

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

**INTRODUCED**

LLS NO. 23-0713.01 Conrad Imel x2313

**SENATE BILL 23-067**

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**SENATE SPONSORSHIP**

**Coleman,**

**HOUSE SPONSORSHIP**

**(None),**

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**Senate Committees**  
Judiciary

**House Committees**

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**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

101      **CONCERNING A RECIDIVISM REDUCTION PROGRAM FOR PERSONS**  
102              **SENTENCED TO THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS**  
103              **FACILITATED BY PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS IN PARTNERSHIP WITH**  
104              **DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS STAFF.**

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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>.)*

The bill requires the department of corrections (department) to operate a pilot program, known as the "re-imagine program" (program), at the Sterling correctional facility to provide program participants with

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

resources to support their rehabilitation and to reduce recidivism. The program is facilitated by a program board comprised of program participants and department staff. The program board shall review applications for participation in the program and approve applicants in accordance with program rules.

The program must provide training in trades and other employment-focused activities, education in skills beneficial for a participant following release from confinement, and mental health sessions. The program board shall create a program plan for each participant based on the participant's individual case and risk factors.

The bill requires the general assembly to appropriate money to fund the program through state fiscal year 2027-28. The department is required to annually report to the general assembly about the program. The pilot program is repealed June 30, 2028. The bill requires the department, in its annual reports in 2027 and 2028, to recommend whether to continue the program and whether to expand the program to other correctional facilities.

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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** 17-33-103 as  
3 follows:

4           **17-33-103. Re-imagine rehabilitation and reentry pilot**  
5 **program - report - appropriation - legislative intent - repeal.**

6 (1) (a) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL OPERATE A PILOT PROGRAM, KNOWN AS  
7 THE "RE-IMAGINE PROGRAM" AND REFERRED TO IN THIS SECTION AS THE  
8 "PROGRAM", AT THE STERLING CORRECTIONAL FACILITY TO PROVIDE  
9 PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS WITH RESOURCES TO SUPPORT THEIR  
10 REHABILITATION AND TO REDUCE RECIDIVISM UPON RELEASE FROM THE  
11 FACILITY THROUGH DEVELOPING PARTICIPANTS' PERSONAL AND MORAL  
12 CHARACTER BY PROMOTING SELF-RESPONSIBILITY AND CIVIC DUTY.

13           (b) EACH PROGRAM PARTICIPANT MUST RESIDE IN THE SAME  
14 RESIDENTIAL POD IN THE FACILITY AS OTHER PARTICIPANTS. A PERSON  
15 WHO IS NOT PARTICIPATING IN THE PROGRAM SHALL NOT RESIDE IN A POD  
16 WITH PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS.

1 (c) THE PROGRAM MUST PROVIDE TRAINING IN SKILLED OR  
2 PROFESSIONAL TRADES AND OTHER EMPLOYMENT-FOCUSED ACTIVITIES,  
3 EDUCATION IN SKILLS BENEFICIAL FOR A PARTICIPANT FOLLOWING  
4 RELEASE FROM CONFINEMENT, AND MENTAL HEALTH SESSIONS.

5 (2) (a) THE PROGRAM IS FACILITATED BY A PROGRAM BOARD THAT  
6 IS COMPRISED OF PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS AND DEPARTMENT STAFF. THE  
7 WARDEN SHALL APPOINT STAFF THAT SERVE ON THE BOARD. WHEN THERE  
8 IS A PARTICIPANT VACANCY ON THE BOARD, THE REMAINING BOARD  
9 MEMBERS SHALL APPOINT THE REPLACEMENT MEMBER, SUBJECT TO  
10 APPROVAL BY THE WARDEN. THE BOARD SHALL ESTABLISH RULES FOR THE  
11 PROGRAM.

12 (b) THE PROGRAM BOARD SHALL REVIEW APPLICATIONS FOR  
13 PARTICIPATION IN THE PROGRAM AND APPROVE APPLICANTS IN  
14 ACCORDANCE WITH PROGRAM RULES. THE BOARD MAY DISCHARGE A  
15 PARTICIPANT FROM THE PROGRAM FOR A VIOLATION OF PROGRAM RULES.  
16 THE WARDEN MAY DISCHARGE A PARTICIPANT FROM THE PROGRAM FOR A  
17 VIOLATION OF DEPARTMENT OR FACILITY RULES OR POLICIES.  
18 PARTICIPATION IN THE PROGRAM IS VOLUNTARY, AND A PARTICIPANT MAY  
19 LEAVE THE PROGRAM AT ANY TIME.

20 (c) THE PROGRAM BOARD SHALL CREATE A PROGRAM PLAN FOR  
21 EACH PARTICIPANT BASED ON THE PARTICIPANT'S INDIVIDUAL CASE AND  
22 RISK FACTORS. THE PROGRAM PLAN MAY REQUIRE A PARTICIPANT TO  
23 PARTICIPATE IN SPECIFIED TRAINING AND EDUCATION ACTIVITIES BASED  
24 ON THE PARTICIPANT'S CASE, RISK, AND PROJECTED RELEASE DATE.

25 (3) (a) FOR EACH STATE FISCAL YEAR 2023-24 THROUGH 2027-28,  
26 THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SHALL APPROPRIATE MONEY TO FUND THE  
27 PROGRAM, INCLUDING FOR DEPARTMENT STAFF NECESSARY TO OPERATE

1 THE PROGRAM.

2 (b) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ONLY ASSIGN DEPARTMENT STAFF  
3 FUNDED WITH MONEY APPROPRIATED PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION (3)  
4 TO DUTIES RELATED TO OPERATING AND SUPPORTING THE PROGRAM.

5 (4) (a) ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 31 OF EACH YEAR, THE  
6 DEPARTMENT SHALL REPORT TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
7 JUDICIARY COMMITTEE AND THE SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE, OR THEIR  
8 SUCCESSOR COMMITTEES, ABOUT THE PROGRAM. THE REPORT MUST  
9 INCLUDE A SUMMARY OF THE PROGRAM'S ACTIVITIES IN THE PRIOR YEAR  
10 AND MAY INCLUDE THE DEPARTMENT'S RECOMMENDATIONS FOR  
11 IMPROVING THE PROGRAM, INCLUDING NECESSARY STATUTORY CHANGES,  
12 AND IMPROVEMENTS THE DEPARTMENT MAY MAKE TO THE PROGRAM  
13 WITHOUT A STATUTORY CHANGE. THE DEPARTMENT MAY INCLUDE THE  
14 REPORT AS PART OF ITS "STATE MEASUREMENT FOR ACCOUNTABLE,  
15 RESPONSIVE, AND TRANSPARENT (SMART) GOVERNMENT ACT"  
16 PRESENTATION REQUIRED BY SECTION 2-7-203.

17 (b) IN ITS REPORTS REQUIRED NO LATER THAN JANUARY 31, 2027,  
18 AND JANUARY 31, 2028, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL RECOMMEND WHETHER  
19 TO CONTINUE THE PROGRAM AND WHETHER TO EXPAND THE PROGRAM TO  
20 OTHER CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES. THE DEPARTMENT MAY INCLUDE A  
21 RECOMMENDATION IN EARLIER REPORTS.

22 (c) NOTWITHSTANDING SECTION 24-1-136 (11)(a)(I), THE  
23 REQUIREMENT TO SUBMIT THE REPORT DESCRIBED IN THIS SUBSECTION (4)  
24 CONTINUES UNTIL FEBRUARY 1, 2028.

25 (5) NOTHING IN THIS SECTION PROHIBITS THE WARDEN FROM  
26 EXERCISING THE POWERS, DUTIES, AND FUNCTIONS ASSIGNED TO THE  
27 WARDEN PURSUANT TO THIS ARTICLE 33.

1           (6) SUBSECTIONS (1) TO (5) OF THIS SECTION AND THIS SUBSECTION  
2 (6) ARE REPEALED, EFFECTIVE JUNE 30, 2028.

3           (7) IT IS THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY'S INTENT THAT IF SUBSECTIONS  
4 (1) TO (6) OF THIS SECTION ARE REPEALED, THE DEPARTMENT MAY,  
5 PURSUANT TO ITS AUTHORITY TO ADMINISTER CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES,  
6 CONTINUE TO OPERATE THE RE-IMAGINE PROGRAM.

7           **SECTION 2. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act  
8 takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the  
9 ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly; except  
10 that, if a referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V  
11 of the state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this  
12 act within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take  
13 effect unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in  
14 November 2024 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the  
15 official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.