

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

REENGROSSED

*This Version Includes All Amendments
Adopted in the House of Introduction*

LLS NO. 21-1004.01 Conrad Imel x2313

HOUSE BILL 21-1299

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

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SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Fields and Hansen,

House Committees

Public & Behavioral Health & Human Services
Appropriations

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.

HOUSE
3rd Reading Unamended
May 17, 2021

HOUSE
Amended 2nd Reading
May 14, 2021

violence prevention. Subject to available money, the office may establish and administer a grant program to award grants to organizations to conduct community-based gun violence intervention initiatives that are primarily focused on interrupting cycles of gun violence, trauma, and retaliation that are evidence-informed and have demonstrated promise at reducing gun violence without contributing to mass incarceration.

The office is required to create and maintain a resource bank as a repository for data, research, and statistical information regarding gun violence in Colorado. The office must collaborate with researchers to improve data collection in Colorado and use existing available research to enhance evidence-based gun violence prevention tools and resources available to Colorado communities.

1 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** part 12 to article
3 20.5 of title 25 as follows:

4 **PART 12**

5 **OFFICE OF GUN VIOLENCE PREVENTION**

6 **25-20.5-1201. Definitions.** AS USED IN THIS PART 12, UNLESS THE
7 CONTEXT OTHERWISE REQUIRES:

8 (1) "DEPARTMENT" MEANS THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH
9 AND ENVIRONMENT.

10 (2) "DIRECTOR" MEANS THE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF GUN
11 VIOLENCE PREVENTION DESCRIBED IN SECTION 25-20.5-1202 (1)(b).

12 (3) "OFFICE" MEANS THE OFFICE OF GUN VIOLENCE PREVENTION
13 ESTABLISHED IN SECTION 25-20.5-1202.

14 (4) "RESOURCE BANK" MEANS THE RESOURCE BANK OF MATERIALS
15 AND RESOURCES PERTAINING TO GUN VIOLENCE IN COLORADO DESCRIBED
16 IN SECTION 25-20.5-1204.

17 **25-20.5-1202. Office of gun violence prevention - created -**
18 **director - staff - collaboration.** (1) (a) THERE IS CREATED IN THE
19 DEPARTMENT THE OFFICE OF GUN VIOLENCE PREVENTION TO COORDINATE

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 BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADMINISTRATION, UPON ITS CREATION IN 2022
21 PURSUANT TO PART 2 OF ARTICLE 60 OF TITLE 27; THE OFFICE OF THE
22 ATTORNEY GENERAL; AND THE DIVISION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE WITHIN THE
23 DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY. THE OFFICE MAY ALSO COLLABORATE
24 WITH INDIVIDUALS, EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS, HEALTH-CARE
25 PROVIDERS, AND ORGANIZATIONS WITH EXPERTISE IN GUN VIOLENCE
26 PREVENTION AND GUN SAFETY, INCLUDING GUN DEALERS, SHOOTING
27 RANGES, AND FIREARMS SAFETY INSTRUCTORS.

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

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

6 (a) THE AVAILABILITY OF, AND THE PROCESS FOR REQUESTING, AN
7 EXTREME RISK PROTECTION ORDER PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 14.5 OF TITLE
8 13;

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

27 (II) DEVELOP AND PROVIDE MATERIALS AND TRAINING RESOURCES

1 TO LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES, HEALTH-CARE PROVIDERS, AND
2 EDUCATORS TO ASSIST THOSE AGENCIES, PROVIDERS, AND EDUCATORS
3 WITH EDUCATING THE PUBLIC ABOUT THE LAWS AND RESOURCES
4 DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (1) OF THIS SECTION AND OTHER EFFECTIVE
5 GUN VIOLENCE PREVENTION STRATEGIES.

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

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

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

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

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

1 (b) TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR A GRANT AWARD, AN ORGANIZATION MUST
2 DEMONSTRATE THE ABILITY TO CONDUCT EFFECTIVE COMMUNITY-BASED
3 GUN VIOLENCE INTERVENTION INITIATIVES THAT MEET THE CRITERIA
4 DESCRIBED IN THIS SECTION. THE OFFICE SHALL PRIORITIZE AWARDED
5 GRANTS TO ORGANIZATIONS THAT CONDUCT GUN VIOLENCE INTERVENTION
6 INITIATIVES WITH INDIVIDUALS AND IN COMMUNITIES IDENTIFIED AS
7 HAVING THE HIGHEST RISK OF PERPETRATING OR BEING VICTIMIZED BY
8 GUN VIOLENCE IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

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

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

25 (e) IN ADMINISTERING THE GRANT PROGRAM, THE OFFICE SHALL
26 COLLABORATE WITH STAKEHOLDERS AS NEEDED TO ENSURE EQUITY IN THE
27 DISTRIBUTION OF GRANTS. THE OFFICE SHALL CONSULT WITH

1 STAKEHOLDERS TO DEVELOP GRANT PRIORITIES, SET CRITERIA FOR
2 DETERMINING THE AMOUNT AND DURATION OF GRANTS, SELECT
3 GRANTEES, AND DETERMINE REPORTING REQUIREMENTS. STAKEHOLDERS
4 MUST INCLUDE INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES IMPACTED BY GUN VIOLENCE;
5 ORGANIZATIONS WITH EXPERTISE IN GUN VIOLENCE PREVENTION AND GUN
6 SAFETY, INCLUDING GUN DEALERS, SHOOTING RANGES, AND FIREARMS
7 SAFETY INSTRUCTORS; AND COMMUNITIES OF COLOR.

8 **25-20.5-1204. Resource bank - duties.** (1) THE OFFICE SHALL
9 CREATE AND MAINTAIN A RESOURCE BANK OF REGULARLY UPDATED AND
10 ACCURATE MATERIALS AND RESOURCES AS A REPOSITORY FOR DATA,
11 RESEARCH, AND STATISTICAL INFORMATION REGARDING GUN VIOLENCE IN
12 COLORADO.

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

15 (a) ASSIST RESEARCHERS WHO ARE SEEKING INFORMATION ABOUT
16 GUN VIOLENCE IN COLORADO;

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

19 (I) IDENTIFY GAPS IN AVAILABLE DATA NEEDED FOR GUN VIOLENCE
20 PREVENTION RESEARCH AND DEVELOP STRATEGIES TO IMPROVE RELEVANT
21 DATA COLLECTION IN COLORADO;

22 (II) USE EXISTING AVAILABLE RESEARCH TO ENHANCE
23 EVIDENCE-BASED GUN VIOLENCE PREVENTION TOOLS AND RESOURCES
24 AVAILABLE TO COLORADO COMMUNITIES; AND

25 (III) IMPROVE THE UNDERSTANDING OF THE DISPROPORTIONATE
26 BARRIERS TO SAFETY FROM GUN VIOLENCE BY ENCOURAGING
27 DISAGGREGATION OF DATA BY RACE AND ETHNICITY WHEN RESEARCH IS

1 CONDUCTED; AND

2 (c) PROMOTE NEW AND RELEVANT RESEARCH REGARDING GUN
3 VIOLENCE PREVENTION AND, IF POSSIBLE, MAKE THIS RESEARCH
4 ACCESSIBLE TO RESEARCHERS AND THE PUBLIC.

5 **25-20.5-1205. Federal grants - other funds - gifts, grants, and**
6 **donations.** (1) THE OFFICE SHALL IDENTIFY AND APPLY FOR AVAILABLE
7 FEDERAL GRANTS AND OTHER FUNDING TO FURTHER ITS WORK TO PREVENT
8 GUN VIOLENCE. WHEN THE OFFICE DETERMINES IT IS APPROPRIATE, THE
9 OFFICE MAY WORK IN COLLABORATION WITH OTHER STATE DEPARTMENTS
10 AND PARTNERS TO IDENTIFY AND APPLY FOR FEDERAL GRANTS AND OTHER
11 FUNDING.

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

15 **25-20.5-1206. Rules - report - repeal.** (1) THE DEPARTMENT
16 MAY PROMULGATE RULES AS NEEDED FOR THE EFFECTIVE
17 IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS PART 12.

18 (2) (a) ON OR BEFORE NOVEMBER 30 OF EACH YEAR, THE OFFICE
19 SHALL REPORT TO THE DEPARTMENT ON THE ACTIVITIES IT HAS
20 CONDUCTED IN THE PRECEDING TWELVE MONTHS. THE REPORT MUST
21 INCLUDE:

22 (I) INFORMATION ABOUT THE AWARENESS AND EDUCATION
23 CAMPAIGNS CONDUCTED BY THE OFFICE;

24 (II) EFFECTIVE GUN VIOLENCE INTERVENTION PROGRAMS
25 IDENTIFIED AND CONDUCTED BY THE OFFICE;

26 (III) ANY FEDERAL GRANTS OR OTHER FUNDING THE OFFICE
27 APPLIED FOR AND WHETHER THE OFFICE RECEIVED THOSE GRANTS OR

1 OTHER FUNDS; AND

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

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

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

15 (3) (a) ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 31, 2027, AND ON OR BEFORE
16 DECEMBER 31 EVERY FIFTH YEAR THEREAFTER, THE OFFICE SHALL ISSUE
17 A REPORT TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SUMMARIZING GUN VIOLENCE
18 PREVENTION MEASURES ADOPTED BY LOCAL JURISDICTIONS PURSUANT TO
19 ARTICLE 11.7 OF TITLE 29 OR SECTION 18-12-214. THE OFFICE SHALL MAKE
20 THE REPORT PUBLICLY AVAILABLE ON ITS WEBSITE OR, IF THE OFFICE DOES
21 NOT HAVE A DEDICATED WEBSITE, ON A WEB PAGE OF THE DEPARTMENT'S
22 WEBSITE. NOTWITHSTANDING SECTION 24-1-136 (11)(a)(I), THE REPORT
23 REQUIRED PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION (3) CONTINUES INDEFINITELY.

24 **SECTION 2. Appropriation.** For the 2021-22 state fiscal year,
25 \$3,000,000 is appropriated to the department of public health and
26 environment for use by the prevention services division. This
27 appropriation is from the general fund and is based on an assumption that

1 the division will require an additional 2.0 FTE. To implement this act, the
2 division may use this appropriation for program costs related to family
3 and community health for the office of gun violence prevention.

4 **SECTION 3. Effective date.** This act takes effect upon passage;
5 except that section 25-20.5-1206 (3), Colorado Revised Statutes, as
6 enacted in section 1 of this act, takes effect only if Senate Bill 21-256
7 becomes law, in which case section 25-20.5-1206 (3) takes effect on the
8 effective date of this act or Senate Bill 21-256, whichever is later.

9 **SECTION 4. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds,
10 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate
11 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety.