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HEALTH PLANS®



Mental Health Colorado's **Elite Sponsor of 2024**









About Mental Health Colorado









Today's Objectives

Learn About the Legislative Landscape

Understand the Colorado Legislative Process

Use Your Story to Advocate for Change



Legislative Landscape

- Today is the 55th Day of the 2024 Legislative Session!
 - 65 Days left!
- Over 500 bills have been introduced.
- Trends we have observed:
 - Bills related to tax policy
 - Competition for funds
 - New Topics emerging:
 - Tackling social media
 - Focusing on rural mental health



Our Legislative Priorities



SB24-117: Eating Disorder Treatment & Recovery Programs



HB24-1066: Prevent Workplace Violence in Health-Care Settings



HB24-1217: Sharing of Patient Health-Care Information



Other Bills Related to "Care Not Cuffs"

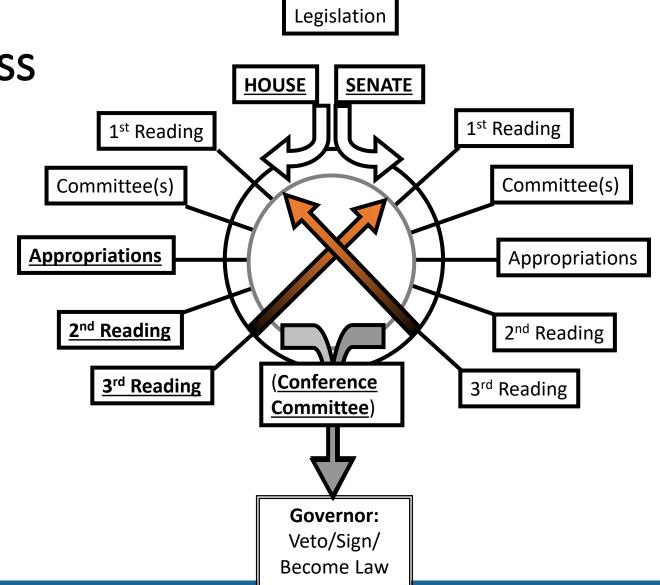
- HB24-1355: Measures to Reduce the Competency Wait List
- HB24-1079: Persons Detained in Jail on Emergency Commitment

- Up in Committee Today!
 - HB24-1028: Overdose Prevention Centers
 - HB24-1306: Increase Penalty Possession of Synthetic Opiates



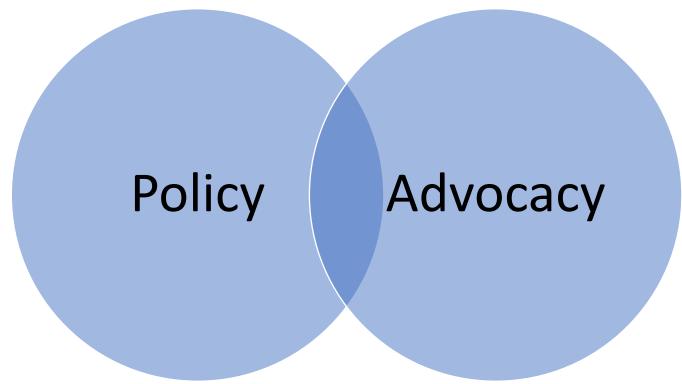
Legislative Process

- There are <u>100</u>
 members in the
 Legislature
- Committees may <u>amend</u> legislation
- The Governor has <u>10</u>
 days in session and <u>30</u>
 days after session to
 take action
- Vetoes may be overridden with a <u>2/3</u>
 <u>majority</u>





Advocacy 101



Engaging, educating, & encouraging action



What does advocacy look like?

Join the Brain Wave



Download our Advocacy Toolkit







The Power of You!

- One thing is more important than money to politicians: VOTERS.
- Communication is key!
 - It only takes **5 to 10** people to make an impact
 - PERSONAL contact with elected officials is effective
- Remember that this is YOUR story, YOUR experience and YOUR expertise





Questions?



What to expect today?

- Split up in Groups and head to the Capitol
- Go through security
- Head up to the 3rd Floor to watch floor proceedings from the House or Senate Gallery
- Head to the 2nd floor to start meeting with Legislators
- Head back to here at 11 AM for the rest of the event
- Take pictures!





What's in your folder?

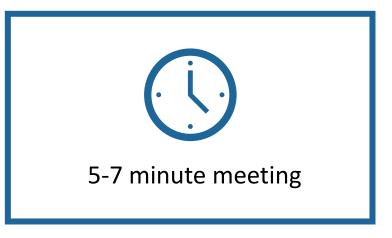
- Agenda for Today
- Issue Brief
- Factsheets
- Map
- Script
- Card

If you have any questions or run into any issues, please do not hesitate to reach out to Bridget Anshus (414-690-0770) or Lauren Snyder (970-946-8029).



Talking with Legislators









Helpful Hints For A Great Meeting

- Be Flexible it will be quick
- Stay focused
- Have a clear and concise "ask"
 - Be direct that they vote for, against, or amend a bill
- Personalize the issue, relate situations to their district or past work on the issue
- Keep it non-partisan
- Say thank you



Thank you!



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