



2022-2023 Colorado Legislative Summary

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NOVEMBER 30, 2022



At the Capitol

- Second Regular Session of the 73rd General Assembly convened on January 12, 2022 and adjourned at midnight on May 11th, 2022.
- 657 Total Bills
- 513 Passed (78%)
- \$35B State Budget
- \$2B Federal Pandemic Relief
- \$1B State Revenue Spent on Short Term Priorities
- \$2B (15%) State Revenue Reserve
- The 2023 Session will begin January 9th



Health Care Costs, Access and Workforce

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Costs and Access

- ▶ **HB 1284:** Colorado alignment with federal "No Surprises Act" regarding surprise billing
- ▶ **HB 1285:** Prohibits hospitals from debt collection if hospital is not in compliance with federal hospital price transparency rules
- ▶ **SB 053:** Requires health care facilities allow one visitor per patient and prohibits no visitation policies if the only reason is to reduce the risk of transmission of a pandemic disease
- ▶ **SB 200:** Rural Provider Access and Affordability Stimulus Grant Program to expand access through IT
- ▶ **HB 1403:** Extends the deadline by 3 months for health facilities to implement HB 1198 (screening pt's for health coverage and provide services before sending pt's to collections)

HB21-1232: The Public Option Implemented

- ▶ Standardized plan with targeted premium reductions
- ▶ Target reductions of 15% over 3 years, adjusted for medical inflation
- ▶ A standardized plan was designed including bronze, silver and gold coverage levels
- ▶ Insurers that offer individual and small group health coverage in CO are required to offer this standardized plan as of 2023
- ▶ 63 of 64 counties have at least two participating insurers as of 2022
- ▶ 1332 Federal waiver was approved June 2022, allowing the state to receive the savings generated from the Colorado Option and put it towards making the program work and funding the Health Insurance Affordability Enterprise

HB22-1289: Health Benefits for Colorado Children and Pregnant Persons

- ❖ Provides full health insurance coverage for low-income pregnant people and children who would be eligible for Medicaid and CHP+ if not for their immigration status
- ❖ Requires the Insurance Commissioner to improve the quality of health coverage through the Health Insurance Affordability Enterprise
- ❖ Continues the coverage for 12 months postpartum at the CHP federal match
- ❖ Comprehensive coverage for all CO children (under 19 years old) including foster youth, who would be eligible for CHP if not for immigration status
- ❖ HCPF would create an outreach and enrollment strategy for enrolling eligible groups and includes a special enrollment period due to pregnancy
- ❖ Implementation date of 2025



Workforce

SB22-226: Programs to Support Health Care Workforce

- ▶ **Health Care Workforce Resilience and Retention Program in CDPHE**
 - ▶ \$2M grants to support resilience and retention
- ▶ **Practice Based Health Education Grant Program in CDPHE**
 - ▶ \$20M to increase clinical training for students enrolled in health care profession degree or license program
- ▶ **In-Demand Short Term Health Care Credential Programs**
 - ▶ \$26M for Community Colleges to administer a program to support the expansion and availability of in-demand health care professionals
 - ▶ **\$3M School Nurse Grant Program**
 - ▶ **\$10M for recruitment and re-engagement for health care workers with current or expired licenses**



Workforce Implementation 2022

Care Forward Colorado

- ❖ Started fall 2022 at community colleges and technical colleges
- ❖ Tuition, fees, and course materials covered in 13 entry-level health care positions

CDPHE \$10M Fund for Health Care Worker Re-engagement

- ❖ Organizations that operate as a long-term care facility
- ❖ Organizations that hold an official federal designation as a Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSAs)
- ❖ Hospitals that serve the pediatric population
- ❖ If a facility successfully recruits a licensed professional who has left the healthcare industry and will work 20 hours per week minimum for at least 6 months, the facility is eligible to receive a one-time payment of \$20,000 per professional re-engaged

SB22-181: Behavioral Health Care Workforce (\$72M ARPA)

- ▶ \$52M to BHA to implement a Behavioral Health Care Provider Workforce Plan
- ▶ \$20M to CO Health Services Corps for student loan repayment for BH care providers and candidates for licensure. Scholarships to addiction counselors
- ▶ In collaboration with Dept of Higher Education, institutions of higher education, community colleges
 - ▶ Provide job shadowing
 - ▶ Internships
 - ▶ Incentives
 - ▶ Loan repayments
 - ▶ Scholarships
 - ▶ Proposals to work with first responders

SB22-181

Implementation 2022

- ▶ **BHA: Strengthening the Behavioral Health Workforce in Colorado: An Approach to Community Partnership**
- ❖ Full report can be found on the BHA website
- ❖ [Colorado Behavioral Health Administration Strategic Plan 2022](#)
- ❖ Expanding the peer support professional workforce
- ❖ Piloting a behavioral health aide program
- ❖ Pre-licensure stipends and paid internships
- ❖ Behavioral health apprenticeships
- ❖ Career pipeline development grants
- ❖ Retention grants for behavioral health employers
- ❖ Workforce development research, data analysis & policy development



Behavioral Health

MENTAL HEALTH AND
SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER



HB22-1278: The Behavioral Health Administration

- ▶ Any state agency that administers a behavioral health program is required to collaborate with the BHA
- ▶ Transfers to CDPHE community prevention and early intervention programs (previously at CDHS)
- ▶ By July 1, 2024 BHA will establish:
 - ▶ Statewide BH grievance system
 - ▶ BH performance monitoring system
 - ▶ Comprehensive BH safety net system
 - ▶ Regional BH administrative service organizations (BHASO's)
 - ▶ BHA will be the licensing authority for all BH entities

ARPA Funding

BEHAVIORAL
HEALTH

ARPA: Behavioral Health

\$450M Total

SB22-147: Behavioral Health-Care Services for Children. \$11.1M for CO Pediatric Psychiatry Consultation and Access Program, school health professionals and school-based health centers

HB22-1283: Youth and Family Behavioral Health Care. \$53.4M for in-home and residential respite care in 10-12 regions, build and staff neuro-psych facility in Fort Morgan and support for residential treatment facilities and programs for youth

HB22-1302: Health-Care Practice Transformation. \$35M for primary care and BH statewide integration grant program, grants to primary care clinics for whole-person health, and outpatient BH care providers to increase access, early intervention, expand BH workforce and alternative payment models

HB22-1303: Increase Residential BH Beds. \$65M or 16 new civil beds for residential care in Fort Logan. Beds to first be used for competency restoration waitlist. Creation of 125 new beds for residential care (10 bed regional facilities)

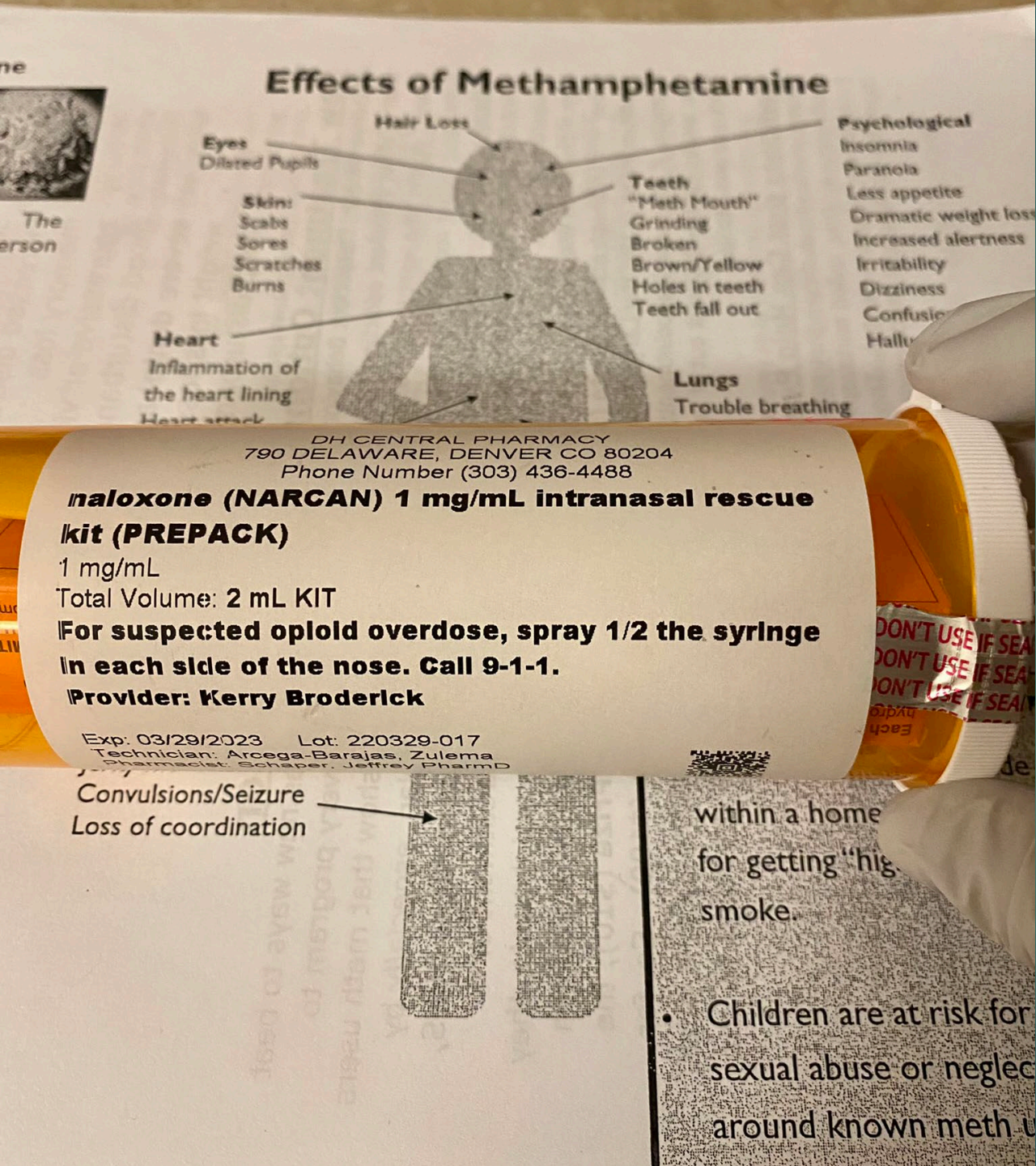
ARPA: Housing \$400M Total

SB22-146: Middle Income Access Program. \$25M financing to developers for affordable rental housing with an 80% area median income and above

HB22-1282: Innovative Housing Incentive Program. \$40M grants and loans for certain types of housing

HB22-1304: Affordable Housing at the Local Level. \$150M for 2 state grant programs for local government investments in affordable housing development and infrastructure





HB22-1326: Fentanyl Accountability and Prevention

The 2022 Election Results

- ▶ Senate Democrats pick up 3 seats, increasing their majority to 23-12
- ▶ House Democrats pick up 5 seats, widening their majority to 46-19
- ▶ Nine of the 11 new Senators moved over from the House
- ▶ 17 brand new Democrats and 12 brand new Republicans in the House
- ▶ Speaker of the House, Julie McCluskie and nearly all other House leadership positions are held by women. 51% of Colorado legislature is women



Joint Budget Committee (4 of 6 New Members)

Election Outcome State Ballot Measures

- ▶ Proposition FF: Healthy Meals for All Public-School Students
- ▶ Proposition 121: State Income Tax Rate Reduction
- ▶ Proposition 123: Dedicated State Income Tax Revenue for Affordable Housing



Current Status of the State Budget Governors Proposal

- ▶ FY23-24
- ▶ \$42.7B total funds (3.5% increase) including \$16.7B GF (7% increase)
- ▶ Growth in operating budgets is 7% or \$1.23B
- ▶ Caseload and inflation increases account for 90% of growth



Four Key Elements to “Secure Today and Invest in Tomorrow”

Saving Families Money and Investing in Our Future

Thriving Colorado Communities-Making Neighborhoods Safer and More Affordable

Protection of our Land, Air and Water

Balanced Budget with Record Revenues



What's
Coming in
2023?

2023 Potential Legislation

“Tweaking” bills
from past
legislative
sessions

Progressive Bills
from Freshman
Legislators

Medical Debt

Adult Education

Changes to
Equal Pay

Certified
Midwives based
on DORA
Sunrise Report

Fentanyl 2.0

Criminal Justice
Reform



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