

First Regular Session  
Sixty-ninth General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 13-0905.01 Jane Ritter x4342

SENATE BILL 13-266

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SENATE SPONSORSHIP

**Aguilar and Nicholson,** Carroll, Giron, Guzman, Jahn, Kefalas, Kerr, Newell, Ulibarri,  
Todd, Hudak, Roberts

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

**Kraft-Tharp and Young,** McCann

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Senate Committees

Health & Human Services

House Committees

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A BILL FOR AN ACT

101      **CONCERNING A REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS PROCESS TO CREATE A**  
102            **COORDINATED BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CRISIS RESPONSE SYSTEM**  
103            **FOR COMMUNITIES THROUGHOUT THE STATE.**

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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://www.leg.state.co.us/billsummaries>.)*

The bill directs the department of human services (department) to issue a request for proposals to entities with the capacity to create a statewide coordinated and seamless behavioral health crisis response system (crisis system). Proposals will be accepted for each of 5 specific

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.*

components of a crisis system: A 24-hour crisis telephone hotline, walk-in crisis services and crisis stabilization units, mobile crisis services, residential and respite crisis services, and a public information campaign. The department is directed to establish and work with a committee of interested stakeholders, including the department of health care policy and financing, to develop the request for proposals and the selection criteria. The committee will also be responsible for reviewing proposals and awarding contracts. The request for proposals is scheduled to go out on or before September 1, 2013, and contracts must be awarded on or before January 1, 2014. The department is required to make annual reports to the general assembly on the progress toward implementing the crisis system.

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

2           **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 27-60-102 as  
3 follows:

4           **27-60-102. Behavioral health crisis response system - services**  
5 **- request for proposals - criteria - reporting - rules - definitions.**

6 (1) (a) ON OR BEFORE SEPTEMBER 1, 2013, THE STATE DEPARTMENT  
7 SHALL ISSUE A STATEWIDE REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS TO ENTITIES WITH  
8 THE CAPACITY TO CREATE A COORDINATED AND SEAMLESS BEHAVIORAL  
9 HEALTH CRISIS RESPONSE SYSTEM TO PROVIDE CRISIS INTERVENTION  
10 SERVICES, AS DEFINED IN SUBSECTION (7) OF THIS SECTION, FOR  
11 COMMUNITIES THROUGHOUT THE STATE. SEPARATE PROPOSALS MAY BE  
12 SOLICITED AND ACCEPTED FOR EACH OF THE FIVE COMPONENTS LISTED IN  
13 PARAGRAPH (b) OF THIS SUBSECTION (1). THE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CRISIS  
14 SYSTEM CREATED THROUGH THIS REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS PROCESS MUST  
15 BE BASED ON THE FOLLOWING PRINCIPLES:

16           (I) CULTURAL COMPETENCE;

17           (II) STRONG COMMUNITY RELATIONSHIPS;

18           (III) THE USE OF PEER SUPPORT;

19           (IV) THE USE OF EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICES;

1 (V) BUILDING ON EXISTING FOUNDATIONS WITH AN EYE TOWARD  
2 INNOVATION;

3 (VI) UTILIZATION OF AN INTEGRATED SYSTEM OF CARE; AND

4 (VII) OUTREACH TO STUDENTS THROUGH SCHOOL-BASED CLINICS.

5 (b) THE COMPONENTS OF THE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CRISIS  
6 RESPONSE SYSTEM CREATED THROUGH THIS REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL  
7 PROCESS MUST REFLECT A CONTINUUM OF CARE FROM CRISIS RESPONSE  
8 THROUGH STABILIZATION AND SAFE RETURN TO THE COMMUNITY, WITH  
9 ADEQUATE SUPPORT FOR TRANSITIONS TO EACH STAGE. SPECIFIC  
10 COMPONENTS INCLUDE:

11 (I) A TWENTY-FOUR-HOUR TELEPHONE CRISIS SERVICE THAT IS  
12 STAFFED BY SKILLED PROFESSIONALS WHO ARE CAPABLE OF ASSESSING  
13 CRISIS SITUATIONS AND MAKING THE APPROPRIATE REFERRALS;

14 (II) WALK-IN CRISIS SERVICES AND CRISIS STABILIZATION UNITS  
15 WITH THE CAPACITY FOR IMMEDIATE CLINICAL INTERVENTION, TRIAGE,  
16 AND STABILIZATION. THE WALK-IN CRISIS SERVICES AND CRISIS  
17 STABILIZATION UNITS MUST EMPLOY AN INTEGRATED HEALTH MODEL  
18 BASED ON EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICES THAT CONSIDER AN INDIVIDUAL'S  
19 PHYSICAL AND EMOTIONAL HEALTH AND ARE A PART OF A CONTINUUM OF  
20 CARE.

21 (III) MOBILE CRISIS SERVICES AND UNITS THAT HAVE THE ABILITY  
22 TO INITIATE A RESPONSE IN A TIMELY FASHION TO A BEHAVIORAL HEALTH  
23 CRISIS;

24 (IV) RESIDENTIAL AND RESPITE CRISIS SERVICES THAT INCLUDE A  
25 RANGE OF SHORT-TERM CRISIS RESIDENTIAL SERVICES, INCLUDING BUT  
26 NOT LIMITED TO COMMUNITY LIVING ARRANGEMENTS; AND

27 (V) A PUBLIC INFORMATION CAMPAIGN.

1           (2) THE STATE DEPARTMENT SHALL COLLABORATE WITH THE  
2 COMMITTEE OF INTERESTED STAKEHOLDERS ESTABLISHED IN SUBSECTION  
3 (3) OF THIS SECTION TO DEVELOP THE REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS,  
4 INCLUDING ELIGIBILITY AND AWARD CRITERIA. PROPOSALS WILL BE  
5 EVALUATED ON, AT A MINIMUM, AN APPLICANT'S ABILITY, RELATIVE TO  
6 THE SPECIFIC COMPONENT INVOLVED, TO:

7           (a) DEMONSTRATE INNOVATION BASED ON EVIDENCE-BASED  
8 PRACTICES;

9           (b) CONSULT WITH COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH ORGANIZATIONS  
10 THAT PROVIDE SERVICES REGARDLESS OF THE SOURCE OF PAYMENT, SUCH  
11 AS BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ORGANIZATIONS, REGIONAL CARE  
12 COLLABORATIVE ORGANIZATIONS, AND MANAGED SERVICE  
13 ORGANIZATIONS;

14           (c) ACCEPT ALL VARIETY OF PAYERS;

15           (d) BE PART OF A CONTINUUM OF CARE;

16           (e) UTILIZE PEER SUPPORTS;

17           (f) INCLUDE KEY COMMUNITY PARTICIPANTS;

18           (g) DEMONSTRATE A CAPACITY TO MEET THE DEMAND FOR  
19 SERVICES;

20           (h) UNDERSTAND AND SERVE THE UNIQUE NEEDS OF CHILD AND  
21 ADOLESCENT PATIENTS; AND

22           (i) REFLECT AN UNDERSTANDING OF THE DIFFERENT RESPONSE  
23 MECHANISMS UTILIZED BETWEEN MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE USE  
24 DISORDER CRISES.

25           (3) THE STATE DEPARTMENT SHALL ESTABLISH A COMMITTEE OF  
26 INTERESTED STAKEHOLDERS THAT WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR REVIEWING  
27 THE PROPOSALS AND AWARDED CONTRACTS PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION.

1 REPRESENTATIONS FROM THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE  
2 POLICY AND FINANCING MUST BE INCLUDED IN THE COMMITTEE OF  
3 INTERESTED STAKEHOLDERS. A STAKEHOLDER PARTICIPATING IN THE  
4 COMMITTEE MUST NOT HAVE A FINANCIAL OR OTHER CONFLICT OF  
5 INTEREST THAT WOULD PREVENT HIM OR HER FROM IMPARTIALLY  
6 REVIEWING PROPOSALS.

7 (4) (a) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ISSUE THE REQUEST FOR  
8 PROPOSALS ON OR BEFORE SEPTEMBER 1, 2013, AND, SUBJECT TO  
9 AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS, ON OR BEFORE EACH SEPTEMBER 1  
10 THEREAFTER. PURSUANT TO THE STATE PROCUREMENT CODE, ARTICLES  
11 101 AND 102 OF TITLE 24, C.R.S., THE DEPARTMENT SHALL MAKE AWARDS  
12 ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 1, 2014, AND, IF A REQUEST IS ISSUED, ON OR  
13 BEFORE EACH JANUARY 1 THEREAFTER.

14 (b) IF THE FULL APPROPRIATION BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FOR  
15 THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS SECTION IS NOT DISPERSED AS SPECIFIED IN  
16 PARAGRAPH (a) OF THIS SUBSECTION (4), THE COMMITTEE SHALL ACCEPT  
17 AND REVIEW PROPOSALS AND AWARD CONTRACTS AS THE PROPOSALS ARE  
18 RECEIVED AND NOT REQUIRE AN APPLICATION BE HELD UNTIL A  
19 SUBSEQUENT REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS.

20 (5) IF NECESSARY, THE STATE BOARD MAY PROMULGATE RULES TO  
21 IMPLEMENT THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION OR THE SERVICES TO BE  
22 SUPPLIED PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION.

23 (6) BEGINNING IN JANUARY 2014, AND EVERY JANUARY  
24 THEREAFTER, THE STATE DEPARTMENT SHALL REPORT PROGRESS ON THE  
25 IMPLEMENTATION OF A COMPREHENSIVE STATEWIDE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH  
26 CRISIS RESPONSE SYSTEM AS PART OF ITS "STATE MEASUREMENT FOR  
27 ACCOUNTABLE, RESPONSIVE, AND TRANSPARENT (SMART)

1 GOVERNMENT ACT" HEARING REQUIRED BY SECTION 2-7-203, C.R.S.

2 (7) AS USED IN THIS SECTION, UNLESS THE CONTEXT OTHERWISE  
3 REQUIRES:

4 (a) "CRISIS INTERVENTION SERVICES" MEANS AN ARRAY OF  
5 INTEGRATED SERVICES THAT ARE AVAILABLE TWENTY-FOUR HOURS A DAY,  
6 SEVEN DAYS A WEEK, TO RESPOND TO AND ASSIST INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE  
7 IN A BEHAVIORAL HEALTH EMERGENCY.

8 (b) "STATE BOARD" MEANS THE STATE BOARD OF HUMAN SERVICES  
9 CREATED AND AUTHORIZED PURSUANT TO SECTION 26-1-107, C.R.S.

10 (c) "STATE DEPARTMENT" MEANS THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF  
11 HUMAN SERVICES CREATED PURSUANT TO SECTION 26-1-105, C.R.S.

12 **SECTION 2. 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.