

NOTE: This bill has been prepared for the signatures of the appropriate legislative officers and the Governor. To determine whether the Governor has signed the bill or taken other action on it, please consult the legislative status sheet, the legislative history, or the Session Laws.

An Act

HOUSE BILL 26-1229

BY REPRESENTATIVE(S) Taggart and Feret, Camacho, Carter, Clifford, Duran, Garcia, Gonzalez R., Hamrick, Jackson, Lindsay, Nguyen, Paschal, Rutinel, Valdez, Woodrow;
also SENATOR(S) Amabile and Rich, Benavidez, Carson, Cutter, Jodeh, Kipp, Kolker, Marchman, Wallace, Weissman, Coleman.

CONCERNING AUTHORIZING THE HEALTH DISPARITIES AND COMMUNITY GRANT PROGRAM TO CONSIDER THE HUMAN-ANIMAL BOND AS A SOCIAL DETERMINANT OF HEALTH.

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

SECTION 1. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 25-4-2203, **add** (4) as follows:

25-4-2203. Health disparities and community grant program human-animal bond - definitions - rules.

(4) (a) SUBJECT TO ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS MADE BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO THE GRANT PROGRAM FOR THE PURPOSE OF SUPPORTING THE HUMAN-ANIMAL BOND, THE GRANT PROGRAM MAY AWARD GRANTS TO ENTITIES THAT SUPPORT THE HUMAN-ANIMAL BOND AS A SOCIAL

Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material added to existing law; dashes through words or numbers indicate deletions from existing law and such material is not part of the act.

DETERMINANT OF HEALTH.

(b) AS USED IN THIS SECTION, UNLESS THE CONTEXT OTHERWISE REQUIRES:

(I) "HUMAN-ANIMAL BOND" MEANS THE MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN AN INDIVIDUAL AND A PET ANIMAL WITHIN THE INDIVIDUAL'S CARE AND CUSTODY.

(II) "PET ANIMAL" HAS THE MEANING SET FORTH IN SECTION 35-80-102 (10).

SECTION 2. Act subject to petition - effective date. This act takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly (August 12, 2026, if adjournment sine die is on May 13, 2026); except that, if a referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V of the state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this act within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take effect unless

approved by the people at the general election to be held in November 2026 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.

Julie McCluskie
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE
OF REPRESENTATIVES

James Rashad Coleman, Sr.
PRESIDENT OF
THE SENATE

Vanessa Reilly
CHIEF CLERK OF THE HOUSE
OF REPRESENTATIVES

Esther van Mourik
SECRETARY OF
THE SENATE

APPROVED _____
(Date and Time)

Jared S. Polis
GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF COLORADO