

First Regular Session
Seventieth General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO

PREAMENDED

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

LLS NO. 15-0960.01 Kristen Forrestal x4217

HOUSE BILL 15-1336

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Lee and Fields,

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Crowder,

House Committees
Business Affairs and Labor
Appropriations

Senate Committees

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 **CONCERNING THE "COLORADO VETERANS' SERVICE TO CAREER**
102 **PILOT PROGRAM", AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, CREATING**
103 **A GRANT PROGRAM THROUGH THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND**
104 **EMPLOYMENT TO AID WORK FORCE CENTERS IN SUPPORTING**
105 **VETERANS AND THEIR SPOUSES SEEKING NEW EMPLOYMENT AND**
106 **CAREERS.**

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 allows work force centers selected by the department of

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.

labor and employment (department) to participate in a grant program to develop and expand programs to provide work force development-related services specifically tailored for veterans and their spouses. The work force centers that apply to the grant program established by the department must submit an application that describes the current services provided, states how the grant money would allow for the expansion of services, and describes the businesses or other organizations that the work force centers will partner with to provide services.

The work force centers selected by the department shall report on the program to the director of the department who shall relay the information to the state, veterans, and military affairs committees of the senate and the house of representatives.

The bill appropriates \$500,000 from the general fund to the department for the grant program.

The program is subject to a future repeal, effective January 1, 2018.

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

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** article 14.3 to
3 title 8 as follows:

4 **ARTICLE 14.3**

5 **Colorado Veterans' Service to Career Pilot Program**

6 **8-14.3-101. Short title.** THIS ARTICLE SHALL BE KNOWN AND MAY
7 BE CITED AS THE "COLORADO VETERANS' SERVICE TO CAREER PILOT
8 PROGRAM".

9 **8-14.3-102. Definitions.** AS USED IN THIS ARTICLE, UNLESS THE
10 CONTEXT OTHERWISE REQUIRES:

11 (1) "DEPARTMENT" MEANS THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND
12 EMPLOYMENT.

13 (2) "DIRECTOR" MEANS THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE
14 DEPARTMENT.

15 (3) "PROGRAM" MEANS THE COLORADO VETERANS' SERVICE TO
16 CAREER PILOT PROGRAM.

1 (4) "SPOUSE" MEANS THE CURRENT SPOUSE OF A VETERAN OR THE
2 FORMER SPOUSE OF A VETERAN WHO IS CURRENTLY ELIGIBLE FOR
3 VETERANS BENEFITS.

4 (5) "VETERAN" MEANS A VETERAN WHO HAS NOT BEEN
5 DISHONORABLY DISCHARGED.

6 (6) "WORK FORCE CENTER" MEANS A WORK FORCE CENTER
7 CREATED BY A WORK FORCE INVESTMENT BOARD PURSUANT TO THE
8 "COLORADO WORK FORCE INVESTMENT ACT", PART 2 OF ARTICLE 83 OF
9 THIS TITLE.

10 **8-14.3-103. Colorado veterans' service to career pilot**

11 **program.** (1) ONE OR MORE WORK FORCE CENTERS SELECTED BY THE
12 DEPARTMENT PURSUANT TO THE GRANT PROGRAM DEVELOPED BY THE
13 DEPARTMENT IN SUBSECTION (4) OF THIS SECTION SHALL ADMINISTER THE
14 PROGRAM. WORK FORCE CENTERS SELECTED BY THE DEPARTMENT SHALL
15 DEVELOP AND EXPAND PROGRAMS TO PROVIDE WORK FORCE
16 DEVELOPMENT-RELATED SERVICES SPECIFICALLY TAILORED TO THE
17 UNIQUE NEEDS AND TALENTS OF VETERANS AND THEIR SPOUSES. THE
18 SERVICES MUST INCLUDE:

19 (a) SKILLS TRAINING;

20 (b) OPPORTUNITIES FOR APPRENTICESHIP OR INTERNSHIP
21 PLACEMENTS FOR A SPECIFIED AND LIMITED TIME PERIOD; AND

22 (c) OPPORTUNITIES FOR WORK PLACEMENTS WITH BUSINESSES OR
23 OTHER ORGANIZATIONS.

24 (2) IF AN INTERNSHIP OR APPRENTICESHIP IS NOT FULLY FUNDED BY
25 THE EMPLOYER, THE EMPLOYER AND THE WORK FORCE CENTER SHALL
26 SHARE THE COST OF THE HOURLY WAGE OR STIPEND FOR THE VETERAN OR
27 SPOUSE, AS DETERMINED BY THE WORK FORCE CENTER.

1 (3) THE WORK FORCE CENTERS SELECTED BY THE DEPARTMENT
2 ARE ENCOURAGED TO ADDITIONALLY PROVIDE SERVICES THAT INCLUDE:

- 3 (a) JOB FAIRS;
- 4 (b) MENTORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES WITH PROFESSIONALS;
- 5 (c) PROFESSIONAL AND INDUSTRY-SPECIFIC SEMINARS;
- 6 (d) CAREER AND PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING; AND
- 7 (e) COUNSELING ON EDUCATIONAL AND SKILLS TRAINING
8 OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE TO VETERANS AND THEIR SPOUSES.

9 (4) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL DEVELOP A GRANT PROGRAM SO THAT
10 WORK FORCE CENTERS MAY APPLY FOR MONEYS TO ADMINISTER THE
11 PROGRAM. EACH WORK FORCE CENTER THAT WISHES TO ADMINISTER THE
12 GRANT PROGRAM MUST SUBMIT A GRANT APPLICATION THAT:

- 13 (a) DESCRIBES THE CURRENT SERVICES THAT THE WORK FORCE
14 CENTER OFFERS;
- 15 (b) STATES HOW THE GRANT MONEY WOULD ENABLE THE WORK
16 FORCE CENTER TO EXPAND ITS SERVICES FOR THE PURPOSES OF THE
17 PROGRAM; AND
- 18 (c) DESCRIBES BUSINESSES OR OTHER ORGANIZATIONS IT IS
19 PARTNERING WITH TO PROVIDE THE NECESSARY SERVICES.

20 (5) IN SELECTING WORK FORCE CENTERS TO ADMINISTER THE
21 PROGRAM, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL GIVE PREFERENCE TO EACH WORK
22 FORCE CENTER THAT:

- 23 (a) IS LOCATED IN A COMMUNITY WITH A LARGE MILITARY OR
24 VETERAN POPULATION, SO THAT A LARGE NUMBER OF VETERANS AND
25 THEIR SPOUSES MAY BE SERVED EFFICIENTLY;
- 26 (b) HAS EXISTING PROGRAMS OR PARTNERSHIPS WITH BUSINESSES
27 OR ORGANIZATIONS IN THE COMMUNITY TO PROVIDE SERVICES

1 APPROPRIATE TO THE PROGRAM; AND

2 (c) HAS THE CAPACITY TO PROVIDE A WIDE RANGE OF WORK FORCE
3 DEVELOPMENT-RELATED SERVICES TAILORED TO THE UNIQUE NEEDS OF
4 VETERANS AND THEIR SPOUSES.

5 (6) EACH WORK FORCE CENTER CHOSEN TO RECEIVE A GRANT
6 SHALL USE THE MONEY FOR DIRECT SERVICES TO VETERANS AND SPOUSES.
7 THE GRANT MONEY SHALL NOT BE USED FOR PROGRAM STAFF OR
8 OPERATING COSTS. EACH WORK FORCE CENTER CHOSEN TO RECEIVE A
9 GRANT SHALL REPORT ON THE SERVICES OFFERED, VETERAN AND SPOUSE
10 PARTICIPATION, AND THE PROGRAM'S SUCCESS MEASURED THROUGH
11 GAINFUL EMPLOYMENT AND PARTICIPATION IN SKILLS TRAINING OR
12 EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS OF VETERANS AND THEIR SPOUSES. THE
13 REPORTS SHALL BE MADE TO THE DIRECTOR, WHO SHALL RELAY ALL
14 INFORMATION FROM THE REPORTS ANNUALLY TO THE STATE, VETERANS,
15 AND MILITARY AFFAIRS COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
16 AND THE SENATE OR TO THEIR SUCCESSOR COMMITTEES.

17 **8-14.3-104. Appropriation.** FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING ON
18 JULY 1, 2015, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SHALL MAKE A ONE-TIME
19 APPROPRIATION OF FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS FROM THE
20 GENERAL FUND TO THE DEPARTMENT TO BE USED FOR THE GRANT
21 PROGRAM DEVELOPED BY THE DEPARTMENT PURSUANT TO SECTION
22 8-14.3-103. THE DEPARTMENT MAY ALSO USE ANY MONEYS
23 APPROPRIATED PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION FOR ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS
24 INCURRED BY THE DEPARTMENT PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION. ANY
25 UNEXPENDED AND UNENCUMBERED MONEYS FROM AN APPROPRIATION
26 MADE PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION REMAIN AVAILABLE FOR EXPENDITURE
27 BY THE DEPARTMENT FOR THE GRANT PROGRAM UNTIL DECEMBER 31,

1 2017, WITHOUT FURTHER APPROPRIATION.

2 **8-14.3-105. Repeal of article.** THIS ARTICLE IS REPEALED,
3 EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2018.

4 **SECTION 2. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act
5 takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the
6 ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly (August
7 5, 2015, if adjournment sine die is on May 6, 2015); except that, if a
8 referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V of the
9 state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this act
10 within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take effect
11 unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in
12 November 2016 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the
13 official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.