

Second Regular Session  
Seventy-second General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 20-0393.02 Conrad Imel x2313

SENATE BILL 20-001

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SENATE SPONSORSHIP

**Fields, Gonzales**

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

**Sirota and Beckman, Michaelson Jenet, Van Winkle**

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**Senate Committees**  
Education

**House Committees**

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A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 CONCERNING EXPANDING BEHAVIORAL HEALTH TRAINING FOR  
102 KINDERGARTEN THROUGH TWELFTH GRADE EDUCATORS.

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**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/>.)*

**School Safety Committee.** The bill requires the department of education (department) to offer a train the trainer program (program) designed to improve school culture, promote youth behavioral and mental health, and prepare attendees to teach a youth behavioral and mental health training course. The department must make the program available to employees of a school district, charter school, or board of cooperative

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.  
Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material to be added to existing statute.  
Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.

services (local education provider). A local education provider and its employees are not required to participate in the program. The department may enter into an agreement with an organization to provide the program. The department is required to annually evaluate the effectiveness of the program. The general assembly is required to annually appropriate up to \$1 million for the program. The program is repealed June 30, 2024.

The program must include evidence-based instruction on, and prepare an attendee to teach a youth behavioral and mental health training course that includes, any of the following subjects:

- ! Using trauma-informed approaches to improve overall school climate and culture;
- ! Identifying behavioral and mental health challenges and substance use disorders;
- ! Restorative practices for addressing youth behavioral and mental health challenges;
- ! Improving youth social and emotional health;
- ! Bullying prevention and intervention strategies;
- ! Encouraging positive bystander behavior;
- ! Best practices for providing assistance in noncrisis situations;
- ! De-escalation of crisis situations; or
- ! Identifying and accessing available behavioral and mental health resources and substance use disorder support services and treatment.

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

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 22-2-146 as  
3 follows:

4 **22-2-146. Department of education - youth behavioral and**  
5 **mental health train the trainer program - definitions - repeal.** (1) AS  
6 USED IN THIS SECTION, UNLESS THE CONTEXT OTHERWISE REQUIRES:

7 (a) "ATTENDEE" MEANS AN EMPLOYEE OF A LOCAL EDUCATION  
8 PROVIDER WHO ATTENDS A TRAIN THE TRAINER PROGRAM.

9 (b) "LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER" MEANS A SCHOOL DISTRICT, A  
10 CHARTER SCHOOL AUTHORIZED BY A SCHOOL DISTRICT PURSUANT TO PART  
11 1 OF ARTICLE 30.5 OF THIS TITLE 22, A CHARTER SCHOOL AUTHORIZED BY

1 THE STATE CHARTER SCHOOL INSTITUTE PURSUANT TO PART 5 OF ARTICLE  
2 30.5 OF THIS TITLE 22, OR A BOARD OF COOPERATIVE SERVICES CREATED  
3 AND OPERATING PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 5 OF THIS TITLE 22 THAT  
4 OPERATES ONE OR MORE PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

5 (c) "TRAIN THE TRAINER PROGRAM" MEANS THE PROGRAM  
6 DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (2) OF THIS SECTION THAT IS OFFERED BY THE  
7 DEPARTMENT.

8 (2) (a) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL OFFER A TRAIN THE TRAINER  
9 PROGRAM FOR EMPLOYEES OF A LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER, INCLUDING  
10 EMPLOYEES WHO HOLD A SUBSTITUTE AUTHORIZATION. THE TRAIN THE  
11 TRAINER PROGRAM MUST BE DESIGNED TO IMPROVE OVERALL SCHOOL  
12 CLIMATE, PROMOTE YOUTH BEHAVIORAL AND MENTAL HEALTH, AND  
13 PREPARE AN ATTENDEE TO TEACH A YOUTH BEHAVIORAL AND MENTAL  
14 HEALTH TRAINING COURSE THAT CONTAINS ANY OF THE SUBJECTS, OR A  
15 COMBINATION OF THE SUBJECTS, DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (3) OF THIS  
16 SECTION.

17 (b) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL NOT REQUIRE ANY LOCAL EDUCATION  
18 PROVIDER TO PARTICIPATE IN OR COMPLETE THE TRAIN THE TRAINER  
19 PROGRAM.

20 (c) A LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER SHALL NOT REQUIRE ANY  
21 EMPLOYEE TO PARTICIPATE IN OR COMPLETE THE TRAIN THE TRAINER  
22 PROGRAM.

23 (3) THE TRAIN THE TRAINER PROGRAM MUST PROVIDE  
24 EVIDENCE-BASED INSTRUCTION ON, AND PREPARE AN ATTENDEE TO TEACH  
25 A YOUTH BEHAVIORAL AND MENTAL HEALTH TRAINING COURSE THAT  
26 INCLUDES, ANY OF THE FOLLOWING SUBJECTS:

27 (a) USING TRAUMA-INFORMED APPROACHES TO IMPROVE OVERALL

1 SCHOOL CLIMATE AND CULTURE;

2 (b) IDENTIFYING SIGNS OF BEHAVIORAL AND MENTAL HEALTH  
3 CHALLENGES AND SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS THAT MAY BE EXPERIENCED  
4 BY STUDENTS ENROLLED IN A LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER;

5 (c) RESTORATIVE PRACTICES FOR ADDRESSING YOUTH  
6 BEHAVIORAL AND MENTAL HEALTH CHALLENGES;

7 (d) IMPROVING YOUTH SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL HEALTH AND  
8 FOSTERING A POSITIVE SCHOOL CLIMATE;

9 (e) EVIDENCE-BASED BULLYING PREVENTION AND INTERVENTION  
10 STRATEGIES;

11 (f) ENCOURAGING POSITIVE BYSTANDER BEHAVIOR, INCLUDING  
12 RECOGNIZING POTENTIALLY HARMFUL SITUATIONS, SUCH AS BULLYING,  
13 HARASSMENT, INTIMIDATION, OR THREATENING BEHAVIOR, AND TAKING  
14 APPROPRIATE ACTION AS A BYSTANDER;

15 (g) BEST PRACTICES TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE TO STUDENTS IN  
16 NONCRISIS SITUATIONS;

17 (h) SAFE DE-ESCALATION OF CRISIS SITUATIONS; OR

18 (i) IDENTIFYING AND ACCESSING AVAILABLE BEHAVIORAL AND  
19 MENTAL HEALTH RESOURCES AND SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER SUPPORT  
20 SERVICES AND TREATMENT APPROPRIATE FOR STUDENTS ENROLLED IN THE  
21 LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER.

22 (4) THE DEPARTMENT MAY ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH AN  
23 ORGANIZATION TO PROVIDE THE TRAIN THE TRAINER PROGRAM. THE  
24 DEPARTMENT MAY ONLY ENTER INTO SUCH AN AGREEMENT WITH AN  
25 ORGANIZATION THAT HAS EXPERIENCE PROVIDING EVIDENCE-BASED  
26 YOUTH BEHAVIORAL AND MENTAL HEALTH TRAINING PROGRAMS AND  
27 EDUCATING INSTRUCTORS USING A TRAIN THE TRAINER MODEL.

1           (5) (a) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ANNUALLY EVALUATE THE  
2 EFFECTIVENESS OF THE TRAIN THE TRAINER PROGRAM. THE EVALUATION  
3 MUST SOLICIT FEEDBACK FROM ATTENDEES AND CONSIDER THE EFFECT OF  
4 THE PROGRAM ON SCHOOL CLIMATE AND YOUTH BEHAVIORAL AND  
5 MENTAL HEALTH.

6           (b) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL INCLUDE A SUMMARY OF THE  
7 EVALUATION CONDUCTED PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION (5) AND ANY  
8 RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNING THE TRAIN THE TRAINER PROGRAM IN  
9 THE DEPARTMENT'S ANNUAL PRESENTATION TO THE COMMITTEES OF  
10 REFERENCE PURSUANT TO SECTION 2-7-203.

11           (6) FOR EACH FISCAL YEAR, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SHALL  
12 APPROPRIATE UP TO ONE MILLION DOLLARS TO THE DEPARTMENT FOR THE  
13 ADMINISTRATION OF THIS SECTION. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL PAY ANY  
14 COSTS RELATED TO THE ADMINISTRATION OF THIS SECTION FROM THE  
15 APPROPRIATION MADE PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION (6).

16           (7) THIS SECTION IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE JUNE 30, 2024.

17           **SECTION 2. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds,  
18 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate  
19 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety.