

CHAPTER 23

HUMAN SERVICES - SOCIAL SERVICES

SENATE BILL 22-037

BY SENATOR(S) Moreno, Bridges, Buckner, Coleman, Coram, Fenberg, Ginal, Gonzales, Hansen, Jaquez Lewis, Kolker, Lee, Pettersen, Priola, Rankin, Story, Winter, Zenzinger, Garcia;
 also REPRESENTATIVE(S) Tipper and Jodeh, Bacon, Benavidez, Bird, Cutter, Duran, Esgar, Exum, Gonzales-Gutierrez, Gray, Herod, Lindsay, Lontine, McCluskie, Mullica, Ricks, Sirota, Titone, Valdez A., Valdez D., Weissman.

AN ACT

CONCERNING MODIFICATIONS TO THE TONY GRAMPSAS YOUTH SERVICES PROGRAM.

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

SECTION 1. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 26-6.8-101, **amend** the introductory portion and (2) as follows:

26-6.8-101. Definitions. As used in this ~~article~~ ARTICLE 6.8, unless the context otherwise requires:

(2) "Entity" means a local government, a Colorado public or ~~nonsectarian secondary~~ NOT-FOR-PROFIT school, a group of public or ~~nonsectarian secondary~~ NOT-FOR-PROFIT schools, a school district or group of school districts, a board of cooperative services, an institution of higher education, the Colorado National Guard, ~~a state agency, a state-operated program,~~ or a private nonprofit or not-for-profit community-based organization.

SECTION 2. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 26-6.8-102, **amend** (1)(b), (2)(d)(I), and (2)(d)(III); and **repeal** (2)(b) as follows:

26-6.8-102. Tony Grampsas youth services program - creation - standards - applications. (1) (b) The Tony Grampsas youth services program is established to provide state funding for ~~the following purposes~~ COMMUNITY-BASED PROGRAMS:

(I) ~~For community-based programs that target youth, and their families for~~ To PROVIDE PREVENTION AND intervention services in an effort to reduce incidents of youth crime and violence;

Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material added to existing law; dashes through words or numbers indicate deletions from existing law and such material is not part of the act.

~~(II) To promote prevention and education programs that are designed~~ TO PROVIDE PREVENTION AND INTERVENTION SERVICES IN AN EFFORT to reduce the occurrence and reoccurrence of child abuse and neglect and to reduce the need for state intervention in child abuse and neglect prevention and education; ~~and~~

~~(III) For community-based programs specifically related to~~ FOR the prevention and intervention of adolescent and youth ALCOHOL, TOBACCO, marijuana, AND OTHER DRUG use; AND

(IV) FOR THE PREVENTION AND INTERVENTION OF STUDENT DROP OUT.

~~(2) (b) For one grant cycle, up to three hundred thousand dollars of the appropriation made for the purpose set forth in this paragraph (b) may be used to award technical assistance grants for community-based prevention and intervention organizations that work with youth. Organizations that apply for moneys pursuant to this paragraph (b) must use the moneys to assist with independent certification as an evidence-based program. Evidence-based programs must demonstrate an ability to meet rigorous requirements for evaluation and effectiveness to reflect an ability to change targeted behaviors and promote positive youth development outcomes.~~

(d) (I) The youth services program fund is created in the state treasury. The principal of the fund consists of tobacco litigation settlement ~~moneys~~ MONEY transferred by the state treasurer to the fund pursuant to section 24-75-1104.5 (1.7)(e). ~~C.R.S.~~ Subject to annual appropriation by the general assembly, the state department may expend ~~moneys~~ MONEY from the fund for the Tony Grampsas youth services program, including the compensation of youth members of the Tony Grampsas youth services board, as described in section 26-6.8-103 (1)(e)(II). ~~All unexpended and unencumbered moneys in the fund at the end of any fiscal year remain in the fund and shall not be transferred to the general fund or any other fund.~~ ALL UNEXPENDED AND UNENCUMBERED MONEY APPROPRIATED TO THE FUND AT THE END OF A FISCAL YEAR REMAINS AVAILABLE FOR EXPENDITURE BY THE STATE DEPARTMENT FOR THE TONY GRAMPSAS YOUTH SERVICES PROGRAM IN THE FOLLOWING FISCAL YEAR WITHOUT FURTHER APPROPRIATION AND MUST NOT BE TRANSFERRED OR REVERT TO THE GENERAL FUND STATE AT THE END OF A FISCAL YEAR.

(III) If an entity seeks a grant from the board for a program directed at providing ALCOHOL, TOBACCO, marijuana, AND OTHER DRUG use prevention and intervention services to youth, one of the criteria the board ~~shall~~ MUST consider is whether the program utilizes evidence-based practices in the delivery of services.

SECTION 3. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 26-6.8-103, **amend** (1)(b), (1)(d)(I)(A), (1)(d)(III)(B), (1)(d)(III)(C), (1)(d)(IV), (2)(b) introductory portion, (2)(b)(III)(A), (2)(b)(III)(C), and (5); and **add** (2)(b)(II.5) as follows:

26-6.8-103. Tony Grampsas youth services board - members - duties.

(1) (b) In addition to the appointed board members, the executive director OR THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S DESIGNEE shall serve as a member of the board.

(d) (I) In appointing adult members to the board, the governor, the speaker of the house of representatives, and the president and the minority leader of the senate shall:

(A) Choose persons who have a knowledge and awareness of innovative strategies for youth crime AND VIOLENCE prevention and intervention services and for reducing the occurrence and reoccurrence of child abuse and neglect; and

(III) In appointing members to the board, the governor shall:

(B) Appoint at least one person who is knowledgeable in the area of child abuse AND NEGLECT prevention AND INTERVENTION; and

(C) Appoint at least one person who is knowledgeable in the area of ~~community planning for youth~~ CRIME AND violence prevention AND INTERVENTION.

(IV) In appointing youth members to the board, the governor shall appoint members who are ~~at least~~ fifteen years of age ~~and younger than~~ OR OLDER BUT UNDER twenty-six years of age. A YOUTH BOARD MEMBER WHO REACHES TWENTY-SIX YEARS OF AGE DURING THE YOUTH BOARD MEMBER'S TERM MAY REMAIN ON THE BOARD FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE TERM.

(2) (b) In addition to the guidelines developed pursuant to ~~paragraph (a) of this subsection~~ (2) SUBSECTION (2)(a) OF THIS SECTION, the board shall develop criteria for awarding grants under the Tony Grampsas youth services program, including but not limited to the following requirements:

(II.5) THAT THE GRANT APPLICATION PROCESS IDENTIFIES AND PRIORITIZES FUNDING PROGRAMS THAT MEET A NEED IN THE COMMUNITY, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE PRESENCE OF RISK FACTORS IN A GRANT APPLICANT'S INTENDED POPULATIONS; AND

(III) (A) That the program is directed at providing PREVENTION AND intervention services to CHILDREN, youth, and their families in an effort to decrease incidents of YOUTH crime and violence; PREVENT CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT; OR DECREASE YOUTH ALCOHOL, TOBACCO, MARIJUANA, AND OTHER DRUG USE, or that the program is directed at providing services to ~~at-risk~~ students and their families in an effort to reduce the dropout rate in secondary schools pursuant to section 26-6.8-105.

(C) If an entity is seeking a grant from the board for a program directed at providing PREVENTION AND intervention services to youth and their families in an effort to decrease incidents of YOUTH crime and violence, one of the criteria that the board shall consider is whether the program includes restorative justice components. It is not required, however, that the program include restorative justice components for the board to award a grant to the entity.

(5) In addition to the duties relating specifically to the Tony Grampsas youth services program specified in this section, the board shall operate the prevention AND intervention ~~and treatment~~ programs specified in this ~~article~~ ARTICLE 6.8 and such other prevention AND intervention ~~and treatment~~ programs as may be assigned to the board by executive order to be funded ~~solely~~ by federal ~~funds~~ MONEY, STATE

MONEY, OR BOTH. ALL UNEXPENDED AND UNENCUMBERED MONEY APPROPRIATED TO THE FUND AT THE END OF A FISCAL YEAR REMAINS AVAILABLE FOR EXPENDITURE BY THE STATE DEPARTMENT FOR THE TONY GRAMPAS YOUTH SERVICES PROGRAM IN THE FOLLOWING FISCAL YEAR WITHOUT FURTHER APPROPRIATION AND MUST NOT BE TRANSFERRED OR REVERT TO THE GENERAL FUND AT THE END OF A FISCAL YEAR.

SECTION 4. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 26-6.8-104, **amend** (2), (3), (4), (5)(a), (5)(b), and (6) as follows:

26-6.8-104. Colorado youth mentoring services. (2) Legislative declaration.

(a) The general assembly ~~hereby~~ finds and declares that mentoring programs ~~such as big brothers, big sisters, and partners~~ have been active in Colorado for many years. The general assembly finds that national research has indicated that structured mentoring programs are effective tools in combating youth substance ~~abuse and~~ USE, youth crime and violence, AND OTHER CHALLENGES FACED BY YOUTH. The general assembly further finds, based upon recent national research results, that ~~at-risk~~ youth who are matched in ~~a minimum of year-long~~ PROFESSIONALLY SUPPORTED mentoring relationships are less likely to become involved in substance and alcohol ~~abuse~~ USE, less likely to be truant, less likely to commit violent acts against other persons, and more likely to show improvements in academic performance and positive peer relations.

(b) The general assembly further finds that, despite the positive results that may be achieved through structured youth mentoring programs, ~~as many as thirty-eight~~ counties in the state of Colorado do not have the organizational resources necessary to carry out successful mentoring programs or ~~lack the adult~~ volunteers to establish such programs or both. The general assembly finds that even counties in which there are established youth mentoring programs, such programs are unable to meet the demand for mentors. ~~and that such established programs have waiting lists that exceed two thousand youths.~~

(c) The general assembly therefore declares and determines that the provision of youth mentoring services that would use public and private entities to recruit, train, screen, and supervise ~~adult~~ volunteers to serve as mentors for ~~at-risk~~ youth would be beneficial and in the best interests of the citizens of the state of Colorado.

(3) **Definition.** For purposes of this section, ~~"at-risk youth"~~ "YOUTH" means a person who is ~~at least~~ five years of age OR OLDER but ~~who is less than eighteen years~~ UNDER TWENTY-FIVE YEARS of age and who is challenged by such risk factors as poverty, residence in a substance-abusing household, family conflict, association with peers who commit crimes, residence in a single-parent household, exhibition of indicia of delinquent behavior, or being the victim of child abuse.

(4) **Provision of youth mentoring services.** There is created the Colorado youth mentoring program to provide state funding for the provision of ~~community-based~~ EVIDENCE-INFORMED youth mentoring services ~~that target at-risk youths~~ in an effort to reduce YOUTH substance ~~abuse and to~~ USE, decrease the incidents of youth crime and violence, AND INCREASE PROTECTIVE FACTORS FOR YOUTH. The funding ~~shall~~ MUST be used to provide ~~new~~ EVIDENCE-INFORMED YOUTH mentoring services in communities that do not have existing mentoring programs as well as to enhance established ~~community-based~~ EVIDENCE-INFORMED YOUTH mentoring programs that

are already in existence.

~~(5) Administration - duties of contracting entities.~~ (a) To be eligible for ~~moneys~~ MONEY from the youth mentoring services cash fund created in subsection (6) of this section for the provision of EVIDENCE-INFORMED youth mentoring services, an entity must apply to the board in accordance with the timelines and guidelines adopted by the board pursuant to section 26-6.8-103 and must meet the requirements of ~~paragraph (b) of this subsection~~ (5) SUBSECTION (5)(b) OF THIS SECTION.

~~(b) The entities that the board selects~~ AN ENTITY SELECTED BY THE BOARD to provide ~~community-based~~ AN EVIDENCE-INFORMED youth mentoring ~~services are responsible for~~ PROGRAM SHALL:

(I) ADHERE TO EVIDENCE-INFORMED STANDARDS OF PRACTICE. AN EVIDENCE-INFORMED YOUTH MENTORING PROGRAM USES A MODEL THAT IS EVALUATED ANNUALLY AND INCORPORATES RESEARCH EVIDENCE INTO ITS DESIGN AND DELIVERY. AN ENTITY THAT IS AWARDED A GRANT SHALL ANNUALLY DEMONSTRATE PROOF THAT EVIDENCE-INFORMED STANDARDS ARE APPLIED THROUGHOUT THE PROGRAM. AN ENTITY MUST DEMONSTRATE PROOF THAT IT APPLIES EVIDENCE-INFORMED STANDARDS BY PRESENTING CURRENT PROOF OF COMPLIANCE FOR ACHIEVEMENT FROM AN EVALUATION CONCERNING THE APPLICATION OF EVIDENCE-INFORMED STANDARDS ADMINISTERED BY AN OUTSIDE ORGANIZATION; AND

(II) ENSURE MENTORING IS THE PRIMARY SERVICE PROVIDED BY THE PROGRAM AND MAKE INTENTIONAL MATCHES OR FORMAL CONNECTIONS BETWEEN YOUTHS AND MENTORS.

~~(I) Actively recruiting qualified and appropriate adult volunteers who are willing to serve as youth mentors for a period of not less than one year and to commit to spending an average of three hours per week with the at-risk youth;~~

~~(II) Effectively screening adult volunteers to serve as mentors, including but not limited to conducting criminal background checks of such adult volunteers;~~

~~(III) Providing training and ongoing support to adult volunteers to prepare them to serve in one-year mentoring relationships with at-risk youths;~~

~~(IV) Carefully matching each adult volunteer with an at-risk youth based on the unique qualifications of the adult volunteer and the specific needs of the youth;~~

~~(V) Supervising closely and through case managers the activities of the adult volunteer and the mutual benefits and effectiveness of the mentoring relationship;~~

~~(VI) Making available life skill workshops, recreational activities, and community service opportunities to the at-risk youth and adult volunteer;~~

~~(VII) Implementing a method of evaluating the effectiveness of the community-based youth mentoring program and tracking the youths served by the program to evaluate the impact of the services provided through the program; and~~

~~(VIII) Reporting annually to the board concerning the results of the entity's evaluation of youths served by the community-based youth mentoring program as well as the fiscal contributions made by the entity to the program and such other information that the board may require.~~

(6) **Youth mentoring services cash fund.** There is created in the state treasury the youth mentoring services cash fund, referred to in this subsection (6) as the "fund". The money in the fund is subject to annual appropriation by the general assembly for the direct and indirect costs of implementing this section. ALL UNEXPENDED AND UNENCUMBERED MONEY APPROPRIATED TO THE FUND AT THE END OF A FISCAL YEAR REMAINS AVAILABLE FOR EXPENDITURE BY THE STATE DEPARTMENT FOR YOUTH MENTORING SERVICES IN THE FOLLOWING FISCAL YEAR WITHOUT FURTHER APPROPRIATION AND MUST NOT BE TRANSFERRED OR REVERT TO THE GENERAL FUND AT THE END OF THE FISCAL YEAR. The executive director may accept on behalf of the state any grants, gifts, or donations from any private or public source for the purpose of this section. All private and public money received through grants, gifts, or donations must be transmitted to the state treasurer, who shall credit the same to the fund. The general assembly may appropriate money from the marijuana tax cash fund created in section 39-28.8-501. All investment earnings derived from the deposit and investment of money in the fund ~~must remain~~ REMAINS in the fund and must not be transferred or revert to the general fund of the state at the end of any fiscal year.

SECTION 5. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 26-6.8-105, **amend** (3), (4), (5)(a), and (6)(b) as follows:

26-6.8-105. Colorado student dropout prevention and intervention program.

(3) **Definitions.** For purposes of this section, ~~"at-risk students"~~ "STUDENT" means ~~students~~ AN INDIVIDUAL ENROLLED IN A PRIMARY OR SECONDARY ~~schools~~ SCHOOL who ~~are at risk of~~ IS FACING ADVERSITY SUCH AS dropping out of school because of ~~their~~ THE INDIVIDUAL'S socioeconomic background, lack of adult support, language barriers, or other identified indicators that cause ~~students to drop out of school~~ DROP OUT.

(4) **Colorado student dropout prevention and intervention program.** There is created the Colorado student dropout prevention and intervention program in the Tony Grampas youth services program to provide services to ~~at-risk~~ students and their families in an effort to reduce the dropout rate in secondary schools through an appropriate combination of academic and extracurricular activities designed to enhance the overall education and edification of students in secondary schools.

(5) **Administration.** (a) The state department shall administer the student dropout prevention and intervention program. Subject to the designation in ~~paragraph (b) of this subsection~~ (5) SUBSECTION (5)(b) OF THIS SECTION, the board shall select those entities that will receive grants through the student dropout prevention and intervention program and the amount of each grant. In addition, the state department shall monitor the effectiveness of programs that receive funds through the student dropout prevention and intervention program. To be eligible for grants from the board for the provision of student dropout prevention and intervention programs ~~targeting at-risk~~ FOR students, an entity ~~shall~~ MUST apply to the board in accordance with the timelines and guidelines adopted by the board

pursuant to section 26-6.8-103.

(6) **Receipt of money.** (b) All private and public ~~moneys~~ MONEY received through funds, grants, gifts, or donations pursuant to this subsection (6) shall be transmitted to the state treasurer, who shall credit the same to the student dropout prevention and intervention fund, which fund is hereby created. The ~~moneys~~ MONEY in the fund ~~are~~ IS subject to annual appropriation by the general assembly for the direct and indirect costs associated with the administration of this section. The executive director may expend ~~moneys~~ MONEY appropriated to the state department from the fund to provide a grant for implementing and administering a student dropout prevention and intervention program. All investment earnings derived from the deposit and investment of ~~moneys~~ MONEY in the fund ~~shall be~~ IS credited to the fund. ~~Any moneys not appropriated shall remain in the fund and shall~~ ALL UNEXPENDED AND UNENCUMBERED MONEY IN THE FUND AT THE END OF A FISCAL YEAR REMAINS AVAILABLE FOR EXPENDITURE BY THE STATE DEPARTMENT FOR STUDENT DROPOUT PREVENTION AND INTERVENTION IN THE FOLLOWING FISCAL YEAR WITHOUT FURTHER APPROPRIATION AND MUST NOT BE TRANSFERRED OR REVERT TO THE GENERAL FUND ~~of the state~~ at the end of ~~any~~ A fiscal year.

SECTION 6. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 26-6.8-106, **amend** (2) and (4) as follows:

26-6.8-106. Colorado student before-and-after-school project - creation - funding. (2) **Colorado student before-and-after-school project.** There is created, in the Tony Grampsas youth services program, the Colorado student before-and-after-school project to provide grants to entities to provide high-quality before-and-after-school programs that may include an alcohol, ~~or drug abuse~~ TOBACCO, OR OTHER DRUG USE INTERVENTION, prevention, and education component. Entities that receive grants pursuant to this section shall apply the grants to creating and implementing before-and-after-school programs that primarily serve youth enrolled in grades six through eight or youth who are twelve to fourteen years of age. The before-and-after-school programs are designed to help youth develop their interests and skills in the areas of sports and fitness, character and leadership, or arts and culture and may provide education regarding the dangers of the use of alcohol, TOBACCO, and OTHER drugs. Before-and-after-school programs that are designed primarily to increase academic achievement or that provide religious instruction are not eligible for funding pursuant to this section.

(4) **Colorado student before-and-after-school project fund.** There is created in the state treasury the Colorado student before-and-after-school project fund that ~~shall consist of moneys~~ CONSISTS OF MONEY that the general assembly may appropriate to the fund. The ~~moneys~~ MONEY in the fund ~~are~~ IS subject to annual appropriation by the general assembly to the state department for the purpose of providing grants as provided in this section and the direct and indirect costs associated with the implementation of this section. Any ~~moneys~~ MONEY in the fund not expended for the purpose of this section may be invested by the state treasurer as provided by law. All interest and income derived from the investment and deposit of ~~moneys~~ MONEY in the fund ~~shall be~~ IS credited to the fund. ALL UNEXPENDED AND UNENCUMBERED MONEY IN THE FUND AT THE END OF A FISCAL YEAR REMAINS AVAILABLE FOR EXPENDITURE BY THE STATE DEPARTMENT FOR BEFORE-AND-AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS IN THE NEXT FISCAL YEAR WITHOUT

FURTHER APPROPRIATION. Any unexpended and unencumbered ~~moneys~~ MONEY remaining in the fund at the end of a fiscal year ~~shall remain~~ REMAINS in the fund and shall not be credited or transferred to the general fund or another fund.

SECTION 7. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 13-3-113, **amend** (3)(a) as follows:

13-3-113. Family-friendly courts. (3) Definitions. For purposes of this section:

(a) "At-risk youth" shall have the same meaning as "YOUTH" set forth in section 26-6.8-104 (3). ~~C.R.S.~~

SECTION 8. Safety clause. The general assembly hereby finds, determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety.

Approved: March 17, 2022