

CHAPTER 330

GOVERNMENT - LOCAL

HOUSE BILL 26-1397

BY REPRESENTATIVE(S) Sirota and Taggart, Brown;
also SENATOR(S) Amabile and Bridges, Kirkmeyer.**AN ACT****CONCERNING THE USE OF GENERAL FUND MONEY TO SUPPORT BENEFITS PROVIDED TO CERTAIN PUBLIC SAFETY PERSONNEL THROUGH A MULTIPLE EMPLOYER HEALTH TRUST, AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, REDUCING AN APPROPRIATION.***Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:***SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 29-5-302, **amend** (11)(a)(II) and (11)(a)(III) as follows:**29-5-302. Required benefits - conditions of receiving benefits - repeal.**

(11) (a) (II) The general assembly shall appropriate three hundred thousand dollars for the state fiscal year beginning on July 1, 2024, five hundred thousand dollars for the state fiscal year beginning on July 1, 2025, ~~six hundred fifty thousand dollars for the state fiscal year beginning on July 1, 2026,~~ and one million dollars for the state fiscal year beginning on July 1, 2027, from the general fund to the department of local affairs to reduce participating employer contributions for volunteer firefighters and part-time firefighters. Money appropriated pursuant to this subsection (11)(a)(II) shall be first used to reduce participating employer contributions for volunteer firefighters and the remainder shall be first used for part-time firefighters and any remaining amounts may then be used for full-time firefighters.

(III) Subsection (11)(a)(II) of this section is repealed, effective July 1, 2028.

SECTION 2. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 29-5-604, **amend** (3)(a)(I)(A); and **repeal** (3)(a)(I)(C) as follows:

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.

29-5-604. Employer participation in health trust required - cardiovascular screening for peace officers - repeal.

(3) (a) (I) The general assembly shall appropriate money from the general fund or any other authorized source to the division of criminal justice within the department of public safety for the purpose of reimbursing a multiple employer health trust for the direct costs of providing a program as required by this part 6 as follows:

(A) For the state fiscal year beginning on July 1, 2024, the general assembly shall appropriate two hundred thousand dollars from the general fund to the division of criminal justice in the department of public safety to be used for the purpose set forth in this subsection (3)(a)(I);

~~(C) For the state fiscal year beginning on July 1, 2026, the general assembly shall appropriate three hundred fifty thousand dollars from the general fund to the division of criminal justice in the department of public safety to be used for the purpose set forth in this subsection (3)(a)(I);~~

SECTION 3. Appropriation - adjustments to 2026 long bill. (1) Except as provided in subsection (3) of this section, to implement this act, appropriations made in the annual general appropriation act for the 2026-27 state fiscal year to the department of local affairs for use by the division of local government are adjusted as follows:

(a) The general fund appropriation for firefighter heart and circulatory malfunction benefits is decreased by \$150,000; and

(b) The reappropriated funds appropriation from the firefighter benefits cash fund created in section 29-5-302 (11)(a), C.R.S., for firefighter heart and circulatory malfunction benefits is decreased by \$150,000.

(2) Except as provided in subsection (4) of this section, to implement this act, the general fund appropriation made in the annual general appropriation act for the 2026-27 state fiscal year to the department of public safety for use by the division of criminal justice for first responder employer health benefit trusts is decreased by \$100,000.

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

(a) The amount of the general fund appropriation made in the annual general appropriation act for the 2026-27 state fiscal year to the department of local affairs for use by the division of local government for firefighter heart and circulatory malfunction benefits is less than the amount of the adjustment required in subsection (1)(a) of this section;

(b) The amount of the reappropriated funds appropriation from the firefighter benefits cash fund created in section 29-5-302 (11)(a), C.R.S., made in the annual general appropriation act for the 2026-27 state fiscal year to the department of local affairs for use by the division of local government for firefighter heart and

circulatory malfunction benefits, is less than the amount of the adjustment required in subsection (1)(b) of this section; or

(c) The annual general appropriation act for the 2026-27 state fiscal year does not include an appropriation to the department of local affairs for use by the division of local government for firefighter heart and circulatory malfunction benefits.

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

(a) The amount of the general fund appropriation made in the annual general appropriation act for the 2026-27 state fiscal year to the department of public safety for use by the division of criminal justice for first responder employer health benefit trusts is less than the amount of the adjustment required in subsection (2) of this section; or

(b) The annual general appropriation act for the 2026-27 state fiscal year does not include an appropriation to the department of public safety for use by the division of criminal justice for first responder employer health benefit trusts.

SECTION 4. Effective date. This act takes effect upon passage; except that section 3 of this act takes effect only if the annual general appropriation act for the 2026-27 state fiscal year becomes law, in which case section 3 takes effect upon the effective date of this act or of the annual general appropriation act for state fiscal year 2026-27, whichever is later.

SECTION 5. Safety clause. The general assembly finds, determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate 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.

Approved: June 2, 2026