

**NOTE: This bill has been prepared for the signatures of the appropriate legislative officers and the Governor. To determine whether the Governor has signed the bill or taken other action on it, please consult the legislative status sheet, the legislative history, or the Session Laws.**

# An Act

SENATE BILL 17-193

BY SENATOR(S) Jahn and Lundberg, Moreno, Aguilar, Cooke, Coram, Court, Crowder, Donovan, Fenberg, Fields, Garcia, Gardner, Guzman, Hill, Holbert, Jones, Kagan, Kefalas, Kerr, Lambert, Martinez Humenik, Merrifield, Neville T., Priola, Scott, Smallwood, Sonnenberg, Tate, Todd, Williams A., Zenzinger, Grantham;  
also REPRESENTATIVE(S) Pettersen and Rankin, Becker K., Coleman, Esgar, Exum, Foote, Ginal, Gray, Hamner, Herod, Hooton, Jackson, Kennedy, Kraft-Tharp, Landgraf, Lee, Liston, Lontine, Melton, Michaelson Jenet, Mitsch Bush, Rosenthal, Salazar, Singer, Valdez, Weissman, Winter, Young.

CONCERNING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE "CENTER FOR RESEARCH INTO SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER PREVENTION, TREATMENT, AND RECOVERY SUPPORT STRATEGIES" AT THE UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER, 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, **add** 27-80-118 as follows:

**27-80-118. Center for research into substance use disorder**

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*Capital letters indicate new material added to existing statutes; dashes through words indicate deletions from existing statutes and such material not part of act.*

**prevention, treatment, and recovery support strategies - legislative declaration - established. (1) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FINDS THAT:**

(a) OPIOID ADDICTION HAS EMERGED AS A SIGNIFICANT PUBLIC HEALTH CONCERN IN COLORADO, WITH MORE THAN TEN THOUSAND DEATHS ATTRIBUTED TO DRUG OVERDOSES SINCE 2000, AND THE ANNUAL RATE OF DEATH FROM DRUG OVERDOSE DOUBLING FROM SEVEN-POINT-EIGHT DEATHS PER ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND PEOPLE IN 2000 TO FIFTEEN-POINT-SEVEN DEATHS PER ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND PEOPLE IN 2015. THIS RATE IS SIGNIFICANTLY HIGHER THAN THE NATIONAL RATE.

(b) THE ABUSE OF PRESCRIPTION DRUGS IS THE FASTEST GROWING SUBSTANCE ABUSE PROBLEM IN THE UNITED STATES, PARTICULARLY AMONG ADOLESCENTS;

(c) EACH YEAR, THERE ARE APPROXIMATELY SEVENTEEN THOUSAND OVERDOSE DEATHS FROM OPIOID PAINKILLERS NATIONALLY AND APPROXIMATELY THREE HUNDRED SUCH DEATHS IN COLORADO;

(d) ACCORDING TO THE CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL, COLORADO'S DRUG OVERDOSE MORTALITY RATE HAS INCREASED BY FIVE HUNDRED PERCENT SINCE 2014;

(e) COLORADO AND OTHER STATES IN THE REGION HAVE THE HIGHEST DEATH RATES ATTRIBUTABLE TO ALCOHOL IN THE COUNTRY, AND APPROXIMATELY EIGHTEEN PERCENT, OR ONE OUT OF EVERY FIVE, OF ALL COLORADO ADULTS ENGAGED IN HEAVY OR BINGE DRINKING MONTHLY;

(f) IN ADDITION TO OPIOIDS, PRESCRIPTION DRUGS, AND ALCOHOL, SURVEYS SHOW USE RATES FOR METHAMPHETAMINE, COCAINE, AND OTHER ILLICIT DRUGS ARE HIGHER IN COLORADO THAN IN OTHER STATES; AND

(g) THERE IS A LACK OF SUFFICIENT RESEARCH ON THE MOST EFFECTIVE STRATEGIES FOR ADDRESSING SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS ACROSS THE FULL CONTINUUM OF RECOMMENDED SERVICES THAT INCLUDE PREVENTION, EARLY INTERVENTION, TREATMENT, AND RECOVERY SUPPORT SERVICES.

(2) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY THEREFORE FINDS THAT FOR COLORADO TO RESPOND TO THESE ISSUES AND TO FOSTER THE HEALTH,

WELFARE, AND SAFETY OF THE STATE'S RESIDENTS, IT IS HEREBY DECLARED THAT IT IS THE STATE'S POLICY TO FACILITATE RESEARCH INTO SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER PREVENTION, TREATMENT, AND RECOVERY SUPPORT STRATEGIES.

(3) A CENTER FOR RESEARCH INTO SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER PREVENTION, TREATMENT, AND RECOVERY SUPPORT STRATEGIES, REFERRED TO IN THIS SECTION AS THE "CENTER", IS ESTABLISHED IN THE UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER. SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS, THE CENTER'S MISSION IS TO:

(a) ESTABLISH OR EXPAND PROGRAMS FOR RESEARCH CONCERNING PREVENTION, TREATMENT, AND RECOVERY SUPPORT STRATEGIES FOR SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO OPIOID ADDICTION;

(b) ESTABLISH OR EXPAND INNOVATIVE TREATMENTS FOR SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO OPIOID ADDICTION;

(c) EXPAND PARTNERSHIPS AND COLLABORATION WITH SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER PROFESSIONALS, OTHER PROGRAMS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO, AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONS WITH SIMILAR MISSIONS THROUGHOUT THE STATE AND NATION; AND

(d) SEEK FEDERAL AND PRIVATE RESOURCES TO FURTHER THE CENTER'S RESEARCH ACTIVITIES.

**SECTION 2. Appropriation.** For the 2017-18 state fiscal year, \$1,000,000 is appropriated to the department of higher education for use by the regents of the university of Colorado. This appropriation is from the marijuana tax cash fund created in section 39-28.8-501 (1), C.R.S. To implement this act, the regents may use this appropriation for the center for research into substance use disorder prevention, treatment, and recovery support strategies.

**SECTION 3. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds,

determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, and safety.

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Kevin J. Grantham  
PRESIDENT OF  
THE SENATE

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Crisanta Duran  
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE  
OF REPRESENTATIVES

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Effie Ameen  
SECRETARY OF  
THE SENATE

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Marilyn Eddins  
CHIEF CLERK OF THE HOUSE  
OF REPRESENTATIVES

APPROVED \_\_\_\_\_

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John W. Hickenlooper  
GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF COLORADO