

**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. 25-0023.01 Chelsea Princell x4335

**SENATE BILL 25-027**

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**SENATE SPONSORSHIP**

**Marchman,**

**HOUSE SPONSORSHIP**

**Joseph,**

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**Senate Committees**

Education  
Appropriations

**House Committees**

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**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

101     **CONCERNING THE USE OF TRAUMA-INFORMED PRACTICES TO ADDRESS**  
102             **SCHOOL SAFETY, AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, MAKING AN**  
103             **APPROPRIATION.**

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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>.)*

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

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.  
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.

SENATE  
Amended 2nd Reading  
April 15, 2025

on the use of trauma-informed practices in conducting school safety 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.

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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;

15           (d) School safety drills are an essential part of school safety  
16 protocols to prepare students and school personnel for emergency  
17 situations;

18           (e) Traditional school safety drills can be distressing and  
19 traumatizing for students and educators, thereby necessitating a more  
20 considerate approach;

21           (f) Trauma-informed practices have been shown to reduce the  
22 psychological impact of school safety drills on participants, fostering a

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 - fund - notice**  
12 **to revisor of statutes - definitions - repeal.** (1) AS USED IN THIS  
13 SECTION, 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

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 GOVERNOR;

23 (B) A REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE OFFICE, APPOINTED BY THE  
24 GOVERNOR;

25 (C) A REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE OFFICE OF GUN VIOLENCE  
26 PREVENTION CREATED IN SECTION 25-20.5-1202, APPOINTED BY THE  
27 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND

1     ENVIRONMENT;  
2             (D) THE COMMISSIONER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, OR  
3     THE COMMISSIONER'S DESIGNEE; AND  
4             (E) A STUDENT WHO ATTENDS A COLORADO PUBLIC SCHOOL,  
5     APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR;  
6             (II) THE WORK GROUP CONSISTS OF THE FOLLOWING VOTING  
7     MEMBERS:  
8             (A) A SCHOOL DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT WHO REPRESENTS  
9     EITHER A RURAL OR SUBURBAN SCHOOL DISTRICT, APPOINTED BY THE  
10    PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE;  
11            (B) A SCHOOL PRINCIPAL, OR THE PRINCIPAL'S DESIGNEE,  
12    APPOINTED BY THE MINORITY LEADER OF THE HOUSE OF  
13    REPRESENTATIVES;  
14            (C) TWO TEACHERS, ONE OF WHOM MUST REPRESENT AN URBAN  
15    SCHOOL DISTRICT, APPOINTED BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE, AND ONE  
16    OF WHOM MUST REPRESENT AN URBAN SCHOOL DISTRICT, APPOINTED BY  
17    THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES;  
18            (D) A SCHOOL NURSE OR PEDIATRICIAN, APPOINTED BY THE  
19    MINORITY LEADER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES;  
20            (E) TWO MENTAL HEALTH PROFESSIONALS, ONE OF WHOM MUST  
21    SPECIALIZE IN CHILD DEVELOPMENT OR TRAUMA-INFORMED CARE,  
22    APPOINTED BY THE MINORITY LEADER OF THE SENATE, AND ONE OF WHOM  
23    MUST SPECIALIZE IN BEHAVIORAL HEALTH, APPOINTED BY THE SPEAKER OF  
24    THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES;  
25            (F) A SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER OR LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT  
26    REPRESENTATIVE WITH EXPERIENCE IN RURAL OR URBAN SCHOOL  
27    SETTINGS, APPOINTED BY THE MINORITY LEADER OF THE SENATE;

1           (G) A PROFESSIONAL EXPERT IN PUBLIC HEALTH OR SCHOOL  
2           SAFETY, APPOINTED BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE;

3           (H) A REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE FIRE AND LIFE SAFETY SECTION  
4           OF THE DIVISION OF FIRE PREVENTION AND CONTROL, APPOINTED BY THE  
5           PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE;

6           (I) A PARENT OF A STUDENT CURRENTLY ATTENDING A COLORADO  
7           PUBLIC SCHOOL, APPOINTED BY THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF  
8           REPRESENTATIVES; AND

9           (J) AN AT-LARGE MEMBER, APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR.

10           (b) THE APPOINTING AUTHORITIES SHALL APPOINT THE MEMBERS  
11           OF THE WORK GROUP AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF  
12           THIS SUBSECTION (5) BUT NO LATER THAN TWENTY-EIGHT DAYS AFTER THE  
13           EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS SUBSECTION (5).

14           (c) ANY VACANCY OCCURRING IN THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE WORK  
15           GROUP MUST BE FILLED IN THE SAME MANNER AS THE ORIGINAL  
16           APPOINTMENT.

17           (d) A MAJORITY OF THE MEMBERS APPOINTED TO THE WORK GROUP  
18           CONSTITUTES A QUORUM. IF THE WORK GROUP IS UNABLE TO REACH A  
19           QUORUM DUE TO UNFORESEEN CIRCUMSTANCES, THE WORK GROUP MAY  
20           PROCEED WITH A REDUCED QUORUM OF NO FEWER THAN SIX VOTING  
21           MEMBERS.

22           (e) THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE WORK GROUP SHALL CONVENE THE  
23           FIRST MEETING OF THE WORK GROUP NO LATER THAN FIFTY-SIX DAYS  
24           AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS SECTION. THE WORK GROUP SHALL  
25           MEET AT LEAST FOUR TIMES DURING THE FIRST SIX MONTHS OF ITS  
26           OPERATION AND AT LEAST THREE TIMES DURING THE SECOND SIX MONTHS  
27           OF ITS OPERATION. THE WORK GROUP SHALL ESTABLISH PROCEDURES TO

1 ALLOW MEMBERS OF THE WORK GROUP TO PARTICIPATE IN THE MEETINGS  
2 REMOTELY.

3 (f) THE MEMBERS OF THE WORK GROUP SERVE WITHOUT  
4 COMPENSATION BUT MAY BE REIMBURSED FOR EXPENSES DIRECTLY  
5 RELATING TO THEIR SERVICE ON THE WORK GROUP.

6 (g) UPON THE REQUEST OF THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE WORK  
7 GROUP, THE OFFICE SHALL PROVIDE STAFF ASSISTANCE, MEETING SPACE,  
8 OR AUDIO-VISUAL COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY RESOURCES TO THE  
9 WORK GROUP AS NECESSARY FOR THE PERFORMANCE OF ITS DUTIES.

10 (6) THE WORK GROUP SHALL:

11 (a) IDENTIFY THE INTENDED OUTCOMES OF THE  
12 TRAUMA-INFORMED PRACTICES;

13 (b) IDENTIFY BEST PRACTICES FOR INCORPORATING  
14 TRAUMA-INFORMED PRACTICES INTO SCHOOL SAFETY DRILLS TO RESPOND  
15 TO DIFFERENT TYPES OF SCHOOL SAFETY INCIDENTS;

16 (c) USE THE BEST PRACTICES IDENTIFIED IN SUBSECTION (6)(b) OF  
17 THIS SECTION TO DETERMINE HOW TO BEST IMPLEMENT  
18 TRAUMA-INFORMED PRACTICES FOR SCHOOLS TO:

19 (I) PLAN AND EXECUTE DIFFERENT TYPES OF SCHOOL SAFETY  
20 DRILLS;

21 (II) IMMEDIATELY RESPOND TO A SCHOOL SAFETY INCIDENT; AND

22 (III) BEST RESPOND TO STUDENTS WHO HAVE AN EMOTIONAL  
23 REACTION AS A RESULT OF SCHOOL SAFETY DRILLS;

24 (d) DETERMINE THE SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE NECESSARY TO  
25 TRAIN SCHOOL PERSONNEL TO ADEQUATELY IMPLEMENT AND USE  
26 TRAUMA-INFORMED PRACTICES WHEN CONDUCTING SCHOOL SAFETY  
27 DRILLS;

1           (e) DETERMINE THE NECESSARY FREQUENCY OF SCHOOL  
2 PERSONNEL TRAINING TO ENSURE THE ADEQUATE USE OF  
3 TRAUMA-INFORMED PRACTICES DURING SCHOOL SAFETY DRILLS;

4           (f) DETERMINE THE NECESSARY FREQUENCY OF SCHOOL SAFETY  
5 DRILLS TO ADEQUATELY PREPARE STUDENTS AND SCHOOL PERSONNEL FOR  
6 SCHOOL SAFETY INCIDENTS;

7           (g) DETERMINE THE AMOUNT OF ADVANCE NOTICE GIVEN TO  
8 PARENTS BEFORE CONDUCTING A SCHOOL SAFETY DRILL;

9           (h) PROVIDE GUIDANCE FOR PARENTS ON TALKING TO STUDENTS  
10 ABOUT SCHOOL SAFETY DRILLS;

11           (i) IDENTIFY STATE AND LOCAL RESOURCES NEEDED TO SUPPORT  
12 SCHOOLS IN IMPLEMENTING TRAUMA-INFORMED PRACTICES FOR  
13 CONDUCTING SCHOOL SAFETY DRILLS; AND

14           (j) IDENTIFY POSSIBLE FUNDING SOURCES TO SUPPORT SCHOOLS IN  
15 INCORPORATING TRAUMA-INFORMED PRACTICES INTO SCHOOL SAFETY  
16 DRILLS TO RESPOND TO DIFFERENT TYPES OF SCHOOL SAFETY INCIDENTS.

17           (7) THE WORK GROUP SHALL CREATE A REPORT CONTAINING  
18 FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS CREATED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION  
19 (6) OF THIS SECTION. THE REPORT MUST ACCOUNT FOR THE DIFFERENT  
20 NEEDS OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS.

21           (8) NO LATER THAN ONE YEAR AND ONE MONTH AFTER THE  
22 EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS SUBSECTION (8), THE WORK GROUP MUST SUBMIT  
23 A REPORT CONTAINING THE FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS  
24 DEVELOPED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (7) OF THIS SECTION TO THE OFFICE  
25 AND TO THE EDUCATION COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
26 AND THE SENATE, OR ANY SUCCESSOR COMMITTEES; THE GOVERNOR; THE  
27 STATE BOARD; THE COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION; AND THE DEPARTMENT



1 OF EDUCATION. THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION SHALL SUBMIT THE  
2 REPORT TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AS PART OF ITS "SMART" ACT  
3 PRESENTATION REQUIRED BY SECTION 2-7-203.

4 (9) (a) THE OFFICE MAY SEEK, ACCEPT, AND EXPEND GIFTS,  
5 GRANTS, OR DONATIONS FROM PRIVATE OR PUBLIC SOURCES FOR THE  
6 PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION. THE OFFICE SHALL TRANSMIT ALL MONEY  
7 RECEIVED THROUGH GIFTS, GRANTS, OR DONATIONS TO THE STATE  
8 TREASURER.

9 (b) THE OFFICE MAY ENTER INTO A PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP  
10 AGREEMENT TO CARRY OUT THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SECTION. FOR  
11 PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION, IF THE OFFICE ENTERS INTO A PUBLIC-PRIVATE  
12 PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT, THE PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP  
13 AGREEMENT IS CONSIDERED AN IN-KIND DONATION THAT COUNTS AS A  
14 GIFT, GRANT, OR DONATION IN THE MONETARY AMOUNT THAT  
15 CORRELATES WITH THE VALUE OF THE CONTRACT.

16 (10) (a) IF BY JUNE 30, 2027, SUBSECTIONS (2), (4), (5), (6), (7),  
17 (8), AND (9) OF THIS SECTION HAVE NOT TAKEN EFFECT, THE STATE  
18 TREASURER SHALL TRANSFER ALL MONEY RECEIVED FOR PURPOSES OF  
19 IMPLEMENTING THIS SECTION TO THE STATE EDUCATION FUND CREATED IN  
20 SECTION 17 (4) OF ARTICLE IX OF THE STATE CONSTITUTION.

21 (b) IF SUBSECTIONS (2), (4), (5), (6), (7), (8), AND (9) OF THIS  
22 SECTION TAKE EFFECT PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (11)(a) OF THIS SECTION,  
23 ON THE DAY PRIOR TO THE REPEAL OF THIS SECTION OR ONE YEAR LATER  
24 PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (11)(b) OF THIS SECTION, THE STATE  
25 TREASURER SHALL TRANSFER ALL UNEXPENDED AND UNENCUMBERED  
26 MONEY RECEIVED FOR PURPOSES OF IMPLEMENTING THIS SECTION TO THE  
27 STATE EDUCATION FUND CREATED IN SECTION 17 (4) OF ARTICLE IX OF

1 THE STATE CONSTITUTION.

2 (11) (a) SUBSECTIONS (2), (4), (5), (6), (7), (8), AND (9) OF THIS  
3 SECTION TAKE EFFECT IF THE OFFICE RECEIVES FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS  
4 OF GIFTS, GRANTS, OR DONATIONS FOR THE PURPOSE OF THIS SECTION OR  
5 IF THE OFFICE RECEIVES AN IN-KIND DONATION AS PART OF A  
6 PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT FOR WHICH THE VALUE IS  
7 EQUAL TO FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS. THE OFFICE SHALL NOTIFY THE  
8 REVISOR OF STATUTES IN WRITING OF THE DATE ON WHICH THE CONDITION  
9 SPECIFIED IN THIS SUBSECTION (11)(a) HAS OCCURRED BY EMAILING THE  
10 NOTICE TO REVISOROFSTATUTES.GA@COLEG.GOV. SUBSECTIONS (2), (4),  
11 (5), (6), (7), (8), AND (9) OF THIS SECTION TAKE EFFECT UPON THE DATE  
12 IDENTIFIED IN THE NOTICE THAT THE COMMISSION HAS RECEIVED FIFTY  
13 THOUSAND DOLLARS OF GIFTS, GRANTS, OR DONATIONS, OR AN IN-KIND  
14 DONATION AS PART OF A PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT FOR  
15 WHICH THE VALUE IS EQUAL TO FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS, FOR THE  
16 PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION OR, IF THE NOTICE DOES NOT SPECIFY THAT  
17 DATE, UPON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE TO THE REVISOR OF STATUTES.

18 (b) THIS SECTION IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2027; EXCEPT  
19 THAT, IF THE REVISOR OF STATUTES RECEIVES NOTICE PURSUANT TO THIS  
20 SECTION, THEN THIS SECTION IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE ONE YEAR AFTER  
21 THE REQUIREMENTS OF SUBSECTION (7) OF THIS SECTION ARE SATISFIED.

22 **SECTION 3.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-33.5-2702,  
23 **amend** (2)(g); and **add** (2)(g.5) as follows:

24 **24-33.5-2702. Office of school safety - created - duties - grants**  
25 **manager - crisis response unit.** (2) The office has the following duties:

26 (g) To administer the youth violence prevention grant program;  
27 **and**

1 (g.5) TO OVERSEE THE WORK GROUP CREATED IN SECTION  
2 24-33.5-2705; AND

3 **SECTION 4. Appropriation.** For the 2025-26 state fiscal year,  
4 \$50,000 is appropriated to the department of public safety for use by the  
5 executive director's office. This appropriation is from the  
6 trauma-informed practices for school safety drills fund created in section  
7 24-33.5-2705 (9), C.R.S. To implement this act, the office may use this  
8 appropriation for administrative services related to the office of school  
9 safety.

10 **SECTION 5. Safety clause.** The general assembly finds,  
11 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate  
12 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety or for appropriations for  
13 the support and maintenance of the departments of the state and state  
14 institutions.