

Second Regular Session  
Seventy-second General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO

DRAFT  
10.10.19

**BILL 2**

LLS NO. 20-0388.01 Shelby Ross x4510

**INTERIM COMMITTEE BILL**

**School Safety Committee**

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**BILL TOPIC:** "Excused Absences In Public Sch For Behavioral Hlth"

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**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

101 **CONCERNING EXCUSED ABSENCES IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS RESULTING**  
102 **FROM BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CONCERNS.**

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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/>.)*

**School Safety Committee.** Current law requires school districts to adopt a written policy setting forth the school district's attendance requirements. The bill requires the policy to include excused absences for behavioral health concerns.

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*Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material to be added to existing statute.  
Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.*

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

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-33-104, **amend**  
3 (2)(c) and (4)(a) as follows:

4 **22-33-104. Compulsory school attendance.** (2) The provisions  
5 of subsection (1) of this section shall not apply to a child:

6 (c) Who is absent for an extended period due to ~~physical, mental,~~  
7 ~~or emotional disability~~ A PHYSICAL DISABILITY OR A MENTAL OR  
8 BEHAVIORAL HEALTH DISORDER;

9 (4) (a) The board of education shall adopt a written policy setting  
10 forth the district's attendance requirements. ~~Said~~ THE policy ~~shall~~ MUST  
11 provide for excused absences, including those listed as exclusions from  
12 compulsory school attendance in accordance with subsection (2) of this  
13 section, AS WELL AS TEMPORARY ABSENCES DUE TO BEHAVIORAL HEALTH  
14 CONCERNS. An attendance policy developed pursuant to this section may  
15 include appropriate penalties for nonattendance due to unexcused  
16 absence.

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