

**First Regular Session  
Seventy-second General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO**

**INTRODUCED**

LLS NO. 19-0690.01 Christy Chase x2008

**SENATE BILL 19-001**

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**SENATE SPONSORSHIP**

**Garcia,**

**HOUSE SPONSORSHIP**

**(None),**

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**Senate Committees**  
Health & Human Services

**House Committees**

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**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

101     **CONCERNING THE EXPANSION OF THE MEDICATION-ASSISTED**  
102             **TREATMENT EXPANSION PILOT PROGRAM, AND, IN CONNECTION**  
103             **THEREWITH, SHIFTING ADMINISTRATION OF THE PROGRAM**  
104             **FROM THE COLLEGE OF NURSING TO THE CENTER FOR**  
105             **RESEARCH INTO SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER PREVENTION,**  
106             **TREATMENT, AND RECOVERY SUPPORT STRATEGIES; EXPANDING**  
107             **THE COUNTIES THAT MAY PARTICIPATE IN THE PROGRAM;**  
108             **EXTENDING THE DURATION OF THE PROGRAM; AND INCREASING**  
109             **THE FUNDING FOR THE PROGRAM.**

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**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*

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.

*applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <http://leg.colorado.gov>.)*

In 2017, the general assembly enacted Senate Bill 17-074, which created a 2-year medication-assisted treatment (MAT) expansion pilot program, administered by the university of Colorado college of nursing, to expand access to medication-assisted treatment to opioid-dependent patients in Pueblo and Routt counties. The 2017 act directs the general assembly to appropriate \$500,000 per year for the 2017-18 and 2018-19 fiscal years from the marijuana tax cash fund to the university of Colorado board of regents, for allocation to the college of nursing to implement the pilot program. The pilot program repeals on June 30, 2020.

The bill:

- ! Expands the pilot program to the counties in the San Luis valley and 2 additional counties in which a need is demonstrated;
- ! Shifts responsibility to administer the pilot program from the college of nursing to the center for research into substance use disorder prevention, treatment, and recovery support strategies;
- ! Adds representatives from the San Luis valley and any other counties selected to participate in the pilot program to the advisory board that assists in administering the program;
- ! Increases the annual appropriation for the pilot program to \$5 million for the 2019-20 and 2020-21 fiscal years; and
- ! Extends the program an additional 2 years.

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

2           **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 23-21-802, **add** (2)  
3 as follows:

4           **23-21-802. Legislative declaration.** (2) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
5 FURTHER FINDS THAT:

6           (a) SINCE ITS CREATION, THE PILOT PROGRAM HAS ACHIEVED  
7 NUMEROUS SUCCESSES TOWARD PROGRAM GOALS AS FOLLOWS:

8           (I) WITH REGARD TO THE PROGRAM GOAL OF INCREASING THE  
9 NUMBER OF ADVANCED PRACTICE PROVIDERS ABLE TO PRESCRIBE  
10 MEDICATIONS TO TREAT INDIVIDUALS WITH OPIOID USE DISORDERS IN

1 PUEBLO AND ROUTT COUNTIES:

2 (A) TWO MEDICATION-ASSISTED TREATMENT (MAT) PROGRAMS  
3 IN PUEBLO COUNTY WERE SELECTED TO RECEIVE FUNDING AND ONE MAT  
4 PROGRAM WAS STARTED IN ROUTT COUNTY;

5 (B) AS OF AUGUST 2018, FOUR PROVIDERS CERTIFIED TO  
6 PRESCRIBE MAT MEDICATIONS WERE ADDED TO THE TWO MAT  
7 PROGRAMS IN PUEBLO COUNTY AND SIX MAT MEDICATION-CERTIFIED  
8 PRESCRIBERS ARE AVAILABLE IN THE ROUTT COUNTY PROGRAM; AND

9 (C) THROUGH JULY 1, 2018, FIFTY PROVIDERS RECEIVED  
10 EDUCATION ON OPIOID USE DISORDERS AND RELATED ISSUES IN  
11 ASSESSMENT AND TREATMENT; AND

12 (II) WITH REGARD TO THE PROGRAM GOAL OF INCREASING ACCESS  
13 TO MAT SERVICES IN PUEBLO AND ROUTT COUNTIES:

14 (A) PUEBLO COUNTY INCREASED MAT SERVICES FROM A TOTAL  
15 OF NINETY-NINE CLIENTS TREATED THROUGH ITS TWO MAT PROGRAMS IN  
16 2017 TO FIVE HUNDRED SEVENTY-SIX CLIENTS TREATED THROUGH THE  
17 TWO PROGRAMS THROUGH OCTOBER 2018; AND

18 (B) ROUTT COUNTY HAD VERY LIMITED MAT SERVICES  
19 AVAILABLE IN 2017 AND, THROUGH OCTOBER OF 2018, PROVIDED MAT  
20 SERVICES THROUGH ITS NEW MAT PROGRAM TO FIFTY CLIENTS;

21 (b) GIVEN THE SUCCESSES OF THE PROGRAM IN EXPANDING ACCESS  
22 TO MAT SERVICES IN PUEBLO AND ROUTT COUNTIES, THE PILOT PROGRAM  
23 SHOULD BE EXTENDED AND MADE AVAILABLE TO ADDITIONAL AREAS OF  
24 THE STATE THAT ARE EXPERIENCING SIGNIFICANT PUBLIC HEALTH  
25 CONCERNS DUE TO THE PREVALENCE OF OPIOID ADDICTION AND OVERDOSE  
26 INCIDENCES AND INADEQUATE NUMBERS OF PROVIDERS;

27 (c) IN THE SAN LUIS VALLEY, WHICH HAS APPROXIMATELY FIFTY

1 THOUSAND RESIDENTS AND CONSISTS OF THE COUNTIES OF ALAMOSA,  
2 CONEJOS, COSTILLA, CUSTER, HUERFANO, MINERAL, RIO GRANDE, AND  
3 SAGUACHE, OPIOID OVERDOSES HAVE BEEN INCREASING SINCE 2010, WITH  
4 RECENT REPORTS OF MORE THAN TEN OVERDOSES PER ONE HUNDRED  
5 THOUSAND IN POPULATION YEARLY IN EACH OF THE COUNTIES IN THE  
6 VALLEY;

7 (d) HUERFANO COUNTY, WHICH HAS ABOUT SIX THOUSAND SIX  
8 HUNDRED RESIDENTS, HAD SIX OVERDOSE DEATHS IN 2016, A RATE OF  
9 152.6 PER ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND IN POPULATION, WHICH WAS THE  
10 HIGHEST OVERDOSE RATE FOR ANY COUNTY IN THE STATE;

11 (e) MANY OTHER COUNTIES IN THE STATE ARE ALSO EXPERIENCING  
12 HIGH INCIDENCES OF OVERDOSE AND LACK AVAILABLE, QUALIFIED  
13 PROVIDERS TO MEET THE ADDICTION TREATMENT NEEDS IN THE COUNTY;

14 (f) GIVEN THE PREVALENCE OF OPIOID OVERDOSES IN THE SAN  
15 LUIS VALLEY AND OTHER AREAS OF THE STATE, IT IS NECESSARY TO  
16 EXTEND THE PILOT PROGRAM ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO THIS PART 8 FOR  
17 AN ADDITIONAL TWO YEARS, EXPAND ITS AVAILABILITY TO CRITICAL-NEED  
18 AREAS OF THE STATE, AND INCREASE ITS FUNDING IN ORDER TO INCREASE  
19 ACCESS TO ADDICTION TREATMENT IN THESE AREAS WHERE OPIOID  
20 ADDICTION AND OVERDOSE INCIDENCES ARE AT SIGNIFICANT LEVELS.

21 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 23-21-803, **add** (1.5)  
22 and (10) as follows:

23 **23-21-803. Definitions.** As used in this part 8, unless the context  
24 otherwise requires:

25 (1.5) "CENTER" MEANS THE CENTER FOR RESEARCH INTO  
26 SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER PREVENTION, TREATMENT, AND RECOVERY  
27 SUPPORT STRATEGIES ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO SECTION 27-80-118.

1 (10) "SAN LUIS VALLEY" MEANS THE COUNTIES OF ALAMOSA,  
2 CONEJOS, COSTILLA, CUSTER, HUERFANO, MINERAL, RIO GRANDE, AND  
3 SAGUACHE.

4 **SECTION 3.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 23-21-804, **amend**  
5 (1)(b), (3), and (4) as follows:

6 **23-21-804. Medication-assisted treatment expansion pilot**  
7 **program - created - pilot program location - eligible grant recipients**  
8 **- rules.** (1) (b) The MAT expansion pilot program is available to provide  
9 grants to community agencies, office-based practices, behavioral health  
10 organizations, and substance abuse treatment organizations practicing or  
11 providing treatment in Pueblo county or Routt county, AND, STARTING IN  
12 THE 2019-20 FISCAL YEAR, THE SAN LUIS VALLEY AND UP TO TWO  
13 ADDITIONAL COUNTIES SELECTED BY THE CENTER FOR PARTICIPATION  
14 BASED ON DEMONSTRATED NEED.

15 (3) The ~~college of nursing~~ CENTER shall administer the MAT  
16 expansion pilot program and, subject to available appropriations, shall  
17 award grants as provided in this part 8. ~~starting as soon as practicable in~~  
18 ~~the 2017-18 fiscal year, but no later than January 2018.~~ Subject to  
19 available appropriations, grants shall be paid out of money annually  
20 appropriated for the pilot program as provided in section 23-21-808.

21 (4) The ~~college of nursing~~ CENTER shall implement the MAT  
22 expansion pilot program in accordance with this part 8 and shall develop,  
23 with assistance from and in coordination with the advisory board, pilot  
24 program guidelines and procedures as necessary to implement the pilot  
25 program, including guidelines and procedures specifying the time frames  
26 for applying for grants; the form of the pilot program grant application;  
27 the time frames for distributing grant money, technical assistance, and

1 consultation to grant recipients; and evaluation of the pilot program.

2 **SECTION 4.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 23-21-805, **amend**  
3 (1), (2)(a)(III), and (2)(b) as follows:

4 **23-21-805. MAT expansion advisory board - created - duties.**

5 (1) There is hereby created in the ~~college of nursing~~ CENTER the MAT  
6 expansion advisory board, which shall:

7 (a) Review and approve pilot program guidelines and procedures;

8 (b) Advise and provide assistance to the ~~college of nursing~~  
9 CENTER on the implementation of the pilot program;

10 (c) Review and make recommendations to the ~~college of nursing~~  
11 CENTER on grant applications, including recommendations for grant  
12 award amounts;

13 (d) Assist the ~~college of nursing~~ CENTER in evaluating the pilot  
14 program; and

15 (e) Perform other tasks, as requested by the ~~college of nursing~~  
16 CENTER, related to the implementation and administration of the pilot  
17 program.

18 (2) (a) The advisory board consists of representatives of the  
19 following entities or organizations who are designated by the entity or  
20 organization:

21 (III) The Colorado consortium for prescription drug abuse  
22 prevention, administered under the ~~school of pharmacy and~~  
23 ~~pharmaceutical sciences~~ CENTER at the university of Colorado Anschutz  
24 medical campus;

25 (b) In addition to the members specified in subsection (2)(a) of  
26 this section, ~~at least one medical or public health professional from each~~  
27 ~~county~~ REPRESENTATIVES FROM COUNTIES PARTICIPATING in the pilot

1 program area, appointed as follows, shall serve on the advisory board:

2 (I) The Northwest Colorado Community Health Partnership in  
3 Routt county shall appoint a medical or public health professional from  
4 Routt county; ~~and~~

5 (II) The Pueblo county heroin task force shall appoint a medical  
6 or public health professional from Pueblo county;

7 (III) VALLEY-WIDE HEALTH SYSTEMS, INC., SHALL APPOINT A  
8 MEDICAL PROFESSIONAL FROM THE SAN LUIS VALLEY;

9 (IV) THE SAN LUIS VALLEY AREA HEALTH EDUCATION CENTER  
10 SHALL APPOINT A MEDICAL OR PUBLIC HEALTH PROFESSIONAL FROM THE  
11 SAN LUIS VALLEY;

12 (V) THE COLORADO ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL PUBLIC HEALTH  
13 OFFICIALS SHALL APPOINT A PUBLIC HEALTH PROFESSIONAL FROM THE  
14 SAN LUIS VALLEY; AND

15 (VI) IF ADDITIONAL COUNTIES ARE SELECTED TO PARTICIPATE IN  
16 THE PILOT PROGRAM, THE CENTER SHALL DETERMINE THE APPOINTING  
17 AUTHORITY FOR AND TYPE OF PROFESSIONAL FROM EACH PARTICIPATING  
18 COUNTY.

19 **SECTION 5.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 23-21-806, **amend**  
20 (1) introductory portion, (1)(a), (1)(f), (2) introductory portion, (2)(d), and  
21 (3); and **add** (1)(a.5) and (2)(a.5) as follows:

22 **23-21-806. Grant application - criteria - awards.** (1) To receive  
23 a grant, an eligible organization or practice must submit an application to  
24 the ~~college of nursing~~ CENTER in accordance with pilot program  
25 guidelines and procedures established by the ~~college of nursing~~ CENTER.  
26 At a minimum, the application must include the following information:

27 (a) ~~The purpose for which the applicant will use the grant~~ A

1 SPECIFIC DESCRIPTION OF THE NEED IN THE COUNTY SERVED BY THE  
2 APPLICANT, INCLUDING DATA ON THE PREVALENCE OF OPIOID ADDICTION,  
3 THE OVERDOSE RATE, AND THE PROVIDER CAPACITY IN THE COUNTY;

4 (a.5) THE PURPOSE FOR WHICH THE APPLICANT WILL USE THE  
5 GRANT;

6 (f) A description of how the applicant will achieve improved  
7 access to medication-assisted treatment in the pilot program area THE  
8 APPLICANT SERVES;

9 (2) The advisory board shall review the applications received  
10 pursuant to this section and make recommendations to the ~~college of~~  
11 ~~nursing~~ CENTER regarding grant recipients and awards. In recommending  
12 grant awards and in awarding grants, the advisory board and the ~~college~~  
13 ~~of nursing~~ CENTER shall consider the following criteria:

14 (a.5) THE DEMONSTRATED NEED IN THE AREA SERVED BY THE  
15 APPLICANT;

16 (d) The written commitment of the applicant to have nurse  
17 practitioners or physician assistants participate in periodic consultations  
18 with ~~college of nursing~~ CENTER staff; and

19 (3) Subject to available appropriations, in the ~~2017-18 and~~  
20 ~~2018-19~~ 2019-20 AND 2020-21 fiscal years, the ~~college of nursing~~ CENTER  
21 shall award grants to applicants approved in accordance with this section  
22 and shall distribute the grant money to grant recipients within ninety days  
23 after issuing the grant awards.

24 **SECTION 6.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 23-21-807, **amend**  
25 (1) introductory portion, (2) introductory portion, (2)(a), and (2)(b) as  
26 follows:

27 **23-21-807. Reporting requirements.** (1) Each organization or



1 practice that receives a grant through the pilot program shall submit an  
2 annual report to the ~~college of nursing~~ CENTER by a date set by the ~~college~~  
3 ~~of nursing~~ CENTER. At a minimum, the report must include the following  
4 information:

5 (2) On or before June 30, 2018, and on or before EACH June 30  
6 ~~2019~~ THROUGH JUNE 30, 2021, the ~~college of nursing~~ CENTER shall submit  
7 a summarized report on the pilot program to the health and human  
8 services committee of the senate and the health AND insurance ~~and~~  
9 ~~environment~~ and THE public health care and human services committees  
10 of the house of representatives, or any successor committees, and to the  
11 governor. At a minimum, the report must include:

12 (a) A description of the pilot program, INCLUDING A LIST OF  
13 COUNTIES PARTICIPATING IN THE PILOT PROGRAM;

14 (b) A list identifying the grant recipients, including the amount  
15 awarded to each grant recipient, THE COUNTY IN WHICH THE GRANT  
16 RECIPIENT IS PROVIDING SERVICES, and a detailed description of how each  
17 grant recipient used the grant award;

18 **SECTION 7.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **amend** 23-21-808 as  
19 follows:

20 **23-21-808. Funding for pilot program.** (1) (a) For the ~~2017-18~~  
21 ~~and 2018-19~~ 2019-20 AND 2020-21 state fiscal years, the general  
22 assembly shall annually appropriate five ~~hundred thousand~~ MILLION  
23 dollars per fiscal year from the marijuana tax cash fund created in section  
24 39-28.8-501 to the board of regents of the university of Colorado, for  
25 allocation to the ~~college of nursing~~ CENTER to implement AND  
26 ADMINISTER the MAT expansion pilot program. The ~~college of nursing~~  
27 CENTER may use a portion of the money annually appropriated for the

1 pilot program to pay the direct and indirect costs that the ~~college of~~  
2 ~~nursing~~ CENTER incurs to administer the pilot program, as well as to  
3 provide consulting services to and oversight of grant recipients, for data  
4 collection and analysis, evaluation of the pilot program, and program  
5 reporting.

6 (b) If any unexpended or uncommitted money appropriated for ~~the~~  
7 ~~2017-18~~ A fiscal year remains at the end of that fiscal year, the ~~school of~~  
8 ~~nursing~~ CENTER may expend the money in accordance with this section  
9 in the ~~2018-19~~ SUCCEEDING fiscal year. Any unexpended or uncommitted  
10 money remaining at the end of the ~~2018-19~~ 2020-21 fiscal year reverts to  
11 the marijuana tax cash fund.

12 (2) The ~~college of nursing~~ CENTER may accept and expend any  
13 gifts, grants, or donations it receives to implement or administer the pilot  
14 program.

15 **SECTION 8.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **amend** 23-21-809 as  
16 follows:

17 **23-21-809. Repeal of part.** This part 8 is repealed, effective June  
18 30, ~~2020~~ 2022.

19 **SECTION 9. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds,  
20 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate  
21 preservation of the public peace, health, and safety.