First Regular Session Seventy-second General Assembly STATE OF COLORADO

PREAMENDED

This Unofficial Version Includes Committee Amendments Not Yet Adopted on Second Reading

LLS NO. 19-0881.01 Conrad Imel x2313

HOUSE BILL 19-1263

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

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SENATE SPONSORSHIP

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House Committees

Judiciary Finance Appropriations

Senate Committees

Judiciary Finance Appropriations

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101	CONCERNING CHANGING THE PENALTY FOR CERTAIN VIOLATIONS
102	PURSUANT TO THE "UNIFORM CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES ACT
103	OF 2013", AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, MAKING AND
104	REDUCING AN APPROPRIATION.

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.)

Under existing law, possession of any amount of flunitrazepam, ketamine, cathinones, or a controlled substance listed in schedule I or II is a level 4 drug felony. Possession of a controlled substance listed in

and Reading Unamended April 18, 2019

Amended 2nd Reading 3rd F April 17, 2019 schedule III, IV, or V, except flunitrazepam or ketamine, is a level 1 drug misdemeanor. The bill makes possession of flunitrazepam, ketamine, cathinones, or a controlled substance listed in schedule I or II a level 1 drug misdemeanor. The bill makes conforming amendments related to making the possession offense a misdemeanor.

Under existing law, possession of more than 12 ounces of marijuana or more than 3 ounces of marijuana concentrate is a level 4 drug felony, and possession of 6 to 12 ounces of marijuana or not more than 3 ounces of marijuana concentrate is a level 1 drug misdemeanor. The bill makes possession of more than 6 ounces of marijuana or more than 3 ounces of marijuana concentrate a level 1 drug misdemeanor and makes possession of 3 ounces or less of marijuana concentrate a level 2 drug misdemeanor.

Under existing law, failure to appear after being released on summons or written promise to appear following arrest or detention for the petty offense of possession of not more than 2 ounces of marijuana is a class 3 misdemeanor. The bill clarifies that a person may not be arrested for the petty offense of possession of not more than 2 ounces of marijuana and that a court may issue a warrant for arrest of a person who fails to appear in court as required by a summons for the possession offense.

Under existing law, abusing toxic vapors is a level 2 drug misdemeanor and punishable with a sentence to jail for a second offense. The bill clarifies that a person may not be sentenced to jail specifically for a second offense.

Existing law requires a person convicted of an offense pursuant to the "Uniform Controlled Substances Act of 2013" (act) to be sentenced to complete useful public service unless that person is sentenced to the department of corrections or a community corrections facility. The bill permits a court to suspend a sentence to complete useful public service when it interferes with treatment or other probation requirements imposed by the court. The bill removes the useful public service requirement for persons receiving diversion or a deferred sentence. The bill requires only those convicted of a felony drug offense to submit to the fingerprinting and photographing requirements of the act.

The bill requires persons convicted of the level 1 drug misdemeanors related to unlawful possession of a controlled substance and possession of marijuana or marijuana concentrate to be punished by a sentence of up to 2 years probation, with up to 180 days in jail as a condition of, or for a violation of, probation, and a maximum \$1,000 fine.

The bill requires persons convicted of the level 2 drug misdemeanors related to unlawful use of a controlled substance, possession of marijuana or marijuana concentrate, unlawful use or possession of certain synthetic controlled substances, or abusing toxic vapors to be punished by a sentence of up to one year probation, with up to 120 days in jail as a condition of, or for a violation of, probation, and

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a maximum \$500 fine.

The county court drug court grant program is established in the judicial department to provide grants to the county court of a city and county to establish and operate a misdemeanor drug court. In order to be eligible for a grant, the city and county must not receive state funding to operate the county court.

1	Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:
2	SECTION 1. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 18-18-403.5, amend
3	(2)(a) and (2)(c); and add (4) as follows:
4	18-18-403.5. Unlawful possession of a controlled substance.
5	(2) A person who violates subsection (1) of this section by possessing:
6	(a) Any material, compound, mixture, or preparation that contains
7	any quantity of flunitrazepam; ketamine; GAMMA HYDROXYBUTYRATE,
8	INCLUDING ITS SALTS, ISOMERS, AND SALTS OF ISOMERS; OR cathinones or
9	a controlled substance listed in schedule I or II of part 2 of this article
10	commits a level 4 drug felony.
11	(c) Any material, compound, mixture, or preparation that contains
12	any quantity of a controlled substance listed in schedule III, IV, or V
13	SCHEDULE I, II, III, IV, OR V of part 2 of this article ARTICLE 18 except
14	flunitrazepam, GAMMA HYDROXYBUTYRATE, or ketamine commits a level
15	1 drug misdemeanor.
16	(4) NOTWITHSTANDING THE PROVISIONS OF SUBSECTION (2) OF
17	THIS SECTION, A DISTRICT ATTORNEY SHALL NOT CHARGE OR PROSECUTE
18	A PERSON PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION FOR ANY MINUSCULE, RESIDUAL, OR
19	UNUSABLE AMOUNT OF A CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE THAT MAY BE PRESENT
20	IN A USED HYPODERMIC NEEDLE OR SYRINGE, OR OTHER DRUG
21	PARAPHERNALIA, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 18-18-426.
22	SECTION 2. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 18-18-406, amend

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(4) and (5)(a)(II) as follows:

- 18-18-406. Offenses relating to marijuana and marijuana concentrate definitions. (4) (a) A person who possesses more than twelve ounces of marijuana or more than three ounces of marijuana concentrate commits a level 4 drug felony.
- (b) A person who possesses more than six ounces of marijuana but not more than twelve ounces of marijuana or not more than three ounces of marijuana concentrate commits a level 1 drug misdemeanor.
- (c) A person who possesses more than two ounces of marijuana but not more than six ounces of marijuana OR NOT MORE THAN THREE OUNCES OF MARIJUANA CONCENTRATE commits a level 2 drug misdemeanor.
- (5) (a) (II) Whenever a person is arrested or detained for a violation of subparagraph (I) of this paragraph (a) SUBSECTION (5)(a)(I) OF THIS SECTION, the arresting or detaining officer shall prepare a written notice or summons for the person to appear in court. The written notice or summons must contain the name and address of the arrested or detained person, the date, time, and place where such person shall appear, and a place for the signature of the person indicating the person's written promise to appear on the date and at the time and place indicated on the notice or summons. One copy of the notice or summons must be given to the person, arrested or detained, one copy must be sent to the court where the arrested or detained person is to appear, and such other copies as may be required by the law enforcement agency employing the arresting or detaining officer must be sent to the places designated by such law enforcement agency. The date specified in the notice or summons to appear must be at least seven days after the arrest or detention unless the

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1	person arrested or detained demands an earlier hearing ISSUANCE OF THE
2	NOTICE OR SUMMONS. The place specified in the notice or summons to
3	appear must be before a judge having jurisdiction of the drug petty
4	offense within the county in which the drug petty offense charged is
5	alleged to have been committed. The arrested or detained person, in order
6	to secure release from arrest or detention, must promise in writing to
7	appear in court by signing the notice or summons prepared by the
8	arresting or detaining officer. Any person who does not honor the written
9	promise to appear commits a class 3 misdemeanor IF THE PERSON FAILS
10	TO APPEAR IN RESPONSE TO THE NOTICE OR SUMMONS, THE COURT, IN ITS
11	DISCRETION, MAY ISSUE A WARRANT FOR THE ARREST OF THE PERSON OR
12	AN ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE REQUIRING THE PERSON'S APPEARANCE IN
13	COURT.
14	SECTION 3. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 18-18-412, amend
15	(2) as follows:
16	18-18-412. Abusing toxic vapors - prohibited. (2) A person
17	who knowingly violates the provisions of subsection (1) of this section
18	commits the offense of abusing toxic vapors. Abusing toxic vapors is a
19	level 2 drug misdemeanor. except that a person shall not receive a
20	sentence to confinement in jail for being convicted of a first offense
21	pursuant to this subsection (2). A person convicted of a second or
22	subsequent offense pursuant to this subsection (2) may receive a sentence
23	to confinement in jail.
24	SECTION 4. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 18-18-432, amend
25	(2)(a) and (3); and repeal (2)(b) as follows:
26	18-18-432. Drug offender public service and rehabilitation
27	program - definitions. (2) (a) Upon conviction, A COURT SHALL

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SENTENCE each drug offender, other than an offender sentenced to the department of corrections or an offender sentenced directly to a community corrections facility, shall be sentenced by the court to pay for and complete, at a minimum, forty-eight hours of useful public service for any felony, twenty-four hours of useful public service for any misdemeanor, and sixteen hours of useful public service for any petty offense. Such useful public service shall be IS in addition to, and not in lieu of, any other sentence received by the drug offender. The court shall not MAY suspend any portion of the minimum number of useful public service hours ordered WHEN COMPLETION OF THE USEFUL PUBLIC SERVICE REQUIREMENT INTERFERES WITH APPROPRIATE AND NECESSARY TREATMENT OR WITH ANY OTHER REQUIREMENTS OF PROBATION ORDERED BY THE COURT. If any drug offender is sentenced to probation, whether supervised by the court or by a probation officer, the order to pay for and complete the useful public service hours shall be IS made a condition of probation.

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(b) The provisions of this subsection (2) relating to the performance of useful public service are also applicable to any drug offender who receives a diversion in accordance with section 18-1.3-101 or who receives a deferred sentence in accordance with section 18-1.3-102 and the completion of any stipulated amount of useful public service hours to be completed by the drug offender shall be ordered by the court in accordance with the conditions of such deferred prosecution or deferred sentence as stipulated to by the prosecution and the drug offender.

(3) Upon a plea of guilty, including a plea of guilty entered pursuant to a deferred sentence under PURSUANT TO section 18-1.3-102

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or a verdict of guilty by the court or a jury, to any FELONY offense under
PURSUANT TO this article, or upon entry of a diversion pursuant to section
18-1.3-101 for any offense under this article ARTICLE 18, the court shall
order the drug offender to immediately report to the sheriff's department
in the county where the drug offender was charged, at which time the
drug offender's fingerprints and photographs shall MUST be taken and
returned to the court, which fingerprints and photographs shall become
a part of the court's official documents and records pertaining to the
charges against the drug offender and the drug offender's identification
in association with such charges. On any trial for a violation of any
criminal law of this state, a duly authenticated copy of the record of
former convictions and judgments of any court of record for any of said
crimes against the drug offender named in said convictions and judgments
shall be IS prima facie evidence of such convictions and may be used in
evidence against the drug offender. Identification photographs and
fingerprints that are part of the record of such former convictions and
judgments of any court of record or which are part of the record at the
place of the drug offender's incarceration after sentencing for any of such
former convictions and judgments shall be ARE prima facie evidence of
the identity of the drug offender and may be used in evidence against such
drug offender. Any drug offender who fails to immediately comply with
the court's order to report to the sheriff's department, to furnish
fingerprints, or to have photographs taken may be held in contempt of
court.

SECTION 5. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 18-1-711, **amend** (3) introductory portion and (3)(c) as follows:

18-1-711. Immunity for persons who suffer or report an

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1	emerg	ency drug or alcohol overdos	se event - definitions. (3) The
2	immun	ity described in subsection (1) o	of this section shall apply APPLIES
3	to the following criminal offenses:		
4		(c) Unlawful possession of two	o ounces or less of marijuana, as
5	describ	ped in section 18-18-406 (5)(a)	(I); or more than two ounces of
6	mariju	ana but no NOT more than six ou	unces of marijuana OR NOT MORE
7	THAN '	THREE OUNCES OF MARIJUANA	CONCENTRATE, as described in
8	section	section 18-18-406 (4)(c); or more than six ounces of marijuana, but no	
9	more than twelve ounces of marijuana or MORE THAN three ounces or less		
10	of marijuana concentrate as described in section 18-18-406 (4)(b);		
11	SECTION 6. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 18-1.3-501, amend		
12	(1)(d); and add (1)(d.5) as follows:		
13		18-1.3-501. Misdemeanors clas	ssified - drug misdemeanors and
14	drug	petty offenses classified - p	enalties - legislative intent -
15	definit	ions. (1) (d) Except as provide	ED IN SUBSECTION $(1)(d.5)$ OF THIS
16	SECTION, for purposes of sentencing a person convicted of a misdemeanor		
17	drug offense described in article 18 of this title TITLE 18, committed on		
18	or after October 1, 2013, drug misdemeanors are divided into two levels		
19	that are distinguished from one another by the following penalties that are		
20	authori	zed upon conviction:	
21	Level	Minimum Sentence	Maximum Sentence
22	DM1	Six months imprisonment,	Eighteen months imprisonment
23		five hundred dollars fine,	five thousand dollars fine,
24		or both	or both
25	DM2	No imprisonment,	Twelve months imprisonment
26		fifty dollars fine	seven hundred fifty dollars
27			fine, or both

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1	(d.5)(I) It is intention of the general assembly to classify
2	MOST DRUG POSSESSION AS A MISDEMEANOR OFFENSE WITH DIFFERENT
3	SENTENCING OPTIONS AND LIMITED INCARCERATION PENALTIES. THE
4	PURPOSE OF THIS SENTENCING SCHEME IS TO PROVIDE OFFENDERS WHO
5	ARE ASSESSED TO BE IN NEED OF TREATMENT OR OTHER INTERVENTION
6	WITH PROBATION SUPERVISION IN CONJUNCTION WITH EFFECTIVE MEDICAL
7	AND BEHAVIORAL INTERVENTION AND TREATMENT. FOR THOSE DRUG
8	POSSESSORS WHO ARE NOT IN NEED OF TREATMENT, SENTENCING BY THE
9	COURTS SYSTEM SHOULD BE LIMITED. THIS SENTENCING SCHEME
10	RECOGNIZES THAT DRUG USE AND POSSESSION IS PRIMARILY A HEALTH
11	CONCERN AND SHOULD BE TREATED AS SUCH BY COLORADO COURTS.
12	(II) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (1)(d) of
13	THIS SECTION, FOR THE PURPOSE OF SENTENCING A PERSON CONVICTED OF
14	A LEVEL 1 DRUG MISDEMEANOR IN VIOLATION OF SECTION 18-18-403.5 OR
15	18-18-406 (4)(b), A COURT MAY SENTENCE AN OFFENDER TO PROBATION
16	FOR UP TO TWO YEARS, WITH THE POSSIBILITY OF A TOTAL OF ONE
17	HUNDRED EIGHTY DAYS IN COUNTY JAIL OR, FOR A THIRD OR SUBSEQUENT
18	OFFENSE, A TOTAL OF UP TO THREE HUNDRED SIXTY-FOUR DAYS IN
19	COUNTY JAIL, WHICH MAY BE IMPOSED IN WHOLE OR IN PART DURING THE
20	TIME PERIOD OF PROBATION AS A CONDITION OF PROBATION OR AS A
21	SANCTION FOR A VIOLATION OF <u>PROBATION</u> ; OR THE COURT MAY SENTENCE
22	AN OFFENDER TO UP TO ONE HUNDRED EIGHTY DAYS IN THE COUNTY JAIL,
23	EXCEPT THAT FOR A THIRD OR SUBSEQUENT OFFENSE, THE COURT MAY
24	SENTENCE AN OFFENDER TO UP TO THREE HUNDRED SIXTY-FOUR DAYS IN
25	THE COUNTY JAIL. IN ADDITION TO THE SENTENCE TO PROBATION OR TO
26	THE COUNTY JAIL, THE OFFENDER MAY BE PUNISHED BY A FINE OF NOT
27	MORE THAN ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS.

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1	(III) NOTWITHSTANDING THE PROVISIONS OF SUBSECTION $(1)(d)$
2	OF THIS SECTION, FOR THE PURPOSE OF SENTENCING A PERSON CONVICTED
3	OF A LEVEL 2 DRUG MISDEMEANOR IN VIOLATION OF SECTION 18-18-404,
4	18-18-406 (4)(c), 18-18-406.1, OR 18-18-412, A COURT MAY SENTENCE AN
5	OFFENDER TO PROBATION FOR UP TO ONE YEAR, WITH THE POSSIBILITY OF
6	A TOTAL OF ONE HUNDRED TWENTY DAYS IN COUNTY JAIL OR, FOR A THIRD
7	OR SUBSEQUENT OFFENSE, A TOTAL OF UP TO ONE HUNDRED EIGHTY DAYS
8	IN COUNTY JAIL, WHICH MAY BE IMPOSED IN WHOLE OR IN PART DURING
9	THE TIME PERIOD OF PROBATION AS A CONDITION OF PROBATION OR AS A
10	SANCTION FOR A VIOLATION OF <u>PROBATION</u> ; OR THE COURT MAY SENTENCE
11	AN OFFENDER TO UP TO ONE HUNDRED TWENTY DAYS IN THE COUNTY JAIL,
12	EXCEPT THAT FOR A THIRD OR SUBSEQUENT OFFENSE, THE COURT MAY
13	SENTENCE AN OFFENDER TO UP TO ONE HUNDRED EIGHTY DAYS IN THE
14	COUNTY JAIL. IN ADDITION TO THE SENTENCE TO PROBATION OR TO THE
15	COUNTY JAIL, THE OFFENDER MAY BE PUNISHED BY A FINE OF NOT MORE
16	THAN FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS.
17	(IV) Nothing in this subsection $(1)(d.5)$ infringes upon the
18	AUTHORITY AND DISCRETION VESTED WITH A DISTRICT ATTORNEY TO FILE
19	MISDEMEANOR CHARGES IN EITHER DISTRICT COURT OR COUNTY COURT,
20	WHICH COURTS, PURSUANT TO SECTION 13-6-106, HAVE CONCURRENT
21	ORIGINAL JURISDICTION OVER VIOLATIONS OF STATE LAW THAT
22	CONSTITUTE MISDEMEANORS. DISTRICT ATTORNEYS ARE ENCOURAGED TO
23	FILE MISDEMEANOR OR DRUG CHARGES IN THE COURT WHERE, IF THERE IS
24	A CONVICTION, TREATMENT AND SUPERVISION CAN MOST EFFECTIVELY BE
25	MATCHED TO THE DEFENDANT'S ASSESSED RISK AND TREATMENT NEED
26	LEVELS.
27	SECTION 7. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 18-1.3-103.5, amend

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(3)(a) as follows:

18-1.3-103.5. Felony convictions - vacate and enter conviction on misdemeanor after successful completion. (3) This section applies to convictions for the following offenses:

(a) Possession of a controlled substance; but only when the quantity of the controlled substance is not more than four grams of a schedule I or schedule II controlled substance, ANY MATERIAL, COMPOUND, MIXTURE, OR PREPARATION CONTAINING ANY QUANTITY OF GAMMA HYDROXYBUTYRATE, INCLUDING ITS SALTS, ISOMERS, AND SALTS OF ISOMERS; not more than two grams of methamphetamine, heroin, ketamine or cathinones; or not more than four milligrams of flunitrazepam. The district attorney and defendant may stipulate to the amount of the controlled substance possessed by the defendant at the time of sentencing, or the court shall determine the amount at the time of sentencing.

SECTION 8. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 18-1.3-801, **amend** (2)(b) as follows:

18-1.3-801. Punishment for habitual criminals. (2) (b) The provisions of paragraph (a) of this subsection (2) shall not SUBSECTION (2)(a) OF THIS SECTION DO NOT apply to a conviction for a level 4 drug felony pursuant to section 18-18-403.5 (2), or a conviction for a level 4 drug felony for attempt or conspiracy to commit unlawful possession of a controlled substance, as described in section 18-18-403.5 (2), if the amount of the schedule I or schedule II controlled substance possessed is not more than four grams OF ANY MATERIAL, COMPOUND, MIXTURE, OR PREPARATION CONTAINING ANY QUANTITY OF GAMMA HYDROXYBUTYRATE, INCLUDING ITS SALTS, ISOMERS, AND SALTS OF

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1	ISOMERS, or not more than two grams of methamphetamine, heroin,
2	cathinones or ketamine, or not more than four milligrams of
3	flunitrazepam, even if the person has been previously convicted of three
4	or more qualifying felony convictions.
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7	SECTION 9. In Colorado Revised Statutes, add 24-32-125 as
8	follows:
9	24-32-125. Community substance use and mental health
10	services grant program - creation. (1) THERE IS CREATED IN THE
11	DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL AFFAIRS THE COMMUNITY SUBSTANCE USE AND
12	MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES GRANT PROGRAM, REFERRED TO IN THIS
13	SECTION AS THE "GRANT PROGRAM", TO PROVIDE GRANTS TO COUNTIES
14	THAT PROVIDE SUBSTANCE USE OR MENTAL HEALTH TREATMENT SERVICES
15	TO, FACILITATE DIVERSION PROGRAMS FOR, OR DEVELOP OTHER
16	STRATEGIES TO REDUCE JAIL AND PRISON BED USE BY, PERSONS WHO COME
17	INTO CONTACT WITH THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM. A COUNTY THAT
18	PROVIDES SUCH TREATMENT SERVICES AND PROGRAMS IN COLLABORATION
19	WITH PUBLIC HEALTH AGENCIES, LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES, AND
20	COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATIONS, IS ELIGIBLE FOR A GRANT PURSUANT
21	TO THE GRANT PROGRAM.
22	(2) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ISSUE A GRANT TO ANY ELIGIBLE
23	COUNTY. THE AMOUNT OF A GRANT AWARDED PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION
24	MUST BE BASED ON THE COST OF THE SERVICES PROVIDED AND THE
25	NUMBER OF PERSONS THAT RECEIVE SERVICES.
26	(3) THE DEPARTMENT MAY DEVELOP POLICIES AND PROCEDURES
27	NECESSARY FOR THE OPERATION OF THE GRANT PROGRAM, INCLUDING THE

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1	APPLICATION PROCESS; THE FORMULA FOR DETERMINING THE AMOUNT
2	AWARDED TO EACH ELIGIBLE COUNTY; A PROCESS FOR VERIFYING THAT
3	THE COUNTY IS PROVIDING SERVICES DESCRIBED IN THIS SECTION IN
4	COLLABORATION WITH PUBLIC HEALTH AGENCIES, LAW ENFORCEMENT
5	AGENCIES, AND COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATIONS; AND A
6	REQUIREMENT THAT EACH GRANT RECIPIENT PROVIDES A REPORT TO THE
7	DEPARTMENT DESCRIBING HOW THE GRANT FUNDS WERE UTILIZED.
8	(4) BEGINNING FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020-21, AND FOR EACH YEAR
9	THEREAFTER, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SHALL APPROPRIATE TO THE
10	DEPARTMENT, FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING GRANTS PURSUANT TO THE
11	GRANT PROGRAM, AT LEAST ONE MILLION EIGHT HUNDRED THOUSAND
12	DOLLARS FROM THE GENERAL FUND GENERATED FROM ESTIMATED
13	SAVINGS FROM HOUSE BILL 19-1263, ENACTED IN 2019.
14	
15	SECTION <u>10.</u> Appropriation - adjustments to 2019 long bill.
16	(1) To implement this act, the general fund appropriation made in the
17	annual general appropriation act for the 2019-20 state fiscal year to the
18	judicial department for trial court programs is decreased by \$48,730, and
19	the related FTE is decreased by $\underline{0.4}$ FTE.
20	(2) For the 2019-20 state fiscal year, \$\frac{\$123,139}{}\$ is appropriated to
21	the judicial department. This appropriation is from the general fund. To
22	implement this act, the department may use this appropriation for
23	probation programs, which amount is based on an assumption that the
24	program will require an additional 0.8 FTE.
	<u> </u>
25	SECTION 11. Effective date - applicability. This act takes
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- 1 **SECTION 12.** Safety clause. The general assembly hereby finds,
- determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate
- 3 preservation of the public peace, health, and safety.

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