

First Regular Session
Seventieth General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 15-0860.01 Richard Sweetman x4333

SENATE BILL 15-214

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Scheffel and Cadman,

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Duran and Hullinghorst,

Senate Committees
Judiciary

House Committees

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 CONCERNING CREATING A LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ON SAFETY IN
102 SCHOOLS, AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, ADDRESSING
103 YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES.

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/bills summaries>.)

The bill creates the school safety and youth mental health committee (committee) to:

- ! Study issues relating to school safety and the prevention of threats to the safety of students, teachers, administrators, employees, and volunteers;

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.

- ! Study and evaluate programs and methods for identifying and monitoring students in crisis;
- ! Develop standardized criteria for school personnel to use in assessing the potential threat posed by one or more students; and
- ! Make recommendations to the education committees of the general assembly.

The committee shall meet at least 4 times each legislative interim and may meet as necessary throughout the year. Each appointing party shall make his or her appointment or appointments to the committee on or before June 1, 2015.

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

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** article 15 to title
3 22 as follows:

4 **ARTICLE 15**

5 **Interim Committee on School Safety**
6 **and Youth Mental Health**

7 **22-15-101. School safety and youth mental health committee**
8 **- created - membership.** (1) (a) THE SCHOOL SAFETY AND YOUTH
9 MENTAL HEALTH COMMITTEE, REFERRED TO WITHIN THIS ARTICLE AS THE
10 "COMMITTEE", IS HEREBY CREATED TO:

11 (I) STUDY ISSUES RELATING TO SCHOOL SAFETY AND THE
12 PREVENTION OF THREATS TO THE SAFETY OF STUDENTS, TEACHERS,
13 ADMINISTRATORS, EMPLOYEES, AND VOLUNTEERS WHO ARE PRESENT ON
14 THE GROUNDS OF EACH PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SCHOOL IN THE STATE;

15 (II) STUDY AND EVALUATE PROGRAMS AND METHODS FOR
16 IDENTIFYING AND MONITORING STUDENTS IN CRISIS;

17 (III) DEVELOP STANDARDIZED CRITERIA FOR SCHOOL PERSONNEL
18 TO USE IN ASSESSING THE POTENTIAL THREAT POSED BY ONE OR MORE
19 STUDENTS; AND

1 (IV) MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE EDUCATION COMMITTEES
2 OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND SENATE, OR ANY SUCCESSOR
3 COMMITTEES, CONCERNING THE INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION TO
4 ENHANCE SCHOOL SAFETY.

5 (b) THE COMMITTEE SHALL MEET AT LEAST FOUR TIMES EACH
6 LEGISLATIVE INTERIM AND MAY MEET AS NECESSARY THROUGHOUT THE
7 YEAR.

8 (2) (a) THE COMMITTEE SHALL INCLUDE EIGHT VOTING MEMBERS,
9 AS FOLLOWS:

10 (I) FOUR MEMBERS OF THE SENATE, NO MORE THAN TWO OF WHOM
11 SHALL BE FROM THE SAME POLITICAL PARTY, WITH TWO MEMBERS TO BE
12 APPOINTED BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE AND TWO MEMBERS TO BE
13 APPOINTED BY THE MINORITY LEADER OF THE SENATE;

14 (II) FOUR MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, NO MORE
15 THAN TWO OF WHOM SHALL BE FROM THE SAME POLITICAL PARTY, WITH
16 TWO MEMBERS TO BE APPOINTED BY THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF
17 REPRESENTATIVES AND TWO MEMBERS TO BE APPOINTED BY THE
18 MINORITY LEADER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES;

19 (b) THE COMMITTEE SHALL INCLUDE SIX NONVOTING MEMBERS, AS
20 FOLLOWS:

21 (I) ONE MEMBER WHO IS A LICENSED SCHOOL COUNSELOR, TO BE
22 APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR OR HIS OR HER DESIGNEE;

23 (II) ONE MEMBER REPRESENTING THE SCHOOL SAFETY RESOURCE
24 CENTER CREATED IN SECTION 24-33.5-1803, C.R.S., TO BE APPOINTED BY
25 THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY OR HIS
26 OR HER DESIGNEE;

27 (III) ONE MEMBER WHO IS A PARENT OF A STUDENT WHO

1 ATTENDED OR WHO IS ATTENDING A SCHOOL OF A SCHOOL DISTRICT
2 SERVING FIVE THOUSAND STUDENTS OR LESS, TO BE APPOINTED BY THE
3 GOVERNOR OR HIS OR HER DESIGNEE;

4 (IV) ONE MEMBER WHO IS A PARENT OF A STUDENT WHO
5 ATTENDED OR WHO IS ATTENDING A SCHOOL OF A SCHOOL DISTRICT
6 SERVING MORE THAN FIVE THOUSAND STUDENTS, TO BE APPOINTED BY THE
7 GOVERNOR OR HIS OR HER DESIGNEE;

8 (V) ONE MEMBER WHO IS A SUPERINTENDENT OF A SCHOOL
9 DISTRICT, TO BE APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR OR HIS OR HER DESIGNEE;

10 AND

11 (VI) ONE MEMBER WHO REPRESENTS A STATEWIDE ORGANIZATION
12 THAT ADVOCATES FOR JUVENILES AND JUVENILE JUSTICE ISSUES, TO BE
13 APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR OR HIS OR HER DESIGNEE.

14 (c) EACH APPOINTING PARTY DESCRIBED IN PARAGRAPHS (a) AND
15 (b) OF THIS SUBSECTION (2) SHALL MAKE HIS OR HER APPOINTMENT OR
16 APPOINTMENTS TO THE COMMITTEE ON OR BEFORE JUNE 1, 2015.

17 (d) EACH MEMBER OF THE COMMITTEE MAY SERVE INDEFINITELY
18 AT THE DISCRETION OF HIS OR HER APPOINTING PARTY.

19 (3) THE MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE MAY ELECT ONE MEMBER TO
20 SERVE AS CHAIR OF THE COMMITTEE AND ONE MEMBER TO SERVE AS
21 VICE-CHAIR OF THE COMMITTEE.

22 (4) NONLEGISLATIVE MEMBERS SERVE WITHOUT COMPENSATION
23 AND WITHOUT REIMBURSEMENT OF EXPENSES. THE LEGISLATIVE MEMBERS
24 OF THE COMMITTEE MAY RECEIVE PER DIEM AND NECESSARY TRAVEL AND
25 SUBSISTENCE EXPENSES AS PROVIDED FOR MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL
26 ASSEMBLY WHO ATTEND INTERIM COMMITTEE MEETINGS PURSUANT TO
27 SECTION 2-2-307, C.R.S.

1 (5) THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL STAFF SHALL ASSIST THE
2 COMMITTEE IN CARRYING OUT ITS DUTIES PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION.

3 **SECTION 2. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds,
4 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate
5 preservation of the public peace, health, and safety.