

**First Regular Session
Seventy-third General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO**

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 21-1004.01 Conrad Imel x2313

HOUSE BILL 21-1299

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Sullivan and Bacon, Amabile, McCormick

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Fields and Hansen,

House Committees

Public & Behavioral Health & Human Services

Senate Committees

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 **CONCERNING ESTABLISHING AN OFFICE OF GUN VIOLENCE**
102 **PREVENTION, AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, MAKING AN**
103 **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>.)

The bill establishes the office of gun violence prevention (office) within the department of public health and environment to coordinate and promote effective efforts to reduce gun violence. The office is required to conduct public awareness campaigns to educate the general public about state and federal laws and existing resources relating to gun

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.

1 AND PROMOTE EFFECTIVE EFFORTS TO REDUCE GUN VIOLENCE AND
2 RELATED TRAUMAS AND PROMOTE RESEARCH REGARDING CAUSES OF, AND
3 EVIDENCE-BASED RESPONSES TO, GUN VIOLENCE.

4 (b) THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT SHALL
5 APPOINT THE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF GUN VIOLENCE PREVENTION
6 PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OF ARTICLE XII OF THE STATE CONSTITUTION.

7 (c) THE DIRECTOR SHALL APPOINT STAFF NECESSARY TO CARRY
8 OUT THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE OFFICE. AT A MINIMUM, THE OFFICE
9 MUST HAVE, IN ADDITION TO THE DIRECTOR, ONE FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT
10 EMPLOYEE IN STATE FISCAL YEAR 2021-22 AND TWO FULL-TIME
11 EQUIVALENT EMPLOYEES IN STATE FISCAL YEAR 2022-23.

12 (2) IN ORDER TO EFFECTIVELY CARRY OUT ITS RESPONSIBILITIES,
13 THE OFFICE MAY COLLABORATE WITH OTHER STATE AGENCIES, INCLUDING
14 THE ADDRESS CONFIDENTIALITY PROGRAM CREATED IN SECTION
15 24-30-2104; THE OFFICE OF SUICIDE PREVENTION ESTABLISHED IN SECTION
16 25-1.5-101 (1)(w); THE SAFE2TELL PROGRAM CREATED IN SECTION
17 24-31-606; THE SCHOOL SAFETY RESOURCE CENTER CREATED IN SECTION
18 24-33.5-1803; THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION; THE OFFICE OF
19 BEHAVIORAL HEALTH WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES; THE
20 OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL; AND THE DIVISION OF CRIMINAL
21 JUSTICE WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY. THE OFFICE MAY
22 ALSO COLLABORATE WITH INDIVIDUALS, EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS,
23 HEALTH-CARE PROVIDERS, AND ORGANIZATIONS WITH EXPERTISE IN GUN
24 VIOLENCE PREVENTION AND GUN SAFETY, INCLUDING GUN DEALERS,
25 SHOOTING RANGES, AND FIREARMS SAFETY INSTRUCTORS.

26 **25-20.5-1203. Gun violence prevention awareness and**
27 **education - violence intervention grant program - rules. (1) THE**

1 OFFICE SHALL INCREASE THE AWARENESS OF, AND EDUCATE THE GENERAL
2 PUBLIC ABOUT, STATE AND FEDERAL LAWS AND EXISTING RESOURCES
3 RELATING TO GUN VIOLENCE PREVENTION, INCLUDING THE FOLLOWING:

4 (a) THE AVAILABILITY OF, AND THE PROCESS FOR REQUESTING, AN
5 EXTREME RISK PROTECTION ORDER PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 14.5 OF TITLE
6 13;

7 (b) THE AVAILABILITY OF, AND THE PROCESS FOR REQUESTING, A
8 PROTECTION ORDER PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 14 OF TITLE 13;

9 (c) HOW TO REPORT A LOST OR STOLEN FIREARM, INCLUDING
10 REPORTING REQUIREMENTS IN STATE LAW;

11 (d) BEST PRACTICES FOR SAFE STORAGE OF FIREARMS, INCLUDING
12 SAFE STORAGE REQUIREMENTS DESCRIBED IN SECTION 18-12-114;

13 (e) ACCESSING AVAILABLE MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE USE
14 RESOURCES AND HOW TO REFER PEOPLE TO NEEDED MENTAL HEALTH AND
15 SUBSTANCE USE TREATMENT SERVICES, INCLUDING SUICIDE PREVENTION;
16 AND

17 (f) SAFE AND RESPONSIBLE GUN OWNERSHIP, INCLUDING
18 INCREASING AWARENESS OF COMPLIANCE WITH STATE AND FEDERAL LAW.

19 (2) (a) TO PROMOTE AWARENESS AND EDUCATION AS DESCRIBED
20 IN SUBSECTION (1) OF THIS SECTION, THE OFFICE SHALL:

21 (I) CONDUCT AWARENESS CAMPAIGNS DIRECTED TOWARD GUN
22 OWNERS, PARENTS AND LEGAL GUARDIANS OF CHILDREN, AND
23 PROFESSIONS THAT PROVIDE SERVICES TO PEOPLE AND COMMUNITIES
24 DISPROPORTIONATELY AFFECTED BY GUN VIOLENCE; AND

25 (II) DEVELOP AND PROVIDE MATERIALS AND TRAINING RESOURCES
26 TO LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES, HEALTH-CARE PROVIDERS, AND
27 EDUCATORS TO ASSIST THOSE AGENCIES, PROVIDERS, AND EDUCATORS

1 WITH EDUCATING THE PUBLIC ABOUT THE LAWS AND RESOURCES
2 DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (1) OF THIS SECTION AND OTHER EFFECTIVE
3 GUN VIOLENCE PREVENTION STRATEGIES.

4 (b) THE OFFICE MAY FOCUS PUBLIC AWARENESS CAMPAIGNS IN
5 COMMUNITIES IDENTIFIED BY THE OFFICE AS DISPROPORTIONATELY
6 AFFECTED BY GUN VIOLENCE.

7 (c) THE OFFICE SHALL CONDUCT AWARENESS AND EDUCATION
8 CAMPAIGNS IN A CULTURALLY COMPETENT WAY, INCLUDING BY
9 PROVIDING MATERIALS AND RESOURCES IN MULTIPLE LANGUAGES.

10 (d) THE OFFICE MAY USE TELEVISION MESSAGING, RADIO
11 BROADCASTS, PRINT MEDIA, DIGITAL STRATEGIES, OR ANY OTHER FORM OF
12 MESSAGING DEEMED EFFECTIVE AND APPROPRIATE BY THE OFFICE TO
13 ACHIEVE THE GOALS OF THIS SECTION.

14 (3) AT THE REQUEST OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE
15 DEPARTMENT, THE OFFICE SHALL SUPPORT AND PROVIDE ASSISTANCE FOR
16 OTHER EDUCATION CAMPAIGNS AND PROGRAMS CONDUCTED BY THE
17 DEPARTMENT THAT ARE RELATED TO GUN VIOLENCE, INCLUDING
18 EDUCATION AND PROGRAMS RELATING TO FIREARMS SAFE STORAGE AND
19 SUICIDE PREVENTION.

20 (4) (a) SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE MONEY, THE OFFICE MAY
21 ESTABLISH AND ADMINISTER A GRANT PROGRAM TO AWARD GRANTS TO
22 ORGANIZATIONS TO CONDUCT COMMUNITY-BASED GUN VIOLENCE
23 INTERVENTION INITIATIVES THAT ARE PRIMARILY FOCUSED ON
24 INTERRUPTING CYCLES OF GUN VIOLENCE, TRAUMA, AND RETALIATION BY
25 PROVIDING CULTURALLY COMPETENT INTERVENTION SERVICES.

26 (b) TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR A GRANT AWARD, AN ORGANIZATION MUST
27 DEMONSTRATE THE ABILITY TO CONDUCT EFFECTIVE COMMUNITY-BASED

1 GUN VIOLENCE INTERVENTION INITIATIVES THAT MEET THE CRITERIA
2 DESCRIBED IN THIS SECTION. THE OFFICE SHALL PRIORITIZE AWARDING
3 GRANTS TO ORGANIZATIONS THAT CONDUCT GUN VIOLENCE INTERVENTION
4 INITIATIVES WITH INDIVIDUALS AND IN COMMUNITIES IDENTIFIED AS
5 HAVING THE HIGHEST RISK OF PERPETRATING OR BEING VICTIMIZED BY
6 GUN VIOLENCE IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

7 (c) AN INITIATIVE CONDUCTED WITH A GRANT AWARD MUST USE
8 STRATEGIES THAT ARE EVIDENCE-INFORMED AND HAVE DEMONSTRATED
9 PROMISE AT REDUCING GUN VIOLENCE WITHOUT CONTRIBUTING TO MASS
10 INCARCERATION, SUCH AS HOSPITAL-BASED VIOLENCE INTERVENTION
11 PROGRAMS, GROUP VIOLENCE INTERVENTIONS, EVIDENCE-BASED STREET
12 OUTREACH PROGRAMS, VIOLENCE INTERRUPTION AND CRISIS
13 MANAGEMENT PROGRAMS, AND INDIVIDUALIZED WRAPAROUND SERVICES.
14 TO IMPROVE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF A GUN VIOLENCE INTERVENTION
15 INITIATIVE, A GRANT RECIPIENT SHALL CONDUCT REGULAR EVALUATIONS
16 OF EACH INITIATIVE, INCLUDING FACILITATING COMMUNITY INPUT AND
17 ENGAGEMENT.

18 (d) THE DEPARTMENT MAY PROMULGATE RULES NECESSARY FOR
19 THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE GRANT PROGRAM, INCLUDING GRANT
20 APPLICATION PROCEDURES, CRITERIA FOR DETERMINING THE AMOUNT AND
21 DURATION OF THE GRANTS, AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS FOR
22 ORGANIZATIONS THAT RECEIVE GRANTS.

23 **25-20.5-1204. Resource bank - duties.** (1) THE OFFICE SHALL
24 CREATE AND MAINTAIN A RESOURCE BANK OF REGULARLY UPDATED AND
25 ACCURATE MATERIALS AND RESOURCES AS A REPOSITORY FOR DATA,
26 RESEARCH, AND STATISTICAL INFORMATION REGARDING GUN VIOLENCE IN
27 COLORADO.

1 (2) AS PART OF MAINTAINING THE RESOURCE BANK, THE OFFICE
2 SHALL:

3 (a) ASSIST RESEARCHERS WHO ARE SEEKING INFORMATION ABOUT
4 GUN VIOLENCE IN COLORADO;

5 (b) COLLABORATE WITH RESEARCHERS, INCLUDING
6 ORGANIZATIONS THAT CONDUCT GUN VIOLENCE RESEARCH, TO:

7 (I) IDENTIFY GAPS IN AVAILABLE DATA NEEDED FOR GUN VIOLENCE
8 PREVENTION RESEARCH AND DEVELOP STRATEGIES TO IMPROVE RELEVANT
9 DATA COLLECTION IN COLORADO;

10 (II) USE EXISTING AVAILABLE RESEARCH TO ENHANCE
11 EVIDENCE-BASED GUN VIOLENCE PREVENTION TOOLS AND RESOURCES
12 AVAILABLE TO COLORADO COMMUNITIES; AND

13 (III) IMPROVE THE UNDERSTANDING OF THE DISPROPORTIONATE
14 BARRIERS TO SAFETY FROM GUN VIOLENCE BY ENCOURAGING
15 DISAGGREGATION OF DATA BY RACE AND ETHNICITY WHEN RESEARCH IS
16 CONDUCTED; AND

17 (c) PROMOTE NEW AND RELEVANT RESEARCH REGARDING GUN
18 VIOLENCE PREVENTION AND, IF POSSIBLE, MAKE THIS RESEARCH
19 ACCESSIBLE TO RESEARCHERS AND THE PUBLIC.

20 **25-20.5-1205. Federal grants - other funds - gifts, grants, and**
21 **donations.** (1) THE OFFICE SHALL IDENTIFY AND APPLY FOR AVAILABLE
22 FEDERAL GRANTS AND OTHER FUNDING TO FURTHER ITS WORK TO PREVENT
23 GUN VIOLENCE.

24 (2) THE OFFICE MAY SEEK, ACCEPT, AND EXPEND GIFTS, GRANTS,
25 OR DONATIONS FROM PRIVATE OR PUBLIC SOURCES FOR THE PURPOSES OF
26 THIS PART 12.

27 **25-20.5-1206. Rules - report.** (1) THE DEPARTMENT MAY

1 PROMULGATE RULES AS NEEDED FOR THE EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF
2 THIS PART 12.

3 (2) (a) ON OR BEFORE NOVEMBER 30 OF EACH YEAR, THE OFFICE
4 SHALL REPORT TO THE DEPARTMENT ON THE ACTIVITIES IT HAS
5 CONDUCTED IN THE PRECEDING TWELVE MONTHS. THE REPORT MUST
6 INCLUDE:

7 (I) INFORMATION ABOUT THE AWARENESS AND EDUCATION
8 CAMPAIGNS CONDUCTED BY THE OFFICE;

9 (II) EFFECTIVE GUN VIOLENCE INTERVENTION PROGRAMS
10 IDENTIFIED AND CONDUCTED BY THE OFFICE;

11 (III) ANY FEDERAL GRANTS OR OTHER FUNDING THE OFFICE
12 APPLIED FOR AND WHETHER THE OFFICE RECEIVED THOSE GRANTS OR
13 OTHER FUNDS; AND

14 (IV) A GENERAL SUMMARY OF NEW AND RELEVANT RESEARCH
15 INCLUDED IN THE OFFICE'S RESOURCE BANK AND THE NATURE OF
16 RESEARCH ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY THE OFFICE.

17 (b) THE OFFICE SHALL MAKE THE REPORT PUBLICLY AVAILABLE ON
18 ITS WEBSITE OR, IF THE OFFICE DOES NOT HAVE A DEDICATED WEBSITE, ON
19 A WEB PAGE OF THE DEPARTMENT'S WEBSITE.

20 (c) IN ITS ANNUAL REPORT BEFORE THE HOUSE AND SENATE
21 COMMITTEES OF REFERENCE PURSUANT TO SECTION 2-7-203, THE
22 DEPARTMENT SHALL INCLUDE A SUMMARY OF THE OFFICE'S ANNUAL
23 REPORT, INCLUDING INSTRUCTION FOR ACCESSING ANY NEW AND
24 RELEVANT GUN VIOLENCE PREVENTION RESEARCH IDENTIFIED BY THE
25 OFFICE. NOTWITHSTANDING SECTION 24-1-136 (11)(a)(I), THE REPORT
26 REQUIRED IN THIS SUBSECTION (2)(c) CONTINUES INDEFINITELY.

27 **SECTION 2. Appropriation.** For the 2021-22 state fiscal year,

1 \$3,000,000 is appropriated to the department of public health and
2 environment for use by the prevention services division. This
3 appropriation is from the general fund and is based on an assumption that
4 the division will require an additional 2.0 FTE. To implement this act, the
5 division may use this appropriation for program costs related to family
6 and community health for the office of gun violence prevention.

7 **SECTION 3. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds,
8 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate
9 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety.