

## **SB25-059: Supports for State Response to Mass Shootings**

**Sponsors:** Senator Sullivan, Representative Woodrow

---

### **Background:**

Gun violence is a public health crisis and mass shootings are happening far too often. Not all mass shootings make the headlines in the news. Mass shootings happen often and are many times random acts of violence or domestic violence related. Different jurisdictions may classify a shooting differently and may not be categorized as a mass shooting which can limit resources and support for victims of these crimes. The Gun Violence Archive counted 656 mass shootings in the state in 2023. The FBI has a different definition and only counted 41 mass shootings that same year. There is a big difference in the number of reported mass shootings based on the definition being considered. The response to mass shootings is very costly for the State of Colorado.

### **Solution:**

SB25-059 defines a mass shooting of at least 4 people other than the shooter who are injured or killed by the shooter. Defining a mass shooting will help that State of Colorado as we continue to study and research gun violence. In addition this bill will require that the Division of Criminal Justice in the Department of Public Safety to apply for and accept federal or other grants to improve our State's response to mass shootings and including support services for victims such as victims compensation. Victims of mass shootings suffer from trauma and are in need of services and assistance that will help them address their trauma and return to their lives. Defining a mass shooting in the State of Colorado will allow us to better respond to these traumatizing events and will allow us to support our community members who were impacted.

---

**Sources:** <https://www.thetrace.org/2024/03/new-york-mass-shooting-victims-survivors/>