

Second Regular Session  
Seventy-first General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO

**ENGROSSED**

*This Version Includes All Amendments Adopted  
on Second Reading in the House of Introduction*

LLS NO. 18-1227.01 Jane Ritter x4342

**SENATE BILL 18-272**

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**SENATE SPONSORSHIP**

**Martinez Humenik and Todd,**

**HOUSE SPONSORSHIP**

**(None),**

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**Senate Committees**

Health & Human Services  
Appropriations

**House Committees**

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**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

101 **CONCERNING SUICIDE PREVENTION TRAINING IN SCHOOLS, AND, IN**  
102 **CONNECTION THEREWITH, MAKING AN APPROPRIATION.**

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**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 creates the crisis and suicide prevention training grant program (grant program) in the department of public health and environment (department). The purpose of the grant program is to provide financial assistance to schools in providing crisis and suicide prevention training to schools, with priority given to those schools that have previously not received such training. The grant program may authorize

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.

SENATE  
Amended 2nd Reading  
May 4, 2018

up to \$400,000 in grants per year in varying amounts. The office of suicide prevention and the school safety resource center shall work collaboratively with the department to develop guidelines and criteria for the grant program. Grant recipients are required to report on their activities using grant money.

The crisis and suicide prevention training grant program fund is created and authorized to accept appropriations from the general assembly, as well as gifts, grants, and donations.

The bill makes conforming amendments that authorize the existing office of suicide prevention in statute.

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

2 **SECTION 1. Legislative declaration.** (1) The general assembly  
3 finds and declares that:

4 (a) A recent report from the National Center for Health Statistics  
5 found that the suicide rate among youth between the ages of fifteen and  
6 nineteen who live in rural counties is nearly double the suicide rate  
7 among the same age group who live in larger, more urban counties;

8 (b) Suicide is the leading cause of death for young people in  
9 Colorado;

10 (c) A 2012 report of the U.S. surgeon general and the National  
11 Action Alliance for Suicide Prevention included the following goals and  
12 objectives as part of effective suicide prevention and crisis response  
13 training:

14 (I) To the extent possible, integrate suicide and crisis prevention  
15 programs into the culture, leadership, and work of a broad range of  
16 existing organizations and programs, when available, with a role to  
17 support suicide and crisis prevention activities;

18 (II) Provide crisis prevention and response training so all school  
19 personnel can look for warning signs and work collaboratively and  
20 successfully through a crisis situation in the school;

1 (III) Educate all school personnel, including administrative, front  
2 office, cafeteria and lunch room personnel, counselors, nurses,  
3 custodians, teachers, coaches, and others to increase knowledge of the  
4 warning signs of suicidal thoughts and behaviors and how to connect  
5 individuals in crisis with assistance, as well as work through and diffuse  
6 crisis situations safely for all involved; and

7 (IV) Schools should implement programs and policies that  
8 discourage abuse, bullying, violence, and social exclusion and build  
9 social connectedness and promote positive mental and emotional health.  
10 Schools should have a plan to ensure that students have access to mental  
11 health and counseling service resources and to train, on an annual basis,  
12 all relevant school staff to recognize warning signs of suicidal behavior  
13 or of a crisis situation.

14 (d) The recommendations of the Colorado suicide prevention  
15 commission for youth and public safety include supporting schools in  
16 implementing comprehensive protocols, including training all staff, and  
17 providing evidence-based programming focused on enhancing protective  
18 factors for youth; and

19 (e) According to the 2015 Healthy Kids Colorado Survey, nearly  
20 eighteen percent of Colorado high school students reported considering  
21 suicide, with nearly eight percent making one or more suicide attempts in  
22 the previous twelve months.

23 (2) The general assembly therefore declares that crisis and youth  
24 suicide prevention training is a matter of statewide concern, and it is in  
25 the best interests of the children and youth of the state of Colorado to  
26 ensure that all teachers and staff at every Colorado school, school district,  
27 and charter school are provided comprehensive suicide prevention and

1 crisis response training.

2           **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 25-1.5-113 as  
3 follows:

4           **25-1.5-113. Crisis and suicide prevention training grant**  
5 **program - definitions - creation - process - reporting requirements -**  
6 **fund.** (1) AS USED IN THIS SECTION, UNLESS THE CONTEXT OTHERWISE  
7 REQUIRES:

8           (a) "DEPARTMENT" MEANS THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH  
9 AND ENVIRONMENT CREATED AND EXISTING PURSUANT TO SECTION  
10 25-1-102.

11           (b) "FUND" MEANS THE CRISIS AND SUICIDE PREVENTION TRAINING  
12 GRANT PROGRAM FUNDE ESTABLISHED IN SUBSECTION (5) OF THIS SECTION.

13           (c) "GRANT PROGRAM" MEANS THE CRISIS AND SUICIDE  
14 PREVENTION TRAINING GRANT PROGRAM CREATED IN SUBSECTION (2) OF  
15 THIS SECTION.

16           (d) "OFFICE OF SUICIDE PREVENTION" MEANS THE OFFICE OF  
17 SUICIDE PREVENTION IN THE DEPARTMENT, ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO  
18 SECTION 25-1.5-101 (1)(w).

19           (e) "PUBLIC SCHOOL" MEANS A SCHOOL OF A SCHOOL DISTRICT, A  
20 DISTRICT CHARTER SCHOOL, OR AN INSTITUTE CHARTER SCHOOL.

21           (f) "SCHOOL DISTRICT" MEANS ANY PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT  
22 EXISTING PURSUANT TO LAW.

23           (g) "SCHOOL SAFETY RESOURCE CENTER" MEANS THE SCHOOL  
24 SAFETY RESOURCE CENTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY,  
25 ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO SECTION 24-33.5-1803.

26           (2) (a) THERE IS CREATED IN THE DEPARTMENT THE CRISIS AND  
27 SUICIDE PREVENTION TRAINING GRANT PROGRAM. THE PURPOSE OF THE

1 GRANT PROGRAM IS TO PROVIDE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR THE  
2 PROVISION OF COMPREHENSIVE CRISIS AND SUICIDE PREVENTION TRAINING  
3 ANNUALLY, PROVIDED GRANT FUNDING IS AVAILABLE, FOR ALL TEACHERS  
4 AND STAFF AT PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND SCHOOL DISTRICTS IN COLORADO  
5 WHO WORK DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY WITH STUDENTS. PRIORITY FOR  
6 GRANT AWARDS IS FOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND SCHOOL DISTRICTS WITH  
7 EDUCATORS AND STAFF WHO HAVE NOT YET RECEIVED SUCH TRAINING.  
8 THE GRANT PROGRAM MAY AUTHORIZE UP TO FOUR HUNDRED THOUSAND  
9 DOLLARS IN GRANTS PER YEAR IN VARYING AMOUNTS BASED ON THE SIZE  
10 AND NEED OF THE PUBLIC SCHOOL OR SCHOOL DISTRICT.

11 (b) ON AND AFTER JANUARY 1, 2019, A PUBLIC SCHOOL OR A  
12 SCHOOL DISTRICT MAY APPLY TO THE DEPARTMENT FOR A GRANT  
13 PURSUANT TO THE GUIDELINES ADOPTED IN SUBSECTION (3) OF THIS  
14 SECTION TO PROVIDE CRISIS AND SUICIDE PREVENTION TRAINING IN THE  
15 PUBLIC SCHOOL OR SCHOOL DISTRICT.

16 (c) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ADMINISTER THE GRANT PROGRAM IN  
17 CONSULTATION WITH THE OFFICE OF SUICIDE PREVENTION AND THE  
18 SCHOOL SAFETY RESOURCE CENTER.

19 (d) NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION OF THIS SECTION,  
20 THE DEPARTMENT IS NOT REQUIRED TO IMPLEMENT THE PROVISIONS OF  
21 THIS SECTION UNTIL SUFFICIENT MONEY HAS BEEN TRANSFERRED OR  
22 APPROPRIATED TO THE FUND.

23 (3) (a) ON OR BEFORE NOVEMBER 1, 2018, THE OFFICE OF SUICIDE  
24 PREVENTION AND THE SCHOOL SAFETY RESOURCE CENTER SHALL MAKE  
25 RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE DEPARTMENT FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OF  
26 THE GRANT PROGRAM, AND THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ADOPT FORMAL  
27 TRAINING GUIDELINES FOR THE GRANT PROGRAM. THE GUIDELINES MUST

1 INCLUDE:

2 (I) APPLICATION PROCEDURES BY WHICH PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND  
3 SCHOOL DISTRICTS MAY APPLY FOR A GRANT PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION;

4 (II) CRITERIA TO UTILIZE IN SELECTING PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND  
5 SCHOOL DISTRICTS TO RECEIVE GRANTS AND IN DETERMINING THE  
6 AMOUNT OF GRANT MONEY TO BE AWARDED TO EACH GRANT RECIPIENT.

7 THE CRITERIA, AT A MINIMUM, MUST INCLUDE:

8 (A) THAT FIRST PRIORITY FOR GRANT AWARDS IS TO PROVIDE  
9 CRISIS AND SUICIDE PREVENTION TRAINING TO PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND  
10 SCHOOL DISTRICTS THAT HAVE NOT PREVIOUSLY RECEIVED SUCH  
11 TRAINING;

12 (B) AN EMPHASIS ON PROVIDING SUCH TRAINING TO ALL STAFF AT  
13 THE PUBLIC SCHOOL OR SCHOOL DISTRICT, NOT JUST EDUCATORS; AND

14 (C) A REQUIREMENT THAT EACH APPLICATION, AT A MINIMUM,  
15 MUST DESCRIBE HOW THE APPLICANT PUBLIC SCHOOL OR SCHOOL DISTRICT  
16 WILL USE A GRANT AWARD TO PROVIDE COMPREHENSIVE CRISIS AND  
17 SUICIDE PREVENTION TRAINING TO ALL EDUCATORS AND STAFF WHO HAVE  
18 NOT YET RECEIVED SUCH TRAINING.

19 (b) IF THERE IS MONEY REMAINING IN THE FUND AFTER GRANTS  
20 ARE MADE TO ALL PUBLIC SCHOOLS OR SCHOOL DISTRICTS THAT APPLIED  
21 FOR A GRANT AND THAT HAD NOT PREVIOUSLY RECEIVED CRISIS AND  
22 SUICIDE PREVENTION TRAINING, THE DEPARTMENT MAY AWARD GRANTS  
23 TO A PUBLIC SCHOOL OR SCHOOL DISTRICT THAT HAD PREVIOUSLY  
24 RECEIVED SUCH TRAINING.

25 (c) THE OFFICE OF SUICIDE PREVENTION AND SCHOOL SAFETY  
26 RESOURCE CENTER SHALL ASSIST THE DEPARTMENT WITH REVIEWING  
27 GRANT APPLICATIONS, MAKING RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE DEPARTMENT

1 ON WHICH PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND SCHOOL DISTRICTS THAT APPLIED MUST  
2 RECEIVE A GRANT FROM THE GRANT PROGRAM AND THE AMOUNT OF EACH  
3 GRANT, AND ACTING AS A RESOURCE FOR GRANTEEES.

4 (4) (a) EACH GRANT RECIPIENT SHALL SUBMIT A WRITTEN REPORT  
5 TO THE DEPARTMENT NOT LATER THAN SIX MONTHS AFTER THE  
6 EXPIRATION OF THE TERM OF ITS GRANT. THE REPORT MUST INCLUDE A  
7 SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES MADE POSSIBLE BY THE GRANT MONEY.

8 (b) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL INCLUDE IN THE REPORT REQUIRED  
9 PURSUANT TO SECTION 25-1.5-101 (1)(w)(III)(A) THE FOLLOWING  
10 INFORMATION REGARDING THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE GRANT PROGRAM  
11 DURING THE PRECEDING YEAR:

12 (I) THE NUMBER OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND SCHOOL DISTRICTS THAT  
13 RECEIVED A GRANT FROM THE GRANT PROGRAM;

14 (II) THE AMOUNT OF EACH GRANT AWARD BY RECIPIENT;

15 (III) THE NUMBER OF PUPILS WHO ARE ENROLLED AT EACH PUBLIC  
16 SCHOOL OR SCHOOL DISTRICT OF EACH GRANT RECIPIENT;

17 (IV) THE NUMBER OF SCHOOL STAFF AND EDUCATORS WHO WERE  
18 PROVIDED TRAINING AS A RESULT OF A GRANT; AND

19 (V) A COPY OF THE GRANT RECIPIENTS' CRISIS AND SUICIDE  
20 PREVENTION PLANS.

21 (5) (a) THERE IS ESTABLISHED IN THE STATE TREASURY THE CRISIS  
22 AND SUICIDE PREVENTION TRAINING GRANT PROGRAM FUND. THE FUND  
23 CONSISTS OF MONEY TRANSFERRED OR APPROPRIATED TO IT AND ANY  
24 OTHER MONEY THAT MAY BE MADE AVAILABLE BY THE GENERAL  
25 ASSEMBLY. THE MONEY IN THE FUND IS CONTINUOUSLY APPROPRIATED TO  
26 THE DEPARTMENT FOR THE DIRECT AND INDIRECT COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH  
27 IMPLEMENTING THE GRANT PROGRAM. ANY MONEY NOT PROVIDED AS

1 GRANTS MAY BE INVESTED BY THE STATE TREASURER AS PROVIDED IN  
2 SECTION 24-36-113. ALL INTEREST AND INCOME DERIVED FROM THE  
3 INVESTMENT AND DEPOSIT OF MONEY IN THE FUND MUST BE CREDITED TO  
4 THE FUND. ANY AMOUNT REMAINING IN THE FUND AT THE END OF ANY  
5 FISCAL YEAR MUST REMAIN IN THE FUND AND NOT BE CREDITED OR  
6 TRANSFERRED TO THE GENERAL FUND OR TO ANY OTHER FUND.

7 (b) NO MORE THAN THREE PERCENT OF THE MONEY ANNUALLY  
8 EXPENDED FROM THE FUND MAY BE USED FOR THE EXPENSES INCURRED BY  
9 THE DEPARTMENT IN ADMINISTERING THE GRANT PROGRAM.

10 (c) THE DEPARTMENT MAY SEEK, ACCEPT, AND EXPEND GIFTS,  
11 GRANTS, AND DONATIONS FROM PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SOURCES TO  
12 IMPLEMENT THIS SECTION; EXCEPT THAT THE DEPARTMENT SHALL NOT  
13 ACCEPT A GIFT, GRANT, OR DONATION THAT IS SUBJECT TO CONDITIONS  
14 THAT ARE INCONSISTENT WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION OR ANY  
15 OTHER LAW OF THE STATE. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL TRANSFER ALL  
16 PRIVATE AND PUBLIC MONEY RECEIVED THROUGH GIFTS, GRANTS, AND  
17 DONATIONS TO THE STATE TREASURER, WHO SHALL CREDIT THE SAME TO  
18 THE FUND.

19 (d) NOTHING IN THIS SECTION REQUIRES THE DEPARTMENT TO  
20 SOLICIT MONEY FOR THE PURPOSES OF IMPLEMENTING THE GRANT  
21 PROGRAM.

22 **SECTION 3.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-33.5-1803,  
23 **amend** (3)(l) and (3)(m); and **add** (3)(n) as follows:

24 **24-33.5-1803. School safety resource center - created - duties**  
25 **- repeal.** (3) The center has the following duties:

26 (l) To provide materials and training as described in section  
27 24-33.5-1809 to personnel in school districts and charter schools, parents,

1 and students regarding the awareness and prevention of child sexual  
2 abuse and assault; ~~and~~

3 (m) By June 1, 2018, to make available a model program that  
4 conforms with section 22-1-128, regarding the risks and consequences of  
5 sexting for school districts to use, which curriculum must include  
6 information informing students of the provisions of section 18-7-109,  
7 including that, if a student receives a sexually explicit image in violation  
8 of section 18-7-109, the student can avoid adjudication as a juvenile  
9 delinquent by taking reasonable steps to either destroy or delete or report  
10 the initial viewing of the image within seventy-two hours after receiving  
11 the image; AND

12 (n) (I) TO ACT AS A RESOURCE FOR SCHOOL DISTRICTS, PUBLIC  
13 SCHOOLS, CHARTER SCHOOLS, AND INSTITUTE CHARTER SCHOOLS  
14 CONCERNING CRISIS AND SUICIDE PREVENTION TRAINING; AND

15 (II) TO WORK COLLABORATIVELY WITH THE OFFICE OF SUICIDE  
16 PREVENTION IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT  
17 CONCERNING THE CRISIS AND SUICIDE PREVENTION TRAINING GRANT  
18 PROGRAM CREATED IN SECTION 25-1.5-113.

19 **SECTION 4.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 25-1.5-101, **amend**  
20 (1)(w)(I), (1)(w)(II), (1)(w)(III)(A), and (1)(w)(IV) introductory portion  
21 as follows:

22 **25-1.5-101. Powers and duties of department - laboratory cash**  
23 **fund - report.** (1) The department has, in addition to all other powers  
24 and duties imposed upon it by law, the powers and duties provided in this  
25 section as follows:

26 (w) (I) To ~~act~~ OPERATE THE OFFICE OF SUICIDE PREVENTION,  
27 WHICH IS HEREBY ESTABLISHED IN THE DIVISION OF PREVENTION SERVICES

1 IN THE DEPARTMENT, THAT SERVES as the coordinator for CRISIS AND  
2 suicide prevention programs throughout the state, including the Colorado  
3 suicide prevention plan established in section 25-1.5-112, AND THE CRISIS  
4 AND SUICIDE PREVENTION TRAINING GRANT PROGRAM ESTABLISHED IN  
5 SECTION 25-1.5-113.

6 (II) The department is authorized to accept gifts, grants, and  
7 donations ~~to assist it in performing its duties as the coordinator for suicide~~  
8 ~~prevention programs~~ ON BEHALF OF THE OFFICE OF SUICIDE PREVENTION.  
9 THE DEPARTMENT SHALL TRANSMIT all such gifts, grants, and donations  
10 ~~shall be transmitted~~ to the state treasurer who shall credit the same to the  
11 suicide prevention coordination cash fund, which fund is hereby created.  
12 The fund also consists of any money appropriated or transferred to the  
13 fund by the general assembly for the purposes of implementing section  
14 25-1.5-112. Any ~~moneys~~ MONEY remaining in the suicide prevention  
15 coordination cash fund at the end of any fiscal year ~~shall~~ MUST remain in  
16 the fund and ~~shall~~ MUST not be transferred or credited to the general fund.  
17 The general assembly shall make appropriations from the suicide  
18 prevention coordination cash fund for expenditures incurred by the  
19 department OR THE OFFICE OF SUICIDE PREVENTION in the performance of  
20 its duties ~~under this paragraph (w)~~ PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION (1)(w)  
21 and section 25-1.5-112.

22 (III) (A) Notwithstanding section 24-1-136 (11)(a)(I), as part of  
23 ~~its~~ THE duties ~~as coordinator for suicide prevention programs~~ OF THE  
24 OFFICE OF SUICIDE PREVENTION, on or before each November 1, the  
25 ~~department~~ OFFICE OF SUICIDE PREVENTION shall submit to the chairs of  
26 the senate health and human services committee and the house of  
27 representatives health, insurance, and environment committee, or their

1 successor committees, and to the members of the joint budget committee,  
2 a report listing all CRISIS AND suicide prevention programs in the state and  
3 describing the effectiveness of the ~~department~~ OFFICE OF SUICIDE  
4 PREVENTION IN acting as the coordinator for CRISIS AND suicide  
5 prevention programs. For the report submitted in 2013 and each year  
6 thereafter, the ~~department~~ OFFICE OF SUICIDE PREVENTION shall include  
7 any findings and recommendations it has to improve CRISIS AND suicide  
8 prevention in the state.

9 (IV) ~~In its role as coordinator for suicide prevention programs,~~  
10 The department AND THE OFFICE OF SUICIDE PREVENTION may collaborate  
11 with THE SCHOOL SAFETY RESOURCE CENTER AND WITH each facility  
12 licensed or certified pursuant to section 25-1.5-103 in order to coordinate  
13 CRISIS AND suicide prevention services, including relevant training and  
14 other services as part of the Colorado suicide prevention plan established  
15 in section 25-1.5-112. When a facility treats a person who has attempted  
16 suicide or exhibits a suicidal gesture, the facility may provide oral and  
17 written information or educational materials to the person or, in the case  
18 of a minor, to parents, relatives, or other responsible persons to whom the  
19 minor will be released, prior to the person's release, regarding warning  
20 signs of depression, risk factors of suicide, methods of preventing suicide,  
21 available suicide prevention resources, and any other information  
22 concerning suicide awareness and prevention. The department AND THE  
23 OFFICE OF SUICIDE PREVENTION may work with facilities and the Colorado  
24 suicide prevention plan to determine whether and where gaps exist in  
25 suicide prevention programs and services, including gaps that may be  
26 present in:

27 **SECTION 5. Appropriation.** For the 2018-19 state fiscal year,

1 \$400,000 is appropriated to the department of public health and  
2 environment for use by the prevention services division. This  
3 appropriation is from the general fund and is based on an assumption that  
4 the division will require an additional 0.3 FTE. To implement this act, the  
5 division may use this appropriation for suicide prevention.

6         **SECTION 6. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act  
7 takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the  
8 ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly (August  
9 8, 2018, if adjournment sine die is on May 9, 2018); except that, if a  
10 referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V of the  
11 state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this act  
12 within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take effect  
13 unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in  
14 November 2018 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the  
15 official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.