

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

PREAMENDED

*This Unofficial Version Includes Committee
Amendments Not Yet Adopted on Second Reading*

LLS NO. 26-0661.01 Anna Petrini x5497

SENATE BILL 26-080

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Coleman and Simpson, Amabile, Cutter, Danielson, Exum, Gonzales J., Jodeh, Kipp, Lindstedt, Marchman, Wallace

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Lukens and English,

Senate Committees

Local Government & Housing
Appropriations

House Committees

Education
Finance
Appropriations

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 **CONCERNING CREATING THE CRADLE TO CAREER GRANT PROGRAM.**

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 creates the cradle to career grant program (grant program) in the state department of human services (state department) to provide grants that promote coordinated community-based supports and services that open opportunities for economic mobility from poverty. The grant program must connect children and youth with high-quality educational and extracurricular programming and families with key health and social services in order to improve prenatal and early childhood outcomes, student achievement, and workforce readiness. A local government, local

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 13, 2026

SENATE
Amended 2nd Reading
April 10, 2026

1 (2) "COUNCIL" MEANS THE CRADLE TO CAREER ADVISORY COUNCIL
2 CREATED IN SECTION 26-25-104.

3 (3) "DESIGNATED SERVICE AREA" MEANS A GEOGRAPHICALLY
4 BOUNDED LOCAL SERVICE AREA IN WHICH THE CONCENTRATION OF
5 POVERTY MEETS THE LEVEL SPECIFIED IN SECTION 26-25-103 (5)(b)(I).

6 (4) "ELIGIBLE ENTITY" MEANS A LOCAL GOVERNMENT, A LOCAL
7 EDUCATION PROVIDER, A STATE INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION, AN
8 INDIAN TRIBE OR TRIBAL ORGANIZATION, OR A NONPROFIT OR
9 NOT-FOR-PROFIT COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATION.

10 (5) "FUND" MEANS THE CRADLE TO CAREER GRANT PROGRAM CASH
11 FUND CREATED IN SECTION 26-25-107.

12 (6) "GRANT PROGRAM" MEANS THE CRADLE TO CAREER GRANT
13 PROGRAM CREATED IN SECTION 26-25-103.

14 (7) "LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER" MEANS:

15 (a) A SCHOOL DISTRICT;

16 (b) A CHARTER SCHOOL AUTHORIZED BY A SCHOOL DISTRICT
17 PURSUANT TO PART 1 OF ARTICLE 30.5 OF TITLE 22;

18 (c) A CHARTER SCHOOL AUTHORIZED BY THE STATE CHARTER
19 SCHOOL INSTITUTE PURSUANT TO PART 5 OF ARTICLE 30.5 OF TITLE 22; OR

20 (d) A BOARD OF COOPERATIVE SERVICES CREATED AND OPERATING
21 PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 5 OF TITLE 22.

22 (8) "LOCAL GOVERNMENT" MEANS A STATUTORY OR HOME RULE
23 CITY, TOWN, CITY AND COUNTY, OR COUNTY.

24 (9) "SUBCONTRACTED ENTITY" MEANS AN ELIGIBLE ENTITY THAT
25 ENTERS A FORMAL PARTNERSHIP WITH AN ELIGIBLE ENTITY RECEIVING A
26 GRANT PURSUANT TO THIS ARTICLE 25 AND THAT PROVIDES
27 COMPLEMENTARY COMMUNITY RESOURCES IN THE GRANT RECIPIENT'S

1 DESIGNATED SERVICE AREA.

2 (10) "YOUTH" MEANS AN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS UNDER TWENTY-FIVE
3 YEARS OLD.

4 **26-25-103. Cradle to career grant program - created -**
5 **program guidelines and criteria - rules.**

6 (1) THE CRADLE TO CAREER GRANT PROGRAM IS CREATED IN THE
7 STATE DEPARTMENT. THE PURPOSE OF THE GRANT PROGRAM IS TO
8 PROVIDE GRANTS TO ELIGIBLE ENTITIES TO PROMOTE COORDINATED
9 COMMUNITY-BASED SUPPORTS AND SERVICES THAT OPEN OPPORTUNITIES
10 FOR ECONOMIC MOBILITY FROM POVERTY. THE GRANT PROGRAM MUST
11 CONNECT CHILDREN AND YOUTH WITH HIGH-QUALITY EDUCATIONAL AND
12 EXTRACURRICULAR PROGRAMMING AND FAMILIES WITH KEY HEALTH AND
13 SOCIAL SERVICES IN ORDER TO IMPROVE PRENATAL AND EARLY
14 CHILDHOOD OUTCOMES, STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT, AND WORKFORCE
15 READINESS; TO HELP CHILDREN AND YOUTH MAKE SMOOTH TRANSITIONS
16 THROUGHOUT THE SECONDARY AND POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION
17 SYSTEMS; AND TO CREATE WEALTH BUILDING OPPORTUNITIES THAT
18 PROMOTE LIFELONG FINANCIAL SECURITY.

19 (2) GRANT RECIPIENTS MAY USE THE MONEY RECEIVED THROUGH
20 THE GRANT PROGRAM FOR THE FOLLOWING PURPOSES:

21 (a) PROMOTING FAMILY STABILITY AND WELL-BEING THROUGH
22 ACCESS TO:

23 (I) SAFE, AFFORDABLE, AND STABLE HOUSING;

24 (II) HIGH-QUALITY CHILD CARE AND EARLY CHILDHOOD
25 PROGRAMS THAT SUPPORT CHILD DEVELOPMENT AND SUCCESSFUL
26 TRANSITIONS TO AND THROUGH ELEMENTARY EDUCATION;

27 (III) ADEQUATE NUTRITION AND HEALTH CARE, INCLUDING

1 MATERNAL, BEHAVIORAL, AND MENTAL HEALTH CARE; AND

2 (IV) SUPPORTS AND SERVICES FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH WITH
3 DISABILITIES;

4 (b) IMPLEMENTING FAMILY-STRENGTHENING PUBLIC SAFETY
5 PROTECTIONS, COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT STRATEGIES, AND
6 INTERVENTIONS THAT ENHANCE CHILD AND YOUTH WELFARE, PREVENT
7 JUSTICE-SYSTEM INVOLVEMENT, AND REDUCE EXPOSURE TO SUBSTANCE
8 USE, FAMILY CONFLICT, AND CHILD ABUSE OR NEGLECT;

9 (c) PROVIDING HIGH-QUALITY EDUCATIONAL AND ACADEMIC
10 ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR K-12 STUDENTS THAT SUPPLEMENT BUT
11 DO NOT SUPPLANT INSTRUCTIONAL TIME, INCLUDING OUT-OF-SCHOOL-TIME
12 PROGRAMS THAT:

13 (I) FOCUS ON SPORTS AND FITNESS, CHARACTER AND LEADERSHIP,
14 OR ARTS AND CULTURE; AND

15 (II) REINFORCE AND COMPLEMENT SCHOOL-BASED ACADEMIC
16 PROGRAMS IN A SAFE AND HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT;

17 (d) CONNECTING YOUTH TO QUALITY JOBS AND IN-DEMAND
18 OCCUPATIONS THROUGH POSTSECONDARY AND WORKFORCE READINESS
19 PROGRAMS THAT MAY INCLUDE WORK-BASED LEARNING, CREDENTIAL
20 COMPLETION, OR APPRENTICESHIPS, WITH A FOCUS ON HIGH-NEED,
21 IN-DEMAND CAREER PATHWAYS;

22 (e) USING ASSET-BUILDING STRATEGIES TO ADDRESS WEALTH
23 DISPARITIES AND INCREASE ACCESS TO HIGHER EDUCATION, HOME
24 OWNERSHIP, AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR ENTREPRENEURSHIP;

25 (f) COORDINATING AND ALIGNING PROGRAMS AND STRATEGIES
26 WITHIN A DESIGNATED SERVICE AREA, INCLUDING THE DEVELOPMENT OF
27 SHARED DATA SYSTEMS; AND

1 (g) LEVERAGING ADDITIONAL FEDERAL, LOCAL, OR PRIVATE
2 FUNDING FOR POVERTY REDUCTION INITIATIVES IN THE ELIGIBLE ENTITY'S
3 DESIGNATED SERVICE AREA.

4 (3) THE STATE DEPARTMENT SHALL ADMINISTER THE GRANT
5 PROGRAM AND, SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS, SHALL AWARD
6 GRANTS AS PROVIDED IN THIS ARTICLE 25. GRANTS MUST BE PAID OUT OF
7 THE CRADLE TO CAREER GRANT PROGRAM CASH FUND CREATED IN
8 SECTION 26-25-107.

9 (4) THE STATE DEPARTMENT SHALL IMPLEMENT THE GRANT
10 PROGRAM IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS ARTICLE 25. THE STATE
11 DEPARTMENT SHALL ADOPT THE RULES REQUIRED IN THIS ARTICLE 25 AND
12 ANY ADDITIONAL RULES NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT THE GRANT PROGRAM.

13 (5) (a) THE STATE DEPARTMENT, IN COLLABORATION WITH THE
14 COUNCIL, SHALL DEVELOP AND MAKE AVAILABLE PROGRAM GUIDELINES,
15 INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO:

16 (I) GUIDELINES FOR THE CONTENT OF AN ECONOMIC MOBILITY
17 NEEDS ASSESSMENT AND COMPREHENSIVE PROPOSAL FOR SINGLE ELIGIBLE
18 ENTITY APPLICANTS AND MULTIPLE ELIGIBLE ENTITY APPLICANTS
19 APPLYING JOINTLY PURSUANT TO SECTION 26-25-105 (2);

20 (II) GUIDELINES FOR PROPOSING, APPROVING, AND IMPLEMENTING
21 DIFFERENT GRANT STRUCTURES TO PROMOTE BUILDING CAPACITY FOR
22 DELIVERING, IN AN APPLICANT'S DESIGNATED SERVICE AREA, SERVICES
23 THAT PROMOTE ECONOMIC MOBILITY. GRANT STRUCTURES MAY INCLUDE
24 PLANNING, EARLY IMPLEMENTATION, AND FULL IMPLEMENTATION PHASES
25 FOR SERVICE DELIVERY.

26 (III) PROCESSES FOR AN ELIGIBLE ENTITY TO SOLICIT AND
27 INCORPORATE INTO ITS COMPREHENSIVE PROPOSAL INPUT FROM

1 ORGANIZATIONS AND INDIVIDUALS IN THE COMMUNITY PURSUANT TO
2 SUBSECTION (5)(b)(III) OF THIS SECTION.

3 (b) IN ADDITION TO THE GUIDELINES DEVELOPED PURSUANT TO
4 SUBSECTION (5)(a) OF THIS SECTION, THE STATE DEPARTMENT, IN
5 COLLABORATION WITH THE COUNCIL, SHALL DEVELOP CRITERIA FOR
6 AWARDING GRANTS, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE FOLLOWING
7 REQUIREMENTS:

8 (I) THAT THE COMPREHENSIVE PROPOSAL TARGETS A DESIGNATED
9 SERVICE AREA IN WHICH AT LEAST THIRTY PERCENT OF HOUSEHOLDS WITH
10 CHILDREN HAVE AN ANNUAL HOUSEHOLD INCOME AT OR BELOW TWO
11 HUNDRED PERCENT OF THE FEDERAL POVERTY LINE;

12 (II) THAT THE ELIGIBLE ENTITY'S COMPREHENSIVE PROPOSAL
13 PRIORITIZES CONNECTING CHILDREN AND YOUTH WITH HIGH-QUALITY
14 EDUCATIONAL, EXTRACURRICULAR, OR WORKFORCE PROGRAMMING OR
15 FAMILIES WITH KEY HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES IN ACCORDANCE WITH
16 THE AREAS OF GREATEST NEED IDENTIFIED IN THE ELIGIBLE ENTITY'S
17 NEEDS ASSESSMENT;

18 (III) THAT THE ELIGIBLE ENTITY HAS SOLICITED AND
19 INCORPORATED INTO ITS COMPREHENSIVE PROPOSAL INPUT FROM
20 ORGANIZATIONS AND INDIVIDUALS IN THE COMMUNITY, INCLUDING LOCAL
21 EDUCATION PROVIDERS, COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH CENTERS, LOCAL
22 NONPROFIT OR NOT-FOR-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS, LOCAL LAW
23 ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES, BUSINESSES, AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT
24 LEADERS; AND

25 (IV) THAT THE COMPREHENSIVE PROPOSAL RELIES ON
26 EVIDENCE-BASED OR EVIDENCE-INFORMED PRACTICES IN THE DELIVERY OF
27 SERVICES, SUPPORTS, AND OPPORTUNITIES.

1 (c) AN ELIGIBLE ENTITY THAT RECEIVES A GRANT AWARD
2 PURSUANT TO THIS ARTICLE 25 MUST:

3 (I) COMPLY WITH ALL APPLICABLE STATE AND LOCAL HEALTH AND
4 SAFETY REGULATIONS;

5 (II) REQUIRE ITS EMPLOYEES TO SUBMIT TO A NAME-BASED
6 CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORD CHECK;

7 (III) REQUIRE EVIDENCE OF FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY,
8 INCLUDING BONDING OR LICENSURE, FOR EMPLOYEES INVOLVED IN THE
9 ELIGIBLE ENTITY'S FINANCIAL AFFAIRS;

10 (IV) COMPLY WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE "COLORADO OPEN
11 RECORDS ACT", PART 2 OF ARTICLE 72 OF TITLE 24;

12 (V) DELIVER SERVICES OR ACCEPT PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS
13 WITHOUT REGARD TO RACE, COLOR, NATIONAL ORIGIN, CREED, SEX,
14 GENDER IDENTITY, ETHNICITY, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, MENTAL OR
15 PHYSICAL DISABILITY, ATHLETIC PERFORMANCE, PROFICIENCY IN THE
16 ENGLISH LANGUAGE, OR PAST ACADEMIC OR DISCIPLINARY HISTORY;

17 (VI) COMPLY WITH ALL APPLICABLE STATE AND FEDERAL LAWS
18 PROHIBITING DISCRIMINATION, INCLUDING TITLE IX OF THE FEDERAL
19 "EDUCATION AMENDMENTS OF 1972", THE FEDERAL "AMERICANS WITH
20 DISABILITIES ACT OF 1990", SECTION 504 OF THE FEDERAL
21 "REHABILITATION ACT OF 1973", AND TITLES VI AND VII OF THE FEDERAL
22 "CIVIL RIGHTS ACT OF 1964; AND

23 (VII) IF THE ELIGIBLE ENTITY IS A LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER,
24 NOT USE MONEY AWARDED PURSUANT TO THIS ARTICLE 25 TO SUPPORT ITS
25 STANDARD ACADEMIC PROGRAMMING OR OPERATIONS.

26 (d) IN ADDITION TO THE GUIDELINES AND CRITERIA DEVELOPED
27 PURSUANT TO SUBSECTIONS (5)(a) AND (5)(b) OF THIS SECTION, THE STATE

1 DEPARTMENT SHALL ESTABLISH TIMELINES FOR SUBMITTING AND
2 REVIEWING GRANT APPLICATIONS AND TIMELINES FOR SUBMITTING THE
3 LIST OF ELIGIBLE ENTITIES CHOSEN TO RECEIVE GRANTS TO THE COUNCIL.

4 (6) THE STATE DEPARTMENT IS ONLY REQUIRED TO IMPLEMENT
5 SECTIONS 26-25-103 (3), 26-25-103 (4), 26-25-103 (5), 26-25-104,
6 26-25-105, AND 26-25-106 IF THE SECTIONS BECOME EFFECTIVE PURSUANT
7 TO SECTION 26-25-108. THE WORK OF THE STATE DEPARTMENT, THE
8 COUNCIL, OR ANY OTHER ENTITY CONDUCTED PURSUANT TO THIS ARTICLE
9 25 IS CONTINGENT ON MONEY BEING AVAILABLE TO IMPLEMENT THIS
10 ARTICLE 25.

11 **26-25-104. Cradle to career advisory council - created - duties**
12 **- repeal.**

13 (1) THE CRADLE TO CAREER ADVISORY COUNCIL IS CREATED IN THE
14 STATE DEPARTMENT.

15 ==

16 (2) (a) THE COUNCIL CONSISTS OF THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS:

17 (I) THE GOVERNOR SHALL APPOINT:

18 (A) ONE MEMBER WHO IS AN EDUCATOR WITH EXPERIENCE IN
19 EARLY CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION;

20 (B) ONE MEMBER WHO IS A REPRESENTATIVE OF A NONPROFIT
21 ORGANIZATION OR INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION WITH EXPERTISE
22 IN MEASURING CHILD AND YOUTH POVERTY AND IMPLEMENTING POLICIES
23 TO ALLEVIATE IT; AND

24 (C) ONE MEMBER WHO HAS EXPERTISE IN POSTSECONDARY
25 EDUCATION AND STATE WORKFORCE READINESS INITIATIVES.

26 (II) THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE SHALL APPOINT A MEMBER
27 WHO, AT THE TIME OF APPOINTMENT, HAS BEEN SERVING IN A

1 PROFESSIONAL CAPACITY AT A COLORADO PUBLIC SCHOOL OR SCHOOL
2 DISTRICT FOR AT LEAST THREE YEARS, AND WHO HAS HAD DIRECT
3 RESPONSIBILITY FOR AND ACTIVELY PARTICIPATED IN THE
4 IMPLEMENTATION OF A COMPREHENSIVE COMMUNITY SCHOOL STRATEGY.

5 (III) THE MINORITY LEADER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
6 SHALL APPOINT A REPRESENTATIVE OF AN ELIGIBLE ENTITY WHO HAS
7 EXPERTISE IN ECONOMIC MOBILITY ISSUES.

8 (b) IN APPOINTING THE MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL, THE
9 APPOINTING AUTHORITIES SHALL CONSIDER ETHNICITY, GENDER, AND
10 GEOGRAPHIC REPRESENTATION TO PROMOTE DIVERSE COUNCIL
11 MEMBERSHIP.

12 (c) THE APPOINTING AUTHORITIES SHALL MAKE THE INITIAL
13 APPOINTMENTS TO THE COUNCIL NO LATER THAN ONE MONTH AFTER THE
14 EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS SECTION.

15 (d) EACH MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL WHO IS APPOINTED PURSUANT
16 TO THIS SECTION SERVES AT THE PLEASURE OF THE COUNCIL MEMBER'S
17 RESPECTIVE APPOINTING AUTHORITY. THE TERM OF APPOINTMENT IS FOUR
18 YEARS; EXCEPT THAT THE TERM OF EACH MEMBER INITIALLY APPOINTED
19 PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION IS TWO YEARS.

20 (3) MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL SERVE WITHOUT COMPENSATION.

21 (4) (a) NO LATER THAN TWO MONTHS AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE
22 OF THIS SECTION, BUT NOT BEFORE OCTOBER 1, 2026, THE EXECUTIVE
23 DIRECTOR SHALL ORGANIZE AND CONVENE THE FIRST MEETING OF THE
24 COUNCIL.

25 (b) THE COUNCIL SHALL ELECT A CHAIR FROM AMONG THE
26 COUNCIL'S MEMBERS TO SERVE FOR A TERM NOT TO EXCEED TWO YEARS,
27 AS DETERMINED BY THE COUNCIL. A MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL IS NOT

1 ELIGIBLE TO SERVE AS CHAIR FOR MORE THAN TWO SUCCESSIVE TERMS.

2 (c) THE COUNCIL SHALL MEET AT LEAST TWO TIMES PER YEAR. THE
3 CHAIR MAY CALL ADDITIONAL MEETINGS AS ARE NECESSARY FOR THE
4 COUNCIL TO COMPLETE ITS DUTIES.

5 (5) THE COUNCIL SHALL:

6 (a) APPROVE OR DISAPPROVE ELIGIBLE ENTITIES THAT THE STATE
7 DEPARTMENT HAS SELECTED AS POTENTIAL GRANT RECIPIENTS; AND

8 (b) COLLABORATE WITH THE STATE DEPARTMENT TO DEVELOP AND
9 MAKE AVAILABLE GRANT PROGRAM GUIDELINES AND CRITERIA FOR
10 AWARDING GRANTS PURSUANT TO SECTION 26-25-103 (5)(a) AND (5)(b).

11 **26-25-105. Cradle to career grant program - application -**
12 **awards.**

13 (1) TO RECEIVE A GRANT, AN ELIGIBLE ENTITY MUST SUBMIT AN
14 APPLICATION TO THE STATE DEPARTMENT IN ACCORDANCE WITH RULES
15 ADOPTED BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR. AT A MINIMUM, THE APPLICATION
16 MUST INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

17 (a) A COMMUNITY ECONOMIC MOBILITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT THAT:

18 (I) IDENTIFIES THE APPLICANT'S DESIGNATED SERVICE AREA;

19 (II) ANALYZES EXISTING CONDITIONS AND ECONOMIC MOBILITY
20 OPPORTUNITIES FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH AND THEIR FAMILIES IN THE
21 DESIGNATED SERVICE AREA; AND

22 (III) INCLUDES QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DATA
23 MEASURING POVERTY, DEMOGRAPHIC DISPARITIES, AND NEEDS WITHIN THE
24 DESIGNATED SERVICE AREA IN CONNECTION WITH EACH OF THE
25 PERMISSIBLE USES OF GRANT MONEY IDENTIFIED IN SECTION 26-25-103 (2),
26 AND SPECIFIES AT LEAST ONE POLICY AREA AS THE FOCAL POINT FOR
27 INTERVENTION;

1 (b) A PROPOSAL FOR THE FORMATION OF A FORMAL PARTNERSHIP
2 WITH OTHER ELIGIBLE ENTITIES THAT CAN PROVIDE COMPLEMENTARY
3 COMMUNITY RESOURCES IN THE APPLICANT'S DESIGNATED SERVICE AREA.
4 IF AN APPLICANT IS A LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER, THE APPLICATION
5 MUST BE COMPLETED IN COLLABORATION WITH AT LEAST ONE OTHER
6 ELIGIBLE ENTITY THAT THE LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER DESIGNATES AS
7 A FORMAL PARTNER PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION (1)(b). THE PROPOSAL
8 FOR THE FORMATION OF A FORMAL PARTNERSHIP MUST IDENTIFY ALL
9 PROSPECTIVE SUBCONTRACTED ENTITIES AND DESCRIBE HOW MONEY
10 RECEIVED THROUGH A GRANT AWARDED PURSUANT TO THIS ARTICLE 25
11 WILL BE ALLOCATED.

12 (c) A COMPREHENSIVE PROPOSAL:

13 (I) TO DEVELOP OR EXPAND COORDINATED COMMUNITY-BASED
14 SUPPORTS AND SERVICES THAT OPEN OPPORTUNITIES FOR ECONOMIC
15 MOBILITY FROM POVERTY IN THE DESIGNATED SERVICE AREA;

16 (II) THAT LEVERAGES A PARTNERSHIP PROPOSED PURSUANT TO
17 SUBSECTION (1)(b) OF THIS SECTION TO PROVIDE A COORDINATED
18 CONTINUUM OF SUPPORTS AND SERVICES THAT OPEN OPPORTUNITIES FOR
19 ECONOMIC MOBILITY FROM POVERTY; AND

20 (III) THAT PRIORITIZES CONNECTING CHILDREN AND YOUTH WITH
21 HIGH-QUALITY EDUCATIONAL, EXTRACURRICULAR, OR WORKFORCE
22 PROGRAMMING OR FAMILIES WITH KEY HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES IN
23 ACCORDANCE WITH THE AREAS OF GREATEST NEED IDENTIFIED IN THE
24 ECONOMIC MOBILITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT SUBMITTED PURSUANT TO
25 SUBSECTION (1)(a) OF THIS SECTION.

26 (2) TWO OR MORE ELIGIBLE ENTITIES MAY JOINTLY APPLY FOR A
27 GRANT AWARD TO DELIVER SERVICES ON A REGIONAL BASIS AND MAY

1 RECEIVE A JOINT GRANT AWARD THAT IS THE AGGREGATE OF THE
2 AMOUNTS EACH INDIVIDUAL ELIGIBLE ENTITY WOULD HAVE RECEIVED HAD
3 EACH ELIGIBLE ENTITY APPLIED INDEPENDENTLY.

4 (3) THE STATE DEPARTMENT SHALL REVIEW ALL APPLICATIONS
5 RECEIVED PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION AND SELECT THE GRANT RECIPIENTS
6 AND THE AMOUNT OF EACH GRANT. THE STATE DEPARTMENT SHALL NOT
7 AWARD A GRANT WITHOUT THE PRIOR APPROVAL OF THE COUNCIL, AS
8 DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (4) OF THIS SECTION.

9 (4) THE STATE DEPARTMENT, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE
10 TIMELINES ADOPTED PURSUANT TO SECTION 26-25-103 (5)(c), SHALL
11 SUBMIT TO THE COUNCIL A LIST OF THE APPLICANTS CHOSEN TO RECEIVE
12 GRANTS. THE COUNCIL SHALL EITHER APPROVE OR DISAPPROVE THE
13 ENTIRE LIST OF ENTITIES BY RESPONDING TO THE STATE DEPARTMENT
14 WITHIN TWENTY DAYS AFTER SUBMISSION. IF THE COUNCIL DOES NOT
15 RESPOND TO THE STATE DEPARTMENT WITHIN TWENTY DAYS AFTER
16 RECEIPT OF THE LIST, THE LIST IS APPROVED. IF THE COUNCIL DISAPPROVES
17 THE LIST, THE STATE DEPARTMENT MAY SUBMIT A REPLACEMENT LIST
18 WITHIN THIRTY DAYS AFTER THE DISAPPROVAL.

19 (5) THE STATE DEPARTMENT SHALL AWARD EACH GRANT
20 APPROVED BY THE COUNCIL. EACH GRANT IS FOR A PERIOD OF FOUR
21 YEARS. AN ELIGIBLE ENTITY THAT RECEIVES A GRANT PURSUANT TO THIS
22 ARTICLE 25 MAY APPLY FOR A ONE- OR TWO-YEAR EXTENSION OF THE
23 GRANT PERIOD.

24 (6) THE STATE DEPARTMENT SHALL BEGIN AWARDING GRANTS
25 PURSUANT TO THIS ARTICLE 25 ONLY AFTER THE BALANCE OF THE FUND
26 REACHES OR EXCEEDS NINE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS. SUBJECT TO
27 AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS, ON OR BEFORE JULY 1, 2027, THE STATE

1 DEPARTMENT SHALL AWARD AT LEAST TWO GRANTS AS PROVIDED IN THIS
2 ARTICLE 25. SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS, ON OR BEFORE
3 JULY 1 IN EACH SUBSEQUENT YEAR OF THE GRANT PROGRAM, THE STATE
4 DEPARTMENT SHALL AWARD ADDITIONAL GRANTS AS PROVIDED IN THIS
5 ARTICLE 25.

6 (7) WITH THE STATE DEPARTMENT'S APPROVAL, AN ELIGIBLE
7 ENTITY MAY ENTER A FORMAL PARTNERSHIP, AS DESCRIBED IN
8 SUBSECTION (1) OF THIS SECTION, AND SUBCONTRACT WITH AND PAY
9 MONEY RECEIVED PURSUANT TO THIS ARTICLE 25 TO SUBCONTRACTED
10 ENTITIES TO PROVIDE A COORDINATED CONTINUUM OF SERVICES,
11 SUPPORTS, AND OPPORTUNITIES IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TERMS OF THE
12 FORMAL PARTNERSHIP. A FORMAL PARTNERSHIP MUST INCLUDE A LOCAL
13 GOVERNMENT, A LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER, AND A NONPROFIT OR
14 NOT-FOR-PROFIT COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATION.

15 (8) NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION OF THIS ARTICLE 25
16 TO THE CONTRARY, THE STATE DEPARTMENT IS NOT REQUIRED TO
17 IMPLEMENT THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ARTICLE 25 UNTIL THE BALANCE
18 OF THE FUND REACHES OR EXCEEDS NINE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS.

19 **26-25-106. Reporting requirements - performance indicators.**

20 (1) (a) THE STATE DEPARTMENT SHALL DEVELOP A SET OF
21 PERFORMANCE INDICATORS TO ASSESS THE ECONOMIC MOBILITY
22 OUTCOMES AND IMPACTS OF GRANTS AWARDED PURSUANT TO THIS
23 ARTICLE 25. INDICATORS MAY INCLUDE, BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO:

- 24 (I) INCREASED FAMILY ECONOMIC SECURITY;
- 25 (II) INCREASED HOUSING SECURITY;
- 26 (III) PROGRESS TOWARD EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENTAL
27 MILESTONES, INCLUDING SCHOOL READINESS;

1 (IV) LOWER RATES OF JUVENILE DELINQUENCY, ADJUDICATION, OR
2 DETENTION;

3 (V) LOWER RATES OF FAMILY INVOLVEMENT WITH THE CHILD
4 WELFARE SYSTEM;

5 (VI) IMPROVED K-12 ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE;

6 (VII) HIGHER RATES OF HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION;

7 (VIII) IMPROVEMENTS IN THE RATES OF COLLEGE READINESS,
8 MATRICULATION, AND RETENTION AT INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER
9 EDUCATION;

10 (IX) ENROLLMENT IN WORKFORCE READINESS PROGRAMS;

11 (X) POSTSECONDARY CREDENTIAL ATTAINMENT; AND

12 (XI) INCREASED NET WORTH AND DECREASED WEALTH DISPARITY.

13 (b) ON OR BEFORE OCTOBER 1, 2028, AND EACH OCTOBER 1
14 THEREAFTER, EACH ELIGIBLE ENTITY THAT RECEIVES A GRANT THROUGH
15 THE GRANT PROGRAM SHALL SUBMIT TO THE STATE DEPARTMENT A
16 REPORT THAT ADDRESSES ITS PROGRESS ON THE APPLICABLE
17 PERFORMANCE INDICATORS DEVELOPED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (1)(a)
18 OF THIS SECTION. AT A MINIMUM, THE REPORT MUST ALSO INCLUDE THE
19 FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

20 (I) THE TOTAL NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS SERVED;

21 (II) THE DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION OF EACH INDIVIDUAL
22 SERVED; AND

23 (III) A DESCRIPTION OF THE SERVICES PROVIDED THROUGH THE
24 GRANT PROGRAM AND HOW THE SERVICES MEET ONE OR MORE OF THE
25 FOLLOWING ECONOMIC MOBILITY PRIORITIES:

26 (A) PROMOTING FAMILY STABILITY AND WELL-BEING THROUGH
27 ACCESS TO SAFE, AFFORDABLE, AND STABLE HOUSING; HIGH-QUALITY

1 CHILD CARE AND EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAMS; ADEQUATE NUTRITION
2 AND HEALTH CARE; AND SUPPORTS AND SERVICES FOR CHILDREN AND
3 YOUTH WITH DISABILITIES;

4 (B) IMPLEMENTING PUBLIC SAFETY PROTECTIONS, COMMUNITY
5 ENGAGEMENT STRATEGIES, AND INTERVENTIONS TO STRENGTHEN
6 FAMILIES;

7 (C) PROVIDING HIGH-QUALITY EDUCATIONAL AND ACADEMIC
8 ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR K-12 STUDENTS THAT SUPPLEMENT BUT
9 DO NOT SUPPLANT INSTRUCTIONAL TIME, INCLUDING OUT-OF-SCHOOL-TIME
10 PROGRAMS;

11 (D) CONNECTING YOUTH TO QUALITY JOBS AND IN-DEMAND
12 OCCUPATIONS THROUGH POSTSECONDARY AND WORKFORCE READINESS
13 PROGRAMS;

14 (E) INCREASING ACCESS TO WEALTH-BUILDING OPPORTUNITIES
15 THROUGH ASSET-BUILDING STRATEGIES.

16 (F) COORDINATING AND ALIGNING PROGRAMS AND STRATEGIES
17 WITHIN A DESIGNATED SERVICE AREA, INCLUDING THE DEVELOPMENT OF
18 SHARED DATA SYSTEMS; AND

19 (G) SUCCESS IN LEVERAGING ADDITIONAL FEDERAL, LOCAL, AND
20 PRIVATE FUNDING FOR ECONOMIC MOBILITY INITIATIVES IN THE ELIGIBLE
21 ENTITY'S DESIGNATED SERVICE AREA.

22 (2) ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 31, 2028, AND EACH DECEMBER 31
23 THEREAFTER FOR THE DURATION OF THE GRANT PROGRAM, THE STATE
24 DEPARTMENT SHALL SUBMIT A SUMMARIZED REPORT ON THE GRANT
25 PROGRAM TO THE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEES OF THE
26 SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, OR ANY SUCCESSOR
27 COMMITTEES, AND TO THE GOVERNOR. AT A MINIMUM, THE REPORT MUST

1 INCLUDE THE NUMBER AND AMOUNT OF GRANTS AWARDED SINCE THE
2 LAST REPORT, THE AMOUNT OF GRANT MONEY AWARDED TO NON-PUBLIC
3 ENTITIES THROUGH THE GRANT PROGRAM, INFORMATION ABOUT
4 RELEVANT STAFF CREDENTIALS AND CERTIFICATIONS FOR EACH ELIGIBLE
5 ENTITY THAT RECEIVES A GRANT THROUGH THE GRANT PROGRAM, AND A
6 SUMMARY OF INFORMATION CONCERNING THE PERFORMANCE INDICATORS
7 USED TO ASSESS THE POVERTY-REDUCTION OUTCOMES AND IMPACTS OF
8 GRANTS AWARDED PURSUANT TO THIS ARTICLE 25.

9 (3) NOTWITHSTANDING SECTION 24-1-136 (11)(a)(I), THE
10 REPORTING REQUIREMENTS SET FORTH IN THIS SECTION CONTINUE
11 INDEFINITELY.

12 **26-25-107. Cradle to career grant program cash fund - grant**
13 **program funding.**

14 (1) THE CRADLE TO CAREER GRANT PROGRAM CASH FUND IS
15 CREATED IN THE STATE TREASURY. THE FUND CONSISTS OF GIFTS, GRANTS,
16 AND DONATIONS CREDITED TO THE FUND PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (2) OF
17 THIS SECTION AND ANY OTHER MONEY THAT THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY MAY
18 APPROPRIATE OR TRANSFER TO THE FUND.

19 (2) THE STATE DEPARTMENT MAY SEEK, ACCEPT, AND EXPEND
20 GIFTS, GRANTS, OR DONATIONS FROM PRIVATE OR PUBLIC SOURCES FOR
21 THE PURPOSES OF THIS ARTICLE 25. THE STATE DEPARTMENT SHALL
22 TRANSMIT ALL MONEY RECEIVED THROUGH GIFTS, GRANTS, OR DONATIONS
23 TO THE STATE TREASURER, WHO SHALL CREDIT THE MONEY TO THE FUND.

24 (3) THE STATE TREASURER SHALL CREDIT ALL INTEREST AND
25 INCOME DERIVED FROM THE DEPOSIT AND INVESTMENT OF MONEY IN THE
26 FUND TO THE FUND.

27 (4) SUBJECT TO ANNUAL APPROPRIATION BY THE GENERAL

1 ASSEMBLY, THE STATE DEPARTMENT MAY EXPEND ANY STATE MONEY
2 FROM THE FUND FOR THE PURPOSES SPECIFIED IN THIS ARTICLE 25.

3 (5) (a) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SHALL ANNUALLY APPROPRIATE
4 MONEY FROM THE FUND TO THE STATE DEPARTMENT TO IMPLEMENT THE
5 GRANT PROGRAM.

6 (b) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SHALL NOT APPROPRIATE GENERAL
7 FUND MONEY FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS ARTICLE 25.

8 **26-25-108. Effective date - repeal of article - review of**
9 **functions.**

10 (1) SECTIONS 26-25-103 (3), 26-25-103 (4), 26-25-103 (5),
11 26-25-104, 26-25-105, AND 26-25-106 TAKE EFFECT IF THE DEPARTMENT
12 RECEIVES AT LEAST NINE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS FOR THE
13 PURPOSES OF THIS ARTICLE 25. THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SHALL NOTIFY
14 THE REVISOR OF STATUTES IN WRITING OF THE DATE ON WHICH THE
15 CONDITION SPECIFIED IN THIS SUBSECTION (1) HAS OCCURRED BY
16 EMAILING THE NOTICE TO REVISOROFSTATUTES.GA@COLEG.GOV.
17 SECTIONS 26-25-103 (3), 26-25-103 (4), 26-25-103 (5), 26-25-104,
18 26-25-105, AND 26-25-106 TAKE EFFECT UPON THE DATE IDENTIFIED IN
19 THE NOTICE THAT THE DEPARTMENT HAS RECEIVED AT LEAST NINE
20 HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS ARTICLE 25 OR,
21 IF THE NOTICE DOES NOT SPECIFY THAT DATE, UPON THE DATE OF THE
22 NOTICE TO THE REVISOR OF STATUTES.

23 (2) THIS ARTICLE 25 IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 1, 2033.
24 BEFORE THE REPEAL, THIS ARTICLE 25 IS SCHEDULED FOR REVIEW IN
25 ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 24-34-104.

26 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-34-104, **add**
27 (34)(a)(XIV) as follows:

1 **24-34-104. General assembly review of regulatory agencies**
2 **and functions for repeal, continuation, or reestablishment - legislative**
3 **declaration - repeal.**

4 (34) (a) The following agencies, functions, or both, are scheduled
5 for repeal on September 1, 2033:

6 (XIV) THE CRADLE TO CAREER GRANT PROGRAM AND THE CRADLE
7 TO CAREER ADVISORY COUNCIL CREATED IN ARTICLE 25 OF TITLE 26.

8 **SECTION 3. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act
9 takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the
10 ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly (August
11 12, 2026, if adjournment sine die is on May 13, 2026); except that, if a
12 referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V of the
13 state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this act
14 within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take effect
15 unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in
16 November 2026 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the
17 official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.