

**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**

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**HOUSE SPONSORSHIP**

**Lee and Fields,**

**SENATE SPONSORSHIP**

**Crowder,**

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**House Committees**  
Business Affairs and Labor  
Appropriations

**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, AND MAKING AN APPROPRIATION.**

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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 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. Appropriation.** For the 2015-16 state fiscal year,  
5 \$500,000 is appropriated to the department of labor and employment for  
6 use by the division of employment and training. This appropriation is  
7 from the general fund and is based on an assumption that the division will  
8 require an additional 0.5 FTE. To implement this act, the division may  
9 use this appropriation for the employment services for veterans and  
10 spouses grant program. Any moneys appropriated in this section not  
11 expended prior to July 1, 2016, remain available through December 31,  
12 2017.

13 **SECTION 3. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act  
14 takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the  
15 ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly (August  
16 5, 2015, if adjournment sine die is on May 6, 2015); except that, if a  
17 referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V of the  
18 state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this act  
19 within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take effect  
20 unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in  
21 November 2016 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the  
22 official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.