

Second Regular Session
Seventy-first General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 18-0150.01 Jane Ritter x4342

HOUSE BILL 18-1021

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Hooton,

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Kefalas,

House Committees

Public Health Care & Human Services

Senate Committees

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 CONCERNING ADDRESSING THE ISSUE OF YOUTH WHO ARE
102 EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS IN COLORADO.

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 establishes the task force concerning youth who are experiencing homelessness (task force) to study and make recommendations on issues related to the issue of youth experiencing homelessness in Colorado. The membership of the task force is set forth, as well as reporting requirements and a repeal date.

The bill makes conforming amendments to correct citations to an

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.

earlier relocation of the office of homeless youth services to the department of local affairs.

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

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 24-32-723.5 as
3 follows:

4 **24-32-723.5. Task force 5concerning youth who are**
5 **experiencing homelessness - creation - membership - duties - report**
6 **- legislative declaration - definitions.** (1) (a) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
7 FINDS AND DECLARES THAT:

8 (I) MORE THAN EIGHTY-THREE THOUSAND YOUTH BETWEEN THE
9 AGES OF FOURTEEN AND TWENTY-FOUR ARE HOMELESS IN THE UNITED
10 STATES;

11 (II) THE MOST VULNERABLE SEGMENT OF COLORADO'S
12 POPULATION, CHILDREN AND YOUTH, ARE EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS
13 AT AN INCREASING RATE;

14 (III) HOMELESSNESS HAS A SIGNIFICANT NEGATIVE IMPACT ON THE
15 WELL-BEING OF INDIVIDUALS, PARTICULARLY THOSE WHO EXPERIENCE IT
16 AT A YOUNG AGE; AND

17 (IV) UNACCOMPANIED CHILDREN AND YOUTH WHO EXPERIENCE
18 HOMELESSNESS EXPERIENCE SIGNIFICANT IMMEDIATE AND LONG-TERM
19 TRAUMA.

20 (b) THEREFORE, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY DECLARES THAT IT IS IN
21 THE BEST INTERESTS OF THE STATE OF COLORADO TO ESTABLISH A TASK
22 FORCE TO EXAMINE COLORADO'S SYSTEM OF SERVICES AND CREATE AND
23 COORDINATE A STATE PLAN TO SUPPORT BETTER OUTCOMES FOR CHILDREN
24 AND YOUTH WHO ARE EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS.

25 (2) AS USED IN THIS SECTION, UNLESS THE CONTEXT OTHERWISE

1 REQUIRES:

2 (a) "TASK FORCE" MEANS THE TASK FORCE CONCERNING YOUTH
3 WHO ARE EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS CREATED IN SUBSECTION (3) OF
4 THIS SECTION.

5 (b) "YOUTH WHO IS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS" MEANS A
6 YOUTH WHO IS AT LEAST ELEVEN YEARS OF AGE BUT IS LESS THAN
7 TWENTY-FIVE YEARS OF AGE AND:

8 (I) WHO LACKS A FIXED, REGULAR, AND ADEQUATE NIGHTTIME
9 RESIDENCE; OR

10 (II) WHO HAS A PRIMARY NIGHTTIME RESIDENCE THAT IS:

11 (A) A SUPERVISED, PUBLICLY OR PRIVATELY OPERATED SHELTER
12 DESIGNED TO PROVIDE TEMPORARY LIVING ACCOMMODATIONS, OTHER
13 THAN A PUBLICLY OR PRIVATELY OPERATED ACCOMMODATION THAT HAS
14 A PRIMARY PURPOSE OF DETAINING OR OTHERWISE IMPRISONING AN
15 INDIVIDUAL PURSUANT TO AN ACT OF CONGRESS OR A STATE LAW; OR

16 (B) A PUBLIC OR PRIVATE PLACE NOT DESIGNED FOR, NOR
17 ORDINARILY USED AS, A REGULAR SLEEPING ACCOMMODATION FOR
18 HUMAN BEINGS.

19 (3) THERE IS CREATED IN THE DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL AFFAIRS THE
20 TASK FORCE CONCERNING YOUTH WHO ARE EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS.
21 THE PURPOSE OF THE TASK FORCE IS TO EXAMINE COLORADO'S CURRENT
22 SYSTEM OF CARE AND SERVICES FOR YOUTH TO PREVENT AND END
23 HOMELESSNESS FOR YOUTH. THE TASK FORCE SHALL RECOMMEND
24 SOLUTIONS ON ISSUES INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO:

25 (a) WAYS TO INCREASE ACCESS TO SAFE SHELTER AND SERVICES
26 FOR YOUTH WHO ARE LESS THAN EIGHTEEN YEARS OF AGE;

27 (b) INCREASING COORDINATION BETWEEN EXISTING STATE

1 DEPARTMENTS; THE CONTINUUM OF CARE PROGRAM AGENCIES, AS
2 DEFINED IN THE FEDERAL "MCKINNEY-VENTO HOMELESS ASSISTANCE
3 ACT OF 1987", AS AMENDED BY THE FEDERAL "HOMELESS EMERGENCY
4 ASSISTANCE AND RAPID TRANSITION TO HOUSING (HEARTH) ACT OF
5 2009", AND THE CONTINUUM OF CARE PROGRAM ESTABLISHED IN FEDERAL
6 RULE 24 CFR 578.5(a); AND NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS PROVIDING
7 SERVICES TO YOUTH WHO ARE EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS;

8 (c) WAYS TO INCREASE APPROPRIATE QUALITY HOUSING AND
9 OTHER SERVICES FOR YOUTH WHO ARE AT LEAST EIGHTEEN YEARS OF AGE
10 BUT LESS THAN TWENTY-FIVE YEARS OF AGE WHO ARE AT RISK OF OR
11 CURRENTLY EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS;

12 (d) ENSURING A STATEWIDE STRATEGY THAT PREVENTS AND ENDS
13 HOMELESSNESS; AND

14 (e) EVALUATING OUTCOMES AND REPORTING BACK ON
15 COLORADO'S PROGRESS TOWARD PREVENTING AND ENDING YOUTH
16 HOMELESSNESS.

17 (4) (a) THE TASK FORCE CONSISTS OF TWENTY-ONE MEMBERS,
18 APPOINTED AS FOLLOWS:

19 (I) THE DIRECTOR OF THE DIVISION OF HOUSING IN THE
20 DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL AFFAIRS, OR HIS OR HER DESIGNEE;

21 (II) THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, OR HIS OR HER DESIGNEE;

22 (III) THE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF ADULT AND JUVENILE
23 JUSTICE IN THE DIVISION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE, AS APPOINTED BY THE
24 DIRECTOR OF THE DIVISION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE, OR HIS OR HER
25 DESIGNEE;

26 (IV) THE DIRECTOR OF THE DIVISION OF CHILD WELFARE IN THE
27 DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES, OR HIS OR HER DESIGNEE;

1 (V) THE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH IN THE
2 DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES, OR HIS OR HER DESIGNEE;

3 (VI) THE COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION, OR HIS OR HER DESIGNEE;

4 (VII) THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
5 AND EMPLOYMENT, OR HIS OR HER DESIGNEE;

6 (VIII) THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
7 CARE POLICY AND FINANCING, OR HIS OR HER DESIGNEE; AND

8 (IX) THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF THE CHILD'S
9 REPRESENTATIVE, OR HIS OR HER DESIGNEE;

10 (X) TEN MEMBERS APPOINTED BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF
11 THE DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL AFFAIRS AS FOLLOWS:

12 (A) TWO YOUTH WHO HAVE EXPERIENCED HOMELESSNESS;

13 (B) THREE REPRESENTATIVES FROM LICENSED FACILITIES FOR
14 YOUTH WHO ARE EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS, WITH ONE
15 REPRESENTATIVE EACH FROM A RURAL, SUBURBAN, AND URBAN AREA;

16 (C) ONE REPRESENTATIVE FROM AN ORGANIZATION THAT SERVES
17 YOUTH WHO ARE YOUNGER THAN EIGHTEEN YEARS OF AGE AND
18 EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS;

19 (D) ONE REPRESENTATIVE FROM AN ORGANIZATION THAT SERVES
20 YOUTH WHO ARE AT LEAST EIGHTEEN YEARS OF AGE BUT YOUNGER THAN
21 TWENTY-FIVE YEARS OF AGE AND EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS;

22 (E) TWO REPRESENTATIVES FROM ONE OR MORE STATEWIDE
23 ORGANIZATIONS THAT ADVOCATE TO END YOUTH HOMELESSNESS; AND

24 (F) ONE REPRESENTATIVE FROM AN ADVOCACY GROUP FOR THE
25 LEGAL RIGHTS OF YOUTH; AND

26 (XI) TWO REPRESENTATIVES OF COUNTY DEPARTMENTS OF HUMAN
27 OR SOCIAL SERVICES, ONE OF WHICH MUST REPRESENT AN URBAN COUNTY

1 AND ONE OF WHICH MUST REPRESENT A RURAL COUNTY, EACH APPOINTED
2 BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES.

3 (b) THE MEMBERS OF THE TASK FORCE SHALL SERVE ON A
4 VOLUNTARY BASIS WITHOUT COMPENSATION.

5 (5) (a) THE TASK FORCE SHALL CONVENE ON OR BEFORE JULY 1,
6 2018, AND MEET A MINIMUM OF SIX TIMES PRIOR TO JUNE 30, 2020.

7 (b) THE TASK FORCE SHALL PREPARE A REPORT ON OR BEFORE
8 AUGUST 1, 2019, AND ANOTHER REPORT ON OR BEFORE AUGUST 1, 2020,
9 THAT INCLUDES RECOMMENDATIONS ON EACH OF THE ISSUES SET FORTH
10 IN SUBSECTION (3) OF THIS SECTION. THE TASK FORCE SHALL SUBMIT EACH
11 REPORT TO THE DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL AFFAIRS AND TO THE LOCAL
12 GOVERNMENT COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND THE
13 SENATE, OR ANY SUCCESSOR COMMITTEES.

14 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-1.9-102, **amend**
15 (1)(a) introductory portion, (1)(a)(VII), and (1)(a)(VIII); and **add**
16 (1)(a)(IX) as follows:

17 **24-1.9-102. Memorandum of understanding - local-level**
18 **interagency oversight groups - individualized service and support**
19 **teams - coordination of services for children and families -**
20 **requirements - waiver.** (1) (a) Local representatives of each of the
21 agencies specified in this subsection (1)(a) and county departments of
22 HUMANOR social services may enter into memorandums of understanding
23 that are designed to promote a collaborative system of local-level
24 interagency oversight groups and individualized service and support
25 teams to coordinate and manage the provision of services to children and
26 families who would benefit from integrated multi-agency services. The
27 memorandums of understanding entered into pursuant to this subsection

1 (1) must be between interested county departments of HUMAN OR social
2 services and local representatives of each of the following agencies or
3 entities:

4 (VII) A designated managed service organization for the provision
5 of treatment services for alcohol and drug abuse OR SUBSTANCE USE
6 DISORDERS pursuant to section 27-80-107; ~~C.R.S.~~; and

7 (VIII) A domestic abuse program as defined in section
8 26-7.5-102, ~~C.R.S.~~; if representation from such a program is available;
9 AND

10 (IX) SERVICE PROVIDERS FOR YOUTH WHO ARE EXPERIENCING
11 HOMELESSNESS THAT EXIST WITHIN AN INTERESTED COUNTY.

12 **SECTION 3.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-1-120, **amend** (5)
13 introductory portion; and **repeal** (5)(i) as follows:

14 **24-1-120. Department of human services - creation.** (5) The
15 department of human services ~~shall include~~ INCLUDES the following:

16 (i) ~~The office of homeless youth services, created by article 5.9 of~~
17 ~~title 26, C.R.S. Said office and its powers, duties, and functions are~~
18 ~~transferred by a type 2 transfer to the department of human services.~~

19 **SECTION 4.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-1-125, **amend** (2)
20 introductory portion; and **add** (2)(n) as follows:

21 **24-1-125. Department of local affairs - creation.** (2) The
22 department of local affairs ~~shall consist~~ CONSISTS of the following
23 divisions:

24 (n) THE OFFICE OF HOMELESS YOUTH SERVICES, CREATED BY
25 SECTION 24-32-723. SUCH OFFICE AND ITS POWERS, DUTIES, AND
26 FUNCTIONS ARE TRANSFERRED BY A **TYPE 2** TRANSFER TO THE
27 DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL AFFAIRS.

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