

Second Regular Session
Seventy-fifth General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO

REREVISED

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

LLS NO. 26-0895.01 Veronica Parish x2606

HOUSE BILL 26-1378

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Sirota and Taggart, Brown,

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Bridges and Kirkmeyer, Amabile, Pelton R.

House Committees
Appropriations

Senate Committees
Appropriations

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 **CONCERNING THE REPEAL OF CERTAIN BEHAVIORAL HEALTH**
102 **RESOURCES ADMINISTERED BY THE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH**
103 **ADMINISTRATION, AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, REDUCING**
104 **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/>.)

Joint Budget Committee. The bill:

- Repeals the requirement that the behavioral health administration (BHA) contract with a nonprofit

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
3rd Reading Unamended
April 16, 2026

SENATE
2nd Reading Unamended
April 15, 2026

HOUSE
3rd Reading Unamended
April 11, 2026

HOUSE
Amended 2nd Reading
April 9, 2026

organization serving agricultural and rural communities in Colorado to provide vouchers for behavioral health care services;

- Repeals the requirement that the BHA contract with an independent third party to provide services and supports to behavioral health providers seeking to become behavioral health safety net providers;
- Repeals the building substance use disorder treatment capacity in underserved communities grant program;
- Repeals the recovery support services grant program;
- Transfers the balance of the high-risk families cash fund (fund) to the general fund and repeals the fund on July 1, 2026; and
- Reduces appropriations to the department of education for the affected programs and services.

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

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **repeal** 27-50-305,
3 27-80-120, and 27-80-126.

4 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 27-50-101, **amend**
5 (6); and **add** (17.5) as follows:

6 **27-50-101. Definitions.**

7 As used in this article 50, unless the context otherwise requires:

8 (6) "Behavioral health provider" means a recovery community
9 organization, ~~as defined in section 27-80-126~~, a recovery support services
10 organization, as defined in section 27-60-108, or a licensed organization
11 or professional providing diagnostic, therapeutic, or psychological
12 services for behavioral health conditions. Behavioral health providers
13 include a residential child care facility, as defined in section 26-6-903
14 (29), and a federally qualified health center.

15 (17.5) "RECOVERY COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION" MEANS AN
16 INDEPENDENT, NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION LED AND GOVERNED BY
17 REPRESENTATIVES OF LOCAL COMMUNITIES OF RECOVERY THAT ORGANIZE

1 RECOVERY-FOCUSED POLICY ADVOCACY ACTIVITIES, CARRY OUT
2 RECOVERY-FOCUSED COMMUNITY EDUCATION AND OUTREACH PROGRAMS,
3 OR PROVIDE PEER-RUN RECOVERY SUPPORT SERVICES.

4 **SECTION 3.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 27-50-105, **amend**
5 (1)(gg); and **repeal** (1)(ee) and (1)(ii) as follows:

6 **27-50-105. Administration of behavioral health programs -**
7 **state plan - sole mental health authority - gifts, grants, or donations**
8 **- repeal.**

9 (1) The BHA shall administer and provide the following
10 behavioral health programs and services:

11 ~~(ee) The building substance use disorder treatment capacity in~~

12 ~~underserved communities grant program created pursuant to section~~
13 ~~27-80-120;~~

14 (gg) (I) The high-risk families cash fund created pursuant to
15 section 27-80-123.

16 (II) THIS SUBSECTION (1)(gg) IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE JULY 1,
17 2026.

18 (ii) ~~The recovery support services grant program created pursuant~~
19 ~~to section 27-80-126;~~

20 **SECTION 4.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 27-60-110, **amend**
21 (3) as follows:

22 **27-60-110. Behavioral health-care services for rural and**
23 **agricultural communities - vouchers - contract - appropriation.**

24 (3) For the ~~2021-22~~ 2026-2027 fiscal year, and each fiscal year
25 thereafter, the general assembly shall MAY annually appropriate fifty
26 thousand dollars MONEY for the contract awarded pursuant to subsection
27

1 (1) of this section.

2 **SECTION 5.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 27-60-301, **amend**
3 (3) as follows:

4 **27-60-301. Definitions.**

5 As used in this part 3, unless the context otherwise requires:

6 (3) "Behavioral health provider" means a recovery community
7 organization, as defined in ~~section 27-80-126~~ SECTION 27-50-101, a
8 recovery support services organization, as defined in section 27-60-108,
9 or a licensed organization or professional that provides diagnostic,
10 therapeutic, or psychological services for behavioral health conditions.
11 Behavioral health providers include a residential child care facility, as
12 defined in section 26-6-903 (29), and a federally qualified health center,
13 as defined in the federal "Social Security Act", 42 U.S.C. sec. 1395x
14 (aa)(4).

15 **SECTION 6.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 27-80-123, **add** (8)
16 and (9) as follows:

17 **27-80-123. High-risk families cash fund - creation - services**
18 **provided - report - definition - repeal.**

19 (8) THE STATE TREASURER SHALL TRANSFER ALL UNEXPENDED
20 AND UNENCUMBERED MONEY IN THE FUND ON JUNE 30, 2026, TO THE
21 GENERAL FUND.

22 (9) THIS SECTION IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026.

23 **SECTION 7. Appropriation - adjustments to 2026 long bill.**

24 (1) Except as provided in subsection (2) of this section, to implement this
25 act, the appropriations made in the annual general appropriation act for
26 the 2026-27 state fiscal year to the department of human services for use
27 by the behavioral health administration for behavioral health safety net

1 services is decreased by \$3,500,000, which amount consists of \$500,000
2 from the general fund and \$3,000,000 from the marijuana tax cash fund
3 created in section 39-28.8-501 (1), C.R.S.

4 (2) Subsection (1) of this section does not require a reduction of
5 an appropriation in the annual general appropriation act for the 2026-27
6 state fiscal year if:

7 (a) The general fund appropriation made in the annual general
8 appropriation act for the 2026-27 state fiscal year to the department of
9 human services for use by the behavioral health administration for
10 behavioral health safety net services is less than the amount of the
11 adjustment required in subsection (1) of this section;

12 (b) The cash funds appropriation from the marijuana tax cash fund
13 created in section 39-28.8-501 (1), C.R.S., made in the annual general
14 appropriation act for the 2026-27 state fiscal year to the department of
15 human services for use by the behavioral health administration for
16 behavioral health safety net services is less than the amount of the
17 adjustment required in subsection (1) of this section; or

18 (c) The annual general appropriation act for the 2026-27 state
19 fiscal year does not include an appropriation to the department of human
20 services for use by the behavioral health administration for behavioral
21 health safety net services.

22 (3) Except as provided in subsection (4) of this section, to
23 implement this act, the general fund appropriation made in the annual
24 general appropriation act for the 2026-27 state fiscal year to the
25 department of human services for use by the behavioral health
26 administration for the recovery support services grant program is
27 decreased by \$1,600,805, and the related FTE is decreased by 1.0 FTE.

1 (4) (a) If the general fund appropriation made in the annual
2 general appropriation act for the 2026-27 state fiscal year to the
3 department of human services for use by the behavioral health
4 administration for the recovery support services grant program is an
5 amount less than the amount of the adjustment required in subsection (3)
6 of this section, the general fund appropriation is decreased to \$0.

7 (b) If the annual general appropriation act for the 2026-27 state
8 fiscal year does not include an appropriation to the department of human
9 services for use by the behavioral health administration for the recovery
10 support services grant program, then subsection (3) of this section does
11 not require a reduction of an appropriation in the annual general
12 appropriation act for the 2026-27 state fiscal year.

13

14 **SECTION 8. Effective date.** This act takes effect upon passage;
15 except that section 7 of this act takes effect only if the annual general
16 appropriation act for the 2026-27 state fiscal year becomes law, in which
17 case section 7 takes effect upon the effective date of this act or of the
18 annual general appropriation act for state fiscal year 2026-27, whichever
19 is later.

20 **SECTION 9. Safety clause.** The general assembly finds,
21 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate
22 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety or for appropriations for
23 the support and maintenance of the departments of the state and state
24 institutions.