### **Second Regular Session Seventy-second General Assembly STATE OF COLORADO**

# REVISED

This Version Includes All Amendments Adopted on Second Reading in the Second House

LLS NO. 20-0401.01 Shelby Ross x4510

**SENATE BILL 20-029** 

#### SENATE SPONSORSHIP

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## A BILL FOR AN ACT

- 101 CONCERNING A ONE-TIME BASIC CASH ASSISTANCE PAYMENT TO
- 102

**COLORADO WORKS PROGRAM RECIPIENTS, AND, IN CONNECTION** 

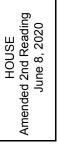
103 THEREWITH, MAKING AN APPROPRIATION.

#### **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.)

For the state fiscal year commencing July 1, 2020, the amount of basic cash assistance a Colorado works program recipient (recipient) receives must equal or exceed 100% of the amount of basic cash assistance in 2019 plus 10%.

Commencing July 1, 2021, the department must annually increase







the amount of basic cash assistance a recipient receives by a cost of living adjustment equal to 1.5% or the federal social security administration's cost of living adjustment that year, whichever is greater.

The joint budget committee (JBC) must review the sustainability of the Colorado long-term works reserve to fund the cost of living adjustment, and, if the JBC deems necessary, identify additional sources of funding.

1	Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:
2	
3	SECTION 1. Legislative declaration. (1) The general assembly
4	finds and declares that:
5	(a) Colorado is in the midst of an unprecedented economic crisis.
6	As the state makes difficult choices about the budget and how to support
7	Colorado's recovery now and into the future, it is critical to provide
8	support to families who are facing some of the greatest barriers to
9	economic security.
10	(b) Families enrolled in the temporary assistance for needy
11	families (TANF) program who are experiencing extreme poverty need
12	additional money as soon as possible to help weather the immediate
13	effects of the economic crisis. The additional barriers that these families
14	will face in meeting basic needs now, and as the state begins to recover,
15	make it even more critical to prioritize a way to provide cash assistance
16	to these families as soon as possible.
17	(c) During this time of economic crisis for families and Colorado,
18	the Colorado long-term works reserve should be used to provide critical
19	cash assistance to families experiencing extreme poverty. The best way
20	to do this is to provide immediate, one-time cash assistance to families
21	who receive basic cash assistance under the TANF program. This
22	one-time payment will help families make ends meet during the current

1	economic crisis and will help make up for the fact that basic cash
2	assistance has not been adjusted for inflation since the program was
3	created in 1996 and has not kept up with the cost of living in Colorado.
4	
5	SECTION 2. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 26-2-709, add (1)(d)
6	and (1)(e) as follows:
7	<u> 26-2-709. Benefits - cash assistance - programs</u> rules - repeal.
8	<u>(1) Standard of need - basic cash assistance grant.</u>
9	(d) (I) NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION TO THE CONTRARY,
10	ANY ASSISTANCE UNIT THAT RECEIVES A BASIC CASH ASSISTANCE
11	PAYMENT FROM THE COLORADO WORKS PROGRAM ON OR AT ANY TIME
12	WITHIN ONE MONTH AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS SUBSECTION
13	(1)(d) SHALL RECEIVE A ONE-TIME FIVE-HUNDRED DOLLAR SUPPLEMENTAL
14	PAYMENT IN ADDITION TO THE AMOUNT OF BASIC CASH ASSISTANCE
15	<u>GRANT</u> AN ASSISTANCE UNIT <u>RECEIVES PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION.</u> TO
16	THE EXTENT ALLOWABLE UNDER FEDERAL LAW, THIS ONE-TIME
17	SUPPLEMENTAL PAYMENT IS NOT INCOME FOR THE PURPOSE OF ANY
18	publicly funded program. The general assembly shall
19	APPROPRIATE NO MORE THAN TEN MILLION DOLLARS FOR THE
20	IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS SUBSECTION (1)(d) PURSUANT TO SECTION
21	<u>26-2-721 (2.5).</u> If the one-time supplemental payment to each
22	ASSISTANCE UNIT EXCEEDS TEN MILLION DOLLARS, THE SUPPLEMENTAL
23	PAYMENT MUST BE DISTRIBUTED EVENLY TO EACH ASSISTANCE UNIT.
24	(II) This subsection $(1)(d)$ is repealed, effective July 1, 2021.
25	(e) BEGINNING JULY 1, 2021, AND EACH YEAR THEREAFTER, THE
26	JOINT BUDGET COMMITTEE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SHALL REVIEW THE
27	SUSTAINABILITY OF THE COLORADO LONG-TERM WORKS RESERVE

1 <u>CREATED IN SECTION 26-2-721.</u>

2	SECTION 3. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 26-2-721, add (2.5)
3	<u>as follows:</u>
4	<u>26-2-721. Colorado long-term works reserve - creation</u> - use
5	- repeal. (2.5) (a) The general assembly shall appropriate the
6	MONEY IN THE RESERVE FOR THE PURPOSE OF IMPLEMENTING SECTION
7	<u>26-2-709 (1)(d).</u>
8	(b) This subsection (2.5) is repealed, effective July 1, 2021.
9	SECTION 4. Appropriation. For the 2020-21 state fiscal year,
10	\$8,424,500 is appropriated to the department of human services for use
11	by the office of self sufficiency. This appropriation is from federal
12	temporary assistance for needy families block grant funds. To implement
13	this act, the office of self sufficiency may use the appropriation for
14	Colorado works program county block grants.
15	SECTION 5. Safety clause. The general assembly hereby finds,
16	determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate
17	preservation of the public peace, health, or safety.