

**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. 13-0232.01 Christy Chase x2008

**HOUSE BILL 13-1104**

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**HOUSE SPONSORSHIP**

**Kraft-Tharp,**

**SENATE SPONSORSHIP**

**Newell,**

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**House Committees**  
Health, Insurance & Environment

**Senate Committees**

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**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

101      **CONCERNING THE REGULATION OF MENTAL HEALTH PROFESSIONALS,**  
102            **AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, REPEALING THE**  
103            **REQUIREMENT THAT MENTAL HEALTH PROFESSIONALS PROVIDE**  
104            **REQUIRED DISCLOSURES ORALLY AND MODIFYING THE MENTAL**  
105            **HEALTH PROFESSIONAL PEER HEALTH ASSISTANCE 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/billsummaries>.)*

Current law requires all mental health professionals to disclose

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.*

specified information to clients during the initial client contact both orally and in writing. **Section 1** of the bill eliminates the requirement that mental health professionals disclose the required information orally.

Current law also requires mental health professionals, upon initial application or renewal of a license, certification, or registration, to pay a fee to fund the costs of the mental health professional peer health assistance program, the purpose of which is to provide assistance to a professional needing help in dealing with a physical, emotional, or psychological condition that may impact his or her ability to practice his or her mental health profession. **Section 2** of the bill modifies the program as follows:

- ! Requires the director of the division of professions and occupations (director) to annually review the fee amount and adjust the fee as necessary to reflect program usage, but not to exceed \$25;
- ! Requires a designated provider that is chosen to provide the program to take into consideration, when referring a mental health professional for treatment, the cost of the treatment and whether it poses a financial hardship on the professional, and, if so, requires the designated provider to consider alternative treatment or referral to a treatment program that offers a sliding-scale fee;
- ! Precludes the director from selecting a designated provider until each mental health board has provided input, and further precludes the selection of a designated provider until the boards and director obtain input from mental health professionals; and
- ! Requires a designated provider to notify the applicable board when a mental health professional successfully completes the program, and requires the board to reinstate the professional's license, registration, or certification upon successful completion of 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, 12-43-214, **amend**

3 (1) introductory portion as follows:

4 **12-43-214. Mandatory disclosure of information to clients.**

5 (1) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (4) of this section, every  
6 licensee, registrant, or certificate holder shall provide the following  
7 information ~~verbally and~~ in writing to each client during the initial client

1 contact:

2 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 12-43-227.5, **amend**  
3 (1) (a), (1) (b) introductory portion, (1) (b) (III), (1) (b) (VI), (1) (b) (VII),  
4 (2) (a), and (4); and **add** (1) (b) (VIII) as follows:

5 **12-43-227.5. Mental health professional peer health assistance**  
6 **program - fees - administration - rule.s** (1) (a) On and after July 1,  
7 2012, as a condition of licensure, registration, or certification and renewal  
8 in this state, every person applying for a new license, registration, or  
9 certification or to renew his or her license, registration, or certification  
10 shall pay a fee, for use by the administering entity selected by the director  
11 pursuant to this subsection (1), in an amount not to exceed twenty-five  
12 dollars per application for a new or to renew a license, registration, or  
13 certification. The director ~~may adjust the maximum fee amount on~~  
14 ~~January 1, 2013, and annually thereafter to reflect changes in the United~~  
15 ~~States bureau of statistics consumer price index for the Denver-Boulder~~  
16 ~~consolidated metropolitan statistical area for all urban consumers or~~  
17 ~~goods, or its successor index~~ SHALL ANNUALLY REVIEW THE FEE AND  
18 PROGRAM USAGE LEVEL AND ADJUST THE FEE AMOUNT BASED ON  
19 PROGRAM USAGE, BUT THE DIRECTOR SHALL NOT ADJUST THE FEE TO AN  
20 AMOUNT IN EXCESS OF TWENTY-FIVE DOLLARS. The DIVISION SHALL  
21 FORWARD THE fee ~~shall be forwarded~~ to the chosen administering entity  
22 for use in supporting designated providers selected to provide assistance  
23 to licensees, registrants, or certificate holders needing help in dealing  
24 with physical, emotional, or psychological conditions that may be  
25 detrimental to their ability to practice their mental health profession.

26 (b) The director, in consultation with the boards BEFORE MAKING  
27 A SELECTION, shall select one or more ~~peer health assistance programs as~~

1 designated providers TO PROVIDE THE PEER HEALTH ASSISTANCE  
2 PROGRAM. For purposes of selecting designated providers, the director  
3 shall use a competitive bidding process that encourages participation from  
4 interested vendors. To be eligible for designation, a peer health assistance  
5 program must:

6 (III) Evaluate the extent of physical, emotional, or psychological  
7 conditions and refer the mental health professional for appropriate  
8 treatment, TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION THE COST OF THE TREATMENT,  
9 WHETHER THE COST IS PROHIBITIVE FOR OR WILL POSE AN UNDUE  
10 FINANCIAL HARDSHIP ON THE MENTAL HEALTH PROFESSIONAL, AND, IF SO,  
11 REFERRING THE MENTAL HEALTH PROFESSIONAL TO ALTERNATIVE  
12 TREATMENT OR TO A PROVIDER OR TREATMENT PROGRAM THAT OFFERS  
13 DISCOUNTED FEES BASED ON ABILITY TO PAY;

14 (VI) Agree to receive referrals from the board; ~~and~~

15 (VII) Agree to make its services available to all licensed,  
16 registered, or certified mental health professionals; AND

17 (VIII) NOTIFY THE APPROPRIATE BOARD WHEN A MENTAL HEALTH  
18 PROFESSIONAL HAS SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED THE PEER HEALTH  
19 ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.

20 (2) (a) Any mental health professional who is referred by the  
21 applicable board to a peer health assistance program shall enter into a  
22 stipulation with the board pursuant to section 12-43-223 (6) before  
23 participating in the program. The agreement must contain specific  
24 requirements and goals to be met by the participant, including the  
25 conditions under which the program will be successfully completed or  
26 terminated, and a provision that a failure to comply with the requirements  
27 and goals ~~are~~ IS to be promptly reported to the board and that such failure

1 will result in disciplinary action by the board. UPON NOTICE FROM THE  
2 PEER HEALTH ASSISTANCE PROGRAM THAT A MENTAL HEALTH  
3 PROFESSIONAL HAS SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED THE PROGRAM, THE BOARD  
4 THAT REGULATES THE PROFESSIONAL SHALL REINSTATE THE  
5 PROFESSIONAL'S LICENSE, REGISTRATION, OR CERTIFICATION.

6 (4) The boards may promulgate rules necessary to implement this  
7 section. The boards and the director shall seek and obtain input from  
8 representatives of ASSOCIATIONS REPRESENTING each type of mental  
9 health professional regulated under this article in the development of the  
10 peer health assistance program and related rules AND SHALL NOT SELECT  
11 A DESIGNATED PROVIDER UNTIL THAT INPUT IS OBTAINED.

12 **SECTION 3.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **repeal** 12-43-411 (4),  
13 12-43-506 (4), 12-43-605 (4), and 12-43-805 (4).

14 **SECTION 4.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 13-90-107, **amend**  
15 (1) (g) as follows:

16 **13-90-107. Who may not testify without consent.** (1) (g) A  
17 licensed psychologist, professional counselor, marriage and family  
18 therapist, social worker, or addiction counselor, a registered  
19 psychotherapist, ~~or~~ a certified addiction counselor, A PSYCHOLOGIST  
20 CANDIDATE REGISTERED PURSUANT TO SECTION 12-43-304 (7), C.R.S., A  
21 MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPIST CANDIDATE REGISTERED PURSUANT TO  
22 SECTION 12-43-504 (5), C.R.S., A LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR  
23 CANDIDATE REGISTERED PURSUANT TO SECTION 12-43-603 (5), C.R.S., OR  
24 A PERSON DESCRIBED IN SECTION 12-43-215, C.R.S., shall not be  
25 examined without the consent of the licensee's, certificate holder's, ~~or~~  
26 registrant's, CANDIDATE'S, OR PERSON'S client as to any communication  
27 made by the client to the licensee, certificate holder, ~~or~~ registrant,

1 CANDIDATE, OR PERSON or the licensee's, certificate holder's, or  
2 registrant's, CANDIDATE'S, OR PERSON'S advice given in the course of  
3 professional employment; nor shall any secretary, stenographer, or clerk  
4 employed by a licensed psychologist, professional counselor, marriage  
5 and family therapist, social worker, or addiction counselor, a registered  
6 psychotherapist, or a certified addiction counselor, A PSYCHOLOGIST  
7 CANDIDATE REGISTERED PURSUANT TO SECTION 12-43-304 (7), C.R.S., A  
8 MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPIST CANDIDATE REGISTERED PURSUANT TO  
9 SECTION 12-43-504 (5), C.R.S., A LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR  
10 CANDIDATE REGISTERED PURSUANT TO SECTION 12-43-603 (5), C.R.S., OR  
11 A PERSON DESCRIBED IN SECTION 12-43-215, C.R.S., be examined without  
12 the consent of the employer of the secretary, stenographer, or clerk  
13 concerning any fact, the knowledge of which the employee has acquired  
14 in such capacity; nor shall any person who has participated in any  
15 psychotherapy, conducted under the supervision of a person authorized  
16 by law to conduct such therapy, including group therapy sessions, be  
17 examined concerning any knowledge gained during the course of such  
18 therapy without the consent of the person to whom the testimony sought  
19 relates.

20 **SECTION 5.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 19-1-307, **amend** (2)  
21 (e.5) (I) (M) and (2) (e.5) (I) (N); and **add** (2) (e.5) (I) (O) as follows:

22 **19-1-307. Dependency and neglect records and information -**  
23 **access - fee - rules - records and reports fund - misuse of information**  
24 **- penalty. (2) Records and reports - access to certain persons -**  
25 **agencies.** Except as otherwise provided in section 19-1-303, only the  
26 following persons or agencies shall be given access to child abuse or  
27 neglect records and reports:

1 (e.5) (I) A mandatory reporter specified in this subparagraph (I)  
2 who is and continues to be officially and professionally involved in the  
3 ongoing care of the child who was the subject of the report, but only with  
4 regard to information that the mandatory reporter has a need to know in  
5 order to fulfill his or her professional and official role in maintaining the  
6 child's safety. A county department shall request written affirmation from  
7 a mandatory reporter stating that the reporter continues to be officially  
8 and professionally involved in the ongoing care of the child who was the  
9 subject of the report and describing the nature of the involvement, unless  
10 the county department has actual knowledge that the mandatory reporter  
11 continues to be officially and professionally involved in the ongoing care  
12 of the child who was the subject of the report. This subparagraph (I)  
13 applies to:

14 (M) Clergy members, as defined in section 19-3-304 (2) (aa) (III);  
15 and

16 (N) Educators providing services through a federal special  
17 supplemental nutrition program for women, infants, and children, as  
18 provided for in 42 U.S.C. sec. 1786; AND

19 (O) A PERSON WHO IS REGISTERED AS A PSYCHOLOGIST CANDIDATE  
20 PURSUANT TO SECTION 12-43-304 (7), C.R.S., MARRIAGE AND FAMILY  
21 THERAPIST CANDIDATE PURSUANT TO SECTION 12-43-504 (5), C.R.S., OR  
22 LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR CANDIDATE PURSUANT TO SECTION  
23 12-43-603 (5), C.R.S., OR WHO IS DESCRIBED IN SECTION 12-43-215,  
24 C.R.S.

25 **SECTION 6.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 19-3-304, **add** (2) (ii)  
26 as follows:

27 **19-3-304. Persons required to report child abuse or neglect.**

1 (2) Persons required to report such abuse or neglect or circumstances or  
2 conditions include any:

3 (ii) PERSON WHO IS REGISTERED AS A PSYCHOLOGIST CANDIDATE  
4 PURSUANT TO SECTION 12-43-304 (7), C.R.S., MARRIAGE AND FAMILY  
5 THERAPIST CANDIDATE PURSUANT TO SECTION 12-43-504 (5), C.R.S., OR  
6 LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR CANDIDATE PURSUANT TO SECTION  
7 12-43-603 (5), C.R.S., OR WHO IS DESCRIBED IN SECTION 12-43-215,  
8 C.R.S.

9 **SECTION 7.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 30-10-606, **amend**  
10 (6) (a) (II) as follows:

11 **30-10-606. Coroner - inquiry - grounds - postmortem - jury -**  
12 **certificate of death.** (6) (a) Notwithstanding sections 12-43-218 and  
13 13-90-107 (1) (d) or (1) (g), C.R.S., the coroner holding an inquest or  
14 investigation pursuant to this section has the authority to request and  
15 receive a copy of:

16 (II) Any information, record, or report related to treatment,  
17 consultation, counseling, or therapy services from any licensed  
18 psychologist, professional counselor, marriage and family therapist, social  
19 worker, or addiction counselor, certified addiction counselor, ~~or~~  
20 registered psychotherapist, PSYCHOLOGIST CANDIDATE REGISTERED  
21 PURSUANT TO SECTION 12-43-304 (7), C.R.S., MARRIAGE AND FAMILY  
22 THERAPIST CANDIDATE REGISTERED PURSUANT TO SECTION 12-43-504 (5),  
23 C.R.S., LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR CANDIDATE REGISTERED  
24 PURSUANT TO SECTION 12-43-603 (5), C.R.S., OR PERSON DESCRIBED IN  
25 SECTION 12-43-215, C.R.S., if the report, record, or information is  
26 relevant to the inquest or investigation.

27 **SECTION 8. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act

1 takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the  
2 ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly (August  
3 7, 2013, if adjournment sine die is on May 8, 2013); except that, if a  
4 referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V of the  
5 state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this act  
6 within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take effect  
7 unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in  
8 November 2014 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the  
9 official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.