

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

REENGROSSED

*This Version Includes All Amendments
Adopted in the House of Introduction*

LLS NO. 24-1079.01 Jane Ritter x4342

HOUSE BILL 24-1377

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A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 **CONCERNING COURT-APPOINTED SPECIAL ADVOCATES WHO WORK**
102 **WITH YOUTH IN THE FOSTER YOUTH IN TRANSITION 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 clarifies that court-appointed special advocate volunteers can be attached, stay attached, or be reattached to cases for foster youth in transition.

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

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.

HOUSE
3rd Reading Unamended
April 14, 2024

HOUSE
Amended 2nd Reading
April 11, 2024

1 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 13-91-103, **amend**
2 (3) as follows:

3 **13-91-103. Definitions.** As used in this article 91, unless the
4 context otherwise requires:

5 (3) "Court-appointed special advocate" or "CASA volunteer"
6 means a trained volunteer appointed by the court pursuant to the
7 provisions of part 2 of article 1 of title 19, ~~C.R.S.~~, section 14-10-116,
8 ~~C.R.S.~~, or title 15, ~~C.R.S.~~, in a judicial district to aid the court by
9 providing independent and objective information, as directed by the court,
10 regarding children AND YOUTH involved in actions brought pursuant to
11 section 14-10-116 ~~C.R.S.~~, or title 15 or 19. ~~C.R.S.~~

12 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 19-1-208, **add (6)** as
13 follows:

14 **19-1-208. Duties of CASA volunteer. (6) Foster youth in**
15 **transition program.** WITH THE CONSENT OF THE YOUTH, A CASA
16 VOLUNTEER MAY BE APPOINTED IN A FOSTER YOUTH IN TRANSITION
17 PROGRAM CASE FILED PURSUANT TO PART 3 OF ARTICLE 7 OF THIS TITLE 19
18 AND MAY SUPPORT THE YOUTH IN PLANNING FOR THE YOUTH'S FUTURE
19 AND ACCESSING NECESSARY SERVICES, SUPPORTS, AND ASSISTANCE
20 CONSISTENT WITH THE YOUTH'S EXPRESSED INTERESTS AND THE
21 PROGRAM'S GOALS. A CASA VOLUNTEER APPOINTED TO A YOUTH IN A
22 FOSTER YOUTH IN TRANSITION PROGRAM CASE SHALL NOT MAKE BEST
23 INTERESTS RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE COURT OR OTHERS AND MUST NOT
24 HAVE ACCESS TO OR SHARE CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE
25 YOUTH WITHOUT THE YOUTH'S EXPRESS CONSENT TO ACCESS OR SHARE
26 SUCH INFORMATION.

27 **SECTION 3. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act

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