First Regular Session Seventy-fifth General Assembly STATE OF COLORADO

REVISED

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

LLS NO. 25-0023.01 Chelsea Princell x4335

SENATE BILL 25-027

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Marchman, Ball, Coleman, Cutter, Danielson, Exum, Gonzales J., Hinrichsen, Jodeh, Kipp, Kolker, Michaelson Jenet, Rodriguez, Sullivan, Wallace, Winter F.

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Joseph and Gonzalez R.,

Senate Committees

Education Appropriations

House Committees

Education Finance Appropriations

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 CONCERNING THE USE OF TRAUMA-INFORMED PRACTICES TO ADDRESS 102 SCHOOL SAFETY.

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.)

On or before September 1, 2025, the bill requires the office of school safety (office) to convene and oversee a work group to develop best practices for the use of trauma-informed practices to conduct school safety drills.

No later than June 30, 2026, the bill requires the work group to develop recommendations to support schools in training school personnel on the use of trauma-informed practices in conducting school safety

SENATE 3rd Reading Unamended April 17, 2025

SENATE Amended 2nd Reading April 15, 2025

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. <u>Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.</u>

Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material to be added to existing law.

Dashes through the words or numbers indicate deletions from existing law.

drills, how to best conduct school safety drills in a trauma-informed manner, and how to best respond to a school safety incident. The recommendations must be submitted to the office and the house and senate education committees, or their successor committees; the governor; the state board; the commissioner of education; and the department of education.

1 Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado: 2 **SECTION 1. Legislative declaration.** (1) The general assembly 3 finds and declares that: 4 (a) Colorado is facing a growing mental health crisis among its 5 youth, with increasing rates of anxiety, depression, and other mental 6 health issues that significantly impact students' ability to learn and thrive 7 in school environments; 8 (b) The rise in school shootings and climate-related disasters have 9 increasingly disrupted the lives of Colorado youth, which contributes to 10 the mental health challenges and trauma students face, and the long term 11 effects of these events can impair a youth's emotional well-being, ability 12 to focus, and academic success; 13 (c) The safety and well-being of students and school personnel in 14 Colorado is a paramount concern; (d) School safety drills are an essential part of school safety 15 16 protocols to prepare students and school personnel for emergency 17 situations; 18 Traditional school safety drills can be distressing and (e) 19 traumatizing for students and educators, thereby necessitating a more 20 considerate approach; 21 (f) Trauma-informed practices have been shown to reduce the

psychological impact of school safety drills on participants, fostering a

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1	safer and more supportive school environment;
2	(g) Recognizing the unique vulnerabilities of students, it is
3	essential to include their perspectives and representation in efforts to
4	create a safe and supportive school environment; and
5	(h) Implementing trauma-informed school safety drills helps
6	maintain the mental health and emotional stability of students and school
7	personnel during and after the school safety drills.
8	SECTION 2. In Colorado Revised Statutes, add 24-33.5-2705 as
9	follows:
10	24-33.5-2705. Trauma-informed practices for school safety
11	drills - work group - creation - purpose - membership - <u>notice to</u>
12	<u>revisor of statutes - definitions - repeal.</u> (1) AS USED IN THIS SECTION,
13	UNLESS THE CONTEXT OTHERWISE REQUIRES:
14	(a) "PARENT" MEANS A PARENT, LEGAL GUARDIAN, OR ANY OTHER
15	PERSON HAVING LEGAL CUSTODY OF A STUDENT.
16	(b) "SCHOOL SAFETY DRILL" MEANS AN OPERATIONS-BASED
17	EXERCISE THAT IS DESIGNED TO PREPARE STUDENTS AND SCHOOL
18	PERSONNEL TO RESPOND TO SPECIFIC EMERGENCIES IN AN EFFORT TO
19	REINFORCE SAFETY PROTOCOLS, NURTURE READINESS, AND REDUCE PANIC
20	DURING A SCHOOL SAFETY INCIDENT.
21	(c) "SCHOOL SAFETY INCIDENT" MEANS AN EVENT THAT OCCURS
22	ON SCHOOL GROUNDS THAT PUTS PROPERTY OR THE HEALTH, SAFETY, OR
23	WELL-BEING OF STUDENTS, SCHOOL STAFF, OR VISITORS IN DANGER AND
24	REQUIRES AN IMMEDIATE RESPONSE.
25	(d) "Trauma-informed practices" means a systematic
26	APPROACH THAT RECOGNIZES THE PREVALENCE OF ADVERSE AND
27	TRAUMATIC EXPERIENCES OF SCHOOL SAFETY DRILLS AND EQUIPS SCHOOL

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1	PERSONNEL WITH KNOWLEDGE TO RECOGNIZE TRAUMA AND STRATEGIES
2	TO SUPPORT STUDENTS AND SCHOOL PERSONNEL WHO EXPERIENCE
3	TRAUMA.
4	(2) On or before September 1, 2025, the office shall
5	CONVENE AND OVERSEE A WORK GROUP AS DESCRIBED IN THIS SECTION.
6	THE PURPOSE OF THE WORK GROUP IS TO DEVELOP BEST PRACTICES FOR
7	THE USE OF TRAUMA-INFORMED PRACTICES TO CONDUCT SCHOOL SAFETY
8	DRILLS.
9	(3) The work group must be funded entirely by gifts,
10	GRANTS, AND DONATIONS, INCLUDING IN-KIND DONATIONS AS PART OF A
11	PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT, AND NO ADDITIONAL
12	GENERAL FUND MONEY SHALL BE APPROPRIATED FOR THE
13	IMPLEMENTATION OF THE WORK GROUP.
14	(4) THE WORK GROUP SHALL OBTAIN INPUT FROM PARENTS AND
15	STUDENTS WHO REFLECT THE DIVERSITY OF THE STATE WITH REGARD TO
16	RACE, ETHNICITY, SOCIOECONOMIC STATUS, GEOGRAPHY, AND
17	DISABILITY.
18	_
19	(5) (a) (I) THE WORK GROUP CONSISTS OF THE FOLLOWING
20	NONVOTING MEMBERS:
21	(A) A REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC
22	SAFETY, APPOINTED BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, OR THE EXECUTIVE
23	DIRECTOR'S DESIGNEE;
24	(B) A REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE OFFICE, APPOINTED BY THE
25	DIRECTOR, OR THE DIRECTOR'S DESIGNEE;
26	(C) A REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE OFFICE OF GUN VIOLENCE
2.7	PREVENTION CREATED IN SECTION 25-20.5-1202. APPOINTED BY THE

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1	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND
2	ENVIRONMENT;
3	(D) THE COMMISSIONER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, OR
4	THE COMMISSIONER'S DESIGNEE; AND
5	(E) A STUDENT WHO ATTENDS A COLORADO PUBLIC SCHOOL,
6	APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR, ON THE ADVICE OF A STATEWIDE STUDENT
7	COALITION;
8	(II) THE WORK GROUP CONSISTS OF THE FOLLOWING VOTING
9	MEMBERS:
10	(A) A SCHOOL DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT WHO REPRESENTS
11	EITHER A RURAL OR SUBURBAN SCHOOL DISTRICT, APPOINTED BY THE
12	PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE, ON THE ADVICE OF A STATEWIDE ASSOCIATION
13	THAT REPRESENTS SUPERINTENDENTS OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS;
14	(B) Two school principals, one of whom must represent
15	EITHER A DISTRICT CHARTER SCHOOL, AS DEFINED IN SECTION
16	22-30.5-112.1, OR AN INSTITUTE CHARTER SCHOOL, AS DEFINED IN
17	SECTION 22-30.5-502, EACH APPOINTED BY THE MINORITY LEADER OF THE
18	HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, ON THE ADVICE OF A STATEWIDE
19	ASSOCIATION THAT REPRESENTS SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS;
20	(C) TWO TEACHERS, ONE OF WHOM MUST REPRESENT AN URBAN
21	SCHOOL DISTRICT, APPOINTED BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE, ON THE
22	ADVICE OF A STATEWIDE PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION THAT REPRESENTS
23	THE GREATEST PROPORTION OF EDUCATORS IN THE STATE, AND ONE OF
24	WHOM MUST REPRESENT A RURAL SCHOOL DISTRICT, APPOINTED BY THE
25	SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, ON THE ADVICE OF A
26	STATEWIDE ORGANIZATION THAT REPRESENTS ONLY RURAL SCHOOL
27	DISTRICTS;

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1	(D) A SCHOOL NURSE, APPOINTED BY THE MINORITY LEADER OF
2	THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, ON THE ADVICE OF A STATEWIDE
3	PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION THAT REPRESENTS SCHOOL NURSES;
4	(E) A CHILD DEVELOPMENT PROFESSIONAL, APPOINTED BY THE
5	MINORITY LEADER OF THE SENATE, ON THE ADVICE OF A STATEWIDE
6	ORGANIZATION COMPRISED OF MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS BOARDED OR
7	CERTIFIED IN PEDIATRICS;
8	(F) A BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PROFESSIONAL, APPOINTED BY THE
9	BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COMMISSIONER;
10	(G) A PROFESSIONAL SPECIALIZING IN TRAUMA-INFORMED
11	PRACTICES, APPOINTED BY THE OFFICE;
12	(H) A SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER WITH EXPERIENCE IN RURAL
13	OR URBAN SCHOOL SETTINGS, APPOINTED BY THE MINORITY LEADER OF
14	THE SENATE, ON THE ADVICE OF A STATEWIDE ASSOCIATION OF COUNTY
15	SHERIFFS;
16	(I) A PROFESSIONAL EXPERT IN PUBLIC HEALTH OR SCHOOL
17	SAFETY, APPOINTED BY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF
18	PUBLIC HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT;
19	(J) A REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE FIRE AND LIFE SAFETY SECTION
20	OF THE DIVISION OF FIRE PREVENTION AND CONTROL, APPOINTED BY THE
21	DIRECTOR OF THE DIVISION OF FIRE PREVENTION AND CONTROL;
22	(K) A PARENT OF A STUDENT CURRENTLY ATTENDING A
23	COLORADO PUBLIC SCHOOL, APPOINTED BY THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE
24	OF REPRESENTATIVES, ON THE ADVICE OF A STATEWIDE PARENT
25	ORGANIZATION THAT FOCUSES ON EDUCATION POLICY; AND
26	(L) AN AT-LARGE MEMBER, APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR.
2.7	(b) THE APPOINTING ALITHORITIES SHALL APPOINT THE MEMBERS

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1	OF THE WORK GROUP <u>AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF</u>
2	THIS SUBSECTION (5) BUT NO LATER THAN TWENTY-EIGHT DAYS AFTER THE
3	EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS SUBSECTION (5).
4	(c) ANY VACANCY OCCURRING IN THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE WORK
5	GROUP MUST BE FILLED IN THE SAME MANNER AS THE ORIGINAL
6	APPOINTMENT.
7	(d) A MAJORITY OF THE MEMBERS APPOINTED TO THE WORK GROUP
8	CONSTITUTES A QUORUM. IF THE WORK GROUP IS UNABLE TO REACH A
9	QUORUM DUE TO UNFORESEEN CIRCUMSTANCES, THE WORK GROUP MAY
10	PROCEED WITH A REDUCED QUORUM OF NO FEWER THAN SIX VOTING
11	MEMBERS.
12	(e) THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE WORK GROUP SHALL CONVENE THE
13	FIRST MEETING OF THE WORK GROUP NO LATER THAN FIFTY-SIX DAYS
14	AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS SECTION. THE WORK GROUP SHALL
15	MEET AT LEAST FOUR TIMES <u>DURING THE FIRST SIX MONTHS OF ITS</u>
16	<u>OPERATION</u> AND AT LEAST THREE TIMES <u>DURING THE SECOND SIX MONTHS</u>
17	OF ITS OPERATION. THE WORK GROUP SHALL ESTABLISH PROCEDURES TO
18	ALLOW MEMBERS OF THE WORK GROUP TO PARTICIPATE IN THE MEETINGS
19	REMOTELY.
20	(f) The members of the work group serve without
21	COMPENSATION BUT MAY BE REIMBURSED FOR EXPENSES DIRECTLY
22	RELATING TO THEIR SERVICE ON THE WORK GROUP.
23	(g) Upon the request of the chairperson of the work
24	GROUP, THE OFFICE SHALL PROVIDE STAFF ASSISTANCE, MEETING SPACE,
25	OR AUDIO-VISUAL COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY RESOURCES TO THE
26	WORK GROUP AS NECESSARY FOR THE PERFORMANCE OF ITS DUTIES.
27	(6) THE WORK GROUP SHALL:

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2	TRAUMA-INFORMED PRACTICES;
3	(b) IDENTIFY BEST PRACTICES FOR INCORPORATING
4	TRAUMA-INFORMED PRACTICES INTO SCHOOL SAFETY DRILLS TO RESPOND
5	TO DIFFERENT TYPES OF SCHOOL SAFETY INCIDENTS;
6	(c) Use the best practices identified in subsection $(6)(b)$ of
7	THIS SECTION TO DETERMINE HOW TO BEST IMPLEMENT
8	TRAUMA-INFORMED PRACTICES FOR SCHOOLS TO:
9	(I) PLAN AND EXECUTE DIFFERENT TYPES OF SCHOOL SAFETY
10	DRILLS;
11	(II) IMMEDIATELY RESPOND TO A SCHOOL SAFETY INCIDENT; AND
12	(III) BEST RESPOND TO STUDENTS WHO HAVE AN EMOTIONAL
13	REACTION AS A RESULT OF SCHOOL SAFETY DRILLS;
14	(d) Determine the skills and knowledge necessary to
15	TRAIN SCHOOL PERSONNEL TO ADEQUATELY IMPLEMENT AND USE
16	TRAUMA-INFORMED PRACTICES WHEN CONDUCTING SCHOOL SAFETY
17	DRILLS;
18	(e) DETERMINE THE NECESSARY FREQUENCY OF SCHOOL
19	PERSONNEL TRAINING TO ENSURE THE ADEQUATE USE OF
20	TRAUMA-INFORMED PRACTICES DURING SCHOOL SAFETY DRILLS;
21	(f) DETERMINE THE NECESSARY FREQUENCY OF SCHOOL SAFETY
22	DRILLS TO ADEQUATELY PREPARE STUDENTS AND SCHOOL PERSONNEL FOR
23	SCHOOL SAFETY INCIDENTS;
24	(g) DETERMINE THE AMOUNT OF ADVANCE NOTICE GIVEN TO
25	PARENTS BEFORE CONDUCTING A SCHOOL SAFETY DRILL;
26	(h) PROVIDE GUIDANCE FOR PARENTS ON TALKING TO STUDENTS
27	ABOUT SCHOOL SAFETY DRILLS;

1 (a) Identify the intended outcomes of the

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1	(1) IDENTIFY STATE AND LOCAL RESOURCES NEEDED TO SUPPORT
2	SCHOOLS IN IMPLEMENTING TRAUMA-INFORMED PRACTICES FOR
3	CONDUCTING SCHOOL SAFETY DRILLS; AND
4	(j) IDENTIFY POSSIBLE FUNDING SOURCES TO SUPPORT SCHOOLS IN
5	INCORPORATING TRAUMA-INFORMED PRACTICES INTO SCHOOL SAFETY
6	DRILLS TO RESPOND TO DIFFERENT TYPES OF SCHOOL SAFETY INCIDENTS.
7	(7) The work group shall create a report containing
8	FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS CREATED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION
9	(6) OF THIS SECTION. THE REPORT MUST ACCOUNT FOR THE DIFFERENT
10	NEEDS OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS.
11	(8) No later than <u>one year and one month after the</u>
12	EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS SUBSECTION (8), THE WORK GROUP MUST SUBMIT
13	A REPORT CONTAINING THE FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
14	DEVELOPED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (7) OF THIS SECTION TO THE OFFICE
15	AND TO THE EDUCATION COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
16	AND THE SENATE, OR ANY SUCCESSOR COMMITTEES; THE GOVERNOR; THE
17	STATE BOARD; THE COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION; AND THE DEPARTMENT
18	OF EDUCATION. THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION SHALL SUBMIT THE
19	REPORT TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AS PART OF ITS "SMART" ACT
20	PRESENTATION REQUIRED BY SECTION 2-7-203.
21	(9) (a) The office may seek, accept, and expend gifts,
22	GRANTS, OR DONATIONS FROM PRIVATE OR PUBLIC SOURCES FOR THE
23	PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION. THE OFFICE SHALL TRANSMIT ALL MONEY
24	RECEIVED THROUGH GIFTS, GRANTS, OR DONATIONS TO THE STATE
25	TREASURER.
26	(b) The office may enter into a public-private partnership
2.7	AGREEMENT TO CARRY OUT THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SECTION. FOR

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1	PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION, IF THE OFFICE ENTERS INTO A PUBLIC-PRIVATE
2	PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT, THE PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP
3	AGREEMENT IS CONSIDERED AN IN-KIND DONATION THAT COUNTS AS A
4	GIFT, GRANT, OR DONATION IN THE MONETARY AMOUNT THAT
5	CORRELATES WITH THE VALUE OF THE CONTRACT.
6	(10) (a) If by June 30, 2027, subsections (2), (4), (5), (6), (7),
7	(8), AND (9) OF THIS SECTION HAVE NOT TAKEN EFFECT, THE STATE
8	TREASURER SHALL TRANSFER ALL MONEY RECEIVED FOR PURPOSES OF
9	IMPLEMENTING THIS SECTION TO THE STATE EDUCATION FUND CREATED IN
10	SECTION 17 (4) OF ARTICLE IX OF THE STATE CONSTITUTION.
11	(b) If subsections (2), (4), (5), (6), (7), (8), AND (9) OF THIS
12	SECTION TAKE EFFECT PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (11)(a) OF THIS SECTION,
13	ON THE DAY PRIOR TO THE REPEAL OF THIS SECTION OR ONE YEAR LATER
14	PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (11)(b) OF THIS SECTION, THE STATE
15	TREASURER SHALL TRANSFER ALL UNEXPENDED AND UNENCUMBERED
16	MONEY RECEIVED FOR PURPOSES OF IMPLEMENTING THIS SECTION TO THE
17	STATE EDUCATION FUND CREATED IN SECTION 17 (4) OF ARTICLE IX OF
18	THE STATE CONSTITUTION.
19	(11) (a) SUBSECTIONS (2), (4), (5), (6), (7), (8), AND (9) OF THIS
20	SECTION TAKE EFFECT IF THE OFFICE RECEIVES FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS
21	OF GIFTS, GRANTS, OR DONATIONS FOR THE PURPOSE OF THIS SECTION OR
22	IF THE OFFICE RECEIVES AN IN-KIND DONATION AS PART OF A
23	PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT FOR WHICH THE VALUE IS
24	EQUAL TO FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS. THE OFFICE SHALL NOTIFY THE
25	REVISOR OF STATUTES IN WRITING OF THE DATE ON WHICH THE CONDITION
26	SPECIFIED IN THIS SUBSECTION (11)(a) HAS OCCURRED BY EMAILING THE
27	NOTICE TO REVISOROFSTATUTES.GA@COLEG.GOV. SUBSECTIONS (2), (4),

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1	(3), (6), (7), (8), AND (9) OF THIS SECTION TAKE EFFECT UPON THE DATE
2	IDENTIFIED IN THE NOTICE THAT THE COMMISSION HAS RECEIVED FIFTY
3	THOUSAND DOLLARS OF GIFTS, GRANTS, OR DONATIONS, OR AN IN-KIND
4	DONATION AS PART OF A PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT FOR
5	WHICH THE VALUE IS EQUAL TO FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS, FOR THE
6	PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION OR, IF THE NOTICE DOES NOT SPECIFY THAT
7	DATE, UPON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE TO THE REVISOR OF STATUTES.
8	(b) This section is repealed, effective July 1, 2027; except
9	THAT, IF THE REVISOR OF STATUTES RECEIVES NOTICE PURSUANT TO THIS
10	SECTION, THEN THIS SECTION IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE ONE YEAR AFTER
11	THE REQUIREMENTS OF SUBSECTION (7) OF THIS SECTION ARE SATISFIED.
12	SECTION 3. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-33.5-2702,
13	amend (2)(g); and add (2)(g.5) as follows:
14	24-33.5-2702. Office of school safety - created - duties - grants
15	manager - crisis response unit. (2) The office has the following duties:
16	(g) To administer the youth violence prevention grant program;
17	and
18	(g.5) TO OVERSEE THE WORK GROUP CREATED IN SECTION
19	24-33.5-2705; AND
20	SECTION 4. Act subject to petition - effective date. This act
21	takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the
22	ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly; except
23	that, if a referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V
24	of the state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this
25	act within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take
26	effect unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in

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- November 2026 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the
- 2 official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.

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