

February 7, 2024

Members of the Senate Judiciary Committee,

My name is Charles Brennan, Director of Income and Housing Policy for the Colorado Center on Law and Policy (CCLP). CCLP is a non-profit, non-partisan organization with the vision that every Coloradan should have what they need to succeed. I am submitting this written testimony in support of SB24-064, which aims to improve access to detailed data on evictions in Colorado.

The bill proposes monthly reporting of residential eviction data, a crucial step towards improving our understanding of evictions that take place in our state. Currently, accessing comprehensive information on evictions is challenging, limiting the ability of researchers, advocates, and policymakers to find effective solutions to the eviction crisis affecting our state. While we do have access to the total number of evictions that take place by county, crucial details remain difficult to track down and prevents more in-depth analysis of the causes and contributors to evictions.

Our organization has experienced this challenge firsthand. In collecting data for our 2017 report, "[Facing Eviction Alone](#)", published in partnership with the Colorado Coalition for the Homeless, the absence of a centralized source of detailed eviction data meant that my colleagues and their partners had to go through a painstaking process to analyze and summarize over 92,000 eviction cases in the City and County of Denver spanning 2001 to 2017! This arduous process revealed important, new insights into evictions, including the staggering lack of legal representation among tenants in Denver—over 99 percent appeared in court without representation. While the sample size was small, the analysis found that tenants with legal representation were significantly more likely to prevail in court, highlighting for CCLP and our partners the importance of eviction legal defense programs as an effective tool to keep tenants housed and prevent unfair or improper evictions.

Moreover, the report found that landlords in Denver tended to pursue evictions over minimal amounts of unpaid rent—half of such cases were ones where tenants owed less than \$200. This is yet another interesting finding that would have been unknown to us but for the hard work that went into gathering this data manually from individual court cases—and something that will be easy to study in the future with the data that will be available because of SB24-064.

This bill represents an opportunity for Colorado to be a leader in understanding the root causes of evictions and will give policymakers and advocates a powerful resource to



identify evidence-based interventions that will lead to greater housing stability for Colorado renters. It will also allow us to evaluate the effectiveness of eviction prevention policies by providing much more detailed data on the circumstances surrounding the evictions that take place across our state. The ability to see this data at the county or zip code-level will also allow for the evaluation of policies that local governments have put in place to address this issue. With evictions in Denver rising to record levels in 2023, and the rest of the state seeing more evictions last year than the year before, we need all of the tools we can to improve our understanding of this issue and the solutions that will ensure stable housing for more renters in our state.

Thank you for your consideration of this bill, we urge you to vote in support of SB24-064!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Charles Brennan', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Charles Brennan
Director of Income and Housing Policy
Colorado Center on Law and Policy



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Senate Judiciary
Committee
Denver, CO

February 5, 2024

Dear Judiciary Committee Members,

I appreciate your time and consideration of Senate Bill 24-063 and I am requesting your support for this Bill as it is presented before you. Dr. Jack Digliani will be testifying before you in support of this bill and I am extending my support to his comments regarding the bill.

Senate Bill 24-063 amends Colorado Revised Statutes (C.R.S.) 13-90-107 (m) *Who may not testify without consent* to clarify the confidentiality of the relationship(s) between and among recipients of group peer support.

Briefly, this bill consolidates the paragraphs identifying the various peer support teams addressed by the statute and includes a new paragraph (II) that clarifies the confidential relationship between and among recipients of group peer support:

“RECIPIENTS OF GROUP PEER SUPPORT SERVICES MUST NOT BE EXAMINED AS TO ANY KNOWLEDGE GAINED FROM OTHER RECIPIENTS OF GROUP PEER SUPPORT SERVICES WITHOUT THE CONSENT OF THE PERSON TO WHOM THE KNOWLEDGE RELATES.”

This bill also defines group peer support services as you will read in the bill itself.

These adjustments to C.R.S. 13-90-107(m) align the privacy expectations of group peer support with the privacy expectation that currently exists within individual peer support.

As a retired law enforcement officer of over 38 years, an over 30 year peer support practitioner, and a practicing Licensed Professional Counselor of over ten years serving exclusively first responders and their family members, I respectfully request your support of Senate Bill 23-064

I currently serve the Larimer County Sheriff's Office and the Weld County Sheriff's Office as a contracted Agency Counselor serving employees and immediate family members. The undersigned named members have specifically requested their names be added to this letter of support of Senate Bill 23-064.

Respectfully,



Tim M. Brown
CO Licensed Professional Counselor
Agency Counselor to Larimer and Weld County Sheriff's Offices

Additionally:

Ms. Lenlie Millwood

Corporal Charles Evenson

Ms. Jessina Morse

Members, Larimer County Sheriff's Office Peer Support Team