

Dear Members of the Senate Judiciary Committee,

We apologize that the Division could not be in attendance today.

As most of you may know, HB17- 1329 established a pilot program aimed at assisting in the establishment of a division-wide therapeutic and rehabilitative culture. This pilot began on July 1, 2018 at the Lookout Mountain Youth Services center in Golden with support from Missouri Youth Services Institute. While it is still too early for accurate data collection and analysis, we are pleased with the progress thus far and we will be continuing the pilot in FY 19-20.

Though the program has only been operational for eight months, the Division of Youth Services continues to see a need for consultation to address training, coaching, fidelity to the model, and the continuation of embedding a trauma responsive, relationship and strength-based approach at our facilities. We believe that it is imperative to stay the course in this effort and continue to strive for comprehensive and effective culture change within DYS.

The Division has already budgeted for a continuation of the current pilot at Lookout Mountain in FY 2019-20, but believe any expansion to another facility would be beneficial to continuing our transition towards a division-wide therapeutic and rehabilitative culture change.

Any such expansion would support our continued efforts at establishing a trauma responsive environment through face-to face training, coaching and mentoring of staff, and support the Division's strategic plan for an overall transition from corrections to treatment.

We are extremely grateful to Senator Lee for working with us to help establish the Pilot at Lookout Mountain and for his continued support and investment in the success of our division. While we were unable attend this hearing in person due to weather, the division is standing by to answer any technical questions the committee may have regarding the program and/or division in general.

Anders Jacobson
Director of the Division of Youth Services
Colorado Department of Human Services

abol RESERV. AMT. / MILITARY FORCE
CONG. IS OFF THE HOOK AS WAR

~~RESERV.~~

↳ ⊕ + JUSTICE

RESERVATERS

FRIENDS COMM. ON NATIONAL LEGISLATION

MEMBERS / CONGRESS

ADVOCATE TEAM