



2022 Policy Tracker

HB22-1003:

Concerning Creating A Grant Program to Fund Projects that Reduce Crime Among Youth

House Bill 22-1003 proposes funding projects through grant programs that reduce crime among youth. These programs can support all at-risk youth, including those who identify as LGBTQ+, leading to fewer youth being placed in the justice system. Providing funding for early intervention, support, and resources to youth inside and out of the criminal justice system will lead to less crime, decreased risk of incarceration or recidivism, and better health and wellness outcomes for youth.

Envision:You's Action: Issued a [policy statement](#) in support of HB22-1003

Status of the Bill: Passed, signed by Governor Polis

<http://leg.colorado.gov/bills/hb22-1003>

HB22-1065:

Concerning The Standard For Emergency Mental Health Treatment and Evaluation

House Bill 22-1065 proposes changing the standard for emergency 72-hour mental health commitments for treatment and evaluation for persons with behavioral health disorders in the criminal and juvenile justice systems. Changes include defining imminent and substantial risk, assessing for risk, protocol for getting a person access to emergency 72-hour mental health commitments, how to file an emergency mental health application, and how to document the emergency mental health treatment and evaluation. House bill 22-1065 establishes a definition of substantial risk which is greater than significant risk. Proper treatment and evaluation of mental health challenges, grave disability, substantial risk, and imminent risk of harm is essential to keep people safe during a crisis. House bill 22-1065 also changes the language to include "the person's", striking the use of he, she, his, and hers.

Envision:You's Action: Issued a [policy statement](#) in support of HB22-1065

Status of the Bill: Failed in House Committee of Appropriations

<http://leg.colorado.gov/bills/hb22-1065>



HB22-1157:

Concerning The Utilization of Demographic Health Data By The Department Of Public Health And Environment to Address Health Inequalities

House Bill 22-1157 would require the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment to collect voluntary information from data sources including information concerning race, ethnicity, disability, sexual orientation and gender identity. The department will require the publication of the collected demographic data every two years. For required health equity reports that do not offer information on demographic information, the bill requires state agencies to submit a supplemental report to address the social determinants of health and strategies used to address health disparities in place of the demographic report. It is essential that data is collected to monitor health inequities and that plans are formulated to address existing health inequalities for Colorado's most vulnerable populations.

Envision:You's Action: Issued a [policy statement](#) in support of HB22-1157

Status of the Bill: Passed, signed by Governor Polis

<http://leg.colorado.gov/bills/hb22-1157>

HB22-1234:

Concerning Establishing A Preventing Identity-Based Violence Grant Program

House Bill 22-1234 would establish "the preventing identity-based violence grant program to provide grants for programs that focus on building strong communities and preventing acts of (identity-based) violence". The bill will provide grants for programs that focus on strengthening local collaboration and competencies for prevention, as well as interventions that address identity-based violence. The proposed bill appropriates one million dollars annually to create this grant program and establishes standards for who is eligible and how to apply for the grant. The establishment of this grant program will help to advance peace and wellbeing for Coloradans.

Envision:You's Action: Issued a [policy statement](#) in support of HB22-1234

Status of the Bill: Passed, signed by Governor Polis

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/hb22-1234>



HB22-1256:

Concerning Modifications to Civil Involuntary Commitment Statutes for Persons with Mental Health Disorders

House Bill 22-1256 would modify the procedures for the transportation, screening, detention, and evaluation of a person on a 72-hour mental health hold. Modifications include limiting who can take an individual into custody, requiring screening within 8 hours of arrival, requiring increased documentation, and establishing rights for a person being transported and detained, among others. Overall, the bill makes significant reforms to the 72-hour treatment and evaluation process that adds additional regulations for facilities to protect the rights of individuals who may be at risk of being detained due to a mental health disorder. These regulations improve the standard of care and hold facilities accountable for documenting their decision making process.

Envision:You's Action: Issued a [policy statement](#) in support of HB22-1256

Status of the Bill: Passed, signed by Governor Polis

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/hb22-1256>

HB22-1267:

Concerning Culturally Relevant Training Available to Health-Care Professionals

House Bill 22-1267 would create a \$900,000 grant program to fund the development of culturally relevant and affirming healthcare training programs for healthcare providers. The grant program will be administered by CDPHE's Office of Health Equity, and interested nonprofits may apply for funding to develop these training programs. Training programs will be developed by approved nonprofits and will focus on providing care to priority populations, including but not limited to LGBTQ individuals, racial and ethnic minorities, veterans, and those with complex behavioral health needs. Training programs will be available to all licensed, certified, or registered healthcare professionals. Providers will be notified of available training programs each time they apply for or renew their license in Colorado.

Envision:You's Action: Created the bill in partnership with One Colorado, testified before House and Senate Committee hearings

Status of the Bill: Passed, signed by Governor Polis

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/hb22-1267>



HB22-1268:

Concerning A Reporting of Medicaid Reimbursement Rates Paid To Mental Health Providers

House Bill 22-1268 would require the Department of Health Care Policy and Financing to prepare a report of medicaid reimbursement rates for community mental health, independent mental health and substance use treatment providers. The department must hire an independent auditor to prepare the report and provide recommendations based on the report. Recommendations will be presented to the House of Representatives Public Health, Behavioral Health, and Human Services Committees. The audit conducted must reflect data from the state fiscal year 2020-21 and include recommendations on the adequacy of reimbursement rates paid to medicaid mental health providers. The department must also prepare an annual report and provide an update at the State Measurement for Accountable, Responsive and Transparent (SMART) Government annual hearing through August 1, 2025.

Envision:You's Action: Issued a [policy statement](#) in support of HB22-1268, testified before House and Senate Committee Hearings

Status of the Bill: Passed, signed by Governor Polis

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/hb22-1268>

HB22-1278:

Concerning The Creation Of The Behavioral Health Administration

House Bill 22-1278 would allow for the creation of the Behavioral Health Administration (BHA) in the Department of Human Services. The BHA would be solely responsible for all behavioral health and behavioral health licensure programs within the state of Colorado. By July 1st, 2024 the BHA would be required to create a comprehensive safety net system, a regional care coordination system, and regionally-based health care administrative service organizations. The focus of the care coordination system created by the BHA would be to connect individuals to behavioral health providers throughout the state, eliminating the long wait individuals face when seeking services. The bill would also create an advisory board that would provide feedback to the BHA on all behavioral health systems within the state.

Envision:You's Action: Issued a [policy statement](#) in support of HB22-1278

Status of the Bill: Passed, signed by Governor Polis

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/hb22-1278>



HB22-1281:

Concerning Behavioral Healthcare Continuum Gap Grant Program

House Bill 22-1281 seeks to establish a community grant program through the Behavioral Health Administration (BHA) to support services along the continuum of behavioral health care and children, youth, and family services. The BHA must develop a behavioral health-care services assessment tool that grant applications can use to identify regional gaps in services, and may award grants to community organizations and nonprofit entities. Recipients of the community grant must submit an application, identify a source of contributing funds or non-financial contributions, and file a report on how the grant money will be spent in regards to the behavioral health continuum. The bill seeks out \$90 million from the behavioral health cash fund to fund the grant program.

Envision:You's Action: Issued a [policy statement](#) in support of HB22-1281

Status of the Bill: Passed, signed by Governor Polis

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/hb22-1281>

HB22-1283:

Concerning Enhanced Residential Services For Persons With Behavioral Health Needs

House Bill 22-1283 seeks to create in-home and residential respite care in 10-12 regions of Colorado specifically for children and their families, provide additional support to youth residential psychiatric treatment centers, and provide funds to build and staff a neuro-psych facility with 16 beds for youth at the Colorado mental health institute. Providing funds to enhance residential services for persons with behavioral health needs will help improve health and wellness outcomes for LGBTQ+ youth and positively impact the wellness of all Coloradans experiencing behavioral health challenges.

Envision:You's Action: Issued a [policy statement](#) in support of HB-1283

Status of the Bill: Passed, signed by Governor Polis

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/hb22-1283>



HB22-1356:

Concerning The Creation of The Small Community-Based Nonprofit Infrastructure Grant Program To Provide Assistance To Nonprofit Organizations That Have Been Economically Impacted By the COVID-19 Pandemic

House Bill 22-1356 seeks to create a grant program that provides funds to nonprofit organizations that have been financially impacted by COVID-19. The maximum grant fund is \$100,000 and can be used by nonprofits to build infrastructure and capacity including professional development, data technology, strategic planning, communications, fundraising, and existing program expansion, development, and evaluation. The grant may not be used for “real estate, land acquisition, payment of debt, advocacy, lobbying, organizing, endowments, or reserves.” HB22-1356 responds to the overwhelming effects that COVID-19 has had on small nonprofits as they cope with a higher demand for services in the community. This bill will increase the ability of community-based non-profit organizations to continue providing crucial services that support the health and well-being of LGBTQ+ community members and all Coloradans.

Envision:You’s Action: Issued a [policy statement](#) in support of HB22-1356

Status of the Bill: Passed, signed by Governor Polis

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/hb22-1356>

SB22-021:

Concerning the Treatment of Persons with Behavioral Health Disorders in the Justice System

The Legislative Oversight Committee Concerning the Treatment of Persons with Mental Health Disorders in the Criminal And Juvenile Justice Systems is proposing substantive changes that include broadening the scope of the legislative oversight committee and associated task force from “persons with mental health disorders” to “persons with behavioral health disorders”. The bill also allows the task force to research topics for members of the committee upon request, expanding on issues for the task force to study, and increasing the data on treatment of persons with behavioral health disorders in the justice system. The increased field of study will be used to divert persons with behavioral health disorders to treatment programs and to increase other provider interactions such as housing, school-based interventions, and supportive reentry services. Task force membership is further defined by adjusting members of who can and will be appointed to the task force committee.

Envision:You’s Action: Issued a [policy statement](#) in support of SB22-021

Status of the Bill: Passed, signed by Governor Polis

<http://leg.colorado.gov/bills/sb22-021>



SB22-181:

Concerning the Behavioral Health Administration’s Plan to Address Issues Regarding The Delivery of Behavioral Health-Care Services In This State

Senate Bill 22-181 aims to increase and diversify the behavioral health care provider workforce. This bill would require the Behavioral Health Administration (BHA) to partner with the Department of Higher Education to develop paid job shadowing and internship opportunities, and to develop partnership with learning facilities and training centers. The BHA would be required to work with community college and higher education institutions to create a system to further students within the behavioral health field. The bill would require the BHA to work with the Department of Regulatory Agencies to establish workforce standards that strengthen the behavioral health care provider workforce and increase workforce opportunities for unlicensed behavioral health care providers. The bill also seeks \$20 million to the Colorado Health Services fund to provide student loan repayment for behavioral health providers and addiction counselors.

Envision:You’s Action: Issued a [policy statement](#) in support of SB22-181, testified before Senate Health and Human Services Committee

Status of the Bill: Passed, signed by Governor Polis

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/sb22-181>