

Second Regular Session
Seventy-second General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO

DRAFT
10.11.19

BILL 7

LLS NO. 20-0393.02 Conrad Imel x2313

INTERIM COMMITTEE BILL

School Safety Committee

BILL TOPIC: "Expand Behavioral Hlth Training For K-12 Educators"

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 CONCERNING EXPANDING BEHAVIORAL HEALTH TRAINING FOR
102 KINDERGARTEN THROUGH TWELFTH GRADE EDUCATORS.

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. The bill requires the department of education (department) to offer a train the trainer program (program) designed to improve school culture, promote youth behavioral and mental health, and prepare attendees to teach a youth behavioral and mental health training course. The department must make the program available to employees of a school district, charter school, or board of cooperative

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

services (local education provider). A local education provider and its employees are not required to participate in the program. The department may enter into an agreement with an organization to provide the program. The department is required to annually evaluate the effectiveness of the program.

The program must include evidence-based instruction on, and prepare an attendee to teach a youth behavioral and mental health training course that includes, any of the following subjects:

- Using trauma-informed approaches to improve overall school climate and culture;
- Identifying behavioral and mental health challenges and substance use disorders;
- Restorative practices for addressing youth behavioral and mental health challenges;
- Improving youth social and emotional health;
- Suicide prevention;
- Bullying prevention and intervention strategies;
- Encouraging positive bystander behavior;
- Best practices for providing assistance in noncrisis situations;
- De-escalation of crisis situations; or
- Identifying and accessing available behavioral and mental health resources and substance use disorder support services and treatment.

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

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add 22-2-146** as
3 follows:

4 **22-2-146. Department of education - youth behavioral and**
5 **mental health train the trainer program - definitions.** (1) AS USED IN
6 THIS SECTION, UNLESS THE CONTEXT OTHERWISE REQUIRES:

7 (a) "ATTENDEE" MEANS AN EMPLOYEE OF A LOCAL EDUCATION
8 PROVIDER WHO ATTENDS A TRAIN THE TRAINER PROGRAM.

9 (b) "LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER" MEANS A SCHOOL DISTRICT, A
10 CHARTER SCHOOL AUTHORIZED BY A SCHOOL DISTRICT PURSUANT TO PART
11 1 OF ARTICLE 30.5 OF THIS TITLE 22, A CHARTER SCHOOL AUTHORIZED BY

1 THE STATE CHARTER SCHOOL INSTITUTE PURSUANT TO PART 5 OF ARTICLE
2 30.5 OF THIS TITLE 22, OR A BOARD OF COOPERATIVE SERVICES CREATED
3 AND OPERATING PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 5 OF THIS TITLE 22 THAT
4 OPERATES ONE OR MORE PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

5 (c) "TRAIN THE TRAINER PROGRAM" MEANS THE PROGRAM
6 DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (2) OF THIS SECTION THAT IS OFFERED BY THE
7 DEPARTMENT.

8 (2) (a) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL OFFER A TRAIN THE TRAINER
9 PROGRAM FOR EMPLOYEES OF A LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER, INCLUDING
10 EMPLOYEES WHO HOLD A SUBSTITUTE AUTHORIZATION. THE TRAIN THE
11 TRAINER PROGRAM MUST BE DESIGNED TO IMPROVE OVERALL SCHOOL
12 CLIMATE, PROMOTE YOUTH BEHAVIORAL AND MENTAL HEALTH, AND
13 PREPARE AN ATTENDEE TO TEACH A YOUTH BEHAVIORAL AND MENTAL
14 HEALTH TRAINING COURSE THAT CONTAINS ANY OF THE SUBJECTS, OR A
15 COMBINATION OF THE SUBJECTS, DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (3) OF THIS
16 SECTION.

17 (b) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL NOT REQUIRE ANY LOCAL EDUCATION
18 PROVIDER TO PARTICIPATE IN OR COMPLETE THE TRAIN THE TRAINER
19 PROGRAM.

20 (c) A LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER SHALL NOT REQUIRE ANY
21 EMPLOYEE TO PARTICIPATE IN OR COMPLETE THE TRAIN THE TRAINER
22 PROGRAM.

23 (3) THE TRAIN THE TRAINER PROGRAM MUST PROVIDE
24 EVIDENCE-BASED INSTRUCTION ON, AND PREPARE AN ATTENDEE TO TEACH
25 A YOUTH BEHAVIORAL AND MENTAL HEALTH TRAINING COURSE THAT
26 INCLUDES, ANY OF THE FOLLOWING SUBJECTS:

27 (a) USING TRAUMA-INFORMED APPROACHES TO IMPROVE OVERALL

1 SCHOOL CLIMATE AND CULTURE;

2 (b) IDENTIFYING SIGNS OF BEHAVIORAL AND MENTAL HEALTH
3 CHALLENGES AND SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS THAT MAY BE EXPERIENCED
4 BY STUDENTS ENROLLED IN A LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER;

5 (c) RESTORATIVE PRACTICES FOR ADDRESSING YOUTH
6 BEHAVIORAL AND MENTAL HEALTH CHALLENGES;

7 (d) IMPROVING YOUTH SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL HEALTH AND
8 FOSTERING A POSITIVE SCHOOL CLIMATE;

9 (e) SUICIDE PREVENTION, INCLUDING IDENTIFYING YOUTH
10 SUICIDAL IDEATION;

11 (f) EVIDENCE-BASED BULLYING PREVENTION AND INTERVENTION
12 STRATEGIES;

13 (g) ENCOURAGING POSITIVE BYSTANDER BEHAVIOR, INCLUDING
14 RECOGNIZING POTENTIALLY HARMFUL SITUATIONS, SUCH AS BULLYING,
15 HARASSMENT, INTIMIDATION, OR THREATENING BEHAVIOR, AND TAKING
16 APPROPRIATE ACTION AS A BYSTANDER;

17 (h) BEST PRACTICES TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE TO STUDENTS IN
18 NONCRISIS SITUATIONS;

19 (i) SAFE DE-ESCALATION OF CRISIS SITUATIONS; OR

20 (j) IDENTIFYING AND ACCESSING AVAILABLE BEHAVIORAL AND
21 MENTAL HEALTH RESOURCES AND SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER SUPPORT
22 SERVICES AND TREATMENT APPROPRIATE FOR STUDENTS ENROLLED IN THE
23 LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER.

24 (4) THE DEPARTMENT MAY ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH AN
25 ORGANIZATION TO PROVIDE THE TRAIN THE TRAINER PROGRAM. THE
26 DEPARTMENT MAY ONLY ENTER INTO SUCH AN AGREEMENT WITH AN
27 ORGANIZATION THAT HAS EXPERIENCE PROVIDING EVIDENCE-BASED

1 YOUTH BEHAVIORAL AND MENTAL HEALTH TRAINING PROGRAMS AND
2 EDUCATING INSTRUCTORS USING A TRAIN THE TRAINER MODEL.

3 (5) (a) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ANNUALLY EVALUATE THE
4 EFFECTIVENESS OF THE TRAIN THE TRAINER PROGRAM. THE EVALUATION
5 MUST SOLICIT FEEDBACK FROM ATTENDEES AND CONSIDER THE EFFECT OF
6 THE PROGRAM ON SCHOOL CLIMATE AND YOUTH BEHAVIORAL AND
7 MENTAL HEALTH.

8 (b) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL INCLUDE A SUMMARY OF THE
9 EVALUATION CONDUCTED PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION (5) AND ANY
10 RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNING THE TRAIN THE TRAINER PROGRAM IN
11 THE DEPARTMENT'S ANNUAL PRESENTATION TO THE COMMITTEES OF
12 REFERENCE PURSUANT TO SECTION 2-7-203.

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