First Regular Session Seventy-fifth General Assembly STATE OF COLORADO

ENGROSSED

This Version Includes All Amendments Adopted on Second Reading in the House of Introduction

LLS NO. 25-0854.01 Michael Dohr x4347

SENATE BILL 25-239

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Bridges and Kirkmeyer, Amabile

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Sirota and Taggart, Bird

Senate Committees

House Committees

Appropriations

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 CONCERNING NONATTORNEY ACCESS TO THE JUDICIAL DATABASE OF 102 PUBLIC CASE TYPES.

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/.)

Joint Budget Committee. Current law allows attorneys under contract with the office of the child's representative, the office of alternate defense counsel, and the office of the respondent parents' counsel to access the name index and register of actions of public case types. The bill allows other professionals under contract with these offices to access the information.

1 Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado: 2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 13-1-119.5, amend 3 (1) introductory portion, (1)(c), (1)(d), and (1)(e); and add (1.5) as 4 follows: 5 13-1-119.5. Electronic access to name index and register of 6 actions. (1) Statewide electronic read-only access to the name index and 7 register of actions of public case types must be made available to the 8 following agencies or attorneys appointed by the court AND THEIR 9 PROFESSIONAL STAFF: 10 (c) Guardians ad litem or counsel for youth under contract with 11 the office of the child's representative, created in section 13-91-104, or 12 authorized by the office of the child's representative to act as a guardian 13 ad litem or counsel for youth, AND OTHER PROFESSIONALS UNDER 14 CONTRACT WITH THE OFFICE OF THE CHILD'S REPRESENTATIVE AND 15 AUTHORIZED TO WORK WITH AN APPOINTED ATTORNEY as it relates to a 16 case in which they are THE ATTORNEY IS appointed; by the court; 17 (d) Attorneys under contract with the office of the alternate 18 defense counsel, created in section 21-2-101, C.R.S., AND OTHER 19 PROFESSIONALS UNDER CONTRACT WITH THE OFFICE OF ALTERNATE 20 DEFENSE COUNSEL AND AUTHORIZED TO WORK WITH AN APPOINTED 21 ATTORNEY as it relates to a case in which they are THE ATTORNEY IS appointed; by the court; 22 23 (e) A respondent parent's counsel under contract with the office 24 of the respondent parents' counsel, created in section 13-92-103, or 25 authorized by the office of the respondent parents' counsel to act as a 26 respondent parent's counsel, AND OTHER PROFESSIONALS UNDER

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1 CONTRACT WITH THE OFFICE OF THE RESPONDENT PARENTS' COUNSEL AND 2 AUTHORIZED TO WORK WITH AN APPOINTED ATTORNEY, as it relates to a 3 case in which they are THE ATTORNEY IS appointed; by the court; 4 (1.5) THE OFFICE OF THE CHILD'S REPRESENTATIVE, THE OFFICE OF 5 ALTERNATE DEFENSE COUNSEL, AND THE OFFICE OF THE RESPONDENT 6 PARENTS' COUNSEL SHALL MANAGE USER ACCESS GRANTED TO EACH 7 AGENCY PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (1) OF THIS SECTION. 8 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 19-1-303, amend 9 (1)(a) and (1)(b) as follows: 10 19-1-303. General provisions - delinquency and dependency 11 and neglect cases - exchange of information - civil penalty - rules -12 **definitions.** (1) (a) The judicial department or any agency that performs 13 duties and functions under this title PURSUANT TO THIS TITLE 19 with 14 respect to juvenile delinquency or dependency and neglect cases or any 15 other provisions of this title TITLE 19 may exchange information, to the 16 extent necessary, for the acquisition, provision, oversight, or referral of 17 services and support with the judicial department or any other agency or 18 individual, including an attorney A PROFESSIONAL representing state or 19 county agencies and an attorney appointed by the court AN APPOINTED 20 PROFESSIONAL, that performs duties and functions under this title 21 PURSUANT TO THIS TITLE 19 with respect to such cases. In order to receive 22 such information, the judicial department, attorney PROFESSIONAL, or 23 agency shall have a need to know for purposes of investigations and case 24 management in the provision of services or the administration of their 25 respective programs. The judicial department or the agencies shall 26 exchange information in accordance with paragraph (b) of this subsection

(1) SUBSECTION (1)(b) OF THIS SECTION.

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(b) The judicial department, an agency, an attorney representing
an agency, or an attorney appointed by the court AN APPOINTED
PROFESSIONAL described in paragraph (a) of this subsection (1)
SUBSECTION (1)(a) OF THIS SECTION shall exchange information with the
judicial department or similar agencies or individuals who have a need to
know to the extent necessary for the acquisition, provision, oversight, and
referral of services and support and if provided in the course of an
investigation or for case management purposes. The provision of
information by the judicial department shall include electronic read-only
access to the name index and register of actions for agencies or attorneys
appointed by the court APPOINTED PROFESSIONALS to those case types
necessary to carry out their statutory purpose and the duties of their court
appointment as provided in this part 3. The state court administrator of
the judicial department and the executive directors of the affected
agencies shall ensure that there is a process for electronically exchanging
information pursuant to this section. Agencies, attorneys PROFESSIONALS,
and individuals shall maintain the confidentiality of the information
obtained.
SECTION 3. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 19-1-304, amend
(7)(c), (7)(d), and (7)(e) as follows:
19-1-304. Juvenile delinquency records - division of youth
sarvices critical incident information - definitions (7) In addition to

19-1-304. Juvenile delinquency records - division of youth services critical incident information - definitions. (7) In addition to the persons who have access to court records pursuant to subsection (1)(a) of this section, statewide electronic read-only access to the name index and register of actions of the judicial department must be allowed to the following agencies or persons:

(c) Guardians ad litem or counsel for youth PROFESSIONALS under

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1	contract with the office of the child's representative, created in section
2	13-91-104, or authorized by the office of the child's representative to act
3	as a guardian ad litem, or an attorney A PROFESSIONAL under contract or
4	employed by the office of the child's representative, as it relates to a case
5	in which they are THE ATTORNEY IS appointed; by the court;
6	(d) Attorneys Professionals under contract with the office of the
7	alternate defense counsel, created in section 21-2-101, as it relates to a
8	case in which they are THE ATTORNEY IS appointed; by the court;
9	(e) A respondent parent's counsel PROFESSIONAL under contract
10	with the office of the respondent parents' counsel, created in section
11	13-92-103, or authorized by the office of the respondent parents' counsel
12	to act as a respondent parent's counsel, as it relates to a case in which they
13	are THE ATTORNEY IS appointed; by the court; and
14	SECTION 4. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 19-1-307, amend
15	(2.3) introductory portion, (2.3)(c), and (2.3)(d) as follows:
16	19-1-307. Dependency and neglect records and information -
17	access - fee - records and reports fund - misuse of information -
18	penalty - adult protective services data system check - rules.
19	(2.3) The following agencies or APPOINTED attorneys appointed by the
20	court must be granted statewide read-only access to the name index and
21	register of actions for the judiciary department:
22	(c) Guardians ad litem or counsel for youth PROFESSIONALS under
23	contract with the office of the child's representative, created in section
24	13-91-104, or authorized by the office of the child's representative to act
25	as a guardian ad litem or counsel for youth, as it relates to a case in which
26	they are THE ATTORNEY IS appointed; by the court; and
27	(d) A respondent parent's counsel PROFESSIONAL under contract

-5with the office of the respondent parents' counsel, created in section 13-92-103, or authorized by the office of the respondent parents' counsel to act as a respondent parent's counsel, as it relates to a case in which they are THE ATTORNEY IS appointed. by the court.

SECTION 5. Act subject to petition - effective date. This act takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly; except that, if a referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V of the state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this act within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take effect unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in November 2026 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.

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