CHAPTER 328

CORRECTIONS

HOUSE BILL 24-1054

BY REPRESENTATIVE(S) Amabile and Garcia, Bacon, Boesenecker, Brown, Clifford, deGruy Kennedy, Duran, Froelich, Hamrick, Hernandez, Herod, Jodeh, Joseph, Kipp, Lieder, Lindsay, Lindstedt, Mabrey, McCormick, Ortiz, Parenti, Rutinel, Sirota, Story, Velasco, Vigil, Weissman, Woodrow, Young, McCluskie; also SENATOR(S) Fields and Coleman, Buckner, Cutter, Exum, Jaquez Lewis, Michaelson Jenet, Priola.

AN ACT

CONCERNING IMPLEMENTATION OF JAIL STANDARDS IN COLORADO, AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, MAKING AN APPROPRIATION.

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

SECTION 1. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 2-3-1901, **amend** (1)(b)(I) and (1)(b)(II); and **add** (2)(e), (2)(f), and (3) as follows:

- **2-3-1901.** Legislative oversight committee for Colorado jail standards creation duties repeal. (1) Creation (b) The committee consists of six members. The president of the senate, the minority leader of the senate, the speaker of the house of representatives, and the minority leader of the house of representatives shall appoint the members of the committee as follows:
- (I) The president of the senate shall appoint two senators to serve on the committee and designate one of the senators AS THE CHAIR OF THE COMMITTEE IN ODD-NUMBERED YEARS AND AS the vice-chair of the committee IN EVEN-NUMBERED YEARS, and the minority leader of the senate shall appoint one senator to serve on the committee:
- (II) The speaker of the house of representatives shall appoint two representatives to serve on the committee and designate one of the representatives as the chair of the committee IN EVEN-NUMBERED YEARS AND AS THE VICE-CHAIR OF THE COMMITTEE IN ODD-NUMBERED YEARS, and the minority leader of the house of representatives shall appoint one representative to serve on the committee;
 - (2) **Duties.** (e) (I) The committee may introduce up to a total of three

Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material added to existing law; dashes through words or numbers indicate deletions from existing law and such material is not part of the act.

BILLS, JOINT RESOLUTIONS, OR CONCURRENT RESOLUTIONS DURING A REGULAR LEGISLATIVE SESSION. BILLS INTRODUCED BY THE COMMITTEE ARE EXEMPT FROM THE FIVE-BILL LIMITATION SPECIFIED IN RULE 24 (b)(1)(A) OF THE JOINT RULES OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. JOINT RESOLUTIONS AND CONCURRENT RESOLUTIONS INTRODUCED BY THE COMMITTEE ARE EXEMPT FROM THE LIMITATIONS SET OUT IN RULE 26 (g) OF THE RULES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND RULE 30 (f) OF THE RULES OF THE SENATE.

- (II) The committee is exempt from the requirement to report bills or other measures to the legislative council as specified in rule 24 (b)(1)(D) and rule 24A (d)(8) of the joint rules of the senate and the house of representatives and in section 2-3-303 (1)(f). The committee is subject to rule 24A of the joint rules of the senate and the house of representatives, except to the extent that the rule may conflict with this part 19.
- (III) BILLS RECOMMENDED BY THE COMMITTEE MUST BE INTRODUCED BY THE INTRODUCTION DEADLINE FOR HOUSE BILLS SPECIFIED IN RULE 23 (a)(1) OF THE JOINT RULES OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.
- (IV) THE CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR SHALL JOINTLY ESTABLISH THE LAST DATE FOR THE MEETING AT WHICH THE COMMITTEE MAY APPROVE BILL REQUESTS, THE LAST DATE BY WHICH COMMITTEE MEMBERS MUST FINALIZE BILL DRAFTS OR BY WHICH BILL DRAFTS WILL BE DEEMED FINALIZED FOR FISCAL NOTE PURPOSES, AND THE LAST DATE BY WHICH THE COMMITTEE WILL CONSIDER AND TAKE FINAL ACTION ON BILL DRAFTS.
- (f) The committee shall consider the reports from the jail standards advisory committee created in section 30-10-530 and may revise the jail standards based on information in the reports.
 - (3) (a) This section is repealed, effective September 1, 2033.
- (b) Prior to this section's repeal, the legislative oversight committee is subject to review pursuant to section 2-3-1203.

SECTION 2. In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 2-3-1901.5 as follows:

2-3-1901.5. Jail standards compliance. Each county jail shall comply with the standards adopted by the legislative oversight committee pursuant to section 2-3-1901 (2), beginning July 1, 2026. The committee shall post the standards on its website. If the committee revises a jail standard, each county jail shall comply with the revised standard no later than one year after the revision is adopted, or earlier if specified by the committee when adopting the revision. A county jail does not have to comply with a standard or revised standard if it receives a variance from the standard pursuant to section 30-10-530 (5)(g).

SECTION 3. In Colorado Revised Statutes, **repeal** 2-3-1902, 2-3-1903, and 2-3-1904.

SECTION 4. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 2-3-1203, add (24) as follows:

- **2-3-1203.** Sunset review of advisory committees legislative declaration definition repeal. (24) (a) The following statutory authorizations for the designated advisory committees will repeal on September 1, 2033:
- (I) The legislative oversight committee for Colorado jail standards created in section 2-3-1901.
 - (b) This subsection (24) is repealed, effective September 1, 2035.

SECTION 5. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-31-101, **amend** (1)(t) and (1)(u); and **add** (1)(w) as follows:

24-31-101. Powers and duties of attorney general. (1) The attorney general:

- (t) May bring a civil action to enforce section 25-7-144; and
- (u) May, if the attorney general has reason to believe that a violation of a statute or rule is causing an imminent and substantive endangerment to the public health, water quality, or environment within a mobile home park, request a temporary restraining order, preliminary injunction, permanent injunction, or any other relief necessary to protect the public health, water quality, or environment; AND
- (W) May conduct jail assessments in collaboration with the jail standards advisory committee, created pursuant to section 30-10-530, pursuant to section 24-31-118.

SECTION 6. In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 24-31-118 as follows:

- **24-31-118. Jail standard assessments repeal.** (1) (a) The attorney general, in collaboration with the advisory committee, pursuant to section 30-10-530 (5)(d), may conduct assessments of each county jail to identify gaps and deficiencies based on the jail standards.
- (b) Starting July 1, 2025, the governor or the oversight committee may make a written request to the attorney general to conduct a special assessment of a jail, and the attorney general may conduct the special assessment of the jail.
- (c) An elected sheriff may request that the attorney general conduct a special assessment of a jail that the sheriff oversees to determine whether the jail meets the jail standards. The attorney general may conduct the special assessment if the attorney general has sufficient appropriations to cover the costs. The attorney general may request an appropriation during the figure setting process to conduct special assessments.
- (d) The attorney general may enter into a memorandum of understanding, collaborate, or enter into an agreement with a county sheriff, except for a county sheriff whose jail is being evaluated, or

ESTABLISH SOME OTHER PEER REVIEW GROUP STRUCTURE TO ASSIST IN CONDUCTING THE ASSESSMENTS AND REPORTS DESCRIBED IN SECTION 24-31-118(1) and (2).

- (2) The attorney general's office shall create a report for each of the Jails assessed by the attorney general's office and provide the report to the sheriff whose jail was assessed, the oversight committee, the board of county commissioners in the county where the jail is located, the county sheriffs of Colorado, and the governor. The report may include methodology, relevant data, recommendations, and technical assistance to meet the jail standards. Areport produced pursuant to this section is not subject to the Colorado open records act. The attorney general may release a report at the attorney general's discretion, and a county sheriff may release a report relating to the county sheriff's jail after consent from the attorney general's office.
- (3) FOLLOWING A JAIL ASSESSMENT OR SPECIAL ASSESSMENT, THE ATTORNEY GENERAL MAY PROVIDE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND RECOMMENDATIONS TO MEET THE JAIL STANDARDS AND ADDRESS ANY DEFICIENCIES.
- (4) (a) The attorney general's office, during its "SMART Act" hearing, as required by section 2-7-203, shall include in its report the total number of complaints received through the complaint process as designated by the attorney general's office regarding jail standards violations and the number of complaints received per topic and provide a summary of the assessments and special assessments completed in the previous year.
 - (b) This subsection (4) is repealed, effective September 1, 2033.
- (5) Sections 2-3-1901, 2-3-1901.5, 24-31-118, and 30-10-530 do not in any way limit or restrict the attorney general's authority to investigate patterns or practices pursuant to section 24-31-113, including but not limited to any noncompliance with jail standards that constitutes a pattern or practice of conduct that deprives persons of rights, privileges, or immunities secured or protected by the constitution or laws of the United States or the state of Colorado.
 - (6) As used in this section:
- (a) "Advisory committee" means the Jail Standards advisory committee created pursuant to section 30-10-530.
- (b) "Jail standards" means the jail standards adopted by the legislative oversight committee concerning Colorado jail standards pursuant to section 2-3-1901 (2) and any subsequent revisions to the standards.
- (c) "Oversight committee" means the legislative oversight committee for Colorado jail standards created in section 2-3-1901.

SECTION 7. In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 30-10-530 as follows:

- **30-10-530. Jail standards advisory committee creation duties cash fund definition.** (1) The department of public safety shall contract with the county sheriffs of Colorado to create a jail standards advisory committee.
 - (2) (a) The Jail Standards advisory committee consists of:
- (I) Two sheriffs, or their designees, appointed by a statewide organization representing the county sheriffs of Colorado, or its successor organization;
- (II) TWO COUNTY COMMISSIONERS APPOINTED BY COLORADO COUNTIES, INCORPORATED, OR ITS SUCCESSOR ORGANIZATION;
 - (III) THE STATE PUBLIC DEFENDER OR THE STATE PUBLIC DEFENDER'S DESIGNEE;
- (IV) One physical or behavioral health professional with experience working in a jail appointed by the legislative oversight committee for Colorado jail standards created in section 2-3-1901; and
- (V) One person representing a statewide organization that advocates on behalf of people experiencing incarceration appointed by the legislative oversight committee for Colorado jail standards created in section 2-3-1901.
- (b) To the extent possible, the members must reflect the geographic, racial, and ethnic diversity of the state, and, when possible, include one or more members who is a person with a disability.
- (c) The members' terms are for two years; except that the initial terms for the members appointed pursuant to subsections (2)(a)(I) and (2)(a)(IV) of this section are for three years. Amember may be reappointed for more than one term. The appointments must be made by July 1, 2024.
- (3) The jail standards advisory committee shall begin meeting in July of 2024 and shall plan assessments of jails to begin in January of 2025.
- (4) The Jail Standards advisory committee shall select a chair from among its members and may adopt bylaws as necessary to fulfill its duties.
- (5) THE JAIL STANDARDS ADVISORY COMMITTEE SHALL PERFORM THE FOLLOWING DUTIES:
- (a) To set rules and establish guidelines and procedures for the advisory committee;
- (b) To advise the attorney general on the selection of peer assessors to perform jail assessments for compliance with the jail standards in collaboration with the attorney general's office pursuant to section

- 24-31-118. Jail assessors shall have expertise in the relevant subject areas of the jail standards and, when appropriate, have worked in jails.
- (c) To set a schedule for jail assessments with the expectation that each jail is inspected at least every five years;
- (d) In consultation with Peer Assessors, to set rules and establish guidelines and minimum procedures for Jail Assessments, which at a minimum require:
 - (I) REVIEWING THE WRITTEN POLICIES AND PROCEDURES AT THE JAIL;
 - (II) PHYSICALLY INSPECTING THE JAIL'S FACILITIES;
 - (III) INTERVIEWING RELEVANT STAFF OF THE JAIL; AND
- (IV) When appropriate, interviewing individuals who are incarcerated in the jail;
- (e) In cooperation with the Peer assessors, to complete a report for each jail assessment, which includes reports of standards which the jail is out of compliance with, and includes any recommendations for improvement;
- (f) To establish rules and a process for jails to seek a variance from jail standards;
- (g) To review variance requests and approve or deny variance requests;
- (h) To determine guidelines for what is provided on the dashboard pursuant to section 24-33.5-503 (1)(ee);
 - (i) TO SUBMIT AN ANNUAL REPORT TO THE LEGISLATIVE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE;
- (j) To make recommendations to the legislative oversight committee about any legislative actions which would support compliance with the jail standards, improve the implementation of jail standards, or improve operations of jails consistent with the jail standards;
- (k) To recommend changes to the jail standards to the legislative oversight committee; and
- (1) TO ENGAGE COOPERATIVELY WITH COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, SHERIFFS, AND THOSE WORKING IN JAILS. THIS INCLUDES PROVIDING INFORMATION ABOUT THE JAIL STANDARDS, JAIL ASSESSMENTS, AND MAKING RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE THE OPERATION OF JAILS CONSISTENT WITH THE JAIL STANDARDS.
- (6) The Jail Standards advisory committee may make recommendations to the general assembly regarding methods to seek improvements to comply with Jail Standards.

- (7) (a) The Jail Standards advisory committee cash fund is created in the state treasury. The fund consists of money appropriated by the general assembly.
- (b) The state treasurer shall credit all interest and income derived from the deposit and investment of money in the jail standards advisory committee cash fund to the fund.
- (c) THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY SHALL EXPEND MONEY FROM THE FUND TO REIMBURSE COSTS RELATED TO THE JAIL STANDARDS ADVISORY COMMITTEE.
- (8) The Jail Standards advisory committee shall annually submit a report to the legislative oversight committee for Colorado jail standards created in section 2-3-1901 to include:
- (a) The results and status of any assessments conducted that year by county;
 - (b) THE NUMBER AND NATURE OF VARIANCES GRANTED;
 - (c) RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING JAIL STANDARDS; AND
- (d) RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING FUNDING OR OTHER NECESSARY SUPPORTS FOR LOCAL JAILS TO COMPLY WITH JAIL STANDARDS.
- (9) For purposes of this section, "Jail Standards" means the Jail Standards adopted by the legislative oversight committee concerning Colorado Jail Standards pursuant to section 2-3-1901 (2) and any subsequent revisions to the Standards.
- **SECTION 8.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-33.5-503, **add** (1)(ee) and (1)(ff) as follows:
 - **24-33.5-503. Duties of division.** (1) The division has the following duties:
- (ee) To maintain a dashboard of the basic findings of Jail assessments conducted pursuant to section 30-10-530 (5); and
- (ff) TO CREATE, MAINTAIN, AND UPDATE A LIST OF FUNDING ASSISTANCE AND RELATED RESOURCES THAT IS AVAILABLE TO JAILS TO OFFSET THE COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH COMPLYING WITH JAIL STANDARDS.
- **SECTION 9.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-72-202, **amend** (6)(b)(XVI) and (6)(b)(XVII); and **add** (6)(b)(XVIII) as follows:
- **24-72-202. Definitions.** As used in this part 2, unless the context otherwise requires:
 - (6) (b) "Public records" does not include:
 - (XVI) Records related to complaints received by the office of the judicial

- discipline ombudsman pursuant to section 13-3-120, including any record that names or otherwise identifies a specific complainant or other person involved in the complaint; or
- (XVII) A complaint of harassment or discrimination, as described in section 22-1-143, that is unsubstantiated and all records related to the unsubstantiated complaint, including records of an investigation into the complaint; OR
- (XVIII) JAIL ASSESSMENTS CONDUCTED PURSUANT TO SECTION 30-10-530 (5)(d) OR 24-31-118.
- **SECTION 10.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-75-402, **amend** (5)(ccc) and (5)(ddd); and **add** (5)(hhh) as follows:
- **24-75-402.** Cash funds limit on uncommitted reserves reduction in the amount of fees exclusions definitions. (5) Notwithstanding any provision of this section to the contrary, the following cash funds are excluded from the limitations specified in this section:
- (ccc) The wildfire resiliency code board cash fund created in section 24-33.5-1236 (8); and
- (ddd) The closed landfill remediation grant program fund created in section 30-20-124 (8); AND
- (hhh) The Jail Standards advisory committee cash fund created in section 30-10-530 (7).
- **SECTION 11. Appropriation.** (1) For the 2024-25 state fiscal year, \$305,000 is appropriated to the jail standards advisory committee cash fund created in section 30-10-530, (7)(a), C.R.S. This appropriation is from the general fund. The department of public safety is responsible for the accounting related to this appropriation.
- (2) For the 2024-25 state fiscal year, \$305,000 is appropriated to the department of public safety. This appropriation is from reappropriated funds in the jail standards advisory committee cash fund under subsection (1) of this section. To implement this act, the department may use this appropriation for DCJ administrative services.
- (3) For the 2024-25 state fiscal year, \$41,248 is appropriated to the legislative department. This appropriation is from the general fund. To implement this act, the department may use this appropriation as follows:
- (a) \$22,431 for use by the legislative council, which amount is based on an assumption that the council will require an additional 0.3 FTE;
- (b) \$14,571 for use by the committee on legal services, which amount is based on an assumption that the committee will require an additional 0.2 FTE; and
 - (c) \$4,246 for use by the general assembly.

- (4) For the 2024-25 state fiscal year, \$12,532 is appropriated to the department of law for use by consumer protection. This appropriation is from the general fund and is based on an assumption that the department will require an additional 0.1 FTE. To implement this act, the department may use this appropriation for patterns and practices.
- **SECTION 12. Safety clause.** The general assembly finds, determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety or for appropriations for the support and maintenance of the departments of the state and state institutions.

Approved: June 3, 2024