

Second Regular Session  
Seventy-second General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO

DRAFT  
9.20.19

**BILL 1**

LLS NO. 20-0256.01 Richard Sweetman x4333

**INTERIM COMMITTEE BILL**

**The Legislative Oversight Committee Concerning the Treatment of  
Persons with Mental Health Disorders in the Criminal and Juvenile  
Justice Systems**

**BILL TOPIC: "Grants For 911 Dispatchers' Mental Health Services"**

**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

101 **CONCERNING THE ADDITION OF PUBLIC SAFETY TELECOMMUNICATORS**  
102 **AS ELIGIBLE RECIPIENTS OF MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES UNDER**  
103 **THE MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT GRANT PROGRAM ADMINISTERED**  
104 **BY THE DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL AFFAIRS.**

**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 Legislative Oversight Committee Concerning the Treatment of Persons with Mental Health Disorders in the Criminal and Juvenile Justice Systems.** The bill adds public safety

*Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material to be added to existing statute.  
Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.*

telecommunicators as eligible recipients of mental health services that are provided pursuant to grants from the existing peace officers mental health support grant program. A "public safety telecommunicator" is a 911 dispatcher or any other person who answers 911 telephone calls.

The bill allows public safety answering points to apply for such grants and provide such services to their public safety telecommunicators. Accordingly, the bill changes the name of the grant program to the peace officers and public safety telecommunicators mental health support grant program.

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

2           **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-32-3501, **amend**  
3 (1) introductory portion, (1)(d), (2) introductory portion, (2)(d), (2.5), (3),  
4 (4), (7)(a), (10)(a), and (10.5)(a); and **add** (10.5)(d) and (10.5)(e) as  
5 follows:

6           **24-32-3501. Peace officers and public safety**  
7 **telecommunicators mental health support grant program - created**  
8 **- rules - policies and procedures - fund - definitions - report - repeal.**

9 (1) There is created in the department of local affairs, referred to in this  
10 section as the "department", the peace officers AND PUBLIC SAFETY  
11 TELECOMMUNICATORS mental health support grant program to provide  
12 grants of money to eligible agencies for the purpose of helping ~~these~~  
13 ELIGIBLE agencies provide mental health services to peace officers OR  
14 PUBLIC SAFETY TELECOMMUNICATORS, including:

15           (d) Training and education programs that teach ~~peace officers~~ the  
16 symptoms of job-related mental trauma and how to prevent and treat such  
17 trauma; and

18           (2) Grant recipients may use money received through the grant  
19 program to provide mental health services to peace officers OR PUBLIC  
20 SAFETY TELECOMMUNICATORS, including:

1 (d) Training and education programs that teach ~~peace officers~~ the  
2 symptoms of job-related mental trauma and how to prevent and treat such  
3 trauma; and

4 (2.5) For the purposes of subsections (1)(b) and (2)(b) of this  
5 section, grant recipients may use money received through the grant  
6 program to reimburse peace officers AND PUBLIC SAFETY  
7 TELECOMMUNICATORS who have paid the costs of their own counseling  
8 services.

9 (3) Law enforcement agencies AND PUBLIC SAFETY ANSWERING  
10 POINTS that apply for grants from the grant program are encouraged to do  
11 so, to the extent possible, in collaboration with the community mental  
12 health centers in their regions.

13 (4) The department shall administer the grant program and,  
14 subject to available appropriations, shall award grants as provided in this  
15 section. Subject to available appropriations, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL  
16 AWARD grants ~~shall be paid out of~~ FROM the fund created in subsection  
17 (10) of this section.

18 (7) (a) In accordance with a schedule to be determined pursuant  
19 to rules promulgated by the executive director of the department, each  
20 grant recipient shall submit to the department a report that describes and  
21 includes documentation of the grant recipient's use of the grant money.  
22 The report must also include any information required by the department  
23 pursuant to any policies or procedures developed by the department  
24 pursuant to subsection (5) of this section. In preparing each such report,  
25 each grant recipient shall redact the names and any other personal  
26 identifying information of each peace officer OR PUBLIC SAFETY  
27 TELECOMMUNICATOR to whom the grant recipient provided services,

1 training, or education with grant money.

2 (10) (a) The peace officers AND PUBLIC SAFETY  
3 TELECOMMUNICATORS mental health support fund, referred to in this  
4 section as the "fund", is created in the state treasury. The fund consists of  
5 gifts, grants, and donations credited to the fund pursuant to subsection  
6 (10)(b) of this section and any other money that the general assembly may  
7 appropriate or transfer to the fund. The executive director or ~~his or her~~  
8 THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S designee may expend money from the fund  
9 for the purposes of this section.

10 (10.5) As used in this section, unless the context otherwise  
11 requires:

12 (a) "Eligible agency" means:

13 (I) A law enforcement agency within the state; ~~or~~

14 (II) A peace officer organization within the state; OR

15 (III) A PUBLIC SAFETY ANSWERING POINT.

16 (d) "PUBLIC SAFETY ANSWERING POINT" HAS THE SAME MEANING  
17 AS SET FORTH IN SECTION 29-11-101 (6.5).

18 (e) "PUBLIC SAFETY TELECOMMUNICATOR" MEANS A 911  
19 DISPATCHER AND ANY OTHER PERSON WHO ANSWERS 911 TELEPHONE  
20 CALLS.

21 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 30-10-527, **amend**  
22 (3) as follows:

23 **30-10-527. Mental health professionals - grant applications**  
24 **encouraged - definition - repeal.** (3) For the purposes of this section,  
25 each sheriff's office is encouraged to apply annually for a grant from the  
26 peace officers AND PUBLIC SAFETY TELECOMMUNICATORS mental health  
27 support grant program created in section 24-32-3501.

1           **SECTION 3.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 31-30-109, **amend**  
2 (3) as follows:

3           **31-30-109. Mental health professionals - grant applications**  
4 **encouraged - definition - repeal.** (3) For the purposes of this section,  
5 each municipal police department is encouraged to apply annually for a  
6 grant from the peace officers AND PUBLIC SAFETY TELECOMMUNICATORS  
7 mental health support grant program created in section 24-32-3501.

8           **SECTION 4. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act  
9 takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the  
10 ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly (August  
11 5, 2020, if adjournment sine die is on May 6, 2020); except that, if a  
12 referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V of the  
13 state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this act  
14 within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take effect  
15 unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in  
16 November 2020 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the  
17 official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.