

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

**PREAMENDED**

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

LLS NO. 13-0228.02 Jane Ritter x4342

**HOUSE BILL 13-1296**

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**HOUSE SPONSORSHIP**

**McCann and Kraft-Tharp,**

**SENATE SPONSORSHIP**

**Newell,**

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**House Committees**

Health, Insurance & Environment

**Senate Committees**

Finance

Legislative Council

Appropriations

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**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

101     **CONCERNING CIVIL COMMITMENT STATUTES, AND, IN CONNECTION**  
102             **THEREWITH, CREATING THE CIVIL COMMITMENT STATUTE**  
103             **REVIEW TASK FORCE AND REDEFINING CERTAIN TERMS RELATED**  
104             **TO CIVIL COMMITMENT.**

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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 the civil commitment statute review task force (task force). The membership and duties of the task force are detailed.

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  
Amended 3rd Reading  
April 19, 2013

HOUSE  
Amended 2nd Reading  
April 18, 2013

The bill also adds a definition of "danger to self and others" and amends the current definition of "gravely disabled", as those definitions relate to civil commitments.

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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** 27-60-102 as  
3 follows:

4           **27-60-102. Civil commitment statute review task force -**  
5 **legislative declaration- creation - duties - repeal.** (1) THERE IS HEREBY  
6 CREATED THE CIVIL COMMITMENT STATUTE REVIEW TASK FORCE,  
7 REFERRED TO IN THIS SECTION AS THE "TASK FORCE", WHICH SHALL MEET  
8 DURING THE INTERIM AFTER THE FIRST REGULAR SESSION OF THE  
9 SIXTY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

10           (2) THE TASK FORCE SHALL STUDY AND PREPARE  
11 RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE  
12 CONSOLIDATION OF THE MENTAL HEALTH, ALCOHOL, AND SUBSTANCE USE  
13 DISORDER STATUTES RELATED TO CIVIL COMMITMENTS. AT A MINIMUM,  
14 THE TASK FORCE SHALL STUDY AND MAKE SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS  
15 ON THE FOLLOWING ISSUES:

16           (a) THE METHOD BY WHICH THE MENTAL HEALTH, ALCOHOL, AND  
17 SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER STATUTES RELATED TO CIVIL COMMITMENT  
18 CAN BE CONSOLIDATED, INCLUDING POTENTIAL CHANGES TO STATUTORY  
19 LANGUAGE AND THE PROMULGATION OF RULES, IF NECESSARY;

20           (b) THE EFFECT ON DETOXIFICATION FACILITIES AND EMERGENCY  
21 HOLDS BY THE CONSOLIDATION OF THE MENTAL HEALTH, ALCOHOL, AND  
22 SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER STATUTES RELATED TO CIVIL COMMITMENT;

23           (c) INVOLUNTARY COMMITMENT FOR TREATMENT;

24           (d) ALIGNMENT OF THE CIVIL COMMITMENT STATUTES WITH THE

1 STATEWIDE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CRISIS SERVICES DELIVERY SYSTEM;

2 (e) THE NEED TO CLARIFY AND CODIFY DEFINITIONS IN THE

3 BEHAVIORAL HEALTH STATUTES, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO

4 "ADVANCED DIRECTIVES FOR PERSONS WITH BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

5 ILLNESSES", AND, AS THEY RELATE TO SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS, THE

6 TERMS "DANGER TO SELF OR OTHERS"; AND "GRAVELY DISABLED";

7 (f) THE LENGTH OF EMERGENCY AND LONG-TERM COMMITMENTS;

8 (g) PATIENT RIGHTS AND ADVOCACY RESOURCES; AND

9 (h) ANY OTHER ISSUES THE TASK FORCE DEEMS RELEVANT.

10 (3) (a) THE TASK FORCE WILL CONSIST OF THE FOLLOWING THIRTY

11 MEMBERS, TO BE APPOINTED BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE

12 DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES OR HIS OR HER DESIGNEE, WITH THE

13 EXCEPTION OF THE LEGISLATIVE APPOINTEES:

14 (I) ONE MEMBER WHO REPRESENTS A STATEWIDE ORGANIZATION

15 OF SOCIAL WORKERS;

16 (II) ONE MEMBER WHO REPRESENTS A STATEWIDE ORGANIZATION

17 OF LICENSED PSYCHIATRISTS;

18 (III) ONE MEMBER WHO REPRESENTS A STATEWIDE ORGANIZATION

19 OF PHYSICIANS;

20 (IV) ONE MEMBER WHO REPRESENTS A STATEWIDE ORGANIZATION

21 OF SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS PROFESSIONALS;

22 (V) ONE MEMBER WHO REPRESENTS A STATEWIDE ASSOCIATION OF

23 COMMUNITY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PROVIDERS;

24 (VI) ONE MEMBER WHO REPRESENTS A STATEWIDE ORGANIZATION

25 OF HOSPITALS;

26 (VII) ONE MEMBER WHO REPRESENTS A COMMUNITY SUBSTANCE

27 USE DISORDER PROVIDER;

1 (VIII) ONE MEMBER WHO REPRESENTS A STATEWIDE  
2 ORGANIZATION OF PERSONS WHO PROVIDE LEGAL ADVICE TO AT-RISK  
3 ADULTS;

4 (IX) TWO MEMBERS WHO REPRESENT AN ASSOCIATION WITH  
5 EXPERIENCE IN CIVIL RIGHTS;

6 (X) TWO MEMBERS WHO REPRESENT STATEWIDE ORGANIZATIONS  
7 THAT ADVOCATE ON BEHALF OF PERSONS WITH BEHAVIORAL HEALTH  
8 DISORDERS;

9 (XI) ONE MEMBER WHO ADVOCATES ON BEHALF OF PERSONS WITH  
10 BEHAVIORAL HEALTH DISORDERS BUT DOES NOT REPRESENT A STATEWIDE  
11 ORGANIZATION;

12 (XII) ONE MEMBER WHO REPRESENTS AN ORGANIZATION THAT  
13 ADVOCATES ON BEHALF OF CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS;

14 (XIII) ONE MEMBER WHO REPRESENTS AN ORGANIZATION THAT  
15 ADVOCATES ON BEHALF OF OLDER ADULTS;

16 (XIV) ONE MEMBER WHO REPRESENTS AN ORGANIZATION THAT  
17 ADVOCATES ON BEHALF OF PERSONS WITH PHYSICAL DISABILITIES;

18 (XV) TWO MEMBERS WHO REPRESENT STATEWIDE ORGANIZATIONS  
19 OF LAW ENFORCEMENT OR PEACE OFFICERS, ONE MEMBER BEING A SHERIFF  
20 AND ONE MEMBER BEING A POLICE CHIEF;

21 (XVI) ONE MEMBER WHO REPRESENTS CITY OR COUNTY  
22 ATTORNEYS;

23 (XVII) ONE MEMBER WHO REPRESENTS AN ENTITY THAT PROVIDES  
24 MEDICAL MALPRACTICE INSURANCE;

25 (XVIII) ONE MEMBER WHO REPRESENTS A STATEWIDE  
26 ORGANIZATION OF COUNTIES;

27 (XIX) TWO MEMBERS WHO HAVE USED THE SYSTEM IN THE PAST

1 TWO TO FIVE YEARS;

2 (XX) ONE MEMBER WHO REPRESENTS A STATEWIDE  
3 ORGANIZATION OF LICENSED PSYCHOLOGISTS;

4 (XXI) ONE MEMBER WHO IS AN ADVANCED PRACTICE NURSE WITH  
5 SIGNIFICANT EXPERIENCE IN THE CARE AND TREATMENT OF PERSONS WITH  
6 MENTAL HEALTH OR SUBSTANCE USE ISSUES;

7 (XXII) FOUR MEMBERS FROM THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, TWO  
8 APPOINTED BY THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND  
9 TWO APPOINTED BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE; THE APPOINTEES FROM  
10 EACH CHAMBER MUST BE OF DIFFERENT POLITICAL PARTIES; AND

11 (XXIII) ONE MEMBER WHO IS A STAFF PERSON WITH THE  
12 DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES.

13 (b) ALL APPOINTMENTS TO THE TASK FORCE MUST BE MADE ON OR  
14 BEFORE JUNE 15, 2013.

15 (c) AT THE TIME OF APPOINTMENT, THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF  
16 THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES, OR HIS OR HER DESIGNEE, SHALL  
17 DESIGNATE TWO MEMBERS OF THE TASK FORCE TO SERVE AS CO-CHAIRS OF  
18 THE TASK FORCE.

19 (d) THE LEGISLATIVE MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE SHALL BE  
20 COMPENSATED FOR ATTENDANCE AT MEETINGS OF THE COMMITTEE AND  
21 SHALL RECEIVE REIMBURSEMENT FOR ACTUAL AND NECESSARY EXPENSES  
22 INCURRED IN THE PERFORMANCE OF THEIR DUTIES AS MEMBERS OF THE  
23 COMMITTEE, AS PROVIDED IN SECTION 2-2-307, C.R.S. THE TOTAL  
24 AMOUNT AVAILABLE FOR REIMBURSEMENT AND COMPENSATION  
25 PURSUANT TO THIS PARAGRAPH (d) SHALL NOT EXCEED FIVE THOUSAND  
26 DOLLARS.

27 (4) THE TASK FORCE SHALL SUBMIT A WRITTEN REPORT OF ITS

1 RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND TO THE HEALTH  
2 AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE OF THE SENATE AND PUBLIC HEALTH  
3 CARE AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE OF  
4 REPRESENTATIVES, OR ANY SUCCESSOR COMMITTEES, ON OR BEFORE  
5 NOVEMBER 1, 2013.

6 (5) (a) THE FIRST MEETING OF THE TASK FORCE MUST OCCUR NO  
7 LATER THAN JULY 15, 2013, AND THEREAFTER AS NECESSARY.

8 (b) MEETINGS OF THE TASK FORCE SHALL BE PUBLIC MEETINGS.

9 (6) THE TASK FORCE MAY SOLICIT AND ACCEPT REPORTS AND  
10 PUBLIC TESTIMONY AND MAY REQUEST OTHER SOURCES TO PROVIDE  
11 TESTIMONY, WRITTEN COMMENTS, AND OTHER RELEVANT DATA TO THE  
12 TASK FORCE.

13 (7) MEMBERS OF THE TASK FORCE SHALL SERVE WITHOUT  
14 COMPENSATION AND SHALL NOT BE ENTITLED TO REIMBURSEMENT FOR  
15 EXPENSES.

16 (8) THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL STAFF AND THE OFFICE OF  
17 LEGISLATIVE LEGAL SERVICES SHALL NOT PROVIDE STAFF SUPPORT TO THE  
18 TASK FORCE.

19 (9) THIS SECTION IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE NOVEMBER 1, 2014.

20 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 27-65-102, **amend**  
21 (9); and **add** (4.5) as follows:

22 **27-65-102. Definitions.** As used in this article, unless the context  
23 otherwise requires:

24 (4.5) "DANGER TO SELF OR OTHERS" MEANS:

25 (a) WITH RESPECT TO AN INDIVIDUAL, THAT THE INDIVIDUAL POSES  
26 A SUBSTANTIAL RISK OF PHYSICAL HARM TO HIMSELF OR HERSELF AS  
27 MANIFESTED BY EVIDENCE OF RECENT THREATS OF OR ATTEMPTS AT

1 SUICIDE OR SERIOUS BODILY HARM TO HIMSELF OR HERSELF; OR

2 (b) WITH RESPECT TO OTHER PERSONS, THAT THE INDIVIDUAL  
3 POSES A SUBSTANTIAL RISK OF PHYSICAL HARM TO ANOTHER PERSON OR  
4 PERSONS, AS MANIFESTED BY EVIDENCE OF RECENT HOMICIDAL OR OTHER  
5 VIOLENT BEHAVIOR BY THE PERSON IN QUESTION, OR BY EVIDENCE THAT  
6 OTHERS ARE PLACED IN REASONABLE FEAR OF VIOLENT BEHAVIOR AND  
7 SERIOUS PHYSICAL HARM TO THEM, AS EVIDENCED BY A RECENT OVERT  
8 ACT, ATTEMPT, OR THREAT TO DO SERIOUS PHYSICAL HARM BY THE  
9 PERSON IN QUESTION.

10 (9) (a) "Gravely disabled" means a condition in which a person,  
11 as a result of a mental ~~illness~~: HEALTH DISORDER, IS INCAPABLE OF  
12 MAKING INFORMED DECISIONS ABOUT OR PROVIDING FOR HIS OR HER  
13 ESSENTIAL NEEDS WITHOUT SIGNIFICANT SUPERVISION AND ASSISTANCE  
14 FROM OTHER PEOPLE. AS A RESULT OF BEING INCAPABLE OF MAKING THESE  
15 INFORMED DECISIONS, A PERSON WHO IS GRAVELY DISABLED IS AT RISK OF  
16 SUBSTANTIAL BODILY HARM, DANGEROUS WORSENING OF ANY  
17 CONCOMITANT SERIOUS PHYSICAL ILLNESS, SIGNIFICANT PSYCHIATRIC  
18 DETERIORATION, OR MISMANAGEMENT OF HIS OR HER ESSENTIAL NEEDS  
19 THAT COULD RESULT IN SUBSTANTIAL BODILY HARM. A PERSON OF ANY  
20 AGE MAY BE "GRAVELY DISABLED", BUT SUCH TERM DOES NOT INCLUDE  
21 A PERSON WHOSE DECISION-MAKING CAPABILITIES ARE LIMITED SOLELY BY  
22 HIS OR HER DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITY.

23 ~~(I) Is in danger of serious physical harm due to his or her inability~~  
24 ~~or failure to provide himself or herself with the essential human needs of~~  
25 ~~food, clothing, shelter, and medical care; or~~

26 ~~(II) Lacks judgment in the management of his or her resources and~~  
27 ~~in the conduct of his or her social relations to the extent that his or her~~

1 ~~health or safety is significantly endangered and lacks the capacity to~~  
2 ~~understand that this is so.~~

3 ~~(b) A person who, because of care provided by a family member~~  
4 ~~or by an individual with a similar relationship to the person, is not in~~  
5 ~~danger of serious physical harm or is not significantly endangered in~~  
6 ~~accordance with paragraph (a) of this subsection (9) may be deemed~~  
7 ~~"gravely disabled" if there is notice given that the support given by the~~  
8 ~~family member or other individual who has a similar relationship to the~~  
9 ~~person is to be terminated and the individual with a mental illness:~~

10 ~~(I) Is diagnosed by a professional person as suffering from:~~  
11 ~~Schizophrenia; a major affective disorder; a delusional disorder; or~~  
12 ~~another mental disorder with psychotic features; and~~

13 ~~(II) Has been certified, pursuant to this article, for treatment of the~~  
14 ~~disorder or has been admitted as an inpatient to a treatment facility for~~  
15 ~~treatment of the disorder at least twice during the last thirty-six months~~  
16 ~~with a period of at least thirty days between certifications or admissions;~~  
17 ~~and~~

18 ~~(III) Is exhibiting a deteriorating course leading toward danger to~~  
19 ~~self or others or toward the conditions described in paragraph (a) of this~~  
20 ~~subsection (9) with symptoms and behavior that are substantially similar~~  
21 ~~to those that preceded and were associated with his or her hospital~~  
22 ~~admissions or certifications for treatment; and~~

23 ~~(IV) Is not receiving treatment that is essential for his or her~~  
24 ~~health or safety.~~

25 ~~(c) A person of any age may be "gravely disabled", but such term~~  
26 ~~shall not include a person who has a developmental disability by reason~~  
27 ~~of the person's developmental disability alone.~~



1           ~~(d) For purposes of paragraph (b) of this subsection (9), an~~  
2 ~~individual with a relationship to a person that is similar to that of a family~~  
3 ~~member shall not include an employee or agent of a boarding home or~~  
4 ~~treatment facility.~~

5           **SECTION 3. Effective date.** (1) Except as provided in subsection  
6 (2) of this section, this act takes effect upon passage.

7           (2) Section 2 of this act takes effect July 1, 2014.

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