

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

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 25-0479.01 Shelby Ross x4510

HOUSE BILL 25-1132

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Camacho and Stewart R., Duran, Carter, Gilchrist, Lindstedt, Martinez, Phillips, Smith

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Hinrichsen and Bridges,

House Committees
Health & Human Services

Senate Committees

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 **CONCERNING CREATING THE MILITARY FAMILY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH**
102 **GRANT 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 military family behavioral health grant program in the behavioral health administration in the department of human services to provide grants to local nonprofit organizations to establish and expand community behavioral health programs that provide behavioral health services to service members, veterans, and family members of service members and veterans.

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.*

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

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 27-50-806 as
3 follows:

4 **27-50-806. Military family behavioral health grant program**

5 **- created - rules - definitions.** (1) AS USED IN THIS SECTION, UNLESS THE
6 CONTEXT OTHERWISE REQUIRES:

7 (a) "ARMED FORCES" MEANS THE ARMY, NAVY, AIR FORCE,
8 MARINE CORPS, SPACE FORCE, AND COAST GUARD OF THE UNITED
9 STATES.

10 (b) "ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUAL" MEANS A SERVICE MEMBER, A
11 VETERAN, OR A FAMILY MEMBER OF A SERVICE MEMBER OR VETERAN.

12 (c) "GRANT PROGRAM" MEANS THE MILITARY FAMILY BEHAVIORAL
13 HEALTH GRANT PROGRAM CREATED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (2) OF THIS
14 SECTION.

15 (d) "SERVICE MEMBER" MEANS A PERSON WHO IS:

16 (I) AN ACTIVE-DUTY MEMBER OF THE ARMED FORCES;

17 (II) A MEMBER OF THE RESERVE FORCES OF THE UNITED STATES;

18 OR

19 (III) A MEMBER OF THE FEDERALLY RECOGNIZED NATIONAL
20 GUARD.

21 (e) "VETERAN" MEANS A PERSON WHO SERVED IN THE ARMED
22 FORCES, THE FEDERALLY RECOGNIZED NATIONAL GUARD, OR THE
23 RESERVE FORCES OF THE UNITED STATES AND WHO WAS DISCHARGED OR
24 RELEASED FROM SERVICE.

25 (2) THE MILITARY FAMILY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH GRANT PROGRAM
26 IS CREATED IN THE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADMINISTRATION. THE PURPOSE

1 OF THE GRANT PROGRAM IS TO PROVIDE GRANTS TO LOCAL NONPROFIT
2 ORGANIZATIONS TO ESTABLISH AND EXPAND COMMUNITY BEHAVIORAL
3 HEALTH PROGRAMS THAT PROVIDE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES TO
4 SERVICE MEMBERS, VETERANS, AND FAMILY MEMBERS OF SERVICE
5 MEMBERS AND VETERANS.

6 (3) THE BHA SHALL ADMINISTER THE GRANT PROGRAM AND,
7 SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS, SHALL AWARD GRANTS FOR AN
8 INITIAL PERIOD OF ONE YEAR. THE BHA MAY EXTEND A GRANT AWARD
9 FOR UP TO ONE YEAR TO ALLOW FOR THE FULL EXPENDITURE OF THE
10 GRANT MONEY, BUT THE BHA SHALL NOT AWARD ANY ADDITIONAL
11 MONEY DURING THE EXTENSION PERIOD.

12 (4) THE BHA SHALL IMPLEMENT THE GRANT PROGRAM IN
13 ACCORDANCE WITH THIS SECTION. THE BHA SHALL ADOPT RULES
14 NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT THE GRANT PROGRAM.

15 (5) (a) TO RECEIVE A GRANT, A LOCAL NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION
16 MUST SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO THE BHA IN ACCORDANCE WITH RULES
17 ADOPTED BY THE BHA. THE BHA SHALL REVIEW THE APPLICATIONS
18 RECEIVED PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION (5).

19 (b) A LOCAL NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION SHALL DEMONSTRATE
20 THAT THE ORGANIZATION:

21 (I) SERVES THE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH NEEDS OF ELIGIBLE
22 INDIVIDUALS IN THE LOCALITY SERVED BY THE LOCAL NONPROFIT
23 ORGANIZATION;

24 (II) UTILIZES EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICES;

25 (III) INTEGRATES MILITARY CULTURAL COMPETENCY TRAINING
26 FOR THEIR STAFF; AND

27 (IV) CONNECTS ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUALS TO APPROPRIATE

1 COMMUNITY-BASED CARE IN A TIMELY MANNER UPON DISCHARGE FROM
2 THE LOCAL NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION.

3 (c) THE BHA SHALL PRIORITIZE A GRANT APPLICANT THAT:

4 (I) APPLIES FOR A GRANT TO SUPPORT THE OPERATING COSTS FOR
5 A QUALIFYING PROJECT, AS DETERMINED BY THE BHA, FOR WHICH
6 CAPITAL INVESTMENTS HAVE ALREADY BEEN MADE;

7 (II) PROVIDES CULTURALLY COMPETENT BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
8 SERVICES TO ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUALS;

9 (III) HAS THE ABILITY TO SUBMIT DATA THAT THE BHA
10 DETERMINES IS NECESSARY TO MEASURE THE IMPACT OF THE GRANT
11 PROGRAM; AND

12 (IV) IS LOCATED WITHIN FIFTY MILES OF A UNITED STATES
13 MILITARY INSTALLATION LOCATED IN COLORADO.

14 (6) SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS, THE BHA SHALL
15 AWARD GRANTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE RULES ADOPTED BY THE BHA.

16 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-75-230, **amend**
17 (3.5) as follows:

18 **24-75-230. Behavioral and mental health cash fund - creation**
19 **- allowable uses - task force - definitions - repeal.** (3.5) (a) The first
20 ~~five~~ THREE million FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND dollars of the money
21 transferred to the fund pursuant to section 39-37-301 (2)(a)(II) must be
22 used by the behavioral health administration, established pursuant to
23 section 27-50-102, in coordination with the division of veterans affairs,
24 created in section 28-5-701 (1), for the purpose of continuing and
25 expanding the veterans mental health services program in accordance
26 with section 28-5-714.

27 (b) AFTER THE REQUIREMENT IN SUBSECTION (3.5)(a) OF THIS

1 SECTION IS MET, THE NEXT ONE MILLION FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND
2 DOLLARS OF THE MONEY TRANSFERRED TO THE FUND PURSUANT TO
3 SECTION 39-37-301 (2)(a)(II) MUST BE USED BY THE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
4 ADMINISTRATION, ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO SECTION 27-50-102, FOR
5 THE MILITARY FAMILY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH GRANT PROGRAM CREATED
6 PURSUANT TO SECTION 27-50-806.

7 **SECTION 3. 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 2026 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the
15 official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.