

Second Regular Session
Seventy-fifth General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO

ENGROSSED

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

LLS NO. 26-0231.01 Shelby Ross x4510

HOUSE BILL 26-1009

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Duran and Gonzalez R.,

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Wallace and Pelton B.,

House Committees

Judiciary
Appropriations

Senate Committees

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 **CONCERNING USING A MANDATORY LETHALITY ASSESSMENT WHEN**
102 **RESPONDING TO A DOMESTIC VIOLENCE INCIDENT.**

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 the "Colorado Mandatory Lethality Assessment Act", which requires peace officers to conduct a lethality assessment when responding to a domestic violence incident and include the results of the lethality assessment in the incident report. If the lethality assessment indicates that an individual is a high-risk victim, or if a peace officer determines an individual is a high-risk victim based on the totality

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.

HOUSE
Amended 2nd Reading
March 6, 2026

of the circumstances, the peace officer is required to immediately connect the victim to a victim's advocate either by phone or in person.

The bill requires the attorney general's office, in coordination with a Colorado-based coalition that advocates for survivors of domestic violence, to develop a mandatory training for peace officers to learn how to administer the lethality assessment and provide victim referrals. The bill requires each law enforcement agency to ensure that each peace officer employed by the agency has completed the mandatory training.

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

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 18-6-806 as
3 follows:

4 **18-6-806. Mandatory lethality assessments - short title -**
5 **legislative declaration - definitions.**

6 (1) **Short title.** THE SHORT TITLE OF THIS SECTION IS THE
7 "COLORADO MANDATORY LETHALITY ASSESSMENT ACT".

8 (2) **Legislative declaration.** THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FINDS AND
9 DECLARES THAT REQUIRING LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES TO ADMINISTER
10 A STANDARDIZED, EVIDENCE-BASED LETHALITY ASSESSMENT WHEN
11 RESPONDING TO A DOMESTIC VIOLENCE INCIDENT WILL ENSURE HIGH-RISK
12 VICTIMS PROMPTLY RECEIVE SAFETY RESOURCES AND REFERRALS.

13 (3) **Definitions.** AS USED IN THIS SECTION, UNLESS THE CONTEXT
14 OTHERWISE REQUIRES:

15 (a) "DOMESTIC VIOLENCE INCIDENT" MEANS AN INCIDENT OF
16 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 18-6-800.3.

17 (b) "HIGH-RISK VICTIM" MEANS A VICTIM WHO IS DETERMINED
18 HIGH-RISK BY A LETHALITY ASSESSMENT OR BY A PEACE OFFICER
19 PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (4) OF THIS SECTION.

20 (c) "LETHALITY ASSESSMENT" MEANS A VALIDATED,
21 EVIDENCE-BASED SCREENING TOOL THAT INCLUDES STANDARDIZED

1 QUESTIONS AND THAT IS ADMINISTERED BY A PEACE OFFICER WHEN
2 RESPONDING TO A REPORT OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE.

3 (d) "PEACE OFFICER" MEANS A PERSON CERTIFIED BY THE P.O.S.T.
4 BOARD PURSUANT TO SECTION 24-31-305 WHO RESPONDS TO AND
5 INVESTIGATES INITIAL REPORTS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AS PART OF THE
6 PEACE OFFICER'S ROUTINE DUTIES. A "PEACE OFFICER" DOES NOT INCLUDE
7 A PAROLE OR PROBATION OFFICER.

8 (4) **Mandatory lethality assessment.**

9 (a) BEGINNING JULY 1, 2027, A PEACE OFFICER IS REQUIRED TO
10 CONDUCT A LETHALITY ASSESSMENT WHEN RESPONDING TO A DOMESTIC
11 VIOLENCE INCIDENT AND INCLUDE THE COMPLETED LETHALITY
12 ASSESSMENT IN THE INCIDENT REPORT. THIS SUBSECTION (4)(a) DOES NOT
13 REQUIRE A PEACE OFFICER TO ADMINISTER A LETHALITY ASSESSMENT IF A
14 VICTIM IS UNAVAILABLE, NOT AT THE SCENE, INCAPACITATED, OR IF
15 CIRCUMSTANCES OTHERWISE MAKE THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE
16 LETHALITY ASSESSMENT IMPOSSIBLE OR IMPRACTICABLE.

17 (b) IF THE LETHALITY ASSESSMENT INDICATES THAT AN
18 INDIVIDUAL IS A HIGH-RISK VICTIM, OR IF THE ASSESSMENT DOES NOT
19 INDICATE THE VICTIM IS HIGH-RISK BUT A PEACE OFFICER DETERMINES
20 THAT THE INDIVIDUAL IS A HIGH-RISK VICTIM BASED ON THE TOTALITY OF
21 THE CIRCUMSTANCES, THE PEACE OFFICER SHALL IMMEDIATELY CONTACT
22 A COMMUNITY-BASED VICTIM'S ADVOCATE, AS DEFINED IN SECTION
23 13-90-107 (1)(k)(II), EITHER BY PHONE OR IN PERSON, AND PROVIDE THE
24 HIGH-RISK VICTIM THE OPPORTUNITY TO SPEAK WITH THE
25 COMMUNITY-BASED VICTIM'S ADVOCATE.

26 (5) **Training and implementation.**

27 (a) THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE, IN CONSULTATION WITH A

1 COLORADO-BASED COALITION THAT ADVOCATES FOR SURVIVORS OF
2 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, SHALL DEVELOP A MANDATORY TRAINING FOR PEACE
3 OFFICERS TO LEARN HOW TO ADMINISTER THE LETHALITY ASSESSMENT
4 AND PROVIDE VICTIM REFERRALS PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (4) OF THIS
5 SECTION. AT A MINIMUM, THE TRAINING MUST ADDRESS LANGUAGE
6 ACCESS.

7 (b) NO LATER THAN JUNE 1, 2027, THE ATTORNEY GENERAL SHALL
8 MAKE THE MANDATORY TRAINING AVAILABLE AND OFFER ASSISTANCE TO
9 LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES IN PROVIDING THE MANDATORY TRAINING.

10 (c) BEGINNING JULY 1, 2027, EACH LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY
11 SHALL ENSURE THAT EACH PEACE OFFICER EMPLOYED BY THE AGENCY HAS
12 COMPLETED THE MANDATORY TRAINING DEVELOPED PURSUANT TO THIS
13 SUBSECTION (5). A LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY THAT HAS PROVIDED
14 TRAINING ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF LETHALITY ASSESSMENTS PRIOR TO
15 JULY 1, 2027, IS NOT REQUIRED TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL TRAINING
16 PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION (5)(c).

17 (6) **Reporting and oversight.**

18 (a) BEGINNING JANUARY 2028, AND EACH JANUARY THEREAFTER,
19 THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE SHALL REPORT THE TOTAL NUMBER OF
20 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE INCIDENTS IN THE PREVIOUS CALENDAR YEAR, THE
21 TOTAL NUMBER OF LETHALITY ASSESSMENTS CONDUCTED, THE TOTAL
22 NUMBER OF HIGH-RISK VICTIMS IDENTIFIED, AND THE TOTAL NUMBER OF
23 REFERRALS MADE, AS PART OF THE OFFICE'S "SMART ACT"
24 PRESENTATION REQUIRED PURSUANT TO PART 2 OF ARTICLE 7 OF TITLE 2.

25 (b) NO LATER THAN JANUARY 31, 2030, THE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
26 FATALITY REVIEW BOARD CREATED IN SECTION 24-31-702 SHALL
27 EVALUATE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF MANDATORY LETHALITY ASSESSMENTS

1 AND REFERRAL TO [REDACTED] RESOURCES PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION AND SUBMIT
2 THE EVALUATION TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES JUDICIARY
3 COMMITTEE AND THE SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE, OR THEIR
4 SUCCESSOR COMMITTEES.

5 (c) EACH LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY THAT UTILIZES A LETHALITY
6 ASSESSMENT SHALL ANNUALLY REPORT THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION TO
7 THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE, IN A MANNER PRESCRIBED BY THE
8 ATTORNEY GENERAL:

9 (I) THE TOTAL NUMBER OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE INCIDENTS THE
10 LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY RESPONDED TO DURING THE PRECEDING
11 CALENDAR YEAR;

12 (II) THE TOTAL NUMBER OF LETHALITY ASSESSMENTS CONDUCTED
13 BY THE LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY DURING THE PRECEDING CALENDAR
14 YEAR; AND

15 (III) THE TOTAL NUMBER OF LETHALITY ASSESSMENTS THAT
16 RESULTED IN IDENTIFICATION OF A HIGH-RISK VICTIM.

17 (7) **Nonliability.** THIS SECTION DOES NOT IMPOSE CRIMINAL,
18 ADMINISTRATIVE, OR CIVIL LIABILITY ON ANY PERSON FOR AN ACT OR
19 OMISSION MADE IN GOOD FAITH RELATED TO ADMINISTERING A LETHALITY
20 ASSESSMENT, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE INTERPRETATION OR
21 USE OF A LETHALITY ASSESSMENT, DECIDING WHETHER TO ADMINISTER A
22 LETHALITY ASSESSMENT, OR DECLINING TO USE THE LETHALITY
23 ASSESSMENT.

24 **SECTION 2. Safety clause.** The general assembly finds,
25 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate
26 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety or for appropriations for

- 1 the support and maintenance of the departments of the state and state
- 2 institutions.