

**Second Regular Session
Seventy-fifth General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO**

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 26-0329.01 Renee Leone x2695

HOUSE BILL 26-1010

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Willford and Jackson,

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Danielson,

House Committees
Business Affairs & Labor

Senate Committees

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 **CONCERNING INCREASING SUPPORT FOR OLDER ADULTS IN THE**
102 **WORKFORCE.**

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 increases participation, representation, and support for individuals 60 years old or older in the Colorado workforce and in organizations related to employment and the workforce by:

- Requiring the state work force development council (council), the Colorado commission on the aging, and other entities to meet twice a year, collect data, and work

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

- collaboratively on issues related to individuals in the workforce who are 60 years old or older;
- Requiring the department of labor and employment and the department of human services to jointly submit a report compiling the data collected by the council, the Colorado commission on the aging, and other entities to the general assembly and requiring the department of labor and employment, during the department's annual "SMART Act" hearings, to summarize the report to certain legislative committees; and
 - Requiring that the council, the commission on higher education, the state apprenticeship council, and the state board for community colleges and occupational education, or their successor entities, each have at least one member serving on their governing entity that is at least 60 years old and either is actively involved in or has interest, knowledge, or experience in advocating for the interests of individuals who are 60 years old or older as related to the functions of each entity.

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

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-46.3-100.3, **add**
3 (2.6) as follows:

4 **24-46.3-100.3. Definitions.**

5 As used in this article 46.3, unless the context otherwise requires:

6 (2.6) "OLDER ADULT" MEANS AN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS SIXTY YEARS
7 OLD OR OLDER.

8 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-46.3-101, **add**
9 (2.1) as follows:

10 **24-46.3-101. State work force development council - creation**
11 **- membership - funding through gifts, grants, and donations.**

12 (2.1) FOR APPOINTMENTS TO THE STATE COUNCIL, OR A SUCCESSOR
13 ENTITY, MADE ON OR AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS SUBSECTION
14 (2.1), AT LEAST ONE MEMBER APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR PURSUANT TO

1 SUBSECTION (2)(d) OF THIS SECTION MUST BE AN INDIVIDUAL WHO:
2 (a) IS AN OLDER ADULT; AND
3 (b) EITHER IS ACTIVELY INVOLVED IN OR HAS INTEREST,
4 KNOWLEDGE, OR EXPERIENCE IN ADVOCATING FOR THE INTERESTS OF
5 OLDER ADULTS IN THE WORKFORCE.

6 **SECTION 3.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 24-46.3-107 as
7 follows:

8 **24-46.3-107. Meet with Colorado commission on aging - collect**
9 **data - "SMART Act" hearing.**

10 (1) (a) BEGINNING IN 2027, AND EACH YEAR THEREAFTER, THE
11 STATE COUNCIL SHALL MEET TWICE A YEAR WITH THE COLORADO
12 COMMISSION ON THE AGING, CREATED PURSUANT TO SECTION 26-11-101,
13 OR A WORKFORCE-RELATED SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE COLORADO
14 COMMISSION ON THE AGING, ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO SECTION
15 26-11-102.

16 (b) THE STATE COUNCIL SHALL INVITE REPRESENTATIVES OF
17 ENTITIES WITH DEMONSTRATED INTEREST OR EXPERIENCE IN WORKFORCE
18 SERVICES FOR OLDER ADULTS, INCLUDING COMMUNITY-BASED
19 ORGANIZATIONS, ADVOCACY GROUPS, WORKFORCE POLICY EXPERTS, AND
20 NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS, TO PARTICIPATE IN THE MEETINGS HELD
21 PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (1)(a) OF THIS SECTION.

22 (2) THE STATE COUNCIL, THE COLORADO COMMISSION ON THE
23 AGING, AND ANY OTHER PARTICIPATING ENTITIES SHALL WORK
24 COLLABORATIVELY TO:

25 (a) PROMOTE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AND FOSTER
26 SELF-SUFFICIENCY FOR OLDER ADULTS IN THE STATE;

27 (b) EXAMINE ISSUES RELATED TO EMPLOYMENT ACCESS, TRAINING,

1 SUPPORT, AND SERVICES FOR OLDER ADULTS IN THE STATE;

2 (c) REVIEW DATA COLLECTED BY THE STATE COUNCIL OR THE
3 COLORADO COMMISSION ON THE AGING RELATED TO OLDER ADULTS IN
4 THE WORKFORCE;

5 (d) DISCUSS AND DETERMINE WHETHER ADDITIONAL DATA SHOULD
6 BE COLLECTED BY THE STATE COUNCIL OR THE COLORADO COMMISSION
7 ON THE AGING REGARDING OLDER ADULTS IN THE WORKFORCE TO ASSIST
8 IN FURTHERING THE OBJECTIVES SET FORTH IN SUBSECTIONS (2)(a) AND
9 (2)(b) OF THIS SECTION; AND

10 (e) PROVIDE AN OVERVIEW TO THE DEPARTMENT AND THE
11 DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES, ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 1, 2027,
12 AND ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 1 OF EACH YEAR THEREAFTER, OF THE
13 DATA COLLECTED PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION (2).

14 (3) BEGINNING IN 2028, AND EACH YEAR THEREAFTER, THE
15 DEPARTMENT AND THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES SHALL JOINTLY
16 SUBMIT A REPORT TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY COMPILING THE DATA
17 COLLECTED PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION AND SUMMARIZING THE STATE OF
18 WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AND EMPLOYMENT ACCESS FOR OLDER
19 ADULTS IN THE STATE, AND THE DEPARTMENT SHALL SUMMARIZE THE
20 REPORT IN ITS PRESENTATION TO THE SENATE BUSINESS, LABOR, AND
21 TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES BUSINESS
22 AFFAIRS AND LABOR COMMITTEE, OR THEIR SUCCESSOR COMMITTEES,
23 DURING THE HEARINGS HELD PURSUANT TO THE "SMART ACT", PART 2
24 OF ARTICLE 7 OF TITLE 2.

25 **SECTION 4.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 26-11-105, **add** (2)
26 as follows:

27 **26-11-105. Duties of commission - report.**

1 (2) BEGINNING IN 2027, AND EACH YEAR THEREAFTER, THE
2 COMMISSION, OR A WORKFORCE-RELATED SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE
3 COMMISSION, SHALL MEET TWICE A YEAR WITH AND WORK
4 COLLABORATIVELY WITH THE STATE WORK FORCE DEVELOPMENT
5 COUNCIL, CREATED IN SECTION 24-46.3-101, TO PERFORM THE DUTIES SET
6 FORTH IN SECTION 24-46.3-107.

7 **SECTION 5.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 8-15.7-105, **add**
8 (1)(b)(II.5) as follows:

9 **8-15.7-105. State apprenticeship council - created - members**
10 **- powers and duties.**

11 (1) (b) The SAC:

12 (II.5) ON AND AFTER JANUARY 1, 2027, MUST INCLUDE, AS ONE OF
13 THE REPRESENTATIVES OF EMPLOYER OR EMPLOYEE ORGANIZATIONS OR
14 MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC REQUIRED TO BE INCLUDED BY SUBSECTION
15 (1)(b)(II) OF THIS SECTION, AN INDIVIDUAL WHO:

16 (A) IS AT LEAST SIXTY YEARS OLD; AND

17 (B) EITHER IS ACTIVELY INVOLVED IN OR HAS INTEREST,
18 KNOWLEDGE, OR EXPERIENCE IN ADVOCATING FOR THE INTERESTS OF
19 INDIVIDUALS WHO WORK IN APPRENTICESHIP POSITIONS AND ARE SIXTY
20 YEARS OLD OR OLDER;

21 **SECTION 6.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 23-1-102, **amend**
22 (3)(b) as follows:

23 **23-1-102. Commission established - terms of office.**

24 (3) (b) ~~The governor shall select~~ WHEN APPOINTING the members
25 of the commission, THE GOVERNOR SHALL ENSURE THAT:

26 (I) THE MEMBERS ARE SELECTED on the basis of their knowledge
27 of and interest in higher education;

1 (II) At least one member of the commission ~~must reside~~ RESIDES
2 west of the continental divide;

3 (III) ON AND AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS SUBSECTION
4 (3)(b), AS AMENDED, AT LEAST ONE MEMBER OF THE COMMISSION IS AT
5 LEAST SIXTY YEARS OLD AND EITHER IS ACTIVELY INVOLVED IN OR HAS
6 INTEREST, KNOWLEDGE, OR EXPERIENCE IN ADVOCATING FOR THE
7 INTERESTS OF INDIVIDUALS ENGAGED IN HIGHER EDUCATION WHO ARE
8 SIXTY YEARS OLD OR OLDER; AND

9 (IV) ~~No~~ THE COMMISSION DOES NOT HAVE more than a minimum
10 majority of the members ~~of the commission may be~~ affiliated with the
11 same political party at any time.

12 **SECTION 7.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 23-60-104, **amend**
13 (2)(a)(II); and **add** (2)(a)(II.2) and (2)(a)(II.5) as follows:

14 **23-60-104. State board for community colleges and**
15 **occupational education - student advisory council - state advisory**
16 **council.**

17 (2) (a) (II) ~~The board shall appoint a director of occupational~~
18 ~~education and a director of community and technical colleges with the~~
19 ~~qualifications and background specified by the board.~~ WHEN APPOINTING
20 MEMBERS TO THE BOARD, THE GOVERNOR SHALL ENSURE THAT:

21 (A) ON AND AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS SUBSECTION
22 (2)(a)(II), AS AMENDED, AT LEAST ONE MEMBER IS AT LEAST SIXTY YEARS
23 OLD AND EITHER IS ACTIVELY INVOLVED IN OR HAS INTEREST,
24 KNOWLEDGE, OR EXPERIENCE IN ADVOCATING FOR THE INTERESTS OF
25 INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE SIXTY YEARS OLD OR OLDER IN RELATION TO
26 PARTICIPATION IN COMMUNITY COLLEGES AND OCCUPATIONAL
27 EDUCATION;

1 (B) ~~No appointed member shall be~~ A MEMBER IS NOT an employee
2 of any local district college, community or technical college, school
3 district or agency receiving vocational funds allocated by the board,
4 private institution of higher education, or state or private occupational
5 school in the state;

6 (C) ~~No appointed member shall be~~ A MEMBER IS NOT an elected
7 or appointed statewide official of the state of Colorado or member of the
8 governing board of any state-supported institution of higher education;

9 (D) ~~The board must at no time have~~ NO more than a minimum
10 majority of the appointed members OF THE BOARD ARE affiliated with any
11 one political party; AND

12 (E) Members of the board ~~shall be~~ ARE appointed IN A MANNER so
13 as to ensure that all geographic areas of the state are represented. ~~A state~~
14 ~~student advisory council of student members who are enrolled for a~~
15 ~~minimum of nine hours shall be elected, one each, from and by the~~
16 ~~student bodies of each of the campuses governed by the board.~~

17 (II.2) THE BOARD SHALL APPOINT A DIRECTOR OF OCCUPATIONAL
18 EDUCATION AND A DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY AND TECHNICAL COLLEGES
19 WITH THE QUALIFICATIONS AND BACKGROUND SPECIFIED BY THE BOARD.

20 (II.5) A STATE STUDENT ADVISORY COUNCIL OF STUDENT
21 MEMBERS WHO ARE ENROLLED FOR A MINIMUM OF NINE HOURS SHALL BE
22 ELECTED, ONE EACH, FROM AND BY THE STUDENT BODIES OF EACH OF THE
23 CAMPUSES GOVERNED BY THE BOARD.

24 **SECTION 8. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act
25 takes effect January 1, 2027; except that, if a referendum petition is filed
26 pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V of the state constitution against this
27 act or an item, section, or part of this act within the ninety-day period

1 after final adjournment of the general assembly, then the act, item,
2 section, or part will not take effect unless approved by the people at the
3 general election to be held in November 2026 and, in such case, will take
4 effect January 1, 2027, or on the date of the official declaration of the
5 vote thereon by the governor, whichever is later.