

First Regular Session  
Seventy-fourth General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 23-0992.01 Jacob Baus x2173

SENATE BILL 23-277

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SENATE SPONSORSHIP

**Buckner,**

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

**(None),**

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Senate Committees

Local Government & Housing

House Committees

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A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 CONCERNING MEASURES TO PROVIDE RESOURCES TO INCREASE PUBLIC  
102 SAFETY, AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, EXTENDING  
103 RELATED EXISTING APPROPRIATIONS.

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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>.)*

The crime prevention through safer streets grant program (safer streets program) currently exists within the department of public safety (DPS). The safer streets program repeals on November 1, 2023. The bill extends the safer streets program, extends reporting requirements, and extends the authority for the DPS to use the appropriation received in the

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.*

2022-23 state fiscal year to pay for the safer streets program until the appropriation is fully expended.

Two additional grant programs exist within DPS:

- A law enforcement workforce recruitment, retention, and tuition grant program (workforce program) to award grants to law enforcement agencies to address workforce shortages, improve training to P.O.S.T.-certified peace officers, and improve relationships between law enforcement and impacted communities; and
- A state's mission for assistance in recruitment and training policing grant program (SMART program) to award grants to law enforcement agencies to increase the number of P.O.S.T.-certified and non-certified officers who are representative of the communities they serve and to provide training for those additional law enforcement officers.

The bill extends the workforce program and the SMART program and their reporting requirements, specifies additional permissible uses for the workforce program and SMART program grant awards, permits DPS to set workforce program and SMART program deadlines, and permits DPS to provide technical support to workforce program and SMART program applicants.

The behavioral health information and data-sharing program (information program) currently exists within the DPS. The program repeals on June 30, 2024. The bill extends the information program, and the authority for the DPS to use the appropriation until December 30, 2024.

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

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-33.5-117, **amend**  
3 (7), (8), and (9) as follows:

4 **24-33.5-117. Crime prevention through safer streets grant**  
5 **program - created - committee - reports - repeal.** (7) The general  
6 assembly shall appropriate ten million three hundred thousand dollars in  
7 fiscal year 2022-23 from the general fund for the grant program. ANY  
8 UNEXPENDED MONEY REMAINING AT THE END OF THE 2022-23 STATE  
9 FISCAL YEAR FROM THIS APPROPRIATION MAY BE USED BY THE  
10 DEPARTMENT UNTIL FULLY EXPENDED WITHOUT FURTHER APPROPRIATION

1 AND MUST NOT BE USED FOR ANY OTHER PURPOSE OTHER THAN THE  
2 PURPOSES SET FORTH IN THIS SECTION.

3 (8) (a) On or before ~~June 30, 2024~~ AUGUST 31, 2023, AND EACH  
4 AUGUST 31 THEREAFTER THROUGH 2026, each local governmental agency  
5 that receives a grant shall provide a final report to the department  
6 describing how the grant money was utilized and what measurable or  
7 observable impacts the use of the grant money had on reducing crime  
8 disaggregated by the type of crime and demographic information. On or  
9 before October 1, 2023, AND EACH OCTOBER 1 THEREAFTER THROUGH  
10 2026, the department shall submit a summary of the reports to the  
11 judiciary committees of the house of representatives and senate, or to any  
12 successor committees.

13 (b) NOTWITHSTANDING THE REQUIREMENT IN SECTION 24-1-136  
14 (11)(a)(I), THE REQUIREMENT TO SUBMIT THE REPORT DESCRIBED IN THIS  
15 SUBSECTION (8) CONTINUES INDEFINITELY.

16 (9) This section is repealed, effective ~~November 1, 2023~~ JULY 1,  
17 2027.

18 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-33.5-503, **amend**  
19 (1)(dd)(II) as follows:

20 **24-33.5-503. Duties of division.** (1) The division has the  
21 following duties:

22 (dd) (II) On or before November 15, ~~2024~~ 2026, to submit a  
23 written report to the judiciary committees of the senate and house of  
24 representatives, or any successor committees, and to the joint budget  
25 committee of the general assembly concerning the effectiveness of  
26 programs funded through the grant programs and recommendations for  
27 continued funding for any such programs.

1           **SECTION 3.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-33.5-528, **amend**  
2 (1)(c)(I)(F), (1)(c)(I)(G), (1)(c)(IV), (2)(a) introductory portion, (5), and  
3 (6); and **add** (1)(c)(I)(H), (1)(c)(VI), (1)(c)(VII), (1)(c)(VIII), (1)(c)(IX),  
4 (1)(c)(X), and (2.5) as follows:

5           **24-33.5-528. Law enforcement workforce recruitment,**  
6 **retention, and tuition grant program - committee - fund - reports -**  
7 **repeal.** (1) (c) Grants may be awarded to:

8           (I) Recruit, pay the tuition for, and train individuals to work in  
9 P.O.S.T.-certified law enforcement careers, which may include:

10           (F) Provide supplemental resources to rural and smaller law  
11 enforcement agencies that possess modest or no financial resources to  
12 recruit and retain qualified and trained P.O.S.T.-certified peace officers;  
13 **and**

14           ~~(G) Any other strategies demonstrated to recruit, train, and retain~~  
15 ~~high-quality P.O.S.T.-certified peace officers if deemed appropriate by~~  
16 ~~the division~~ PROVIDING, OR ASSISTING IN THE PROVISION OF, CHILD CARE  
17 FOR PEACE OFFICERS; AND

18           (H) ANY OTHER STRATEGIES DEMONSTRATED TO RECRUIT, TRAIN,  
19 AND RETAIN HIGH-QUALITY P.O.S.T.-CERTIFIED PEACE OFFICERS IF  
20 DEEMED APPROPRIATE BY THE DIVISION;

21           (IV) Provide continuing education opportunities for  
22 P.O.S.T.-certified and non-certified law peace officers; **and**

23           (VI) PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES FOR P.O.S.T.-CERTIFIED AND  
24 NON-CERTIFIED LAW PEACE OFFICERS TO RECEIVE TRAINING IN EQUITY,  
25 DIVERSITY, AND INCLUSION;

26           (VII) CREATE PARTNERSHIPS WITH SCHOOLS, SCHOOL DISTRICTS,  
27 COLLEGES, OR UNIVERSITIES TO DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT INTERNSHIP OR

1 MENTORSHIP PROGRAMS FOR STUDENTS INTERESTED IN A CAREER IN LAW  
2 ENFORCEMENT;

3 (VIII) CREATE PARTNERSHIPS WITH SCHOOLS, SCHOOL DISTRICTS,  
4 OR YOUTH-SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS TO DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT YOUTH  
5 PROGRAMS TO FOSTER A POSITIVE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN YOUTH AND  
6 LAW ENFORCEMENT, AND TO FOSTER EARLY INTEREST IN LAW  
7 ENFORCEMENT CAREERS;

8 (IX) DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT EDUCATION CAMPAIGNS FOR LAW  
9 ENFORCEMENT WORKFORCE RECRUITMENT, RETENTION, AND TUITION  
10 ASSISTANCE; AND

11 (X) IMPLEMENT ANY OTHER STRATEGY DEMONSTRATED TO  
12 RECRUIT, TRAIN, AND RETAIN A HIGH-QUALITY AND DIVERSE LAW  
13 ENFORCEMENT WORKFORCE IF DEEMED APPROPRIATE BY THE DIVISION.

14 (2) The executive director shall:

15 (a) Develop policies and procedures related to how ANDBY WHEN  
16 law enforcement agencies submit grant applications, performance metrics  
17 that grantees will be expected to provide, data and other relevant  
18 information required as part of their grant report described in subsection  
19 (5) of this section, and how grant money is disbursed, including  
20 establishing:

21 (2.5) THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MAY PROVIDE TECHNICAL  
22 SUPPORT DEEMED NECESSARY BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FOR  
23 APPLICATION ASSISTANCE TO APPLICANTS.

24 (5) (a) On or before August 1, 2023, ~~and August 1, 2024~~ AND  
25 EACH AUGUST 1 THEREAFTER THROUGH 2026, each law enforcement  
26 agency and any other entity that receives a grant shall provide a financial  
27 and narrative report to the division describing how the grant funds were

1 utilized, including data and other relevant information on performance  
2 metrics described in subsection (2) of this section. On or before October  
3 1, 2023, ~~and October 1, 2024~~ AND EACH OCTOBER 1 THEREAFTER  
4 THROUGH 2026, the division shall submit a summary of the reports to the  
5 judiciary committees of the house of representatives and senate, or to any  
6 successor committees, and provide a summary of the program during the  
7 hearings conducted pursuant to the "State Measurement for Accountable,  
8 Responsive, and Transparent (SMART) Government Act", part 2 of  
9 article 7 of title 2, following each year in which the program was in  
10 effect.

11 (b) NOTWITHSTANDING THE REQUIREMENT IN SECTION 24-1-136  
12 (11)(a)(I), THE REQUIREMENT TO SUBMIT THE REPORT DESCRIBED IN THIS  
13 SUBSECTION (5) CONTINUES INDEFINITELY.

14 (6) This section is repealed, effective ~~January 1, 2025~~ JULY 1,  
15 2027.

16 **SECTION 4.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-33.5-529, **amend**  
17 (1)(c), (1)(d), (2) introductory portion, (5), and (6); and **add** (2.5) as  
18 follows:

19 **24-33.5-529. State's mission for assistance in recruiting and**  
20 **training (SMART) grant program - committee - fund - reports -**  
21 **definitions - repeal.** (1) (c) Grants may be awarded to increase the  
22 diversity of P.O.S.T.-certified and non-certified law enforcement  
23 professionals and public safety employees to better reflect the community  
24 in which they work, WHICH MAY INCLUDE:

25 (I) PROVIDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR P.O.S.T-CERTIFIED AND  
26 NON-CERTIFIED LAW ENFORCEMENT PROFESSIONALS TO RECEIVE TRAINING  
27 IN EQUITY, DIVERSITY, AND INCLUSION;

1 (II) CREATING PARTNERSHIPS WITH SCHOOLS, SCHOOL DISTRICTS,  
2 COLLEGES, OR UNIVERSITIES TO DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT INTERNSHIP OR  
3 MENTORSHIP PROGRAMS FOR STUDENTS INTERESTED IN A CAREER IN LAW  
4 ENFORCEMENT WHO ARE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE COMMUNITIES THEY  
5 SERVE;

6 (III) CREATING PARTNERSHIPS WITH SCHOOLS, SCHOOL DISTRICTS,  
7 OR YOUTH-SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS TO DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT YOUTH  
8 PROGRAMS TO FOSTER A POSITIVE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN YOUTH AND  
9 LAW ENFORCEMENT, AND TO FOSTER EARLY INTEREST IN LAW  
10 ENFORCEMENT CAREERS IN YOUTH WHO ARE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE  
11 COMMUNITIES THEY SERVE;

12 (IV) DEVELOPING AND IMPLEMENTING EDUCATION CAMPAIGNS  
13 FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT RECRUITMENT AND TRAINING FOR  
14 P.O.S.T.-CERTIFIED AND NON-CERTIFIED LAW ENFORCEMENT  
15 PROFESSIONALS WHO ARE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE COMMUNITIES THEY  
16 SERVE; AND

17 (V) ANY OTHER STRATEGY DEMONSTRATED TO RECRUIT AND  
18 TRAIN A HIGH-QUALITY AND DIVERSE LAW ENFORCEMENT WORKFORCE IF  
19 DEEMED APPROPRIATE BY THE DIVISION.

20 (d) A law enforcement agency may use the grant money to cover  
21 costs associated with eligible law enforcement officers' salaries and  
22 benefits, INCLUDING THE PROVISION OF, OR ASSISTANCE IN THE PROVISION  
23 OF, CHILD CARE FOR ELIGIBLE LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS; recruitment;  
24 and training.

25 (2) The executive director shall develop policies and procedures  
26 related to how AND BY WHEN law enforcement agencies and any  
27 organization that provides training, technical assistance, or financial

1 support to such agencies submit grant applications, performance metrics  
2 that grantees will be expected to provide, data, and other relevant  
3 information as part of their grant report described in subsection (5) of this  
4 section and how grant money is disbursed, including:

5 (2.5) THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MAY PROVIDE TECHNICAL  
6 SUPPORT DEEMED NECESSARY BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FOR  
7 APPLICATION ASSISTANCE TO APPLICANTS.

8 (5) (a) On or before August 1, 2023, and ~~August 1, 2024~~ EACH  
9 AUGUST 1 THEREAFTER THROUGH 2026, each law enforcement agency  
10 that receives a grant shall provide a narrative and financial report to the  
11 division describing how the grant funds were utilized. On or before  
12 October 1, 2023, and ~~October 1, 2024~~ EACH OCTOBER 1 THEREAFTER  
13 THROUGH 2026, the division shall submit a summary of the reports to the  
14 judiciary committees of the house of representatives and senate, or to any  
15 successor committees, and provide a summary of the SMART policing  
16 program during the hearings conducted pursuant to the "State  
17 Measurement for Accountable, Responsive, and Transparent (SMART)  
18 Government Act", part 2 of article 7 of title 2, following each year in  
19 which the SMART policing program was in effect.

20 (b) NOTWITHSTANDING THE REQUIREMENT IN SECTION 24-1-136  
21 (11)(a)(I), THE REQUIREMENT TO SUBMIT THE REPORT DESCRIBED IN THIS  
22 SUBSECTION (5) CONTINUES INDEFINITELY.

23 (6) This section is repealed, effective ~~January 1, 2025~~ JULY 1,  
24 2027.

25 **SECTION 5.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-33.5-532, **amend**  
26 (4) and (5) as follows:

27 **24-33.5-532. Behavioral health information and data-sharing**



1 **in the criminal justice system - grants - appropriation - repeal.**

2 (4) For the 2022-23 state fiscal year, the general assembly shall  
3 appropriate three million five hundred thousand dollars from the  
4 behavioral and mental health cash fund created in section 24-75-230 to  
5 the department for the purposes of this section. ANY MONEY REMAINING  
6 AT THE END OF THE 2022-23 STATE FISCAL YEAR FROM THIS  
7 APPROPRIATION IS FURTHER APPROPRIATED TO THE DEPARTMENT FOR THE  
8 PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION. ANY MONEY THAT IS NOT EXPENDED OR  
9 OBLIGATED BY DECEMBER 30, 2024, REVERTS TO THE "AMERICAN RESCUE  
10 PLAN ACT OF 2021" CASH FUND CREATED IN SECTION 24-75-226 (2) IN  
11 ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 24-75-226 (4)(d). ANY MONEY OBLIGATED  
12 BY DECEMBER 30, 2024, MUST BE EXPENDED BY DECEMBER 31, 2026.

13 (5) This section is repealed, effective ~~June 30, 2024~~ JULY 1, 2027.

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