



Legislative Council Staff

Research Note

Version: House Local Gov
Date: 2/16/2016

Bill Number

House Bill 16-1209

Sponsors

*Representatives Rankin &
Becker K.
(None)*

Short Title

*Working Group To Study
Program Evaluation*

Research Analyst

Damion Pechota (x4789)

Status

This bill is currently pending before the House Local Government Committee. This research note reflects the introduced version of the bill.

Summary

This bill creates a Results First Working Group (working group) that consists of up to ten members appointed by the Governor, no later than August 15, 2016. The membership structure and term of membership are also specified. Members of the working group are entitled to expense reimbursement and the working group will be staffed by the Governor's Office and Legislative Department, specifically Legislative Council Staff (LCS) and Joint Budget Committee Staff (JBC). Duties of the working group include:

- setting common definitions and standards for evidence-based practices in the state;
- examining resource and infrastructure needs to build state program evaluation capacity;
- establishing state program evaluation practices that encourage continuous evaluation and innovation; and
- making legislative, policy, and budget recommendations to the General Assembly, the Governor's Office, and Executive Branch agencies regarding program evaluation practices.

The working group is set to repeal on December 31, 2019.

This research note was prepared by Legislative Council Staff, the nonpartisan research staff for the Colorado General Assembly. The research note is provided for informational purposes only and should not be relied upon as an official record of action by the General Assembly. Legislative Council Staff are not attorneys, and the research note is not a legal opinion. If you have legal questions about the bill, including questions about the meaning of the bill language or amendments, please contact the drafter.

Background

The Results First Initiative, a project of The Pew Charitable Trusts and the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, is a cost-benefit analysis model designed to help states make decisions about resource allocation based on program evaluations. Colorado's project was initiated in July 2014 as a partnership between the Governor's Office and the General Assembly. The project is managed by Office of State Planning and Budgeting and has two dedicated full-time staff. Since its inception, the project has focused on the adult and juvenile justice and child welfare systems and is currently reviewing behavioral health programs.