

SENATE COMMITTEE OF REFERENCE AMENDMENT

Committee on Finance.

HB24-1349 be amended as follows:

1 Amend reengrossed bill, page 3, line 9, after "FUNDING" insert "AND  
2 MENTAL HEALTH".

3

4 Page 4, after line 17, insert:

5 "(e) ADDITIONALLY, INDIVIDUALS EXPERIENCING TRAUMA DUE TO  
6 GUN AND OTHER TYPES OF VIOLENCE, INCLUDING MILITARY VETERANS  
7 AND AT-RISK YOUTH, NEED SUPPORT TO ACCESS MENTAL HEALTH  
8 SERVICES IN ORDER TO RECOVER FROM THEIR TRAUMA AND RECLAIM  
9 THEIR HEALTH. CURRENTLY, THERE ARE SIGNIFICANT BARRIERS TO ACCESS  
10 TO MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES IN COLORADO.

11 (f) EVEN BEFORE THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC, COLORADO RANKED  
12 IN THE BOTTOM HALF OF ALL STATES WITH REGARD TO THE PREVALENCE  
13 OF MENTAL ILLNESS IN THE STATE RELATIVE TO ACCESS TO CARE. SINCE  
14 THE PANDEMIC BEGAN, THE COLORADO CRISIS SERVICES HOTLINE HAS  
15 RECEIVED THIRTY PERCENT MORE CALLS AND TEXTS THAN IN PREVIOUS  
16 YEARS, AND THE PSYCHIATRIC EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT AT CHILDREN'S  
17 HOSPITAL IN COLORADO HAS TREATED TEN PERCENT MORE CHILDREN  
18 EXPERIENCING THOUGHTS OF SUICIDE. IN 2021, ONE-THIRD OF COLORADO  
19 YOUTH REPORTED EXPERIENCING FEELINGS OF SADNESS AND  
20 HOPELESSNESS FOR A PERIOD OF AT LEAST TWO WEEKS OR MORE.

21 (g) IN COLORADO, A GUN SUICIDE DEATH OCCURS EVERY THIRTEEN  
22 HOURS. DURING AN AVERAGE YEAR, SIX HUNDRED SEVENTY-SEVEN  
23 PEOPLE DIE BY GUN SUICIDE AND SEVENTY-THREE PERCENT OF ALL GUN  
24 DEATHS IN COLORADO ARE SUICIDES. COLORADO HAS THE TENTH HIGHEST  
25 RATE OF GUN SUICIDE IN THE UNITED STATES. ACCORDING TO THE UNITED  
26 STATES DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS, THE VETERAN SUICIDE RATE  
27 IN COLORADO IS SIGNIFICANTLY HIGHER THAN BOTH THE NATIONAL  
28 AVERAGE AND THE NATIONAL GENERAL POPULATION SUICIDE RATE. THE  
29 COLORADO BOARD OF VETERANS AFFAIRS HAS REPORTED THAT CURRENT  
30 RESOURCES ARE INADEQUATE TO MEET THE NEEDS OF THE NEARLY FOUR  
31 HUNDRED THOUSAND VETERANS IN COLORADO, AND COLORADO IS  
32 EXPECTED TO EXPERIENCE A THIRTY-NINE PERCENT INCREASE IN SERVICE  
33 NEEDS IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

34 (h) IN COLORADO, OVER HALF OF ALL GUN DEATHS AMONG  
35 CHILDREN AND TEENS ARE SUICIDES. ACCORDING TO THE COLORADO  
36 DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT, SUICIDE IS THE  
37 LEADING CAUSE OF DEATH FOR YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULTS, PERSONS  
38 AGED TEN TO TWENTY-FOUR YEARS OLD. BLACK CHILDREN AND BLACK  
39 TEENS ARE FIVE TIMES MORE LIKELY THAN THEIR WHITE PEERS TO DIE BY  
40 GUN."

- 1 Reletter succeeding paragraphs accordingly.
- 2 Page 12, line 15, strike "NINE" and substitute "SIX AND ONE-HALF" and  
3 strike "GROSS" and substitute "NET".
- 4 Page 19, line 1, strike "\$54,000,000" and substitute "\$39,000,000".
- 5 Page 19, line 2, strike "AT-RISK YOUTH" and substitute "MILITARY  
6 VETERANS".
- 7 Page 19, line 3, strike "MILITARY VETERANS" and substitute "AT-RISK  
8 YOUTH".
- 9 Page 19, line 6, strike "9%" and substitute "6.5%".
- 10 Page 20, line 3, strike "THIRTY-FIVE" and substitute "THIRTY".
- 11 Page 20, line 22, strike "SECTION." and substitute "SECTION; AND".
- 12 Page 20, strike lines 23 through 27.
- 13 Page 21, line 1, strike "(III)" and substitute "(II)" and strike "(2)(a)(II)"  
14 and substitute "(2)(a)(I)".
- 15 Page 21, line 2, strike "TEN" and substitute "NINE".
- 16 Page 21, line 4, strike "24-75-230 (2)(a); AND" and substitute "24-75-230  
17 (2)(a).".
- 18 Page 21, strike lines 5 through 10.
- 19 Page 22, line 4, strike "AND (2)(a)(IV)".
- 20 Page 22, line 10, strike "AND (2)(a)(IV)".
- 21 Page 23, strike lines 5 and 6 and substitute:
- 22 **"SECTION 3.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-33.5-1811,  
23 **amend** (2) as follows:".
- 24 Page 23, line 8, strike "(1) The school security disbursement program  
25 cash fund,".

- 1 Page 23, strike lines 9 through 20.
- 2 Page 24, line 4, strike "39-37-301 (2)(a)(III)," and substitute "39-37-301  
3 (2)(a)(II),".
- 4 Page 24, line 20, strike "39-37-301 (2)(a)(III)." and substitute "39-37-301  
5 (2)(a)(II).".
- 6 Page 24, line 21, strike "FIVE" and substitute "SIX".
- 7 Page 24, line 22, strike "39-37-301 (2)(a)(III)" and substitute "39-37-301  
8 (2)(a)(II),".
- 9 Page 24, line 24, strike "FOR THE PURPOSE OF".
- 10 Page 24, strike lines 25 through 27 and substitute "IN COORDINATION  
11 WITH THE DIVISION OF VETERANS AFFAIRS, CREATED IN SECTION 28-5-701  
12 (1), FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONTINUING AND EXPANDING THE VETERANS  
13 MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES PROGRAM IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION  
14 28-5-714.".
- 15 Page 25, line 2, strike "FIVE" and substitute "THREE".
- 16 Page 25, line 3, strike "39-37-301 (2)(a)(III)" and substitute "39-37-301  
17 (2)(a)(II),".
- 18 Page 25, line 4, strike "IN".
- 19 Page 25, strike lines 5 through 8 and substitute "FOR THE PURPOSE OF  
20 CONTINUING AND EXPANDING ACCESS TO BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CRISIS  
21 RESPONSE SYSTEM SERVICES FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH IN ACCORDANCE  
22 WITH ARTICLE 60 OF TITLE 27.".
- 23 Page 25, line 16, strike "39-37-301 (2)(a)(III)," and substitute "39-37-301  
24 (2)(a)(II),".
- 25 Page 25, line 26, strike "39-37-301 (2)(a)(III)" and substitute "39-37-301  
26 (2)(a)(II),".
- 27 Page 26, line 1, strike "24-75-230 (3.7)" and substitute "24-75-230 (3.5)".
- 28 Page 1, line 110, strike "AT-RISK YOUTH" and substitute "MILITARY  
29 VETERANS".

- 1 Page 1, line 111, strike "MILITARY VETERANS," and substitute "AT-RISK
- 2 YOUTH".

\*\* \*\* \*\* \*\* \*\*