

First Regular Session  
Seventy-first General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 17-0829.01 Brita Darling x2241

HOUSE BILL 17-1106

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HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Pettersen and Wilson,

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

(None),

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House Committees  
Education

Senate Committees

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A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 CONCERNING THE EARLY CHILDHOOD LEADERSHIP COMMISSION.

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 bill amends the statutes relating to the early childhood leadership commission (commission) in the department of human services (department) as follows:

- ! Makes changes to the legislative declaration, mission, and duties of the commission to include consideration of families of pregnant women and children;
- ! Increases membership from 20 members to 25 members. Among other members described in the bill, the new

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.*

members may include representatives of programs providing early childhood services and supports for military families.

- ! Changes the title of the person appointed to assist the department in fulfilling the duties of the commission from "executive director" to "director";
- ! Removes the requirement that the director be compensated from money credited to the early childhood leadership commission fund;
- ! Permits the commission to seek, accept, and expend gifts, grants, and donations for the expenses of the commission;
- ! Allows general fund appropriations for the commission; and
- ! Extends the repeal date and sunset review of the commission prior to its repeal from 2018 to 2023.

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

2           **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 26-6.2-101, **amend**  
3 (1)(a), (1)(c), (2)(a), (2)(b) introductory portion, and (3) as follows:

4           **26-6.2-101. Legislative declaration.** (1) The general assembly  
5 hereby finds that:

6           (a) Public investments for pregnant women and young children  
7 from birth to eight years of age AND THEIR FAMILIES fall behind  
8 investments for older Colorado children and lag behind national trends;

9           (c) While there are several planning efforts related to early  
10 childhood services and collaborative bodies within state and local  
11 governments, there is no single venue to allow high-level  
12 decision-making among policy makers, to collectively study  
13 recommendations, TO FACILITATE CROSS-AGENCY COLLABORATION  
14 AMONG STATE AGENCIES, and to make joint policy and funding  
15 recommendations.

16           (2) The general assembly further finds that:

17           (a) A commission to assist in coordinating services and supports

1 for pregnant women and young children from birth to eight years of age  
2 AND THEIR FAMILIES will improve the delivery of those services and  
3 improve the educational, health, emotional and mental health, child  
4 welfare, and employment outcomes for these children and their families;  
5 and

6 (b) A commission to assist in coordinating the delivery of services  
7 and supports for pregnant women and young children AND THEIR  
8 FAMILIES will also significantly improve Colorado's workforce and  
9 economic development by:

10 (3) The general assembly finds, therefore, that it is essential to  
11 create a high-level, interagency, public-private leadership commission to  
12 identify opportunities for, and address barriers to, the coordination of  
13 federal and state early childhood policies and procedures IN ORDER TO  
14 PROMOTE ACCESS TO PROGRAMS AND SERVICES that affect the health and  
15 well-being of Colorado's children.

16 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 26-6.2-103, **amend**  
17 (1), (2) introductory portion, (2)(d) introductory portion, (2)(d)(VI),  
18 (2)(d)(VII), (5), and (6); and **add** (2)(d)(VIII) as follows:

19 **26-6.2-103. Early childhood leadership commission - created**  
20 **- mission.** (1) There is created in the state department the early childhood  
21 leadership commission. The purpose of the commission is to ensure and  
22 advance a comprehensive service delivery system for pregnant women  
23 and children from birth to eight years of age using data to improve  
24 decision-making, alignment, and coordination among federally funded  
25 and state-funded services and programs for pregnant women and young  
26 children and their families. At a minimum, the comprehensive service  
27 delivery system for pregnant women and children AND THEIR FAMILIES

1 must include services in the areas of prenatal health, child health, child  
2 mental health, early learning CARE AND EDUCATION, and family support  
3 and parent education.

4 (2) The commission shall consist of up to ~~twenty~~ TWENTY-FIVE  
5 members as follows:

6 (d) No more than ~~fourteen~~ NINETEEN persons appointed by the  
7 governor, which persons collectively have the following expertise,  
8 affiliations, or backgrounds:

9 (VI) Members of the business community; ~~and~~

10 (VII) Representatives of the local public health community; AND

11 (VIII) REPRESENTATIVES OF PROGRAMS PROVIDING EARLY  
12 CHILDHOOD SERVICES AND SUPPORTS FOR MILITARY FAMILIES.

13 (5) The commission, in collaboration with the executive director  
14 of the state department, may appoint ~~an executive~~ A director to assist the  
15 commission in fulfilling its duties pursuant to this ~~article~~ ARTICLE 6.2.  
16 The ~~executive~~ director may appoint such additional persons as may be  
17 necessary to assist the commission. ~~The executive director and any other~~  
18 ~~persons appointed pursuant to this subsection (5) shall be compensated~~  
19 ~~from moneys credited to the early childhood leadership commission fund~~  
20 ~~created in section 26-6.2-105.~~

21 (6) The governor's office, the state department, and the other  
22 agencies represented on the commission may, at the request of the  
23 commission and within existing appropriations, provide necessary support  
24 to the commission, including but not limited to administrative support,  
25 data, and other analytical information. In addition, the commission may  
26 ~~accept in-kind contributions~~ SEEK, ACCEPT, AND EXPEND GIFTS, GRANTS,  
27 OR DONATIONS from public ~~and~~ OR private ~~entities~~ SOURCES to the extent

1 necessary to cover the expenses of the commission.

2 **SECTION 3.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 26-6.2-104, **amend**  
3 (1) and (2)(b) as follows:

4 **26-6.2-104. Early childhood leadership commission - duties.**

5 (1) In addition to any other duties specified in law, the commission has  
6 the following duties:

7 (a) To identify opportunities for, and barriers to, the alignment of  
8 standards, rules, policies, and procedures across programs and agencies  
9 that support young children and to recommend to the appropriate  
10 committees of reference of the general assembly pursuant to part 2 of  
11 article 7 of title 2 ~~C.R.S.~~, and to government and nonprofit agencies and  
12 policy boards changes to enhance the alignment and provision of services  
13 and supports for ~~young children~~ PREGNANT WOMEN AND YOUNG  
14 CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES;

15 (b) To advise and make recommendations to the state department  
16 and to other relevant early childhood entities concerning implementation  
17 of the early childhood Colorado framework;

18 (c) To assist public and private agencies in coordinating efforts on  
19 behalf of pregnant women and children AND THEIR FAMILIES, including  
20 securing funding and additional investments for services, ~~and~~ programs,  
21 AND ACCESS TO THESE SERVICES AND PROGRAMS for children and their  
22 families;

23 (d) To consider and recommend waivers from state regulations on  
24 behalf of early childhood councils as provided in section 26-6.5-104 (1);

25 (e) To monitor the ongoing development, promotion, and  
26 implementation of:

27 (I) A quality, cohesive professional development and career

- 1 advancement system;
- 2 (II) High-quality, comprehensive early learning standards; and
- 3 (III) The sharing and use of common data for planning and
- 4 accountability among early childhood programs;
- 5 (f) To develop strategies and monitor efforts concerning:
- 6 (I) Increasing children's school readiness;
- 7 ~~(g) (II) To develop strategies and monitor efforts concerning~~
- 8 Increasing participation in and access to child care and early education
- 9 programs; and
- 10 ~~(h) (III) To develop strategies and monitor efforts concerning~~
- 11 Promoting family and community engagement in children's EARLY
- 12 education and development.

13 (2) In fulfilling its duties, the commission shall collaborate, at a  
 14 minimum, with:

- 15 (b) Any other boards, commissions, and councils ~~existing within~~
- 16 ~~the executive branch agencies~~ that address services and supports for
- 17 PREGNANT WOMEN AND young children.

18 **SECTION 4.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 26-6.2-105, **amend**  
 19 (1) as follows:

20 **26-6.2-105. Early childhood leadership commission fund -**  
 21 **created.** (1) There is created in the state treasury the early childhood  
 22 leadership commission fund, referred to in this section as the "fund". The  
 23 fund ~~shall consist of such federal moneys as the governor may allocate~~  
 24 CONSISTS OF FEDERAL MONEY ALLOCATED to the fund BY THE GOVERNOR.  
 25 ~~The fund shall not include appropriations of moneys from the state~~  
 26 ~~general fund.~~ The moneys MONEY in the fund ~~are~~ IS available to the  
 27 commission for administrative costs and the expenses incurred by the

1 commission in fulfilling its duties pursuant to this ~~article~~ ARTICLE 6.2.  
2 THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY MAY ALSO APPROPRIATE GENERAL FUND MONEY  
3 FOR ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS AND EXPENSES INCURRED BY THE  
4 COMMISSION PURSUANT TO THIS ARTICLE 6.2.

5 **SECTION 5.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **amend** 26-6.2-106  
6 as follows:

7 **26-6.2-106. Repeal of article.** This ~~article~~ ARTICLE 6.2 is  
8 repealed, effective ~~September 1, 2018.~~ Prior to SEPTEMBER 1, 2023.  
9 BEFORE its repeal, the commission is subject to review ~~as provided~~ in  
10 ACCORDANCE WITH section 2-3-1203. ~~C.R.S.~~

11 **SECTION 6.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 2-3-1203, **repeal**  
12 (6)(a)(IV); and **add** (14)(a)(V) as follows:

13 **2-3-1203. Sunset review of advisory committees - legislative**  
14 **declaration - definition - repeal.** (6) (a) The following statutory  
15 authorizations for the designated advisory committees will repeal on July  
16 1, 2018:

17 (IV) ~~The early childhood leadership commission created in section~~  
18 ~~26-6.2-103, C.R.S.;~~

19 (14) (a) The following statutory authorizations for the designated  
20 advisory committees ~~will~~ ARE SCHEDULED FOR repeal on September 1,  
21 2023:

22 (V) THE EARLY CHILDHOOD LEADERSHIP COMMISSION CREATED IN  
23 SECTION 26-6.2-103.

24 **SECTION 7. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act  
25 takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the  
26 ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly (August  
27 9, 2017, if adjournment sine die is on May 10, 2017); except that, if a

1 referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V of the  
2 state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this act  
3 within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take effect  
4 unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in  
5 November 2018 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the  
6 official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.