

**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. 23-0352.02 Jane Ritter x4342

HOUSE BILL 23-1223

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Bacon and English,

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

(None),

House Committees

Public & Behavioral Health & Human Services
Appropriations

Senate Committees

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 **CONCERNING THE CREATION OF A TASK FORCE TO ESTABLISH SHARED**
102 **GUIDANCE FOR ENTITIES TO UTILIZE IN PRIORITIZING GRANT**
103 **MONEY TO ACHIEVE MAXIMUM IMPACT TO REDUCE NEGATIVE**
104 **OUTCOMES FOR YOUTH.**

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 (task force) to establish shared goals, objectives, and guidelines for entities to utilize in prioritizing new and existing grant money to achieve maximum impact to reduce youth

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.

violence, suicide, and delinquency risk factors. The task force shall identify target communities with the highest rates of youth violence, suicide, and delinquency risk factors. The task force shall create shared goals, objectives, and guidelines for governmental and community-based organizations to prioritize the use of new and existing grant money, as well as help community-based organizations reduce youth violence, suicide, and delinquency risk factors in the target communities by using the shared goals, objectives, and guidelines when working in intervention, prevention, and tracking statistics.

Membership in the task force is outlined.

The task force shall make a preliminary "SMART Act" report in January 2024 followed by a final report in January 2025.

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

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add 25-1-137** as
3 follows:

4 **25-1-137. Task force to establish shared goals, objectives, and**
5 **guidelines for entities to achieve maximum impact to reduce youth**
6 **violence, suicide, and delinquency risk factors - creation -**
7 **membership - reporting - definitions.** (1) ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 31,
8 2023, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL CONVENE A TASK FORCE TO ESTABLISH
9 SHARED GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND GUIDELINES FOR GOVERNMENTAL
10 AGENCIES AND COMMUNITY-BASED AGENCIES TO ACHIEVE MAXIMUM
11 IMPACT IN REDUCING YOUTH VIOLENCE, SUICIDE, AND DELINQUENCY RISK
12 FACTORS FOR TARGET COMMUNITIES WITH THE HIGHEST RATES OF YOUTH
13 VIOLENCE, SUICIDE, OR DELINQUENCY RISK FACTORS.

14 (2) THE PURPOSE OF THE TASK FORCE IS TO BRING TOGETHER
15 DIVERSE GROUPS AND PERSPECTIVES FROM GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES
16 AND COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATIONS TO:

17 (a) IDENTIFY TARGET COMMUNITIES IN THE STATE WHERE
18 DISPROPORTIONATELY HIGH LEVELS OF YOUTH VIOLENCE, SUICIDE, AND
19 DELINQUENCY RISK FACTORS EXIST. THE TARGET COMMUNITIES MAY

1 INCLUDE ANY ZIP CODE OR CONTIGUOUS ZIP CODES WITH THE TOP THREE
2 TO FIVE RATES OF YOUTH VIOLENCE, SUICIDE, OR DELINQUENCY RISK
3 FACTORS, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, SCHOOL PERFORMANCE,
4 AVERAGE EDUCATION LEVEL, INCOME LEVEL, EMPLOYMENT LEVELS, CRIME
5 STATISTICS, AND HOUSING AND FOOD INSECURITY.

6 (b) BEGINNING JULY 1, 2025, AND FOR A MINIMUM OF THREE
7 YEARS THEREAFTER, ESTABLISH CLEAR AND SHARED GOALS, OBJECTIVES,
8 AND GUIDELINES TO PRIORITIZE, ALIGN, AND POOL AGENCY RESOURCES,
9 INCLUDING NEW AND STATE GRANT MONEY, TO GUIDE INTERVENTION,
10 PREVENTION, AND TRACKING STATISTICS TO ACHIEVE THE MAXIMUM
11 IMPACT ON REDUCING YOUTH VIOLENCE, SUICIDE, AND DELINQUENCY RISK
12 FACTORS; AND

13 (c) BEGINNING JULY 1, 2025, AND FOR A MINIMUM OF THREE
14 YEARS THEREAFTER, ESTABLISH CLEAR AND SHARED GOALS, OBJECTIVES,
15 AND GUIDELINES TO PRIORITIZE THE DISTRIBUTION OF NEW GRANT
16 MONEY ACROSS MULTIPLE GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES TO GUIDE
17 INTERVENTION, PREVENTION, AND TRACKING STATISTICS TO ACHIEVE THE
18 MAXIMUM IMPACT ON REDUCING YOUTH VIOLENCE, SUICIDE, AND
19 DELINQUENCY RISK FACTORS. THIS INCLUDES CREATING:

20 (I) A PROCESS FOR STREAMLINING STATE GRANT APPLICATIONS
21 ACROSS AGENCIES THAT DOES NOT VIOLATE FEDERAL LAWS, RULES, OR
22 GUIDELINES FOR FEDERAL DOLLARS AS IT PERTAINS TO STATE GRANT
23 MAKING AMONG AGENCIES;

24 (II) A COMMON APPLICATION FORM TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE
25 WITHOUT VIOLATING FEDERAL LAWS, RULES, OR GUIDELINES AND IS
26 PRACTICAL AND ACCESSIBLE FOR GRANTEEES TO USE;

27 (III) A CLEARINGHOUSE OF RESOURCES FOR APPLICANTS,

1 INCLUDING A STATEWIDE CATALOGUE OF GRANTS TO INCLUDE THE
2 FOLLOWING DATA, AT A MINIMUM:

- 3 (A) GRANT AMOUNT;
- 4 (B) PRIORITIZED POPULATIONS;
- 5 (C) SERVICES SOLICITED;
- 6 (D) GRANT OBJECTIVES; AND
- 7 (E) DESIRED OUTCOMES; AND
- 8 (IV) A JOB DESCRIPTION FOR A FULL-TIME EMPLOYEE SUPPORT FOR
- 9 THE FIVE AGENCIES OF THE TASK FORCE TO PROVIDE TECHNICAL SUPPORT
- 10 AND ASSISTANCE TO GRANT APPLICANTS WHO MAY LACK THE
- 11 ORGANIZATIONAL CAPACITY TO COMPLETE COMPETITIVE AND COMPLETE
- 12 APPLICATIONS.

13 (3) THE TASK FORCE CONSISTS OF THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS, AT
14 A MINIMUM:

15 (a) TWO REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC
16 HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT. ONE REPRESENTATIVE MUST HAVE
17 EXPERIENCE IN SUBSTANCE USE AND BE APPOINTED BY THE EXECUTIVE
18 DIRECTOR. THE OTHER REPRESENTATIVE MUST BE FROM THE OFFICE OF
19 GUN VIOLENCE PREVENTION AND BE APPOINTED BY THE DIRECTOR OF THE
20 OFFICE OF GUN VIOLENCE PREVENTION.

21 (b) A REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF EARLY
22 CHILDHOOD, APPOINTED BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE
23 DEPARTMENT OF EARLY CHILDHOOD;

24 (c) TWO REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE OFFICE OF CHILDREN,
25 YOUTH, AND FAMILIES IN THE DIVISION OF CHILD WELFARE IN THE
26 DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES;

27 (d) TWO REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF

1 EDUCATION, ONE WITH EXPERTISE IN WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AND ONE
2 WITH EXPERTISE IN POST-SECONDARY PATHWAYS, BOTH APPOINTED BY
3 THE COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION;

4 (e) TWO REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
5 ADMINISTRATION IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES AND
6 APPOINTED BY THE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COMMISSIONER. ONE
7 REPRESENTATIVE MUST HAVE EXPERIENCE IN SUBSTANCE USE AND DRUG
8 PREVENTION AND ONE REPRESENTATIVE MUST HAVE EXPERIENCE WITH
9 MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES.

10 (f) TWO REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE DIVISION OF CRIMINAL
11 JUSTICE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY, APPOINTED BY THE
12 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY;

13 (g) FIVE REPRESENTATIVES FROM COMMUNITY-BASED
14 ORGANIZATIONS, AS WELL AS CURRENT AGENCY GRANTEEES, WORKING IN
15 THE TARGET COMMUNITIES, AS IDENTIFIED BY THE TASK FORCE PURSUANT
16 TO SUBSECTION (2)(a) OF THIS SECTION AND APPOINTED BY THE TASK
17 FORCE. TWO OF THE REPRESENTATIVES FROM COMMUNITY-BASED
18 ORGANIZATIONS MUST BE ONES THAT FOCUS ON INDIVIDUALS WITH
19 INTELLECTUAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES OR SEVERE MENTAL OR
20 BEHAVIORAL HEALTH DISORDERS.

21 (h) THE TASK FORCE MUST ALSO INCLUDE EITHER:

22 (I) A NON-VOTING MEMBER WHO IS A PERSON WITH EXPERIENCE IN,
23 OR REPRESENTS AN ORGANIZATION WITH EXPERIENCE IN, DELIVERY OF
24 ACTIONABLE DATA INFORMATION AND ANALYSIS AND DATA READINESS;
25 OR

26 (II) ALLOW FOR PRESENTATIONS ON ACTIONABLE DATA
27 INFORMATION AND ANALYSIS AND DATA READINESS.

1 (4) FOR INSIGHTS INTO GRANT ALIGNMENT PRACTICES, THE TASK
2 FORCE SHALL CONSULT WITH THE FOLLOWING AGENCIES:

3 (a) THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND ADMINISTRATION; AND

4 (b) THE DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION.

5 (5) AFTER THE TASK FORCE IDENTIFIES THE TARGET COMMUNITIES
6 PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (2)(a) OF THIS SECTION, THE TASK FORCE SHALL
7 CONSULT WITH LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES THAT INCLUDE, BUT ARE
8 NOT LIMITED TO, CITY AND COUNTY GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS; LOCAL LAW
9 ENFORCEMENT AND DISTRICT ATTORNEYS; LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDERS;
10 LOCAL AND REGIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH ADMINISTRATORS; AND ANY LOCAL
11 COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATIONS THAT HAVE RECEIVED STATE-LEVEL
12 GRANTS IN THE AREA OF YOUTH SUICIDE, VIOLENCE PREVENTION AND
13 INTERVENTION, AND REDUCING YOUTH RISK FACTORS.

14 (6) THE TASK FORCE MUST HAVE AN EMPLOYEE TO SUPPORT WORK
15 OF THE TASK FORCE.

16 (7) THE MEMBERS OF THE TASK FORCE SHALL SERVE ON A
17 VOLUNTARY BASIS WITHOUT COMPENSATION, EXCEPT FOR THE
18 REPRESENTATIVES FROM NONGOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES, WHO MAY
19 RECEIVE A PER DIEM STIPEND. ALL MEMBERS ARE ENTITLED TO
20 COMPENSATION FOR ACTUAL AND NECESSARY EXPENSES INCURRED IN THE
21 PERFORMANCE OF THE TASK FORCE MEMBERS' DUTIES.

22 (8) (a) THE TASK FORCE SHALL PRESENT ITS PRELIMINARY
23 FINDINGS, GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND GUIDELINES TO THE JUDICIARY
24 COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND THE SENATE AND
25 TO THE PUBLIC AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
26 COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND THE HEALTH AND
27 HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE OF THE SENATE, OR ANY SUCCESSOR

1 COMMITTEES, DURING THE DEPARTMENT'S "SMART ACT" HEARINGS HELD
2 IN JANUARY 2024. THE 2024 "SMART ACT" REPORT MUST INCLUDE
3 FURTHER DESCRIPTIONS OF HOW THE TASK FORCE IDENTIFIED WHICH
4 TARGET COMMUNITIES TO PRIORITIZE, INCLUDING WHETHER OR IF CERTAIN
5 FACTORS WERE WEIGHTED OR ASSESSED. THE TASK FORCE SHALL REPORT
6 A TIMELINE WITH SPECIFIC DELIVERABLES, INCLUDING WHEN TARGET
7 COMMUNITIES WILL BE DEFINED, WHEN DATA SOURCES WILL BE
8 IDENTIFIED, AND WHEN DATA SHARING AGREEMENTS WILL BE CONFORMED.

9 (b) IN JANUARY 2025, THE TASK FORCE SHALL PRESENT ITS FINAL
10 REPORT THAT ESTABLISHES CLEAR AND SHARED GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND
11 GUIDELINES TO PRIORITIZE, ALIGN, AND POOL AGENCY RESOURCES,
12 INCLUDING NEW AND EXISTING GRANT MONEY, THAT WOULD GUIDE
13 INTERVENTION, PREVENTION, AND TRACKING STATISTICS TO ACHIEVE THE
14 MAXIMUM IMPACT ON REDUCING YOUTH VIOLENCE, SUICIDE, AND
15 DELINQUENCY RISK FACTORS IN PRIORITY COMMUNITIES. THE TASK FORCE
16 SHALL INCLUDE IN ITS REPORT HOW IT WILL DISPLAY AND TRACK DATA
17 TOWARDS THE EFFICACY OF THE STRATEGIES AND GOALS; HOW THE TASK
18 FORCE WILL COLLECT FUTURE DATA FROM STREAMLINED GRANT
19 APPLICATIONS, SUCH AS REFLECTED IN ANNUAL REPORTS, AS NARRATIVE
20 OR DATA TABLES; AND HOW OR IF THE TASK FORCE WILL REASSESS
21 FACTORS AND DATA ON AN ONGOING BASIS. THE TASK FORCE SHALL MAKE
22 ITS PRESENTATION TO THE JUDICIARY COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE OF
23 REPRESENTATIVES AND THE SENATE AND TO THE PUBLIC AND BEHAVIORAL
24 HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE OF
25 REPRESENTATIVES AND THE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE OF
26 THE SENATE, OR ANY SUCCESSOR COMMITTEES, DURING THE
27 DEPARTMENT'S "SMART ACT" HEARINGS HELD IN JANUARY 2025.

1 (9) AS USED IN THIS SECTION, UNLESS THE CONTEXT OTHERWISE
2 REQUIRES:

3 (a) "COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATION" MEANS A PERSON,
4 PRIVATE NONPROFIT AGENCY, CORPORATION, ASSOCIATION, OR OTHER
5 NONGOVERNMENTAL AGENCY.

6 (b) "GOVERNMENTAL UNIT" MEANS ANY COUNTY, CITY AND
7 COUNTY, CITY, TOWN, DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE, OR SCHOOL DISTRICT.

8 (c) "TARGET COMMUNITIES" MEANS THE COMMUNITIES IDENTIFIED
9 BY THE TASK FORCE AS PART OF THE TASK FORCE'S DUTIES PURSUANT TO
10 SUBSECTION (2)(a) OF THIS SECTION.

11 (d) "TASK FORCE" MEANS THE TASK FORCE CREATED IN
12 SUBSECTION (1) OF THIS SECTION TO ESTABLISH SHARED GOALS,
13 OBJECTIVES, AND GUIDELINES FOR ENTITIES TO UTILIZE IN PRIORITIZING
14 NEW AND EXISTING GRANT MONEY TO ENSURE ACHIEVING A MAXIMUM
15 IMPACT IN REDUCING YOUTH VIOLENCE, SUICIDE, AND DELINQUENCY RISK
16 FACTORS FOR TARGET COMMUNITIES WITH THE HIGHEST RATES OF YOUTH
17 VIOLENCE, SUICIDE, OR DELINQUENCY RISK FACTORS.

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