

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

**REVISED**

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

LLS NO. 21-0369.01 Kristen Forrester x4217

**SENATE BILL 21-098**

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**SENATE SPONSORSHIP**

**Jaquez Lewis and Pettersen,** Fields, Ginal, Buckner, Gonzales, Moreno, Priola, Winter

**HOUSE SPONSORSHIP**

**Mullica and Rich,**

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**Senate Committees**

Health & Human Services  
Appropriations

**House Committees**

Public & Behavioral Health & Human Services  
Appropriations

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**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

101 **CONCERNING THE CONTINUATION OF THE PRESCRIPTION DRUG**  
102 **MONITORING 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 applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <http://leg.colorado.gov/>.)*

**Sunset Process - Senate Health and Human Services Committee.** The bill implements the recommendations of the department of regulatory agencies' 2020 sunset review and report by:

- Continuing the prescription drug monitoring program (program) until September 1, 2028 (**sections 4 and 5** of the bill);

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  
2nd Reading Unamended  
May 25, 2021

SENATE  
3rd Reading Unamended  
April 28, 2021

SENATE  
Amended 2nd Reading  
April 27, 2021

- Authorizing the state board of pharmacy (board) to promulgate rules that identify a list of prescription drugs that are not currently listed as controlled substances and require such drugs to be tracked through the program (**section 2**);
- Authorizing each coroner to authorize deputy coroners to access the program (**section 2**);
- Authorizing the board to create a data retention schedule for information obtained and stored by the program (**section 2**);
- Requiring the board to report its efforts to seek outside funding for the program during the "State Measurement for Accountable, Responsive, and Transparent (SMART) Government Act" hearings (**section 3**); and
- Making a technical change to remove a reference to the department of health care policy and financing from the statute as that department does not have access to the program (**section 2**).

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

2           **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 12-280-403, **amend**  
 3 (2)(a) as follows:

4           **12-280-403. Prescription drug use monitoring program -**  
 5 **registration required.** (2) (a) ~~By January 1, 2015, or by an earlier date~~  
 6 ~~determined by the director, every~~ EACH practitioner in this state who  
 7 holds a current registration issued by the federal drug enforcement  
 8 administration and ~~every~~ EACH pharmacist shall register and maintain a  
 9 user account with the program.

10           **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 12-280-404, **amend**  
 11 (2), (3)(1) introductory portion, (3)(1)(I), (3)(1)(II), and (6); and **add** (3.5)  
 12 as follows:

13           **12-280-404. Program operation - access - rules - definitions -**  
 14 **repeal.** (2) (a) The board shall adopt all rules necessary to implement the  
 15 program.

1 (b) THE RULES ADOPTED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (2)(a) OF THIS  
2 SECTION MAY:

3 (I) IDENTIFY PRESCRIPTION DRUGS AND SUBSTANCES BY USING  
4 EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICES, IN ADDITION TO CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES,  
5 THAT HAVE A SUBSTANTIAL POTENTIAL FOR ABUSE AND MUST REQUIRE  
6 PHARMACISTS AND PRESCRIPTION DRUG OUTLETS TO REPORT THOSE  
7 PRESCRIPTION DRUGS AND SUBSTANCES TO THE PROGRAM WHEN THEY ARE  
8 DISPENSED TO A PATIENT; AND

9 (II) INCLUDE A DATA RETENTION SCHEDULE FOR THE INFORMATION  
10 OBTAINED AND STORED BY THE PROGRAM PURSUANT TO THIS PART 4 AND  
11 THE PROCESSES FOR THE PRESERVATION OF DE-IDENTIFIED, AGGREGATED  
12 DATA FOR A PERIOD OF TIME AS DETERMINED BY THE BOARD.

13 (3) The program is available for query only to the following  
14 persons or groups of persons:

15 (I) A medical examiner who is a physician licensed pursuant to  
16 article 240 of this title 12, whose license is in good standing, and who is  
17 located and employed in the state of Colorado; ~~or~~ a coroner elected  
18 pursuant to section 30-10-601; OR A DEPUTY CORONER WHO IS  
19 AUTHORIZED BY THE CORONER TO ACT ON BEHALF OF THE CORONER IN  
20 ACCORDANCE WITH SUBSECTION (3.5) OF THIS SECTION, if:

21 (I) The information released is specific to an individual who is the  
22 subject of an autopsy OR DEATH INVESTIGATION conducted by the medical  
23 examiner, ~~or~~ coroner, OR DEPUTY CORONER;

24 (II) The medical examiner, ~~or the~~ coroner, OR DEPUTY CORONER  
25 has legitimate access to the individual's medical record; and

26 (3.5) A CORONER MAY AUTHORIZE A DEPUTY CORONER TO ACCESS  
27 THE PROGRAM ON BEHALF OF THE CORONER IF:

1 (a) THE CORONER TAKES REASONABLE STEPS TO ENSURE THAT THE  
2 DEPUTY CORONER IS SUFFICIENTLY COMPETENT TO USE THE PROGRAM; AND

3 (b) THE CORONER REMAINS RESPONSIBLE FOR:

4 (I) ENSURING THAT ACCESS TO THE PROGRAM IS LIMITED TO THE  
5 PURPOSES SPECIFIED IN SUBSECTION (3)(1) OF THE SECTION AND THAT THE  
6 ACCESS OCCURS IN A MANNER THAT PROTECTS THE CONFIDENTIALITY OF  
7 PROGRAM INFORMATION; AND

8 (II) ANY NEGLIGENT BREACH OF THE CONFIDENTIALITY OF  
9 INFORMATION OBTAINED FROM THE PROGRAM BY THE DEPUTY CORONER.

10 (6) The board OR the department of public health and  
11 environment, ~~or the department of health care policy and financing,~~  
12 pursuant to a written agreement that ensures compliance with this part 4,  
13 may provide data to qualified personnel of a public or private entity for  
14 the purpose of bona fide research or education so long as the data does  
15 not identify a recipient of, a practitioner who prescribed, or a prescription  
16 drug outlet that dispensed, a prescription drug.

17 **SECTION 3.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 12-280-405, repeal  
18 (2) as follows:

19 **12-280-405. Prescription drug monitoring fund - creation -** \_\_\_  
20 fee. (2) After implementing the program, the board shall seek gifts,  
21 grants, and donations on an annual basis for the purpose of maintaining  
22 the program. The board shall report annually to the health and human  
23 services committee of the senate and the health and insurance committee  
24 of the house of representatives, or any successor committees, regarding  
25 the gifts, grants, and donations requested, of whom they were requested,  
26 and the amounts received.

27 **SECTION 4.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, repeal 12-280-410

1 as follows:

2 **12-280-410. Repeal of part - review of functions. This part 4 is**  
3 **repealed, effective July 1, 2021. Before the repeal, the functions of the**  
4 **board and the program under this part 4 are scheduled for review in**  
5 **accordance with section 24-34-104.**

6 **SECTION 5.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-34-104, **repeal**  
7 **(20)(a)(II) as follows:**

8 **24-34-104. General assembly review of regulatory agencies**  
9 **and functions for repeal, continuation, or reestablishment - legislative**  
10 **declaration - repeal.** (20) (a) The following agencies, functions, or both,  
11 will repeal on July 1, 2021:

12 (II) ~~The electronic prescription drug monitoring program created~~  
13 ~~in part 4 of article 280 of title 12.~~

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15 **SECTION 6. Effective date.** This act takes effect July 1, 2021.

16 **SECTION 7. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds,  
17 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate  
18 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety.