

**Second Regular Session
Seventieth General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO**

BILL C

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LLS NO. 16-0344.01 Julie Pelegrin x2700

HOUSE BILL

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Pettersen, Singer

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Merrifield,

House Committees

Senate Committees

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 **CONCERNING A TASK FORCE TO ADDRESS THE CHILD CARE NEEDS OF**
102 **LOW-INCOME PARENTS OF YOUNG CHILDREN AS THE PARENTS**
103 **SEEK TO ADVANCE THEIR EDUCATION.**

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>.)

Early Childhood and School Readiness Legislative Commission. The bill creates a task force to address the child care needs of low-income parents of young children as the parents seek to advance

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.*

their education. The task force consists of the leaders, or their designees, of the departments of labor and employment, higher education, education, and human services; parents and representatives of organizations, appointed by the governor; and employees of county departments of human services or social services, selected by the executive director of the department of human services. The task force must identify and reduce, if possible, barriers to obtaining child care from the range of available federal, state, and private child care sources, determine whether the parents' child care needs can be met through existing sources, review and streamline the processes for providing child care for parents while they obtain education or training, communicate the availability of child care from public and private sources to parents who are seeking education or training, and recommend legislative changes, if necessary. By March 1, 2017, the task force must submit a report of its activities to the general assembly, and before July 1, 2017, the task force must submit the report to the early childhood and school readiness legislative commission. The task force is repealed, effective July 1, 2017.

1 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 24-46.3-106 as
3 follows:

4 **24-46.3-106. Low-income parents of young children seeking**
5 **education - child care needs - task force created - report - repeal.**

6 (1) THERE IS HEREBY CREATED A TASK FORCE TO DEVELOP STRATEGIES
7 AND PROCEDURES FOR STATE AND LOCAL AGENCIES AND INSTITUTIONS OF
8 HIGHER EDUCATION TO USE IN COORDINATING EFFORTS, AND TO IDENTIFY
9 RESOURCES, TO ADDRESS THE CHILD CARE NEEDS OF LOW-INCOME
10 PARENTS OF YOUNG CHILDREN AS THE PARENTS SEEK TO ADVANCE THEIR
11 EDUCATION. THE TASK FORCE CONSISTS OF THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS:

12 (a) THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, OR HIS OR HER DESIGNEE, OF THE
13 DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT, THE DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER
14 EDUCATION, AND THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES;

15 (b) THE COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION OR HIS OR HER DESIGNEE;
16 AND

1 (c) THE FOLLOWING PERSONS APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR:

2 (I) UP TO SEVEN, BUT NO FEWER THAN FIVE, PARENTS WHO HAVE
3 SOUGHT OR COMPLETED EDUCATION AND TRAINING WHILE PARENTING
4 YOUNG CHILDREN;

5 (II) TWO PERSONS WHO REPRESENT ORGANIZATIONS THAT SERVE
6 PARENTS OF YOUNG CHILDREN IN THE AREAS OF EMPLOYMENT AND
7 TRAINING;

8 (III) TWO PERSONS WHO ARE LICENSED CHILD CARE PROVIDERS;

9 (IV) TWO PERSONS WHO ARE DIRECTORS OF WORKFORCE
10 DEVELOPMENT PROVIDERS AS DESCRIBED IN SECTION 22-10-103 (11) (c),
11 C.R.S.; AND

12 (d) TWO PERSONS SELECTED BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE
13 DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES WHO ARE EMPLOYED BY COUNTY
14 DEPARTMENTS OF HUMAN SERVICES OR SOCIAL SERVICES AND WORK IN
15 CHILD CARE ISSUES.

16 (2) (a) THE GOVERNOR SHALL APPOINT, AND THE EXECUTIVE
17 DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES SHALL SELECT, THE
18 MEMBERS OF THE TASK FORCE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AFTER THE EFFECTIVE
19 DATE OF THIS SECTION. IN APPOINTING MEMBERS, THE GOVERNOR, TO THE
20 EXTENT PRACTICABLE, SHALL ENSURE THAT THE APPOINTED TASK FORCE
21 MEMBERSHIP REFLECTS THE ETHNIC, RACIAL, AND GENDER DIVERSITY
22 WITHIN THE STATE AND INCLUDES PERSONS FROM AREAS AROUND THE
23 STATE.

24 (b) THE TASK FORCE SHALL HOLD ITS FIRST MEETING NO LATER
25 THAN SEPTEMBER 1, 2016, AT THE CALL OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF
26 THE DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION, OR A DESIGNEE. AT THE FIRST
27 MEETING, THE MEMBERS OF THE TASK FORCE SHALL SELECT MEMBERS TO

1 SERVE AS CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR. THE TASK FORCE SHALL MEET AS OFTEN
2 AS NECESSARY AT THE CALL OF THE CHAIR TO FULFILL ITS DUTIES.

3 (c) THE MEMBERS OF THE TASK FORCE SERVE WITHOUT PER DIEM
4 AND WITHOUT REIMBURSEMENT FOR COSTS. THE PARTICIPATING
5 DEPARTMENTS SHALL PROVIDE STAFF, AS NECESSARY, TO ASSIST THE TASK
6 FORCE IN FULFILLING ITS DUTIES.

7 (3) THE TASK FORCE SHALL ACCOMPLISH THE FOLLOWING DUTIES,
8 TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE FULL RANGE OF PUBLIC AND PRIVATE CHILD
9 CARE RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO LOW-INCOME PARENTS OF YOUNG
10 CHILDREN:

11 (a) IDENTIFY AND TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE REDUCE BARRIERS
12 THAT PREVENT LOW-INCOME PARENTS OF YOUNG CHILDREN FROM
13 SECURING THE NECESSARY CHILD CARE SERVICES TO ENABLE THEM TO
14 OBTAIN EDUCATION OR TRAINING;

15 (b) DETERMINE WHETHER THE CHILD CARE NEEDS OF LOW-INCOME
16 PARENTS WHO ARE SEEKING EDUCATION AND TRAINING ARE ADEQUATELY
17 MET THROUGH THE COMBINATION OF EXISTING STATE, FEDERAL, AND
18 CAMPUS-BASED CHILD CARE PROGRAMS AND FUNDING SOURCES AND
19 STUDENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE;

20 (c) REVIEW, COORDINATE, AND STREAMLINE THE ADMINISTRATIVE
21 PROCESSES FOR PROVIDING CHILD CARE TO LOW-INCOME PARENTS OF
22 YOUNG CHILDREN AS THE PARENTS SEEK TO ADVANCE THEIR EDUCATION;

23 (d) CREATE A PLAN FOR COMMUNICATING TO LOW-INCOME
24 PARENTS OF YOUNG CHILDREN THE AVAILABILITY OF AND PROCESSES FOR
25 OBTAINING CHILD CARE SERVICES WHILE THE PARENTS ARE SEEKING
26 ADDITIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING;

27 (e) DEVELOP RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ANY LEGISLATION THAT

1 MAY BE NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT THE REQUIREMENTS SPECIFIED IN
2 PARAGRAPHS (a) TO (d) OF THIS SUBSECTION (3).

3 (4) ON OR BEFORE MARCH 1, 2017, THE TASK FORCE SHALL
4 SUBMIT TO THE PUBLIC HEALTH CARE AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE
5 OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND THE HEALTH AND HUMAN
6 SERVICES COMMITTEE OF THE SENATE, OR ANY SUCCESSOR COMMITTEES,
7 A REPORT DESCRIBING THE RESULTS OF THE TASK FORCE'S WORK IN
8 IMPLEMENTING SUBSECTION (3) OF THIS SECTION, INCLUDING LEGISLATIVE
9 RECOMMENDATIONS, IF ANY. BEFORE JULY 1, 2017, THE TASK FORCE
10 SHALL ALSO SUBMIT THE REPORT TO THE EARLY CHILDHOOD AND SCHOOL
11 READINESS LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION CREATED IN SECTION 26-6.5-203,
12 C.R.S.

13 (5) THIS SECTION IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2017.

14 **SECTION 2. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds,
15 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate
16 preservation of the public peace, health, and safety.