

**Second Regular Session  
Sixty-ninth General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO**

**PREAMENDED**

*This Unofficial Version Includes Committee  
Amendments Not Yet Adopted on Second Reading*

LLS NO. 14-1039.02 Jane Ritter x4342

**SENATE BILL 14-201**

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**SENATE SPONSORSHIP**

**Newell**, Aguilar, Carroll, Guzman, Kefalas, Lambert, Lundberg, Nicholson, Steadman, Todd

**HOUSE SPONSORSHIP**

**Singer**, May, Melton

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**Senate Committees**

Health & Human Services  
Legislative Council

**House Committees**

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**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

101     **CONCERNING REESTABLISHING A CHILD PROTECTION OMBUDSMAN**  
102             **ADVISORY WORK GROUP TO DEVELOP A PLAN FOR**  
103             **ACCOUNTABLE AUTONOMY FOR THE CHILD PROTECTION**  
104             **OMBUDSMAN PROGRAM.**

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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 creates a new advisory work group related to the office of the child protection ombudsman (office). The duties of the advisory work

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.*

group include reconciling the implementation of recommendations from the 2010 advisory work group with the current operations and function of the office and making additional recommendations for autonomy and accountability as appropriate. Appointments to the advisory work group must be made no later than 60 days after May 14, 2014, and the advisory work group must convene on or before August 1, 2014. The advisory work group shall provide a report to the health and human services committee of the senate and the public health care and human services committee of the house of representatives, or any successor committees, the governor, and the executive director on or before December 1, 2014.

The advisory work group is repealed, effective July 1, 2016.

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

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **repeal and reenact,**  
3 **with amendments,** 19-3.3-105 as follows:

4 **19-3.3-105. Advisory work group - development of plan for**  
5 **autonomy and accountability - repeal.** (1) WITHIN SIXTY DAYS AFTER  
6 MAY 14, 2014, THE GOVERNOR, PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE, AND SPEAKER  
7 OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES SHALL APPOINT MEMBERS TO A  
8 VOLUNTARY ADVISORY WORK GROUP, REFERRED TO IN THIS ARTICLE AS  
9 THE "WORK GROUP". THE GOVERNOR, PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE, SPEAKER  
10 OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, AND CHIEF JUSTICE SHALL SELECT  
11 MEMBERS TO THE WORK GROUP PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (2) OF THIS  
12 SECTION. MEMBERSHIP MUST CONSIST OF PERSONS WITH EXPERTISE IN  
13 ISSUES RELATING TO THE PUBLICLY FUNDED CHILD PROTECTION SYSTEM  
14 AND AN INTEREST IN ASSISTING AND ADVISING THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
15 AND GOVERNOR WITH RESPECT TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF A PLAN FOR  
16 AUTONOMY AND ACCOUNTABILITY OF THE OFFICE OF THE CHILD  
17 PROTECTION OMBUDSMAN, REFERRED TO IN THIS ARTICLE AS THE "PLAN".

18 (2) (a) (I) THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE, IN CONSULTATION WITH  
19 THE SENATE MINORITY LEADER, SHALL SELECT ONE MEMBER FROM THE

1 SENATE TO SERVE ON THE WORK GROUP.

2 (II) THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, IN  
3 CONSULTATION WITH THE HOUSE MINORITY LEADER, SHALL SELECT ONE  
4 MEMBER FROM THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO SERVE ON THE WORK  
5 GROUP.

6 (b) THE CHIEF JUSTICE SHALL SELECT ONE MEMBER FROM THE  
7 JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT TO SERVE ON THE WORK GROUP.

8 (c) THE GOVERNOR SHALL SELECT THE REMAINING MEMBERS. THE  
9 WORK GROUP MUST INCLUDE REPRESENTATIVES FROM COUNTY  
10 DEPARTMENTS, COUNTY ATTORNEYS, COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, \_\_\_\_\_  
11 MANDATORY REPORTERS, PRIVATE SERVICE PROVIDERS, PERSONS OR  
12 FAMILY MEMBERS OF PERSONS WHO HAVE HAD PRIOR INVOLVEMENT AS  
13 CHILDREN WITH THE CHILD WELFARE SYSTEM, CHILD PROTECTION  
14 ADVOCATES, THE OFFICE OF THE CHILD'S REPRESENTATIVE, FOSTER  
15 PARENTS, AND LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES. THE GOVERNOR SHALL  
16 APPOINT THE ACTING CHILD PROTECTION OMBUDSMAN TO THE WORK  
17 GROUP AS A NONVOTING MEMBER.

18 (d) THE TOTAL MEMBERSHIP OF THE WORK GROUP MUST NOT  
19 EXCEED FIFTEEN MEMBERS, NOT INCLUDING THE CHILD PROTECTION  
20 OMBUDSMAN.

21 (e) THE GOVERNOR SHALL ESTABLISH A PROCESS BY WHICH  
22 PERSONS INTERESTED IN PARTICIPATING IN THE WORK GROUP MAY SUBMIT  
23 LETTERS OF INTEREST TO THE GOVERNOR. POTENTIAL MEMBERS OF THE  
24 WORK GROUP SHALL ADVISE THE GOVERNOR OF ANY CONFLICTS OF  
25 INTEREST THAT THEY MAY HAVE WITH RESPECT TO PARTICIPATING IN THE  
26 WORK GROUP.

27 (f) THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE WORK GROUP MUST, TO THE EXTENT

1 PRACTICABLE, INCLUDE PERSONS FROM THROUGHOUT THE STATE AND  
2 REFLECT THE ETHNIC DIVERSITY OF THE STATE.

3 (g) MEMBERS OF THE WORK GROUP, INCLUDING LEGISLATIVE  
4 MEMBERS, SHALL PARTICIPATE IN THE WORK GROUP WITHOUT  
5 COMPENSATION OR REIMBURSEMENT OF EXPENSES.

6 (3) THE WORK GROUP MUST CONVENE ON OR BEFORE AUGUST 1,  
7 2014, AND MAY CONVENE WITHOUT ALL MEMBERS PRESENT AND MAY  
8 ORGANIZE SUBCOMMITTEES CONSISTING OF WORK GROUP MEMBERS AND  
9 ANY OTHER PERSONS INVITED TO PARTICIPATE BY THE WORK GROUP. THE  
10 WORK GROUP MAY CONSULT WITH THE STATE AUDITOR OR HIS OR HER  
11 DESIGNEE, THE OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE LEGAL SERVICES, THE OFFICE OF  
12 LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL, OR OTHER NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS AS IS  
13 PERTINENT TO THE DUTIES OF THE WORK GROUP.

14 (4) THE DUTIES OF THE WORK GROUP INCLUDE:

15 (a) TO RECONCILE THE RECOMMENDATIONS IN THE DETAILED PLAN  
16 PREPARED BY THE ADVISORY WORK GROUP CREATED IN 2010 AND THE  
17 MANNER IN WHICH THE CHILD PROTECTION OMBUDSMAN PROGRAM WAS  
18 SUBSEQUENTLY STRUCTURED AND FUNCTIONED BASED ON THOSE  
19 RECOMMENDATIONS AND TO MAKE NEW RECOMMENDATIONS AS  
20 APPROPRIATE CONCERNING THE AUTONOMY AND ACCOUNTABILITY OF THE  
21 PROGRAM;

22 (b) TO IDENTIFY CONCRETE STEPS FOR AUTONOMY AND  
23 ACCOUNTABILITY OF THE OFFICE OF THE CHILD PROTECTION OMBUDSMAN;  
24 AND

25 (c) TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNING THE MOST  
26 EFFECTIVE UTILIZATION OF THE OFFICE OF THE CHILD PROTECTION  
27 OMBUDSMAN TO FURTHER CHILD PROTECTION EFFORTS IN COLORADO.

1 (5) ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 1, 2014, THE WORK GROUP SHALL  
2 COMPLETE A WRITTEN PLAN FOR AN AUTONOMOUS AND ACCOUNTABLE  
3 OFFICE OF THE CHILD PROTECTION OMBUDSMAN. UPON COMPLETION OF  
4 THE PLAN, THE WORK GROUP SHALL PROVIDE A COPY OF THE PLAN TO THE  
5 HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE OF THE SENATE AND THE  
6 PUBLIC HEALTH CARE AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE OF  
7 REPRESENTATIVES, OR ANY SUCCESSOR COMMITTEES, THE GOVERNOR,  
8 AND THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, WHO SHALL POST THE PLAN ON THE STATE  
9 DEPARTMENT'S WEB SITE.

10 (6) THIS SECTION IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2016.

11 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 19-3.3-102, **amend**  
12 (2) (a) as follows:

13 **19-3.3-102. Child protection ombudsman program -**  
14 **independence of office - administrative rules.** (2) (a) The head of the  
15 child protection ombudsman program shall be known as the child  
16 protection ombudsman, referred to in this article as the "ombudsman".  
17 The program shall be operated by a full-time, qualified ombudsman with  
18 the professional designations and qualifications determined appropriate  
19 by the executive director. ~~after consultation with the work group created~~  
20 ~~pursuant to section 19-3.3-105.~~

21 **SECTION 3.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 19-3.3-103, **amend**  
22 (1) introductory portion and (2) introductory portion as follows:

23 **19-3.3-103. Child protection ombudsman program - powers**  
24 **and duties - access to information - confidentiality - testimony.** (1) ~~In~~  
25 ~~addition to any other duties specified in the detailed plan for the program~~  
26 ~~developed pursuant to section 19-3.3-105,~~ The ombudsman shall have  
27 HAS the following duties, AT A MINIMUM:

1           (2) ~~In addition to any other duties specified in the detailed plan for~~  
2 ~~the program developed pursuant to section 19-3.3-105, The ombudsman~~  
3 ~~shall have~~ HAS the following powers, AT A MINIMUM:

4           **SECTION 4.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 19-3.3-106, **amend**  
5 (1) (a) as follows:

6           **19-3.3-106. Award of contract.** (1) (a) Subject to the provisions  
7 of subsection (2) of this section, ~~within thirty days after completion of the~~  
8 ~~detailed plan pursuant to section 19-3.3-105,~~ the executive director, in  
9 accordance with the "Procurement Code", articles 101 to 112 of title 24,  
10 C.R.S., shall issue the request for proposals for the administration of the  
11 program. The proposal submission period, the review of submissions, and  
12 the award of the contract shall be completed within sixty days after the  
13 issuance of the request for proposals.

14           **SECTION 5.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **amend** 19-3.3-109  
15 as follows:

16           **19-3.3-109. Review by the state auditor's office.** The state  
17 auditor shall conduct or cause to be conducted a performance and fiscal  
18 audit of the program at the beginning of the third year of operation of the  
19 program. ~~or pursuant to the time frame recommended in the detailed plan~~  
20 ~~developed pursuant to section 19-3.3-105, whichever date is sooner.~~  
21 Thereafter, at the discretion of the legislative audit committee, the state  
22 auditor shall conduct or cause to be conducted a performance and fiscal  
23 audit of the program.

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