

First Regular Session  
Sixty-third General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 01-0732.01 Michael Dohr

HOUSE BILL 01-1286

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HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Alexander

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Hagedorn

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House Committees  
Criminal Justice

Senate Committees

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A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 CONCERNING FAITH HEALING IN THE CRIME OF CHILD ABUSE.

Bill Summary

*(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not necessarily reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted.)*

Repeals the faith healing exception to the crime of child abuse.

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

2 **SECTION 1. Repeal.** 18-6-401 (6), Colorado Revised Statutes,  
3 is repealed as follows:

4 **18-6-401. Child abuse.** (6) ~~A parent, guardian, or legal custodian~~

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.  
*Capital letters indicate new material to be added to existing statute.*  
*Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.*

1 ~~who chooses and legitimately practices treatment by spiritual means~~  
2 ~~through prayer in accordance with section 19-3-103, C.R.S., shall not be~~  
3 ~~considered to have injured or endangered the child and to be criminally~~  
4 ~~liable under the laws of this state solely because he fails to provide~~  
5 ~~medical treatment for the child, unless such person inhibits or interferes~~  
6 ~~with the provision of medical treatment for the child in accordance with~~  
7 ~~a court order, or unless there is an additional reason, other than health~~  
8 ~~care, to consider the said child to be injured or endangered.~~

9           **SECTION 2. Effective date - applicability.** This act shall take  
10 effect July 1, 2001, and shall apply to offenses committed on or after said  
11 date.

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