

**First Regular Session  
Seventy-fourth General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO**

**PREAMENDED**

*This Unofficial Version Includes Committee  
Amendments Not Yet Adopted on Second Reading*

LLS NO. 23-0077.01 Chelsea Princell x4335

**HOUSE BILL 23-1108**

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**HOUSE SPONSORSHIP**

**Duran and Evans,**

**SENATE SPONSORSHIP**

**(None),**

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**House Committees**

Judiciary  
Appropriations

**Senate Committees**

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**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

101     **CONCERNING THE CREATION OF A TASK FORCE TO STUDY VICTIM AND**  
102             **SURVIVOR AWARENESS AND RESPONSIVENESS TRAINING**  
103             **REQUIREMENTS FOR JUDICIAL PERSONNEL.**

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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 a task force to study victim and survivor awareness and responsiveness training requirements for judicial personnel (task force) in the office for victims programs in the division of criminal justice. The task force consists of members who have experience representing victims and survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault,

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

or other crimes; lived experience as a victim or survivor of domestic violence, sexual assault, or other crimes; or are members of the judicial community.

The task force is required to analyze current training provided to judicial personnel around the country on topics of domestic violence, sexual assault, and other crimes, in order to determine best practices and training requirements for judicial personnel in the state.

The task force is required to convene by July 1, 2023, and is required to meet at least 4 times but not more than 10 times. The task force is required to submit a report with its findings and recommendations to the house of representatives judiciary committee and the senate judiciary committee, or their successor committees, and the judicial department by November 1, 2023. The task force must convene its final meeting no later than October 15, 2023.

The task force is repealed, effective July 1, 2024.

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

**SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 24-33.5-534 as follows:

**24-33.5-534. Task force to study victim and survivor awareness and responsiveness training requirements for judicial personnel - creation - membership - duties - report - definitions - repeal.** (1) AS USED IN THIS SECTION, UNLESS THE CONTEXT OTHERWISE REQUIRES:

(a) "JUDICIAL PERSONNEL" MEANS JUDGES, OTHER JUDICIAL OFFICERS, AND COURT STAFF, BUT DOES NOT INCLUDE DISTRICT ATTORNEYS OR PUBLIC DEFENDERS.

(b) "TASK FORCE" MEANS THE TASK FORCE TO STUDY VICTIM AND SURVIVOR AWARENESS AND RESPONSIVENESS TRAINING REQUIREMENTS FOR JUDICIAL PERSONNEL CREATED IN SUBSECTION (2) OF THIS SECTION.

(2) THERE IS CREATED IN THE OFFICE FOR VICTIMS PROGRAMS IN THE DIVISION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE THE TASK FORCE TO STUDY VICTIM AND SURVIVOR AWARENESS AND RESPONSIVENESS TRAINING

1 REQUIREMENTS FOR JUDICIAL PERSONNEL.

2 (3) THE MANAGER OF THE OFFICE FOR VICTIMS PROGRAMS SHALL  
3 APPOINT THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS TO SERVE ON THE TASK FORCE:

4 (a) A VICTIM WITNESS ASSISTANT OR ADVOCATE IN A DISTRICT  
5 ATTORNEY OFFICE;

6 (b) A REPRESENTATIVE FROM A DISTRICT ATTORNEY OFFICE;

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8 (c) A REPRESENTATIVE OF A STATEWIDE ORGANIZATION THAT  
9 SERVES OR REPRESENTS VICTIMS AND SURVIVORS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE;

10 (d) A REPRESENTATIVE OF A STATEWIDE ORGANIZATION THAT  
11 SUPPORTS VICTIMS AND SURVIVORS OF CRIME OR VIOLENCE OTHER THAN  
12 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OR SEXUAL ASSAULT;

13 (e) A REPRESENTATIVE OF AN ORGANIZATION PROVIDING LEGAL  
14 SERVICES TO VICTIMS AND SURVIVORS;

15 (f) A RETIRED JUDGE WHOSE DOCKET INCLUDED CRIMINAL CASES;

16 (g) A CONFIDENTIAL ADVOCATE WHO WORKS WITH SURVIVORS OF  
17 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND SEXUAL ASSAULT;

18 (h) A FAMILY LAW ATTORNEY;

19 (i) A REPRESENTATIVE OF AN ORGANIZATION THAT PROVIDES CIVIL  
20 LEGAL SERVICES;

21 (j) A SURVIVOR OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OR SEXUAL ASSAULT;

22 (k) A VICTIM OF A CRIME OTHER THAN DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OR  
23 SEXUAL ASSAULT;

24 (l) A CITIZEN OF A SMALL OR RURAL COMMUNITY;

25 (m) A REPRESENTATIVE OF A CULTURALLY SPECIFIC  
26 ORGANIZATION THAT PROVIDES VICTIM SERVICES OR WORKS WITH VICTIMS  
27 OR SURVIVORS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OR SEXUAL ASSAULT;

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(n) A REPRESENTATIVE OF A STATEWIDE ORGANIZATION THAT SERVES OR REPRESENTS SURVIVORS OF SEXUAL ASSAULT;

(o) A REPRESENTATIVE OF A FAMILY JUSTICE CENTER;

(p) A REPRESENTATIVE FROM A STATEWIDE ORGANIZATION THAT TREATS CHILDREN WHO ARE VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND PROVIDES EXPERTISE ON THE PREVENTION OF CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT;

(q) A MEMBER OF LAW ENFORCEMENT THAT WORKS DIRECTLY WITH VICTIMS OF CHILD ABUSE OR NEGLECT AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE;

(r) TWO PRIVATE CRIMINAL DEFENSE ATTORNEYS WITH EXPERIENCE REPRESENTING A VICTIM OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OR SEXUAL ASSAULT;

(s) A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE OFFICE OF STATE PUBLIC DEFENDER WITH EXPERIENCE REPRESENTING A VICTIM OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OR SEXUAL ASSAULT; AND

(t) A SURVIVOR OF TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY.

(4) THE CHIEF JUSTICE OF THE COLORADO SUPREME COURT SHALL APPOINT THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS TO SERVE ON THE TASK FORCE:

(a) A STATE COURT JUDGE;

(b) AN INDIVIDUAL OTHER THAN A JUDGE WHO IS COURT PERSONNEL;

(c) A DISTRICT COURT JUDGE WITH EXPERIENCE IN DOMESTIC MATTERS;

(d) A COUNTY COURT JUDGE; AND

(e) A JUDGE FROM A RURAL COUNTY.

(5) THE TASK FORCE SHALL ELECT A CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR AT ITS FIRST MEETING. THE MEMBERS SERVING AS CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR SHALL

1 SERVE AS CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR FOR THE DURATION OF THE TASK FORCE.  
2 IN THE EVENT OF A VACANCY OR AN UNFORESEEN CIRCUMSTANCE THAT  
3 PREVENTS THE CHAIR OR VICE-CHAIR FROM CARRYING OUT THE CHAIR'S OR  
4 VICE-CHAIR'S DUTIES, THE TASK FORCE SHALL NOMINATE AND ELECT A  
5 REPLACEMENT CHAIR OR VICE-CHAIR AT THE NEXT MEETING.

6 (6) THE TERM OF EACH APPOINTMENT TO THE TASK FORCE IS FOR  
7 THE DURATION OF THE TASK FORCE. A VACANCY MUST BE FILLED AS SOON  
8 AS POSSIBLE BY THE MANAGER OF THE OFFICE FOR VICTIMS PROGRAMS  
9 AND THE CHIEF JUSTICE OF THE COLORADO SUPREME COURT.

10 (7) THE MANAGER OF THE OFFICE FOR VICTIMS PROGRAMS AND THE  
11 CHIEF JUSTICE OF THE COLORADO SUPREME COURT SHALL MAKE  
12 APPOINTMENTS ON OR BEFORE JUNE 1, 2023. IN MAKING APPOINTMENTS  
13 TO THE TASK FORCE, THE MANAGER OF THE OFFICE FOR VICTIMS  
14 PROGRAMS AND THE CHIEF JUSTICE OF THE COLORADO SUPREME COURT  
15 SHALL ENSURE THAT THE APPOINTEES INCLUDE PERSONS WHO HAVE  
16 EXPERIENCE WITH OR INTEREST IN THE TASK FORCE STUDY AREAS SET  
17 FORTH IN SUBSECTIONS (10) AND (11) OF THIS SECTION.

18 (8) MEMBERS OF THE TASK FORCE SERVE WITHOUT  
19 COMPENSATION. HOWEVER, MEMBERS OF THE TASK FORCE MAY RECEIVE  
20 REIMBURSEMENT FOR ACTUAL AND NECESSARY EXPENSES ASSOCIATED  
21 WITH THEIR DUTIES ON THE TASK FORCE.

22 (9) THE TASK FORCE SHALL CONVENE ITS FIRST MEETING NO LATER  
23 THAN JULY 1, 2023. THE TASK FORCE SHALL MEET AT LEAST FOUR TIMES  
24 BUT NOT MORE THAN TEN TIMES. THE TASK FORCE SHALL CONVENE ITS  
25 FINAL MEETING NO LATER THAN OCTOBER 15, 2023.

26 (10) THE TASK FORCE SHALL, AT A MINIMUM, DETERMINE AND  
27 ANALYZE THE FOLLOWING:

1 (a) CURRENT JUDICIAL TRAINING AROUND THE COUNTRY ON  
2 TOPICS RELATED TO SEXUAL ASSAULT, HARASSMENT, STALKING AND  
3 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE;

4 (b) GAPS IN CURRENT TRAINING IN COLORADO AND HOW TO FILL  
5 THOSE GAPS;

6 (c) BEST PRACTICES TO PROMOTE TRAUMA-INFORMED PRACTICES  
7 AND APPROACHES IN THE COURTS;

8 (d) STRATEGIES TO ENSURE TRAINING IS EFFECTIVE FOR LEARNING  
9 ABOUT VICTIMS AND SURVIVORS AND THE IMPACT THAT CRIME, DOMESTIC  
10 VIOLENCE, AND SEXUAL ASSAULT HAVE ON VICTIMS AND SURVIVORS, AND  
11 INCLUDES INFORMATION ON TRAUMA AND METHODS TO MINIMIZE  
12 RETRAUMATIZATION OF VICTIMS AND SURVIVORS;

13 (e) APPROACHES TO BEST PROVIDE TRAINING ON GENDER-BASED  
14 VIOLENCE AND ISSUES AFFECTING MARGINALIZED COMMUNITIES;

15 (f) THE AMOUNT OF TRAINING JUDICIAL PERSONNEL CURRENTLY  
16 RECEIVE CONCERNING THE PROTECTION OF THE RIGHTS OF VICTIMS TO  
17 ENSURE ANY IMPLEMENTED TRAINING EMPHASIZES THAT THE RIGHTS OF  
18 VICTIMS ARE TO BE PROTECTED AS VIGOROUSLY AS THE RIGHTS OF  
19 DEFENDANTS;

20 (g) THE SCOPE OF JUDICIAL EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES ALREADY  
21 PROVIDED TO JUDGES RELATED TO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, VICTIM RIGHTS,  
22 CASE MANAGEMENT, DOMESTIC RELATIONS DOCKETS, DEPENDENCY AND  
23 NEGLECT DOCKETS, JUVENILE PROCEEDINGS, AND CRIMINAL PROCEEDINGS;

24 (h) THE RESOURCES NECESSARY TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL  
25 EDUCATION;

26 (i) THE RESOURCES NECESSARY TO PROVIDE THE TIME FOR JUDGES  
27 TO PARTICIPATE IN ADDITIONAL EDUCATION; AND

1 (j) ANY OTHER TOPIC OR CONCERN THE TASK FORCE BELIEVES IS  
2 NECESSARY TO ADEQUATELY STUDY TRAINING FOR JUDICIAL PERSONNEL  
3 REGARDING VICTIMS AND SURVIVORS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, SEXUAL  
4 ASSAULT, AND OTHER CRIMES.

5 (11) IN ADDITION TO THE TOPIC AREAS SPECIFIED IN SUBSECTION  
6 (10) OF THIS SECTION, THE TASK FORCE SHALL ENSURE THE TRAINING  
7 RECOMMENDATIONS COMPLY WITH THE FEDERAL "KEEPING CHILDREN  
8 SAFE FROM FAMILY VIOLENCE ACT", 34 U.S.C. SEC. 10446, AS AMENDED.  
9 AT A MINIMUM, THE PORTION OF THE TRAINING THAT IMPLEMENTS THESE  
10 FEDERAL REQUIREMENTS MUST:

11 (a) BE PROVIDED TO ANY JUDGE OR MAGISTRATE WHO PRESIDES  
12 OVER PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITY PROCEEDINGS;

13 (b) INCLUDE NO LESS THAN TWENTY HOURS OF INITIAL TRAINING  
14 AND NO LESS THAN FIFTEEN HOURS OF ONGOING TRAINING EVERY FIVE  
15 YEARS;

16 (c) FOCUS ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND CHILD ABUSE, INCLUDING:

17 (I) CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE;

18 (II) PHYSICAL AND EMOTIONAL ABUSE;

19 (III) COERCIVE CONTROL;

20 (IV) IMPLICIT AND EXPLICIT BIAS, INCLUDING BIASES RELATING TO  
21 PARTIES WITH DISABILITIES;

22 (V) TRAUMA;

23 (VI) LONG-TERM AND SHORT-TERM IMPACTS OF DOMESTIC  
24 VIOLENCE AND CHILD ABUSE ON CHILDREN; AND

25 (VII) VICTIM AND PERPETRATOR BEHAVIORAL PATTERNS AND  
26 RELATIONSHIP DYNAMICS WITHIN THE CYCLE OF VIOLENCE;

27 (d) BE CONDUCTED BY A PROFESSIONAL TRAINER WHO HAS

1 SUBSTANTIAL EXPERIENCE IN ASSISTING SURVIVORS OF DOMESTIC  
2 VIOLENCE OR CHILD ABUSE AND MAY INCLUDE A PROFESSIONAL  
3 REPRESENTING A VICTIM SERVICES PROVIDER OR A SURVIVOR WITH LIVED  
4 EXPERIENCE OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OR CHILD PHYSICAL OR SEXUAL  
5 ABUSE. IN CONDUCTING THE TRAINING, THE PROFESSIONAL TRAINER SHALL  
6 RELY ON EVIDENCE-BASED AND PEER-REVIEWED RESEARCH CONDUCTED  
7 BY RECOGNIZED EXPERTS THAT FOCUSES ON THE TYPES OF ABUSE  
8 DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (11)(c) OF THIS SECTION AND SHALL NOT  
9 INCLUDE THEORIES, CONCEPTS, OR BELIEF SYSTEMS IN THE REQUIRED  
10 TRAINING THAT ARE NOT SUPPORTED BY EVIDENCE-BASED AND  
11 PEER-REVIEWED RESEARCH; AND

12 (e) BE DESIGNED TO IMPROVE THE ABILITY OF COURTS TO:

13 (I) RECOGNIZE AND RESPOND TO CHILD PHYSICAL ABUSE, CHILD  
14 SEXUAL ASSAULT, DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, AND TRAUMA IN ALL FAMILY  
15 VICTIMS, PARTICULARLY CHILDREN; AND

16 (II) MAKE APPROPRIATE CUSTODY DECISIONS THAT PRIORITIZE  
17 CHILD SAFETY AND WELL-BEING AND THAT ARE CULTURALLY SENSITIVE  
18 AND APPROPRIATE FOR DIVERSE COMMUNITIES.

19 (12) ON OR BEFORE NOVEMBER 1, 2023, THE TASK FORCE SHALL  
20 SUBMIT A REPORT, INCLUDING ITS FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS ON  
21 CONSIDERATIONS AND GUIDANCE IDENTIFIED IN SUBSECTIONS (10) AND  
22 (11) OF THIS SECTION TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES JUDICIARY  
23 COMMITTEE AND THE SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE, OR THEIR  
24 SUCCESSOR COMMITTEES, AND THE JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT. ALL  
25 RECOMMENDATIONS MADE BY THE TASK FORCE MUST BE APPROVED BY A  
26 MAJORITY OF THE TASK FORCE MEMBERS IN ORDER TO BE INCLUDED IN THE  
27 REPORT.



1           (13) THE TASK FORCE MAY WORK WITH OTHER GROUPS, TASK  
2 FORCES, OR ORGANIZATIONS THAT HAVE EXPERIENCE WITH THE TOPICS  
3 THE TASK FORCE IS RESPONSIBLE FOR STUDYING.

4           (14) THIS SECTION IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2024.

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