

**Second Regular Session  
Seventy-third General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO**

**INTRODUCED**

LLS NO. 22-0577.02 Kristen Forrestal x4217

**HOUSE BILL 22-1267**

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**HOUSE SPONSORSHIP**

**Valdez A. and Boesenecker**, Michaelson Jenet, Amabile, Bacon, Bernett, Caraveo, Cutter, Duran, Froelich, Gonzales-Gutierrez, Gray, Herod, Hooton, Jodeh, Kennedy, Kipp, Lontine, McCormick, McLachlan, Mullica, Sirota, Sullivan, Titone, Young

**SENATE SPONSORSHIP**

**(None)**,

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**House Committees**

Public & Behavioral Health & Human Services

**Senate Committees**

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**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

101 **CONCERNING CULTURALLY RELEVANT TRAINING AVAILABLE TO**  
102 **HEALTH-CARE PROFESSIONALS.**

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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://leg.colorado.gov>.)*

The bill requires the office of health equity (office) in the department of public health and environment to:

- Create a culturally relevant and affirming health-care training grant program to provide money to nonprofit entities to develop new, culturally responsive training programs to benefit priority populations; and

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.  
Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material to be added to existing statute.  
Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.

- Contract with a third-party administrator to administer the program.

The third-party administrator is required to:

- Issue a request for proposal for applications from nonprofit entities who wish to participate in the program to develop culturally relevant and affirming health-care training for health-care professionals; and
- Submit the list of the qualified applicants for the program to the health equity commission in the office for approval.

Each regulator in the division of professions and occupations in the department of regulatory agencies for the applicable health-care professional is required to provide information concerning the training courses available to the licensee, certificate holder, or registrant. The regulator is required to encourage participation in the training courses.

The general assembly is required to appropriate \$1 million to the department for allocation to the office for 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 25-4-2209** as  
3 follows:

4 **25-4-2209. Culturally relevant and affirming health-care**  
5 **training - health-care professionals - grants - definition.** (1) AS USED  
6 IN THIS SECTION:

7 (a) "OFFICE OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH" MEANS THE OFFICE OF  
8 BEHAVIORAL HEALTH IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES, CREATED  
9 PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 80 OF TITLE 27.

10 (b) "PRIORITY POPULATIONS" MEANS PRIORITY POPULATIONS  
11 IDENTIFIED BY THE OFFICE OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH IN ITS 2020  
12 BEHAVIORAL HEALTH NEEDS ASSESSMENT.

13 (c) "PROGRAM" MEANS THE CULTURALLY RELEVANT AND  
14 AFFIRMING HEALTH-CARE TRAINING GRANT PROGRAM CREATED IN  
15 SUBSECTION (2) OF THIS SECTION.

16 (d) "PROVIDER" MEANS AN INDIVIDUAL LICENSED, CERTIFIED, OR

1 REGISTERED PURSUANT TO TITLE 12 TO PROVIDE HEALTH-CARE SERVICES.

2 "PROVIDER" DOES NOT INCLUDE A VETERINARIAN.

3 (e) "REGULATOR" HAS THE SAME MEANING AS SET FORTH IN  
4 SECTION 12-20-102 (14).

5 (2) (a) ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 1, 2023, THE OFFICE SHALL  
6 CREATE A CULTURALLY RELEVANT AND AFFIRMING HEALTH-CARE  
7 TRAINING GRANT PROGRAM TO PROVIDE MONEY TO NONPROFIT ENTITIES  
8 TO DEVELOP NEW, CULTURALLY RESPONSIVE TRAINING PROGRAMS TO  
9 BENEFIT PRIORITY POPULATIONS.

10 (b) THE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE SHALL CONTRACT WITH A  
11 THIRD-PARTY ADMINISTRATOR TO ADMINISTER THE PROGRAM. THE  
12 THIRD-PARTY ADMINISTRATOR SHALL:

13 (I) ISSUE A GRANT APPLICATION FOR NONPROFIT ENTITIES WHO  
14 WISH TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PROGRAM TO DEVELOP CULTURALLY  
15 RELEVANT AND AFFIRMING HEALTH-CARE TRAINING FOR HEALTH-CARE  
16 PROFESSIONALS; AND

17 (II) SUBMIT THE LIST OF THE QUALIFIED APPLICANTS FOR THE  
18 PROGRAM TO THE COMMISSION FOR APPROVAL.

19 (3) IN ORDER TO BE QUALIFIED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PROGRAM,  
20 THE NONPROFIT ENTITY MUST BE ABLE TO PROVIDE CULTURALLY  
21 RELEVANT AND AFFIRMING HEALTH-CARE TRAINING THAT:

22 (a) TEACHES HEALTH-CARE PROFESSIONALS HOW TO PROVIDE  
23 EFFECTIVE, EQUITABLE, UNDERSTANDABLE, AND RESPECTFUL CARE AND  
24 SERVICES THAT ARE RESPONSIVE TO DIVERSE CULTURAL HEALTH BELIEFS  
25 AND PRACTICES, PREFERRED LANGUAGES, HEALTH LITERACY, AND OTHER  
26 COMMUNICATION NEEDS;

27 (b) EQUIPS HEALTH-CARE PROFESSIONALS WITH THE KNOWLEDGE,

1 SKILLS, AND AWARENESS TO BEST SERVE ALL PATIENTS, REGARDLESS OF  
2 CULTURAL OR LANGUAGE BACKGROUND; AND

3 (c) FOCUSES ON:

4 (I) CULTURALLY RESPONSIVE AND CLINICALLY COMPETENT CARE  
5 FOR LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL, TRANSGENDER, AND QUEER INDIVIDUALS;  
6 AND

7 (II) INTERSECTIONALITY, RESPECTFUL CARE, IMPLICIT BIASES, AND  
8 SEXUAL ORIENTATION AND GENDER IDENTITY DATA COLLECTION.

9 (4) WHILE CREATING THE LIST OF QUALIFIED ENTITIES TO CONDUCT  
10 THE CULTURALLY RELEVANT AND AFFIRMING HEALTH-CARE TRAINING,  
11 THE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE SHALL CONSIDER THE ABILITY OF EACH  
12 QUALIFIED ENTITY TO ADDRESS THE NEEDS OF PRIORITY POPULATIONS  
13 THROUGH ITS TRAINING PROGRAM.

14 (5) THE COMMISSION SHALL REVIEW THE LIST OF QUALIFIED  
15 ENTITIES THAT APPLY FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE GRANT PROGRAM,  
16 SELECT ENTITIES TO PARTICIPATE IN THE GRANT PROGRAM, AND PROVIDE  
17 A LIST OF THE SELECTED ENTITIES TO THE OFFICE.

18 (6) THE OFFICE SHALL PROVIDE A LIST OF QUALIFIED ENTITIES  
19 THAT ARE SELECTED BY THE COMMISSION, A DESCRIPTION OF THE  
20 TRAINING OFFERED, AND INFORMATION REGARDING THE GRANT PROGRAM  
21 TO THE REGULATOR OF EACH HEALTH-CARE PROFESSIONAL.

22 (7) FOR THE 2022-23 STATE FISCAL YEAR, THE GENERAL  
23 ASSEMBLY SHALL APPROPRIATE ONE MILLION DOLLARS FROM THE  
24 GENERAL FUND TO THE DEPARTMENT FOR ALLOCATION TO THE OFFICE FOR  
25 THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION, INCLUDING PAYMENT FOR A THIRD-PARTY  
26 ADMINISTRATOR. ANY UNEXPENDED MONEY REMAINING AT THE END OF  
27 THE 2022-23 STATE FISCAL YEAR:

1 (a) DOES NOT REVERT TO THE GENERAL FUND OR ANY OTHER  
2 FUND;

3 (b) MAY BE USED BY THE DEPARTMENT IN SUBSEQUENT STATE  
4 FISCAL YEARS WITHOUT FURTHER APPROPRIATION; AND

5 (c) SHALL NOT BE USED FOR ANY OTHER PURPOSE OTHER THAN THE  
6 PURPOSES SET FORTH IN THIS SECTION.

7 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 12-30-119 as  
8 follows:

9 **12-30-119. Culturally relevant and affirming health-care**  
10 **training - health-care professionals - grants - definition.** EACH  
11 REGULATOR OF HEALTH-CARE PROVIDERS SHALL PROVIDE EACH  
12 HEALTH-CARE PROVIDER WITH THE INFORMATION THAT THE REGULATOR  
13 RECEIVES FROM THE OFFICE OF HEALTH EQUITY PURSUANT TO SECTION  
14 25-4-2209 REGARDING THE CULTURALLY RELEVANT AND AFFIRMING  
15 HEALTH-CARE TRAINING COURSES THAT ARE AVAILABLE TO EACH  
16 LICENSEE, CERTIFICATE HOLDER, AND REGISTRANT. EACH REGULATOR  
17 SHALL PROVIDE THE INFORMATION TO EACH HEALTH-CARE PROVIDER AT  
18 THE TIME THE HEALTH-CARE PROVIDER IS ISSUED OR RENEWS A LICENSE,  
19 CERTIFICATE, OR REGISTRATION AND SHALL ENCOURAGE PARTICIPATION  
20 IN THE TRAINING COURSES.

21 **SECTION 3. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act  
22 takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the  
23 ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly; except  
24 that, if a referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V  
25 of the state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this  
26 act within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take  
27 effect unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in

1 November 2022 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the  
2 official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.