# First Regular Session Seventy-fifth General Assembly STATE OF COLORADO

## **REVISED**

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

LLS NO. 25-0390.01 Jerry Barry x4341

**HOUSE BILL 25-1017** 

## HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

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## A BILL FOR AN ACT

101	CONCERNING A COMMUNITY INTEGRATION PLAN FOR INDIVIDUALS
102	WITH DISABILITIES, AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, MAKING
103	AN APPROPRIATION.

## **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 <a href="http://leg.colorado.gov">http://leg.colorado.gov</a>.)

The bill establishes that public and governmental entities (entities) shall administer services, programs, and activities in the most integrated setting that is appropriate to the needs of individuals with disabilities. The bill establishes when entities are required to provide home- and community-based services (services) to individuals with disabilities.

SENATE Amended 2nd Reading April 24, 2025

HOUSE and Reading Unamended April 16, 2025

HOUSE Amended 2nd Reading April 15, 2025

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. <u>Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.</u>

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.

If an entity cuts services, the entity shall assess whether the service cut increases the risk of institutionalization for individuals receiving services. If so, the entity must develop a plan to reduce that risk.

The bill directs the department of health care policy and financing to develop a comprehensive community integration plan (plan) for implementing its obligation to provide individuals with disabilities with opportunities to live, work, and be served in integrated settings. The plan must be reviewed and updated every 3 years.

An entity is not required to comply with the provisions of the bill if it can establish that doing so would require a fundamental alteration of its program, services, or activities.

1 Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado: 2 3 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, add 8-88-102.5 as 4 follows: 5 8-88-102.5. Comprehensive community integration plan for 6 individuals with disabilities - review and assessment. (1) ON OR 7 BEFORE SEPTEMBER 1, 2028, CDOO SHALL SERVE AS THE LEAD AGENCY 8 RESPONSIBLE FOR DEVELOPING A COMPREHENSIVE COMMUNITY 9 INTEGRATION PLAN, REFERRED TO IN THIS SECTION AS THE "PLAN", FOR 10 IMPLEMENTING THE STATE'S COMMITMENT TO PROVIDING INDIVIDUALS 11 WITH DISABILITIES OPPORTUNITIES TO LIVE, WORK, AND BE SERVED IN THE 12 LEAST RESTRICTIVE SETTINGS POSSIBLE. IN DEVELOPING THE PLAN, CDOO 13 SHALL COLLABORATE WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE POLICY 14 AND FINANCING, THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES, THE 15 DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL AFFAIRS, OTHER STATE AGENCIES IMPACTED BY 16 THE PLAN, AND STAKEHOLDERS. THE PLAN MUST INCLUDE: 17 (a) AN ANALYSIS OF THE EXTENT TO WHICH THE STATE IS 18 PROVIDING SERVICES IN THE MOST INTEGRATED SETTING; 19 (b) CONCRETE COMMITMENTS TO EXPAND INTEGRATED

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1	OPPORTUNITIES FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES;
2	(c) SPECIFIC AND REASONABLE TIME FRAMES, MEASURABLE GOALS,
3	AND BENCHMARKS FOR WHICH THE STATE IS HELD ACCOUNTABLE;
4	(d) FUNDING SOURCES TO SUPPORT THE PLAN, WHICH MAY COME
5	FROM REALLOCATING EXISTING SERVICE MONEY; AND
6	(e) COMMITMENTS CONCERNING HOW THE STATE WILL MEET ITS
7	GOALS FOR EACH GROUP OF INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES WHO ARE
8	UNNECESSARILY SEGREGATED.
9	(2) THE CDOO SHALL REVIEW AND UPDATE THE PLAN EVERY
10	THREE YEARS, BEGINNING ON SEPTEMBER 1, $2031$ . Part of the review
11	MUST BE AN ASSESSMENT OF WHETHER THE TIME FRAMES, GOALS, AND
12	BENCHMARKS SET PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (1)(c) OF THIS SECTION HAVE
13	BEEN MET. IF THE BENCHMARKS WERE NOT MET, THE UPDATED PLAN MUST
14	INCLUDE A DESCRIPTION OF THE BARRIERS TO IMPLEMENTATION AND HOW
15	THOSE BARRIERS WILL BE ADDRESSED.
16	(3) Money for the CDOO to develop, review, and update
17	THE PLAN IS LIMITED TO THE MONEY IN THE DISABILITY SUPPORT FUND
18	CREATED IN SECTION 8-88-205, AND THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SHALL NOT
19	APPROPRIATE ANY MONEY FROM THE GENERAL FUND FOR THAT PURPOSE.
20	SECTION 2. In Colorado Revised Statutes, add part 11 to article
21	1 of title 25.5 as follows:
22	PART 11
23	COMMUNITY INTEGRATION
24	25.5-1-1101. Legislative declaration. (1) THE GENERAL
25	ASSEMBLY FINDS AND DECLARES THAT:
26	(a) THE UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT DECISION IN OLMSTEAD
27	V. L.C., 527 U.S. 581 (1999), REFERRED TO IN THIS PART 11 AS

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1	"OLMSTEAD", ENSHRINED IN LAW THE DUTY UPON STATES TO ACTIVELY
2	WORK TOWARD HELPING INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES TRANSITION OUT
3	OF INSTITUTIONS AND INTO THE COMMUNITY AND TO HAVE
4	COMMUNITY-BASED SERVICES AVAILABLE TO DECREASE THE RISK OF
5	<u>INSTITUTIONALIZATION;</u>
6	(b) OLMSTEAD PLACED ON STATES THE OBLIGATION TO ADMINISTER
7	SERVICES, PROGRAMS, AND ACTIVITIES IN THE MOST INTEGRATED SETTING
8	APPROPRIATE TO THE NEEDS OF QUALIFIED INDIVIDUALS WITH
9	<u>DISABILITIES;</u>
10	(c) SEGREGATING INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES IN INSTITUTIONS
11	DENIES THOSE INDIVIDUALS THE FREEDOM TO MAKE DECISIONS, KEEPS
12	THEM APART FROM FAMILY AND FRIENDS, AND DENIES THEM
13	OPPORTUNITIES THAT EXIST IN THEIR COMMUNITIES. SEGREGATION ALSO
14	DENIES COMMUNITIES THE CONTRIBUTIONS THAT INDIVIDUALS WITH
15	DISABILITIES MAKE TO THEIR COMMUNITIES.
16	(d) COMMUNITY-BASED SERVICES ARE CHEAPER IN THE LONG RUN
17	THAN INSTITUTIONALIZATION SERVICES.
18	(2) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FURTHER DECLARES THAT CODIFYING
19	IN STATE LAW THE RIGHTS THAT WERE LEGALLY RECOGNIZED AS FEDERAL
20	LAW THROUGH <i>OLMSTEAD</i> IS CRUCIAL BECAUSE:
21	(a) The fundamental rights for individuals with
22	DISABILITIES TO LIVE IN THE LEAST RESTRICTIVE SETTING AND TO HAVE
23	ACCESS TO SERVICES IN THE COMMUNITY IS CONSISTENT WITH
24	COLORADO'S RECOGNITION OF THE HUMANITY AND DIGNITY OF ALL
25	<u>INDIVIDUALS;</u>
26	(b) The Olmstead decision required states to develop an
27	OLMSTEAD PLAN. COLORADO'S PLAN. CALLED THE "COLORADO

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1	COMMUNITY LIVING PLAN", WAS DEVELOPED MORE THAN 10 YEARS AGO
2	AS A COLLABORATION BETWEEN THE STATE DEPARTMENTS OF HEALTH
3	CARE POLICY AND FINANCING, HUMAN SERVICES, AND LOCAL AFFAIRS. THE
4	PLAN'S EFFECTIVENESS HAS NEVER BEEN EVALUATED OR UPDATED, AND
5	THE PLAN IS INSUFFICIENT; AND
6	(c) Federal Law under <i>Olmstead</i> currently provides a
7	PRIVATE RIGHT OF ACTION TO ENFORCE THE LAW. THEREFORE, THE
8	GENERAL ASSEMBLY DOES NOT SEE A NEED TO CREATE A NEW RIGHT OF
9	ACTION. HOWEVER, IF THE OLMSTEAD PROTECTIONS ARE WEAKENED, WE
10	URGE A FUTURE GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO STRENGTHEN THESE RIGHTS BY
11	CREATING A PRIVATE RIGHT OF ACTION TO FURTHER ENFORCE THIS LAW
12	FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES.
13	<b><u>25.5-1-1102.</u> Definitions.</b> AS USED IN THIS PART 11, UNLESS THE
14	CONTEXT OTHERWISE REQUIRES:
15	(1) "COMMUNITY-BASED SERVICES" MEANS ANY OF THE
16	FOLLOWING:
17	(a) HOME HEALTH-CARE SERVICES AUTHORIZED PURSUANT TO
18	PARAGRAPH (7) OF SECTION 1905(a) OF THE "SOCIAL SECURITY ACT", 42
19	U.S.C. SEC. 1396d(a);
20	(b) Personal care services authorized pursuant to
21	PARAGRAPH (24) OF SECTION 1905(a) OF THE "SOCIAL SECURITY ACT", 42
22	U.S.C. SEC. 1396d(a);
23	(c) PACE SERVICES AUTHORIZED PURSUANT TO PARAGRAPH (26)
24	OF SECTION 1905(a) OF THE "SOCIAL SECURITY ACT", 42 U.S.C. SEC.
25	1396d(a);
26	(d) HOME- AND COMMUNITY-BASED SERVICES AUTHORIZED
2.7	PURSUANT TO SUBSECTIONS (b). (c). (i). (i). AND (k) OF SECTION 1915 OF

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1	THE "SOCIAL SECURITY ACT", 42 U.S.C. SEC. 1396n; SERVICES
2	AUTHORIZED PURSUANT TO A WAIVER UNDER SECTION 1115 OF THE
3	"SOCIAL SECURITY ACT", 42 U.S.C. SEC. 1315; AND SERVICES THROUGH
4	COVERAGE AUTHORIZED UNDER SECTION 1937 OF THE "SOCIAL SECURITY
5	ACT", 42 U.S.C. SEC. 1396u-7;
6	(e) CASE MANAGEMENT SERVICES AUTHORIZED UNDER SECTION
7	1905(a)(19) OF THE "SOCIAL SECURITY ACT", 42 U.S.C. SEC.
8	1396d(a)(19), AND SECTION 1915(g) OF THE "SOCIAL SECURITY ACT", 42
9	U.S.C. SEC. 1396n(g);
10	(f) REHABILITATIVE SERVICES, INCLUDING THOSE RELATED TO
11	BEHAVIORAL HEALTH, DESCRIBED IN SECTION 1905(a)(13) OF THE "SOCIAL
12	SECURITY ACT", 42 U.S.C. SEC. 1396d(a)(13); AND
13	(g) Any other services specified by the United States
14	SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES.
15	(2) "DISABILITY" HAS THE SAME MEANING AS SET FORTH IN THE
16	FEDERAL "AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT OF 1990", 42 U.S.C. SEC.
17	12101 ET SEQ.
18	(3) "FUNDAMENTAL ALTERATION" MEANS A MODIFICATION THAT
19	ALTERS THE ESSENTIAL NATURE OF THE GOODS, SERVICES, FACILITIES,
20	PRIVILEGES, ADVANTAGES, OR ACCOMMODATIONS OFFERED BY A STATE OR
21	PUBLIC ENTITY.
22	
23	(4) "Most integrated setting" <u>and "least restrictive</u>
24	SETTING" BOTH MEAN THE SETTING THAT ENABLES A QUALIFIED
25	INDIVIDUAL WITH A DISABILITY TO INTERACT TO THE FULLEST EXTENT
26	POSSIBLE WITH PERSONS WHO DO NOT HAVE A DISABILITY.
27	(5) "Plan" means the state's comprehensive community

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I	INTEGRATION PLAN, DEVELOPED PURSUANT TO SECTION <u>8-88-102.5.</u>
2	(6) "PUBLIC OR GOVERNMENTAL ENTITY" MEANS:
3	(a) THE STATE OR ANY DEPARTMENT, BOARD, AGENCY,
4	INSTRUMENTALITY, AUTHORITY, OR COMMISSION OF THE STATE; AND
5	(b) ANY POLITICAL SUBDIVISION OF THE STATE, INCLUDING:
6	(I) A COUNTY, CITY, OR CITY AND COUNTY;
7	(II) A SCHOOL DISTRICT AS DEFINED IN SECTION 22-36-107;
8	(III) A LOCAL IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT AS DEFINED IN SECTION
9	32-7-103;
10	(IV) A LAW ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITY;
11	(V) A WATER, SANITATION, FIRE PROTECTION, METROPOLITAN,
12	IRRIGATION, DRAINAGE, OR OTHER SPECIAL DISTRICT CREATED PURSUANT
13	TO TITLE 32;
14	(VI) ANY OTHER MUNICIPAL, QUASI-MUNICIPAL, OR PUBLIC
15	CORPORATION ORGANIZED PURSUANT TO THE STATE CONSTITUTION OR
16	OTHER LAW; AND
17	(VII) ANY DEPARTMENT, BOARD, AGENCY, INSTRUMENTALITY,
18	AUTHORITY, OR COMMISSION OF A POLITICAL SUBDIVISION OF THE STATE.
19	(7) "QUALIFIED INDIVIDUAL WITH A DISABILITY" HAS THE SAME
20	MEANING AS SET FORTH IN THE FEDERAL "AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES
21	ACT OF 1990", 42 U.S.C. SEC. 12101 ET SEQ.
22	<del></del>
23	25.5-1-1103. Case management-based services and activities.
24	EACH PUBLIC AND GOVERNMENTAL ENTITY SHALL ADMINISTER SERVICES,
25	PROGRAMS, AND ACTIVITIES IN THE MOST INTEGRATED SETTING
26	APPROPRIATE TO THE NEEDS OF A QUALIFIED INDIVIDUAL WITH A
27	DISABILITY.

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I	<b>25.5-1-1104.</b> Community-based services - cutting services by
2	state or public entity - plan to ameliorate risk of institutionalization
3	for qualified individuals with disabilities. (1) EACH PUBLIC AND
4	GOVERNMENTAL ENTITY SHALL PROVIDE COMMUNITY-BASED SERVICES
5	TO A QUALIFIED INDIVIDUAL WITH A DISABILITY WHEN:
6	(a) The services are <u>appropriate</u> , as <u>determined by the</u>
7	STATE'S TREATING PROFESSIONALS;
8	(b) THE AFFECTED INDIVIDUAL DOES NOT OPPOSE RECEIVING
9	COMMUNITY-BASED <u>SERVICES; AND</u>
10	(c) COMMUNITY-BASED SERVICES CAN BE REASONABLY
11	ACCOMMODATED, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO
12	THE PUBLIC OR GOVERNMENTAL ENTITY AND THE NEEDS OF OTHER
13	QUALIFIED INDIVIDUALS WITH <u>DISABILITIES.</u>
14	<del></del>
15	(2) IF THE PUBLIC OR GOVERNMENTAL ENTITY CUTS SERVICES, IT
16	SHALL ASSESS WHETHER THE SERVICE CUTS INCREASE THE RISK OF
17	INSTITUTIONALIZATION FOR THOSE INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE RECEIVING
18	SERVICES IN MAKING SUCH BUDGET CUTS, PUBLIC AND
19	GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES HAVE A DUTY TO TAKE ALL REASONABLE STEPS
20	TO AVOID PLACING QUALIFIED INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES AT RISK OF
21	INSTITUTIONALIZATION.
22	
23	25.5-1-1105. Exception for fundamental alteration of an
24	entity's program. (1) A PUBLIC OR GOVERNMENTAL ENTITY IS NOT
25	REQUIRED TO COMPLY WITH THIS PART 11 IF DOING SO WOULD REQUIRE A
26	FUNDAMENTAL ALTERATION OF THE ENTITY'S PROGRAM.
27	(2) (2) THE FOLLOWING EACTORS MUST BE CONSIDERED FOR

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1	PURPOSES OF EVALUATING A FUNDAMENTAL ALTERATION DEFENSE TO NOT
2	COMPLYING WITH THIS PART 11:
3	(I) THE AMOUNT OF MONEY THE PUBLIC OR GOVERNMENTAL
4	ENTITY ALLOTS, SPENDS, RECEIVES, OR COULD RECEIVE IF THE ENTITY
5	APPLIED FOR AVAILABLE FEDERAL FUNDING TO PROVIDE SERVICES TO
6	QUALIFIED INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES;
7	(II) ALL RELEVANT COSTS, NOT JUST THOSE FUNDED BY THE
8	SINGLE AGENCY THAT OPERATES OR FUNDS THE SEGREGATED OR
9	INTEGRATED SETTING FOR QUALIFIED INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES;
10	(III) CHANGES IN THE COSTS OF THE SEGREGATED SETTING
11	COMPARED WITH CHANGES IN COSTS OF COMMUNITY-BASED SERVICES;
12	
13	(IV) ANY POSSIBLE TRANSITIONAL COSTS OF CONVERTING FROM
14	SEGREGATED TO INTEGRATED SETTINGS FOR QUALIFIED INDIVIDUALS WITH
15	DISABILITIES. TRANSITIONAL COSTS MAY BE CONSIDERED, BUT ARE NOT
16	DETERMINATIVE; AND
17	(V) WHETHER THE PROPOSED MODIFICATION RESULTS IN THE
18	REDUCTION OR DELAY OF THE RECEIPT OF COMMUNITY-BASED SERVICES
19	FOR OTHER INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES.
20	(b) If a public or governmental entity decides to serve
21	NEW QUALIFIED INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES IN SEGREGATED SETTINGS
22	AFTER INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES IN A PLAINTIFF CLASS ARE MOVED
23	TO INTEGRATED SETTINGS, RATHER THAN TO CLOSE OR DOWNSIZE THE
24	SEGREGATED SETTINGS, THE COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH SUCH A DECISION
25	MUST NOT BE INCLUDED IN THE FUNDAMENTAL ALTERATION ANALYSIS.
26	25.5-1-1106. No private right of action - consistency with
27	<b>federal</b> <i>Olmstead</i> <b>standard.</b> (1) NOTHING IN THIS PART 11 CREATES:

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1	(a) A NEW RIGHT OF ACTION AGAINST THE STATE OF COLORADO OR
2	OTHER PUBLIC ENTITIES; OR
3	(b) A STANDARD DIFFERENT THAN THAT DELINEATED IN
4	OLMSTEAD, SUBSEQUENT CASES INTERPRETING OLMSTEAD, AND UNITED
5	STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE GUIDANCE INTERPRETING OLMSTEAD, AS
6	<u>of April 20, 2025.</u>
7	<b>SECTION</b> <u>3.</u> In Colorado Revised Statutes, <b>amend</b> 8-88-205 as
8	follows:
9	8-88-205. Disability support fund. (1) There is created in the
10	state treasury the disability support fund, which consists of money that
11	may be appropriated or transferred to the fund by the general assembly;
12	and any gifts, grants, or donations received by the department for the
13	purpose of implementing this part 2 ARTICLE 88.
14	(2) The money in the fund is subject to annual appropriation by
15	the general assembly for the direct and indirect costs associated with the
16	implementation of this part 2 ARTICLE 88. Any money in the fund not
17	expended for the purpose of this section may be invested by the state
18	treasurer as provided by law. All interest and income derived from the
19	investment and deposit of money in the fund must be credited to the fund.
20	Any unexpended and unencumbered money remaining in the fund at the
21	end of a fiscal year must remain in the fund for use as provided in this
22	part 2 ARTICLE 88 and must not be credited or transferred to the general
23	fund or another fund. If this section is repealed, prior to its repeal, all
24	unexpended and unencumbered money remaining in the fund must be
25	transferred to the general fund.
26	<b>SECTION</b> <u>4.</u> <b>Appropriation.</b> For the 2025-26 state fiscal year,
27	\$658,410 is appropriated to the department of labor and employment

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1	This appropriation is from the disability support fund created in section
2	8-88-205 (1), C.R.S., and is based on an assumption that the department
3	will require an additional 1.8 FTE. To implement this act, the department
4	may use this appropriation for the Colorado disability opportunity office.
5	SECTION 5. Act subject to petition - effective date. This act
6	takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the
7	ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly; except
8	that, if a referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V
9	of the state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this
10	act within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take
11	effect unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in
12	November 2026 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the
13	official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.

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