HOUSE COMMITTEE OF REFERENCE REPORT

	<u>March 20, 2025</u>
	Chair of Committee Date
	Committee on Energy & Environment.
	After consideration on the merits, the Committee recommends the following:
	HB25-1268 be amended as follows, and as so amended, be referred to the Committee on <u>Finance</u> with favorable recommendation:
1 2	Amend printed bill, strike everything below the enacting clause and substitute:
3	"SECTION 1. In Colorado Revised Statutes, add part 6 to article
4	38.5 of title 24 as follows:
5	PART 6
6	UTILITY ON-BILL PROGRAM
7	24-38.5-601. Legislative declaration. (1) THE GENERAL
8	ASSEMBLY FINDS THAT COLORADO CONSUMERS HAVE THE POTENTIAL TO
9	SAVE ENERGY, REDUCE GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS, AND TRANSITION
10	AWAY FROM FOSSIL FUEL INFRASTRUCTURE THROUGH ENERGY SOLUTIONS,
11	INCLUDING ENERGY EFFICIENCY MEASURES, ELECTRIFICATION MEASURES,
12	AND ENERGY UPGRADES.
13	(2) THEREFORE, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY DECLARES THAT:
14	(a) UTILITY CUSTOMERS WOULD BENEFIT FROM HAVING ACCESS TO
15	SIGNIFICANT AMOUNTS OF PUBLIC AND PRIVATE CAPITAL FOR LOW-COST
16	FINANCING SOLUTIONS FOR ENERGY-RELATED IMPROVEMENTS, INCLUDING
17	END-OF-LIFE EQUIPMENT REPLACEMENT;
18	(b) UTILITY ON-BILL PROGRAMS THAT ALLOW REPAYMENTS
19	THROUGH UTILITY BILL PAYMENTS COULD EXPAND THE OPPORTUNITIES
20	FOR ELIGIBLE RETAIL UTILITY CUSTOMERS TO PURSUE ENERGY EFFICIENCY
21	MEASURES, ELECTRIFICATION MEASURES, AND ENERGY UPGRADES BY
22	ENABLING UTILITY CUSTOMERS TO PAY BACK THE UP-FRONT COSTS OF THE
23	UPGRADES AND MEASURES OVER TIME THROUGH THEIR UTILITY BILL
24	PAYMENTS AT OR BELOW INTEREST RATES THAT MAY BE AVAILABLE FROM
25	OTHER SOURCES; AND
26	(c) A PROGRAM ESTABLISHED TO PROVIDE SUCH ON-BILL
27	REPAYMENT COULD INCLUDE UTILITY-ADMINISTERED REPAYMENT OF

COSTS FOR WHICH THE REPAYMENT OBLIGATION REMAINS WITH THE ASSOCIATED ENERGY METER AND SERVICE ADDRESS, INSTEAD OF TRANSFERRING TO A CUSTOMER'S NEW LOCATION.

- **24-38.5-602. Definitions.** AS USED IN THIS PART 6, UNLESS THE CONTEXT OTHERWISE REQUIRES:
- (1) "COMMISSION" MEANS THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION CREATED IN SECTION 40-2-101.
- (2) "Cooperative electric association" has the meaning set forth in section 40-9.5-102 (1).
- (3) (a) "ELECTRIFICATION" MEANS "BENEFICIAL ELECTRIFICATION", AS DEFINED IN SECTION 40-1-102 (1.2).
 - (b) "ELECTRIFICATION" INCLUDES:

- (I) A GROUND-SOURCE OR AIR-SOURCE HEAT PUMP SYSTEM; AND
- (II) A HEAT PUMP WATER HEATER.
- (4) (a) "ENERGY EFFICIENCY MEASURE" MEANS ANY PERMANENTLY INSTALLED IMPROVEMENT, ADDITION, OR EQUIPMENT THAT ALIGNS WITH THE STATE'S GREENHOUSE GAS REDUCTION TARGETS AND THAT:
- (I) REDUCES THE CONSUMPTION OF ENERGY AT A PROGRAM PARTICIPANT'S PREMISES; OR
- (II) ENABLES A PROGRAM PARTICIPANT TO REDUCE OR SHIFT ENERGY CONSUMPTION AT THE PREMISES.
 - (b) "ENERGY EFFICIENCY MEASURE" INCLUDES:
- (I) A BUILDING SHELL MEASURE, SUCH AS AIR SEALING, WINDOW FILM, ROOF REPAIR, INSULATION, OR WINDOW AND DOOR MODIFICATIONS;
- (II) AN AUTOMATIC OR INTERNET-CONNECTED ENERGY CONTROL SYSTEM; AND
- (III) ANY OTHER MEASURE OR UPGRADE AUTHORIZED BY THE OFFICE OR APPROVED BY THE COMMISSION AS PART OF A UTILITY'S APPLICATION TO ESTABLISH AN ON-BILL PROGRAM OR TO USE MONEY FROM THE FUND.
- (5) "ENERGY UPGRADE" MEANS THE INSTALLATION, IMPROVEMENT, OR ADDITION OF APPURTENANCE EQUIPMENT AT A PROGRAM PARTICIPANT'S PREMISES TO:
- (a) UPGRADE THE PROGRAM PARTICIPANT'S ELECTRIC PANEL TO ENABLE THE INSTALLATION OF ENERGY EFFICIENCY MEASURES OR ELECTRIFICATION MEASURES;
- (b) ENABLE THE PROGRAM PARTICIPANT TO INSTALL ENERGY STORAGE; OR
- (c) Make any other energy upgrade authorized by the office or approved by the commission as part of a utility's application to establish an on-bill program.
 - (6) "OFFICE" MEANS THE COLORADO ENERGY OFFICE CREATED IN

SECTION 24-38.5-101 (1).

- (7) "ON-BILL CASH FUND" OR "FUND" MEANS THE ON-BILL CASH FUND CREATED IN SECTION 24-38.5-607.
- (8) "On-bill program" means a utility's program that receives money from the on-bill cash fund pursuant to this part 6 and through which program the costs of energy efficiency measures, electrification measures, and energy upgrades installed at a program participant's premises are associated with the utility meter and are repaid through monthly utility bill payments.
- (9) "PARTICIPATING UTILITY" MEANS A UTILITY THAT RECEIVES MONEY THROUGH THE PROGRAM, EITHER DIRECTLY THROUGH A LOAN FROM THE OFFICE OR THROUGH PARTICIPATION IN A PROGRAM ADMINISTERED BY THE PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR.
- (10) "PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR" MEANS A THIRD-PARTY ENTITY THAT THE OFFICE MAY CONTRACT WITH TO PLAN, ADMINISTER, OPERATE, AND MANAGE A UTILITY ON-BILL PROGRAM FOR PARTICIPATING UTILITIES THAT VOLUNTARILY CHOOSE TO CONTRACT WITH THE PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR AS THEIR UTILITY-DESIGNATED ADMINISTRATOR.
- (11) "PROGRAM PARTICIPANT" MEANS A PARTICIPATING UTILITY CUSTOMER THAT HAS REQUESTED TO PARTICIPATE IN A PARTICIPATING UTILITY'S ON-BILL PROGRAM AND THAT THE PARTICIPATING UTILITY, EITHER DIRECTLY OR THROUGH ITS UTILITY-DESIGNATED ADMINISTRATOR, HAS DETERMINED IS ELIGIBLE FOR PROGRAM PARTICIPATION.
- (12) "UNCLAIMED PROPERTY TRUST FUND" MEANS THE UNCLAIMED PROPERTY TRUST FUND CREATED IN SECTION 38-13-801.
- (13) "UTILITY" MEANS AN ELECTRIC UTILITY, A GAS UTILITY, OR A COMBINED FUEL UTILITY AND INCLUDES:
 - (a) AN INVESTOR-OWNED UTILITY;
 - (b) A COOPERATIVE ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION; AND
 - (c) A MUNICIPALLY OWNED UTILITY.
- (14) (a) "UTILITY-DESIGNATED ADMINISTRATOR" MEANS A THIRD-PARTY ENTITY THAT A UTILITY MAY CONTRACT WITH TO PLAN, ADMINISTER, OPERATE, AND MANAGE THE UTILITY'S ON-BILL PROGRAM.
- (b) "UTILITY-DESIGNATED ADMINISTRATOR" INCLUDES THE PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR, AS APPLICABLE.
- **24-38.5-603. On-bill programs participation process reporting.** (1) For the purpose of allocating money to provide capital for participating utilities' on-bill programs, the office shall establish a process through which a utility may request to become a participating utility. The office may design request forms or guidance documents for the process and shall post any such forms and guidance documents on its public website.

- (2) PURSUANT TO AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE OFFICE AND A PARTICIPATING UTILITY, THE PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR, OR A UTILITY-DESIGNATED ADMINISTRATOR, MONEY PROVIDED TO THE UTILITY TO HELP ESTABLISH OR CONTINUE THE UTILITY'S ON-BILL PROGRAM MAY BE USED TO SUPPORT ENERGY EFFICIENCY MEASURES, ELECTRIFICATION MEASURES, AND ENERGY UPGRADES AT A PROGRAM PARTICIPANT'S PREMISES THAT ARE LOCATED AND REMAIN IN THE UTILITY'S SERVICE TERRITORY.
- (3) (a) THE OFFICE MAY ISSUE GUIDANCE ON PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS OR PLACE CONTRACT LIMITATIONS ON THE USE OF LOANS FROM THE FUND, AS APPROPRIATE, FOR DEVELOPMENT, IMPLEMENTATION, AND UPDATES OF CONSUMER PROTECTION AND EQUITY REQUIREMENTS TO ENSURE THE SUCCESS OF THE PROGRAM, WHILE BALANCING:
 - (I) RISK TO LENDERS, UTILITIES, AND CUSTOMERS;
 - (II) EQUITY;

- (III) REPAYMENT TERMS; AND
- (IV) UTILITY BILL IMPACTS FOR PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS.
- (b) The office shall consult with a participating utility's utility-designated administrator or a program administrator selected by the office pursuant to section 24-38.5-604, as appropriate, in developing guidance on program requirements, including consumer protection and equity requirements, which requirements may include:
- (I) THE RATE CLASSES OF UTILITY CUSTOMERS THAT MAY PARTICIPATE IN THE UTILITY'S ON-BILL PROGRAM, WHICH RATE CLASSES MUST, AT A MINIMUM, INCLUDE RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMERS;
- (II) THE ENERGY EFFICIENCY MEASURES, ELECTRIFICATION MEASURES, AND ENERGY UPGRADES THAT THE UTILITY MAY AUTHORIZE A PROGRAM PARTICIPANT TO FINANCE THROUGH AN ON-BILL PROGRAM;
- (III) A CAP ON THE TOTAL FINANCING THAT MAY BE MADE AVAILABLE TO A RESIDENTIAL UTILITY CUSTOMER, NOT TO EXCEED FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS;
- (IV) FOR UTILITIES THAT ARE NOT REGULATED BY THE COMMISSION, THE METHOD THAT A PARTICIPATING UTILITY MAY USE TO RECOVER PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION COSTS;
- (V) A REQUIREMENT THAT, FOR CONTRACTS WITH REGULATED UTILITIES, THE FINAL CONTRACT CONFORMS WITH ANY FINAL APPROVAL FROM THE COMMISSION; AND
- (VI) REQUIREMENTS REGARDING TRANSFERS OF FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY WHEN AN OWNER OR TENANT VACATES A BUILDING SUBJECT TO A UTILITY'S ON-BILL PROGRAM, INCLUDING:
- (A) REQUIREMENTS REGARDING THE RECORDING OF A LIEN AND THE CLEARING OF TITLE UPON REPAYMENT;

(B) A REQUIREMENT THAT A PROPERTY OWNER THAT IS A PROGRAM PARTICIPANT SHALL AGREE TO NOTIFY A PROSPECTIVE PURCHASER OF THE PROPERTY SUBJECT TO AN ON-BILL PROGRAM OF ANY REPAYMENT OBLIGATIONS ON THE UTILITY BILL RELATED TO THE PARTICIPATION IN THE PROGRAM; AND

- (C) A REQUIREMENT THAT A PROPERTY OWNER THAT IS A PARTICIPATING CUSTOMER OR IS THE OWNER OF A PROPERTY FOR WHICH THERE IS AN EXISTING REPAYMENT OBLIGATION ON THE UTILITY BILL RELATED TO PARTICIPATION IN A PROGRAM SHALL AGREE TO NOTIFY A PROSPECTIVE TENANT OF THE ON-BILL REPAYMENT OBLIGATION.
- (4) The office May Place contract limitations on the use of Loans from the fund, as appropriate, for the development, implementation, and updates of consumer protection and equity requirements to ensure the success of the program, while balancing risk to lenders, utilities, and customers; equity; repayment terms; and utility bill impacts for program participants. The office shall consult with the participating utility, the participating utility's utility-designated administrator, or a program administrator selected by the office pursuant to section 24-38.5-604, as appropriate, in developing the consumer protection and equity requirements, which requirements may include:
- (a) QUALITY INSTALLATION VERIFICATION, INCLUDING THE CERTIFICATIONS AND RELATED ENFORCEMENT MECHANISMS NEEDED TO ENSURE AND VERIFY QUALITY INSTALLATIONS;
 - (b) PROCEDURES FOR ADDRESSING FAILING EQUIPMENT;
- (c) VENDOR OR CONTRACTOR SELECTION AND APPROVAL PROCESSES, INCLUDING LABOR STANDARDS AND A PROCESS FOR ENFORCEMENT OF THE LABOR STANDARDS;
 - (d) ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS;
- (e) PROTECTIONS FOR TENANTS WHOSE LANDLORDS FINANCE ENERGY EFFICIENCY MEASURES THROUGH A PROGRAM, INCLUDING:
- (I) REQUIREMENTS TO NOTIFY TENANTS OF REPAYMENT OBLIGATIONS IN LEASE AGREEMENTS;
- (II) PROCESSES FOR PROPERTY OWNERS TO INSTALL MEASURES AT TENANT-OCCUPIED LOCATIONS; AND
 - (III) OTHER MEASURES AS APPROPRIATE;
- (f) PROGRAM DESIGN TO MINIMIZE THE RISK OF UTILITY DISCONNECTION;
- (g) THE FINANCING TERMS AVAILABLE FOR DIFFERENT TYPES OF ENERGY EFFICIENCY MEASURES AND ENERGY UPGRADES; AND
- (h) THE TREATMENT OF TRANSFER OF PROPERTY OWNERSHIP, TREATMENT OF DEBTS TO A UTILITY, AND PROPERTY TREATMENT AT

TRANSFER.

- (5) (a) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (5)(b) OF THIS SECTION, ON OR BEFORE THE FIRST JANUARY 31 FOLLOWING THE FIFTH COMPLETED YEAR OF PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION, OR ONCE A UTILITY HAS FINANCED AT LEAST TEN MILLION DOLLARS IN ENERGY EFFICIENCY MEASURES, ELECTRIFICATION MEASURES, OR ENERGY UPGRADES WITH FUNDING FROM THE ON-BILL CASH FUND, WHICHEVER OCCURS FIRST, AND ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 31 OF EACH OF THE THREE YEARS THEREAFTER, A PARTICIPATING UTILITY OR ITS UTILITY-DESIGNATED ADMINISTRATOR SHALL PREPARE AND SUBMIT TO THE OFFICE A REPORT THAT TRACKS THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF ENERGY EFFICIENCY MEASURES, ELECTRIFICATION MEASURES, AND ENERGY UPGRADES FINANCED; THE NUMBER OF PARTICIPATING CUSTOMERS BROKEN DOWN BY INTEREST RATE, AS APPLICABLE; AND CUMULATIVE PROGRAM PARTICIPATION DEFAULT RATES, UTILITY DISCONNECTIONS, COMPLIANCE WITH LABOR STANDARDS, AND OTHER METRICS THAT THE OFFICE DEEMS RELEVANT TO THE CONSUMER PROTECTION AND EQUITY REQUIREMENTS FOR THE PROGRAM. THE OFFICE SHALL MAKE THE REPORTS PUBLICLY AVAILABLE ON ITS PUBLIC WEBSITE.
 - (b) A REGULATED UTILITY THAT IS REQUIRED TO FILE A REPORT WITH THE COMMISSION REGARDING AN ON-BILL PROGRAM NEED NOT PREPARE AND SUBMIT TO THE OFFICE A REPORT PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (5)(a) OF THIS SECTION.

24-38.5-604. Authority to contract with program administrators - selection criteria - program design requirements. (1) In accordance with the requirements of the "Procurement Code", articles 101 to 112 of this title 24, the office may contract with one or more independent third-party entities to serve as program administrators to facilitate and help administer utility on-bill programs for participating utilities. The office shall contract only with one or more of the following entities to serve as program administrators:

- (a) A BANK;
- (b) A NONDEPOSITORY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FINANCIAL INSTITUTION;
 - (c) A BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION; OR
 - (d) A NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION.
- (2) IN SELECTING A PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION, THE OFFICE SHALL CONSIDER THE ABILITY OF A POTENTIAL PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR TO EXPAND THE PROGRAM, INCLUDING BY EXPANDING THE CAPITAL AVAILABLE FOR USE IN THE PROGRAM THROUGH PUBLIC AND PRIVATE CAPITAL SOURCES.
- (3) THE OFFICE, IN CONSULTATION WITH A SELECTED PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR, MAY DETERMINE THE DESIGN REQUIREMENTS FOR THE

PROGRAM, WITH THE GOAL OF OFFERING CUSTOMERS THE LOWEST POSSIBLE INTEREST RATES, INCLUDING:

- (a) A REQUIREMENT THAT A PARTICIPATING UTILITY'S ON-BILL PROGRAM PROVIDE FOR STANDARDIZATION OF ASPECTS OF THE UTILITY'S PROGRAM, SUCH AS FORMS USED TO APPLY FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE UTILITY'S PROGRAM, BUT OTHERWISE ALLOW FOR FLEXIBILITY IN IMPLEMENTING THE UTILITY'S PROGRAM TO ALLOW FOR DIFFERENT REQUIREMENTS BASED ON WHICH ENERGY EFFICIENCY MEASURES, ELECTRIFICATION MEASURES, AND ENERGY UPGRADES A PROGRAM PARTICIPANT CHOOSES;
- (b) A REQUIREMENT THAT THE ENERGY EFFICIENCY MEASURES, ELECTRIFICATION MEASURES, AND ENERGY UPGRADES AUTHORIZED FOR A PARTICIPATING UTILITY'S ON-BILL PROGRAM COMPLY WITH PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS;
- (c) A requirement that a program administrator pursue other sources of public and private capital, with a goal of increasing available statewide funding for on-bill programs to one billion dollars by 2030;
- (d) A REQUIREMENT TO REDUCE CUSTOMER INTEREST RATES TO THE LOWEST RATES POSSIBLE AND TO REDUCE RISK OF DEFAULT; AND
- (e) REQUIREMENTS REGARDING HOW AVAILABLE REBATES MAY BE APPLIED TO AN ENERGY EFFICIENCY MEASURE, ELECTRIFICATION MEASURE, OR ENERGY UPGRADE PROJECT BEFORE FINANCING.
- 24-38.5-605. Transfers of financial responsibility notification required property seller's obligation utility's obligation. (1) Participation in a utility's on-bill program is tied to the Location of the utility meter associated with a utility customer's account where the energy efficiency measures, electrification measures, or energy upgrades are installed. If a program participant moves to a new location, the program participant's participation in the on-bill program does not transfer to the program participant's new location. A program may be structured such that, for real property that is the site of a utility meter that is associated with participation in the program, the financial responsibility to make any remaining repayments under the on-bill program transfers to the successor program participant.
- (2) FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (1) OF THIS SECTION APPLIES ONLY TO THE PROGRAM PARTICIPANT RESPONSIBLE FOR THE UTILITY METER, AND NOT TO ALL OF THE REAL PROPERTY.
- (3) IF A PROGRAM PARTICIPANT THAT IS AN OWNER OF REAL PROPERTY AT WHICH ENERGY EFFICIENCY MEASURES, ELECTRIFICATION MEASURES, OR ENERGY UPGRADES HAVE BEEN IMPLEMENTED PURSUANT

TO PARTICIPATION IN THE PROGRAM INTENDS TO SELL THE REAL PROPERTY, AND THE FULL COST OF THE ENERGY EFFICIENCY MEASURES, ELECTRIFICATION MEASURES, OR ENERGY UPGRADES HAVE NOT BEEN FULLY REPAID, THE OWNER SHALL:

- (a) Provide a prospective purchaser of the real property written notice of the remaining payments under the on-bill program upon purchasing the real property. The written notice must be provided before the prospective purchaser makes an offer to purchase the real property and must include:
- (I) INFORMATION THAT THE REAL PROPERTY IS SUBJECT TO UTILITY ON-BILL REPAYMENTS;
- (II) CONTACT INFORMATION FOR A PERSON INVOLVED IN THE UTILITY'S ON-BILL PROGRAM; AND
- (III) Information regarding the utility on-bill repayments, including:
- (A) THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF THE ORIGINAL COSTS FOR WHICH UTILITY ON-BILL REPAYMENTS WERE ESTABLISHED;
 - (B) THE APPROXIMATE REMAINING BALANCE OF THE COSTS;
- (C) THE ON-BILL REPAYMENT SCHEDULE, INCLUDING THE MONTHLY REPAYMENT OBLIGATION;
- (D) THE PRODUCTS AND SERVICES PROVIDING ENERGY EFFICIENCY MEASURES, ELECTRIFICATION MEASURES, OR ENERGY UPGRADES THAT WERE INSTALLED THROUGH THE UTILITY'S ON-BILL PROGRAM; AND
- (E) ANY RISKS ASSOCIATED WITH NONPAYMENT OF THE ON-BILL REPAYMENTS, INCLUDING DEBT WORKOUT PROCESSES AVAILABLE AND THE POTENTIAL DISCONNECTION OF UTILITY SERVICE;
- (b) NOTIFY THE UTILITY TO WHICH THE OWNER IS MAKING ON-BILL REPAYMENTS UNDER THE ON-BILL PROGRAM IN THE EVENT THAT THE REAL PROPERTY HAS BEEN LISTED FOR SALE; AND
- (c) CONTINUE MAKING THE ON-BILL REPAYMENTS UNTIL OWNERSHIP OF THE REAL PROPERTY HAS OFFICIALLY TRANSFERRED TO A PURCHASER OF THE REAL PROPERTY.
- (4) (a) Upon accepting an offer to purchase real property described in subsection (3) of this section, the owner of the real property shall notify the utility to which the owner is making on-bill repayments of:
 - (I) THE PURCHASER'S NAME AND CONTACT INFORMATION;
- (II) THE NAME AND CONTACT INFORMATION FOR ANY REAL ESTATE AGENT REPRESENTING THE PURCHASER OF THE REAL PROPERTY; AND
- (III) THE NAME AND CONTACT INFORMATION FOR THE TITLE AGENT OR COMPANY THAT PROVIDES CLOSING AND SETTLEMENT SERVICES IN RELATION TO THE REAL ESTATE TRANSACTION.
 - (b) THE UTILITY OR ITS DESIGNEE SHALL, UPON REQUEST, MAKE

INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO THE PURCHASER OR ANY REAL ESTATE AGENT REPRESENTING THE PURCHASER AND THE TITLE AGENT OR COMPANY TO INFORM THE PURCHASER AND TITLE AGENT OR COMPANY OF THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE ON-BILL REPAYMENTS OWED TO THE UTILITY UNDER THE UTILITY'S ON-BILL PROGRAM.

- (5) IF AN OWNER OF A PROPERTY WITH AN OUTSTANDING BALANCE FOR AN ON-BILL REPAYMENT OBLIGATION BEGINS TO RENT OR LEASE THE PROPERTY, THE OWNER SHALL NOTIFY THE UTILITY AND SHALL FOLLOW ALL REQUIREMENTS REGARDING TENANT CONSUMER PROTECTIONS THAT THE UTILITY OR PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR ESTABLISHES AND THAT WERE INCLUDED IN THE FINANCIAL DOCUMENTS THAT THE OWNER SIGNED.
- (6) This section applies only to a utility's on-bill program that receives financing from the on-bill cash fund either directly or through a utility-designated administrator.
- **24-38.5-606.** Participation by utilities program administration. (1) A UTILITY MAY SEEK MONEY FROM THE ON-BILL CASH FUND USING A PROCESS APPROVED BY THE OFFICE TO ESTABLISH ITS OWN ON-BILL PROGRAM OR SUPPORT AN EXISTING ON-BILL PROGRAM.
- (2) A UTILITY PARTICIPATING IN THE PROGRAM PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION MAY DESIGNATE AN ADMINISTRATOR WITH WRITTEN APPROVAL FROM THE OFFICE OR MAY CHOOSE TO DESIGNATE THE PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR SELECTED BY THE OFFICE AS ITS UTILITY-DESIGNATED ADMINISTRATOR.
- (3) If the office contracts with a program administrator pursuant to section 24-38.5-604, a utility that, on the effective date of this section, has an existing on-bill program may seek written approval from the office to transfer the administration of its on-bill program to the program administrator.
- **24-38.5-607. On-bill cash fund creation.** (1) The on-bill cash fund is created in the state treasury. The fund consists of money credited to the fund pursuant to section 38-13-801 (3.3) and any other money that the general assembly may appropriate or transfer to the fund.
- (2) THE STATE TREASURER SHALL CREDIT ALL INTEREST AND INCOME DERIVED FROM THE DEPOSIT AND INVESTMENT OF MONEY IN THE ON-BILL CASH FUND TO THE FUND.
- (3) MONEY IN THE ON-BILL CASH FUND IS CONTINUOUSLY APPROPRIATED TO THE OFFICE TO DEFRAY THE COSTS INCURRED BY THE OFFICE IN ADMINISTERING THE PROGRAM AND IN SUPPORTING UTILITY AND BUILDING DECARBONIZATION.
- (4) (a) A LOAN MADE FROM THE UNCLAIMED PROPERTY TRUST FUND TO A SEPARATE FUND ASSOCIATED WITH A STATE OFFICE IS AN INTERFUND LOAN ACCORDING TO GOVERNMENTAL ACCOUNTING

STANDARDS BOARD CODIFICATION 1800.102, meaning that the loan is not classified as revenue and is booked as an interfund receivable or payable.

(b) A Loan made from the unclaimed property trust fund to a separate fund associated with a state office is not state fiscal year spending, as defined in section 24-77-102 (17), or state revenues, as defined in section 24-77-103.6 (6)(c), and does not count against either the state fiscal year spending limit imposed by section 20 of article X of the state constitution or the excess state revenues cap, as defined in section 24-77-103.6 (6)(b)(I)(G).

SECTION 2. In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 38-35.7-113 as follows:

38-35.7-113. Disclosure - utility on-bill program obligations.

- (1) FOR ANY REAL PROPERTY FOR WHICH THE OWNER OF THE PROPERTY IS SUBJECT TO REPAYMENT OBLIGATIONS UNDER AN ON-BILL PROGRAM DESCRIBED IN PART 6 OF ARTICLE 38.5 OF TITLE 24, THE OWNER OF THE REAL PROPERTY SHALL PROVIDE A PROSPECTIVE PURCHASER OF THE PROPERTY WRITTEN NOTICE IN COMPLIANCE WITH SECTION 24-38.5-605. BEFORE ACCEPTING A PROSPECTIVE PURCHASER'S OFFER TO PURCHASE THE REAL PROPERTY, THE SELLER SHALL PROVIDE THE PROSPECTIVE PURCHASER THE WRITTEN NOTICE AND OBTAIN FROM THE PROSPECTIVE
- PURCHASER THE WRITTEN NOTICE AND OBTAIN FROM THE PROSPECTIVE PURCHASER A SIGNED COPY OF THE WRITTEN NOTICE ACKNOWLEDGING RECEIPT OF THE NOTICE. THE PROSPECTIVE PURCHASER MAY SIGN THE WRITTEN NOTICE ELECTRONICALLY.
- (2) This section applies only to a utility's on-bill program that receives financing from the on-bill cash fund created in section 24-38.5-607 directly or through a utility-designated administrator.
- **SECTION 3.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 40-2-140 as follows:
- **40-2-140.** Utility on-bill program review by commission definitions. (1) AS USED IN THIS SECTION, UNLESS THE CONTEXT OTHERWISE REQUIRES:
- (a) "COMBINED FUEL CUSTOMER" MEANS A RESIDENTIAL UTILITY CUSTOMER THAT TAKES BOTH ELECTRIC AND GAS SERVICE FROM THE UTILITY.
- 37 (b) "ON-BILL CASH FUND" HAS THE MEANING SET FORTH IN 38 SECTION 24-38.5-602 (7).
 - (c) "ON-BILL PROGRAM" HAS THE MEANING SET FORTH IN SECTION 24-38.5-602 (8).
- 41 (2) (a) (I) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (2)(a)(II) OF THIS 42 SECTION, ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 31, 2027, A GAS, ELECTRIC, OR 43 COMBINED FUEL UTILITY WITH MORE THAN FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND

CUSTOMERS IN THE STATE SHALL FILE WITH THE COMMISSION AN APPLICATION THAT EITHER PROPOSES TO USE FUNDING FROM THE ON-BILL CASH FUND TO ESTABLISH OR MODIFY AN EXISTING ON-BILL PROGRAM OR PROPOSES NOT TO USE FUNDING FROM THE ON-BILL CASH FUND.

- (II) IF THE UTILITY PROPOSES NOT TO USE FUNDING FROM THE ON-BILL CASH FUND, THE UTILITY'S FILING MUST DEMONSTRATE WHY THE UTILITY'S CUSTOMERS WOULD NOT BENEFIT FROM THE UTILITY'S USE OF THE FUNDING.
- (b) UNLESS OTHERWISE PART OF A UTILITY ON-BILL PROGRAM APPROVED BY THE COMMISSION AND NOT IN CONFLICT WITH ANY COMMISSION-APPROVED ON-BILL PROGRAM OR OTHER COMMISSION DECISION, A UTILITY'S FILING SUBMITTED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (2)(a)(I) OF THIS SECTION MUST:
- (I) PROPOSE TO MAKE THE UTILITY'S ON-BILL PROGRAM AVAILABLE TO ELECTRIC-ONLY RETAIL CUSTOMERS, GAS-ONLY RETAIL CUSTOMERS, AND COMBINED FUEL RETAIL CUSTOMERS;
- (II) DESCRIBE HOW THE UTILITY WOULD USE MONEY FROM THE ON-BILL CASH FUND TO IMPLEMENT OR MODIFY AN ON-BILL PROGRAM;
- (III) DESCRIBE HOW THE UTILITY WILL OFFER THE ON-BILL PROGRAM TO ITS RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMERS;
- (IV) INCLUDE INFORMATION CONCERNING HOW THE UTILITY WILL ALLOW NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS, STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS, MULTIFAMILY DWELLINGS, AND HOMEOWNERS' ASSOCIATIONS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE ON-BILL PROGRAM; AND
- (V) DESCRIBE HOW THE UTILITY MAY USE FUNDING FROM THE ON-BILL CASH FUND OR OTHER SOURCES OF FUNDING TO REDUCE INTEREST RATES, ESPECIALLY FOR CUSTOMERS IN LOW- AND MODERATE-INCOME HOUSEHOLDS.
- (3) A UTILITY WITH MORE THAN FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND CUSTOMERS IN THE STATE MAY RECOVER ON-BILL PROGRAM COSTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH PART 6 OF ARTICLE 38.5 OF TITLE 24. THE UTILITY SHALL NOT RECOVER ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS THROUGH THE INTEREST RATE ESTABLISHED FOR MONEY MADE AVAILABLE THROUGH THE ON-BILL PROGRAM. A UTILITY MAY RECOVER ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS APPROVED BY THE COMMISSION. A UTILITY MAY PROPOSE OR MAY MAINTAIN A METHOD TO RECOVER APPROVED ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS, INCLUDING THE USE OF AN EXISTING RIDER, AS APPROVED BY THE COMMISSION.
- (4) A UTILITY WITH MORE THAN FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND CUSTOMERS IN THE STATE THAT, BY APRIL 1, 2026, DOES NOT HAVE AN EXISTING ON-BILL PROGRAM THAT HAS BEEN APPROVED BY THE COMMISSION SHALL FILE THE APPLICATION DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (2)(a) OF THIS SECTION ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 31, 2026.
 - (5) (a) THE COMMISSION SHALL REVIEW AND APPROVE,

DISAPPROVE, OR APPROVE WITH MODIFICATIONS A UTILITY'S APPLICATION SUBMITTED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (2) OF THIS SECTION. IN REVIEWING AN APPLICATION, THE COMMISSION SHALL DETERMINE WHETHER THE UTILITY'S PROPOSED PLAN FOR PARTICIPATION IN A UTILITY ON-BILL PROGRAM IS IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST, AND, IF THE COMMISSION DETERMINES THAT THE PROPOSED PLAN IS NOT IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST, THE COMMISSION MAY MODIFY SPECIFIC PORTIONS OF THE PROPOSED PLAN TO BRING THE PROPOSED PLAN INTO ALIGNMENT WITH THE PUBLIC INTEREST.

(b) If the commission, pursuant to this section or through a commission decision, approves participation in a utility on-bill program for nonprofit organizations or nonresidential customers, the requirements of sections 40-3.2-105.5 and 40-3.2-105.6 apply to any work undertaken as part of the on-bill program.

SECTION 4. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 38-13-801, **amend** (1)(b); and **add** (3.3) as follows:

38-13-801. Unclaimed property trust fund - creation - payments - interest - appropriations - records - rules - legislative declaration. (1) (b) Except as provided in subsections (2), (3), (3.3), and (3.5) of this section, the principal of the trust fund shall not be expended except to pay claims made pursuant to this article 13. Money constituting the principal of the trust fund is not fiscal year spending of the state for purposes of section 20 of article X of the state constitution and is not subject to appropriation by the general assembly.

- (3.3) (a) After reserving the amounts described in subsection (3)(b) of this section and transmitting the money necessary for the purposes described in subsection (3)(a) of this section, the state treasurer shall credit to the on-bill cash fund created in section 24-38.5-607 an amount of principal and interest in the unclaimed property trust fund that is sufficient, as determined by the Colorado energy office pursuant to section 24-38.5-603 (2), to implement part 6 of article 38.5 of title 24.
- (b) On January 1, 2026, the state treasurer shall make an interest-free loan in the amount of one hundred million dollars from the unclaimed property trust fund to the on-bill cash fund created in section 24-38.5-607. The Colorado energy office shall:
- (I) USE THE LOAN TO SUPPORT UTILITY ON-BILL PROGRAMS, AS DESCRIBED IN SECTION 24-38.5-603; AND
- (II) Pay the loan back to the unclaimed property trust fund by January 1,2046. The loan repayment is subject to future appropriation by the general assembly and shall not be deemed

OR CONSTRUED AS CREATING INDEBTEDNESS OF THE STATE WITHIN THE MEANING OF THE STATE CONSTITUTION OR THE LAWS OF THE STATE CONCERNING OR LIMITING THE CREATION OF INDEBTEDNESS BY THE STATE.

(c) A LOAN MADE FROM THE UNCLAIMED PROPERTY TRUST FUND TO ANOTHER STATE FUND SHALL BE REPAID WITHIN TWENTY YEARS.

SECTION 5. In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 24-38.5-123 as follows:

- 24-38.5-123. Building decarbonization enterprise creation membership powers and duties building decarbonization enterprise cash fund on-bill program administration cash fund legislative declaration definitions rules report repeal. (1) Legislative declaration. (a) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FINDS THAT:
- (I) REDUCING GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS FROM COMBUSTION DEVICES IN RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS:
- (A) IS NECESSARY TO HELP THE STATE ACHIEVE ITS STATEWIDE GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSION REDUCTION GOALS SET FORTH IN SECTION 25-7-102 (2)(g), INCLUDING THE GOAL TO REACH NET-ZERO GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS BY 2050; AND
- (B) PRESENTS SIGNIFICANT OPPORTUNITIES TO LOWER AND STABILIZE ENERGY BILLS, PROVIDE FOR MORE COMFORTABLE LIVING AND WORKING SPACES, AND REDUCE LOCAL AIR POLLUTION THAT CONTRIBUTES TO GROUND-LEVEL OZONE;
- (II) COVERED BUILDING OWNERS ARE REQUIRED TO COMPLY WITH BENCHMARKING REQUIREMENTS AND PERFORMANCE STANDARD REQUIREMENTS AND WOULD BENEFIT FROM ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO MEET OR EXCEED THOSE REQUIREMENTS;
- (III) WITH ADDITIONAL FINANCING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, COVERED BUILDING OWNERS MAY MORE EFFECTIVELY AND EFFICIENTLY IMPLEMENT BUILDING DECARBONIZATION MEASURES, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, PROGRAMS THAT:
- (A) HELP FINANCE ENERGY EFFICIENCY MEASURES, ELECTRIFICATION MEASURES, AND OTHER ENERGY UPGRADES; AND
- (B) PROVIDE ASSISTANCE FOR CONDUCTING BUILDING ENERGY AUDITS, DEVELOPING ANALYSES TO HELP BUILDING OWNERS EVALUATE THE BEST STRATEGIES FOR ACHIEVING FUTURE PERFORMANCE STANDARD TARGETS, EMPLOYING OR CONSULTING WITH BUILDING ENGINEERS, PURCHASING ENERGY USE TRACKING SOFTWARE FOR COVERED BUILDING OWNERS TO MORE EFFECTIVELY TRACK ENERGY USE, AND PROVIDING TRAINING ON SUCH SOFTWARE;
- (IV) UTILITY CUSTOMERS WOULD BENEFIT FROM HAVING ACCESS TO SIGNIFICANT AMOUNTS OF PUBLIC AND PRIVATE CAPITAL FOR LOW-COST FINANCING SOLUTIONS FOR ENERGY-RELATED IMPROVEMENTS, INCLUDING END-OF-LIFE EQUIPMENT REPLACEMENT; AND

(V) UTILITIES SERVING COLORADANS HAVE VARYING LEVELS OF EXPERIENCE, AVAILABLE CAPITAL, AND AVAILABLE STAFF TO SUPPORT THE ESTABLISHMENT AND ADMINISTRATION OF ON-BILL PROGRAMS.

- (b) Now, therefore, the general assembly declares that:
- (I) IT IS IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST TO CREATE AN ENTERPRISE WITHIN THE OFFICE THAT IS COMMITTED TO FINANCING AND PROVIDING TECHNICAL AND OTHER SUPPORT FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF BUILDING DECARBONIZATION MEASURES AND FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF UTILITY ON-BILL PROGRAMS;
- (II) THE ACTIVITIES OF THE ENTERPRISE SHALL BE FUNDED BY REVENUE GENERATED FROM A BUILDING DECARBONIZATION FEE PAID BY COVERED BUILDING OWNERS AND ANY GIFTS, GRANTS, AND DONATIONS RECEIVED;
- (III) IT IS APPROPRIATE THAT COVERED BUILDING OWNERS SHOULD PAY A BUILDING DECARBONIZATION FEE, AS COVERED BUILDING OWNERS ARE THE DIRECT BENEFICIARIES OF SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE ENTERPRISE, WHICH SERVICES INCLUDE THE FINANCING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROVIDED FOR THE BUILDING DECARBONIZATION MEASURES DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (1)(a)(III) OF THIS SECTION;
- (IV) COVERED BUILDING OWNERS BENEFIT FROM THE IMPLEMENTATION OF BUILDING DECARBONIZATION MEASURES BECAUSE SUCH MEASURES CAN:
- (A) REDUCE COVERED BUILDING OWNERS' LONG-TERM COSTS RELATED TO ENERGY USE;
 - (B) IMPROVE BUILDING COMFORT; AND
- (C) Increase the market value and desirability of covered buildings to tenants;
- (V) It is in the public interest to create a building decarbonization enterprise cash fund within the building decarbonization enterprise, the use of which is dedicated to financing the provision of technical support for utilities seeking to establish or expand on-bill programs pursuant to this section and section 25-7-142;
- (VI) CONSISTENT WITH THE DETERMINATION OF THE COLORADO SUPREME COURT IN *NICHOLL V. E-470 Public Highway Authority*, 896 P.2d 859 (Colo. 1995), that the power to impose taxes is inconsistent with enterprise status under section 20 of article X of the state constitution, the general assembly concludes that the building decarbonization fee is a fee, not a tax, and the enterprise operates as a business because the building decarbonization fee and on-bill program administration fee are:
- (A) IN THE CASE OF THE BUILDING DECARBONIZATION FEE, IMPOSED FOR THE SPECIFIC BUSINESS PURPOSES OF PROVIDING FINANCING

AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO COVERED BUILDING OWNERS TO MORE EFFECTIVELY AND EFFICIENTLY IMPLEMENT BUILDING DECARBONIZATION MEASURES, INCLUDING FEASIBILITY ANALYSES AND IMPROVEMENTS THAT WILL REDUCE ENERGY USE AND EMISSIONS, AND COLLECTED AT A RATE THAT IS REASONABLY RELATED TO THE OVERALL COST OF THE BUSINESS SERVICES BEING PROVIDED; AND

- (B) IN THE CASE OF THE ON-BILL PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION FEE, IMPOSED FOR THE SPECIFIC PURPOSE OF PROVIDING TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO A UTILITY THAT INTENDS TO ESTABLISH OR EXPAND ON-BILL PROGRAMS FOR ITS RETAIL CUSTOMERS; AND
- (VII) SO LONG AS THE ENTERPRISE QUALIFIES AS AN ENTERPRISE FOR PURPOSES OF SECTION 20 OF ARTICLE X OF THE STATE CONSTITUTION, THE REVENUE FROM THE BUILDING DECARBONIZATION FEE AND THE ON-BILL PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION FEE IMPOSED, COLLECTED, AND ADMINISTERED BY THE ENTERPRISE IS NOT STATE FISCAL YEAR SPENDING, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 24-77-102 (17), OR STATE REVENUES, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 24-77-103.6 (6)(c), AND DOES NOT COUNT AGAINST EITHER THE STATE FISCAL YEAR SPENDING LIMIT IMPOSED BY SECTION 20 OF ARTICLE X OF THE STATE CONSTITUTION OR THE EXCESS STATE REVENUES CAP, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 24-77-103.6 (6)(b)(I)(G).
- (2) **Definitions.** AS USED IN THIS SECTION, UNLESS THE CONTEXT OTHERWISE REQUIRES:
- (a) "BENCHMARKING REQUIREMENTS" MEANS THE ENERGY BENCHMARKING REQUIREMENTS SET FORTH IN SECTION 25-7-142(3) WITH WHICH AN OWNER OR OPERATOR OF A COVERED BUILDING IS REQUIRED TO COMPLY.
- (b) "BOARD" MEANS THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE ENTERPRISE APPOINTED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (4)(a) OF THIS SECTION.
- (c) "BUILDING DECARBONIZATION ENTERPRISE CASH FUND" OR "BUILDING DECARBONIZATION FUND" MEANS THE BUILDING DECARBONIZATION ENTERPRISE CASH FUND CREATED IN SUBSECTION (6)(a) OF THIS SECTION.
- (d) "BUILDING DECARBONIZATION FEE" OR "FEE" MEANS THE FEE PAID BY THE OWNER OF A COVERED BUILDING PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (5)(b) OF THIS SECTION.
- (e) "COVERED BUILDING" HAS THE MEANING SET FORTH IN SECTION 25-7-142 (2)(j).
- 38 (f) "COVERED BUILDING OWNER" MEANS AN "OWNER", AS DEFINED 39 IN SECTION 25-7-142 (2)(r), OF A COVERED BUILDING.
 - (g) "ELECTRIFICATION" HAS THE MEANING SET FORTH IN SECTION 24-38.5-602 (3).
- 42 (h) "ENERGY EFFICIENCY MEASURE" HAS THE MEANING SET FORTH 43 IN SECTION 24-38.5-602 (4).

(i) "ENERGY UPGRADE" HAS THE MEANING SET FORTH IN SECTION 24-38.5-602 (5).

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- (j) "ENTERPRISE" MEANS THE BUILDING DECARBONIZATION ENTERPRISE CREATED IN SUBSECTION (3) OF THIS SECTION.
- (k) "Inflation" means the annual percentage change in the in the United States department of Labor's bureau of Labor statistics consumer price index, or a successor index, for Denver-Aurora-Lakewood for all items paid for by urban consumers.
- (1) "OFFICE" MEANS THE COLORADO ENERGY OFFICE CREATED IN SECTION 24-38.5-101.
- (m) "ON-BILL CASH FUND" HAS THE MEANING SET FORTH IN SECTION 24-38.5-602 (7).
- (n) "ON-BILL PROGRAM" MEANS A UTILITY'S ON-BILL PROGRAM THROUGH WHICH ENERGY EFFICIENCY MEASURES, ELECTRIFICATION MEASURES, AND ENERGY UPGRADES INSTALLED AT A PARTICIPATING CUSTOMER'S PREMISES THAT IS ASSOCIATED WITH THE UTILITY METER ARE FINANCED THROUGH LOANS THAT ARE REPAID THROUGH MONTHLY UTILITY BILL PAYMENTS.
- (o) "ON-BILL PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION CASH FUND" OR "ADMINISTRATION FUND" MEANS THE ON-BILL PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION CASH FUND CREATED IN SUBSECTION (8) OF THIS SECTION.
- (p) "ON-BILL PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION FEE" OR "ADMINISTRATION FEE" MEANS THE FEE PAID BY A UTILITY SEEKING TO ESTABLISH OR EXPAND ITS ON-BILL PROGRAM PURSUANT TO SECTION 24-38.5-606.
- (q) "Participating utility" has the meaning set forth in section 24-38.5-602 (9).
 - (r) "Performance standards" has the meaning set forth in section 25-7-142 (2)(s).
- (s) "UTILITY" HAS THE MEANING SET FORTH IN SECTION 24-38.5-602 (13).
- (3) Enterprise created loan from the office repayment.

 (a) THE BUILDING DECARBONIZATION ENTERPRISE IS CREATED IN THE OFFICE AND EXERCISES ITS POWERS AND PERFORMS ITS DUTIES AND FUNCTIONS AS A GOVERNMENT-OWNED BUSINESS IN THE OFFICE TO EXECUTE ITS BUSINESS PURPOSES SET FORTH IN THIS SUBSECTION (3). THE ENTERPRISE IS CREATED FOR THE PURPOSES OF:
- (I) IMPOSING AND ASSESSING A BUILDING DECARBONIZATION FEE ON OWNERS OF COVERED BUILDINGS;
- 41 (II) PROVIDING TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, FINANCING, AND OTHER 42 PROGRAMMATIC SUPPORT FOR COVERED BUILDING OWNERS' BUILDING 43 DECARBONIZATION MEASURES, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO,

CONDUCTING BUILDING ENERGY AUDITS, DEVELOPING ANALYSES TO HELP BUILDING OWNERS EVALUATE THE BEST STRATEGIES FOR ACHIEVING FUTURE PERFORMANCE STANDARD TARGETS, CONSULTING BUILDING ENGINEERS, PURCHASING ENERGY USE TRACKING SOFTWARE, AND PROVIDING TRAINING ON SUCH SOFTWARE;

- (III) HAVING AND EXERCISING ALL RIGHTS AND POWERS NECESSARY OR INCIDENTAL TO OR IMPLIED FROM THE SPECIFIC POWERS AND DUTIES GRANTED UNDER THIS SECTION;
- (IV) ENSURING THAT THE BUILDING DECARBONIZATION FEE PAID BY COVERED BUILDING OWNERS IS USED SOLELY TO SUPPORT PROGRAMS, TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, AND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR THE COVERED BUILDING OWNERS THAT PAY THE BUILDING DECARBONIZATION FEE;
- (V) IMPOSING AND ASSESSING AN ON-BILL PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION FEE ON UTILITIES THAT SEEK FINANCING FROM THE ON-BILL CASH FUND TO DEVELOP OR EXPAND THEIR ON-BILL PROGRAMS;
- (VI) PROVIDING TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND OTHER PROGRAMMATIC SUPPORT TO PARTICIPATING UTILITIES SEEKING TO ESTABLISH OR EXPAND AN ON-BILL PROGRAM. THE AMOUNT OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND OTHER PROGRAMMATIC SUPPORT PROVIDED IS COMMENSURATE WITH THE AMOUNT OF FINANCIAL SUPPORT LOANED TO A PARTICIPATING UTILITY FROM THE ON-BILL CASH FUND AND INCLUDES:
- (A) DEVELOPING A FULL SET OF ON-BILL PROGRAM MODELS, INCLUDING MODELS THAT ARE RUN BY THIRD-PARTY OPT-IN PROGRAMS THAT PARTICIPATING UTILITIES ADOPT;
- (B) Assisting utilities in meeting reporting obligations;
- (C) PROVIDING TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION AND ADMINISTRATION OF ON-BILL PROGRAMS; AND
- (VII) ENSURING THAT THE ON-BILL PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION FEE THAT A UTILITY PAYS IS USED SOLELY TO SUPPORT ON-BILL PROGRAM DESIGNS, TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, AND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR THE PARTICIPATING UTILITIES THAT PAY THE ADMINISTRATION FEE.
- (b) THE BOARD, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE OFFICE, SHALL ADMINISTER THE ENTERPRISE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS SECTION.
- (c) (I) The enterprise constitutes an enterprise for purposes of section 20 of article X of the state constitution so long as it retains the authority to issue revenue bonds and receives less than ten percent of its total revenues in grants, as defined in section 24-77-102 (7), from all Colorado state and local governments combined. So long as it constitutes an enterprise, the enterprise is not subject to section 20 of article X of the state constitution.
 - (II) THE ENTERPRISE IS AUTHORIZED TO ISSUE REVENUE BONDS FOR

THE EXPENSES OF THE ENTERPRISE, SECURED BY REVENUE OF THE ENTERPRISE.

- (d) (I) The office may transfer money from any legally available source to the enterprise for the purpose of defraying expenses incurred by the enterprise before it receives fee revenue. The enterprise may accept and expend any money so transferred, and, notwithstanding any state fiscal rule or generally accepted accounting principle that could otherwise be interpreted to require a contrary conclusion, such a transfer is a loan from the office to the enterprise that is required to be repaid and is not a grant for purposes of section 20 (2)(d) of article X of the state constitution or as defined in section 24-77-102 (7).
- (II) AS THE ENTERPRISE RECEIVES SUFFICIENT REVENUE IN EXCESS OF ITS EXPENSES, THE ENTERPRISE SHALL REIMBURSE THE OFFICE FOR THE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF ANY LOAN MADE BY THE OFFICE, PLUS INTEREST AT A RATE AGREED UPON BY THE OFFICE AND THE ENTERPRISE.
- (4) Enterprise board of directors created membership duties repeal. (a) The enterprise board of directors is created to administer the enterprise. The board consists of the following seven members:
- (I) THE FOLLOWING FOUR MEMBERS APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR AND CONFIRMED BY THE SENATE:
 - (A) A REPRESENTATIVE OF COVERED BUILDING OWNERS;
- (B) AN EXPERT IN BUILDING ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND DECARBONIZATION;
- (C) A LOCAL GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVE WITH EXPERTISE IN PLANNING OR ENERGY CODES; AND
 - (D) A UTILITY REPRESENTATIVE;
 - (II) THE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OR THE DIRECTOR'S DESIGNEE;
- (III) THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT OR THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S DESIGNEE; AND
- (IV) THE DIRECTOR OF THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OR THE DIRECTOR'S DESIGNEE.
- (b) (I) The governor shall appoint initial members to the board pursuant to subsection (4)(a)(I) of this section on or before September 1, 2025.
 - (II) THIS SUBSECTION (4)(b) IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026.
- (c) (I) BOARD MEMBERS APPOINTED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (4)(a)(I) of this section serve three-year terms. A board member may serve an unlimited number of terms.
 - (II) NOTWITHSTANDING SUBSECTION (4)(c)(I) OF THIS SECTION,

THE GOVERNOR SHALL MAKE THE INITIAL TERMS OF TWO OF THE BOARD MEMBERS WHO ARE APPOINTED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (4)(a)(I) OF THIS SECTION TWO YEARS.

- (d) BOARD MEMBERS SERVING PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (4)(a)(I) OF THIS SECTION MAY RECEIVE COMPENSATION FROM THE ENTERPRISE ON A PER DIEM BASIS FOR REASONABLE EXPENSES ACTUALLY INCURRED IN THE PERFORMANCE OF THEIR DUTIES.
- (e) (I) THE CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR OF THE BOARD ARE SELECTED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE BOARD IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE BOARD'S BYLAWS.
- (II) (A) THE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OR THE DIRECTOR'S DESIGNEE SHALL CALL THE FIRST MEETING OF THE BOARD, AND THE BOARD SHALL SELECT THE CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR AT THAT MEETING IN ACCORDANCE WITH SUBSECTION (4)(e)(I) OF THIS SECTION.
- (B) This subsection (4)(e)(II) is repealed, effective July 1, 2026.
- (5) Powers and duties building decarbonization fee on-bill program administration fee rules. (a) IN ADDITION TO ANY OTHER POWERS AND DUTIES SPECIFIED IN THIS SECTION, THE BOARD HAS THE FOLLOWING POWERS AND DUTIES ON BEHALF OF THE ENTERPRISE:
- (I) TO ADOPT PROCEDURES FOR CONDUCTING THE BOARD'S AFFAIRS;
- (II) TO ENGAGE THE SERVICES OF CONTRACTORS, CONSULTANTS, THE DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATION DESCRIBED IN SECTION 25-1-102 (2)(a), AND THE STAFF OF THE OFFICE FOR PROFESSIONAL AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND ADVICE AND TO SUPPLY OTHER SERVICES RELATED TO THE CONDUCT OF THE AFFAIRS OF THE ENTERPRISE WITHOUT REGARD TO THE "PROCUREMENT CODE", ARTICLES 101 TO 112 OF TITLE 24. THE ENTERPRISE SHALL ENGAGE THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE FOR LEGAL SERVICES. THE ENTERPRISE MAY CONTRACT WITH THE OFFICE FOR THE PROVISION OF OFFICE SPACE AND ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF TO THE ENTERPRISE AT A FAIR MARKET RATE.
- (III) TO ESTABLISH AND ADMINISTER A PROGRAM THROUGH WHICH OWNERS OF COVERED BUILDINGS MAY APPLY FOR, AND THE BOARD MAY REVIEW AND APPROVE APPLICATIONS FOR, FINANCING OR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR BUILDING DECARBONIZATION MEASURES, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, PARTICIPATING IN PROGRAMS THAT HELP FINANCE ENERGY EFFICIENCY MEASURES, ELECTRIFICATION MEASURES, AND OTHER ENERGY UPGRADES; CONDUCTING BUILDING ENERGY AUDITS; EMPLOYING OR CONSULTING WITH BUILDING ENGINEERS; AND PURCHASING ENERGY USE TRACKING SOFTWARE AND PROVIDING TRAINING ON SUCH SOFTWARE;
- (IV) To impose the building decarbonization fee described in subsection (5)(b) of this section;

(V) IN ACCORDANCE WITH SUBSECTION (5)(c) OF THIS SECTION, TO IMPOSE THE ON-BILL PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION FEE ON UTILITIES THAT SEEK FINANCING FROM THE ON-BILL CASH FUND TO DEVELOP OR EXPAND THEIR ON-BILL PROGRAMS;

- (VI) TO ESTABLISH AND ADMINISTER A PROGRAM THROUGH WHICH PARTICIPATING UTILITIES MAY RECEIVE ASSISTANCE FOR ESTABLISHING OR EXPANDING AN ON-BILL PROGRAM, WHICH PROGRAM INCLUDES DEVELOPING EFFECTIVE PROGRAM DESIGNS, TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR PARTICIPATING UTILITIES TO IMPLEMENT AN ON-BILL PROGRAM, AND CONSUMER EDUCATION AND MARKETING SUPPORT; AND
- (VII) TO HAVE AND EXERCISE ALL RIGHTS AND POWERS NECESSARY OR INCIDENTAL TO OR IMPLIED FROM THE SPECIFIC POWERS AND DUTIES GRANTED BY THIS SECTION.
- (b) (I) Beginning in State Fiscal Year 2026-27 and in furtherance of the enterprise's business purposes, the board shall adopt rules for the purpose of setting the amount of the building decarbonization fee at the maximum amount authorized in this section to be imposed upon all covered building owners; except that the fee shall not be imposed on the owner of a public building, as defined in section 25-7-142 (2)(t). The board shall only adopt rules pursuant to this subsection (5)(b)(I) and subsection (5)(c)(I) of this section.
- (II) ON OR BEFORE NOVEMBER 1, 2025, AND ON OR BEFORE NOVEMBER 1 OF EACH YEAR THEREAFTER, AND EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (5)(b)(III) OF THIS SECTION, EACH OWNER OF A COVERED BUILDING SHALL PAY A BUILDING DECARBONIZATION FEE IN AN AMOUNT OF FOUR HUNDRED DOLLARS TO THE OFFICE, WHICH SHALL COLLECT THE BUILDING DECARBONIZATION FEE ON BEHALF OF THE ENTERPRISE.
- (III) BEGINNING IN STATE FISCAL YEAR 2027-28, THE BOARD MAY INCREASE THE BUILDING DECARBONIZATION FEE FROM THE PREVIOUS YEAR'S BUILDING DECARBONIZATION FEE AMOUNT, AS ADJUSTED FOR INFLATION AND, ON OR BEFORE MARCH 15 OF EACH OF THE STATE FISCAL YEARS THEREAFTER, SHALL NOTIFY THE OFFICE OF THE ADJUSTED AMOUNT OF THE BUILDING DECARBONIZATION FEE, IF THE BUILDING DECARBONIZATION FEE HAS BEEN ADJUSTED. ON OR BEFORE APRIL 15 OF EACH OF THE STATE FISCAL YEARS THEREAFTER, THE OFFICE SHALL PUBLISH THE UPDATED AMOUNT OF THE BUILDING DECARBONIZATION FEE ON THE ENTERPRISE'S WEBSITE.
- (IV) MONEY COLLECTED AS A BUILDING DECARBONIZATION FEE SHALL BE CREDITED TO THE BUILDING DECARBONIZATION ENTERPRISE CASH FUND.
- (V) MONEY COLLECTED BY THE OFFICE FOR TRANSFER TO THE BUILDING DECARBONIZATION FUND PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (5)(b)(IV)

OF THIS SECTION:

(A) IS COLLECTED FOR THE ENTERPRISE;

- (B) IS CUSTODIAL MONEY INTENDED FOR THE ENTERPRISE AND HELD TEMPORARILY BY THE OFFICE AND THE STATE TREASURER SOLELY FOR THE PURPOSE OF TRANSFERRING THE MONEY TO THE BUILDING DECARBONIZATION FUND FOR USE BY THE ENTERPRISE; AND
- (C) Based on the enterprise's status as an enterprise, is not subject to section 20 of article X of the state constitution at any time during the money's collection, transfer, and use.
- (c) (I) BEGINNING IN STATE FISCAL YEAR 2025-26, AND IN FURTHERANCE OF THE ENTERPRISE'S BUSINESS PURPOSES, THE BOARD SHALL ADOPT RULES FOR THE PURPOSE OF SETTING THE AMOUNT OF THE ON-BILL PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION FEE AT OR BELOW THE MAXIMUM AMOUNT AUTHORIZED IN THIS SUBSECTION (5)(c) TO BE IMPOSED ON PARTICIPATING UTILITIES.
- (II) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (5)(c)(III) OF THIS SECTION, A PARTICIPATING UTILITY SHALL PAY THE ON-BILL PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION FEE TO THE ENTERPRISE ON OR BEFORE NOVEMBER 1, 2025, AND ON OR BEFORE NOVEMBER 1 OF EACH YEAR THEREAFTER, UNTIL THE PARTICIPATING UTILITY HAS PAID BACK THE AMOUNT OF THE LOAN RECEIVED FROM THE ON-BILL CASH FUND, BASED ON THE AMOUNT OF THE MONEY LOANED TO THE PARTICIPATING UTILITY FROM THE ON-BILL CASH FUND, AS FOLLOWS:
- (A) IF THE PARTICIPATING UTILITY BORROWS TEN MILLION DOLLARS OR LESS FROM THE ON-BILL CASH FUND, THE ADMINISTRATION FEE SHALL BE IMPOSED IN AN AMOUNT OF UP TO FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS:
- (B) IF THE PARTICIPATING UTILITY BORROWS MORE THAN TEN MILLION DOLLARS BUT TWENTY MILLION DOLLARS OR LESS FROM THE ON-BILL CASH FUND, THE ADMINISTRATION FEE SHALL BE IMPOSED IN AN AMOUNT BETWEEN FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS AND SEVENTY-FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS;
- (C) IF THE PARTICIPATING UTILITY BORROWS MORE THAN TWENTY MILLION DOLLARS BUT FORTY MILLION DOLLARS OR LESS FROM THE ON-BILL CASH FUND, THE ADMINISTRATION FEE SHALL BE IMPOSED IN AN AMOUNT BETWEEN SEVENTY-FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS AND ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS;
- (D) IF THE PARTICIPATING UTILITY BORROWS MORE THAN FORTY MILLION DOLLARS BUT SIXTY MILLION DOLLARS OR LESS FROM THE ON-BILL CASH FUND, THE ADMINISTRATION FEE SHALL BE IMPOSED IN AN AMOUNT BETWEEN ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS AND TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS;
 - (E) IF A PARTICIPATING UTILITY BORROWS MORE THAN SIXTY

MILLION DOLLARS BUT EIGHTY MILLION DOLLARS OR LESS FROM THE ON-BILL CASH FUND, THE ADMINISTRATION FEE SHALL BE IMPOSED IN AN AMOUNT BETWEEN TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS AND THREE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS; AND

- (F) IF A PARTICIPATING UTILITY BORROWS MORE THAN EIGHTY MILLION DOLLARS FROM THE ON-BILL CASH FUND, THE ADMINISTRATION FEE SHALL BE IMPOSED IN AN AMOUNT BETWEEN THREE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS AND FOUR HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS.
- (III) A PARTICIPATING UTILITY SHALL BEGIN PAYING THE APPLICABLE ADMINISTRATION FEE TO THE ENTERPRISE ON OR BEFORE THE FIRST NOVEMBER 1 THAT FOLLOWS THE UTILITY'S EXECUTION OF A LOAN AGREEMENT WITH THE OFFICE.
- (IV) BEGINNING IN STATE FISCAL YEAR 2026-27, THE BOARD MAY INCREASE THE ADMINISTRATION FEE FROM THE PREVIOUS YEAR'S ADMINISTRATION FEE IN AN AMOUNT ADJUSTED FOR INFLATION. ON OR BEFORE MARCH 15, 2026, AND ON OR BEFORE MARCH 15 OF EACH YEAR THEREAFTER, THE BOARD SHALL NOTIFY THE OFFICE OF THE ADJUSTED AMOUNT OF THE ADMINISTRATION FEE IF THE ADMINISTRATION FEE HAS BEEN ADJUSTED FOR INFLATION, AND, ON OR BEFORE APRIL 15, 2026, AND ON OR BEFORE APRIL 15 OF EACH YEAR THEREAFTER, THE BOARD SHALL PUBLISH THE UPDATED AMOUNT OF THE ADMINISTRATION FEE ON THE ENTERPRISE'S WEBSITE.
- (V) MONEY COLLECTED AS AN ON-BILL PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION FEE SHALL BE CREDITED TO THE ON-BILL PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION CASH FUND.
- (6) **Building decarbonization enterprise cash fund creation repeal.** (a) The Building decarbonization enterprise cash fund is created in the state treasury. The Building decarbonization fund consists of:
- (I) MONEY RECEIVED FROM A BUILDING DECARBONIZATION FEE IMPOSED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (5)(b) OF THIS SECTION;
- (II) ANY MONEY RECEIVED FROM THE ISSUANCE OF REVENUE BONDS, AS DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (3)(c)(II) OF THIS SECTION; AND
- (III) ANY OTHER MONEY THAT THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY MAY APPROPRIATE OR TRANSFER TO THE FUND.
- (b) (I) SECTION 24-77-108 DOES NOT APPLY TO THE ENTERPRISE BECAUSE THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF MONEY CREDITED OR APPROPRIATED TO THE BUILDING DECARBONIZATION FUND AND THE ON-BILL PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION CASH FUND AS A FEE SHALL NOT EXCEED ONE HUNDRED MILLION DOLLARS IN THE FIRST FIVE FISCAL YEARS OF THE ENTERPRISE'S EXISTENCE.
 - (II) This subsection (6)(b) is repealed, effective July 1, 2031.
 - (c) MONEY CREDITED TO THE BUILDING DECARBONIZATION FUND

IS CONTINUOUSLY APPROPRIATED TO THE ENTERPRISE FOR THE PURPOSES SET FORTH IN THIS SECTION AND TO PAY THE ENTERPRISE'S REASONABLE AND NECESSARY OPERATING EXPENSES. THE STATE TREASURER SHALL CREDIT ALL INTEREST AND INCOME DERIVED FROM THE DEPOSIT AND INVESTMENT OF MONEY IN THE BUILDING DECARBONIZATION FUND TO THE BUILDING DECARBONIZATION FUND.

- (d) ANY UNEXPENDED AND UNENCUMBERED MONEY REMAINING IN THE BUILDING DECARBONIZATION FUND AT THE END OF A FISCAL YEAR REMAINS IN THE BUILDING DECARBONIZATION FUND AND IS NOT CREDITED OR TRANSFERRED TO THE GENERAL FUND.
- (7) Legislative review of building decarbonization enterprise. On or before December 1 of each year, the enterprise shall submit an annual report to the general assembly detailing the enterprise's expenditures and program outcomes from the preceding year and the enterprise's financial projections for the following year.
- (8) **On-bill program administration cash fund creation repeal.** (a) The on-bill program administration cash fund is created in the state treasury. The administration fund consists of:
- (I) Money received from an on-bill program administration fee imposed pursuant to subsection (5)(c) of this section:
- (II) ANY MONEY RECEIVED FROM THE ISSUANCE OF REVENUE BONDS AS DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (3)(c)(II) OF THIS SECTION; AND
- (III) ANY OTHER MONEY THAT THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY MAY APPROPRIATE OR TRANSFER TO THE ADMINISTRATION FUND.
- (b) (I) SECTION 24-77-108 DOES NOT APPLY TO THE ENTERPRISE BECAUSE THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF MONEY CREDITED OR APPROPRIATED TO THE ON-BILL PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION CASH FUND AND THE BUILDING DECARBONIZATION ENTERPRISE CASH FUND SHALL NOT EXCEED ONE HUNDRED MILLION DOLLARS IN THE FIRST FIVE YEARS OF THE ENTERPRISE'S EXISTENCE.
 - (II) THIS SUBSECTION (8)(b) IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2031.
- (c) Money credited to the on-bill program administration cash fund is continuously appropriated to the enterprise for the purposes set forth in this section and to pay the enterprise's reasonable and necessary operating expenses. The state treasurer shall credit all interest and income derived from the deposit and investment of money in the on-bill program administration cash fund to the on-bill program administration fund.
 - (d) ANY UNEXPENDED AND UNENCUMBERED MONEY REMAINING

IN THE ON-BILL PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION CASH FUND AT THE END OF A FISCAL YEAR REMAINS IN THE ON-BILL PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION FUND AND IS NOT CREDITED OR TRANSFERRED TO THE GENERAL FUND.

SECTION 6. Effective date. This act takes effect upon passage; except that section 5 of this act takes effect only if House Bill 25-1269 becomes law, in which case section 5 takes effect upon the effective date of this act or House Bill 25-1269, whichever is later.

SECTION 7. 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 the support and maintenance of the departments of the state and state institutions.".

13 Page 1, line 101, strike "REPAYMENT".

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