

**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. 14-0740.01 Richard Sweetman x4333

**HOUSE BILL 14-1205**

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**House Committees**

State, Veterans, & Military Affairs  
Appropriations

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State, Veterans, & Military Affairs  
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**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

101 **CONCERNING THE VETERANS ASSISTANCE GRANT 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/bills summaries>.)*

The veterans assistance grant program (program) is created in the division of veterans affairs within the state department of military and veterans affairs to provide moneys to nonprofit organizations and governmental agencies that provide services to ensure the health and well-being of veterans of the United States armed forces who live in Colorado.

On or before September 1, 2014, the adjutant general, in

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.*

HOUSE  
3rd Reading Unamended  
April 14, 2014

HOUSE  
Amended 2nd Reading  
April 10, 2014

consultation with the board of veterans affairs, shall adopt rules for the administration of the program, including but not limited to:

- ! Criteria for determining which nonprofit organizations and governmental agencies are eligible to receive moneys from the program; and
- ! Procedures by which eligible organizations may apply for and receive moneys from the program.

The veterans assistance grant program cash fund is created and consists of any moneys received by the division as gifts, grants, or donations and such moneys as are appropriated to the fund by the general assembly.

The program is repealed, effective September 1, 2024. Before such repeal, the department of regulatory agencies shall review the program.

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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** 28-5-712 as  
3 follows:

4 **28-5-712. Veterans assistance grant program - created - rules**  
5 **- fund - repeal.** (1) THERE IS HEREBY CREATED IN THE DIVISION OF  
6 VETERANS AFFAIRS THE VETERANS ASSISTANCE GRANT PROGRAM,  
7 REFERRED TO IN THIS SECTION AS THE "PROGRAM", TO PROVIDE MONEYS  
8 TO NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS AND GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES THAT  
9 PROVIDE SERVICES TO ENSURE THE HEALTH AND WELL-BEING OF  
10 VETERANS OF THE UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES WHO LIVE IN  
11 COLORADO, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO:

- 12 (a) MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES;
- 13 (b) FAMILY COUNSELING SERVICES;
- 14 (c) JOB TRAINING;
- 15 (d) EMPLOYMENT; AND
- 16 (e) HOUSING FOR HOMELESS VETERANS.

17 (2) ON OR BEFORE SEPTEMBER 1, 2014 , THE ADJUTANT GENERAL,  
18 IN CONSULTATION WITH THE BOARD OF VETERANS AFFAIRS CREATED IN

1 SECTION 28-5-702, SHALL ADOPT RULES FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE  
2 PROGRAM, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO:

3 (a) CRITERIA FOR DETERMINING WHICH NONPROFIT  
4 ORGANIZATIONS AND GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES ARE ELIGIBLE TO  
5 RECEIVE MONEYS FROM THE PROGRAM; AND

6 (b) PROCEDURES BY WHICH ELIGIBLE NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS  
7 AND GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES MAY APPLY FOR AND RECEIVE MONEYS  
8 FROM THE PROGRAM.

9 (3) (a) THERE IS HEREBY CREATED THE VETERANS ASSISTANCE  
10 GRANT PROGRAM CASH FUND, REFERRED TO IN THIS SECTION AS THE  
11 "FUND", WHICH SHALL CONSIST OF:

12 (I) MONEYS RECEIVED BY THE DIVISION AS GIFTS, GRANTS, OR  
13 DONATIONS PURSUANT TO PARAGRAPH (d) OF THIS SUBSECTION (3); AND

14 (II) SUCH MONEYS AS ARE APPROPRIATED TO THE FUND BY THE  
15 GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

16 (b) THE MONEYS IN THE FUND ARE SUBJECT TO ANNUAL  
17 APPROPRIATION TO THE DIVISION BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FOR THE  
18 DIRECT AND INDIRECT COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH IMPLEMENTING THE  
19 PROGRAM. THE STATE TREASURER MAY INVEST ANY MONEYS IN THE FUND  
20 NOT EXPENDED FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION AS PROVIDED BY LAW.  
21 THE STATE TREASURER SHALL CREDIT ANY INTEREST AND INCOME  
22 DERIVED FROM THE DEPOSIT AND INVESTMENT OF MONEYS IN THE FUND TO  
23 THE FUND. ANY UNEXPENDED AND UNENCUMBERED MONEYS IN THE FUND  
24 AT THE END OF A FISCAL YEAR REMAIN IN THE FUND AND SHALL NOT BE  
25 CREDITED TO ANY OTHER FUND; EXCEPT THAT, ANY MONEYS REMAINING  
26 IN THE FUND ON SEPTEMBER 1, 2024, SHALL BE CREDITED TO THE GENERAL  
27 FUND.

1 (c) THE DIVISION MAY EXPEND NOT MORE THAN FIVE PERCENT OF  
2 THE MONEYS ANNUALLY APPROPRIATED TO THE FUND TO PAY THE  
3 ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES INCURRED BY THE DIVISION IN ADMINISTERING  
4 THE PROGRAM.

5 (d) THE DIVISION IS AUTHORIZED TO ACCEPT GIFTS, GRANTS, AND  
6 DONATIONS FOR THE PURPOSES DESCRIBED IN THIS SECTION. THE DIVISION  
7 SHALL TRANSFER EACH SUCH GIFT, GRANT, AND DONATION TO THE STATE  
8 TREASURER, WHO SHALL CREDIT THE SAME TO THE FUND.

9 (4) IN ITS ANNUAL REPORT BEFORE THE HOUSE AND SENATE  
10 COMMITTEES OF REFERENCE PURSUANT TO SECTION 2-7-203, C.R.S., THE  
11 DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AND VETERANS AFFAIRS SHALL INCLUDE  
12 INFORMATION DESCRIBING THE GRANTS AWARDED THROUGH THE  
13 PROGRAM DURING THE PRECEDING YEAR.

14 (5) THIS SECTION IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 1, 2024.  
15 BEFORE REPEAL, THE DEPARTMENT OF REGULATORY AGENCIES SHALL  
16 REVIEW THE PROGRAM AS DESCRIBED IN SECTION 24-34-104, C.R.S.

17 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-34-104, **add** (55)  
18 (f) as follows:

19 **24-34-104. General assembly review of regulatory agencies**  
20 **and functions for termination, continuation, or reestablishment.**

21 (55) The following agencies, functions, or both, terminate on September  
22 1, 2024:

23 (f) THE VETERANS ASSISTANCE GRANT PROGRAM, CREATED BY  
24 SECTION 28-5-712, C.R.S.

25 **SECTION 3. Appropriation - adjustments to 2014 long bill.**

26 (1) For the implementation of this act, appropriations made in the annual  
27 general appropriation act to the department of military and veterans

1     affairs for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2014, are adjusted as follows:  
2     The appropriation to the division of veterans affairs is increased by 0.4  
3     FTE.

4             **SECTION 4. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act  
5     takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the  
6     ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly (August  
7     6, 2014, if adjournment sine die is on May 7, 2014); except that, if a  
8     referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V of the  
9     state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this act  
10    within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take effect  
11    unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in  
12    November 2014 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the  
13    official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.