

Second Regular Session
Seventy-first General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO

REENGROSSED

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

LLS NO. 18-0692.01 Kristen Forrestal x4217

HOUSE BILL 18-1343

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

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SENATE SPONSORSHIP

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House Committees

Education
Appropriations

Senate Committees

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 **CONCERNING THE CONTINUATION OF THE "COLORADO VETERANS'**
102 **SERVICE-TO-CAREER PROGRAM", AND, IN CONNECTION**
103 **THEREWITH, MAKING AN APPROPRIATION.**

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>.)

Current law contains a pilot program to assist veterans, veterans' spouses, and other eligible participants in obtaining employment and provide support services to seek and obtain employment. The bill continues the program and includes funding for the current pilot program and the expanded program. The bill adds persons who may participate in

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.
Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material to be added to existing statute.
Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.

HOUSE
3rd Reading Unamended
April 27, 2018

HOUSE
Amended 2nd Reading
April 26, 2018

the program and addresses veterans who have barriers to employment. The department is required to develop an evaluation methodology to measure program effectiveness.

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

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **amend** 8-14.3-201
3 as follows:

4 **8-14.3-201. Short title.** The short title of this part 2 is the
5 "Colorado Veterans' Service-to-career ~~Pilot~~ Program".

6 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 8-14.3-201.5 as
7 follows:

8 **8-14.3-201.5. Legislative declaration.** (1) THE GENERAL
9 ASSEMBLY FINDS, DETERMINES, AND DECLARES THAT:

10 (a) THE PILOT PROGRAM ENACTED IN HOUSE BILL 16-1267, WHICH
11 CREATED THE COLORADO VETERANS' SERVICE-TO-CAREER PILOT PROGRAM
12 THAT AUTHORIZED NONPROFIT AGENCIES TO PARTNER WITH WORK FORCE
13 CENTERS SELECTED BY THE DEPARTMENT TO PROVIDE VETERANS AND
14 OTHER ELIGIBLE PARTICIPANTS WITH SKILLS TRAINING, INTERNSHIPS,
15 WORK PLACEMENTS, MENTORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES, CAREER AND
16 PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING, AND SUPPORT SERVICES, HAS BEEN
17 SUCCESSFUL IN INCREASING THE EMPLOYMENT RATES FOR VETERANS,
18 VETERANS' SPOUSES, AND ELIGIBLE PARTICIPANTS; AND

19 (b) THE SERVICES OFFERED THROUGH THE PILOT PROGRAM WERE
20 DESIGNED TO ENHANCE WORK FORCE CENTER SERVICES NOT AVAILABLE
21 UNDER THE FEDERAL ACT.

22 (2) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FURTHER FINDS, DETERMINES, AND
23 DECLARES THAT THE COLORADO VETERANS' SERVICE-TO-CAREER PILOT
24 PROGRAM SHOULD CONTINUE AS A PROGRAM WHOSE GOAL IS TO ASSIST

1 VETERANS, SPOUSES, AND ELIGIBLE PARTICIPANTS IN SEEKING, OBTAINING,
2 AND RETAINING EMPLOYMENT.

3 **SECTION 3.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 8-14.3-202, **amend**
4 (1), (4), (5), (6), and (9); and **add** (5.5) and (8.5) as follows:

5 **8-14.3-202. Definitions.** As used in this part 2, unless the context
6 otherwise requires:

7 (1) "Act" means the FEDERAL "Workforce Innovation and
8 Opportunity Act", Pub.L. 113-128.

9 (4) "Eligible participant" means A:

10 (a) VETERAN;

11 (b) VETERAN'S SPOUSE;

12 ~~(a)~~ (c) ~~A~~ Veteran's dependent child who is twenty-six years of age
13 or younger and lives in the home of the veteran; **and**

14 ~~(b)~~ (d) ~~A~~ Veteran's caregiver who is eighteen years of age or older
15 and has significant responsibility for managing the well-being of an
16 injured veteran; AND

17 (e) PERSON WHO IS ACTIVELY SERVING IN THE UNITED STATES
18 ARMED FORCES AND WHO IS WITHIN SIX MONTHS OF BEING DISCHARGED
19 UNDER CONDITIONS OTHER THAN DISHONORABLE OR A MEMBER OF THE
20 NATIONAL GUARD OR MILITARY RESERVES WHO HAS COMPLETED INITIAL
21 ENTRY TRAINING.

22 

23 (5) "Integrated service and support center" means a nonprofit
24 center that is affiliated with a work force center and veterans service
25 offices ~~or provides financial classes or houses a small business~~
26 ~~development center~~ IN A CENTRALIZED LOCATION WHERE GOVERNMENT
27 AGENCIES, NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS, AND OTHER ENTITIES

1 COLLABORATE TO PROVIDE SERVICES TO ELIGIBLE PARTICIPANTS.
2 SERVICES OFFERED MAY INCLUDE ASSISTANCE FOR ELIGIBLE PARTICIPANTS
3 IN SECURING FEDERAL BENEFITS, COUNSELING SERVICES, EMPLOYMENT
4 SUPPORT, EDUCATION, LIFE SKILLS, AND WELLNESS SUPPORT.

5 (5.5) "INTERNSHIP" MEANS A TRAINING PROGRAM WITH A BUSINESS
6 OR NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION DURING WHICH THE ELIGIBLE PARTICIPANT
7 RECEIVES SKILLS TRAINING THAT COULD RESULT IN FUTURE EMPLOYMENT
8 IN THAT SECTOR OR INDUSTRY.

9 (6) "Program" means the Colorado veterans' service-to-career
10 pilot program that is designed to enhance work force center services that
11 are not available under the act CREATED IN THIS PART 2.

12 (8.5) "WORK-BASED LEARNING" MEANS A CONTINUUM OF
13 ACTIVITIES THAT OCCUR, IN PART OR IN WHOLE, IN THE WORKPLACE,
14 PROVIDING THE LEARNER WITH HANDS-ON, REAL-WORLD WORK
15 EXPERIENCE.

16 (9) (a) "Work force center" means a work force center created by
17 a work force investment DEVELOPMENT board pursuant to the "Colorado
18 Work Force Investment CAREER ADVANCEMENT Act", part 2 of article 83
19 of this title 8.

20 (b) FOR PURPOSES OF A GRANT APPLICATION UNDER SECTION
21 8-14.3-203, "WORK FORCE CENTER" ALSO INCLUDES A NONPROFIT ENTITY
22 THAT:

23 (I) HAS A PRIMARY FOCUS OF SERVING VETERANS; AND

24 (II) JOINS WITH THE WORK FORCE CENTER TO SUBMIT A JOINT
25 APPLICATION.

26 **SECTION 4.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 8-14.3-203, **amend**
27 (1) introductory portion, (1)(b), (2), (3)(e), (4), (5), and (6); and **add**

1 (1.5) as follows:

2 **8-14.3-203. Colorado veterans' service-to-career program -**

3 **report.** (1) One or more work force centers selected by the department
4 pursuant to the grant program developed by the department in subsection
5 (4) of this section may contract with a nonprofit agency to administer the
6 program. Work force centers selected by the department and the nonprofit
7 agency shall develop and expand programs to provide work force
8 development-related services specifically tailored to the unique needs and
9 talents of ~~veterans, spouses, and~~ eligible participants. The services may
10 include:

11 (b) Opportunities for apprenticeship OR INTERNSHIP placements,
12 including an ~~apprenticeship~~ INTERNSHIP that allows for direct entry of
13 ~~veterans pursuant to 38 U.S.C. sec. 4104A~~ ELIGIBLE PARTICIPANTS;

14 (1.5) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL COLLABORATE WITH
15 STAKEHOLDERS AND, IF FEASIBLE, DEVELOP A GRANT APPLICATION FORM
16 BY MARCH 1, 2019, SO THAT A NONPROFIT AGENCY MAY SUBMIT ONE
17 APPLICATION FOR MULTIPLE SERVICE CENTERS EFFECTIVE WITH THE FISCAL
18 YEAR 2019-20 GRANT CYCLE.

19 (2) (a) If an internship, as allowable, ~~under the act~~, is not fully
20 funded by the employer, the employer and the work force center ~~shall~~
21 MAY share the cost of the hourly wage or stipend for the ~~veteran, spouse,~~
22 ~~or~~ eligible participant, as determined by the work force center and as
23 permitted under state and federal law.

24 (b) If a ~~veteran, spouse, or~~ AN eligible participant is eligible for
25 ~~funding through the act~~, this funding must be used first. If funding is not
26 ~~available or is limited~~ OR IF THE USE OF FUNDS IS NOT ALLOWABLE ~~under~~
27 ~~the act~~, the ~~veteran, spouse, or~~ eligible participant may use program

1 funding.

2 (3) The work force centers selected by the department and the
3 nonprofit agency are encouraged to additionally provide services that
4 include:

5 (e) Counseling on educational and skills training opportunities
6 available to ~~veterans, spouses, and~~ eligible participants.

7 (4) The department shall develop a grant ~~program~~ PROCESS so that
8 work force centers may apply for money to administer the program. Each
9 work force center that wishes to administer the ~~grant~~ program must
10 submit a grant application that:

11 (a) Describes the current services that the work force center offers
12 AND DEMONSTRATES THAT THOSE SERVICES:

13 (I) DO NOT DUPLICATE SERVICES CURRENTLY PROVIDED UNDER
14 THE FEDERAL ACT; AND

15 (II) WILL COMPLEMENT OTHER SERVICES OFFERED UNDER THE
16 PROGRAM;

17 (b) States how the grant money would enable the work force
18 center to expand its services for the purposes of the program;

19 (c) Describes businesses or other organizations it is partnering
20 with to provide the necessary services; ~~and~~

21 (d) ~~Any other requirements deemed necessary by the department.~~

22 EXPLAINS HOW THE SERVICES WILL BE TAILORED OR SPECIFICALLY
23 MARKETED TO ANY SUBGROUP OF ELIGIBLE PARTICIPANTS, INCLUDING:

24 (I) ELIGIBLE PARTICIPANTS WITH SIGNIFICANT BARRIERS TO
25 EMPLOYMENT, INCLUDING THOSE SPECIFIED IN 38 U.S.C. SEC. 4100 ET
26 SEQ., SUCH AS VETERANS WITH BAD CONDUCT DISCHARGES;

27 (II) VETERANS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS;

1 (III) VIETNAM-ERA VETERANS WHO SERVED FOR MORE THAN ONE
2 HUNDRED DAYS BETWEEN 1965 AND 1975;

3 (IV) ELIGIBLE PARTICIPANTS EXPERIENCING ADDICTION;

4 (V) NATIONAL GUARD AND MILITARY RESERVE VETERANS; AND

5 (VI) VETERANS WHO ARE NOT ABLE TO ENROLL UNDER THE
6 FEDERAL ACT OR WHO ARE ENROLLED UNDER THE FEDERAL ACT BUT
7 COULD BENEFIT FROM GREATER SUPPORT; AND

8 (e) ADDRESSES ANY OTHER REQUIREMENTS THE DEPARTMENT
9 DEEMS NECESSARY.

10 (5) In selecting work force centers to administer the program, the
11 department shall give preference to a work force center that:

12 (a) Partners with a ~~nonprofit~~ AN agency that is an integrated
13 service and support center for veterans and their families;

14 (b) Is located in the state of Colorado, in order to serve the highest
15 number of ~~veterans~~ ELIGIBLE PARTICIPANTS;

16 (c) Has existing programs or partnerships with businesses or
17 organizations in the community to provide services appropriate to the
18 program; and

19 (d) Has the capacity to provide a wide range of work force
20 development-related services tailored to the unique needs of ~~veterans,~~
21 ~~spouses, and eligible participants.~~

22 (6) (a) Each work force center chosen to receive a grant shall use
23 the money for direct services to ~~veterans, spouses, and eligible~~
24 ~~participants.~~ Each work force center chosen to receive a grant shall report
25 on the services offered; ~~veteran, spouse, and eligible participant~~
26 ~~participation~~ BY EACH SUBGROUP OF ELIGIBLE PARTICIPANTS; the
27 program's success measured through gainful employment and

1 participation in skills training or educational programs of ~~veterans,~~
2 ~~spouses,~~ and eligible participants; and any other requirements that the
3 department deems necessary. NOTWITHSTANDING SECTION 24-1-136
4 (11)(a)(I), the ~~reports~~ WORK FORCE CENTER shall ~~be made~~ SUBMIT THE
5 REPORT to the department, which shall relay all information from the
6 reports annually to the state, veterans, and military affairs committees of
7 the house of representatives and the senate or to their successor
8 committees.

9 (b) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL DEVELOP AN EVALUATION
10 METHODOLOGY TO MEASURE PROGRAM OUTCOMES AND EFFECTIVENESS
11 PRIOR TO INITIATING THE BID PROCESS FOR AWARDING GRANTS. TO THE
12 EXTENT FEASIBLE, THE EVALUATION PROCESS MUST ENABLE A
13 COMPARISON BETWEEN PROGRAMS SERVING SIMILAR POPULATIONS. IT IS
14 THE INTENT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY THAT THE DEPARTMENT AWARD
15 THE GRANTS NO LATER THAN JANUARY 1, 2019. THE GRANT PERIOD MAY
16 BE EXTENDED FOR ONE YEAR SUBJECT TO MONEY APPROPRIATED BY THE
17 GENERAL ASSEMBLY. THE GRANT AWARD MUST INCLUDE DATA TRACKING
18 REQUIREMENTS THAT WILL BE USED TO MEASURE OUTCOMES AND
19 EFFECTIVENESS.

20 (c) ANY UNSPENT MONEY REMAINING IN THE DEPARTMENT'S
21 FISCAL YEAR 2017-18 APPROPRIATION FOR ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS MAY
22 BE USED FOR THE PURPOSE OF DESIGNING AN EVALUATION METHODOLOGY
23 OR CONTRACTING OUT THE DESIGN. ANY UNSPENT MONEY FOR DIRECT
24 PROGRAM SERVICES REMAINING AS OF JUNE 30, 2018, MAY BE USED BY
25 THE PROGRAMS IN EFFECT AS OF JUNE 30, 2018, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR
26 STARTING JULY 1, 2018. UNSPENT MONEY AVAILABLE AT THE END OF
27 EACH FISCAL YEAR ROLLS OVER TO THE NEXT FISCAL YEAR TO BE SPENT IN

1 THAT YEAR.

2 (d) IN ANALYZING AND REPORTING ON THE PERFORMANCE DATA
3 DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTIONS (6)(a) AND (6)(b) OF THIS SECTION, THE
4 DEPARTMENT SHALL SEPARATELY ACCOUNT FOR DATA PERTAINING TO
5 SIGNIFICANT BARRIERS TO EMPLOYMENT.

6 **SECTION 5.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **amend** 8-14.3-204
7 as follows:

8 **8-14.3-204. Appropriation.** ~~For the fiscal year beginning on~~
9 ~~July 1, 2016,~~ The general assembly may annually appropriate money from
10 the marijuana tax cash fund created in section 39-28.8-501 C.R.S., to the
11 department to be used for the program. The department may use up to
12 five percent of any money appropriated by the general assembly for
13 development and administrative costs incurred by the department
14 pursuant to this section. Up to ~~seven~~ EIGHT percent of the money may also
15 be used by the work force center for administrative costs incurred by the
16 work force center and the nonprofit agency to implement and operate the
17 program.

18 **SECTION 6.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **repeal** 8-14.3-205 as
19 follows:
20

21 **8-14.3-205. Repeal of part.** This part 2 is repealed, effective
22 ~~January 1, 2019~~ JANUARY 1, 2024.

23 **SECTION 7.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 39-28.8-501, **amend**
24 (2)(b)(IV)(L) as follows:

25 **39-28.8-501. Marijuana tax cash fund - creation - distribution**
26 **- legislative declaration.** (2) (b) (IV) Subject to the limitation in
27 subsection (5) of this section, the general assembly may annually

1 appropriate any money in the fund for any fiscal year following the fiscal
2 year in which it was received by the state for the following purposes:

3 (L) For the Colorado veterans' service-to-career ~~pilot~~ program
4 created in part 2 of article 14.3 of title 8;

5 **SECTION 8. Appropriation.** For the 2018-19 state fiscal year,
6 \$500,000 is appropriated to the department of labor and employment for
7 use by the division of employment and training. This appropriation is
8 from the marijuana tax cash fund created in section 39-28.8-501 (1),
9 C.R.S., and is based on an assumption that the division will require an
10 additional 0.5 FTE. To implement this act, the division may use this
11 appropriation for the Colorado veterans' service-to-career program.

12 **SECTION 9. Effective date.** This act takes effect July 1, 2018.

13 **SECTION 10. 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, and safety.