

Second Regular Session
Seventy-third General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO

PREAMENDED

*This Unofficial Version Includes Committee
Amendments Not Yet Adopted on Second Reading*

LLS NO. 22-0296.01 Shelby Ross x4510

HOUSE BILL 22-1259

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Duran and Jodeh, Froelich, Lentine, Amabile, Bacon, Bennett, Bird, Boesenecker, Esgar, Exum, Gonzales-Gutierrez, Herod, Kipp, Lindsay, McCluskie, Michaelson Jenet, Mulica, Sirota, Titone, Valdez A.

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Moreno, Story

House Committees

Public & Behavioral Health & Human Services
Appropriations

Senate Committees

Finance
Appropriations

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 **CONCERNING MODIFICATIONS TO THE COLORADO WORKS PROGRAM,**
102 **AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, MAKING AN APPROPRIATION.**

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://leg.colorado.gov>.)

The bill allows the state board of human services (state board) to utilize eligibility processes from other public assistance or entitlement programs when promulgating rules for redetermining and verifying eligibility for the Colorado works program (works program).

When determining income requirements for the works program, the bill requires the department of human services (state department) to

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.
*Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material to be added to existing statute.
Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.*

HOUSE
3rd Reading Unamended
April 29, 2022

HOUSE
Amended 2nd Reading
April 28, 2022

use an income conversion ratio for converting weekly and biweekly income to a monthly amount using the lowest ratio or methodology that results in the lowest monthly income amount allowable under federal law.

Current law prohibits a person convicted of a drug-related felony offense from being eligible for assistance under the works program unless the person is determined by a county department of human or social services to have taken action toward rehabilitation. The bill removes the ban on eligibility.

The bill requires the state board to promulgate rules establishing statewide standards and procedures that require counties to offer an extension:

- Beyond the 60-month lifetime maximum for all households that demonstrate good cause, which includes an applicant or participant who is a child-only case, the head of a single parent household and has a child under one year of age, experiencing hardship, or addressing family or medical needs; and
- From work requirements to all households that demonstrate good cause, which includes for an applicant or participant who is the head of a single-parent household and has a child under one year of age, experiencing hardship, or addressing family or medical needs.

The bill requires the state department to annually review and promulgate rules as necessary to update the standard of need to ensure the standard of need is equitable, promotes economic mobility and self-sufficiency, and reflects the current economic status of the state.

The bill requires the state department to disregard any earned income for at least the first 6 months an applicant or participant is employed while enrolled in the works program. The bill requires that the state department determine the amount of earned income that must be disregarded after the first 6 months and ensure a gradual step down of the amount of earned income disregarded and that the appropriate work supports are made available to the applicant or participant.

Current law requires the state department to ensure the amount of a basic cash assistance grant that an applicant or participant receives is equal to or exceeds 102% of the need standard for a participant in a similarly sized household on January 1, 2008. By the 2027-28 state fiscal year, and each state fiscal year thereafter, the bill requires the amount of the basic cash assistance grant to equal or exceed 50% of the federal poverty guidelines established by the federal department of health and human services for a similarly sized household for that fiscal year.

No later than January 1, 2023, the bill requires the state department to begin phasing in the increase in basic cash assistance that is equal to or exceeds 50% of the federal poverty guidelines.

The bill requires a county department to attempt to contact each

participant using each method of communication provided by the participant in order to conduct exit and follow-up interviews upon case closure. The bill expands the purpose of the exit and follow-up interviews to include evaluating the participant's experience with the works program, how well the program met the participant's needs and assisted the participant in meeting the participant's goals, and informing the state department of any changes to rules that are needed to improve the participant's experience.

The bill requires the state department to monitor impacts to counties' workload in the works program and consult with counties regarding additional need for money to administer the works program.

Beginning January 2023, and each January thereafter, the state department is required to submit a report to the general assembly on the effectiveness of the works program.

Current law requires the state board to promulgate rules that require a percentage reduction in the basic cash assistance grant upon the imposition of a sanction affecting the grant, with the percentage to be specified in the rules but not to be less than 25%. The bill requires the percentage not to exceed one dollar.

No later than September 30, 2022, the bill requires the state department to develop an outreach and engagement plan to promote access to the works program for eligible persons.

1 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

2 **SECTION 1. Legislative declaration.** (1) The general assembly
3 finds and declares that:

4 (a) "Temporary Assistance for Needy Families" (TANF), known
5 as the "Colorado Works Program" (works program), provides financial
6 assistance and work supports to families living far below the federal
7 poverty level. The works program should promote family safety, stability,
8 and self-sufficiency by assisting with job preparation and supporting
9 career goals and employment. As of fiscal year 2021-22, a parent with
10 two children must make less than \$421 per month in income to qualify for
11 a basic cash assistance grant under the works program. The COVID-19
12 pandemic brought unprecedented hardships and changes to both families
13 and the works program. Even before the COVID-19 pandemic, families

1 enrolled in the works program were facing the greatest barriers to
2 financial security and well-being.

3 (b) Families enrolled in the works program are eligible to receive
4 cash assistance to help meet the family's ongoing basic needs, such as
5 diapers, food, bus passes, and school supplies. Cash assistance payments
6 were not adequate at the start of the works program in 1996 and since
7 payments have not adjusted for inflation, cash assistance has eroded even
8 further and failed to keep up with the cost of living in Colorado. In 1996,
9 the amount of Colorado's cash assistance was 32.9% of the federal
10 poverty level, but by 2021 it had fallen to 27.8% with the maximum
11 amount of cash assistance for a parent with two children at \$508 per
12 month.

13 (c) Families can often face a "cliff effect" when the family
14 receives more income through employment or a raise and then abruptly
15 has its public assistance reduced or discontinued. Too often families are
16 left without supports right when they begin to get their feet underneath
17 them. Reducing the "cliff effect" will incentivize work, help parents stay
18 employed, and create a smoother off-ramp toward employment,
19 self-sufficiency, and economic security.

20 (d) Families can be better supported in the works program by
21 reducing punitive sanctions and overly burdensome work requirements.
22 While sanctions and work requirements are required by the federal
23 government, states have some discretion on how to administer those
24 requirements. Colorado has made some strides in easing these
25 requirements and can do more to be responsive to families' circumstances
26 and needs. Sanctions, or financial penalties that are issued when a
27 participant does not meet the work requirements of the works program,

1 are disproportionately applied to certain families, including families of
2 color, do not achieve the intended outcome of connecting families to
3 sustainable employment, and increase the administrative burden on case
4 managers and counties. Moreover, families who receive sanctions face
5 the most significant barriers to employment and economic security, such
6 as a child being hospitalized, domestic violence, lack of a vehicle, or less
7 work experience.

8 (e) Colorado receives federal TANF funds each year and the state
9 is permitted to retain a certain amount of unexpended funds for future use
10 in the event of an economic downturn or caseload growth. Colorado has
11 two sets of TANF reserves: A state TANF long-term reserve and a TANF
12 reserve in each county. Although there was severe economic downturn,
13 including historic unemployment, during the COVID-19 pandemic, the
14 amount of money in the reserves actually increased in Colorado. The
15 beginning fiscal year 2021-22 balance of all county TANF reserves was
16 \$61.2 million and the balance in the state TANF long-term reserve, which
17 has a mandatory floor of \$33 million, was \$76.2 million. In total, there
18 was more than \$137 million in TANF reserves in Colorado at the end of
19 the 2020-21 fiscal year.

20 (f) To support the economic recovery from the COVID-19
21 pandemic, the department of human services may receive additional
22 money to support subsidized training and employment. The money may
23 be used to support current Colorado works participants and individuals
24 who are eligible for short-term non-recurrent assistance and other
25 assistance, as defined by the state board of human services, whose income
26 does not exceed 200% of the federal poverty level.

27 (2) Therefore, the general assembly declares that Colorado must

1 prioritize strategies and investments to remove barriers to employment
2 and economic security for families and children experiencing extreme
3 poverty in the state. Colorado should ensure a basic cash assistance
4 amount sufficient enough to lift families out of extreme poverty and
5 ensure that it keeps with the rising cost of living; make improvements in
6 the way the works program serves families, including reducing the "cliff
7 effect"; elevate family voices in the works program; and improve
8 outreach and communication about the works program.

12 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 26-2-705, amend
13 (2)(a) and (2)(e) as follows:

14 **26-2-705. Works program - purposes.** (2) The purposes of the
15 works program are to:

16 (a) Assist participants to terminate their dependence on
17 ~~government benefits~~ TOWARD SELF-SUFFICIENCY, ECONOMIC MOBILITY,
18 AND FAMILY SAFETY AND STABILITY by promoting job preparation, work,
19 and marriage;

20 (e) Develop strategies and policies that focus on SUPPORTING
21 PARTICIPANTS IN THE PARTICIPANTS' EMPLOYMENT AND CAREER GOALS,
22 REMOVING BARRIERS TO EMPLOYMENT FOR PARTICIPANTS, AND ensuring
23 that participants are in work activities as soon as possible so that the state
24 is able to meet or exceed work participation rates specified in the federal
25 law; and

26 **SECTION 3.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 26-2-706, **amend** (3)
27 and (4); and **add** (2)(c) as follows:

1 **26-2-706. Target populations.** (2) (c) IN DETERMINING THE
2 INCOME REQUIREMENTS PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (2)(a) OF THIS
3 SECTION, THE STATE DEPARTMENT SHALL USE AN INCOME CONVERSION
4 RATIO FOR CONVERTING WEEKLY AND BIWEEKLY INCOME TO A MONTHLY
5 AMOUNT USING THE LOWEST RATIO OR METHODOLOGY THAT RESULTS IN
6 THE LOWEST MONTHLY INCOME AMOUNT ALLOWABLE UNDER FEDERAL
7 LAW.

8 (3) A person convicted of a drug-related felony offense under the
9 laws of this state, any other state, or the federal government on or after
10 June 3, 1997, ~~shall not be~~ IS eligible for assistance under the works
11 program. ~~unless such person is determined by the county department to~~
12 ~~have taken action toward rehabilitation such as, but not limited to,~~
13 ~~participation in a drug treatment program.~~

14 (4) The state board shall promulgate rules to simplify the
15 requirements relating to determination and verification of eligibility
16 criteria. ELIGIBILITY PROCESSES FROM OTHER PUBLIC ASSISTANCE OR
17 ENTITLEMENT PROGRAMS MAY BE USED WHEN REDETERMINING AND
18 VERIFYING ELIGIBILITY. WHEN POSSIBLE, THE STATE BOARD IS STRONGLY
19 ENCOURAGED TO ALIGN REDETERMINATION AND VERIFICATION TIMELINES
20 WITH OTHER PUBLIC ASSISTANCE OR ENTITLEMENT PROGRAMS. Nothing in
21 this subsection (4) ~~shall authorize~~ AUTHORIZES the state board to amend
22 or delete eligibility criteria for participation in the works program that the
23 board is not otherwise authorized to amend or delete.

24 **SECTION 4.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 26-2-706.5, **add (4)**
25 as follows:

26 **26-2-706.5. Restrictions on length of participation - rules.**
27 (4) NOLATER THAN JULY 1, 2023, THE STATE BOARD SHALL PROMULGATE

1 RULES:

2 (a) ESTABLISHING STATEWIDE STANDARDS AND PROCEDURES THAT
3 REQUIRE COUNTIES TO OFFER EXTENSIONS BEYOND THE SIXTY-MONTH
4 LIFETIME MAXIMUM FOR ALL HOUSEHOLDS THAT DEMONSTRATE GOOD
5 CAUSE, WHICH INCLUDES, BUT IS NOT LIMITED TO, AN APPLICANT OR
6 PARTICIPANT WHO IS:

7 (I) A CHILD-ONLY CASE;
8 (II) THE HEAD OF A SINGLE PARENT HOUSEHOLD UNIT AND HAS A
9 CHILD UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE; OR
10 (III) EXPERIENCING HARDSHIP, AS DEFINED IN RULES
11 PROMULGATED BY THE STATE BOARD; AND

12 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
13 (b) TO ADDRESS HOW THE STATE WILL MONITOR EXTENSIONS IN
14 RELATION TO REQUIREMENTS UNDER THE FEDERAL LAW.

15 **SECTION 5.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 26-2-708, **add** (5.3)
16 as follows:

17 **26-2-708. Assistance - assessment - individual responsibility**
18 **contract - waivers for domestic violence - rules.** (5.3) (a) NO LATER
19 THAN JULY 1, 2023, THE STATE BOARD SHALL PROMULGATE RULES:

20 (I) ESTABLISHING STATEWIDE STANDARDS AND PROCEDURES THAT
21 REQUIRE COUNTIES TO INFORM AND NOT PENALIZE ANY APPLICANT OR
22 HOUSEHOLD THAT DEMONSTRATES GOOD CAUSE FOR AN EXEMPTION FROM
23 WORK REQUIREMENTS, WHICH INCLUDES, BUT IS NOT LIMITED TO, AN
24 APPLICANT OR PARTICIPANT WHO IS:

25 (A) THE HEAD OF A SINGLE-PARENT HOUSEHOLD UNIT AND HAS A
26 CHILD UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE; OR
27 (B) EXPERIENCING HARDSHIP, AS DEFINED IN RULES PROMULGATED

1 BY THE STATE BOARD; AND

2 

3 (II) ENSURING EQUAL ACCESS TO TANF SERVICES FOR THOSE
4 EXEMPTED WHO WISH TO PARTICIPATE ON A VOLUNTARY BASIS.

5 (b) WHEN PROMULGATING RULES PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION
6 (5.3), THE STATE BOARD SHALL CONSIDER COMPLIANCE WITH THE FEDERAL
7 LAW IN RELATION TO THE CALCULATION OF THE STATE'S WORK
8 PARTICIPATION RATES SPECIFIED IN THE FEDERAL LAW.

9 **SECTION 6.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 26-2-709, **amend**
10 (1)(a) introductory portion, (1)(a)(III), (1)(b), and (1.3); and add (1)(f) as
11 follows:

12 **26-2-709. Benefits - cash assistance - programs - rules - repeal.**

13 (1) **Standard of need - basic cash assistance grant.** (a) The state
14 department shall promulgate rules determining the standard of need for
15 eligibility for a basic cash assistance grant, whether an applicant or
16 participant meets the standard of need, and the amount of the basic cash
17 assistance grant. THE STATE DEPARTMENT SHALL ANNUALLY REVIEW AND
18 PROMULGATE RULES AS NECESSARY TO UPDATE THE STANDARD OF NEED
19 TO ENSURE THE STANDARD OF NEED IS EQUITABLE, PROMOTES ECONOMIC
20 MOBILITY AND SELF-SUFFICIENCY, AND REFLECTS THE CURRENT ECONOMIC
21 SITUATIONS IN THE STATE. In addition to any other rules necessary for the
22 implementation of this part 7, the state department's rules shall:

23 (III) NO LATER THAN JULY 1, 2023, establish the calculation for
24 determining the amount of an eligible applicant's or participant's basic
25 cash assistance grant, which calculation ~~shall~~ MUST include an earned
26 income disregard ~~which shall be~~ THAT IS applied to the gross countable
27 earned income of an applicant or participant who is employed AND A

1 GRADUAL STEP DOWN OF THE AMOUNT OF INCOME DISREGARDED
2 FOLLOWING THE INITIAL EARNED INCOME DISREGARD. The INITIAL earned
3 income disregard ~~shall~~ AND GRADUAL STEP DOWN MUST promote work
4 and self-sufficiency, BE RESPONSIVE TO FAMILY CIRCUMSTANCES AND
5 NEED, and ~~shall~~ benefit the applicant or participant by reducing the
6 unintended economic consequences of becoming employed. The rules
7 promulgated by the state department pursuant to this ~~subparagraph (III)~~
8 ~~shall~~ SUBSECTION (1)(a)(III) MUST not establish an earned income
9 disregard that results in an applicant or participant having fewer financial
10 resources available to ~~him or her~~ THE APPLICANT OR PARTICIPANT than a
11 similarly situated applicant or participant would have had under the
12 earned income disregard pursuant to section 26-2-709 as it existed on July
13 1, 2009; and

14 (b) (I) In establishing the calculation for determining the amount
15 of an eligible applicant's or participant's basic cash assistance grant, the
16 state department shall ensure that the amount of the basic cash assistance
17 grant that a participant or applicant receives ~~FOR THE STATE FISCAL~~
18 ~~YEAR COMMENCING JULY 1, 2022, is equal to or exceeds one hundred two~~
19 ~~percent of the need standard for a participant in a similarly sized~~
20 ~~household on January 1, 2008. The state department is encouraged to~~
21 ~~establish a calculation for determining the amount of a basic cash~~
22 ~~assistance grant that results in a basic cash assistance grant that is equal~~
23 ~~to or exceeds one hundred twelve percent of the need standard for a~~
24 ~~participant in a similarly sized household on January 1, 2008, ONE~~
25 ~~HUNDRED PERCENT OF THE AMOUNT OF BASIC CASH ASSISTANCE IN 2021,~~
26 ~~PLUS TEN PERCENT. FOR THE STATE FISCAL YEAR COMMENCING JULY 1,~~
27 ~~2024, AND EACH STATE FISCAL YEAR THEREAFTER, THE AMOUNT OF BASIC~~

1 CASH ASSISTANCE MUST BE EQUAL TO OR EXCEED THE AMOUNT OF BASIC
2 CASH ASSISTANCE FOR THE PREVIOUS STATE FISCAL YEAR PLUS A TWO
3 PERCENT COST OF LIVING ADJUSTMENT OR A COST OF LIVING ADJUSTMENT
4 THAT IS EQUAL TO THE AVERAGE OF THE FEDERAL SOCIAL SECURITY
5 ADMINISTRATION'S COST OF LIVING ADJUSTMENT FOR THAT FISCAL YEAR
6 PLUS THE PREVIOUS TWO FISCAL YEARS, WHICHEVER IS GREATER.

7 (II) (A) ON JULY 1, 2022, THE STATE TREASURER SHALL TRANSFER
8 TWENTY-ONE MILLION FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS FROM THE
9 ECONOMIC RECOVERY AND RELIEF CASH FUND, CREATED IN SECTION
10 24-75-228, TO THE COLORADO LONG-TERM WORKS RESERVE TO COVER
11 ANY INCREASE IN BASIC CASH ASSISTANCE PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION
12 ABOVE THE AMOUNT OF BASIC CASH ASSISTANCE IN STATE FISCAL YEAR
13 2021-22.

14 (B) THE MONEY TRANSFERRED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION
15 (1)(b)(II)(A) OF THIS SECTION MUST BE EXPENDED NO LATER THAN
16 DECEMBER 30, 2026.

17 (C) THIS SUBSECTION (1)(b)(II) IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE JULY 1,
18 2027.

19 (III) (A) BEGINNING STATE FISCAL YEAR 2023-24, AND EACH
20 STATE FISCAL YEAR THEREAFTER, TO COVER ANY INCREASE IN BASIC CASH
21 ASSISTANCE PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION ABOVE THE TOTAL SPENDING OF
22 BASIC CASH ASSISTANCE IN STATE FISCAL YEAR 2021-22, THE STATE
23 DEPARTMENT SHALL FIRST EXPEND ANY MONEY REMAINING THAT IS
24 TRANSFERRED TO THE COLORADO LONG-TERM WORKS RESERVE PURSUANT
25 TO SUBSECTION (1)(b)(II) OF THIS SECTION. THE STATE DEPARTMENT
26 SHALL THEN EXPEND MONEY IN AN AMOUNT EQUAL TO ONE-THIRD OF THE
27 AMOUNT NECESSARY TO COVER ANY SUCH INCREASE IN BASIC CASH

1 ASSISTANCE FROM AVAILABLE TANF FUNDS, WHICH MUST INCLUDE FUNDS
2 IN THE COLORADO LONG-TERM WORKS RESERVE AND THE TOTAL
3 STATEWIDE COUNTY TANF RESERVE, AND AN AMOUNT EQUAL TO
4 TWO-THIRDS OF THE AMOUNT NECESSARY TO COVER ANY SUCH INCREASE
5 IN BASIC CASH ASSISTANCE THAT THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY APPROPRIATES
6 TO THE STATE DEPARTMENT FROM THE STATE GENERAL FUND OR ANY
7 OTHER AVAILABLE FUND, INCLUDING THE COLORADO LONG-TERM WORKS
8 RESERVE, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 26-2-721 (5). THE STATE
9 DEPARTMENT AND COUNTIES SHALL IDENTIFY AN EQUITABLE PORTION OF
10 THE COLORADO LONG-TERM WORKS RESERVE AND TOTAL STATEWIDE
11 COUNTY TANF RESERVE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS SUBSECTION
12 (1)(b)(III)(A). THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SHALL APPROPRIATE MONEY TO
13 THE STATE DEPARTMENT FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS SUBSECTION
14 (1)(b)(III)(A).

15 (B) IF THE TOTAL STATEWIDE COUNTY TANF RESERVE FALLS
16 BELOW FIFTEEN PERCENT OF THE COUNTY BLOCK GRANT AMOUNT, THE
17 GENERAL ASSEMBLY SHALL APPROPRIATE MONEY FROM THE COLORADO
18 LONG-TERM WORKS RESERVE TO THE COUNTY BLOCK GRANT UNTIL THE
19 BALANCE OF THE TOTAL STATEWIDE COUNTY TANF RESERVE EXCEEDS
20 FIFTEEN PERCENT OF THE COUNTY BLOCK GRANT AMOUNT OR UNTIL THE
21 COLORADO LONG-TERM WORKS RESERVE FALLS BELOW TWENTY-FIVE
22 PERCENT OF THE STATE BLOCK GRANT AMOUNT.

23 (C) IF THE COLORADO LONG-TERM WORKS RESERVE FALLS BELOW
24 TWENTY-FIVE PERCENT OF THE STATE BLOCK GRANT AMOUNT AND THE
25 TOTAL STATEWIDE COUNTY TANF RESERVE EXCEEDS FIFTEEN PERCENT OF
26 THE COUNTY BLOCK GRANT AMOUNT, THE COUNTIES SHALL FUND THE
27 TANF PROGRAM FROM AVAILABLE TANF FUNDS UNTIL THE TOTAL

1 STATEWIDE COUNTY TANF RESERVE FALLS BELOW FIFTEEN PERCENT OF
2 THE COUNTY BLOCK GRANT AMOUNT. COUNTIES ARE ONLY REQUIRED TO
3 SPEND AVAILABLE TANF MONEY, INCLUDING COUNTY TANF RESERVES
4 AND THE MAINTENANCE OF EFFORT, FOR THE COLORADO WORKS
5 PROGRAM.

6 (IV) BEGINNING JANUARY 2023, AND EACH JANUARY
7 THEREAFTER, THE JOINT BUDGET COMMITTEE SHALL AT LEAST ANNUALLY
8 REVIEW THE BALANCE OF THE COLORADO LONG-TERM WORKS RESERVE
9 AND THE TOTAL STATEWIDE COUNTY TANF RESERVE, AND, IF THE JOINT
10 BUDGET COMMITTEE DETERMINES THAT THE BALANCE OF THE COLORADO
11 LONG-TERM WORKS RESERVE WILL FALL BELOW TWENTY-FIVE PERCENT OF
12 THE STATE BLOCK GRANT AMOUNT AND THE BALANCE OF THE TOTAL
13 STATEWIDE COUNTY TANF RESERVE WILL FALL BELOW FIFTEEN PERCENT
14 OF THE COUNTY BLOCK GRANT AMOUNT IN THE CURRENT OR NEXT STATE
15 FISCAL YEAR, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SHALL APPROPRIATE MONEY FROM
16 THE STATE GENERAL FUND OR THE UNCLAIMED PROPERTY TRUST FUND TO
17 COVER ANY INCREASE IN BASIC CASH ASSISTANCE ABOVE THE AMOUNT OF
18 BASIC CASH ASSISTANCE IN STATE FISCAL YEAR 2021-22 UNTIL THE
19 BALANCE OF THE COLORADO LONG-TERM WORKS RESERVE EXCEEDS
20 TWENTY-FIVE PERCENT OF THE STATE BLOCK GRANT AMOUNT AND THE
21 TOTAL STATEWIDE COUNTY TANF RESERVE EXCEEDS FIFTEEN PERCENT OF
22 THE COUNTY BLOCK GRANT AMOUNT.

23 (V) THE STATE DEPARTMENT AND A COUNTY DEPARTMENT THAT
24 RECEIVES MONEY FROM THE STATE DEPARTMENT PURSUANT TO THIS
25 SECTION SHALL COMPLY WITH THE COMPLIANCE, REPORTING,
26 RECORD-KEEPING, AND PROGRAM EVALUATION REQUIREMENTS
27 ESTABLISHED BY THE OFFICE OF STATE PLANNING AND BUDGETING AND

1 THE STATE CONTROLLER IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 24-75-226 (5).

2 **(1.3) Redetermination of eligibility for persons receiving cash**
3 **assistance.** The STATE BOARD SHALL PROMULGATE RULES THAT REQUIRE
4 county ~~department~~ shall DEPARTMENTS TO perform ~~an~~ annual A
5 redetermination of eligibility for all assistance units receiving cash
6 assistance. ELIGIBILITY PROCESSES FROM OTHER PUBLIC ASSISTANCE OR
7 ENTITLEMENT PROGRAMS MAY BE USED WHEN REDETERMINING
8 ELIGIBILITY. WHEN POSSIBLE, THE STATE BOARD IS STRONGLY
9 ENCOURAGED TO ALIGN REDETERMINATION TIMELINES WITH OTHER
10 PUBLIC ASSISTANCE OR ENTITLEMENT PROGRAMS.

11 **SECTION 7.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **amend** 26-2-709.5
12 as follows:

13 **26-2-709.5. Exit interviews and follow-up interviews of**
14 **participants.** (1) In order to follow the legislative intent declared in
15 section 26-2-702 (1)(a), a county department ~~is~~ strongly encouraged to
16 CONTACT EACH PARTICIPANT USING EACH METHOD OF COMMUNICATION
17 PROVIDED BY THE PARTICIPANT IN ORDER TO conduct exit and follow-up
18 interviews upon case closure, either in person or by telephone, ~~with all~~
19 ~~participants of the Colorado works program~~, including participants who
20 are or have been receiving short-term assistance payments pursuant to
21 section 26-2-706.6. The interviews shall be CONDUCTED IN ACCORDANCE
22 WITH STATE DEPARTMENT GUIDANCE for the purpose of:

23 (a) EVALUATING THE PARTICIPANT'S EXPERIENCE WITH THE WORKS
24 PROGRAM;

25 (b) EVALUATING HOW WELL THE WORKS PROGRAM MET THE
26 PARTICIPANT'S NEEDS AND ASSISTED THE PARTICIPANT IN MEETING THE
27 PARTICIPANT'S GOALS;

16 (3) BEGINNING JANUARY 2023, AND EACH JANUARY THEREAFTER,
17 THE STATE DEPARTMENT SHALL SUBMIT A REPORT TO THE HOUSE OF
18 REPRESENTATIVES PUBLIC AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND HUMAN
19 SERVICES COMMITTEE AND THE SENATE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
20 COMMITTEE, OR THEIR SUCCESSOR COMMITTEES, AS PART OF ITS "STATE
21 MEASUREMENT FOR ACCOUNTABLE, RESPONSIVE, AND TRANSPARENT
22 (SMART) GOVERNMENT ACT" PRESENTATION REQUIRED BY SECTION
23 2-7-203, ON THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE WORKS PROGRAM. TO THE
24 EXTENT PRACTICABLE, THE STATE DEPARTMENT MAY REQUEST A COUNTY
25 DEPARTMENT TO PROVIDE ANY INFORMATION AND DATA THAT MAY BE
26 NECESSARY TO DEVELOP THE REPORT, INCLUDING INFORMATION AND DATA
27 FROM EXIT INTERVIEWS CONDUCTED BY THE COUNTY DEPARTMENTS

1 PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (1) OF THIS SECTION. ANY DATA USED MUST
2 PROTECT PERSONAL IDENTIFYING INFORMATION OF THE PARTICIPANTS AND
3 THE PARTICIPANTS' FAMILY MEMBERS. AT A MINIMUM, THE REPORT MUST
4 INCLUDE:

5 (a) THE TOTAL NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS ENROLLED IN THE
6 WORKS PROGRAM IN THE PREVIOUS FISCAL YEAR, DISAGGREGATED BY
7 CASE TYPE, RACE, AND ETHNICITY;

8 (b) THE TOTAL NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS WHO EXITED AND
9 RE-ENROLLED IN THE WORKS PROGRAM ONE OR MORE TIMES IN THE
10 PREVIOUS FISCAL YEAR, DISAGGREGATED BY CASE TYPE, RACE, AND
11 ETHNICITY;

12 (c) THE TOTAL NUMBER OF INSTANCES A PARTICIPANT EXITED AND
13 RE-ENROLLED IN THE WORKS PROGRAM ONE OR MORE TIMES IN THE
14 PREVIOUS FISCAL YEAR, DISAGGREGATED BY CASE TYPE, RACE, AND
15 ETHNICITY;

16 (d) THE TOTAL NUMBER OF MONTHS EACH PARTICIPANT REMAINED
17 ENROLLED IN THE WORKS PROGRAM IN THE PREVIOUS FISCAL YEAR,
18 DISAGGREGATED BY CASE TYPE, RACE, AND ETHNICITY; AND

19 (e) ~~TO THE EXTENT PRACTICABLE, DATA GATHERED THROUGH~~
20 SURVEYS AND EXIT INTERVIEWS WITH PARTICIPANTS IN THE WORKS
21 PROGRAM REGARDING PARTICIPANTS' EXPERIENCE WITH THE PROGRAM,
22 BELIEFS ABOUT THE GOALS OF THE PROGRAM, PERCEPTIONS OF HOW
23 PARTICIPATION IN THE PROGRAM CONTRIBUTED TO THE FAMILY GOALS,
24 REASONS FOR LEAVING THE PROGRAM, CURRENT EMPLOYMENT STATUS
25 AND WAGE RATE, AND SUPPORTIVE SERVICES PROVIDED AND WHETHER
26 THOSE SERVICES HAVE BEEN IMPACTED BY INCREASES IN BASIC CASH
27 ASSISTANCE.

4 **SECTION 8.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 26-2-711, amend
5 (1)(a) introductory portion, (1)(a)(II), and (1)(a)(III) as follows:

6 **26-2-711. Works program - sanctions against participants -**
7 **rules.** (1) (a) The state board shall promulgate rules for the imposition of
8 sanctions affecting the basic cash assistance grant as described in section
9 26-2-709 (1). The rules ~~shall~~ MUST require:

14 (III) Specific reductions in the basic CASH assistance grant for
15 second and subsequent sanctions affecting the basic CASH assistance
16 grant;

17 **SECTION 9.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 26-2-714, **amend (2);**
18 and **add (11)** as follows:

19 **26-2-714. County block grants formula - use of moneys - rules.**

20 (2) Subject to available appropriations, in state fiscal year 2009-10 and

21 in each fiscal year thereafter, the state department, with input from the

22 works allocation committee, shall set the amount of the county block

23 grants based on demographic and economic factors within the counties,

24 INCLUDING THE AMOUNT A COUNTY SPENDS ON BASIC CASH ASSISTANCE

25 GRANTS AND THE COUNTY'S TANF RESERVE BALANCE.

26 (11) THE WORKS ALLOCATION COMMITTEE SHALL:

27 (a) REVIEW, AT LEAST QUARTERLY, THE BALANCE OF THE

1 COLORADO LONG-TERM WORKS RESERVE, THE BALANCE OF THE TOTAL
2 STATEWIDE COUNTY TANF RESERVE, AND THE AMOUNT OF BASIC CASH
3 ASSISTANCE GRANTS PROVIDED TO PARTICIPANTS TO MONITOR WHETHER
4 THE BALANCE OF THE COLORADO LONG-TERM WORKS RESERVE WILL FALL
5 BELOW TWENTY-FIVE PERCENT OF THE STATE BLOCK GRANT AMOUNT, AND
6 WHETHER THE BALANCE OF THE TOTAL STATEWIDE COUNTY TANF
7 RESERVE WILL FALL BELOW FIFTEEN PERCENT OF THE COUNTY BLOCK
8 GRANT AMOUNT;

9 (b) SUBMIT A WRITTEN REPORT TO THE JOINT BUDGET COMMITTEE
10 DETAILED THE CURRENT COLORADO LONG-TERM WORKS RESERVE LEVEL,
11 THE TOTAL STATEWIDE COUNTY TANF RESERVE LEVEL AS A WHOLE AND
12 BY COUNTY, AND ANY PROJECTIONS REGARDING DEFICITS IN THE
13 RESERVES; AND

14 (c) ESTABLISH A MITIGATION FUND FOR COUNTIES WHOSE TANF
15 RESERVES FALL BELOW FIFTEEN PERCENT OF THE COUNTY'S BLOCK GRANT
16 AMOUNT.

17 **SECTION 10.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 26-2-720.5, amend
18 (3) as follows:

19 **26-2-720.5. County block grant support fund - created.**
20 (3) (a) A county that meets the criteria established by the state
21 department and the works allocation committee pursuant to subsection (2)
22 of this section may request ~~moneys~~ MONEY from the county block grant
23 support fund. Priority shall be given to any county that exhausts all
24 ~~moneys~~ MONEY available in the county's block grant for the Colorado
25 works program for that fiscal year.

26 (b) A COUNTY THAT IS PROJECTED TO EXHAUST ALL MONEY
27 AVAILABLE IN THE COUNTY'S TANF RESERVE AND FACES A LOCAL OR

1 STATEWIDE NATURAL DISASTER OR OTHER EMERGENCY MAY REQUEST
2 MONEY FROM THE COUNTY BLOCK GRANT SUPPORT FUND. THE STATE
3 DEPARTMENT, WITH INPUT FROM THE WORKS ALLOCATION COMMITTEE,
4 SHALL DEVELOP CRITERIA AND PROCEDURES TO INCLUDE USE OF THE FUND
5 IN CIRCUMSTANCES OF A NATURAL DISASTER OR OTHER EMERGENCY.

6 **SECTION 11. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 26-2-721, amend**
7 **(1) and (3); and add (5) as follows:**

8 **26-2-721. Colorado long-term works reserve - creation - use.**
9 (1) There is hereby created the Colorado long-term works reserve,
10 referred to in this section as the "reserve", that shall consist CONSISTS of
11 unappropriated TANF block grant moneys MONEY, state general fund
12 moneys MONEY appropriated thereto by the general assembly, INCLUDING
13 AMOUNTS APPROPRIATED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (5) OF THIS SECTION,
14 and moneys MONEY transferred thereto pursuant to sections 26-2-714
15 (5)(a), 26-2-716 (4)(b), 26-2-720.5 (1), and 26-2-721.3 (1). A county's
16 excess unspent TANF reserves that are transferred to another county
17 pursuant to section 26-2-714 (5)(a)(I)(B) or (5)(a)(I)(C) shall not be
18 considered unappropriated TANF block grant moneys for purposes of this
19 section. Any excess unspent TANF reserves for state fiscal year 2009-10
20 shall be IS excluded from the Colorado long-term works reserve and shall
21 be IS available for transfer to a county pursuant to section 26-2-714
22 (5)(a)(I)(B).

23 (3) Prior to requesting any appropriations from the reserve
24 PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (2) OF THIS SECTION for the purpose of making
25 transfers, the state department shall consult with counties and provide
26 information to the joint budget committee for the purposes of ensuring
27 that all transfers of TANF funds do not exceed the federal limits for

1 transfers and ensuring that the needs of counties to make transfers
2 authorized pursuant to section 26-2-714 (7) and (9) are considered.

3 (5)(a) NOTWITHSTANDING ANY PROVISION OF SECTION 38-13-801,
4 BEGINNING STATE FISCAL YEAR 2023-24, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY MAY
5 APPROPRIATE MONEY FROM THE UNCLAIMED PROPERTY TRUST FUND,
6 CREATED IN SECTION 38-13-801, TO THE RESERVE IF, BASED ON THE MOST
7 RECENT FORECAST, THE STATE IS NOT PROJECTED TO EXCEED THE STATE
8 FISCAL YEAR SPENDING LIMIT IMPOSED BY SECTION 20 OF ARTICLE X OF
9 THE STATE CONSTITUTION FOR THE STATE FISCAL YEAR. THE AMOUNT
10 APPROPRIATED FOR A STATE FISCAL YEAR SHALL NOT EXCEED THE
11 AMOUNT NECESSARY TO COVER TWO-THIRDS OF THE AMOUNT NECESSARY
12 TO COVER THE INCREASE IN BASIC CASH ASSISTANCE SPECIFIED IN SECTION
13 26-2-709 (1)(b)(III)(A). THE MONEY APPROPRIATED TO THE RESERVE
14 UNDER THIS SUBSECTION (5)(a) SHALL NOT BE APPROPRIATED FOR THE
15 PURPOSES SET FORTH IN SUBSECTION (2) OF THIS SECTION.

16 (b) NOTWITHSTANDING SUBSECTION (2) OF THE SECTION, THE
17 GENERAL ASSEMBLY MAY APPROPRIATE MONEY FROM THE RESERVE THAT
18 WAS APPROPRIATED THERETO UNDER SUBSECTION (5)(a) OF THIS SECTION
19 TO THE STATE DEPARTMENT FOR THE PURPOSE OF COVERING TWO-THIRDS
20 OF THE AMOUNT OF THE INCREASE IN BASIC CASH ASSISTANCE SPECIFIED
21 IN SECTION 26-2-709 (1)(b)(III)(A).

22 (c) ON MARCH 1, 2024, AND MARCH 1 OF EACH YEAR
23 THEREAFTER, THE STATE TREASURER SHALL NOTIFY THE JOINT BUDGET
24 COMMITTEE OF THE AMOUNT AVAILABLE IN THE UNCLAIMED PROPERTY
25 TRUST FUND THAT IS PROJECTED TO BE AVAILABLE IN THE NEXT STATE
26 FISCAL YEAR.

27 (d) AS USED IN SUBSECTION (5)(a) OF THIS SECTION, "MOST

1 RECENT FORECAST" MEANS THE MOST RECENT ECONOMIC AND REVENUE
2 FORECAST PREPARED BY LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL STAFF AS OF THE DATE OF
3 THE INTRODUCTION OF A BILL THAT APPROPRIATES MONEY TO THE
4 DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION FROM THE
5 UNCLAIMED PROPERTY TRUST FUND CREATED IN SECTION 38-13-801.

6 **SECTION 12.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 26-2-725 as
7 follows:

8 **26-2-725. Outreach and engagement plan - family voice**
9 **participation.** (1) NO LATER THAN SEPTEMBER 30, 2022, THE STATE
10 DEPARTMENT SHALL DEVELOP AN OUTREACH AND ENGAGEMENT PLAN TO
11 PROMOTE ACCESS TO THE COLORADO WORKS PROGRAM FOR ELIGIBLE
12 PERSONS.

13 (2) THE STATE DEPARTMENT SHALL PARTNER WITH COUNTIES AND
14 NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS WHEN DEVELOPING AND IMPLEMENTING THE
15 OUTREACH AND ENGAGEMENT PLAN AND SHALL INCORPORATE FEEDBACK
16 FROM CURRENT AND FORMER PARTICIPANTS TO ENSURE PARTICIPANTS ARE
17 INFLUENTIAL STAKEHOLDERS IN THE PROCESS.

18 (3) AT A MINIMUM, THE OUTREACH AND ENGAGEMENT PLAN MUST
19 INCLUDE SPECIFIC STRATEGIES FOR:

20 (a) OUTREACH TO MONOLINGUAL, NON-ENGLISH SPEAKING
21 COMMUNITIES AND FAMILIES, INCLUDING A LINGUISTICALLY DIVERSE
22 WEBSITE AND TRANSLATION OF OTHER MATERIALS THAT INCLUDE
23 INFORMATION ABOUT THE WORKS PROGRAM IN THE SEVEN MOST COMMON
24 LANGUAGES SPOKEN IN EACH COUNTY OF THE STATE;

25 
26 (b) DEVELOPING CULTURALLY APPROPRIATE MESSAGING;
27 (c) SHARING INFORMATION ABOUT THE SERVICES AND SUPPORTS

1 AVAILABLE AND PARTICIPANTS' RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES UNDER THE
2 WORKS PROGRAM;

3 (d) HOW TO APPEAL IF REDETERMINATION IS DENIED;

4 (e) CONFIDENTIALITY PROTECTIONS FOR APPLICANTS AND
5 PARTICIPANTS; AND

6 (f) OUTREACH THROUGH A VARIETY OF SETTINGS, INCLUDING BUT
7 NOT LIMITED TO SOCIAL MEDIA, SCHOOLS, CHILD CARE CENTERS, FOOD
8 BANKS, LIBRARIES, FEDERALLY QUALIFIED HEALTH CENTERS, HOME
9 VISITING PROGRAMS, MOBILE HOME PARKS, HEAD START AND EARLY HEAD
10 START CENTERS, AND MOBILE SITES.

11 (4) THE STATE DEPARTMENT SHALL:

12 (a) REQUIRE THAT COUNTY STAFF WORKING WITH APPLICANTS AND
13 PARTICIPANTS RECEIVE COMPREHENSIVE TRAINING REGARDING THE
14 WORKS PROGRAM. THE TRAINING MUST INCLUDE TRAUMA-INFORMED
15 APPROACHES TO INTERACTING WITH PARTICIPANTS, CONSISTENCY IN
16 COMMUNICATING INFORMATION ABOUT CHILD CARE ACCESS AND
17 ASSISTANCE, THE ALIGNMENT OF A PARTICIPANT'S WORK REQUIREMENTS
18 WITH CHILD CARE ACCESS AND FAMILY MEDICAL NEEDS, THE FULL SCOPE
19 OF OPTIONS FOR THE PARTICIPANT TO MEET WORK AND EDUCATION
20 REQUIREMENTS IN ALIGNMENT WITH THE PARTICIPANT'S GOALS, AND THE
21 AVAILABILITY OF SUPPORT SERVICES FOR FAMILIES.

22 

23 (b) DEVELOP TOOLKITS, MANUALS, AND OTHER MATERIALS FOR
24 COUNTY STAFF, APPLICANTS, AND PARTICIPANTS THAT INCLUDE
25 INFORMATION ABOUT CHILD CARE ACCESS AND ASSISTANCE, THE
26 ALIGNMENT OF A PARTICIPANT'S WORK REQUIREMENTS WITH CHILD CARE
27 ACCESS, THE FULL SCOPE OF OPTIONS FOR THE PARTICIPANT TO MEET

1 WORK AND EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS IN ALIGNMENT WITH THE
2 PARTICIPANT'S GOALS, AND THE AVAILABILITY OF SUPPORT SERVICES FOR
3 FAMILIES;

4 (c) PARTNER WITH COUNTIES, NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS, AND
5 PARTICIPANTS TO DEVELOP CULTURALLY AND LINGUISTICALLY
6 APPROPRIATE MESSAGING AND ENSURE THAT APPLICANTS AND
7 PARTICIPANTS HAVE ACCESS TO SUFFICIENT SUPPORTS AND
8 COMMUNICATION IN THE SEVEN MOST COMMON LANGUAGES SPOKEN IN
9 EACH COUNTY OF THE STATE, OR, IN THE INSTANCE OF A MONOLINGUAL
10 SPEAKER OF A LANGUAGE OTHER THAN THE SEVEN MOST COMMON
11 LANGUAGES, USE BEST EFFORTS TO PROVIDE SUPPORTS AND
12 COMMUNICATION IN THE LANGUAGE SPOKEN BY THE INDIVIDUAL;

13 (d) ENSURE ADEQUATE AND MEANINGFUL REPRESENTATION BY,
14 FEEDBACK FROM, OR ENGAGEMENT WITH CURRENT AND FORMER
15 PARTICIPANTS WHEN MAKING DECISIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
16 REGARDING THE WORKS PROGRAM, INCLUDING DURING ANY RULE-MAKING
17 OR REGULATORY PROCESS AND OTHER POLICY CHANGES THAT IMPACT
18 RECIPIENTS. TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE, THE STATE DEPARTMENT SHALL
19 ENSURE THAT PARTICIPANTS INVOLVED PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION
20 (4)(d) ARE DIVERSE WITH REGARD TO RACE, ETHNICITY, AGE, ABILITY,
21 SEXUAL ORIENTATION, GENDER IDENTITY, AND GEOGRAPHY AND THAT
22 PARTICIPANT FEEDBACK HAS A GENUINE OPPORTUNITY TO INFLUENCE
23 SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES TO THE WORKS PROGRAM. THE STATE
24 DEPARTMENT MAY UTILIZE ANY ESTABLISHED COUNCILS AT THE STATE
25 AND LOCAL LEVEL THAT HAVE CURRENT AND FORMER PARTICIPANTS
26 REPRESENTED OR APPOINTED TO COMPLY WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF
27 THIS SUBSECTION (4)(d). TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE, THE STATE

1 DEPARTMENT SHALL CONSIDER REIMBURSING PARTICIPANTS INVOLVED
2 PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION (4)(d) FOR TRAVEL EXPENSES AND
3 ATTENDANT AND DEPENDENT CARE.

4 (5) BEGINNING JANUARY 2023, AND EACH JANUARY THEREAFTER,
5 THE STATE DEPARTMENT SHALL INCLUDE INFORMATION ON THE
6 IMPLEMENTATION OF THE REQUIREMENTS IN THIS SECTION IN ITS REPORT
7 TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES PUBLIC AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
8 AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE AND THE SENATE HEALTH AND HUMAN
9 SERVICES COMMITTEE, OR THEIR SUCCESSOR COMMITTEES, AS PART OF ITS
10 "STATE MEASUREMENT FOR ACCOUNTABLE, RESPONSIVE, AND
11 TRANSPARENT (SMART) GOVERNMENT ACT" PRESENTATION REQUIRED
12 BY SECTION 2-7-203.

13 (6) THE STATE DEPARTMENT MAY REVIEW AND CONSIDER
14 INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SOLUTIONS FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF
15 THIS SECTION.

16 **SECTION 13. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 38-13-801, amend**
17 **(2)(d)(III) and (2)(d)(IV); and add (2)(d)(V) as follows:**

18 **38-13-801. Unclaimed property trust fund - creation -**
19 **payments - interest - appropriations - records - rules.** (2) (d) The
20 following amounts constitute fiscal year spending for purposes of section
21 20 of article X of the state constitution:

22 **(III) Any money that is credited to the housing development grant**
23 **fund created in section 24-32-721 (1) as required by subsection (3.5) of**
24 **this section; and**

25 **(IV) Any money that is transferred to the general fund as required**
26 **by subsection (5) of this section; AND**

27 **(V) ANY MONEY APPROPRIATED TO THE COLORADO LONG-TERM**

1 WORKS RESERVE CREATED IN SECTION 26-2-721 IN ACCORDANCE WITH
2 SUBSECTION (5) OF THE SECTION.

3 **SECTION 14. Appropriation.** For the 2022-23 state fiscal year,
4 \$3,500,000 is appropriated to the department of human services for use
5 by the office of economic security. This appropriation is from the
6 economic recovery and relief cash fund created in section 24-75-228,
7 C.R.S., and is of money the state received from the federal coronavirus
8 state fiscal recovery fund. To implement this act, the office may use this
9 appropriation for the employment opportunities with wages program. Any
10 money appropriated in this section not expended prior to July 1, 2023, is
11 further appropriated to the office from July 1, 2023, through December
12 30, 2024, for the same purpose.

13 **SECTION 15. Appropriation.** (1) For the 2022-23 state fiscal
14 year, 9,849,303 is appropriated to the department of human services. This
15 appropriation is from the Colorado long-term works reserve created in
16 section 26-2-721 (1), C.R.S. To implement this act, the department may
17 use this appropriation as follows:

18 (a) \$382,903 for use by the office of economic security for
19 administration related to the employment and benefits division, which
20 amount is based on an assumption that the division will require an
21 additional 5.0 FTE;

22 (b) \$8,400,000 for use by the office of economic security for
23 county block grants; and

24 (c) \$1,066,400 for use by the office of economic security for
25 operating and contract expenses related to the Colorado benefits
26 management system.

27 (2) For the 2022-23 state fiscal year, \$1,066,400 is appropriated

1 to the office of the governor for use by the office of information
2 technology. This appropriation is from reappropriated funds received
3 from the department of human services under subsection (1)(c) of this
4 section. To implement this act, the office may use this appropriation to
5 provide information technology services for the department of human
6 services.

7 **SECTION 16. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds,
8 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate
9 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety.