

First Regular Session
Seventy-fifth General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO

DRAFT
9/9/24

BILL 4

LLS NO. 25-0211.01 Jacob Baus x2173

INTERIM COMMITTEE BILL

Representative Hugh McKean
Colorado Youth Advisory Council Review Committee

BILL TOPIC: Create Youth Health Literacy Oversight Panel
DEADLINES: File by: 9/9/2024

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 **CONCERNING MEASURES TO PROMOTE YOUTH HEALTH LITERACY.**

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/>.)

Representative Hugh McKean Colorado Youth Advisory Council Review Committee. The bill creates a youth health literacy oversight panel (panel) in the department of public health and environment (department). The purpose of the panel is to identify and examine youth health literacy deficits and to make recommendations and take action to improve youth health literacy.

The panel consists of students who are 14 to 18 years old; teachers of physical health, behavioral health, or physical education classes; and

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

school mental health professionals.

The panel is required to:

- Examine data to identify youth health literacy deficits and make recommendations to agencies and school districts to improve the deficits;
- Develop a youth health literacy learning platform that is publicly accessible on the department's website;
- Examine the elementary and secondary education standards adopted by the state board of education, align the current health education standards with the health literacy standards, and recommend revisions to improve youth health literacy;
- Collaborate with school-based health centers to develop and revise youth health literacy materials that are accessible to students; and
- Submit an annual report to the health and human services and education committees of the senate and house of representatives.

The bill requires each school-based health center to make digital educational materials prepared by the panel available on its school district's or charter school's website. The website must include information concerning where a student may access non-digital information.

The bill requires the state board of education to consider the panel's recommendations to improve youth health literacy.

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

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** part 24 to article
3 20.5 of title 25 as follows:

4 **PART 24**

5 **YOUTH HEALTH LITERACY**

6 **25-20.5-2401. Definitions.** AS USED IN THIS PART 24, UNLESS THE
7 CONTEXT OTHERWISE REQUIRES:

8 (1) "DEPARTMENT" MEANS THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH
9 AND ENVIRONMENT CREATED PURSUANT TO SECTION 25-1-102.

10 (2) "EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR" MEANS THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF
11 THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT.

1 (3) "HEALTH LITERACY" MEANS THE ABILITY TO ACCESS,
2 UNDERSTAND, AND USE INFORMATION AND SERVICES TO INFORM
3 HEALTH-RELATED DECISIONS AND ACTIONS FOR ONESELF AND OTHERS IN
4 THE COMMUNITY.

5 (4) "PANEL" MEANS THE YOUTH HEALTH LITERACY OVERSIGHT
6 PANEL CREATED PURSUANT TO SECTION 25-20.5-2402.

7 (5) "SCHOOL-BASED HEALTH CENTER" HAS THE SAME MEANING SET
8 FORTH IN SECTION 25-20.5-502.

9 (6) "SCHOOL COUNSELOR" MEANS A PERSON WHO HAS A SPECIAL
10 SERVICES PROVIDER LICENSE ISSUED PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 60.5 OF TITLE
11 22 WITH A SCHOOL COUNSELOR ENDORSEMENT, INCLUDING THE
12 COMPLETION OF COURSE WORK IN THE AREAS OF ACADEMIC AND
13 SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT; ASSESSMENT FOR SOCIAL AND
14 EMOTIONAL CONCERNS, INCLUDING SUICIDE PREVENTION AND
15 INTERVENTION; CRISIS INTERVENTION; SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT
16 PROGRAMS, INCLUDING CHARACTER EDUCATION AND VIOLENCE
17 PREVENTION; MENTAL HEALTH; PROTECTIVE FACTORS FOR AT-RISK
18 STUDENTS; AND CAREER AWARENESS, EXPLORATION, AND PLANNING.

19 (7) "SCHOOL MENTAL HEALTH PROFESSIONAL" MEANS A SCHOOL
20 COUNSELOR, SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGIST, OR SCHOOL SOCIAL WORKER.

21 (8) "SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGIST" MEANS A PERSON WHO HAS A
22 SPECIAL SERVICES PROVIDER LICENSE ISSUED PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 60.5
23 OF TITLE 22 WITH A SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGIST ENDORSEMENT.

24 (9) "SCHOOL SOCIAL WORKER" MEANS A PERSON WHO HAS A
25 SPECIAL SERVICES PROVIDER LICENSE ISSUED PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 60.5
26 OF TITLE 22 WITH AN ENDORSEMENT IN SCHOOL SOCIAL WORK, INCLUDING
27 THE COMPLETION OF COURSE WORK IN THE AREAS OF SCHOOL AND SPECIAL

1 EDUCATION LAW, FUNCTIONAL BEHAVIOR ASSESSMENT, AND THE
2 DEVELOPMENT OF BEHAVIOR INTERVENTION PLANS.

3 (10) "YOUTH" MEANS A PERSON WHO IS FIVE YEARS OF AGE OR
4 OLDER BUT UNDER NINETEEN YEARS OF AGE.

5 **25-20.5-2402. Youth health literacy oversight panel - creation**

6 **- membership - appointment.** (1) THERE IS CREATED IN THE
7 DEPARTMENT THE YOUTH HEALTH LITERACY OVERSIGHT PANEL. THE
8 PURPOSE OF THE PANEL IS TO IDENTIFY AND EXAMINE YOUTH HEALTH
9 LITERACY DEFICITS AND TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS AND TAKE ACTIONS
10 TO IMPROVE YOUTH HEALTH LITERACY.

11 (2) THE PANEL CONSISTS OF THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS:

12 (a) FIVE MEMBERS WHO ARE STUDENTS ENROLLED IN PUBLIC
13 SCHOOLS IN COLORADO AND ARE FOURTEEN YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER BUT
14 UNDER NINETEEN YEARS OF AGE, APPOINTED BY THE EXECUTIVE
15 DIRECTOR;

16 (b) SIX MEMBERS WHO ARE TEACHERS IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS IN
17 COLORADO AND TEACH CLASSES CONCERNING PHYSICAL HEALTH,
18 BEHAVIORAL HEALTH, OR PHYSICAL EDUCATION, APPOINTED BY THE
19 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR; AND

20 (c) THREE MEMBERS WHO ARE SCHOOL MENTAL HEALTH
21 PROFESSIONALS IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS IN COLORADO, APPOINTED BY THE
22 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR.

23 (3) (a) THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SHALL MAKE INITIAL
24 APPOINTMENTS TO THE PANEL NO LATER THAN AUGUST 31, 2025. THE
25 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SHALL CREATE A PROCESS FOR INTERESTED PERSONS
26 TO APPLY FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE PANEL.

27 (b) (I) MEMBERS SERVE TWO-YEAR TERMS. EACH TERM BEGINS ON

1 SEPTEMBER 1 OF EACH ODD-NUMBERED YEAR AND ENDS ON AUGUST 31
2 OF THE NEXT ODD-NUMBERED YEAR.

3 (II) MEMBERS SERVE AT THE PLEASURE OF THE EXECUTIVE
4 DIRECTOR.

5 (III) THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MAY REAPPOINT A MEMBER TO
6 SERVE NO MORE THAN TWO TERMS, EXCEPT AS PROVIDED PURSUANT TO
7 SUBSECTION (3)(b)(IV) OF THIS SECTION.

8 (IV) IF A VACANCY OCCURS, THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SHALL
9 PROMPTLY APPOINT A NEW MEMBER WHO SATISFIES THE MEMBERSHIP
10 REQUIREMENT OF THE VACATED SEAT TO COMPLETE THE TERM. THE
11 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MAY REAPPOINT A MEMBER APPOINTED TO
12 COMPLETE A TERM PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION (3)(b)(IV) TO SERVE
13 NO MORE THAN TWO TERMS IN ADDITION TO THE REMAINDER OF THE
14 PARTIAL TERM.

15 (c) TO THE EXTENT PRACTICABLE, THE PANEL'S MEMBERSHIP MUST
16 INCLUDE PEOPLE FROM THROUGHOUT THE STATE AND REFLECT THE
17 RACIAL, ETHNIC, AND GEOGRAPHIC DIVERSITY OF THE STATE.

18 (d) MEMBERS SERVE WITHOUT COMPENSATION BUT MAY BE
19 REIMBURSED FOR EXPENSES DIRECTLY RELATING TO THEIR SERVICE ON
20 THE PANEL.

21 (4) THE PANEL MUST MEET AT LEAST EIGHT, BUT NO MORE THAN
22 TWELVE, TIMES PER YEAR. MEETINGS MAY BE HELD IN PERSON, THROUGH
23 THE USE OF AUDIO-VISUAL COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY, OR BOTH. THE
24 PANEL IS A STATE PUBLIC BODY FOR PURPOSES OF SECTION 24-6-402, AND
25 MEETINGS OF THE PANEL ARE SUBJECT TO SECTION 24-6-402. THE PANEL
26 IS SUBJECT TO THE PROVISIONS OF THE "COLORADO OPEN RECORDS ACT",
27 PART 2 OF ARTICLE 72 OF TITLE 24.

1 (5) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL PROVIDE TO THE PANEL NECESSARY
2 STAFF SUPPORT, MEETING SPACE, AND AUDIO-VISUAL COMMUNICATION
3 TECHNOLOGY RESOURCES.

4 **25-20.5-2403. Duties - report.** (1) THE PANEL SHALL:

5 (a) EXAMINE DATA, INCLUDING THE RESULTS OF THE HEALTHY
6 KIDS COLORADO SURVEY, TO IDENTIFY YOUTH HEALTH LITERACY DEFICITS
7 AND SHALL MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS THAT IMPROVE OR CURE THE
8 DEFICITS TO:

9 (I) THE AGENCY WITH THE AUTHORITY TO IMPLEMENT THE
10 RECOMMENDATION; AND

11 (II) SCHOOL DISTRICTS;

12 (b) DEVELOP A YOUTH HEALTH LITERACY LEARNING PLATFORM
13 THAT IS MAINTAINED BY THE DEPARTMENT AND PUBLICLY ACCESSIBLE ON
14 THE DEPARTMENT'S WEBSITE. THE PLATFORM MUST INCLUDE YOUTH
15 HEALTH LITERACY EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS DEVELOPED FOR STUDENTS
16 IN GRADES SIX THROUGH TWELVE. THE MATERIALS MUST BE IN
17 CULTURALLY RELEVANT MEDIUMS DETERMINED AT THE DISCRETION OF
18 THE PANEL. THE MATERIALS MUST INCLUDE A RESOURCE BANK AND MAY
19 INCLUDE ONLINE VIDEOS OR PODCASTS. THE PANEL SHALL CONTINUALLY
20 DEVELOP, REVIEW, AND UPDATE THE MATERIALS, AS NECESSARY.

21 (c) EXAMINE THE ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION
22 STANDARDS ADOPTED BY THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION PURSUANT TO
23 SECTION 22-7-1005, ALIGN THE CURRENT HEALTH EDUCATION STANDARDS
24 WITH THE HEALTH LITERACY STANDARDS, AND RECOMMEND REVISIONS TO
25 IMPROVE THE STANDARDS THAT IDENTIFY THE YOUTH HEALTH LITERACY
26 KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS THAT A STUDENT NEEDS TO ACQUIRE. THE PANEL
27 MUST RECOMMEND ITS REVISIONS TO THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

1 BASED ON THE TIMING PURSUANT TO THE STANDARD SCHEDULE
2 DESCRIBED PURSUANT TO SECTION 22-7-1005 (6).

3 (d) COLLABORATE WITH SCHOOL-BASED HEALTH CENTERS TO
4 DEVELOP AND REVISE YOUTH HEALTH LITERACY EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS
5 THAT ARE ACCESSIBLE TO STUDENTS THROUGH THE SCHOOL-BASED
6 HEALTH CENTERS. THE MATERIALS MUST BE IN CULTURALLY-RELEVANT
7 MEDIUMS.

8 (2) (a) ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 31, 2026, AND ON OR BEFORE
9 EACH DECEMBER 31 THEREAFTER, THE PANEL SHALL SUBMIT A REPORT TO
10 THE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AND EDUCATION COMMITTEES OF THE
11 SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, OR ANY SUCCESSOR
12 COMMITTEES. AT A MINIMUM, THE PANEL'S REPORT MUST INCLUDE:

13 (I) DESCRIPTIONS OF THE WORK THE PANEL PERFORMED IN
14 ACCORDANCE WITH ITS DUTIES PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (1) OF THIS
15 SECTION;

16 (II) DATA CONCERNING YOUTH HEALTH LITERACY TRENDS AND
17 YOUTH HEALTH. YOUTH HEALTH DATA MUST INCLUDE METRICS
18 CONCERNING HEALTH-CARE FACILITY AVAILABILITY, HEALTH-CARE
19 PROVIDER AVAILABILITY, HEALTH-CARE EDUCATION AVAILABILITY,
20 SCHOOL MENTAL HEALTH PROFESSIONAL AVAILABILITY, DEPRESSION
21 RATES, SUICIDE RATES, PREGNANCY RATES, COMMUNICABLE DISEASE
22 RATES, PREVENTABLE DEATH RATES, AND ANY OTHER DATA DETERMINED
23 APPROPRIATE BY THE PANEL.

24 (III) DATA, STATEMENTS, AND OPINIONS FROM STUDENTS,
25 PARENTS AND LEGAL GUARDIANS, AND HEALTH-CARE PROVIDERS
26 CONCERNING THE STATUS OF YOUTH HEALTH LITERACY AND YOUTH
27 HEALTH LITERACY NEEDS.

1 (b) UNLESS A STUDENT OPTS IN TO HAVING THE STUDENT'S NAME
2 INCLUDED IN THE REPORT, THE REPORT MUST NOT INCLUDE THE STUDENT'S
3 NAME, OR ANY INFORMATION THAT COULD BE USED TO IDENTIFY THE
4 STUDENT.

5 (c) NOTWITHSTANDING SECTION 24-1-136 (11)(a)(I), THE REPORT
6 REQUIRED PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION (2) CONTINUES INDEFINITELY.

7 (d) THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SHALL HIRE A CONSULTANT TO
8 PERFORM THE RESEARCH AND COORDINATION REQUIRED TO COMPOSE THE
9 ANNUAL REPORT. THE CONSULTANT MUST HAVE EXPERTISE IN DATA
10 COLLECTION, PROGRAM ANALYSIS, AND HEALTH POLICY.

11 (3) THE PANEL MAY COLLABORATE WITH ANY PERSON OR
12 ORGANIZATION THE PANEL DEEMS APPROPRIATE TO ASSIST THE PANEL IN
13 PERFORMING ITS DUTIES PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION. A PERSON OR
14 ORGANIZATION MAY INCLUDE, BUT IS NOT LIMITED TO, A YOUTH
15 ORGANIZATION, HEALTH-CARE PROFESSIONAL OR ORGANIZATION,
16 STUDENT, PARENT, TEACHER, SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR, OR AN AGENCY
17 REPRESENTATIVE.

18 **25-20.5-2404. School-based health center - information**
19 **accessibility.** (1) A SCHOOL-BASED HEALTH CENTER MAY COLLABORATE
20 WITH THE PANEL TO DEVELOP AND REVISE YOUTH HEALTH LITERACY
21 EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS THAT ARE ACCESSIBLE TO STUDENTS.

22 (2) BEGINNING JULY 1, 2026, EACH SCHOOL-BASED HEALTH
23 CENTER SHALL MAKE YOUTH HEALTH LITERACY EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS
24 DEVELOPED OR REVISED BY THE PANEL, OR IN COLLABORATION WITH THE
25 PANEL, ACCESSIBLE TO STUDENTS. EACH SCHOOL-BASED HEALTH CENTER
26 SHALL MAKE THE DIGITAL EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS AVAILABLE IN A
27 CONSPICUOUS PLACE ON THE SCHOOL DISTRICT'S OR CHARTER SCHOOL'S

1 WEBSITE. THE SCHOOL DISTRICT'S OR CHARTER SCHOOL'S WEBSITE MUST
2 ALSO INCLUDE INFORMATION CONCERNING WHERE A STUDENT MAY
3 ACCESS NON-DIGITAL EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS.

4 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-7-1005, **add** (2.2)
5 as follows:

6 **22-7-1005. Preschool through elementary and secondary**
7 **education - aligned standards - adoption - revisions.** (2.2) PURSUANT
8 TO THE SCHEDULE OF REVISIONS SET FORTH IN SUBSECTION (6) OF THIS
9 SECTION, THE STATE BOARD SHALL CONSIDER THE RECOMMENDATIONS
10 MADE BY THE YOUTH HEALTH LITERACY OVERSIGHT PANEL PURSUANT TO
11 SECTION 25-20.5-2403 (1)(c) TO IMPLEMENT OR IMPROVE STANDARDS
12 THAT IDENTIFY THE YOUTH HEALTH LITERACY KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS
13 THAT A STUDENT NEEDS TO ACQUIRE.

14 **SECTION 3. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act
15 takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the
16 ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly; except
17 that, if a referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V
18 of the state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this
19 act within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take
20 effect unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in
21 November 2026 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the
22 official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.