

First Regular Session
Seventy-third General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 21-0880.01 Alana Rosen x2606

SENATE BILL 21-239

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Kolker and Zenzinger,

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Amabile and Van Beber,

Senate Committees
Health & Human Services

House Committees

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 CONCERNING THE STATEWIDE COMMUNICATION SYSTEM FOR
102 REFERRAL TO BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES, AND, IN
103 CONNECTION THEREWITH, MAKING 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>.)

The bill expands the necessary human referral services authorized by the Colorado 2-1-1 collaborative (collaborative) to include necessary referrals for behavioral health services and other resources in the state for Coloradans, particularly for individuals who are unemployed, regardless of whether they receive benefits.

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.

The bill requires the department of human services' office of behavioral health to contract with the collaborative to hire and train specialized personnel. The bill also requires the office of behavioral health to collaborate with the collaborative to engage in targeted marketing and outreach, and to ensure the marketing and outreach are targeted to traditionally underserved communities, such as immigrant, low-income, and communities of color.

The bill also requires the collaborative to coordinate with the department of labor and employment (department) to target, conduct outreach, and market to individuals who are unemployed, regardless of whether they receive benefits, and may need referrals for behavioral health services and other resources. The department is required to update its unemployment application web page and specified websites to include contact information for the collaborative.

The bill makes an appropriation.

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

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 29-11-202, **add** (4)
3 as follows:

4 **29-11-202. Definitions.** For purposes of this part 2, unless the
5 context otherwise requires:

6 (4) "OFFICE OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH" MEANS THE OFFICE OF
7 BEHAVIORAL HEALTH IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES.

8 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 29-11-203, **amend**
9 (3)(a) and (3)(c); and **add** (3)(b.5) as follows:

10 **29-11-203. Human services referral service - immunity - grant**
11 **- report - repeal.** (3) (a) (I) The Colorado 2-1-1 collaborative shall
12 provide necessary human services referral services in the state through
13 December 30, 2020, relating to the COVID-19 public health emergency,
14 including information on COVID-19 test site locations and referrals
15 regarding equity, access, or discrimination concerning employment and
16 health access, as well as other necessary referrals and intake services due
17 to the presence of COVID-19 in the state.

1 (II) IN ADDITION, THE COLORADO 2-1-1 COLLABORATIVE SHALL
2 PROVIDE NECESSARY REFERRALS FOR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES AS
3 DEFINED IN SECTION 2-4-401 AND PROVIDE ASSISTANCE FOR OTHER
4 RESOURCES IN THE STATE TO SUPPORT COLORADANS, PARTICULARLY
5 INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE UNEMPLOYED, REGARDLESS OF WHETHER THEY
6 RECEIVE BENEFITS.

7 (III) (A) THE OFFICE OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SHALL CONTRACT
8 WITH THE COLORADO 2-1-1 COLLABORATIVE TO ENSURE SPECIALIZED
9 PERSONNEL ARE HIRED, TRAINED, AND CAN ASSIST COLORADANS TO
10 ACCESS THE NECESSARY REFERRALS FOR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES
11 AND PROVIDE ASSISTANCE FOR OTHER RESOURCES, SUCH AS ACCESS TO
12 HOUSING AND FOOD. SPECIALIZED PERSONNEL MUST INCLUDE BILINGUAL
13 OR MULTILINGUAL SPEAKERS TO ENSURE TRADITIONALLY UNDERSERVED
14 COMMUNITIES CAN ACCESS THE NECESSARY REFERRALS FOR BEHAVIORAL
15 HEALTH SERVICES AND OTHER RESOURCES.

16 (B) THE OFFICE OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SHALL COLLABORATE
17 WITH THE COLORADO 2-1-1 COLLABORATIVE TO ENGAGE IN TARGETED
18 MARKETING AND OUTREACH TO COLORADO COMMUNITIES, PARTICULARLY
19 TRADITIONALLY UNDERSERVED COMMUNITIES, SUCH AS IMMIGRANT,
20 LOW-INCOME, AND COMMUNITIES OF COLOR. THE OFFICE OF BEHAVIORAL
21 HEALTH SHALL FACILITATE THE PROVISION OF SERVICES BY UPDATING THE
22 OFFICE OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH'S RELEVANT MARKETING MATERIALS AND
23 SPECIFIED WEBSITES TO INCLUDE THE COLORADO 2-1-1 COLLABORATIVE
24 PHONE NUMBER AND A LINK TO THE COLORADO 2-1-1 COLLABORATIVE'S
25 WEBSITE IN ORDER TO PROVIDE THE NECESSARY REFERRALS FOR
26 BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES AND OTHER RESOURCES. IN ADDITION, THE
27 OFFICE OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SHALL RUN TARGETED DIGITAL

1 ADVERTISEMENTS TO SPECIFIC WEBSITES. THE UPDATED MARKETING
2 MATERIALS, WEBSITE, AND DIGITAL ADVERTISEMENTS MUST BE
3 ACCESSIBLE TO DIVERSE COMMUNITIES.

4 (C) ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 30, 2023, THE OFFICE OF BEHAVIORAL
5 HEALTH SHALL REPORT TO THE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE
6 OF THE SENATE AND THE PUBLIC AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND HUMAN
7 SERVICES COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, OR ANY
8 SUCCESSOR COMMITTEES, REGARDING ITS CONTRACT WITH THE COLORADO
9 2-1-1 COLLABORATIVE AND THE IMPACT OF THE STATEWIDE
10 COMMUNICATION SYSTEM ON BEHAVIORAL HEALTH REFERRALS AND
11 ACCESS TO BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES AND OTHER RESOURCES AS
12 PART OF ITS "STATE MEASUREMENT FOR ACCOUNTABLE, RESPONSIVE,
13 AND TRANSPARENT (SMART) GOVERNMENT ACT" HEARING REQUIRED BY
14 SECTION 2-7-203.

15 (IV) (A) THE COLORADO 2-1-1 COLLABORATIVE SHALL
16 COORDINATE WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT TO
17 TARGET, CONDUCT OUTREACH, AND MARKET TO INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE
18 UNEMPLOYED, REGARDLESS OF WHETHER THEY RECEIVE BENEFITS, AND
19 MAY NEED REFERRALS FOR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES AND OTHER
20 RESOURCES.

21 (B) THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT SHALL
22 FACILITATE THE PROVISION OF SERVICES BY IMPLEMENTING AN E-MAIL
23 AND TEXT CAMPAIGN, WHICH MAY INCLUDE OUTREACH TO INDIVIDUALS
24 WHO ARE UNEMPLOYED, REGARDLESS OF WHETHER THEY RECEIVE
25 BENEFITS, TO MARKET THE COLORADO 2-1-1 COLLABORATIVE. THE
26 DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT SHALL ALSO UPDATE ITS
27 UNEMPLOYMENT APPLICATION WEB PAGE AND SPECIFIED WEBSITES TO

1 INCLUDE THE COLORADO 2-1-1 COLLABORATIVE PHONE NUMBER AND A
2 LINK TO THE COLORADO 2-1-1 COLLABORATIVE'S WEBSITE IN ORDER TO
3 PROVIDE THE NECESSARY REFERRALS FOR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES
4 AND OTHER RESOURCES.

5 (b.5) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SHALL APPROPRIATE FROM THE
6 GENERAL FUND TO THE DEPARTMENT ONE MILLION DOLLARS FOR THE
7 PURPOSES DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (3)(a) OF THIS SECTION, INCLUDING
8 A GRANT TO THE COLORADO 2-1-1 COLLABORATIVE TO SERVE AS A
9 RESOURCE AND PROVIDE THE NECESSARY REFERRALS FOR BEHAVIORAL
10 HEALTH SERVICES AND OTHER SERVICES DUE TO THE COVID-19 PUBLIC
11 HEALTH EMERGENCY.

12 (c) This subsection (3) is repealed, effective July 1, ~~2021~~ 2023.

13 **SECTION 3.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 8-72-101, **add** (4) as
14 follows:

15 **8-72-101. Duties and powers of division - repeal.** (4) (a) THE
16 DIVISION SHALL COORDINATE WITH THE COLORADO 2-1-1 COLLABORATIVE
17 AS SET FORTH IN SECTION 29-11-203 TO TARGET, CONDUCT OUTREACH,
18 AND MARKET TO INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE UNEMPLOYED, REGARDLESS OF
19 WHETHER THEY RECEIVE BENEFITS, AND MAY NEED REFERRALS FOR
20 BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES AND OTHER RESOURCES.

21 (b) THIS SUBSECTION (4) IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2023.

22 **SECTION 4.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 27-80-102, **add** (3)
23 as follows:

24 **27-80-102. Duties of the office of behavioral health - repeal.**

25 (3) (a) THE OFFICE OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SHALL:

26 (I) CONTRACT WITH THE COLORADO 2-1-1 COLLABORATIVE AS SET
27 FORTH IN SECTION 29-11-203 TO HIRE AND TRAIN SPECIALIZED

1 PERSONNEL;

2 (II) COLLABORATE WITH THE COLORADO 2-1-1 COLLABORATIVE
3 TO ENGAGE IN TARGETED OUTREACH AND MARKETING TO INDIVIDUALS
4 WHO ARE UNEMPLOYED, REGARDLESS OF WHETHER THEY RECEIVE
5 BENEFITS; AND

6 (III) REPORT TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY EXPLAINING THE IMPACT
7 OF THE COLORADO 2-1-1 COLLABORATIVE STATEWIDE COMMUNICATION
8 SYSTEM ON BEHAVIORAL HEALTH REFERRALS AND ACCESS TO BEHAVIORAL
9 HEALTH SERVICES AND OTHER RESOURCES.

10 (b) THIS SUBSECTION (3) IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2023.

11 **SECTION 5. Appropriation.** For the 2020-21 state fiscal year,
12 \$1,000,000 is appropriated to the department of human services. This
13 appropriation is from the general fund. To implement this act, the
14 department may use this appropriation for a grant to the Colorado 2-1-1
15 collaborative. Any money appropriated in this section not expended prior
16 to July 1, 2021, is further appropriated to the department for the 2021-22
17 state fiscal year for the same purpose.

18 **SECTION 6. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds,
19 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate
20 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety.