

Second Regular Session
Seventy-fourth General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 24-0953.01 Shelby Ross x4510

HOUSE BILL 24-1355

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Mabrey and Amabile,

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

(None),

House Committees
Judiciary

Senate Committees

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 CONCERNING REDUCING THE COMPETENCY WAIT LIST, AND, IN
102 CONNECTION THEREWITH, CREATING A WRAPAROUND CARE
103 PROGRAM.

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 the bridges wraparound care program (wraparound program) in the office of bridges of Colorado (bridges of Colorado) to increase the success of eligible individuals referred from the criminal justice system by connecting the individuals to necessary wraparound care coordination services, resulting in case dismissal, continuity of care, and

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.

increased social stability.

The bill requires each judicial district to develop a process to identify and refer eligible individuals to the wraparound program as a community-based alternative to competency proceedings. The chief judge of each judicial district is required to enter into a memorandum of understanding with multiple stakeholders within the judicial district to develop and implement a referral process to refer individuals to the wraparound program.

The bill requires the office of the state court administrator to ensure a court coordinator assists with identifying eligible individuals, collaborates with the stakeholders and entities to develop the memorandum of understanding, manages data gathering and reporting requirements, and provides ongoing support to each judicial district in developing and implementing the referral process.

If an eligible defendant is referred to the wraparound program and the defendant consents to participate in the wraparound program, the bill requires the court to issue an order appointing a bridges wraparound care coordinator (care coordinator). The wraparound program is required to accept an eligible defendant the court refers to the wraparound program unless the care coordinator determines during the initial intake process that the wraparound program is not appropriate for the defendant due to clinical or other reasons. If the care coordinator determines the wraparound program is not appropriate for the defendant, bridges of Colorado is required to immediately notify the court and outline other interventions.

An individual who is accepted to participate in the wraparound program is required to enter into a written agreement with bridges of Colorado detailing the individual's participation in the wraparound program and the program expectations, cooperate with the care coordinator in developing the components of the participant's individualized wraparound care plan, and engage with the care coordinator and the services outlined in the individualized wraparound care plan.

The bill requires the care coordinator to conduct a screening and assessment of the participant. As part of the screening and assessment, the care coordinator is required to create an individualized wraparound care plan for the participant that is designed to reduce barriers and facilitate access to wraparound care resources.

The bill requires the court to set a review hearing within 182 days after the court issues the order appointing a care coordinator. At the review hearing, the court is required to dismiss the charges against the defendant unless the court finds that the defendant has not satisfactorily complied with the individualized wraparound care plan, at which point the district attorney may file a notice of termination with the court. If the defendant has not satisfactorily complied with the individualized

wraparound care plan but remains engaged, the court may continue the defendant's case for up to an additional 91 days and is required to dismiss the charges if the defendant has satisfactorily complied with the individualized wraparound care plan within the additional 91 days.

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

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** article 8.6 to title
3 16 as follows:

4 **ARTICLE 8.6**

5 **Bridges Wraparound Care Program**

6 **16-8.6-101. Legislative declaration.** (1) THE GENERAL
7 ASSEMBLY FINDS AND DECLARES THAT:

8 (a) FOR MORE THAN A DECADE, COLORADO HAS EXPERIENCED A
9 CRISIS IN RESPONDING TO INDIVIDUALS IN THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM
10 WHO ARE SUFFERING FROM A MENTAL ILLNESS OR MENTAL DISABILITY AND
11 WHO ARE DETERMINED BY A MENTAL HEALTH PROFESSIONAL TO BE
12 INCOMPETENT TO BE PROSECUTED;

13 (b) INDIVIDUALS FOUND INCOMPETENT TO PROCEED BY THE COURT
14 ARE ORDERED TO BE RESTORED TO COMPETENCY THROUGH SERVICES
15 DESIGNED TO ACHIEVE RESTORATION, WHICH SERVICES ARE PROVIDED IN
16 AN INPATIENT HOSPITAL SETTING OR OTHER COMMUNITY-BASED SETTING;

17 (c) THE NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS ORDERED TO RECEIVE INPATIENT
18 RESTORATION SERVICES HAS SUBSTANTIALLY INCREASED OVER THE
19 YEARS. ADDITIONALLY, THE NUMBER OF BEDS AVAILABLE FOR INPATIENT
20 RESTORATION HAS BEEN UNSTABLE AND THE LACK OF ADEQUATE
21 STAFFING HAS CAUSED MANY INPATIENT UNITS TO CLOSE. THIS
22 COMBINATION HAS RESULTED IN A LONG WAIT LIST AND SIGNIFICANTLY
23 LONGER WAITING PERIODS IN COUNTY JAILS.

1 (d) COLORADO IS FAILING TO PROVIDE TIMELY RESTORATION
2 SERVICES AS REQUIRED PURSUANT TO SECTION 16-8.5-111 (2)(f)(II) AND
3 THE TERMS OF THE FEDERAL COURT CONSENT DECREE ENTERED INTO IN
4 *CENTER FOR LEGAL ADVOCACY V. BARNES*, CASE No. 11 CV 02285, IN THE
5 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLORADO;

6 (e) COLORADO HAS AN OBLIGATION TO ENSURE THAT INDIVIDUALS
7 WHO ARE FOUND INCOMPETENT TO PROCEED DO NOT LANGUISH IN JAIL ON
8 A WAIT LIST FOR COMPETENCY SERVICES AND TO HONOR THE INDIVIDUALS'
9 CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHT TO TIMELY ACCESS TO RESTORATION SERVICES;

10 (f) DESPITE THE PROTRACTED LITIGATION AND LEGISLATIVE
11 EFFORTS, COLORADO HAS BEEN UNABLE TO ELIMINATE THE MULTITUDE OF
12 PROBLEMS IN THE ADULT COMPETENCY SYSTEM, INCLUDING THE WAIT
13 LIST, WHICH HAS INCREASED OVER ONE HUNDRED PERCENT IN RECENT
14 YEARS; AND

15 (g) COLORADO CANNOT ELIMINATE THE WAIT LIST BY ONLY
16 INCREASING THE NUMBER OF INPATIENT BEDS; INSTEAD, COLORADO MUST
17 SEEK TO REDUCE THE NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS PLACED ON THE WAIT LIST
18 FOR COMPETENCY SERVICES THROUGH:

19 (I) COMMUNITY SUPPORT;

20 (II) CONNECTING INDIVIDUALS TO A RANGE OF COMMUNITY
21 SERVICES THAT PROVIDE SOCIAL STABILITY FOR INDIVIDUALS WHO CYCLE
22 IN AND OUT OF THE COMPETENCY SYSTEM; AND

23 (III) ELIMINATING COMPETENCY SERVICES AND PROSECUTION OF
24 VERY LOW-LEVEL OFFENSES, WHICH WILL LIMIT THE USE OF EXPENSIVE
25 INPATIENT BEDS FOR THOSE INDIVIDUALS WHO PRESENT A PUBLIC SAFETY
26 RISK.

27 (2) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FURTHER FINDS AND DECLARES THAT:

1 (a) RATHER THAN FOCUSING ON COMPETENCY SERVICES TO ALLOW
2 FOR PROSECUTION, COLORADO SHOULD FOCUS ON AN INDIVIDUAL'S
3 MENTAL WELLNESS AND SOCIAL STABILITY, WHICH WILL ENHANCE PUBLIC
4 SAFETY, SYSTEM FAIRNESS, AND PRODUCE BETTER OUTCOMES, ALONG
5 WITH REDUCING THE INPATIENT COMPETENCY RESTORATION WAIT LIST;
6 AND

7 (b) SIGNIFICANT RESEARCH AND NATIONAL BEST PRACTICES
8 SUPPORT THE CONCEPT OF ELIMINATING RESTORATION SERVICES FOR VERY
9 LOW-LEVEL OFFENSES AND DIVERTING INDIVIDUALS FROM THE CRIMINAL
10 JUSTICE SYSTEM WHO ARE CHARGED WITH VERY LOW-LEVEL OFFENSES
11 AND WHO DO NOT PRESENT A PUBLIC SAFETY RISK. THE RESEARCH AND
12 NATIONAL BEST PRACTICES DEMONSTRATE THAT WELL-DESIGNED
13 COMMUNITY PROGRAMS THAT FOCUS ON MENTAL WELLNESS AND SOCIAL
14 STABILITY CAN REDUCE RECIDIVISM AND MOVE INDIVIDUALS SUFFERING
15 FROM MENTAL ILLNESS OR OTHER MENTAL DISABILITIES INTO A MORE
16 STABLE AND PRODUCTIVE LIFESTYLE.

17 (3) THEREFORE, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY DECLARES THAT IT IS
18 CRITICAL FOR THE STATE, IN CONJUNCTION WITH BRIDGES OF COLORADO,
19 TO REQUIRE EACH JUDICIAL DISTRICT TO DEVELOP A PROCESS TO IDENTIFY
20 AND REFER INDIVIDUALS TO A WRAPAROUND CARE PROGRAM AS A
21 COMMUNITY-BASED ALTERNATIVE TO COMPETENCY PROCEEDINGS IN
22 ORDER TO LIMIT THE NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS ON THE COMPETENCY WAIT
23 LIST AND TO IMPROVE OUTCOMES AND COMMUNITY SAFETY THROUGH
24 CLINICAL CARE AND SOCIAL STABILITY SERVICES.

25 **16-8.6-102. Definitions.** AS USED IN THIS ARTICLE 8.6, UNLESS
26 THE CONTEXT OTHERWISE REQUIRES:

27 (1) "BRIDGES OF COLORADO" OR "BRIDGES" MEANS THE OFFICE OF

1 BRIDGES OF COLORADO ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO SECTION 13-95-103.

2 (2) "BRIDGES WRAPAROUND CARE PROGRAM" MEANS THE BRIDGES
3 WRAPAROUND CARE PROGRAM CREATED IN SECTION 16-8.6-103.

4 (3) "ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUAL" OR "ELIGIBLE DEFENDANT" MEANS AN
5 INDIVIDUAL WHO THE JUDICIAL DISTRICT IDENTIFIES AS ELIGIBLE FOR
6 REFERRAL TO THE BRIDGES WRAPAROUND CARE PROGRAM PURSUANT TO
7 SECTION 16-8.6-108.

8 **16-8.6-103. Bridges wraparound care program - established.**

9 (1) THERE IS CREATED IN THE OFFICE OF BRIDGES OF COLORADO,
10 CREATED IN SECTION 13-95-103, THE BRIDGES WRAPAROUND CARE
11 PROGRAM TO INCREASE THE SUCCESS OF ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUALS REFERRED
12 FROM THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM BY CONNECTING THE ELIGIBLE
13 INDIVIDUALS TO NECESSARY WRAPAROUND CARE COORDINATION
14 SERVICES, RESULTING IN CASE DISMISSAL, CONTINUITY OF CARE, AND
15 INCREASED SOCIAL STABILITY.

16 (2) THE PURPOSE OF THE BRIDGES WRAPAROUND CARE PROGRAM
17 IS TO:

18 (a) SERVE ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE IDENTIFIED AND
19 REFERRED BY JUDICIAL DISTRICTS IN LIEU OF CRIMINAL PROSECUTION,
20 WHO ARE ABLE TO REMAIN IN THE COMMUNITY AND WHO ARE FOUND
21 INCOMPETENT TO PROCEED OR LIKELY TO HAVE A BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
22 DISORDER, A DEVELOPMENTAL HEALTH DISORDER, OR A NEUROCOGNITIVE
23 OR NEURODEVELOPMENTAL DISORDER THAT WOULD LEAD A PARTY OR THE
24 COURT TO RAISE THE ISSUE OF COMPETENCY;

25 (b) SERVE ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUALS WHOSE CASES HAVE BEEN
26 DISMISSED PURSUANT TO SECTION 16-8.5-116 (1)(b) BUT WHO ARE
27 VOLUNTARILY WILLING TO PARTICIPATE IN THE BRIDGES WRAPAROUND

1 CARE PROGRAM;

2 (c) INCREASE THE MENTAL WELLNESS AND SOCIAL STABILITY OF
3 INDIVIDUALS PARTICIPATING IN THE BRIDGES WRAPAROUND CARE
4 PROGRAM;

5 (d) DECREASE THE NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS ON THE WAIT LIST FOR
6 COMPETENCY RESTORATION SERVICES;

7 (e) DECREASE THE NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS UNDERGOING
8 COMPETENCY EVALUATIONS; AND

9 (f) DECREASE THE RATE OF REOFFENSE FOR ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUALS
10 CHARGED WITH LOW-LEVEL OFFENSES WHO ARE ACCEPTED TO
11 PARTICIPATE IN THE BRIDGES WRAPAROUND CARE PROGRAM.

12 **16-8.6-104. Memorandum of understanding.** (1) (a) THE CHIEF
13 JUDGE OF EACH JUDICIAL DISTRICT SHALL ENTER INTO A MEMORANDUM OF
14 UNDERSTANDING WITH THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE, THE PUBLIC
15 DEFENDER'S OFFICE, BRIDGES OF COLORADO, THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN
16 SERVICES, THE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADMINISTRATION IN THE
17 DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES, COMMUNITY-BASED TREATMENT
18 PROVIDERS, LOCAL BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CASE MANAGEMENT PROGRAMS,
19 AND OTHER IMPORTANT STAKEHOLDERS WITHIN THE JUDICIAL DISTRICT TO
20 DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT A REFERRAL PROCESS TO DEFLECT INDIVIDUALS
21 WITH A BEHAVIORAL HEALTH DISORDER OR NEUROCOGNITIVE OR
22 NUERODEVELOPMENTAL DISORDER FROM COMPETENCY PROCEEDINGS AND
23 THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM. THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
24 MUST ENSURE THE PARTIES AND RELEVANT STAKEHOLDERS DEVELOP AN
25 OPERATIONAL VISION FOR THE REFERRAL PROCESS AND HOW THE
26 REFERRAL PROCESS WILL BEST OPERATE WITHIN THE JUDICIAL DISTRICT.

27 (b) THE OFFICE OF THE STATE COURT ADMINISTRATOR SHALL

1 COORDINATE THE CREATION OF THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
2 FOR EACH JUDICIAL DISTRICT AND ANY REVISIONS, AS NEEDED.

3 (c) THE PARTIES TO THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING SHALL
4 COLLABORATE WITH COMMUNITY GROUPS ADVOCATING FOR INDIVIDUALS
5 WITH A BEHAVIORAL HEALTH DISORDER OR NEUROCOGNITIVE OR
6 NUERODEVELOPMENTAL DISORDER IN THE DEVELOPMENT AND OPERATION
7 OF THE REFERRAL PROCESS, WHENEVER POSSIBLE.

8 (2) AT A MINIMUM, THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING MUST:

9 (a) DESCRIBE THE OPERATIONAL VISION OF THE REFERRAL
10 PROCESS;

11 (b) ENSURE THE DEDICATION OF RESOURCES FOR INDIVIDUALS
12 REFERRED TO THE BRIDGES WRAPAROUND CARE PROGRAM;

13 (c) DEFINE THE PROCESS OF REFERRAL TO THE BRIDGES
14 WRAPAROUND CARE PROGRAM;

15 (d) DEFINE PROCEDURES THAT BEST ENSURE THE EFFICIENCY AND
16 FAIRNESS OF THE REFERRAL PROCESS IN THE JUDICIAL DISTRICT;

17 (e) REQUIRE SERVICE PROVIDERS WHO ARE A PARTY TO THE
18 MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING AND WHO PROVIDE THE SERVICES
19 DESCRIBED IN SECTION 16-8.6-109 (4) TO PARTICIPATE IN THE BRIDGES
20 WRAPAROUND CARE PROCESS, REGULARLY MEET AND COMMUNICATE WITH
21 THE BRIDGES WRAPAROUND CARE COORDINATOR, AND PROVIDE SERVICES,
22 AS NECESSARY, TO SUPPORT EACH INDIVIDUAL PARTICIPATING IN THE
23 BRIDGES WRAPAROUND CARE PROGRAM; AND

24 (f) ADDRESS COMPLIANCE WITH THE DATA-GATHERING
25 REQUIREMENTS PURSUANT TO SECTION 16-8.6-105 (2).

26 **16-8.6-105. Office of the state court administrator - court**
27 **coordinator - data gathering.** (1) THE OFFICE OF THE STATE COURT

1 ADMINISTRATOR SHALL ENSURE A COURT COORDINATOR:

2 (a) ASSISTS WITH IDENTIFYING ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUALS;

3 (b) COLLABORATES WITH THE STAKEHOLDERS AND ENTITIES
4 DESCRIBED IN SECTION 16-8.6-104 (1)(a) TO DEVELOP THE MEMORANDUM
5 OF UNDERSTANDING;

6 (c) MANAGES DATA GATHERING AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS
7 PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (2) OF THIS SECTION IN COORDINATION WITH
8 BRIDGES OF COLORADO AND OTHER RELEVANT STAKEHOLDERS; AND

9 (d) PROVIDES ONGOING SUPPORT TO EACH JUDICIAL DISTRICT IN
10 DEVELOPING AND IMPLEMENTING THE REFERRAL PROCESS DESCRIBED IN
11 SECTION 16-8.6-107.

12 (2) THE STATE COURT ADMINISTRATOR SHALL COORDINATE WITH
13 THE NECESSARY STAKEHOLDERS, INCLUDING BRIDGES OF COLORADO, TO
14 COLLECT THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION FOR EACH ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUAL
15 WHO IS IDENTIFIED AND REFERRED TO THE BRIDGES WRAPAROUND CARE
16 PROGRAM:

17 (a) THE INDIVIDUAL'S NAME, AGE, RACE, IDENTIFIED GENDER,
18 CHARGES, AND CASE NUMBER;

19 (b) THE LEGAL BASIS FOR THE REFERRAL;

20 (c) WHETHER THE INDIVIDUAL HAS PREVIOUSLY BEEN HELD FOR
21 AN EMERGENCY COMMITMENT PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 65 OF TITLE 27;

22 (d) WHETHER THE INDIVIDUAL SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED THE
23 BRIDGES WRAPAROUND CARE PROGRAM AND ANY IDENTIFIED RESOURCES
24 AND CONNECTIONS PROVIDED TO THE INDIVIDUAL;

25 (e) WHETHER THE INDIVIDUAL WAS UNABLE TO SUCCESSFULLY
26 COMPLETE THE BRIDGES WRAPAROUND CARE PROGRAM AND THE REASONS
27 FOR THE LACK OF SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION;

1 (f) WHETHER RESOURCES WERE AVAILABLE TO MEET THE
2 INDIVIDUAL'S MENTAL WELLNESS AND SOCIAL STABILITY NEEDS,
3 IDENTIFYING WHAT RESOURCES WERE NOT AVAILABLE AND THE REASON
4 FOR THE LACK OF RESOURCES;

5 (g) THE AMOUNT OF MONEY DEDICATED TO SERVING THE
6 INDIVIDUAL DURING THE INDIVIDUAL'S PARTICIPATION IN THE BRIDGES
7 WRAPAROUND CARE PROGRAM AND WHETHER ANY SERVICES WERE
8 REIMBURSED BY MEDICAID OR OTHER STATE OR FEDERALLY FUNDED
9 PROGRAMS;

10 (h) THE NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE
11 BRIDGES WRAPAROUND CARE PROGRAM WHO OTHERWISE WOULD HAVE
12 BEEN ORDERED TO COMPETENCY SERVICES AND THE NUMBER OF
13 INDIVIDUALS WHO LIKELY WOULD HAVE BEEN ON THE INPATIENT
14 COMPETENCY WAIT LIST OR OCCUPIED AN INPATIENT RESTORATION BED;

15 (i) THE NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE
16 BRIDGES WRAPAROUND CARE PROGRAM WHO WERE CHARGED WITH A
17 CRIME, NOT INCLUDING A CIVIL OFFENSE OR TRAFFIC OFFENSE, THAT
18 OCCURRED WHILE PARTICIPATING IN THE PROGRAM OR WITHIN ONE YEAR
19 AFTER SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETING THE PROGRAM; AND

20 (j) THE NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS WHO WERE IDENTIFIED AND
21 REFERRED TO THE BRIDGES WRAPAROUND CARE PROGRAM BUT WERE NOT
22 ACCEPTED FOR PARTICIPATION AND THE REASONS FOR THE
23 NON-ACCEPTANCE.

24 **16-8.6-106. Bridges wraparound care coordinator - duties and**
25 **responsibilities.** (1) THE BRIDGES WRAPAROUND CARE COORDINATOR
26 APPOINTED PURSUANT TO SECTION 16-8.6-108 (4) HAS THE FOLLOWING
27 DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

1 (a) FOLLOW THE POLICIES, PROCEDURES, BEST PRACTICES, AND
2 GUIDANCE OF THE BRIDGES WRAPAROUND CARE PROGRAM, AS
3 ESTABLISHED BY THE OFFICE OF BRIDGES OF COLORADO, CREATED IN
4 SECTION 13-95-103, AND THE BRIDGES OF COLORADO COMMISSION,
5 CREATED IN SECTION 13-95-104;

6 (b) CONDUCT AN INITIAL INTAKE OF AN ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUAL
7 PURSUANT TO SECTION 16-8.6-108;

8 (c) SCREEN AND ASSESS A PROGRAM PARTICIPANT AND DEVELOP
9 AN INDIVIDUALIZED WRAPAROUND CARE PLAN PURSUANT TO SECTION
10 16-8.6-109;

11 (d) DETERMINE WITH THE PROGRAM PARTICIPANT THE
12 APPROPRIATE WRAPAROUND CARE REFERRAL AND SERVICE OPTIONS TO
13 SUPPORT THE INDIVIDUALIZED WRAPAROUND CARE PLAN CREATED
14 PURSUANT TO SECTION 16-8.6-109 (4);

15 (e) COORDINATE SERVICES WITH SERVICES PROVIDERS, INCLUDING
16 SERVICES PROVIDERS WHO ARE A PARTY TO THE MEMORANDUM OF
17 UNDERSTANDING, AND AGENCIES IDENTIFIED IN THE INDIVIDUALIZED
18 WRAPAROUND CARE PLAN, INCLUDING FACILITATING COLLABORATIVE
19 EFFORTS TO IDENTIFY AND ADDRESS SYSTEMIC AND PROVIDER-RELATED
20 BARRIERS TO CARE;

21 (f) PROACTIVELY SEEK TO MAINTAIN FREQUENT AND REGULAR
22 CONTACT WITH PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS; DIRECTLY ASSIST IN CONNECTING
23 PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS TO NECESSARY SERVICES AND RESOURCES, COURT
24 APPEARANCES, AND OTHER APPOINTMENTS; AND MAKE THOROUGH
25 EFFORTS TO KNOW WHERE PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS ARE RESIDING, WHERE
26 PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS CAN BE REGULARLY FOUND, AND ALL KNOWN
27 CONTACT INFORMATION FOR PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS;

1 (g) MONITOR PROGRAM PARTICIPANT ENGAGEMENT WITH THE
2 INDIVIDUALIZED WRAPAROUND CARE PLAN AND PROVIDE SUPPORT TO
3 ENABLE THE PROGRAM PARTICIPANT TO ENGAGE FULLY, AND ALLOW FOR
4 VARIANCES IN THE INDIVIDUALIZED WRAPAROUND CARE PLAN TO
5 CONTINUE TO BEST MEET THE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND SOCIAL
6 DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH NEEDS OF THE PROGRAM PARTICIPANT;

7 (h) PROVIDE A WRITTEN REPORT TO THE COURT AND PARTIES WHEN
8 A PROGRAM PARTICIPANT IS NOT MEANINGFULLY ENGAGED WITH THE
9 INDIVIDUALIZED WRAPAROUND CARE PLAN, INCLUDING NOTIFYING THE
10 COURT WHEN A PROVIDER, ENVIRONMENTAL, OR SYSTEMIC BARRIER
11 EXISTS THAT KEEPS THE PROGRAM PARTICIPANT FROM SUCCESSFULLY
12 ENGAGING WITH THE INDIVIDUALIZED WRAPAROUND CARE PLAN;

13 (i) PROVIDE INFORMATION TO CRIMINAL JUSTICE PERSONNEL
14 REGARDING BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND COMMUNITY TREATMENT OPTIONS
15 AND BRIDGES WRAPAROUND CARE PROGRAM BEST PRACTICES; AND

16 (j) PROVIDE A WRITTEN REPORT TO THE COURT REGARDING THE
17 PROGRAM PARTICIPANT'S PROGRESS WITH THE INDIVIDUALIZED
18 WRAPAROUND CARE PLAN AS NECESSARY AND FOR THE PURPOSE OF
19 PROVIDING INFORMATION TO THE COURT FOR ANY HEARINGS RELATED TO
20 THE PROGRAM PARTICIPANT'S CASE DISMISSAL OR PROGRAM TERMINATION.

21 **16-8.6-107. Judicial district referral process - deadlines.**

22 (1) EACH JUDICIAL DISTRICT SHALL DEVELOP A PROCESS TO IDENTIFY AND
23 REFER ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUALS TO THE BRIDGES WRAPAROUND CARE
24 PROGRAM AS A COMMUNITY-BASED ALTERNATIVE TO COMPETENCY
25 PROCEEDINGS PURSUANT TO THE FOLLOWING SCHEDULE:

26 (a) NO LATER THAN APRIL 1, 2025, FOR THE SECOND,
27 SEVENTEENTH, EIGHTEENTH, AND TWENTIETH JUDICIAL DISTRICTS;

1 (b) NO LATER THAN OCTOBER 1, 2025, FOR THE FIRST, FOURTH,
2 FIFTH, SIXTH, EIGHTH, FIFTEENTH, SIXTEENTH, TWENTY-FIRST, AND
3 TWENTY-SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICTS; AND

4 (c) NO LATER THAN JULY 1, 2026, FOR THE THIRD, SEVENTH,
5 NINTH, TENTH, ELEVENTH, TWELFTH, THIRTEENTH, FOURTEENTH,
6 NINETEENTH, AND TWENTY-THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICTS.

7 **16-8.6-108. Eligibility - initial intake - acceptance - release**
8 **from custody.** (1) A DEFENDANT IS PRESUMPTIVELY ELIGIBLE FOR
9 REFERRAL TO THE BRIDGES WRAPAROUND CARE PROGRAM IF:

10 (a) THE DEFENDANT HAS A PRIOR HISTORY OF BEING FOUND
11 INCOMPETENT TO PROCEED OR IF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY AND DEFENSE
12 ATTORNEY AGREE THE DEFENDANT IS LIKELY TO HAVE A BEHAVIORAL
13 HEALTH DISORDER, A DEVELOPMENTAL HEALTH DISORDER, OR A
14 NEUROCOGNITIVE OR NEURODEVELOPMENTAL DISORDER THAT WOULD
15 LIKELY LEAD A PARTY OR THE COURT TO RAISE THE ISSUE OF
16 COMPETENCY; AND

17 (b) THE DEFENDANT'S HIGHEST CHARGED OFFENSE IS A CLASS 1
18 MISDEMEANOR, A LEVEL 3 OR LEVEL 4 DRUG FELONY, OR A CLASS 5 OR
19 CLASS 6 FELONY THAT IS NOT DESCRIBED IN SECTION 24-4.1-302 (1).

20 (2) A DEFENDANT IS ELIGIBLE FOR REFERRAL TO THE BRIDGES
21 WRAPAROUND CARE PROGRAM IF:

22 (a) THE DEFENDANT HAS A PRIOR HISTORY OF BEING FOUND
23 INCOMPETENT TO PROCEED OR IF THE PARTIES AGREE THE DEFENDANT IS
24 LIKELY TO HAVE A BEHAVIORAL HEALTH DISORDER, A DEVELOPMENTAL
25 HEALTH DISORDER, OR A NEUROCOGNITIVE OR NEURODEVELOPMENTAL
26 DISORDER THAT WOULD LIKELY LEAD A PARTY OR THE COURT TO RAISE
27 THE ISSUE OF COMPETENCY; AND

1 (b) THE DEFENDANT'S HIGHEST CHARGED OFFENSE IS A CLASS 4
2 FELONY THAT IS NOT DESCRIBED IN SECTION 24-4.1-302 (1), EXCEPT FOR
3 SECOND DEGREE ASSAULT IN VIOLATION OF SECTION 18-3-203 (1)(c),
4 (1)(f), OR (1)(h).

5 (3) A DEFENDANT IS NOT ELIGIBLE FOR REFERRAL TO THE BRIDGES
6 WRAPAROUND CARE PROGRAM IF THE DEFENDANT IS CHARGED WITH A
7 CLASS 1, CLASS 2, OR CLASS 3 FELONY, OR A FELONY DESCRIBED IN
8 SECTION 24-4.1-302 (1), EXCEPT FOR SECOND DEGREE ASSAULT IN
9 VIOLATION OF SECTION 18-3-203 (1)(c), (1)(f), OR (1)(h).

10 (4) IF AN ELIGIBLE DEFENDANT IS REFERRED TO THE BRIDGES
11 WRAPAROUND CARE PROGRAM AND THE DEFENDANT CONSENTS TO
12 PARTICIPATE IN THE PROGRAM, THE COURT SHALL ISSUE AN ORDER
13 APPOINTING A BRIDGES WRAPAROUND CARE COORDINATOR. THE BRIDGES
14 WRAPAROUND CARE PROGRAM SHALL ACCEPT AN ELIGIBLE DEFENDANT
15 THE COURT REFERS TO THE PROGRAM UNLESS THE BRIDGES WRAPAROUND
16 CARE COORDINATOR DETERMINES DURING THE INITIAL INTAKE PROCESS
17 THAT THE PROGRAM IS NOT APPROPRIATE FOR THE DEFENDANT DUE TO
18 CLINICAL OR OTHER REASONS. IF THE BRIDGES WRAPAROUND CARE
19 COORDINATOR DETERMINES THE BRIDGES WRAPAROUND CARE PROGRAM
20 IS NOT APPROPRIATE FOR THE DEFENDANT, BRIDGES OF COLORADO SHALL
21 IMMEDIATELY NOTIFY THE COURT AND OUTLINE OTHER INTERVENTIONS
22 THAT MAY INCLUDE, BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO, CIVIL COMMITMENT OR
23 OTHER PLACEMENT OPTIONS.

24 (5) IF A DEFENDANT IS ACCEPTED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE BRIDGES
25 WRAPAROUND CARE PROGRAM AND THE DEFENDANT IS IN CUSTODY, THE
26 COURT SHALL RELEASE THE DEFENDANT ON A PERSONAL RECOGNIZANCE
27 BOND.

1 **16-8.6-109. Participation - individualized wraparound care**

2 **plan.** (1) AN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS ACCEPTED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE
3 BRIDGES WRAPAROUND CARE PROGRAM PURSUANT TO SECTION 16-8.6-108
4 SHALL:

5 (a) ENTER INTO A WRITTEN AGREEMENT WITH BRIDGES OF
6 COLORADO DETAILING THE INDIVIDUAL'S PARTICIPATION IN THE BRIDGES
7 WRAPAROUND CARE PROGRAM AND THE PROGRAM EXPECTATIONS;

8 (b) COOPERATE WITH THE BRIDGES WRAPAROUND CARE
9 COORDINATOR IN DEVELOPING THE COMPONENTS OF THE PARTICIPANT'S
10 INDIVIDUALIZED WRAPAROUND CARE PLAN; AND

11 (c) ENGAGE WITH THE BRIDGES WRAPAROUND CARE COORDINATOR
12 AND THE SERVICES OUTLINED IN THE INDIVIDUALIZED WRAPAROUND CARE
13 PLAN.

14 (2) AS A CONDITION OF ACCEPTANCE IN THE BRIDGES
15 WRAPAROUND CARE PROGRAM, THE PARTICIPANT MAY BE REQUIRED TO
16 AUTHORIZE A RELEASE OF INFORMATION TO ALLOW FOR COORDINATION OF
17 WRAPAROUND CARE SERVICES WITH OTHER SERVICE PROVIDERS AND
18 REVIEW OF THE PARTICIPANT'S COMPLIANCE WITH THE INDIVIDUALIZED
19 WRAPAROUND CARE PLAN AND ENGAGEMENT WITH SERVICES.

20 (3) THE BRIDGES WRAPAROUND CARE COORDINATOR SHALL
21 CONDUCT A SCREENING AND ASSESSMENT OF THE PARTICIPANT, WHICH
22 MAY BE CONDUCTED IN COLLABORATION WITH EXTERNAL SERVICE
23 PROVIDERS OR ASSESSMENT CENTERS. THE BRIDGES WRAPAROUND CARE
24 COORDINATOR MAY CONSIDER THE INFORMATION, SERVICES, AND
25 COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH RESOURCES PROVIDED BY THE BEHAVIORAL
26 HEALTH ADMINISTRATION IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES AND
27 THE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES ORGANIZATIONS

1 ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO PART 4 OF ARTICLE 50 OF TITLE 27.

2 (4) (a) AS PART OF THE SCREENING AND ASSESSMENT CONDUCTED
3 PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (3) OF THIS SECTION, THE BRIDGES
4 WRAPAROUND CARE COORDINATOR SHALL CREATE AN INDIVIDUALIZED
5 WRAPAROUND CARE PLAN FOR THE PARTICIPANT THAT IS DESIGNED TO
6 REDUCE BARRIERS AND FACILITATE ACCESS TO WRAPAROUND CARE
7 RESOURCES, ESPECIALLY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND OTHER SOCIAL
8 DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH SERVICES. THE INDIVIDUALIZED WRAPAROUND
9 CARE PLAN MUST BE DESIGNED TO SUPPORT CONTINUITY OF CARE, SOCIAL
10 STABILIZATION, AND INCREASED RECOVERY RATES. THE INDIVIDUALIZED
11 WRAPAROUND CARE PLAN MUST TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION THE
12 PARTICIPANT'S BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF
13 HEALTH NEEDS, INCLUDING:

- 14 (I) MENTAL HEALTH TREATMENT AND CARE;
- 15 (II) TREATMENT AND CARE FOR MENTAL DISABILITIES;
- 16 (III) SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER INTERVENTION AND RECOVERY
17 SERVICES;
- 18 (IV) HOUSING, INCLUDING SUPPORTIVE HOUSING;
- 19 (V) TRANSPORTATION;
- 20 (VI) BASIC NEEDS ASSISTANCE;
- 21 (VII) EMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE, IF APPLICABLE; AND
- 22 (VIII) HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE, INCLUDING MEDICARE OR
23 MEDICAID ELIGIBILITY AND ENROLLMENT.

24 (b) THE BRIDGES WRAPAROUND CARE COORDINATOR SHALL
25 PROVIDE THE DEFENDANT, THE DEFENSE COUNSEL, THE DISTRICT
26 ATTORNEY, AND THE COURT WITH A COPY OF THE INDIVIDUALIZED
27 WRAPAROUND CARE PLAN IN WRITING.

1 **16-8.6-110. Review hearing - notice of termination.** (1) THE
2 COURT SHALL SET A REVIEW HEARING WITHIN ONE HUNDRED EIGHTY-TWO
3 DAYS AFTER THE COURT ISSUES AN ORDER APPOINTING A BRIDGES
4 WRAPAROUND CARE COORDINATOR PURSUANT TO SECTION 16-8.6-108(4).
5 AT THE REVIEW HEARING, THE COURT MUST DISMISS THE CHARGES
6 AGAINST THE DEFENDANT UNLESS THE COURT FINDS THAT THE DEFENDANT
7 HAS NOT SATISFACTORILY COMPLIED WITH THE INDIVIDUALIZED
8 WRAPAROUND CARE PLAN, AT WHICH POINT THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY MAY
9 FILE A NOTICE OF TERMINATION WITH THE COURT PURSUANT TO
10 SUBSECTION (2) OF THIS SECTION. IF THE DEFENDANT HAS NOT
11 SATISFACTORILY COMPLIED WITH THE INDIVIDUALIZED WRAPAROUND
12 CARE PLAN BUT REMAINS ENGAGED, THE COURT MAY CONTINUE THE
13 DEFENDANT'S CASE FOR UP TO AN ADDITIONAL NINETY-ONE DAYS AND
14 SHALL DISMISS THE CHARGES IF THE DEFENDANT HAS SATISFACTORILY
15 COMPLIED WITH THE INDIVIDUALIZED WRAPAROUND CARE PLAN WITHIN
16 THE ADDITIONAL NINETY-ONE DAYS.

17 (2) THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY MAY FILE A NOTICE OF TERMINATION
18 WITH THE COURT IF, AT ANY TIME PRIOR TO THE DISMISSAL OF CHARGES,
19 THE PROSECUTION BELIEVES THAT THE DEFENDANT HAS FAILED TO
20 SATISFACTORILY COMPLY WITH THE INDIVIDUALIZED WRAPAROUND CARE
21 PLAN. UPON FILING THE NOTICE OF TERMINATION, THE COURT SHALL SET
22 A HEARING DATE FOR THE DEFENDANT'S APPEARANCE OR ISSUE A
23 WARRANT IF REQUESTED BY THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY. IF THE COURT
24 DETERMINES THE DEFENDANT DID NOT SUCCESSFULLY COMPLY WITH THE
25 INDIVIDUALIZED WRAPAROUND CARE PLAN, THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY MAY
26 PROSECUTE THE DEFENDANT FOR THE ORIGINAL OFFENSE OR OFFENSES.

27 **16-8.6-111. Statements by defendant.** ANY STATEMENTS MADE

1 BY THE DEFENDANT DURING THE INTAKE, SCREENING AND ASSESSMENT,
2 OR WHILE PARTICIPATING IN THE BRIDGES WRAPAROUND CARE PROGRAM
3 PURSUANT TO THIS ARTICLE 8.6 MUST NOT BE USED AGAINST THE
4 DEFENDANT IN ANY CRIMINAL PROSECUTION UNLESS THE DEFENDANT
5 COMMITS A CHARGEABLE OFFENSE DURING THE INTAKE, SCREENING AND
6 ASSESSMENT, OR WHILE PARTICIPATING IN THE PROGRAM.

7 **16-8.6-112. Exclusion from speedy trial.** ANY PERIOD OF TIME
8 WHEN THE DEFENDANT IS PARTICIPATING IN THE INITIAL INTAKE PURSUANT
9 TO SECTION 16-8.6-108, IS SCREENED AND ASSESSED PURSUANT TO
10 SECTION 16-8.6-109, IS PARTICIPATING IN THE PROGRAM, OR FOLLOWING
11 A NOTICE OF TERMINATION PRIOR TO THE DEFENDANT APPEARING BEFORE
12 THE COURT IS EXCLUDED FROM SPEEDY TRIAL REQUIREMENTS PURSUANT
13 TO SECTION 18-1-405 (6), REGARDLESS OF WHETHER THE DEFENDANT
14 COMPLETED A WRITTEN WAIVER.

15 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 13-95-101, **amend**
16 (4) as follows:

17 **13-95-101. Legislative declaration and intent.** (4) Therefore,
18 the general assembly declares that ~~a statewide behavioral health court~~
19 ~~liaison program~~ THE OFFICE OF BRIDGES OF COLORADO provides a method
20 for collaboration and consultation among behavioral health providers,
21 district attorneys, county attorneys, and defense attorneys about available
22 community-based behavioral health services and supports, competency
23 evaluations, restoration to competency services, and other relevant
24 decisions and issues facing individuals with mental health or co-occurring
25 behavioral health challenges, including mental health disabilities, who are
26 involved with the criminal or juvenile justice system, including
27 appropriateness for community treatment and resource availability.

1 **SECTION 3.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 13-95-102, **amend**
2 (4), (8), and (9); **repeal** (5) and (10); and **add** (2.5), (2.6), (2.7), and (2.8)
3 as follows:

4 **13-95-102. Definitions.** As used in this article 95, unless the
5 context otherwise requires:

6 (2.5) "BRIDGES COURT LIAISON" MEANS A PERSON WHO IS HIRED
7 OR CONTRACTED BY THE OFFICE AS A COURT LIAISON PURSUANT TO THIS
8 ARTICLE 95.

9 (2.6) "BRIDGES COURT LIAISON PROGRAM" OR "COURT LIAISON
10 PROGRAM" MEANS THE COURT LIAISON PROGRAM CREATED PURSUANT TO
11 SECTION 13-95-105.

12 (2.7) "BRIDGES WRAPAROUND CARE COORDINATOR" MEANS A
13 PERSON WHO IS HIRED OR CONTRACTED BY THE OFFICE AS A WRAPAROUND
14 CARE COORDINATOR PURSUANT TO SECTION 13-95-105 (2).

15 (2.8) "BRIDGES WRAPAROUND CARE PROGRAM" MEANS THE
16 BRIDGES WRAPAROUND CARE PROGRAM CREATED PURSUANT TO SECTION
17 16-8.6-103.

18 (4) "Commission" means the bridges ~~program~~ OF COLORADO
19 commission created in section 13-95-104.

20 (5) ~~"Court liaison" means a person who is hired or contracted by~~
21 ~~the office as a dedicated behavioral health court liaison pursuant to this~~
22 ~~article 95.~~

23 (8) "Office" means the office of ~~the statewide behavioral health~~
24 ~~court liaison~~ BRIDGES OF COLORADO established in section 13-95-103.

25 (9) "Participant" means an individual with behavioral health
26 challenges who is involved with the criminal or juvenile justice system
27 and for whom a BRIDGES court liaison OR BRIDGES WRAPAROUND CARE

1 COORDINATOR has been appointed pursuant to a court order.

2 (10) "~~Program~~" or "~~bridges program~~" means the statewide
3 behavioral health court liaison program established in section 13-95-105.

4 **SECTION 4.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 13-95-103, **amend**
5 (1)(a), (1)(b), (1)(c)(II)(A), (4)(a), and (5); and **add** (2) as follows:

6 **13-95-103. Office of bridges of Colorado - administrative**
7 **support - director - confidentiality - repeal.** (1) (a) There is created the
8 office of ~~statewide behavioral health court liaison~~ BRIDGES OF COLORADO
9 as an independent agency in the judicial department. The office has the
10 powers and duties described in this article 95. THE PURPOSE OF THE
11 OFFICE IS TO IDENTIFY AND DEDICATE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
12 PROFESSIONALS TO PROVIDE SERVICES THROUGH THE BRIDGES COURT
13 LIAISON PROGRAM AND THE BRIDGES WRAPAROUND CARE PROGRAM IN
14 EACH STATE JUDICIAL DISTRICT.

15 (b) The office ~~and court liaisons~~ shall provide ~~bridges program~~
16 services, as described in sections 13-95-104, ~~and~~ 13-95-105, AND ARTICLE
17 8.6 OF TITLE 16, to ~~persons~~ INDIVIDUALS accused of crimes or delinquent
18 acts. The office ~~and court liaisons~~ shall provide ~~bridges program~~ services
19 to participants independently of any political considerations or private
20 interests.

21 (c) (II) (A) Notwithstanding the appointment authority described
22 in subsection (1)(c)(I) of this section, the ~~person~~ INDIVIDUAL who, on
23 April 27, 2023, is serving as director of the statewide behavioral health
24 court liaison program, as it existed prior to its repeal in 2023, is the
25 director of the office for a term expiring June 30, 2026. After the initial
26 term of appointment, the commission may appoint the ~~person~~ INDIVIDUAL
27 as director pursuant to subsection (1)(c)(I) of this section. The

1 commission may remove the director serving pursuant to this subsection
2 (1)(c)(II)(A) for cause.

3 (2) (a) THE OFFICE AND COMMISSION SHALL NOT DISCLOSE
4 INFORMATION PROVIDED BY AN INDIVIDUAL PARTICIPATING IN THE
5 BRIDGES COURT LIAISON PROGRAM OR BRIDGES WRAPAROUND CARE
6 PROGRAM EVEN IF THE INFORMATION IS RELIED UPON WHEN COMPILING
7 INFORMATION FOR A COURT REPORT OR OTHER REPORT REQUESTED OR
8 REQUIRED BY THE COURT, UNLESS:

9 (I) THE DISCLOSURE IS MADE IN CONNECTION WITH AND INCLUDED
10 IN A REPORT FILED WITH THE COURT OR AS REQUIRED PURSUANT TO COURT
11 ORDERED ACTION BY A BRIDGES COURT LIAISON OR A BRIDGES
12 WRAPAROUND CARE COORDINATOR; OR

13 (II) THE DEFENSE COUNSEL AND THE INDIVIDUAL PARTICIPATING
14 IN THE BRIDGES COURT LIAISON PROGRAM OR BRIDGES WRAPAROUND CARE
15 PROGRAM AGREE TO THE DISCLOSURE.

16 (b) A BRIDGES COURT LIAISON AND A BRIDGES WRAPAROUND CARE
17 COORDINATOR SHALL ONLY DISCLOSE INFORMATION REPORTED TO THE
18 COURT BY THE BRIDGES COURT LIAISON OR BRIDGES WRAPAROUND CARE
19 COORDINATOR PURSUANT TO A COURT ORDER, BUT THE INFORMATION
20 MUST BE RESTRICTED IF THE INFORMATION IS OTHERWISE LIMITED BY
21 COURT RULES.

22 (c) A REPORT REQUESTED OR REQUIRED BY THE COURT MAY BE
23 SUPPRESSED OR SEALED BASED ON THE CONTENTS OF THE REPORT.

24 (d) THIS SUBSECTION (2) DOES NOT:

25 (I) PREVENT THE OFFICE FROM DISCLOSING THAT A BRIDGES COURT
26 LIAISON OR BRIDGES WRAPAROUND CARE COORDINATOR WAS APPOINTED
27 TO A CASE OR HAS ACCESS TO THE CONTENTS OF AN ORDER THAT DIRECTS

1 THE OFFICE TO TAKE ACTION, AS LONG AS THE COURT ORDER IS NOT
2 OTHERWISE RESTRICTED FROM DISCLOSURE; OR

3 (II) LIMIT THE RIGHTS OF A VALID SUBPOENA, AN INDIVIDUAL
4 PARTICIPATING IN THE BRIDGES COURT LIAISON PROGRAM OR BRIDGES
5 WRAPAROUND CARE PROGRAM, THE DEFENSE ATTORNEY, A PERSON WHO
6 REQUESTS THE PROGRAM PARTICIPANT'S MEDICAL RECORDS UPON
7 SUBMITTING AN AUTHORIZATION THAT COMPLIES WITH THE FEDERAL
8 "HEALTH INSURANCE PORTABILITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 1996",
9 42 U.S.C. SEC. 1320d, AS AMENDED, OR A COURT ORDER AUTHORIZING
10 THE INSPECTION OF THE PROGRAM PARTICIPANT'S MEDICAL RECORDS OR
11 MENTAL HEALTH DATA PURSUANT TO SECTION 24-72-204 (3)(a)(I).

12 (4) (a) The office and judicial department shall enter into a
13 memorandum of understanding to provide the office, ~~and court liaisons~~
14 INCLUDING THE OFFICE'S EMPLOYEES OR CONTRACTORS, electronic
15 read-only access to the name index and register of actions for those case
16 types necessary to carry out the office's ~~and court liaisons'~~ statutory
17 purpose and the duties of ~~their~~ THE OFFICE'S court appointment. The
18 memorandum of understanding must also delineate a filing process for
19 ~~court liaisons~~ THE OFFICE, INCLUDING THE OFFICE'S EMPLOYEES AND
20 CONTRACTORS, to submit reports to the court.

21 (5) The office shall pay the expenses of the bridges ~~program~~ OF
22 COLORADO commission, established in section 13-95-104.

23 **SECTION 5.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 13-95-104, **amend**
24 (1), (2)(a)(VI), (2)(c), and (5)(b) as follows:

25 **13-95-104. Bridges of Colorado commission - creation -**
26 **membership - duties - repeal.** (1) There is created in the office the
27 bridges ~~program~~ OF COLORADO commission to support the office.

1 (2) (a) The commission is comprised of the following members:

2 (VI) The following members, appointed by the chief justice of the
3 Colorado supreme court:

4 (A) A representative from a disability rights organization that
5 provides services to the populations served by the ~~bridges program~~
6 OFFICE;

7 (B) A representative from a behavioral health, disability, or
8 criminal justice advocacy organization that advocates for the populations
9 served by the ~~bridges program~~ OFFICE;

10 (C) A representative from an organization that provides housing
11 or other resources to the populations served by the ~~bridges program~~
12 OFFICE; and

13 (D) Three Colorado residents, at least two of whom are
14 individuals with lived experience reflective of the populations served by
15 the ~~bridges program~~ OFFICE.

16 (2) (c) Members appointed by the chief justice ~~shall~~ MUST not be
17 employed or under contract with the office of the ~~statewide behavioral~~
18 ~~health court liaison~~ or the office within a state department responsible for
19 assisting civil and forensic mental health patients. To represent the
20 diversity of the communities served by the ~~bridges program~~ OFFICE, when
21 making designations or appointments to the commission, the designating
22 and appointing authorities shall consider a designee's or appointee's place
23 of residence or employment, gender and gender identity, sexual
24 orientation, ability, race, ethnic background, and lived experience.

25 (5) The commission shall:

26 (b) Work cooperatively with the director to provide guidance to
27 the office; provide fiscal oversight of the general operating budget of the

1 office; participate in funding decisions relating to the provision of
2 ~~program~~ services; and assist with the duties of the office concerning
3 ~~bridges program~~ OFFICE training and public outreach, as needed.

4 **SECTION 6.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **amend** 13-95-105 as
5 follows:

6 **13-95-105. Bridges of Colorado - programs - administration.**

7 (1) ~~The statewide behavioral health court liaison program, known as the~~
8 ~~bridges program, is established in the office. Beginning July 1, 2023, The~~
9 office shall operate the bridges COURT LIAISON program AND THE BRIDGES
10 WRAPAROUND CARE PROGRAM in each judicial district in the state. The
11 office shall ~~distribute court liaison~~ PROVIDE PERSONNEL and program
12 resources equitably in each judicial district and shall ensure that the
13 program services in each judicial district are consistent with the policies,
14 procedures, and best practices ~~of the bridges program~~, as established by
15 the office and commission, and are aligned with statewide goals and
16 legislative intent.

17 (2) ~~The purpose of the bridges program is to identify and dedicate~~
18 ~~behavioral health professionals to serve as court liaisons in each state~~
19 ~~judicial district. The court liaisons~~ OFFICE shall facilitate communication
20 and collaboration between judicial and behavioral health systems. ~~The~~
21 ~~office shall hire~~ BY:

22 (a) HIRING, or ~~enter~~ ENTERING into contracts for, individuals to
23 serve as:

24 (I) BRIDGES court liaisons who provide BRIDGES COURT LIAISON
25 program services to courts and participants in judicial districts; AND

26 (II) BRIDGES WRAPAROUND CARE COORDINATORS WHO PROVIDE
27 WRAPAROUND CARE PROGRAM SERVICES TO COURTS AND PARTICIPANTS

1 IN JUDICIAL DISTRICTS PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 8.6 OF TITLE 16; AND

2 (b) PROVIDING CONSULTATION AND TRAINING TO CRIMINAL AND
3 JUVENILE JUSTICE PERSONNEL REGARDING BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND
4 PROGRAM BEST PRACTICES.

5 (3) (a) ~~The bridges program must keep judges, district attorneys,~~
6 ~~county attorneys, and defense attorneys informed about available~~
7 ~~community-based behavioral health services, including services for~~
8 ~~defendants who have been ordered to undergo a competency evaluation~~
9 ~~or receive competency restoration services pursuant to article 8.5 of title~~
10 ~~16 and article 2.5 of title 19.~~

11 (b) ~~The bridges program must make efforts to connect participants~~
12 ~~to, and support engagement with, behavioral health services and services~~
13 ~~for social determinants of health and to promote positive outcomes for~~
14 ~~individuals living with behavioral health challenges.~~

15 (c) ~~The bridges program must make efforts to collaborate with~~
16 ~~service providers, including the office within a state department~~
17 ~~responsible for assisting civil and forensic mental health patients and~~
18 ~~jail-based behavioral health providers, to ensure continuity of care and~~
19 ~~service delivery in a manner that avoids duplication and bifurcation of~~
20 ~~services.~~

21 **SECTION 7.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **amend** 13-95-106 as
22 follows:

23 **13-95-106. Bridges court liaisons - bridges wraparound care**
24 **coordinators - duties and responsibilities.** (1) A BRIDGES court liaison
25 hired or contracted pursuant to this article 95 has the following duties and
26 responsibilities:

27 (a) Conducting intake, screening, and assessment, with

1 participants, for behavioral health history and needs and social
2 determinants of health needs;

3 (b) Determining appropriate referral and treatment options, when
4 necessary, and making direct connections to, and supporting engagement
5 with, services for participants, including other criminal or juvenile justice
6 diversion programs for individuals with behavioral health challenges,
7 which may include alternatives to competency services, prosecution, and
8 custody or confinement; if a participant is convicted, alternatives to
9 sentences to confinement while promoting public safety; and other
10 diversion-oriented programs, including problem-solving courts,
11 competency dockets, treatment, sober or supportive housing, and peer
12 mentor programs;

13 (c) Using the competency information from the statewide court
14 data system, as updated pursuant to section 13-3-101 (17), to identify
15 individuals who have not been appointed a BRIDGES court liaison but for
16 whom an appointment to the bridges COURT LIAISON program may be
17 beneficial. ~~If a court liaison or the bridges program identifies an~~
18 individual IS IDENTIFIED for whom services may be appropriate, the
19 BRIDGES court liaison may recommend to the judicial officer, defense
20 attorney, and district attorney working on the case that a BRIDGES court
21 liaison be appointed for the individual.

22 (d) Addressing system gaps and barriers and promoting positive
23 outcomes for participants in cases to which the BRIDGES COURT liaison is
24 assigned;

25 (e) Keeping judges; district attorneys or county attorneys, as
26 applicable; and defense attorneys informed about available
27 community-based behavioral health services for the participant in a case,

1 and, if applicable, case planning for possible release from custody for a
2 participant who has been ordered to undergo a competency evaluation or
3 receive competency restoration services pursuant to article 8.5 of title 16
4 and article 2.5 of title 19.

5 (f) Facilitating communication and collaboration between
6 behavioral health systems and criminal justice entities;

7 (g) Providing ~~consultation and training~~ INFORMATION to criminal
8 and juvenile justice personnel regarding behavioral health and community
9 treatment options and bridges COURT LIAISON program best practices; ~~and~~

10 (h) Coordinating with service providers, including the office
11 within a state department responsible for assisting civil and forensic
12 mental health patients and jail-based behavioral health providers, to
13 ensure continuity of care and service delivery in a manner that avoids
14 duplication and bifurcation of services; AND

15 (i) FOLLOWING THE POLICIES, PROCEDURES, BEST PRACTICES, AND
16 GUIDANCE OF THE BRIDGES COURT LIAISON PROGRAM, AS ESTABLISHED BY
17 THE OFFICE AND COMMISSION.

18 (2) A BRIDGES WRAPAROUND CARE COORDINATOR HIRED OR
19 CONTRACTED PURSUANT TO SECTION 13-95-105 (2) HAS THE DUTIES AND
20 RESPONSIBILITIES DESCRIBED IN SECTION 16-8.6-106.

21 (3) A BRIDGES COURT LIAISON HIRED OR CONTRACTED PURSUANT
22 TO THIS ARTICLE 95 AND A BRIDGES WRAPAROUND CARE COORDINATOR
23 HIRED OR CONTRACTED PURSUANT TO SECTION 13-95-105 (2) SHALL:

24 (a) KEEP JUDGES, DISTRICT ATTORNEYS, COUNTY ATTORNEYS, AND
25 DEFENSE ATTORNEYS INFORMED ABOUT AVAILABLE COMMUNITY-BASED
26 BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES, INCLUDING SERVICES FOR DEFENDANTS
27 WHO HAVE BEEN ORDERED TO UNDERGO A COMPETENCY EVALUATION OR

1 RECEIVE COMPETENCY RESTORATION SERVICES PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 8.5
2 OF TITLE 16 AND ARTICLE 2.5 OF TITLE 19;

3 (b) MAKE EFFORTS TO CONNECT PARTICIPANTS TO, AND SUPPORT
4 ENGAGEMENT WITH, BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES AND SERVICES FOR
5 SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH AND TO PROMOTE POSITIVE OUTCOMES
6 FOR INDIVIDUALS LIVING WITH BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CHALLENGES,
7 INCLUDING:

- 8 (I) MENTAL HEALTH TREATMENT AND CARE;
- 9 (II) TREATMENT AND CARE FOR MENTAL DISABILITIES;
- 10 (III) SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER INTERVENTION AND RECOVERY
11 SERVICES;
- 12 (IV) HOUSING, INCLUDING SUPPORTIVE HOUSING;
- 13 (V) TRANSPORTATION;
- 14 (VI) BASIC NEEDS ASSISTANCE;
- 15 (VII) EMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE, IF APPLICABLE; AND
- 16 (VIII) HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE, INCLUDING MEDICARE OR
17 MEDICAID ELIGIBILITY AND ENROLLMENT; AND

18 (c) MAKE EFFORTS TO COLLABORATE WITH SERVICE PROVIDERS,
19 INCLUDING THE OFFICE WITHIN A STATE DEPARTMENT RESPONSIBLE FOR
20 ASSISTING CIVIL AND FORENSIC MENTAL HEALTH PATIENTS AND
21 JAIL-BASED BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PROVIDERS, TO ENSURE CONTINUITY OF
22 CARE AND SERVICE DELIVERY IN A MANNER THAT AVOIDS DUPLICATION
23 AND BIFURCATION OF SERVICES.

24 ~~(2)~~ (4) If a court appoints a BRIDGES court liaison OR A BRIDGES
25 WRAPAROUND CARE COORDINATOR for ~~a person~~ AN INDIVIDUAL, the
26 statewide court data system must include a record of the appointment and
27 actions related to the appointment on the ~~person's~~ INDIVIDUAL'S case

1 records.

2 ~~(3)~~ (5) A BRIDGES court liaison OR A BRIDGES WRAPAROUND CARE
3 COORDINATOR appointed in a case shall act as IS a resource for the court
4 and the parties to the case. A BRIDGES court liaison shall AND A BRIDGES
5 WRAPAROUND CARE COORDINATOR ARE not be an independent party
6 PARTIES in a case, or AND A BRIDGES COURT LIAISON SHALL NOT serve in
7 a role intended to monitor compliance with a court order by a party or
8 other person INDIVIDUAL associated with a case.

9 ~~(4)~~ (6) A court liaison THE OFFICE may continue to serve a
10 participant WITH A BRIDGES COURT LIAISON OR A BRIDGES WRAPAROUND
11 CARE COORDINATOR for up to ninety days after final disposition of the
12 case for which the BRIDGES COURT liaison OR BRIDGES WRAPAROUND
13 CARE COORDINATOR was appointed.

14 **SECTION 8.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 13-95-107, **amend**
15 (2) as follows:

16 **13-95-107. Bridges of Colorado program participant services**
17 **funding.** (2) Requests for money must be submitted through the
18 appointed BRIDGES court liaison or other employee or designee of the
19 office.

20 **SECTION 9.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 13-95-109, **amend**
21 (1) as follows:

22 **13-95-109. Reporting requirements.** (1) On or before
23 November 1 of each year, the office shall report to the joint budget
24 committee, or any successor committee, about the office's work and
25 administration of the bridges program COURT LIAISON PROGRAM AND
26 BRIDGES WRAPAROUND CARE PROGRAM during the prior year. The report
27 must include:

1 (a) The number and competency status of cases in the past year
2 when a BRIDGES court liaison was appointed and outcomes in those cases
3 related to the legislative intent and statewide goals of the ~~program~~ OFFICE,
4 as set forth in this article 95, including data related to alternatives to
5 competency services, alternatives to custody, and alternatives to criminal
6 justice system involvement; ~~and~~

7 (b) Information concerning the use of money from the bridges OF
8 COLORADO program participant service fund, including a summary of
9 how money from the fund is being used to alleviate system gaps and
10 barriers to services; AND

11 (c) THE NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS AND STATUS OF CASES IN THE
12 PAST YEAR WHEN A BRIDGES WRAPAROUND CARE COORDINATOR WAS
13 APPOINTED AND THE OUTCOMES OF THE CASES RELATED TO THE
14 LEGISLATIVE INTENT AND STATEWIDE GOALS OF THE OFFICE, AS SET FORTH
15 IN ARTICLE 8.6 OF TITLE 16, INCLUDING DATA RELATED TO ALTERNATIVES
16 TO COMPETENCY SERVICES, ALTERNATIVES TO CUSTODY, AND
17 ALTERNATIVES TO CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM INVOLVEMENT.

18 **SECTION 10.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 16-8.5-102, **add** (4)
19 as follows:

20 **16-8.5-102. Mental incompetency to proceed - how and when**
21 **raised.** (4) IF A DEFENDANT IS ELIGIBLE FOR REFERRAL TO THE BRIDGES
22 WRAPAROUND CARE PROGRAM PURSUANT ARTICLE 8.6 OF THIS TITLE 16,
23 THE COURT MAY ASK THE PARTIES WHETHER THE DEFENDANT SHOULD BE
24 REFERRED FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE PROGRAM. WITH THE AGREEMENT
25 OF THE PARTIES, THE COURT MAY DELAY MAKING DETERMINATIONS
26 REGARDING THE DEFENDANT'S COMPETENCY TO ALLOW A BRIDGES
27 WRAPAROUND CARE COORDINATOR TO CONDUCT AN INITIAL INTAKE OF

1 THE DEFENDANT PURSUANT TO SECTION 16-8.6-108 TO DETERMINE
2 WHETHER THE BRIDGES WRAPAROUND CARE PROGRAM IS APPROPRIATE
3 FOR THE DEFENDANT.

4 **SECTION 11.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 16-8.5-111, **add** (4)
5 as follows:

6 **16-8.5-111. Procedure after determination of competency or**
7 **incompetency.** (4) IF A DEFENDANT IS FOUND INCOMPETENT TO PROCEED
8 AND THE DEFENDANT IS ELIGIBLE FOR REFERRAL TO THE BRIDGES
9 WRAPAROUND CARE PROGRAM PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 8.6 OF THIS TITLE
10 16, THE COURT MAY ASK THE PARTIES WHETHER THE DEFENDANT SHOULD
11 BE REFERRED FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE PROGRAM. WITH THE
12 AGREEMENT OF THE PARTIES, THE COURT MAY DELAY ORDERING
13 RESTORATION SERVICES FOR THE DEFENDANT TO ALLOW A BRIDGES
14 WRAPAROUND CARE COORDINATOR TO CONDUCT AN INITIAL INTAKE OF
15 THE DEFENDANT PURSUANT TO SECTION 16-8.6-108 TO DETERMINE
16 WHETHER THE BRIDGES WRAPAROUND CARE PROGRAM IS APPROPRIATE
17 FOR THE DEFENDANT, OR THE COURT MAY ORDER RESTORATION SERVICES
18 IN CONJUNCTION WITH APPOINTING A BRIDGES COURT LIAISON.

19 **SECTION 12.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 16-8.5-116, **amend**
20 (1) and (14) as follows:

21 **16-8.5-116. Certification - reviews - termination of**
22 **proceedings - rules.** (1) (a) Subject to the time periods and legal
23 standards set forth in this section, whichever is shortest, a defendant
24 committed to the custody of the department or otherwise confined as a
25 result of a determination of incompetency to proceed must not remain
26 confined for a period in excess of the maximum term of confinement that
27 could be imposed for only the single most serious offense with which the

1 defendant is charged, less thirty percent for a misdemeanor offense and
2 less fifty percent for a felony offense. At the end of such time period, the
3 court shall dismiss the charges, and certification proceedings or provision
4 of services, if any, are governed by article 65 or 10.5 of title 27.

5 (b) IF A DEFENDANT IS CHARGED WITH A CLASS 2 MISDEMEANOR,
6 A PETTY OFFENSE, A DRUG MISDEMEANOR, OR A TRAFFIC OFFENSE AND IS
7 FOUND INCOMPETENT TO PROCEED, THE COURT SHALL DISMISS THE
8 CHARGES AGAINST THE DEFENDANT. IF THE COURT DOES NOT REFER THE
9 DEFENDANT FOR CERTIFICATION OR COMMITMENT PURSUANT TO
10 SUBSECTION (10) OF THIS SECTION, THE COURT MAY REFER THE
11 DEFENDANT FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE BRIDGES WRAPAROUND CARE
12 PROGRAM PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 8.6 OF THIS TITLE 16.

13 (14) ~~On and after July 1, 2020, The court may, at any time of~~
14 ~~SHALL, AT AN APPROPRIATE TIME IN the restoration process, order the~~
15 ~~department OR THE APPOINTED BRIDGES COURT LIAISON, AS DEFINED IN~~
16 ~~SECTION 13-95-102, to provide the court with an appropriate~~
17 ~~INDIVIDUALIZED release plan DEVELOPED IN CONJUNCTION WITH ANY~~
18 ~~NECESSARY COMMUNITY PROVIDERS OR RESOURCES for the reintegration~~
19 ~~of the defendant into the community with appropriate services.~~

20 **SECTION 13.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add 16-8.5-124** as
21 follows:

22 **16-8.5-124. Transparency requirements.** (1) THE DEPARTMENT
23 SHALL POST PUBLICLY ON THE OFFICE OF CIVIL AND FORENSIC MENTAL
24 HEALTH'S WEBSITE:

25 (a) ALL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES RELATED TO COMPETENCY
26 EVALUATIONS, RESTORATION SERVICES, MANAGEMENT OF THE
27 COMPETENCY WAIT LIST, AND ADMISSION POLICIES REGARDING INPATIENT

1 RESTORATION SERVICES, INCLUDING SERVICES FOR JAIL-BASED
2 RESTORATION AND PRIVATE HOSPITAL BEDS;

3 (b) THE NUMBER OF BEDS CURRENTLY AVAILABLE AND OCCUPIED
4 IN EACH JAIL FOR INPATIENT RESTORATION SERVICES;

5 (c) THE NUMBER OF BEDS CURRENTLY AVAILABLE AND OCCUPIED
6 IN PRIVATE HOSPITALS FOR INPATIENT RESTORATION SERVICES;

7 (d) THE NUMBER OF BEDS CURRENTLY AVAILABLE IN EACH
8 STATE-RUN HOSPITAL AND OCCUPIED BY ADULT CIVIL PATIENTS, ADULT
9 RESTORATION PATIENTS, AND ADULT NOT GUILTY BY REASON OF INSANITY
10 COMMITMENTS;

11 (e) THE NUMBER OF BEDS CURRENTLY AVAILABLE IN EACH
12 STATE-RUN HOSPITAL AND OCCUPIED BY JUVENILE PATIENTS;

13 (f) THE NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS ON THE COMPETENCY
14 RESTORATION WAIT LIST;

15 (g) THE LENGTH OF COMPETENCY WAIT LIST TIMES AND AN
16 EXPLANATION OF THE METHODOLOGY USED TO CALCULATE THE WAIT
17 TIMES; AND

18 (h) ANY PROJECTED DATES FOR THE OPENING OF NEW BEDS AND A
19 DESCRIPTION OF WHAT TYPE OF BEDS WILL BECOME AVAILABLE.

20 **SECTION 14.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 27-50-403, **add**
21 (1)(l) as follows:

22 **27-50-403. Behavioral health administrative services**
23 **organizations - contract requirements - individual access - care**
24 **coordination.** (1) The BHA shall develop a contract for designated
25 behavioral health administrative services organizations, which must
26 include, but is not limited to, the following:

27 (l) REQUIREMENTS FOR THE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

1 ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES ORGANIZATIONS TO COLLABORATE WITH
2 DIVERSION PROGRAMS, STATEWIDE CRIMINAL JUSTICE PROGRAMS, AND
3 THE BRIDGES WRAPAROUND CARE PROGRAM CREATED PURSUANT TO
4 ARTICLE 8.6 OF TITLE 16, WHEN THE PROGRAMS ARE AVAILABLE IN THE
5 BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES ORGANIZATION'S
6 REGION.

7 **SECTION 15.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 27-50-404, **amend**
8 (3) as follows:

9 **27-50-404. Care coordination - responsibilities of behavioral**
10 **health administrative services organizations - coordination with**
11 **managed care entities.** (3) A behavioral health administrative services
12 organization shall ensure care coordination services through its network
13 and include local partners, when appropriate, such as counties, school
14 districts, THE OFFICE OF BRIDGES OF COLORADO ESTABLISHED IN ARTICLE
15 95 OF TITLE 13, and local collaborative management programs.

16 **SECTION 16. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act
17 takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the
18 ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly; except
19 that, if a referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V
20 of the state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this
21 act within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take
22 effect unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in
23 November 2024 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the
24 official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.