

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

**PREAMENDED**

*This Unofficial Version Includes Committee  
Amendments Not Yet Adopted on Second Reading*

LLS NO. 20-0393.02 Conrad Imel x2313

**SENATE BILL 20-001**

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**SENATE SPONSORSHIP**

**Fields, Gonzales**

**HOUSE SPONSORSHIP**

**Sirota and Van Winkle, Michaelson Jenet**

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**Senate Committees**

Education  
Appropriations

**House Committees**

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**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

101 **CONCERNING EXPANDING BEHAVIORAL HEALTH TRAINING FOR**  
102 **KINDERGARTEN THROUGH TWELFTH GRADE EDUCATORS.**

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

**School Safety Committee.** The bill requires the department of education (department) to offer a train the trainer program (program) designed to improve school culture, promote youth behavioral and mental health, and prepare attendees to teach a youth behavioral and mental health training course. The department must make the program available to employees of a school district, charter school, or board of cooperative

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.

services (local education provider). A local education provider and its employees are not required to participate in the program. The department may enter into an agreement with an organization to provide the program. The department is required to annually evaluate the effectiveness of the program. The general assembly is required to annually appropriate up to \$1 million for the program. The program is repealed June 30, 2024.

The program must include evidence-based instruction on, and prepare an attendee to teach a youth behavioral and mental health training course that includes, any of the following subjects:

- ! Using trauma-informed approaches to improve overall school climate and culture;
- ! Identifying behavioral and mental health challenges and substance use disorders;
- ! Restorative practices for addressing youth behavioral and mental health challenges;
- ! Improving youth social and emotional health;
- ! Bullying prevention and intervention strategies;
- ! Encouraging positive bystander behavior;
- ! Best practices for providing assistance in noncrisis situations;
- ! De-escalation of crisis situations; or
- ! Identifying and accessing available behavioral and mental health resources and substance use disorder support services and treatment.

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

2           **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 22-2-146 as  
3 follows:

4           **22-2-146. Department of education - youth behavioral and**  
5 **mental health train the trainer program - definitions - repeal.** (1) AS  
6 USED IN THIS SECTION, UNLESS THE CONTEXT OTHERWISE REQUIRES:

7           (a) "ATTENDEE" MEANS AN EMPLOYEE OF A LOCAL EDUCATION  
8 PROVIDER WHO ATTENDS A TRAIN THE TRAINER PROGRAM.

9           (b) "LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER" MEANS A SCHOOL DISTRICT, A  
10 CHARTER SCHOOL AUTHORIZED BY A SCHOOL DISTRICT PURSUANT TO PART  
11 1 OF ARTICLE 30.5 OF THIS TITLE 22, A CHARTER SCHOOL AUTHORIZED BY

1 THE STATE CHARTER SCHOOL INSTITUTE PURSUANT TO PART 5 OF ARTICLE  
2 30.5 OF THIS TITLE 22,      A BOARD OF COOPERATIVE SERVICES CREATED  
3 AND OPERATING PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 5 OF THIS TITLE 22 THAT  
4 OPERATES ONE OR MORE PUBLIC SCHOOLS, OR THE COLORADO SCHOOL FOR  
5 THE DEAF AND THE BLIND.

6 (c) "TRAIN THE TRAINER PROGRAM" MEANS THE PROGRAM  
7 DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (2) OF THIS SECTION THAT IS OFFERED BY THE  
8 DEPARTMENT.

9 (2) (a) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL OFFER A TRAIN THE TRAINER  
10 PROGRAM FOR EMPLOYEES OF A LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER, INCLUDING  
11 EMPLOYEES WHO HOLD A SUBSTITUTE AUTHORIZATION. THE TRAIN THE  
12 TRAINER PROGRAM MUST BE DESIGNED TO IMPROVE OVERALL SCHOOL  
13 CLIMATE, PROMOTE YOUTH BEHAVIORAL AND MENTAL HEALTH, AND  
14 PREPARE AN ATTENDEE TO TEACH A YOUTH BEHAVIORAL AND MENTAL  
15 HEALTH TRAINING COURSE THAT CONTAINS ANY OF THE SUBJECTS, OR A  
16 COMBINATION OF THE SUBJECTS, DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (3) OF THIS  
17 SECTION.

18 (b) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL NOT REQUIRE ANY LOCAL EDUCATION  
19 PROVIDER TO PARTICIPATE IN OR COMPLETE THE TRAIN THE TRAINER  
20 PROGRAM.

21 (c) A LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER SHALL NOT REQUIRE ANY  
22 EMPLOYEE TO PARTICIPATE IN OR COMPLETE THE TRAIN THE TRAINER  
23 PROGRAM.

24 (3) THE TRAIN THE TRAINER PROGRAM MUST      PREPARE AN  
25 ATTENDEE TO TEACH A YOUTH BEHAVIORAL AND MENTAL HEALTH  
26 TRAINING COURSE TO EDUCATORS AND OTHER SCHOOL PERSONNEL WHO  
27 HAVE DIRECT CONTACT WITH STUDENTS. THE TRAIN THE TRAINER

1 PROGRAM MUST BE EVIDENCE-BASED AND COMPREHENSIVE, AND MAY  
2 INCLUDE BUT IS NOT LIMITED TO INSTRUCTION ON THE FOLLOWING  
3 SUBJECTS:

4 (a) USING TRAUMA-INFORMED APPROACHES TO IMPROVE OVERALL  
5 SCHOOL CLIMATE AND CULTURE;

6 (b) IDENTIFYING SIGNS OF BEHAVIORAL AND MENTAL HEALTH  
7 CHALLENGES AND SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS THAT MAY BE EXPERIENCED  
8 BY STUDENTS ENROLLED IN A LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER;

9 (c) SUICIDE PREVENTION PRACTICES;

10 (d) RESTORATIVE PRACTICES FOR ADDRESSING YOUTH  
11 BEHAVIORAL AND MENTAL HEALTH CHALLENGES;

12 (e) IMPROVING YOUTH SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL HEALTH AND  
13 FOSTERING A POSITIVE SCHOOL CLIMATE;

14 (f) EVIDENCE-BASED BULLYING PREVENTION AND INTERVENTION  
15 STRATEGIES;

16 (g) ENCOURAGING POSITIVE BYSTANDER BEHAVIOR, INCLUDING  
17 RECOGNIZING POTENTIALLY HARMFUL SITUATIONS, SUCH AS BULLYING,  
18 HARASSMENT, INTIMIDATION, OR THREATENING BEHAVIOR, AND TAKING  
19 APPROPRIATE ACTION AS A BYSTANDER;

20 (h) BEST PRACTICES TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE TO STUDENTS IN  
21 NONCRISIS SITUATIONS;

22 (i) SAFE DE-ESCALATION OF CRISIS SITUATIONS; ==

23 (j) BEST PRACTICES FOR MAINTAINING STUDENT PRIVACY AND  
24 CONFIDENTIALITY IN A MANNER CONSISTENT WITH FEDERAL AND STATE  
25 PRIVACY LAWS; OR

26 (k) IDENTIFYING AND ACCESSING AVAILABLE BEHAVIORAL AND  
27 MENTAL HEALTH RESOURCES AND SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER SUPPORT

1 SERVICES AND TREATMENT APPROPRIATE FOR STUDENTS ENROLLED IN THE  
2 LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER.

3 (4) THE DEPARTMENT MAY ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH AN  
4 ORGANIZATION TO PROVIDE THE TRAIN THE TRAINER PROGRAM. THE  
5 DEPARTMENT MAY ONLY ENTER INTO SUCH AN AGREEMENT WITH AN  
6 ORGANIZATION THAT HAS EXPERIENCE PROVIDING EVIDENCE-BASED  
7 YOUTH BEHAVIORAL AND MENTAL HEALTH TRAINING PROGRAMS AND  
8 EDUCATING INSTRUCTORS USING A TRAIN THE TRAINER MODEL. THE  
9 ORGANIZATION ALSO MUST HAVE THE CAPABILITY TO MEASURE TRAINING  
10 OUTCOMES BY ASSESSING ATTENDEE KNOWLEDGE BEFORE AND AFTER  
11 TRAINING IS PROVIDED.

12 (5) (a) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ANNUALLY EVALUATE THE  
13 EFFECTIVENESS OF THE TRAIN THE TRAINER PROGRAM. THE EVALUATION  
14 MUST SOLICIT FEEDBACK FROM ATTENDEES AND CONSIDER THE EFFECT OF  
15 THE PROGRAM ON SCHOOL CLIMATE AND YOUTH BEHAVIORAL AND  
16 MENTAL HEALTH.

17 (b) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL INCLUDE A SUMMARY OF THE  
18 EVALUATION CONDUCTED PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION (5) AND ANY  
19 RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNING THE TRAIN THE TRAINER PROGRAM IN  
20 THE DEPARTMENT'S ANNUAL PRESENTATION TO THE COMMITTEES OF  
21 REFERENCE PURSUANT TO SECTION 2-7-203.

22 (6) FOR EACH FISCAL YEAR, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SHALL  
23 APPROPRIATE UP TO ONE MILLION DOLLARS TO THE DEPARTMENT FOR THE  
24 ADMINISTRATION OF THIS SECTION. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL PAY ANY  
25 COSTS RELATED TO THE ADMINISTRATION OF THIS SECTION FROM THE  
26 APPROPRIATION MADE PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION (6).

27 (7) THIS SECTION IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE JUNE 30, 2024.

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