

First Regular Session  
Seventy-fourth General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 23-0077.01 Chelsea Princell x4335

HOUSE BILL 23-1108

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HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Duran and Evans,

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

(None),

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House Committees  
Judiciary

Senate Committees

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A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 CONCERNING THE CREATION OF A TASK FORCE TO STUDY VICTIM AND  
102 SURVIVOR AWARENESS AND RESPONSIVENESS TRAINING  
103 REQUIREMENTS FOR JUDICIAL PERSONNEL.

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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 creates a task force to study victim and survivor awareness and responsiveness training requirements for judicial personnel (task force) in the office for victims programs in the division of criminal justice. The task force consists of members who have experience representing victims and survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault,

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.

or other crimes; lived experience as a victim or survivor of domestic violence, sexual assault, or other crimes; or are members of the judicial community.

The task force is required to analyze current training provided to judicial personnel around the country on topics of domestic violence, sexual assault, and other crimes, in order to determine best practices and training requirements for judicial personnel in the state.

The task force is required to convene by July 1, 2023, and is required to meet at least 4 times but not more than 10 times. The task force is required to submit a report with its findings and recommendations to the house of representatives judiciary committee and the senate judiciary committee, or their successor committees, and the judicial department by November 1, 2023. The task force must convene its final meeting no later than October 15, 2023.

The task force is repealed, effective July 1, 2024.

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

**SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 24-33.5-534 as follows:

**24-33.5-534. Task force to study victim and survivor awareness and responsiveness training requirements for judicial personnel - creation - membership - duties - report - definitions - repeal.** (1) AS USED IN THIS SECTION, UNLESS THE CONTEXT OTHERWISE REQUIRES:

(a) "JUDICIAL PERSONNEL" MEANS JUDGES, OTHER JUDICIAL OFFICERS, AND COURT STAFF, BUT DOES NOT INCLUDE DISTRICT ATTORNEYS OR PUBLIC DEFENDERS.

(b) "TASK FORCE" MEANS THE TASK FORCE TO STUDY VICTIM AND SURVIVOR AWARENESS AND RESPONSIVENESS TRAINING REQUIREMENTS FOR JUDICIAL PERSONNEL CREATED IN SUBSECTION (2) OF THIS SECTION.

(2) THERE IS CREATED IN THE OFFICE FOR VICTIMS PROGRAMS IN THE DIVISION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE THE TASK FORCE TO STUDY VICTIM AND SURVIVOR AWARENESS AND RESPONSIVENESS TRAINING

1 REQUIREMENTS FOR JUDICIAL PERSONNEL.

2 (3) THE MANAGER OF THE OFFICE FOR VICTIMS PROGRAMS SHALL  
3 APPOINT THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS TO SERVE ON THE TASK FORCE:

4 (a) A VICTIM WITNESS ASSISTANT OR ADVOCATE IN A DISTRICT  
5 ATTORNEY OFFICE;

6 (b) A REPRESENTATIVE FROM A DISTRICT ATTORNEY OFFICE;

7 (c) A STATE COURT JUDGE;

8 (d) A REPRESENTATIVE OF A STATEWIDE ORGANIZATION THAT  
9 SERVES OR REPRESENTS VICTIMS AND SURVIVORS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE;

10 (e) A REPRESENTATIVE OF A STATEWIDE ORGANIZATION THAT  
11 SUPPORTS VICTIMS AND SURVIVORS OF CRIME OR VIOLENCE OTHER THAN  
12 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OR SEXUAL ASSAULT;

13 (f) A REPRESENTATIVE OF AN ORGANIZATION PROVIDING LEGAL  
14 SERVICES TO VICTIMS AND SURVIVORS;

15 (g) A RETIRED JUDGE WHOSE DOCKET INCLUDED CRIMINAL CASES;

16 (h) A CONFIDENTIAL ADVOCATE WHO WORKS WITH SURVIVORS OF  
17 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND SEXUAL ASSAULT;

18 (i) A FAMILY LAW ATTORNEY;

19 (j) A REPRESENTATIVE OF AN ORGANIZATION THAT PROVIDES CIVIL  
20 LEGAL SERVICES;

21 (k) A SURVIVOR OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OR SEXUAL ASSAULT;

22 (l) A VICTIM OF A CRIME OTHER THAN DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OR  
23 SEXUAL ASSAULT;

24 (m) A CITIZEN OF A SMALL OR RURAL COMMUNITY;

25 (n) A REPRESENTATIVE OF A CULTURALLY SPECIFIC ORGANIZATION  
26 THAT PROVIDES VICTIM SERVICES OR WORKS WITH VICTIMS OR SURVIVORS  
27 OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OR SEXUAL ASSAULT;

1           (o) AN INDIVIDUAL OTHER THAN A JUDGE WHO IS COURT  
2 PERSONNEL;

3           (p) A REPRESENTATIVE OF A STATEWIDE ORGANIZATION THAT  
4 SERVES OR REPRESENTS SURVIVORS OF SEXUAL ASSAULT; AND

5           (q) A REPRESENTATIVE OF A FAMILY JUSTICE CENTER.

6           (4) THE TASK FORCE SHALL ELECT A CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR AT ITS  
7 FIRST MEETING. THE MEMBERS SERVING AS CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR SHALL  
8 SERVE AS CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR FOR THE DURATION OF THE TASK FORCE.  
9 IN THE EVENT OF A VACANCY OR AN UNFORESEEN CIRCUMSTANCE THAT  
10 PREVENTS THE CHAIR OR VICE-CHAIR FROM CARRYING OUT THE CHAIR'S OR  
11 VICE-CHAIR'S DUTIES, THE TASK FORCE SHALL NOMINATE AND ELECT A  
12 REPLACEMENT CHAIR OR VICE-CHAIR AT THE NEXT MEETING.

13           (5) THE TERM OF EACH APPOINTMENT TO THE TASK FORCE IS FOR  
14 THE DURATION OF THE TASK FORCE. A VACANCY MUST BE FILLED AS SOON  
15 AS POSSIBLE BY THE MANAGER OF THE OFFICE FOR VICTIMS PROGRAMS.

16           (6) THE MANAGER OF THE OFFICE FOR VICTIMS PROGRAMS SHALL  
17 MAKE APPOINTMENTS ON OR BEFORE JUNE 1, 2023. IN MAKING  
18 APPOINTMENTS TO THE TASK FORCE, THE MANAGER OF THE OFFICE FOR  
19 VICTIMS PROGRAMS SHALL ENSURE THAT THE APPOINTEES INCLUDE  
20 PERSONS WHO HAVE EXPERIENCE WITH OR INTEREST IN THE TASK FORCE  
21 STUDY AREAS SET FORTH IN SUBSECTION (9) OF THIS SECTION.

22           (7) MEMBERS OF THE TASK FORCE SERVE WITHOUT  
23 COMPENSATION. HOWEVER, MEMBERS OF THE TASK FORCE MAY RECEIVE  
24 REIMBURSEMENT FOR ACTUAL AND NECESSARY EXPENSES ASSOCIATED  
25 WITH THEIR DUTIES ON THE TASK FORCE.

26           (8) THE TASK FORCE SHALL CONVENE ITS FIRST MEETING NO LATER  
27 THAN JULY 1, 2023. THE TASK FORCE SHALL MEET AT LEAST FOUR TIMES

1 BUT NOT MORE THAN TEN TIMES. THE TASK FORCE SHALL CONVENE ITS  
2 FINAL MEETING NO LATER THAN OCTOBER 15, 2023.

3 (9) THE TASK FORCE SHALL, AT A MINIMUM, DETERMINE AND  
4 ANALYZE THE FOLLOWING:

5 (a) CURRENT JUDICIAL TRAINING AROUND THE COUNTRY ON  
6 TOPICS RELATED TO SEXUAL ASSAULT, HARASSMENT, STALKING AND  
7 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE;

8 (b) GAPS IN CURRENT TRAINING IN COLORADO AND HOW TO FILL  
9 THOSE GAPS;

10 (c) BEST PRACTICES TO PROMOTE TRAUMA-INFORMED PRACTICES  
11 AND APPROACHES IN THE COURTS;

12 (d) STRATEGIES TO ENSURE TRAINING IS EFFECTIVE FOR LEARNING  
13 ABOUT VICTIMS AND SURVIVORS AND THE IMPACT THAT CRIME, DOMESTIC  
14 VIOLENCE, AND SEXUAL ASSAULT HAVE ON VICTIMS AND SURVIVORS, AND  
15 INCLUDES INFORMATION ON TRAUMA AND METHODS TO MINIMIZE  
16 RETRAUMATIZATION OF VICTIMS AND SURVIVORS;

17 (e) APPROACHES TO BEST PROVIDE TRAINING ON GENDER-BASED  
18 VIOLENCE AND ISSUES AFFECTING MARGINALIZED COMMUNITIES;

19 (f) THE AMOUNT OF TRAINING JUDICIAL PERSONNEL CURRENTLY  
20 RECEIVE CONCERNING THE PROTECTION OF THE RIGHTS OF VICTIMS TO  
21 ENSURE ANY IMPLEMENTED TRAINING EMPHASIZES THAT THE RIGHTS OF  
22 VICTIMS ARE TO BE PROTECTED AS VIGOROUSLY AS THE RIGHTS OF  
23 DEFENDANTS; AND

24 (g) ANY OTHER TOPIC OR CONCERN THE TASK FORCE BELIEVES IS  
25 NECESSARY TO ADEQUATELY STUDY TRAINING FOR JUDICIAL PERSONNEL  
26 REGARDING VICTIMS AND SURVIVORS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, SEXUAL  
27 ASSAULT, AND OTHER CRIMES.

1           (10) ON OR BEFORE NOVEMBER 1, 2023, THE TASK FORCE SHALL  
2           SUBMIT A REPORT, INCLUDING ITS FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS ON  
3           CONSIDERATIONS AND GUIDANCE IDENTIFIED IN SUBSECTION (9) OF THIS  
4           SECTION TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES JUDICIARY COMMITTEE AND  
5           THE SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE, OR THEIR SUCCESSOR COMMITTEES,  
6           AND THE JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT. ALL RECOMMENDATIONS MADE BY THE  
7           TASK FORCE MUST BE APPROVED BY A MAJORITY OF THE TASK FORCE  
8           MEMBERS IN ORDER TO BE INCLUDED IN THE REPORT.

9           (11) THE TASK FORCE MAY WORK WITH OTHER GROUPS, TASK  
10          FORCES, OR ORGANIZATIONS THAT HAVE EXPERIENCE WITH THE TOPICS  
11          THE TASK FORCE IS RESPONSIBLE FOR STUDYING.

12          (12) THIS SECTION IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2024.

13          **SECTION 2. 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, or safety.