prevention strategy operating under the Colorado Attorney General’s Office. The program was founded in 2004 and is the law-enforcement led component of school safety for the state of Colorado. Colorado schools are required by the Colorado Department of Education to include Safe2Tell as part of school safety planning. The mission of Safe2Tell is to ensure that every Colorado student, parent, teacher and community member has access to a safe and anonymous way to report any concerns to their safety or the safety of others, with a focus on early intervention and prevention through awareness and education. In addition to other program requirements, state law requires the program to provide Safe2Tell awareness and educational materials to all elementary and secondary schools in Colorado with a primary focus on targeting marketing materials to Colorado school-age children, teachers, administrators, and special service providers.

Colorado Crisis Services. Colorado Crisis Services is the statewide behavioral health crisis response system offering residents mental health, substance use, or emotional crisis help, information, and referrals. The program was established in 2014, and provides a statewide hotline that operates 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and 365 days a year. Colorado Crisis Services also provide statewide mobile services, walk-in centers, crisis stabilization units, and respite care services. The mission of Colorado Crisis Services is to strengthen Colorado’s mental health system by providing Coloradans with greater access to crisis services regardless of ability to pay. State law requires a public information campaign for Colorado Crisis Services, but it is not required to be targeted to a specific population.

COYAC policy recommendation. According to the COYAC student representatives, the Safe2Tell program is not equipped to respond to mental health crises. The COYAC student representatives explained that suicide is the second-leading cause of death for children, teenagers, and young adults in Colorado and that mental health support should remain a top priority for parents, youth, and stakeholders statewide, especially in light of the impact the coronavirus pandemic has had on the mental health of youth in the last two years. Safe2Tell was created in response to the school shooting at Columbine High School as a school safety mechanism for students and teachers to report anonymous tips about potential security threats. According to the COYAC student representatives, students often misuse Safe2Tell as a mental health resource, rather than a school safety reporting mechanism. Safe2Tell mandates that for each tip received, police take action; consequently, when an individual contacts Safe2Tell seeking support for themselves or a loved one, law enforcement deploys and contacts the school district. The COYAC student representatives reported that youth rarely recognize Colorado Crisis Services as a resource, and are often unaware of this resource, which includes a peer-to-peer support option.

The COYAC student representatives proposed that, similar to how the phone number for the Safe2Tell Colorado is printed on the back of every student ID card in Colorado, so should the phone number

for Colorado Crisis Services. Additionally, the peer counseling services offered by Colorado Crisis Services should be promoted to students. The COYAC student representatives discussed the fiscal impacts of promoting the Colorado Crisis Services to youth during their presentation.

Committee recommendations. As a result of its discussions, the committee recommends Bill A, which addresses the promotion of youth mental health services in schools.

Foster Care Tuition Waivers

The committee heard from the COYAC student representatives about the challenges foster care youth face when attempting to pursue a post-secondary education. The students cited studies that showed only 13.4 percent of Colorado youth who were in foster care at age 13 entered postsecondary education by age 21. They noted the disparity between foster care youth and the nearly 56 percent of high school graduates who attend college who were not in the foster care system.

COYAC policy recommendations. The COYAC student representatives recommended two policy solutions:

- 1) Education waiver programs to assist foster care youth.** According to the COYAC student representatives, 23 states have created a state-based education waiver program for youth in foster care to supplement the gaps in the national Education Training Voucher (ETV) program, with targeted tuition waiver programs and foster care support liaison mandates for public universities. However, the students noted that Colorado has not passed equivalent legislation. Texas is an example of a state that has addressed the financial obstacle. Public universities in Texas must waive all tuition and fees for foster youth who qualify, which, according to COYAC student representatives, costs about \$22.2 million in 2018. In Texas, over 6,000 foster youth used the waiver program in 2018. In a study conducted by Texas public universities in 2018, 22.2 percent of foster care youth who used the waiver graduated in 6 years, compared to the 13.2 percent graduation rate for foster care youth who did not use the waiver. Through its 20 year history, Texas's ETV program shows that waiving tuition and other fees leads to a higher rate of college enrollment and graduation for foster youth.
- 2) College counselors to assist foster care students in college.** The COYAC student representatives noted that Colorado needs a state-based program to comprehensively support foster care youth in pursuing higher education. In addition to following the successful model of state-run financial support for foster care, Colorado's tuition waivers should also include educational mentoring to increase the likelihood of student success in postsecondary education. COYAC student representatives recommended that public universities across Colorado be mandated to have a counselor specifically charged with supporting foster care youth. The students mentioned that a similar program was implemented in Texas in 2015. The students cited a study indicating that the over 110 foster care liaisons at public universities in Texas feel that their services provide a comprehensive support system to foster care youth. The combination of financial aid and emotional support may lead to higher enrollment and graduation rates for foster care youth in Colorado as well.

Committee recommendations. As a result of its discussions, the committee recommends Bill B, which creates a tuition waiver for foster care youth.

Colorado Youth Advisory Council Updates

COYAC statute. COYAC operations are governed by Section 13 of Article 2 in Title 2, C.R.S. The committee heard presentations from the COYAC student representatives about how state law does not allow flexibility in COYAC's activities. During their presentations, the students highlighted potential changes to statute to improve the COYAC member selection process, modify the COYAC leadership structure, allow for virtual meetings, and allow COYAC to adopt its own bylaws.

COYAC policy recommendations. The COYAC student representatives made several recommendations to align state law with current COYAC practices and to provide more flexibility for the organization. Specifically, the COYAC student representatives recommended a bill that would:

- change when appointments for non-legislative members are made;
- require COYAC to adopt bylaws on leadership structure;
- allow COYAC members to participate remotely; and
- clarify that COYAC issue its annual report to the COYAC Review Committee during each interim the committee meets.

In addition, the COYAC student representatives recommended changing how the chair and vice-chair of the COYAC Review Committee are appointed. Under the recommendation, in odd number years, the chair would be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the vice-chair would be appointed by the Senate President. In even number years, the chair would be appointed by the Senate President and the vice-chair would be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Committee recommendations. As a result of its discussions, the committee recommends Bill C, which updates statutes pertaining to COYAC.

Summary of Recommendations

As a result of the committee's activities, the committee recommended three bills to the Legislative Council for consideration in the 2022 session. At its meeting on November 15, 2021, the Legislative Council approved all the recommended bills for introduction. The approved bills are described below.

Bill A — Promoting Crisis Services to Students

Bill A requires that student identification cards issued to a public school student contain the phone number, website address, and text talk number for Colorado Crisis Services. If a school is unable to meet this requirement, it must request and display outreach materials from Colorado Crisis Services. The bill also requires that the Colorado Department of Human Services annually notify each Colorado public school that it can provide outreach materials explaining the programs and services offered by Colorado Crisis Services. The outreach materials must be provided to schools upon request.

Bill B — Higher Education Support for Foster Youth

Bill B requires all public higher education institutions in Colorado to waive undergraduate tuition and fees for Colorado resident students who have been in foster care or, following an adjudication as neglected or dependent, in noncertified kinship care in Colorado at any time on or after reaching the age of 13. The institutions are required to designate an employee to serve as a liaison to qualifying or prospective qualifying students. Under existing law, school districts and the Colorado Charter School Institute must designate an employee to act as a child welfare education liaison. The bill requires child welfare education liaisons to provide students in out-of-home placement with information and assistance regarding the tuition and fee waiver program.

Bill C — COYAC Enabling Legislation

Bill C makes several changes to the structure of the COYAC including:

- changing when appointments for non-legislative members are made;
- requiring the COYAC to adopt bylaws on leadership structure;
- allowing COYAC members to participate remotely; and
- clarifying that COYAC issue its annual report to the COYAC Review Committee each interim the committee meets.

Finally, the bill changes how the chair and vice-chair of the COYAC Review Committee are appointed.

Resource Materials

Meeting summaries are prepared for each meeting of the committee and contain all handouts provided to the committee. The summaries of meetings and attachments are available at the Division of Archives, 1313 Sherman Street, Denver (303-866-2055). The listing below contains the dates of committee meetings and the topics discussed at those meetings. Meeting summaries are also available on our website at:

<https://leg.colorado.gov/content/committees>

Meeting Date and Topics Discussed

August 20, 2021

- ◆ Discussion on COYAC Recommendation 1: Youth Mental Health Resources
- ◆ Discussion on COYAC Recommendation 2: Foster Care Tuition Waivers
- ◆ Discussion on COYAC Recommendation 3: Updating COYAC Statute

September 3, 2021

- ◆ Discussion on all COYAC recommendations
- ◆ Discussion and voting on bill drafting

October 21, 2021

- ◆ Presentation and voting of committee legislation

Second Regular Session
Seventy-third General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO

Attachment A

BILL A

LLS NO. 22-0117.01 Michael Dohr x4347

HOUSE BILL

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

McLachlan and McKean,

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Priola and Moreno, Fenberg

House Committees

Senate Committees

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 **CONCERNING PROMOTING BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CRISIS SERVICES TO**
102 **SCHOOL-AGE STUDENTS.**

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/>.)

Colorado Youth Advisory Council Review Committee. The bill requires each student identification card issued to a public school student to contain the phone number, website address, and text talk number for the 24-hour telephone crisis service center (Colorado crisis services). If the school does not issue identification cards, the school shall request and display outreach materials from Colorado crisis services.

The bill requires that Colorado crisis services notify each public

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.
Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material to be added to existing statute.
Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.

school in the state that it can provide outreach materials explaining the services provided, how to engage the services, and the possibility of peer-to-peer counseling as part of the offered services. Colorado crisis services shall provide those materials upon request.

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

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 22-1-134 as
3 follows:

4 **22-1-134. Student identification cards - information required.**

5 EACH STUDENT IDENTIFICATION CARD ISSUED TO A PUBLIC SCHOOL
6 STUDENT MUST CONTAIN THE PHONE NUMBER, WEBSITE ADDRESS, AND
7 TEXT TALK NUMBER FOR COLORADO CRISIS SERVICES, AS DEFINED IN
8 SECTION 27-60-104. THE PUBLIC SCHOOL MAY ALSO INCLUDE
9 INFORMATION REGARDING OTHER AVAILABLE CRISIS SERVICES ON THE
10 IDENTIFICATION CARD. IF A PUBLIC SCHOOL DOES NOT ISSUE STUDENT
11 IDENTIFICATION CARDS, THE PUBLIC SCHOOL SHALL DISPLAY THE
12 MATERIALS DESCRIBED IN SECTION 27-60-104 (10) AT THE SCHOOL.

13 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 27-60-104, **add** (10)
14 as follows:

15 **27-60-104. Behavioral health crisis response system - crisis
16 service facilities - walk-in centers - mobile response units - report.**

17 (10) THE TWENTY-FOUR-HOUR TELEPHONE CRISIS SERVICE CENTER,
18 KNOWN AS "COLORADO CRISIS SERVICES", SHALL ANNUALLY, IN AUGUST,
19 NOTIFY EACH PUBLIC SCHOOL IN THE STATE THAT IT CAN PROVIDE
20 OUTREACH MATERIALS TO THE SCHOOL EXPLAINING THE SERVICES
21 PROVIDED, HOW TO ENGAGE THE SERVICES, AND THE POSSIBILITY OF
22 PEER-TO-PEER COUNSELING AS PART OF THE OFFERED SERVICES. THE
23 TWENTY-FOUR-HOUR TELEPHONE CRISIS SERVICE CENTER SHALL PROVIDE

1 THE MATERIALS UPON REQUEST.

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

Second Regular Session
Seventy-third General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO

Attachment B

BILL B

LLS NO. 22-0118.01 Conrad Imel x2313

SENATE BILL

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Zenzinger and Priola, Fenberg, Moreno

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

McLachlan and McKean,

Senate Committees

House Committees

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 **CONCERNING POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION SUPPORT FOR CERTAIN**
102 **STUDENTS WHO HAVE BEEN IN OUT-OF-HOME PLACEMENT.**

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/>.)

Colorado Youth Advisory Council Review Committee. The bill requires all public higher education institutions (institutions) in Colorado to waive undergraduate tuition and fees for Colorado resident students who have been in foster care or, following an adjudication as neglected or dependent, in noncertified kinship care in Colorado at any time on or after reaching the age of 13 (qualifying students). The institutions are

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Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.

required to designate an employee to serve as a liaison to qualifying or prospective qualifying students.

Under existing law, school districts and the state charter school institute must designate an employee to act as the child welfare education liaison. The bill requires child welfare education liaisons to provide students in out-of-home placement with information and assistance regarding the tuition waiver for qualifying students.

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

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 23-5-148 as
3 follows:

4 **23-5-148. Tuition waivers for students who have been in**
5 **out-of-home placement - higher education liaison - definitions.** (1) As
6 USED IN THIS SECTION, UNLESS THE CONTEXT OTHERWISE REQUIRES:

7 (a) "CHAFEE ETV GRANT" MEANS AN EDUCATIONAL AND TRAINING
8 VOUCHERS PROGRAM GRANT MADE PURSUANT TO THE FEDERAL "JOHN H.
9 CHAFEE FOSTER CARE PROGRAM FOR SUCCESSFUL TRANSITION TO
10 ADULTHOOD", 42 U.S.C. SEC. 677.

11 (b) "INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION" OR "INSTITUTION"
12 MEANS A STATE INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION, AS DEFINED IN
13 SECTION 23-18-102 (10)(a); LOCAL DISTRICT COLLEGE, AS DEFINED IN
14 SECTION 23-71-102; OR AREA TECHNICAL COLLEGE, AS DEFINED IN
15 SECTION 23-60-103.

16 (c) "QUALIFYING STUDENT" MEANS A RESIDENT OF COLORADO
17 WHO HAS BEEN ACCEPTED FOR ENROLLMENT AT AN INSTITUTION OF
18 HIGHER EDUCATION WHO:

19 (I) HAS BEEN PLACED IN FOSTER CARE, AS DEFINED IN SECTION
20 19-1-103, IN COLORADO AT ANY TIME ON OR AFTER THE STUDENT'S
21 THIRTEENTH BIRTHDAY; OR

22 (II) HAS BEEN IN NONCERTIFIED KINSHIP CARE, AS DEFINED IN

1 SECTION 19-1-103, IN COLORADO AT ANY TIME ON OR AFTER THE
2 STUDENT'S THIRTEENTH BIRTHDAY AND WAS, AT ANY TIME, ADJUDICATED
3 NEGLECTED OR DEPENDENT PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 3 OF TITLE 19.

4 (2) (a) BEGINNING IN THE 2022-23 ACADEMIC YEAR, EACH
5 INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN THE STATE MUST WAIVE ANY
6 TUITION COSTS, INCLUDING ANY MANDATORY FEES ASSOCIATED WITH
7 ATTENDANCE AT THE INSTITUTION, FOR A QUALIFYING STUDENT IN EXCESS
8 OF THE AMOUNT OF ANY PRIVATE, STATE, OR FEDERAL TUITION
9 ASSISTANCE RECEIVED BY THE QUALIFYING STUDENT. AN INSTITUTION IS
10 REQUIRED TO WAIVE TUITION AND FEES FOR AT LEAST ONE HUNDRED
11 THIRTY-TWO SEMESTER HOURS OR ONE HUNDRED NINETY-EIGHT QUARTER
12 HOURS.

13 (b) IN ORDER TO RECEIVE A TUITION WAIVER, THE QUALIFYING
14 STUDENT MUST:

15 (I) COMPLETE THE FREE APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL STUDENT AID,
16 INCLUDING, IF APPLICABLE, ACKNOWLEDGING PAST OR CURRENT FOSTER
17 CARE PLACEMENT;

18 (II) IF ELIGIBLE, COMPLETE THE APPLICATION FOR A CHAFEE ETV
19 GRANT;

20 (III) BE ENROLLED IN COURSES LEADING TOWARD A BACHELOR'S
21 DEGREE, A POSTGRADUATE DEGREE, AN ASSOCIATE DEGREE, OR A
22 CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION AT AN INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION;

23 (IV) REQUEST THE WAIVER IN ACCORDANCE WITH POLICIES SET
24 FORTH BY THE INSTITUTION; AND

25 (V) REMAIN IN SATISFACTORY ACADEMIC STANDING IN
26 ACCORDANCE WITH THE ACADEMIC POLICIES OF THE INSTITUTION AND BE
27 MAKING PROGRESS TOWARD COMPLETION OF THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE

1 EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM IN WHICH THE STUDENT IS ENROLLED.

2 (3) (a) EACH INSTITUTION SHALL DESIGNATE ONE EMPLOYEE AS A
3 LIAISON TO SERVE AS A DIRECT POINT OF CONTACT WITH THE INSTITUTION
4 FOR QUALIFYING STUDENTS AND PROSPECTIVE QUALIFYING STUDENTS.
5 THE LIAISON MAY HAVE OTHER DUTIES UNRELATED TO WORK AS THE
6 LIAISON, BUT THE LIAISON SHALL PRIORITIZE THE DUTIES DESCRIBED IN
7 THIS SUBSECTION (3).

8 (b) THE LIAISON SHALL WORK WITH SCHOOL DISTRICT AND STATE
9 CHARTER SCHOOL INSTITUTE CHILD WELFARE EDUCATION LIAISONS,
10 DESCRIBED IN SECTION 22-32-138 (2), TO IDENTIFY PROSPECTIVE
11 QUALIFYING STUDENTS.

12 (c) THE LIAISON SHALL PROVIDE QUALIFYING STUDENTS,
13 PROSPECTIVE QUALIFYING STUDENTS, AND SCHOOL DISTRICT AND STATE
14 CHARTER SCHOOL INSTITUTE CHILD WELFARE EDUCATION LIAISONS WITH
15 INFORMATION REGARDING APPLICATION ASSISTANCE, TUITION WAIVERS,
16 SUPPORT SERVICES, AND OTHER RESOURCES AND ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE
17 TO QUALIFYING STUDENTS AND PROSPECTIVE QUALIFYING STUDENTS.

18 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-32-138, **amend**
19 (2)(b)(V) and (2)(b)(VI); and **add** (2)(b)(VII) as follows:

20 **22-32-138. Out-of-home placement students - school stability,**
21 **transfer, and enrollment procedures - absences - exemptions -**
22 **provision of academic supports - definitions.** (2) (b) The child welfare
23 education liaison shall be responsible for working with child placement
24 agencies, county departments, and the state department of human services
25 to facilitate services to maintain students in out-of-home placement in
26 their schools of origin or, if the county department determines that it is
27 not in the students' best interests to remain in the school of origin,

1 facilitate the prompt and appropriate placement, transfer, and enrollment
2 in school of students in out-of-home placement within the school district
3 or who are enrolled or enrolling in institute charter schools. The child
4 welfare education liaison's specific duties include but need not be limited
5 to:

6 (V) Participating, or having ~~his or her~~ THE LIAISON'S designee
7 participate, in any interagency collaboration teams or threat-assessment
8 teams centered on students in out-of-home placement, which teams the
9 education provider may develop or on which teams the education
10 provider may be invited to participate; and

11 (VI) Providing to the department of education, the department of
12 human services, and the education committees of the house of
13 representatives and the senate, or any successor committees, the
14 information required pursuant to sections 22-2-139 and 26-1-138; AND

15 (VII) PROVIDING STUDENTS IN OUT-OF-HOME PLACEMENT WITH
16 INFORMATION AND ASSISTANCE REGARDING THE TUITION WAIVER FOR
17 FOSTER YOUTH DESCRIBED IN SECTION 23-5-148.

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

Second Regular Session
Seventy-third General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO

Attachment C

BILL C

LLS NO. 22-0119.01 Conrad Imel x2313

SENATE BILL

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Moreno, Fenberg, Priola

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

McKean and McLachlan,

Senate Committees

House Committees

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 **CONCERNING THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE COLORADO YOUTH**
102 **ADVISORY COUNCIL.**

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/>.)

Colorado Youth Advisory Council Review Committee. The Colorado youth advisory council (council) is comprised of legislative members and nonlegislative members who are 14 to 19 years old. Under existing law, nonlegislative members are appointed to the council by a majority vote of its members. The bill changes the deadline to appoint nonlegislative members and removes the requirement that nonlegislative

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members be selected by a majority vote of the council.

Existing law requires the council to elect 2 co-chairs and 2 vice-chairs and permits the council to further develop a leadership structure for the council. The bill repeals the requirement to appoint co-chairs and vice-chairs, requires the council to adopt written bylaws setting forth a leadership structure for the council, and clarifies that the council can elect members to serve in any leadership position described in its bylaws.

The council is required to meet 4 times per year. The bill requires that 2 meetings be held in person.

The bill changes the council's annual reporting requirement so that the council reports to the Colorado youth advisory council review committee (review committee) during the interim.

The bill requires the chair of the review committee and the chair of the legislative council to sign council contracts and requires the president of the senate and the speaker of the house of representatives to appoint the chair and vice-chair of the review committee on an annually alternating basis.

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

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 2-2-1303, **amend**
3 (2)(a)(III)(A) and (4); and **add** (4.5) as follows:

4 **2-2-1303. Membership - selection - terms.**

5 (2) (a) Nonlegislative council members shall be appointed as follows:

6 (III) (A) ~~On or before May 31, 2014, and on or before May 31~~
7 ~~each year thereafter,~~ AUGUST 31 OF EACH YEAR, the council members
8 shall approve subsequent appointments to the council. ~~by a majority vote.~~

9 A youth who meets the criteria set forth in subsection (1) of this section
10 may apply to the council to be considered for participation in the council.

11 ~~(4) The council shall elect two co-chairs and two vice-chairs at its~~
12 ~~first meeting and annually thereafter. One of the co-chairs and one of the~~
13 ~~vice-chairs shall be legislative members, to be elected at the first council~~
14 ~~meeting after December 15. The other co-chair and the other vice-chair~~
15 ~~shall be nonlegislative members, to be elected at the first meeting~~

1 following the annual May 31 appointment of new nonlegislative
2 members. The co-chairs and vice-chairs shall serve for terms of one year.
3 A vacancy on the council shall be filled through a vote of the members
4 for the remainder of the unexpired term. Vacancies of nonlegislative
5 members on the council shall be filled pursuant to the application process
6 described in ~~subparagraph (III) of paragraph (a) of subsection (2)~~
7 SUBSECTION (2)(a)(III) of this section for biennial appointments.
8 Vacancies of legislative members shall be filled by the appointing
9 authority. Vacancies of nonlegislative members on the council who are
10 not designated as at-large members shall be filled by a youth coming from
11 the same senate district as the departing nonlegislative member.

12 (4.5) THE COUNCIL SHALL ADOPT WRITTEN BYLAWS SETTING
13 FORTH A LEADERSHIP STRUCTURE FOR THE COUNCIL. THE COUNCIL MAY
14 AMEND ITS BYLAWS AS IT DETERMINES IT IS NECESSARY. THE COUNCIL
15 MAY APPOINT MEMBERS TO SERVE IN ANY LEADERSHIP ROLES DESCRIBED
16 IN ITS BYLAWS.

17 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 2-2-1304, **amend**
18 (2)(b), (2)(d), and (5) as follows:

19 **2-2-1304. Duties - meetings - community outreach -**
20 **designation of organization to accept donations - authority to**
21 **contract.** (2) (b) The council shall meet at least four times each year,
22 with two meetings occurring during the regular legislative session and
23 two meetings occurring after the regular legislative session has
24 concluded. COUNCIL MEMBERS MAY ATTEND AND PARTICIPATE IN
25 COUNCIL MEETINGS REMOTELY, BUT AT LEAST TWO OF THE COUNCIL'S
26 MEETINGS EACH YEAR MUST BE HELD IN PERSON, WITH ALL ATTENDING
27 MEMBERS AT THE SAME PHYSICAL LOCATION. Additional meetings may be

1 held at the discretion of ~~the co-chairs of the council~~ LEADERSHIP, subject
2 to available ~~moneys~~ MONEY.

3 (d) The council ~~shall have~~ HAS the authority to develop rules AND
4 procedures ~~and a leadership structure for the council~~ TO GOVERN ITS
5 ACTIVITIES.

6 (5) The council is authorized to contract with the designated
7 organization or other nonprofit or private entities for the implementation
8 of this part 13. Any contract entered into by the council ~~shall~~ MUST be
9 signed by the ~~legislative co-chair of the council~~ CHAIR OF THE REVIEW
10 COMMITTEE AND THE CHAIR OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

11 **SECTION 3.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **amend** 2-2-1305 as
12 follows:

13 **2-2-1305. Reporting requirements.** ~~On or before April 30, 2014,~~
14 ~~and on or before April 30 each year thereafter, the council shall make~~
15 ~~joint reports to legislative committees of the senate and the house of~~
16 ~~representatives as appropriate.~~ THE COUNCIL SHALL REPORT TO THE
17 REVIEW COMMITTEE DURING EACH INTERIM THAT THE REVIEW COMMITTEE
18 MEETS. ~~The reports shall~~ REPORT MUST include, at a minimum, a summary
19 of the council's recommendations concerning key issues for youth, ~~for the~~
20 ~~current legislative session.~~ INCLUDING ANY PROPOSALS FOR LEGISLATION
21 THE COUNCIL WOULD LIKE THE REVIEW COMMITTEE TO CONSIDER, and a
22 summary of the council's work during the ~~previous legislative session and~~
23 ~~interim~~ PRIOR YEAR.

24 **SECTION 4.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 2-2-1305.5, **amend**
25 (4) as follows:

26 **2-2-1305.5. Colorado youth advisory council review committee**
27 **- created.** (4) ~~The chair of the review committee is the legislative~~

1 ~~member who is serving as a co-chair of the council pursuant to section~~
2 ~~2-2-1303 (4). The vice-chair of the review committee is the legislative~~
3 ~~member who is serving as a vice-chair of the council pursuant to section~~
4 ~~2-2-1303 (4).~~ IN ODD-NUMBERED YEARS, THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF
5 REPRESENTATIVES SHALL APPOINT THE CHAIR OF THE REVIEW COMMITTEE
6 AND THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE SHALL APPOINT THE VICE-CHAIR. IN
7 EVEN-NUMBERED YEARS, THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE SHALL APPOINT
8 THE CHAIR AND THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES SHALL
9 APPOINT THE VICE-CHAIR. THE APPOINTING AUTHORITIES SHALL MAKE THE
10 APPOINTMENTS ON OR BEFORE APRIL 30 OF EACH YEAR.

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