

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

REREVISED

*This Version Includes All Amendments
Adopted in the Second House*

LLS NO. 25-1016.01 Caroline Martin x5902

SENATE BILL 25-316

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Amabile and Bridges, Kirkmeyer, Cutter, Exum, Jodeh, Michaelson Jenet

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Taggart and Sirota, Bird, Clifford, Espenosa, Lindsay, Ricks, Smith, Valdez, Woodrow

Senate Committees
Appropriations

House Committees
Appropriations

HOUSE
3rd Reading Unamended
May 5, 2025

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 **CONCERNING REQUIREMENTS FOR MONEY APPROPRIATED TO THE**
102 **DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION, AND, IN CONNECTION**
103 **THEREWITH, MAKING ADJUSTMENTS TO APPROPRIATIONS MADE**
104 **IN THE ANNUAL GENERAL APPROPRIATION ACT FOR THE 2025-26**
105 **STATE FISCAL YEAR AND MAKING AN APPROPRIATION.**

HOUSE
2nd Reading Unamended
May 3, 2025

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>.)

SENATE
3rd Reading Unamended
May 2, 2025

Joint Budget Committee. The bill imposes requirements related to money appropriated to the department of higher education to be used

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.

SENATE
Amended 2nd Reading
May 1, 2025

by the Auraria higher education center in the 2025-26 state fiscal year. Money appropriated for operational costs must be used as agreed upon by the constituent institutions in baseline service level agreements. Any service or performance level agreement that the Auraria higher education center enters into using money appropriated for the 2025-26 state fiscal year must:

- Be executed by all contracting parties no later than September 1, 2025;
- Clearly describe the services, service and staffing levels, and performance expectations that are contracted for; and
- Provide that, if costs for services exceed the prices provided for in the contract, those excessive costs will not be assumed or incurred until an additional contract is executed or the original contract is amended.

In the 2025-26 state fiscal year, the Auraria higher education center shall manage all resources related to baseline service level agreements and goals and shall present quarterly updates to the constituent institutions regarding baseline service level agreements and goals. For other services for the 2025-26 state fiscal year that are not already contracted for in the baseline service level agreements, the Auraria higher education center shall establish fee structures, and the constituent institutions shall enter into agreements with the Auraria higher education center for the provision of those services.

The bill requires the constituent organizations to contract with an independent third-party entity that shall conduct the Auraria comprehensive study (study). The constituent institutions and the Auraria higher education center shall agree upon which independent third-party entity will conduct the study before executing a contract to select the independent third-party entity. If the constituent institutions and the Auraria higher education center do not agree upon an independent third-party entity by August 1, 2025, the Colorado commission on higher education shall, no later than December 31, 2025, select the independent third-party entity from options proposed by the constituent institutions.

The study must examine the operations of the Auraria campus and the services provided to students by the constituent institutions and by the Auraria board of directors through the Auraria higher education center. The independent third-party entity shall present a report on the findings of the study.

The study must include the following:

- A review of all plans and studies conducted in the past 15 years regarding the mission, vision, and development of the Auraria campus;
- An evaluation of the statutory design and mission of the Auraria campus;
- An evaluation of the current governance model of the

- Auraria campus;
- An evaluation of the operations and management structures under the current governance model of the Auraria campus;
- A comparison of the current governance model to alternative governance models which may yield greater efficiencies in service delivery; and
- An evaluation of the financial supports and structures of Auraria campus governance and operations.

The constituent institutions shall enter into a cost-sharing agreement to pay for the study using gifts, grants, and donations.

The bill reduces the general fund appropriation made in the annual general appropriation act for the 2025-26 state fiscal year to the department of higher education for the college opportunity fund program for fee-for-service contracts with state institutions by \$31,435,042. The bill appropriates \$31,435,042 from the general fund to the department of higher education for use by the Auraria higher education center.

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

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 23-70-118 and
 3 23-70-119 as follows:

4 **23-70-118. Requirements for money that is appropriated to**
 5 **the department of higher education for use by the Auraria higher**
 6 **education center in the 2025-26 state fiscal year - repeal.** (1) ANY
 7 MONEY THAT THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY APPROPRIATES TO THE
 8 DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION FOR THE AURARIA HIGHER
 9 EDUCATION CENTER TO USE FOR OPERATIONAL COSTS IN THE 2025-26
 10 STATE FISCAL YEAR MUST BE USED AS AGREED UPON BY THE CONSTITUENT
 11 INSTITUTIONS IN BASELINE SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENTS, INCLUDING
 12 OPERATIONAL COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH:

- 13 (a) BUILDING OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE;
- 14 (b) CUSTODIAL OR JANITORIAL SERVICES;
- 15 (c) THE AURARIA CAMPUS POLICE DEPARTMENT;
- 16 (d) BUSINESS SERVICES;

1 (e) CAMPUS PLANNING;
2 (f) EVENTS MANAGEMENT IN SUPPORT OF UNIVERSITY- AND
3 STUDENT-LED ACTIVITIES;
4 (g) COMMUNICATIONS; AND
5 (h) PUBLIC RELATIONS.

6 (2) ANY BASELINE SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENT THAT THE
7 AURARIA HIGHER EDUCATION CENTER ENTERS INTO USING MONEY
8 APPROPRIATED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FOR THE 2025-26 STATE
9 FISCAL YEAR MUST:

10 (a) BE EXECUTED BY THE CONTRACTING PARTIES NO LATER THAN
11 SEPTEMBER 1, 2025, UNTIL WHICH TIME AURARIA HIGHER EDUCATION
12 CENTER AND THE CONSTITUENT INSTITUTIONS SHALL OPERATE ACCORDING
13 TO EXISTING SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENTS;

14 (b) CLEARLY DESCRIBE THE SERVICES, SERVICE AND STAFFING
15 LEVELS, AND PERFORMANCE EXPECTATIONS THAT ARE CONTRACTED FOR;
16 AND

17 (c) PROVIDE THAT, IF COSTS FOR SERVICES EXCEED THE PRICES
18 PROVIDED FOR IN THE BASELINE SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENTS, THOSE
19 EXCESSIVE COSTS WILL NOT BE ASSUMED OR INCURRED UNTIL AN
20 ADDITIONAL AGREEMENT THAT ADDRESSES THE EXCESSIVE COSTS IS
21 EXECUTED OR UNTIL THE ORIGINAL BASELINE SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENT
22 IS AMENDED.

23 (3) IN THE 2025-26 STATE FISCAL YEAR, THE AURARIA HIGHER
24 EDUCATION CENTER SHALL MANAGE ALL RESOURCES RELATED TO
25 BASELINE SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENTS AND GOALS AND SHALL PRESENT
26 QUARTERLY UPDATES REGARDING BASELINE SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENTS
27 AND GOALS TO THE CONSTITUENT INSTITUTIONS.

1 (4) THE AURARIA HIGHER EDUCATION CENTER SHALL ESTABLISH
2 FEE STRUCTURES FOR THE 2025-26 STATE FISCAL YEAR FOR ALL SERVICES
3 THAT ARE NOT ALREADY PROVIDED FOR IN THE BASELINE SERVICE LEVEL
4 AGREEMENTS. THE CONSTITUENT INSTITUTIONS MAY ENTER INTO
5 ADDITIONAL AGREEMENTS WITH THE AURARIA HIGHER EDUCATION
6 CENTER FOR SERVICES THAT ARE NOT PROVIDED FOR IN THE BASELINE
7 SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENTS, IN WHICH CASE THE AURARIA HIGHER
8 EDUCATION CENTER SHALL EXPLAIN WHY THE ADDITIONAL CONTRACTED
9 SERVICES DO NOT FALL WITHIN THE BASELINE SERVICE LEVEL
10 AGREEMENTS. THE FEE STRUCTURES ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO THIS
11 SUBSECTION (4) MUST:

12 (a) CLEARLY DESCRIBE THE SERVICES FOR WHICH EACH FEE
13 STRUCTURE IS ESTABLISHED; AND

14 (b) APPLY EACH FEE STRUCTURE CONSISTENTLY TO EACH
15 CONSTITUENT INSTITUTION.

16 (5) THIS SECTION IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026.

17 **23-70-119. Auraria comprehensive study.** (1) THE
18 CONSTITUENT INSTITUTIONS AND THE AURARIA HIGHER EDUCATION
19 CENTER SHALL == == CONTRACT WITH AN INDEPENDENT THIRD-PARTY
20 ENTITY THAT SHALL CONDUCT A STUDY, REFERRED TO IN THIS SECTION AS
21 THE "AURARIA COMPREHENSIVE STUDY". THE CONSTITUENT INSTITUTIONS
22 AND THE AURARIA HIGHER EDUCATION CENTER SHALL AGREE UPON WHICH
23 INDEPENDENT THIRD-PARTY ENTITY WILL CONDUCT THE AURARIA
24 COMPREHENSIVE STUDY BEFORE EXECUTING A CONTRACT TO SELECT THE
25 INDEPENDENT THIRD-PARTY ENTITY. IF THE CONSTITUENT INSTITUTIONS
26 AND THE AURARIA HIGHER EDUCATION CENTER DO NOT AGREE UPON AN
27 INDEPENDENT THIRD-PARTY ENTITY BY AUGUST 1, 2025, THE COLORADO

1 COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION SHALL, NO LATER THAN AUGUST 31,
2 2025, SELECT THE INDEPENDENT THIRD-PARTY ENTITY FROM OPTIONS
3 PROPOSED BY THE CONSTITUENT INSTITUTIONS.

4 (2) THE AURARIA COMPREHENSIVE STUDY MUST EXAMINE:

5 (a) THE MONEY THAT THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY APPROPRIATES TO
6 THE DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION THAT IS USED IN CONNECTION
7 WITH THE AURARIA HIGHER EDUCATION CENTER; THE ACCOUNTING OF
8 SUCH MONEY, AND ANY APPROPRIATIONS OR TRANSFERS OF SUCH MONEY,
9 IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 20 OF ARTICLE X OF THE STATE
10 CONSTITUTION; AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FUTURE APPROPRIATIONS
11 THAT WILL BE USED IN CONNECTION WITH THE AURARIA HIGHER
12 EDUCATION CENTER;

13 (b) THE OPERATIONS OF THE AURARIA CAMPUS; AND

14 (c) THE SERVICES PROVIDED TO STUDENTS BY THE CONSTITUENT
15 INSTITUTIONS AND BY THE AURARIA BOARD OF DIRECTORS THROUGH THE
16 AURARIA HIGHER EDUCATION CENTER.

17 (3) THE INDEPENDENT THIRD-PARTY ENTITY SHALL PRESENT THE
18 FINDINGS OF THE AURARIA COMPREHENSIVE STUDY IN A REPORT
19 ADDRESSED TO THE CONSTITUENT INSTITUTIONS, THE AURARIA HIGHER
20 EDUCATION CENTER, THE JOINT BUDGET COMMITTEE, THE OFFICE OF STATE
21 PLANNING AND BUDGETING, AND THE COLORADO COMMISSION ON HIGHER
22 EDUCATION BY DECEMBER 31, 2025; EXCEPT THAT, IF THE INDEPENDENT
23 THIRD-PARTY ENTITY CANNOT COMPLETE THE REPORT BY DECEMBER 31,
24 2025, DUE TO UNFORESEEN CIRCUMSTANCES, THE INDEPENDENT
25 THIRD-PARTY ENTITY SHALL NOTIFY THE CONSTITUENT INSTITUTIONS AND
26 THE AURARIA HIGHER EDUCATION CENTER AND SHALL PRESENT THE
27 REPORT NO LATER THAN JANUARY 30, 2026. THE REPORT MUST INCLUDE:

1 (a) FINDINGS RELATED TO THE STATUTORY DESIGN, GOVERNANCE,
2 OPERATIONS, AND FINANCIAL STRUCTURE OF THE CURRENT SHARED
3 AURARIA CAMPUS;

4 (b) RECOMMENDATIONS OF ANY STATUTORY OR OPERATIONAL
5 CHANGES THAT THE INDEPENDENT THIRD-PARTY ENTITY BELIEVES WOULD
6 YIELD MORE EFFICIENT, MISSION-ALIGNED SERVICES FOR THE AURARIA
7 HIGHER EDUCATION CENTER, THE CONSTITUENT INSTITUTIONS, AND THE
8 STUDENTS ATTENDING THE CONSTITUENT INSTITUTIONS;

9 (c) ESTIMATES OF THE FINANCIAL IMPACTS THAT THE
10 RECOMMENDATIONS WOULD HAVE ON THE STATE AND THE CONSTITUENT
11 INSTITUTIONS; AND

12 (d) FEEDBACK FROM EACH CONSTITUENT INSTITUTION AND THE
13 AURARIA HIGHER EDUCATION CENTER RELATING TO THE
14 RECOMMENDATIONS.

15 (4) THE AURARIA HIGHER EDUCATION CENTER AND THE
16 CONSTITUENT INSTITUTIONS SHALL PARTICIPATE IN THE AURARIA
17 COMPREHENSIVE STUDY AND ENGAGE IN AND RESPOND TO ANY INQUIRIES
18 FROM THE INDEPENDENT THIRD-PARTY ENTITY, INCLUDING INQUIRIES
19 RELATED TO PERSONNEL, BUSINESS DOCUMENTATION, FINANCIAL DATA,
20 THE COORDINATION OF THE PROVISION OF STUDENT SERVICES, AND
21 INTERNAL RECORDS RELATED TO THE FACILITY, OPERATIONS, AND
22 DEVELOPMENT OF THE AURARIA CAMPUS. THE CONSTITUENT
23 INSTITUTIONS AND THE AURARIA HIGHER EDUCATION CENTER SHALL
24 CONVENE TO RECEIVE UPDATES RELATED TO THE AURARIA
25 COMPREHENSIVE STUDY FROM THE INDEPENDENT THIRD-PARTY ENTITY AT
26 LEAST TWICE DURING THE PERIOD OF THE AURARIA COMPREHENSIVE
27 STUDY.

1 (5) THE AURARIA COMPREHENSIVE STUDY MUST INCLUDE THE
2 FOLLOWING:

3 (a) A REVIEW OF ALL PLANS AND STUDIES CONDUCTED IN THE PAST
4 FIFTEEN YEARS REGARDING THE MISSION, VISION, AND DEVELOPMENT OF
5 THE AURARIA CAMPUS, PLUS A REVIEW OF PLANS AND STUDIES THAT ARE
6 OLDER THAN FIFTEEN YEARS IF DEEMED RELEVANT BY THE INDEPENDENT
7 THIRD-PARTY ENTITY;

8 (b) AN EVALUATION OF THE STATUTORY DESIGN AND MISSION OF
9 THE AURARIA CAMPUS, INCLUDING:

10 (I) AN ANALYSIS OF THE STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS AND POWERS
11 OF THE AURARIA HIGHER EDUCATION CENTER AND THE CONSTITUENT
12 INSTITUTIONS TO IDENTIFY WHETHER CURRENT ACTIVITIES ALIGN WITH
13 PROVISIONS IN THE COLORADO REVISED STATUTES AND TO WHAT EXTENT
14 THOSE PROVISIONS RESULT IN COST AND OPERATIONAL EFFICIENCIES FOR
15 THE CONSTITUENT INSTITUTIONS;

16 (II) A DESCRIPTION AND ASSESSMENT OF THE CURRENT STATE OF
17 THE AURARIA HIGHER EDUCATION CENTER, INCLUDING THE CONTEXT OF
18 THE CENTER'S SCOPE, CAPABILITIES, RESOURCES, PERFORMANCE, CULTURE,
19 DEPENDENCIES, INFRASTRUCTURE, PERSONNEL, EXTERNAL INFLUENCES,
20 AND OTHER RELEVANT ELEMENTS;

21 (III) TO WHAT EXTENT THE AURARIA HIGHER EDUCATION CENTER'S
22 CURRENT DISPOSITION, AS DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (5)(b)(II) OF THIS
23 SECTION, FACILITATES OR INHIBITS THE CENTER'S STATUTORY MISSION
24 ALIGNMENT AND OPERATIONAL EFFICIENCIES;

25 (IV) A DESCRIPTION AND ASSESSMENT OF EACH CONSTITUENT
26 INSTITUTION, INCLUDING THE INSTITUTIONS' EDUCATIONAL FOOTPRINT ON
27 THE CAMPUS, THE FOOTPRINT OF AND ACCESS TO INSTITUTION-OWNED

1 FACILITIES, AND OTHER COORDINATION AMONG THE CONSTITUENT
2 INSTITUTIONS IN DELIVERING SERVICES TO STUDENTS;

3 (V) AN EVALUATION OF THE IMPACT ON AND SERVICE OF
4 DISPLACED AURARIANS, DONE IN CONSULTATION WITH A DESIGNEE OF THE
5 AURARIA BOARD OF DIRECTORS; AND

6 (VI) RECOMMENDATIONS OF POSSIBLE STATUTORY CHANGES THAT
7 WOULD MORE CLEARLY DEFINE THE MISSION OF THE AURARIA CAMPUS
8 AND DELINEATE THE DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF EACH ENTITY IN
9 SUPPORTING THE MISSION;

10 (c) AN EVALUATION OF THE CURRENT GOVERNANCE MODEL OF THE
11 AURARIA CAMPUS, INCLUDING:

12 (I) AN ANALYSIS OF THE COMPOSITION OF THE AURARIA BOARD OF
13 DIRECTORS, INCLUDING THE BOARD'S ABILITY TO FULFILL ITS STATUTORY
14 PURPOSES, MITIGATE CONFLICTS OF INTEREST, AND ARBITRATE CAMPUS
15 DISPUTES; AND

16 (II) AN ANALYSIS OF THE EXTENT TO WHICH A MODEL OF
17 GOVERNANCE SHARED BY THE CONSTITUENT INSTITUTIONS, AS OPPOSED
18 TO GOVERNANCE BY THE AURARIA BOARD OF DIRECTORS, WOULD BE
19 PRACTICABLE AND THE EXTENT TO WHICH A SHARED GOVERNANCE MODEL
20 MIGHT YIELD GREATER MISSION ALIGNMENT AND MORE EFFICIENT
21 DELIVERY OF SERVICES TO STUDENTS;

22 (d) AN EVALUATION OF THE OPERATIONS AND MANAGEMENT
23 STRUCTURES UNDER THE CURRENT GOVERNANCE MODEL OF THE AURARIA
24 CAMPUS, INCLUDING:

25 (I) AN ANALYSIS OF THE TIMELINESS AND COST OF CURRENT
26 SERVICE DELIVERY AND FUNCTIONS; AND

27 (II) A REVIEW OF THE OPERATIONAL CONTROL AND FISCAL

1 RESPONSIBILITY OF ALL AURARIA CAMPUS FACILITIES, INCLUDING THE
2 EXTENT TO WHICH CURRENT OPERATIONS FULFILL THE MISSION OF THE
3 CAMPUS AND YIELD THE MOST COST EFFECTIVE RESULTS FOR ALL PARTIES;

4 (e) A COMPARISON OF THE CURRENT GOVERNANCE MODEL OF THE
5 AURARIA CAMPUS TO ALTERNATIVE GOVERNANCE MODELS WHICH MAY
6 YIELD GREATER EFFICIENCIES IN SERVICE DELIVERY, INCLUDING:

7 (I) WHETHER EFFICIENCY COULD BE IMPROVED BY TRANSFERRING
8 EXISTING FUNCTIONS SUCH AS CAMPUS SECURITY AND POLICING,
9 FACILITIES MANAGEMENT, PARKING MANAGEMENT, LIBRARY SERVICES,
10 FOOD SERVICES, HUMAN RESOURCES, INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY,
11 PROCUREMENT, EVENTS MANAGEMENT, NONACADEMIC STUDENT
12 SERVICES, AND RISK MANAGEMENT BETWEEN CONSTITUENT INSTITUTIONS
13 OR THE AURARIA HIGHER EDUCATION CENTER;

14 (II) WHETHER EFFICIENCY COULD BE IMPROVED BY
15 CONSOLIDATING EXISTING FUNCTIONS SUCH AS CAMPUS SECURITY AND
16 POLICING, FACILITIES MANAGEMENT, PARKING MANAGEMENT, LIBRARY
17 SERVICES, HUMAN RESOURCES, INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY,
18 PROCUREMENT, EVENTS MANAGEMENT, NONACADEMIC STUDENT
19 SERVICES, AND RISK MANAGEMENT WITHIN CONSTITUENT INSTITUTIONS OR
20 THE AURARIA HIGHER EDUCATION CENTER;

21 (III) WHETHER OPERATIONAL CONTROL AND FISCAL
22 RESPONSIBILITY COULD BE IMPROVED FOR THE COLLECTIVE OR INDIVIDUAL
23 CONSTITUENT INSTITUTIONS BY RESTRUCTURING FISCAL MANAGEMENT OF
24 SOME OR ALL RESPONSIBILITIES; AND

25 (IV) WHETHER CERTAIN SERVICES WOULD BEST BE GOVERNED AND
26 DELIVERED UNDER A CENTRALIZED, DECENTRALIZED, OR HYBRID
27 GOVERNANCE MODEL; AND

1 (f) AN EVALUATION OF THE FINANCIAL SUPPORTS AND
2 STRUCTURES OF AURARIA CAMPUS GOVERNANCE AND OPERATIONS,
3 INCLUDING:

4 (I) AN ANALYSIS OF THE APPROPRIATE LEVEL OF BASELINE
5 FUNDING FOR SERVICES DELIVERED ON THE AURARIA CAMPUS,
6 ACCOUNTING FOR INFLATION AND OTHER DRIVERS OF COSTS SUCH AS
7 INSURANCE;

8 (II) AN ANALYSIS OF ANY PUBLIC-PRIVATE DEVELOPMENTS
9 PURSUANT TO SECTION 23-70-105.5 AND WHETHER AND THE EXTENT TO
10 WHICH THE DEVELOPMENTS SUPPORT THE SUSTAINABILITY AND MISSION
11 OF THE AURARIA CAMPUS;

12 (III) A REVIEW OF THE AURARIA HIGHER EDUCATION CENTER'S
13 REVENUE STREAMS AND THE EXTENT TO WHICH ADDITIONAL REVENUE
14 STREAMS, SUCH AS AUXILIARY SERVICES REVENUE AND FEE REVENUE,
15 SHOULD SUPPORT THE DELIVERY OF SERVICES;

16 (IV) AN ANALYSIS OF FISCAL RESTRAINTS ON THE CONSTITUENT
17 INSTITUTIONS AND THE AURARIA HIGHER EDUCATION CENTER REGARDING
18 THE PROVISION OF SERVICES, SUCH AS REVENUE GENERATION AND
19 EXPENSE CHARACTERISTICS;

20 (V) AN ANALYSIS OF THE FISCAL IMPACTS OF PROPOSED CHANGES
21 TO THE COLORADO STATE BUDGET; AND

22 (VI) AN ANALYSIS OF IMPACTS RELATED TO COLORADO'S
23 DEMOGRAPHIC CHANGES, INCREASED COMPETITION, AND CHANGES TO THE
24 HIGHER EDUCATION MARKET, INCLUDING THE CHANGES IN STUDENT
25 EDUCATIONAL MODALITY AND THE DISTRIBUTION OF IN-PERSON, HYBRID,
26 AND ONLINE STUDENTS.

27 (6) THE CONSTITUENT INSTITUTIONS MAY SEEK, ACCEPT, AND

1 EXPEND GIFTS, GRANTS, OR DONATIONS FROM PRIVATE OR PUBLIC SOURCES
2 FOR THE PURPOSE OF FUNDING THE AURARIA COMPREHENSIVE STUDY. THE
3 CONSTITUENT INSTITUTIONS SHALL ENTER INTO A COST-SHARING
4 AGREEMENT TO PAY FOR THE AURARIA COMPREHENSIVE STUDY USING
5 GIFTS, GRANTS, AND DONATIONS.

6 **SECTION 2. Appropriation - adjustments to 2025 long bill.**

7 (1) To implement this act, appropriations made in the annual general
8 appropriation act for the 2025-26 state fiscal year to the department of
9 higher education are adjusted as follows:

10 (a) The general fund appropriation for the college opportunity
11 fund program for fee-for-service contracts with state institutions pursuant
12 to section 23-18-303.5, C.R.S., is decreased by \$31,435,042;

13 (b) The reappropriated funds appropriations from fee-for-service
14 contracts with state institutions pursuant to section 23-18-303.5, C.R.S.,
15 under subsection (1)(a) of this section are decreased as follows:

16 **Governing Boards**

17 trustees of Metropolitan state university of Denver -\$15,623,129
18 regents of the university of Colorado -\$11,739,171
19 state board for community colleges and occupational
20 education state system community colleges -\$4,072,742

21 (c) The reappropriated funds appropriation for Auraria higher
22 education center administration is decreased by \$31,435,042. This amount
23 originates from the appropriations in the general appropriations act to the
24 governing boards for the state board for community colleges and
25 occupational education state system community colleges, the trustees of
26 Metropolitan state university of Denver, and the regents of the university
27 of Colorado.

1 **SECTION 3. Appropriation.** (1) For the 2025-26 state fiscal
2 year, \$31,435,042 is appropriated to the department of higher education
3 for use by the Auraria higher education center. This appropriation is from
4 the general fund. To implement this act, the department may use this
5 appropriation as follows:

6 (a) \$29,545,253 for operational costs; and

7 (b) \$1,889,789 for deferred maintenance projects.

8 **SECTION 4. Safety clause.** The general assembly finds,
9 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate
10 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety or for appropriations for
11 the support and maintenance of the departments of the state and state
12 institutions.