

First Regular Session  
Seventieth General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 15-0960.01 Kristen Forrestal x4217

HOUSE BILL 15-1336

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HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Lee and Fields,

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Crowder,

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House Committees  
Business Affairs and Labor

Senate Committees

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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.

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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/bills summaries>.)*

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.

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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.

2 (5) "VETERAN" MEANS AN HONORABLY DISCHARGED VETERAN.

3 (6) "WORK FORCE CENTER" MEANS A COUNTY WORK FORCE  
4 CENTER CREATED BY A WORK FORCE INVESTMENT BOARD PURSUANT TO  
5 THE "COLORADO WORK FORCE INVESTMENT ACT", PART 2 OF ARTICLE 83  
6 OF THIS TITLE.

7 **8-14.3-103. Colorado veterans' service to career pilot**  
8 **program.** (1) ONE OR MORE WORK FORCE CENTERS SELECTED BY THE  
9 DEPARTMENT PURSUANT TO THE GRANT PROGRAM DEVELOPED BY THE  
10 DEPARTMENT IN SUBSECTION (3) OF THIS SECTION SHALL ADMINISTER THE  
11 PROGRAM. WORK FORCE CENTERS SELECTED BY THE DEPARTMENT SHALL  
12 DEVELOP AND EXPAND PROGRAMS TO PROVIDE WORK FORCE  
13 DEVELOPMENT-RELATED SERVICES SPECIFICALLY TAILORED TO THE  
14 UNIQUE NEEDS AND TALENTS OF VETERANS AND THEIR SPOUSES. THE  
15 SERVICES MUST INCLUDE:

16 (a) SKILLS TRAINING;

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

19 (c) OPPORTUNITIES FOR WORK PLACEMENTS WITH BUSINESSES OR  
20 OTHER ORGANIZATIONS.

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

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

27 (a) JOB FAIRS;

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

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

10 (a) DESCRIBES THE CURRENT SERVICES THAT THE WORK FORCE  
11 CENTER OFFERS;

12 (b) STATES HOW THE GRANT MONEY WOULD ENABLE THE WORK  
13 FORCE CENTER TO EXPAND ITS SERVICES FOR THE PURPOSES OF THE  
14 PROGRAM; AND

15 (c) DESCRIBES BUSINESSES OR OTHER ORGANIZATIONS IT IS  
16 PARTNERING WITH TO PROVIDE THE NECESSARY SERVICES.

17 (5) IN SELECTING WORK FORCE CENTERS TO ADMINISTER THE  
18 PROGRAM, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL GIVE PREFERENCE TO EACH WORK  
19 FORCE CENTER THAT:

20 (a) IS LOCATED IN A COMMUNITY WITH A LARGE MILITARY OR  
21 VETERAN POPULATION, SO THAT A LARGE NUMBER OF VETERANS AND  
22 THEIR SPOUSES MAY BE SERVED EFFICIENTLY;

23 (b) HAS EXISTING PROGRAMS OR PARTNERSHIPS WITH BUSINESSES  
24 OR ORGANIZATIONS IN THE COMMUNITY TO PROVIDE SERVICES  
25 APPROPRIATE TO THE PROGRAM; AND

26 (c) HAS THE CAPACITY TO PROVIDE A WIDE RANGE OF WORK FORCE  
27 DEVELOPMENT-RELATED SERVICES TAILORED TO THE UNIQUE NEEDS OF

1 VETERANS AND THEIR SPOUSES.

2 (6) EACH WORK FORCE CENTER CHOSEN TO RECEIVE A GRANT  
3 SHALL REPORT ON THE SERVICES OFFERED, VETERAN AND SPOUSE  
4 PARTICIPATION, AND THE PROGRAM'S SUCCESS MEASURED THROUGH  
5 GAINFUL EMPLOYMENT AND PARTICIPATION IN SKILLS TRAINING OR  
6 EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS OF VETERANS AND THEIR SPOUSES. THE  
7 REPORTS SHALL BE MADE TO THE DIRECTOR, WHO SHALL RELAY ALL  
8 INFORMATION FROM THE REPORTS ANNUALLY TO THE STATE, VETERANS,  
9 AND MILITARY AFFAIRS COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
10 AND THE SENATE OR TO THEIR SUCCESSOR COMMITTEES.

11 **8-14.3-104. Appropriation.** FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING ON  
12 JULY 1, 2015, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SHALL MAKE A ONE-TIME  
13 APPROPRIATION OF FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS FROM THE  
14 GENERAL FUND TO THE DEPARTMENT TO BE USED FOR THE GRANT  
15 PROGRAM DEVELOPED BY THE DEPARTMENT PURSUANT TO SECTION  
16 8-14.3-103. THE DEPARTMENT MAY ALSO USE ANY MONEYS  
17 APPROPRIATED PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION FOR ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS  
18 INCURRED BY THE DEPARTMENT PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION. ANY  
19 UNEXPENDED AND UNENCUMBERED MONEYS FROM AN APPROPRIATION  
20 MADE PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION REMAIN AVAILABLE FOR EXPENDITURE  
21 BY THE DEPARTMENT FOR THE GRANT PROGRAM IN THE NEXT FISCAL YEAR  
22 WITHOUT FURTHER APPROPRIATION.

23 **8-14.3-105. Repeal of article.** THIS ARTICLE IS REPEALED,  
24 EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2018.

25 **SECTION 2. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act  
26 takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the  
27 ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly (August

1 5, 2015, if adjournment sine die is on May 6, 2015); except that, if a  
2 referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V of the  
3 state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this act  
4 within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take effect  
5 unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in  
6 November 2016 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the  
7 official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.