# Second Regular Session Seventy-third General Assembly STATE OF COLORADO

## **INTRODUCED**

LLS NO. 22-1015.01 Yelana Love x2295

**SENATE BILL 22-234** 

### SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Hansen and Rankin,

### **HOUSE SPONSORSHIP**

Ortiz and Snyder,

### **Senate Committees**

Finance

101

#### **House Committees**

### A BILL FOR AN ACT

#### CONCERNING UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION.

## **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 <a href="http://leg.colorado.gov">http://leg.colorado.gov</a>.)

Sections 1, 7, and 9 of the bill amend the existing authority of the division of unemployment insurance (division) to issue bonds by:

- Clarifying that the division may issue the bonds through the state treasurer; and
- Granting the division the authority to levy bond assessments.

Current law provides a temporary increase in partial unemployment benefits. Section 2 makes this temporary increase

permanent.

Section 3 repeals the requirement that an individual wait at least one week before becoming eligible for unemployment compensation. This repeal will take effect when the unemployment compensation fund reaches a balance of at least \$1 billion.

**Section 4** requires the division to study how to implement a dependent allowance for individuals receiving unemployment compensation.

**Sections 4 and 10** require the department of labor and employment to award grants to one or more third-party administrators for the purpose of providing recovery benefits to eligible individuals. The grants to the third-party administrators and the recovery benefits are funded through .00035 of the premium each employer is required to submit to the division. An individual is eligible to receive recovery benefits if the individual, regardless of the individual's immigration status:

- Separated from employment through no fault of the individual;
- Received income from employment during a qualified base period or alternative base period;
- Attests that the individual is not currently receiving any state-administered wage replacement assistance;
- Is not eligible for state-administered wage replacement assistance for reasons related to the individual's authorization to work; and
- Has a pay stub or form W-2 to verify the individual's employment and wage withholding.

**Section 5** requires an employer to provide an employee with certain information about unemployment compensation upon the employee's separation from employment.

**Section 6** extends the hold on an employer's solvency surcharge through calendar year 2023.

**Sections 8 and 12** require the state treasurer to transfer \$600 million to a newly created fund. The transfer is from money received by the state through the federal "American Rescue Plan Act of 2021". The money in the fund may be used only to repay the outstanding balance of federal advances provided to the state through the unemployment insurance trust fund and interest owed on the advances.

Current law requires an individual to repay the division for overpaid unemployment compensation benefits unless the division finds that repayment would be inequitable. **Section 11** sets forth factors that the division must consider in determining whether repayment would be inequitable.

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1 Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado: 2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 8-71-103, amend 3 (2)(d)(I) and (2)(d)(II) as follows: 4 8-71-103. Organization of division - authority to issue bonds. 5 (2) (d) (I) Upon receiving the certifications specified in subparagraphs 6 (III) and (IV) of this paragraph (d) SUBSECTIONS (2)(d)(III) AND 7 (2)(d)(IV) OF THIS SECTION, the division may issue revenue bonds for the 8 same purposes and on the same terms, and levy and apply the proceeds of 9 bond assessments for the same purposes and in the same manner, as the 10 Colorado housing and finance authority may issue bonds and MAY levy 11 and apply the proceeds of bond assessments under section 29-4-710.7, 12 C.R.S., substituting references to the division for references to the 13 authority under that section. THE STATE TREASURER MAY ADVISE THE 14 DIVISION IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 24-36-121. Bond assessments 15 levied by the division may be used to pay revenue bonds issued by the 16 division under this paragraph (d) SUBSECTION (2)(d) or revenue bonds 17 issued by the Colorado housing and finance authority under section 18 29-4-710.7. <del>C.R.S.</del> 19 (II) Any bonds issued pursuant to this paragraph (d) SUBSECTION 20 (2)(d) must be executed and delivered by the director of the division and 21 may be in the form, may be sold, and may have the same terms as 22 provided in section 43-4-807 (1)(b) and (1)(c); C.R.S., may contain the 23 provisions permitted by section 43-4-807 (1)(d); <del>C.R.S.,</del> shall be legal 24 investments for the entities described in, AND subject to the terms set 25 forth in, section 43-4-807 (3); <del>C.R.S.,</del> and shall be exempt from taxation 26 and assessments in the state as provided in section 43-4-807 (4). C.R.S. 27 The division may invest or deposit any proceeds and interest from the sale

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of such bonds as provided in section 43-4-807 (2). C.R.S. The division shall have HAS the power to enter into all other contracts or agreements, which contracts and agreements are not subject to the "Procurement Code", articles 101 to 112 of title 24, C.R.S., that are necessary or incidental to the exercise of its powers and duties under this paragraph (d) SUBSECTION (2)(d), including the power to engage the services of consultants, financial advisors, underwriters, bond insurers, letter of credit banks, rating agencies, and agents and other persons whose services may be required or deemed advantageous by the division, and the power to enter into interest rate exchange agreements for bonds that have been issued in accordance with this paragraph (d) SUBSECTION (2)(d). The amount of outstanding liability for bonds issued pursuant to this paragraph (d) SUBSECTION (2)(d) or section 29-4-710.7 C.R.S., is not taken into account for purposes of rate setting under article 76 of this title TITLE 8. THE AMOUNT OF OUTSTANDING LIABILITY FOR BONDS ISSUED PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION (2)(d) AND FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS UNDER SECTION 24-36-121 IS NOT TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT FOR PURPOSES OF RATE SETTING UNDER ARTICLE 76 OF THIS TITLE 8. **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 8-73-103, amend (1) as follows: **8-73-103.** Benefits for partial unemployment. (1) (a) Each eligible individual who is partially unemployed shall be paid a partial benefit. Partial benefits shall be in an amount equal to the eligible individual's weekly benefit amount for total unemployment, minus that part of wages payable to the individual with respect to the week that is in excess of twenty-five FIFTY percent of the individual's weekly benefit

amount as computed in accordance with section 8-73-102, and the benefit

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1	payment resulting shall be computed to the next lower multiple of one
2	dollar.
3	(b) (I) Notwithstanding subsection (1)(a) of this section, on and
4	after July 14, 2020, and for two calendar years thereafter, partial benefits
5	shall be in an amount equal to the eligible individual's weekly benefit
6	amount for total unemployment, minus that part of wages payable to the
7	individual with respect to the week that is in excess of fifty percent of the
8	individual's weekly benefit amount as computed in accordance with
9	section 8-73-102, and the benefit payment resulting shall be computed to
10	the next lower multiple of one dollar.
11	(II) This subsection (1)(b) is repealed, effective September 1,
12	<del>2022.</del>
13	SECTION 3. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 8-73-107, amend
14	(1)(d) as follows:
15	8-73-107. Eligibility conditions - penalty - repeal. (1) Any
16	unemployed individual shall be eligible to receive benefits with respect
17	to any week only if the division finds that:
18	(d) (I) The individual has been either totally or partially
19	unemployed for a waiting period of one week. No benefits are payable for
20	the waiting period. No week shall be counted as a week of unemployment
21	for the purposes of this paragraph (d) SUBSECTION (1)(d):
22	(I) (A) Unless it occurs within the benefit year, which includes the
23	week with respect to which he THE INDIVIDUAL claims payment of
24	benefits;
25	(H) (B) If benefits have been paid with respect thereto TO THE
26	WEEK;
27	(HH) (C) Unless the individual was eligible for benefits with

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1	respect thereto to the week under the provisions of sections 8-73-107
2	to 8-73-112;
3	(IV) (D) Unless total wages earned for the week are less than the
4	weekly benefit amount.
5	(II) This subsection (1)(d) will be repealed if the balance
6	OF THE UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION FUND REACHES AT LEAST ONE
7	BILLION DOLLARS. THE DIRECTOR OF THE DIVISION SHALL NOTIFY THE
8	REVISOR OF STATUTES IN WRITING OF THE DATE ON WHICH THE CONDITION
9	SPECIFIED IN THIS SUBSECTION $(1)(d)(II)$ has occurred by E-Mailing
10	THE NOTICE TO REVISOROFSTATUTES.GA@STATE.CO.US. THIS SUBSECTION
11	$(1)(d) \ \text{is repealed, effective upon the date identified in the notice} \\$
12	ON WHICH THE BALANCE OF THE UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION FUND
13	REACHED AT LEAST ONE BILLION DOLLARS OR, IF THE NOTICE DOES NOT
14	SPECIFY THAT DATE, UPON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE TO THE REVISOR OF
15	STATUTES.
16	SECTION 4. In Colorado Revised Statutes, add 8-73-115 and
17	8-73-116 as follows:
18	8-73-115. Dependent allowance - study - repeal. (1) THE
19	DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT SHALL STUDY HOW TO CREATE
20	AN ADDITIONAL ALLOWANCE, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2023, FOR THE
21	DEPENDENTS OF INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE
22	UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION BENEFITS.
23	(2) The study must include:
24	(a) THE PROPOSED BENEFIT AMOUNTS AND BENEFIT ADEQUACY
25	STANDARDS;
26	(b) UTILIZATION ESTIMATES;
2.7	(c) AN ESTIMATION OF THE COSTS OF PROVIDING A DEPENDENT

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1	ALLOWANCE;
2	(d) THE POTENTIAL IMPACT OF THE DEPENDENT ALLOWANCE ON
3	LOW-WAGE CLAIMANTS, INCLUDING THE EFFECT ON SUFFICIENT JOB
4	SEARCHING AND HIGH-QUALITY JOB MATCHING;
5	(e) A SUMMARY OF THE DEPENDENT ALLOWANCES OFFERED IN
6	OTHER STATES; AND
7	(f) OTHER CHALLENGES THAT UNEMPLOYED, LOW-WAGE
8	INDIVIDUALS WOULD FACE IN SECURING NEW EMPLOYMENT WHILE
9	MEETING BASIC NEEDS WITH THE AMOUNT OF UNEMPLOYMENT
10	COMPENSATION THAT THE INDIVIDUAL WOULD RECEIVE WITHOUT THE
11	DEPENDENT ALLOWANCE.
12	(3) No later than January 15, 2023, the department of
13	LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT SHALL SUBMIT A REPORT ON THE STUDY TO THE
14	SENATE BUSINESS, LABOR, AND TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE AND THE HOUSE
15	BUSINESS AFFAIRS AND LABOR COMMITTEE, OR THEIR SUCCESSOR
16	COMMITTEES.
17	(4) This section is repealed, effective September 1, 2023.
18	8-73-116. Benefit recovery fund - recovery benefits - eligible
19	individuals - third-party administrator - definitions - rules. (1) As
20	USED IN THIS SECTION:
21	(a) "Department" means the department of labor and
22	EMPLOYMENT.
23	(b) "Eligible individual" means an individual who,
24	REGARDLESS OF IMMIGRATION STATUS:
25	(I) HAS SEPARATED FROM EMPLOYMENT THROUGH NO FAULT OF
26	THE INDIVIDUAL DUE TO ONE OR MORE OF THE FACTORS OUTLINED IN
27	SECTION 8-73-108 (4);

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1	(II) RECEIVED INCOME FROM EMPLOYMENT DURING A QUALIFIED
2	BASE PERIOD OR ALTERNATIVE BASE PERIOD AS DEFINED IN SECTION
3	8-70-103;
4	(III) ATTESTS THAT THE INDIVIDUAL IS NOT CURRENTLY RECEIVING
5	ANY STATE-ADMINISTERED WAGE REPLACEMENT ASSISTANCE;
6	(IV) IS NOT ELIGIBLE FOR STATE-ADMINISTERED WAGE
7	REPLACEMENT ASSISTANCE FOR REASONS RELATED TO THE INDIVIDUAL'S
8	AUTHORIZATION TO WORK; AND
9	(V) Has a pay stub or form W-2 to verify the individual's
10	EMPLOYMENT AND WAGE WITHHOLDING.
11	(c) "Fund" means the benefit recovery fund created in
12	SUBSECTION (2) OF THIS SECTION.
13	(d) "RECOVERY BENEFITS" MEANS BENEFITS CALCULATED
14	PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (5) OF THIS SECTION.
15	(e) "THIRD-PARTY ADMINISTRATOR" MEANS AN ENTITY WITH
16	WHICH THE DIVISION CONTRACTS TO ADMINISTER PAYMENTS TO ELIGIBLE
17	INDIVIDUALS FROM THE FUND PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (5) OF THIS
18	SECTION.
19	(2) (a) There is hereby created in the state treasury the
20	BENEFIT RECOVERY FUND TO PROVIDE GRANTS TO A THIRD-PARTY
21	ADMINISTRATOR TO PROVIDE PAYMENTS TO ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUALS.
22	(b) THE FUND CONSISTS OF:
23	(I) Money transferred to the fund pursuant to section
24	8-77-109 (2)(a); AND
25	(II) GIFTS, GRANTS, AND DONATIONS RECEIVED BY THE
26	DEPARTMENT FROM ANY OTHER PUBLIC OR PRIVATE ORGANIZATION OR
77	ENTITY OF INDIVIDUAL AND ANY INTEREST EARNED ON SUCH CIETS

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1	GRANTS, AND DONATIONS.
2	(c) The state treasurer shall credit all interest and
3	INCOME DERIVED FROM THE DEPOSIT AND INVESTMENT OF MONEY IN THE
4	FUND TO THE FUND.
5	(d) Money in the fund is continuously appropriated to the
6	DEPARTMENT FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION.
7	(e) (I) IF THE AMOUNT IN THE FUND EXCEEDS THIRTY MILLION
8	DOLLARS, AS ADJUSTED FOR THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR'S
9	BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS CONSUMER PRICE INDEX FOR
10	Denver-Aurora-Lakewood or its successor index, excluding
11	GIFTS, GRANTS, OR DONATIONS, THE STATE TREASURER SHALL TRANSFER
12	THE MONEY IN THE FUND IN EXCESS OF THIRTY MILLION DOLLARS TO THE
13	UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION FUND CREATED IN SECTION 8-77-101(1).
14	(II) THE DEPARTMENT MAY CONTINUE TO SOLICIT AND ACCEPT
15	GIFTS, GRANTS, AND DONATIONS REGARDLESS OF THE FUND BALANCE.
16	(3) (a) EACH OUARTER, TO THE EXTENT ALLOWED BY THE UNITED

(3) (a) EACH QUARTER, TO THE EXTENT ALLOWED BY THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR EMPLOYMENT TRAINING ADMINISTRATION, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ALLOCATE THE MONEY IN THE FUND TO ONE OR MORE THIRD-PARTY ADMINISTRATORS FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING RECOVERY BENEFITS TO ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUALS. AT A MINIMUM, A THIRD-PARTY ADMINISTRATOR MUST HAVE EXPERIENCE BUILDING AND OPERATING FINANCIAL BENEFIT SYSTEMS THAT ARE PROVEN

(b) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL DEVELOP A PROCESS FOR CONTRACTING WITH THIRD-PARTY ADMINISTRATORS TO PROVIDE RECOVERY BENEFITS TO ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUALS, AND MAY DEVELOP GUIDANCE AS NECESSARY, INCLUDING RULES SPECIFYING THE GRANT

TO BE ACCESSIBLE AND RESPONSIVE TO THE TARGET POPULATION.

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1	PROCESS FOR THIRD-PARTY ADMINISTRATORS. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL
2	SELECT A THIRD-PARTY ADMINISTRATOR WITHIN NINETY DAYS AFTER THE
3	EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS SECTION.
4	(c) A THIRD-PARTY ADMINISTRATOR SELECTED PURSUANT TO
5	SUBSECTION (2)(b) OF THIS SECTION SHALL, WITHIN ONE HUNDRED DAYS
6	AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS SECTION:
7	(I) PROVIDE OUTREACH TO UNEMPLOYED INDIVIDUALS WHO MAY
8	BE ELIGIBLE FOR PAYMENTS THROUGH THE FUND;
9	(II) SCREEN EACH APPLICANT FOR RECOVERY BENEFITS TO
10	DETERMINE IF THE APPLICANT IS AN ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUAL; AND
11	(III) PAY RECOVERY BENEFITS TO ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUALS.
12	(4) To receive recovery benefits, an eligible individual
13	MUST APPLY TO A THIRD-PARTY ADMINISTRATOR WITH WHICH THE
14	DIVISION HAS CONTRACTED.
15	(5)(a) A THIRD-PARTY ADMINISTRATOR SHALL PAY EACH ELIGIBLE
16	INDIVIDUAL WHO IS TOTALLY UNEMPLOYED IN ANY WEEK, WITH RESPECT
17	TO THAT WEEK, RECOVERY BENEFITS AT A RATE OF FIFTY-FIVE PERCENT OF
18	THE ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUAL'S AVERAGE WEEKLY WAGE AS DETERMINED
19	FROM EARNINGS DATA PROVIDED TO THE THIRD-PARTY ADMINISTRATOR;
20	EXCEPT THAT THE MAXIMUM WEEKLY PAYMENT AMOUNT MAY NOT
21	EXCEED THE MAXIMUM WEEKLY BENEFIT AMOUNT FOR BENEFITS AS
22	CALCULATED PURSUANT TO SECTION 8-73-102 (2).
23	(b) If the recovery benefit amount is not an even dollar
24	AMOUNT, THE THIRD-PARTY ADMINISTRATOR SHALL ROUND THE
25	RECOVERY BENEFIT AMOUNT TO THE NEXT LOWER FULL DOLLAR AMOUNT.
26	(c) AN ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUAL MAY RECEIVE RECOVERY BENEFITS
27	FOR A MAXIMUM OF THIRTEEN WEEKS DURING THE ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUAL'S

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1	PERIOD OF UNEMPLOYMENT.
2	(6) If the fund balance is below five hundred thousand
3	DOLLARS, AS ADJUSTED FOR THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR'S
4	BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS CONSUMER PRICE INDEX FOR
5	DENVER-AURORA-LAKEWOOD OR ITS SUCCESSOR INDEX, A THIRD-PARTY
6	ADMINISTRATOR SHALL SUSPEND PAYMENTS UNTIL THE BALANCE OF THE
7	FUND IS EQUAL TO OR GREATER THAN FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS.
8	(7) (a) ALL PERSONAL INFORMATION AND DOCUMENTS COLLECTED
9	ARE CONFIDENTIAL, EXEMPT FROM DISCLOSURE UNDER THE "COLORADO
10	OPEN RECORDS ACT", PART 2 OF ARTICLE 72 OF TITLE 24, AND MAY BE
11	USED OR DISCLOSED ONLY FOR PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION, EXCEPT WHERE
12	NECESSARY TO COMPLY WITH A COURT ORDER.
13	(b) IN CARRYING OUT THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SECTION:
14	(I) THE DEPARTMENT AND ANY CONTRACTED THIRD-PARTY
15	ADMINISTRATOR SHALL ESTABLISH PROCEDURES AND SAFEGUARDS
16	AGAINST UNAUTHORIZED ACCESS TO AND USE OF PERSONAL INFORMATION
17	COLLECTED PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION BY ANY PERSON, OTHER THAN FOR
18	THE PURPOSE OF THIS SECTION; AND
19	(II) A THIRD-PARTY ADMINISTRATOR SHALL NOT DISCLOSE THAT
20	AN INDIVIDUAL HAS APPLIED FOR OR IS A RECIPIENT OF RECOVERY
21	BENEFITS TO ANY PERSON THAT IS NOT ADMINISTERING THE PROGRAM.
22	SECTION 5. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 8-74-101, add (4) as
23	follows:
24	8-74-101. Claims for benefits - employer-provided form
25	required. (4) At the time of separation from an employer, the
26	EMPLOYER SHALL PROVIDE EACH EMPLOYEE, ON THE FORM CREATED BY
27	THE DIVISION, INFORMATION REGARDING THE AVAILABILITY OF

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1	UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION BENEFITS. THE FORM MUST INCLUDE:
2	(a) THE EMPLOYER'S NAME AND ADDRESS;
3	(b) THE EMPLOYEE'S NAME AND ADDRESS;
4	(c) The employee's social security number or other
5	IDENTIFICATION NUMBER;
6	(d) The employee's start date, date of last day worked,
7	YEAR-TO-DATE EARNINGS, AND WAGES FOR THE LAST WEEK THE
8	EMPLOYEE WORKED; AND
9	(e) THE REASON THE EMPLOYEE SEPARATED FROM THE EMPLOYER.
10	SECTION 6. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 8-76-102.5, amend
11	(7)(c) as follows:
12	8-76-102.5. Rates effective upon fund solvency - repeal of
13	prior rates - solvency surcharge - definitions - repeal.
14	(7) (c) (I) Notwithstanding subsection (7)(a) of this section, for the
15	calendar years 2021, and 2022, AND 2023, the division shall not assess a
16	solvency surcharge on any employer.
17	(II) This subsection (7)(c) is repealed, effective January 1, <del>2023</del>
18	2024.
19	SECTION 7. In Colorado Revised Statutes, add 8-76-116 as
20	follows:
21	8-76-116. Power to levy bond assessments - definition. (1) As
22	USED IN THIS SECTION, "FUND" MEANS THE UNEMPLOYMENT
23	COMPENSATION FUND CREATED IN SECTION 8-77-101 (1).
24	(2) Upon receiving the certifications specified in section
25	8-71-103(2), the division, in addition to the other powers granted
26	BY ARTICLES 70 TO 82 OF THIS TITLE 8, HAS POWER TO LEVY CERTAIN
27	BOND ASSESSMENTS AS FOLLOWS:

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1	(a) ALL BONDS AND NOTES ISSUED PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION ARE
2	LIMITED OBLIGATIONS OF THE DIVISION, PAYABLE SOLELY FROM REVENUES
3	GENERATED THROUGH THE LEVY BY THE AUTHORITY OF A BOND
4	ASSESSMENT AGAINST EACH EMPLOYER, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 8-70-113,
5	SUBJECT TO AN EXPERIENCE RATING UNDER ARTICLES 70 TO 82 OF THIS
6	TITLE 8, IN AN AGGREGATE AMOUNT SUFFICIENT TO SATISFY SUBSECTION
7	(2)(c) OF THIS SECTION OR FROM REVENUES GENERATED THROUGH THE
8	LEVY BY THE DIVISION OF A BOND ASSESSMENT UNDER SECTION 8-71-103
9	(2)(d); FROM PAYMENTS FROM THE DIVISION OR MONEY APPLIED BY THE
10	DIVISION UNDER SECTION 8-77-101 (1); FROM PROCEEDS DERIVED FROM
11	THE SALE OF BONDS AND NOTES ISSUED UNDER THIS SECTION AND FROM
12	THE EARNINGS ON THOSE PROCEEDS; AND FROM ALL MONEY AND
13	SECURITIES IN ALL SPECIAL ACCOUNTS CREATED BY AND UNDER THE
14	CONTROL OF THE DIVISION UNDER THIS SECTION. THE DIVISION SHALL
15	COLLECT AND ADMINISTER THE BOND ASSESSMENT IN SUBSTANTIALLY THE
16	SAME MANNER AS OTHER EMPLOYER PREMIUMS AND SURCHARGES
17	REQUIRED UNDER ARTICLES 70 TO 82 OF THIS TITLE 8. SUBJECT TO
18	articles $70$ to $82$ of this title $8$ , the assessment does not apply to
19	THE COVERED EMPLOYERS OF THE STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS, TO
20	THOSE NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS THAT ARE REIMBURSABLE EMPLOYERS,
21	OR TO POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS ELECTING THE SPECIAL RATE.
22	(b) THE DIVISION MAY DEPOSIT ALL OR ANY PORTION OF MONEY

(b) The division may deposit all or any portion of money collected from assessments for principal-related bond repayment costs into the fund. The portion of these revenues deposited into the fund constitutes part of each employer's unemployment insurance contributions, and the division shall pay amounts from these revenues for the repayment of the

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PRINCIPAL OF BONDS ISSUED UNDER THIS SECTION OR SECTION 8-71-103
(2)(d).

3 (c) THE LEVY MUST BE AT A RATE OR RATES THAT, WHEN APPLIED 4 AGAINST THE TAXABLE WAGES OF THOSE EMPLOYERS SUBJECT TO THE 5 BOND ASSESSMENT, WILL PRODUCE AN AMOUNT SUFFICIENT TO PAY ALL 6 COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH OR OTHERWISE RELATING TO BONDS AND NOTES 7 ISSUED PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION (2), INCLUDING THE PRINCIPAL OF, 8 AND INTEREST AND PREMIUM, IF ANY, ON, THE BONDS AND NOTES, THE 9 COSTS OF BOND ISSUANCE AND ADMINISTRATION, OTHER RELATED FEES 10 AND COSTS OF THE DIVISION, AND RESERVES THEREFOR.

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(d) EMPLOYERS SHALL SUBMIT BOND ASSESSMENTS DESCRIBED IN THIS SUBSECTION (2) ASSOCIATED WITH NONPRINCIPAL-RELATED BOND REPAYMENT COSTS IN THE SAME MANNER AS THE EMPLOYER'S NORMAL PREMIUMS AND SURCHARGES PAID UNDER ARTICLES 70 TO 82 OF THIS TITLE 8, AND THE ASSESSMENTS ARE A LIEN UPON THE REAL AND PERSONAL PROPERTY OF AN EMPLOYER IN THE MANNER AND TO THE EXTENT SET FORTH IN SECTION 8-79-103. THE DIVISION SHALL DEPOSIT THE ASSESSMENTS INTO THE UNEMPLOYMENT BOND REPAYMENT ACCOUNT CREATED IN SECTION 8-77-103.5, AND SHALL, AFTER OFFSETTING THE DIVISION'S COSTS FOR COLLECTING AND ADMINISTERING THE BOND ASSESSMENTS, USE THIS MONEY ONLY FOR PAYMENT FROM TIME TO TIME TO ONE OR MORE SPECIAL ACCOUNTS CREATED BY AND UNDER THE CONTROL OF THE ISSUER OF THE BONDS. THE ISSUER OF THE BONDS SHALL USE ALL MONEY ACCRUING IN A SPECIAL ACCOUNT ONLY TO PAY NONPRINCIPAL-RELATED BOND REPAYMENT COSTS DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (2)(c) OF THIS SECTION, AND THE ISSUER OF THE BONDS SHALL PAY ANY MONEY REMAINING IN SUCH AN ACCOUNT AND NOT BE REQUIRED

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TO PAY NONPRINCIPAL-RELATED BOND REPAYMENT COSTS TO THE DIVISION FOR DEPOSIT IN THE FUND.

3 (e) EMPLOYERS SHALL SUBMIT BOND ASSESSMENTS DESCRIBED IN 4 THIS SUBSECTION (2) ASSOCIATED WITH PRINCIPAL-RELATED BOND 5 REPAYMENT COSTS IN THE SAME MANNER AS THE EMPLOYER'S NORMAL 6 PREMIUMS AND SURCHARGES PAID UNDER ARTICLES 70 TO 82 OF THIS 7 TITLE 8, AND THE ASSESSMENTS ARE A LIEN UPON THE REAL AND 8 PERSONAL PROPERTY OF AN EMPLOYER IN THE MANNER AND TO THE 9 EXTENT SET FORTH IN SECTION 8-79-103. THE DIVISION MAY DEPOSIT ALL 10 OR ANY PORTION OF THE ASSESSMENTS INTO THE FUND. THE PORTION OF 11 THE ASSESSMENTS DEPOSITED INTO THE FUND CONSTITUTE PART OF EACH 12 EMPLOYER'S UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE CONTRIBUTIONS. BOND 13 ASSESSMENTS DESCRIBED IN THIS SUBSECTION (2) ASSOCIATED WITH 14 PRINCIPAL-RELATED BOND REPAYMENT COSTS ARE AVAILABLE FOR 15 PAYMENT FROM TIME TO TIME TO ONE OR MORE SPECIAL ACCOUNTS 16 CREATED BY AND UNDER THE CONTROL OF THE ISSUER OF THE BONDS. ALL 17 MONEY ACCRUING IN A SPECIAL ACCOUNT FOR PRINCIPAL-RELATED BOND 18 REPAYMENT COSTS CAN BE USED BY THE ISSUER OF THE BONDS ONLY TO 19 PAY THE PRINCIPAL COSTS OF THE BONDS.

(3) THE DIVISION SHALL NOT ISSUE ITS BONDS AND NOTES UNTIL
THE MONTHLY BALANCE IN THE FUND IS EQUAL TO OR LESS THAN
NINE-TENTHS OF ONE PERCENT OF THE TOTAL WAGES REPORTED BY
RATABLE EMPLOYERS FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR, OR THE MOST RECENT
AVAILABLE FOUR CONSECUTIVE QUARTERS PRIOR TO THE LAST
COMPUTATION DATE, AND THE GOVERNOR, THE STATE TREASURER, AND
THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND
EMPLOYMENT HAVE EACH CERTIFIED IN WRITING TO THE DIVISION:

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1	(a) THAT OTHER FUNDING ALTERNATIVES TO THE ISSUANCE OF
2	BONDS AND NOTES HAVE BEEN CONSIDERED AND THAT THE ISSUANCE OF
3	SUCH BONDS AND NOTES IS THE MOST COST-EFFECTIVE MEANS FOR THE
4	DIVISION TO MAINTAIN ADEQUATE BALANCES IN THE FUND OR TO REPAY
5	MONEY ADVANCED TO THE STATE PURSUANT TO 42 U.S.C. SEC. 1321;
6	(b) THE AMOUNT OF MONEY REQUIRED TO MAINTAIN ADEQUATE
7	BALANCES IN THE FUND OR TO REPAY MONEY ADVANCED TO THE STATE
8	PURSUANT TO 42 U.S.C. SEC. 1321, OR BOTH;
9	(c) The amount of bonds and notes required for the
10	PURPOSES DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (2) OF THIS SECTION; AND
11	(d) THE BOND ASSESSMENT RATE OR RATES, OR A FORMULA OR
12	OTHER PROCEDURE FOR DETERMINING SUCH RATE OR RATES, THAT WILL
13	PRODUCE AN AMOUNT SUFFICIENT, TOGETHER WITH ANY OTHER MONEY
14	AVAILABLE OR EXPECTED TO BE AVAILABLE, TO PAY ALL COSTS
15	ASSOCIATED WITH OR OTHERWISE RELATING TO BONDS AND NOTES ISSUED
16	PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (2) OF THIS SECTION, INCLUDING THE PRINCIPAL
17	OF, AND INTEREST AND PREMIUM, IF ANY, ON, THE BONDS AND NOTES, THE
18	COSTS OF BOND ISSUANCE AND ADMINISTRATION, AND ANY OTHER
19	RELATED FEES AND COSTS OF THE DIVISION, AND RESERVES THEREFOR.
20	SECTION 8. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 8-77-103, add (3) as
21	follows:
22	8-77-103. Advances from federal unemployment trust fund -
23	title XII repayment fund. (3) (a) THE TITLE XII REPAYMENT FUND,
24	REFERRED TO IN THIS SUBSECTION (3) AS THE "FUND", IS HEREBY CREATED
25	IN THE STATE TREASURY. THE FUND CONSISTS OF MONEY TRANSFERRED BY
26	THE STATE TREASURER PURSUANT TO SECTION 24-75-227 (3.5) AND ANY
27	OTHER MONEY THAT THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY MAY APPROPRIATE OR

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1	TRANSFER TO THE FUND.
2	(b) The state treasurer shall credit all interest and
3	INCOME DERIVED FROM THE DEPOSIT AND INVESTMENT OF MONEY IN THE
4	FUND TO THE FUND.
5	(c) MONEY IN THE FUND IS CONTINUOUSLY APPROPRIATED TO THE
6	DIVISION TO REPAY FEDERAL ADVANCES RECEIVED PURSUANT TO THIS
7	SECTION AND ANY INTEREST OWING ON SUCH ADVANCES.
8	(d) THE REPAYMENT OF FEDERAL ADVANCES IS AN ALLOWABLE
9	USE OF THE MONEY RECEIVED BY THE STATE UNDER THE FEDERAL
10	"AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT OF 2021", PUB.L. 117-2, AS SPECIFIED IN
11	31 CFR 35.6 (b)(3)(ii)(A)(10)(ii).
12	(e) THE DIVISION SHALL COMPLY WITH THE COMPLIANCE.
13	REPORTING, RECORD-KEEPING, AND PROGRAM EVALUATION
14	REQUIREMENTS ESTABLISHED BY THE OFFICE OF STATE PLANNING AND
15	BUDGETING AND THE STATE CONTROLLER IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION
16	24-75-226 (5).
17	SECTION 9. In Colorado Revised Statutes, amend 8-77-103.5
18	as follows:
19	8-77-103.5. Issuance of unemployment revenue bonds and
20	notes - unemployment bond repayment account - creation. (1) The
21	executive director of the department of labor and employment is
22	authorized to request THE STATE TREASURER, AS ADVISOR TO THE
23	DIVISION, OR the Colorado housing and finance authority, AS ISSUING
24	MANAGER, to issue such bonds and notes as are necessary to maintain
25	adequate balances in the unemployment compensation fund or to repay
26	moneys MONEY advanced to the state from the federal unemployment

trust fund, or both. Such requests shall be made in accordance with the

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provisions of section **24-36-121** OR 29-4-710.7. <del>C.R.S.</del>

- (2) There is hereby created the unemployment bond repayment account, which shall be credited with bond assessments for nonprincipal-related bond costs collected on behalf of THE STATE TREASURER UNDER SECTION 24-36-121 OR the Colorado housing and finance authority under section 29-4-710.7 C.R.S., or by the division under section 8-71-103. After the division's costs have been deducted from the bond repayment account, moneys MONEY in the fund shall be paid to the account or accounts maintained by THE STATE TREASURER UNDER SECTION 24-36-121 OR the Colorado housing and finance authority under section 29-4-710.7 C.R.S., or by the division with respect to bonds issued under section 8-71-103.
- SECTION 10. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 8-77-109, amend
  (1)(b) and (2)(a) introductory portion as follows:
  - **8-77-109.** Employment support fund employment and training technology fund created uses repeal. (1) (b) There is hereby established the employment support fund. This fund consists of the first 0.0011 0.00145 assessed as part of each employer's premium under section 8-76-102.5 (3)(a).
  - (2) (a) The state treasurer shall credit the moneys Money collected pursuant to this section to the employment support fund created in subsection (1) of this section; EXCEPT THAT, TO THE EXTENT ALLOWED BY THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR EMPLOYMENT TRAINING ADMINISTRATION, THE STATE TREASURER SHALL CREDIT .00035 OF EACH EMPLOYER'S PREMIUM UNDER SECTION 8-76-102.5 (3)(a) TO THE BENEFIT RECOVERY FUND CREATED IN SECTION 8-73-116, UP TO A MAXIMUM OF FIFTEEN MILLION DOLLARS EACH YEAR. AT THE END OF THE STATE FISCAL

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1	YEAR, ANY MONEY IN THE EMPLOYMENT SUPPORT FUND THAT EXCEEDS
2	THE TOTAL OF A $.0011$ ASSESSED AS PART OF EACH EMPLOYER'S PREMIUM
3	PLUS SEVENTEEN MILLION DOLLARS SHALL BE TRANSFERRED BY THE STATE
4	TREASURER TO THE UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION FUND CREATED IN
5	SECTION 8-77-101 (1). The general assembly shall appropriate the moneys
6	MONEY in the employment support fund annually to the department of
7	labor and employment:
8	SECTION 11. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 8-81-101, amend
9	(4)(a)(I) and (4)(a)(II); and <b>add</b> (4)(a)(I.5) and (4)(e) as follows:
10	<b>8-81-101. Penalties.</b> (4) (a) (I) Any person who has received any
11	sum as benefits under articles 70 to 82 of this title to which he TITLE 8 TO
12	WHICH THE PERSON was not entitled shall MAY be required to repay such
13	amount to the division for the fund. Such sum shall be collected in the
14	manner provided in section 8-79-102; except that the division may waive
15	the repayment of an overpayment if the division determines such
16	repayment to be inequitable. REPAYMENT IS INEQUITABLE WHEN:
17	(A) THE PERSON WHO RECEIVED THE OVERPAYMENT IS RECEIVING
18	OR HAS RECEIVED ANY OF THE FOLLOWING PUBLIC ASSISTANCE BENEFITS
19	IN THE TWELVE MONTHS PRIOR TO THE DIVISION PROVIDING NOTICE TO THE
20	PERSON OF THE OVERPAYMENT: FEDERAL SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION
21	ASSISTANCE PROGRAM BENEFITS, TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE TO NEEDY
22	FAMILIES BENEFITS, FEDERAL SUPPLEMENTAL SECURITY INCOME, SOCIAL
23	SECURITY DISABILITY BENEFITS, MEANS-TESTED LEGAL AID SERVICES;
24	BENEFITS FROM THE LOW-INCOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
25	${\tt CREATEDINSECTION26-2-122.5, FEDERALORSTATEEARNEDINCOMETAX}$
26	CREDITS, FREE OR REDUCED-PRICE SCHOOL LUNCH BENEFITS, PUBLIC OR
27	SUBSIDIZED HOUSING BENEFITS, MEDICAID BENEFITS UNDER THE MEDICAL

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1	ASSISTANCE PROGRAM, ARTICLES 4 TO 6 OF TITLE 25.5, OR MEDICARE
2	BENEFITS;
3	(B) THE PERSON'S HOUSEHOLD INCOME, EXCLUSIVE OF PUBLIC
4	ASSISTANCE BENEFITS, DURING THE THREE MONTHS PRIOR TO THE
5	OVERPAYMENT DETERMINATION, WAS AT OR BELOW FOUR TIMES THE
6	FEDERAL POVERTY GUIDELINES DETERMINED BY THE UNITED STATES
7	DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES UNDER THE AUTHORITY
8	of 42 U.S.C. sec. 9902 (2);
9	(C) THE PERSON NEEDS MUCH OF THE PERSON'S CURRENT INCOME
10	TO MEET ORDINARY AND NECESSARY LIVING EXPENSES AND LIABILITIES,
11	INCLUDING HOUSING, FOOD, SCHOOL LOANS, CHILD CARE, OUTSTANDING
12	LOAN AND CREDIT CARD BALANCES, TRANSPORTATION, AND MEDICAL
13	EXPENSES;
14	(D) DUE TO THE NOTICE THAT THE BENEFIT PAYMENT WOULD BE
15	MADE OR BECAUSE OF THE INCORRECT PAYMENT THE PERSON EITHER
16	RELINQUISHED A VALUABLE RIGHT OR CHANGED POSITIONS FOR THE
17	WORSE, INCLUDING IF: THE PERSON INCURRED A FINANCIAL OBLIGATION,
18	SUCH AS A LEASE, BASED ON BENEFIT PAYMENTS THAT THE PERSON
19	RECEIVED; THE PERSON RELIED ON THE BENEFIT PAYMENT AND TOOK OUT
20	A LOAN, IN WHICH THE PERSON HAS ALREADY INVESTED THE BENEFIT
21	PAYMENT RECEIVED AND REPAYMENT OF THE OVERPAYMENT WILL CAUSE
22	THE PERSON TO DEFAULT ON THE LOAN, RESULTING IN CRIMINAL OR CIVIL
23	ACTIONS; OR THE PERSON DECLINED OTHER FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE
24	Because the Person received benefits under articles $70\ \mathrm{to}\ 82\ \mathrm{of}$
25	This title $8$ and thought the person would not need additional
26	FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FROM OTHER SOURCES;
27	(E) THE OVERPAYMENT WAS CAUSED, AT LEAST IN PART, BY AN

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1	ERROR BY THE DIVISION OR BY THE PERSON'S RELIANCE ON THE DIVISION'S
2	PUBLICIZED INFORMATION OR GUIDANCE THAT WAS LATER DETERMINED
3	TO BE ERRONEOUS; OR
4	(F) ANY OTHER REASON THE DIVISION FINDS SUFFICIENT TO
5	ESTABLISH THAT REPAYMENT WOULD BE INEQUITABLE.
6	(I.5) THE DIVISION SHALL, TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE, REVIEW AND
7	WAIVE THE REPAYMENT OF AN OVERPAYMENT AT THE TIME THE
8	OVERPAYMENT IS DETERMINED IF THE DIVISION HAS SUFFICIENT
9	INFORMATION TO DETERMINE THAT THE REPAYMENT WOULD BE
10	INEQUITABLE. IF THE DIVISION DOES NOT HAVE SUFFICIENT INFORMATION
11	IN ITS POSSESSION TO MAKE SUCH A DETERMINATION, THE DIVISION SHALL
12	NOTIFY THE PERSON OF THE RIGHT TO REQUEST A WAIVER OF THE
13	OVERPAYMENT AND THE PROCESS FOR SUCH A REQUEST. THE DIVISION
14	SHALL ACCEPT COPIES OF RELEVANT BILLS, RECEIPTS, AWARD LETTERS,
15	BANK STATEMENTS, AND ALL OTHER REASONABLE FORMS OF PROOF THAT
16	REPAYMENT WOULD BE INEQUITABLE. IF A PERSON CANNOT PROVIDE
17	DOCUMENTATION, THE DIVISION SHALL ACCEPT AS SUFFICIENT PROOF A

(II) (A) If any person receives an overpayment because of his or her THE PERSON'S false representation or willful failure to disclose a material fact, inequitability must not be a consideration in any civil, administrative, or criminal action, and the person shall pay to the division the total amount of the overpayment plus a sixty-five percent monetary penalty. Of the monetary penalty, the division shall pay twenty-three percent into the unemployment compensation fund, created in section 8-77-101, and the remainder into the unemployment revenue fund,

WRITTEN STATEMENT SIGNED BY THE PERSON SEEKING TO WAIVE THE

OVERPAYMENT ATTESTING TO THE FACTS AT ISSUE.

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1 created in section 8-77-106. In addition, the person may be denied 2 benefits, when otherwise eligible, for a four-week period for each 3 one-week period in which the person filed claims for or received benefits 4 to which he or she THE PERSON was not entitled. The provisions of section 5 13-80-108 (9) C.R.S., shall be used for determining when an offense is 6 committed for the purposes of this subparagraph (II) SUBSECTION 7 (4)(a)(II). FOR PURPOSES OF THIS SUBSECTION (4)(a)(II), A PERSON HAS 8 NOT RECEIVED AN OVERPAYMENT BECAUSE OF THE PERSON'S FALSE 9 REPRESENTATION OR WILLFUL FAILURE TO DISCLOSE A MATERIAL FACT IF: 10 THE PERSON PROVIDED ALL INFORMATION REQUESTED BY THE DIVISION 11 CORRECTLY, BUT THE DIVISION FAILED TO TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION 12 WITH THAT INFORMATION OR TOOK DELAYED ACTION WHEN DETERMINING 13 OR REDETERMINING ELIGIBILITY; THE PERSON PROVIDED INCORRECT 14 INFORMATION DUE TO CONFLICTING, CHANGING, OR CONFUSING 15 INFORMATION OR INSTRUCTIONS FROM THE DIVISION; THE PERSON WAS 16 UNABLE TO REACH THE DIVISION DESPITE THE PERSON'S BEST EFFORTS TO 17 INQUIRE OR CLARIFY WHAT INFORMATION THE PERSON NEEDED TO 18 PROVIDE, OR EXPERIENCED OTHER SIMILAR BARRIERS, INCLUDING THAT IT 19 WAS THE PERSON'S FIRST TIME APPLYING FOR OR RECEIVING 20 UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS, OR THE PERSON EXPERIENCED LANGUAGE, 21 EDUCATION, OR LITERACY BARRIERS; OR THE PERSON'S EMPLOYER 22 PROVIDED THE PERSON WITH INCORRECT OR UNTIMELY INFORMATION OR 23 DID NOT TIMELY REPORT FACTS. 24

(e) THE DIVISION SHALL NOT ATTEMPT TO RECOVER AN OVERPAYMENT UNTIL THERE IS A FINAL DETERMINATION THAT THE DEBT IS IN FACT OWED AND ALL APPEALS ARE EXHAUSTED. THE DIVISION SHALL NOT ATTEMPT TO RECOVER AN OVERPAYMENT WHEN THERE IS A PENDING

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1	WAIVER APPLICATION UNTIL THERE IS A FINAL DETERMINATION THAT THE
2	PERSON IS NOT ELIGIBLE FOR A WAIVER AND ALL APPEALS ARE
3	EXHAUSTED.
4	SECTION 12. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-75-227, add
5	(3.5) as follows:
6	24-75-227. Revenue loss restoration cash fund - creation -
7	allowable uses - definitions - repeal. (3.5) NOTWITHSTANDING ANY
8	PROVISION OF THIS SECTION TO THE CONTRARY, NO LATER THAN THREE
9	DAYS AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS SUBSECTION (3.5), THE STATE
10	TREASURER SHALL TRANSFER SIX HUNDRED MILLION DOLLARS FROM THE
11	REVENUE LOSS RESTORATION CASH FUND CREATED IN SUBSECTION (2) OF
12	THIS SECTION TO THE TITLE XII REPAYMENT FUND CREATED IN SECTION
13	8-77-103 (3)(a).
14	SECTION 13. Safety clause. The general assembly hereby finds,
15	determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate
16	preservation of the public peace, health, or safety.

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