

**First Regular Session  
Seventy-third General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO**

**PREAMENDED**

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

LLS NO. 21-0904.01 Christy Chase x2008

**HOUSE BILL 21-1264**

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**HOUSE SPONSORSHIP**

**Sullivan and Young**, Amabile, Bacon, Benavidez, Bernett, Bird, Boesenecker, Caraveo, Cutter, Duran, Esgar, Exum, Froelich, Garnett, Gonzales-Gutierrez, Gray, Herod, Hooton, Jackson, Kipp, Lontine, Lynch, McCluskie, McCormick, Michaelson Jenet, Mullica, Ortiz, Ricks, Sirota, Snyder, Titone, Valdez A., Valdez D., Weissman

**SENATE SPONSORSHIP**

**Kolker and Hisey**,

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**House Committees**

Business Affairs & Labor  
Appropriations

**Senate Committees**

Business, Labor, & Technology  
Appropriations

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**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

101      **CONCERNING THE ALLOCATION OF STATE MONEY FOR WORKFORCE**  
102            **DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES TO INCREASE THE SKILLS OF**  
103            **COLORADO WORKERS, AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH,**  
104            **MAKING AN APPROPRIATION.**

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**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 stimulus investments in reskilling, upskilling, and next-skilling workers program (program) as an initiative of the state work force development council (state council) to facilitate training for

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.  
*Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material to be added to existing statute.  
Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.*

HOUSE  
3rd Reading Unamended  
April 29, 2021

HOUSE  
Amended 2nd Reading  
April 28, 2021

unemployed and underemployed workers in the state during times of substantial unemployment, defined as a statewide unemployment rate that exceeds 4%. The bill appropriates \$25 million for the program and directs the state council to use the money to support individuals in need of:

- Reskilling, which supports unemployed and underemployed workers to change industries in order to return to work or obtain more appropriate work based on their skills;
- Upskilling, which assists workers in increasing skill levels to retain or advance in their employment; or
- Next-skilling, which supports workers in developing future-ready skills necessary for employment in the twenty-first century.

The state council, in collaboration with the department of labor and employment, is directed to allocate funding to local work force development areas and to develop a grant program to award grants to other partners to provide reskilling, upskilling, and next-skilling supports to eligible individuals for up to 13 months.

Starting in 2022, as part of the Colorado talent report, the state council is directed to report on the activities and outcomes resulting from the program. The program repeals on June 30, 2024.

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

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3 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 8-83-227 as  
4 follows:

5 **8-83-227. Additional funding for workforce development**  
6 **activities - state funding not subject to federal law limitations.**

7 (1) THE DEPARTMENT MAY RECEIVE AND EXPEND MONEY FROM THE  
8 GENERAL FUND OR ANY OTHER STATE SOURCE APPROPRIATED BY THE  
9 GENERAL ASSEMBLY OR PASSED THROUGH ANOTHER ENTITY FOR PURPOSES  
10 OF DISTRIBUTING STATE FUNDS TO WORK FORCE DEVELOPMENT AREAS TO  
11 IMPLEMENT WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES, INCLUDING THE  
12 FUNCTIONS, ACTIVITIES, AND SERVICES AUTHORIZED PURSUANT TO THIS  
13 PART 2.

1 (2) ANY LIMITATIONS OR REQUIREMENTS IMPOSED ON THE USE OF  
2 MONEY RECEIVED PURSUANT TO THE FEDERAL ACT OR THE  
3 WAGNER-PEYSER ACT DO NOT APPLY TO STATE MONEY APPROPRIATED OR  
4 PASSED THROUGH TO THE DEPARTMENT PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION.

5 (3) FOR ANY APPROPRIATION MADE BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
6 OR PASS-THROUGH OF MONEY FROM ANOTHER ENTITY PURSUANT TO THIS  
7 SECTION, THE DIVISION, IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE STATE COUNCIL, SHALL  
8 DETERMINE THE USE OF, AND ANY LIMITATIONS ON THE USE OF, THE  
9 MONEY FOR WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES TO ADDRESS THE  
10 ECONOMIC AND LABOR MARKET CONDITIONS.

11 **SECTION 2. Legislative declaration.** (1) The general assembly  
12 finds and declares that:

13 (a) The COVID-19 pandemic that spread to Colorado in February  
14 of 2020 has led to extensive job losses throughout the state;

15 (b) The devastating effects of the COVID-19 pandemic have  
16 disproportionately impacted communities of color as well as women and  
17 low-income, senior, and disabled populations in the state;

18 (c) In order to assist states in recovering from the impacts the  
19 COVID-19 pandemic has had on states' economies, on March 11, 2021,  
20 the federal government enacted the "American Rescue Plan Act of 2021"  
21 (ARPA), pursuant to which Colorado will receive \$3,828,761,790 from  
22 the federal coronavirus state fiscal recovery fund to be used for certain  
23 specified purposes, including "to respond to the public health emergency  
24 with respect to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) or its negative  
25 economic impacts, including assistance to households, small businesses,  
26 and nonprofits, or aid to impacted industries such as tourism, travel, and  
27 hospitality";

1           (d) Under the authority granted under section 602 (f) of the  
2           ARPA, the secretary of the United States treasury adopted regulations  
3           providing further guidance to states regarding the authorized uses of the  
4           money allocated to states from the federal coronavirus state fiscal  
5           recovery fund to respond to the public health emergency or its negative  
6           economic impacts, which include:

7           (I) Assistance to unemployed workers, including job training for  
8           individuals who want and are available for work;

9           (II) Aid to impacted industries to respond to the negative  
10           economic impacts of the COVID-19 public health emergency; and

11           (III) Programs, services, or other assistance for populations  
12           disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 public health emergency,  
13           such as programs or services that address or mitigate the impact of the  
14           public health emergency on education;

15           (e) A program to award funding to work force development areas,  
16           local governments, institutions of higher education, and community-based  
17           nonprofit organizations to support reskilling, upskilling, and next-skilling  
18           workers who lost employment or have remained unemployed due to the  
19           COVID-19 public health emergency and its negative economic impacts,  
20           including providing short-term training to obtain an industry-recognized  
21           certificate and related services, that will aid unemployed workers,  
22           including those from communities disproportionately impacted by the  
23           public health emergency, and that will assist employers and nonprofit  
24           organizations working with these unemployed workers, is a program to  
25           respond to the public health emergency and its negative economic impacts  
26           on workers and industry;

27           (f) A program through which local work force development

1 boards award grants to drive innovation to build in-demand skills,  
2 connect workers and learners to quality jobs, and drive employer  
3 engagement in talent development will provide job training assistance to  
4 unemployed workers and will aid impacted industries;

5 (g) Likewise, statewide innovation initiatives to support  
6 employers and trade associations in developing training programs for use  
7 in multiple counties, to align statewide activities in partnership with local  
8 work force development areas for skills-based hiring and talent  
9 development, and to engage and provide support to local work force  
10 development boards and community leaders in designing and  
11 implementing statewide work force innovative initiatives are programs,  
12 services, or other assistance to respond to the public health emergency  
13 and its negative economic impacts on workers and industry;

14 (h) Additionally, allocating federal funding to:

15 (I) Postsecondary career and technical education (CTE) providers  
16 to expand CTE equipment, facility, and industry capacity in key CTE job  
17 demand areas will encourage high-wage, demand-driven training and  
18 short-term program growth to meet post-pandemic demand and will  
19 provide job training to unemployed workers, assist industries negatively  
20 impacted by the public health emergency, and address the impacts of the  
21 public health emergency on education by expanding the availability of  
22 and access to CTE programs in key job demand areas; and

23 (II) The adult education and literacy program established in article  
24 10 of title 22, Colorado Revised Statutes, that provides next-level  
25 education and training to many Colorado unemployed adults will provide  
26 training to adults disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 public  
27 health emergency for better employment outcomes.



1           (4) "INDUSTRY-RECOGNIZED CREDENTIAL" MEANS A CREDENTIAL  
2 THROUGH A PROGRAM OR OFFERING QUALIFIED UNDER THE CAREER  
3 DEVELOPMENT SUCCESS PROGRAM PURSUANT TO SECTION 22-54-138.

4           (5) "NEXT-SKILLING" MEANS ACTIVITIES TO DEVELOP  
5 FUTURE-READY SKILLS NECESSARY FOR EMPLOYMENT IN THE  
6 TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY AND INCLUDES THE FOCUS AREAS OF HUMAN  
7 SKILLS, DIGITAL SKILLS, BUSINESS SKILLS, GROWTH MINDSET, AND A  
8 LIFELONG LEARNING MINDSET.

9           (6) "PROGRAM" MEANS THE \_\_\_\_\_ INVESTMENTS IN RESKILLING,  
10 UPSKILLING, AND NEXT-SKILLING WORKERS PROGRAM CREATED IN  
11 SECTION 24-46.3-503.

12           (7) (a) "RESKILLING" MEANS ACTIVITIES TO:

13           (I) SUPPORT UNEMPLOYED AND UNDEREMPLOYED INDIVIDUALS  
14 WHO NEED OR WANT TO CHANGE INDUSTRIES IN ORDER TO RETURN TO  
15 FULL-TIME WORK OR WHO NEED OR WANT TO OBTAIN MORE APPROPRIATE  
16 WORK BASED ON THEIR SKILLS; AND

17           (II) HELP UNEMPLOYED AND UNDEREMPLOYED INDIVIDUALS  
18 ACHIEVE ECONOMIC SELF-SUFFICIENCY.

19           (b) "RESKILLING" MAY INCLUDE TECHNICAL TRAINING FOR NEW  
20 POSITIONS AND NEW CAREERS AND ENTREPRENEURIAL TRAINING FOR  
21 INDIVIDUALS WHO WISH TO PURSUE SELF-EMPLOYMENT AND BUSINESS  
22 OWNERSHIP.

23           (8) "SHORT-TERM TRAINING" MEANS A TRAINING PROGRAM THAT  
24 IS NOT MORE THAN THIRTEEN MONTHS IN DURATION.

25           (9) "STATE COUNCIL" MEANS THE STATE WORK FORCE  
26 DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL CREATED PURSUANT TO SECTION 24-46.3-101.

27           (10) "SUBSTANTIAL UNEMPLOYMENT" MEANS AN UNEMPLOYMENT

1 RATE THAT IS HIGHER THAN FOUR PERCENT FOR THE STATE, AS A WHOLE,  
2 OR FOR A WORK FORCE DEVELOPMENT AREA.

3 (11) "UPSKILLING" MEANS ACTIVITIES TO INCREASE THE SKILL  
4 LEVELS OF AN INCUMBENT WORKER SO THE WORKER IS ABLE TO RETAIN  
5 EMPLOYMENT AND ADVANCE WITHIN A COMPANY.

6 (12) "WORK FORCE DEVELOPMENT AREA" HAS THE SAME MEANING  
7 AS SET FORTH IN SECTION 8-83-203 (22).

8 **24-46.3-503. Investments in reskilling, upskilling, and**  
9 **next-skilling workers program - creation.** (1) THE INVESTMENTS IN  
10 RESKILLING, UPSKILLING, AND NEXT-SKILLING WORKERS PROGRAM IS  
11 HEREBY CREATED AS AN INITIATIVE OF THE STATE COUNCIL AS A MEANS  
12 TO TRAIN UNEMPLOYED AND UNDEREMPLOYED COLORADANS DURING  
13 TIMES OF SUBSTANTIAL UNEMPLOYMENT. IN ANY STATE FISCAL YEAR IN  
14 WHICH MONEY IS APPROPRIATED FOR THE PROGRAM PURSUANT TO SECTION  
15 24-46.3-504, THE STATE COUNCIL SHALL USE THE MONEY ALLOCATED TO  
16 THE PROGRAM TO SUPPORT INDIVIDUALS IN NEED OF RESKILLING,  
17 UPSKILLING, OR NEXT-SKILLING, INCLUDING PROVIDING ASSISTANCE TO  
18 ALLOW INDIVIDUALS TO ACCESS AND PARTICIPATE IN SHORT-TERM  
19 TRAINING TO OBTAIN AN INDUSTRY-RECOGNIZED CREDENTIAL. THE STATE  
20 COUNCIL MAY USE THE MONEY FOR THE FOLLOWING RESKILLING,  
21 UPSKILLING, OR NEXT-SKILLING PURPOSES:

- 22 (a) CAREER COUNSELING;  
23 (b) CAREER AND ACADEMIC EXPLORATION AND PLANNING;  
24 (c) TUITION;  
25 (d) EMPLOYER-PROVIDED TRAINING;  
26 (e) NEEDS-BASED SERVICES;  
27 (f) TRANSPORTATION;



- 1 (g) EQUIPMENT;
- 2 (h) RETENTION SERVICES;
- 3 (i) PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION AND ADMINISTRATION, INCLUDING
- 4 REPORTING ACTIVITIES; AND
- 5 (j) OTHER PURPOSES DETERMINED BY THE STATE COUNCIL THAT
- 6 ARE RELATED TO TRAINING UNEMPLOYED AND UNDEREMPLOYED
- 7 COLORADANS DURING TIMES OF SUBSTANTIAL UNEMPLOYMENT.

8 (2) AN INDIVIDUAL MAY RECEIVE SUPPORT THROUGH THE

9 PROGRAM AS DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (1) OF THIS SECTION FOR UP TO

10 THIRTEEN CONSECUTIVE MONTHS WHILE PURSUING AN

11 INDUSTRY-RECOGNIZED CREDENTIAL. THE STATE COUNCIL, IN

12 COLLABORATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT, SHALL DEVELOP THE

13 ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR INDIVIDUALS TO RECEIVE SUPPORT THROUGH

14 THE PROGRAM.

15 (3) (a) THE STATE COUNCIL, IN COLLABORATION WITH THE

16 DEPARTMENT, SHALL ALLOCATE THE FUNDING AVAILABLE FOR THE

17 PROGRAM AS FOLLOWS:

18 (I) TWENTY MILLION SEVEN HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS

19 TO WORK FORCE DEVELOPMENT AREAS FOR THE PROGRAM;

20 (II) THREE MILLION DOLLARS FOR THE GRANT PROGRAM

21 ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (4) OF THIS SECTION; AND

22 (III) ONE MILLION TWO HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS FOR

23 THE DEPARTMENT FOR OUTREACH AND RECRUITMENT, PROVIDING ACCESS

24 TO DIGITAL PLATFORMS FOR CAREER NAVIGATION, ISSUING LICENSES FOR

25 VIRTUAL TRAINING COURSES, AND IMPLEMENTING, ADMINISTERING, AND

26 REPORTING ON THE PROGRAM.

27 (b) IF, ON JUNE 30, 2022, ANY PORTION OF THE MONEY ALLOCATED

1 TO THE DEPARTMENT PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (3)(a)(III) OF THIS  
2 SECTION IS UNENCUMBERED AND UNEXPENDED, THE STATE COUNCIL  
3 SHALL ALLOCATE THE REMAINING MONEY IN ACCORDANCE WITH  
4 SUBSECTIONS (3)(a)(I) AND (3)(a)(II) OF THIS SECTION.

5 (4) (a) THE STATE COUNCIL SHALL ESTABLISH A GRANT PROGRAM  
6 TO AWARD FUNDING TO OTHER PARTNERS, INCLUDING LOCAL  
7 GOVERNMENTS, INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION, AND  
8 COMMUNITY-BASED NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS, FOR USE IN PROVIDING  
9 THE SUPPORTS SPECIFIED IN SUBSECTION (1) OF THIS SECTION. THE  
10 RECIPIENTS OF FUNDING ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR WORKING WITH  
11 INDIVIDUALS WHO QUALIFY FOR THE PROGRAM AND ADMINISTERING  
12 AVAILABLE FUNDS TO OR ON BEHALF OF QUALIFIED INDIVIDUALS.

13 (b) THE STATE COUNCIL SHALL DISTRIBUTE THE FUNDING  
14 THROUGH A COMPETITIVE APPLICATION PROCESS THAT CONSIDERS THE  
15 RELATIVE NEED IN AN AREA AND THE ABILITY OF THE APPLICANT TO  
16 SUPPORT INDIVIDUALS, AS WELL AS OTHER CRITERIA THAT THE STATE  
17 COUNCIL AND THE DEPARTMENT DETERMINE ARE RELEVANT BASED ON THE  
18 ECONOMIC CONDITIONS AT THE TIME APPLICATIONS ARE BEING  
19 CONSIDERED.

20 **24-46.3-504. Funding for program.** (1) FOR THE 2021-22 STATE  
21 FISCAL YEAR, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SHALL APPROPRIATE TWENTY-FIVE  
22 MILLION DOLLARS FROM THE WORKERS, EMPLOYERS, AND WORKFORCE  
23 CENTERS CASH FUND CREATED IN SECTION 24-75-231 (2)(a) TO THE  
24 DEPARTMENT FOR ALLOCATION TO THE STATE COUNCIL FOR THE PROGRAM.  
25 ANY MONEY APPROPRIATED IN THE 2021-22 STATE FISCAL YEAR THAT IS  
26 NOT ENCUMBERED OR EXPENDED AT THE END OF THAT STATE FISCAL YEAR  
27 REMAINS AVAILABLE FOR EXPENDITURE BY THE STATE COUNCIL IN

1 SUBSEQUENT STATE FISCAL YEARS WITHOUT FURTHER APPROPRIATION,  
2 SUBJECT TO THE REQUIREMENTS FOR OBLIGATING AND EXPENDING MONEY  
3 RECEIVED UNDER THE ARPA AS SPECIFIED IN SECTION 24-75-226 (4)(d).

4 (2) THE STATE COUNCIL SHALL USE THE MONEY APPROPRIATED  
5 PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION FOR THE PURPOSES SPECIFIED IN SECTION  
6 24-46.3-503 AND SHALL ALLOCATE THE MONEY AS SPECIFIED IN THAT  
7 SECTION.

8 (3) NEITHER THE DEPARTMENT NOR THE STATE COUNCIL SHALL  
9 USE MONEY APPROPRIATED PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION TO ADD  
10 PERMANENT FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT POSITIONS FOR THE DEPARTMENT OR  
11 THE STATE COUNCIL.

12 (4) THE STATE COUNCIL SHALL COMPLY WITH THE REQUIREMENTS  
13 OF SECTION 24-75-226 (4) AND (5) REGARDING THE OBLIGATION,  
14 EXPENDITURE, AND TRACKING OF MONEY ALLOCATED TO THE STATE  
15 COUNCIL PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION.

16 **24-46.3-505. Reports.** (1) IN DECEMBER 2022 AND EACH  
17 DECEMBER THEREAFTER THROUGH DECEMBER 2026, \_\_\_\_\_ THE STATE  
18 COUNCIL SHALL REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES AND OUTCOMES RESULTING  
19 FROM THE PROGRAM IN THE PRIOR STATE FISCAL YEAR AS PART OF THE  
20 ANNUAL COLORADO TALENT REPORT PREPARED PURSUANT TO SECTION  
21 24-46.3-103 (3). THE STATE COUNCIL SHALL COMPLY WITH THE  
22 REQUIREMENTS OF SECTION 24-75-226 (5) REGARDING REPORTING ON  
23 MONEY ALLOCATED TO THE STATE COUNCIL PURSUANT TO SECTION  
24 24-46.3-504.

25 (2) EACH APPLICANT THAT RECEIVES FUNDING UNDER THE  
26 PROGRAM SHALL REPORT TO THE STATE COUNCIL ON THE MEASURABLE  
27 OUTCOMES ACHIEVED, INCLUDING THE NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS SERVED,

1 THE NUMBER OF SHORT-TERM TRAINING PROGRAMS COMPLETED, AND ANY  
2 OTHER INFORMATION THAT THE STATE COUNCIL DETERMINES APPROPRIATE  
3 TO DEMONSTRATE THE SUCCESS OF THE GRANT.

4 **24-46.3-506. Repeal of part.** THIS PART 5 IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE  
5 JULY 1, 2027.

6 PART 6

7 WORK FORCE INNOVATION ACT

8 **24-46.3-601. Short title.** THE SHORT TITLE OF THIS PART 6 IS THE  
9 "WORK FORCE INNOVATION ACT".

10 **24-46.3-602. Definitions.** AS USED IN THIS PART 6, UNLESS THE  
11 CONTEXT OTHERWISE REQUIRES:

12 (1) "ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAM" HAS THE SAME MEANING AS  
13 "ADULT EDUCATION AND LITERACY PROGRAMS", AS DEFINED IN SECTION  
14 22-10-103 (1).

15 (2) "APPRENTICESHIP SPONSOR" MEANS AN EMPLOYER,  
16 ASSOCIATION, COMMITTEE, OR ORGANIZATION THAT OPERATES AN  
17 APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM REGISTERED WITH THE UNITED STATES  
18 DEPARTMENT OF LABOR.

19 (3) "COLORADO WORK FORCE CENTER" MEANS AN AMERICAN JOBS  
20 CENTER ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO THE FEDERAL "WORKFORCE  
21 INVESTMENT ACT OF 1998", 29 U.S.C. SEC. 2801 ET SEQ., AND  
22 REAUTHORIZED IN THE FEDERAL "WORKFORCE INNOVATION AND  
23 OPPORTUNITIES ACT OF 2014", PUB.L. 113-128, THAT IS OPERATING IN  
24 COLORADO AND OFFERS TRAINING REFERRALS, CAREER COUNSELING, JOB  
25 LISTINGS, AND SIMILAR EMPLOYMENT-RELATED SERVICES.

26 (4) "CONNECTING COLORADO DATABASE" MEANS THE LABOR  
27 EXCHANGE SYSTEM ADMINISTERED BY THE DEPARTMENT TO CONNECT

1 INDIVIDUALS TO JOBS AND TO MANAGE DATA AND PRODUCE REPORTS  
2 REQUIRED BY THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR.

3 (5) "COVID-19" MEANS THE CORONAVIRUS DISEASE CAUSED BY  
4 THE SEVERE ACUTE RESPIRATORY SYNDROME CORONAVIRUS 2, ALSO  
5 KNOWN AS SARS-CoV-2.

6 (6) "COVID-19 PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY" OR "PUBLIC HEALTH  
7 EMERGENCY" MEANS THE PERIOD BEGINNING ON JANUARY 1, 2020, AND  
8 EXTENDING UNTIL THE TERMINATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY  
9 CONCERNING THE COVID-19 OUTBREAK DECLARED PURSUANT TO THE  
10 FEDERAL "NATIONAL EMERGENCIES ACT", 50 U.S.C. SEC. 1601 ET SEQ.

11 (7) "ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION" MEANS AN  
12 ORGANIZATION WHOSE MISSION IS TO PROMOTE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
13 WITHIN A SPECIFIC GEOGRAPHICAL AREA.

14 (8) "ELIGIBLE APPLICANT" MEANS:

15 (a) A PUBLIC OR PRIVATE SECTOR EMPLOYER, EMPLOYER  
16 ORGANIZATION, OR TRADE ASSOCIATION;

17 (b) AN APPRENTICESHIP SPONSOR;

18 (c) A COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATION;

19 (d) A COLORADO WORK FORCE CENTER; OR

20 (e) A SECTOR PARTNERSHIP RECOGNIZED BY THE STATE COUNCIL.

21 (9) "LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER" HAS THE SAME MEANING AS  
22 SET FORTH IN SECTION 22-20.5-102 (4).

23 (10) "PROPRIETARY TRAINING PROVIDER" MEANS A TRAINING  
24 PROGRAM OPERATED BY THE PRIVATE SECTOR.

25 (11) "SECTOR PARTNERSHIP" MEANS AN INDUSTRY-SPECIFIC,  
26 REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP LED BY BUSINESS IN PARTNERSHIP WITH  
27 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, EDUCATION, AND WORK FORCE DEVELOPMENT

1 ENTITIES.

2 (12) "STATEWIDE WORK FORCE INNOVATION INITIATIVE" MEANS  
3 A STATEWIDE ACTIVITY DEVELOPED PURSUANT TO SECTION 24-46.3-605.

4 (13) "SUBAPPLICANT" MEANS:

5 (a) AN INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION;

6 (b) A PUBLIC LIBRARY;

7 (c) A LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER;

8 (d) AN ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAM;

9 (e) A PROPRIETARY TRAINING PROVIDER;

10 (f) AN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION; OR

11 (g) A NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION.

12 (15) "WORK FORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD" HAS THE SAME  
13 MEANING AS SET FORTH IN SECTION 8-83-203 (23).

14 (16) "WORK FORCE INNOVATION GRANT PROGRAM" OR "GRANT  
15 PROGRAM" MEANS THE WORK FORCE INNOVATION GRANT PROGRAM  
16 CREATED IN SECTION 24-46.3-604.

17 **24-46.3-603. Funding for work force innovation - grant**  
18 **program - statewide initiatives - allocation of ARPA money. (1) FOR**  
19 **THE 2021-22 STATE FISCAL YEAR, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SHALL**  
20 **APPROPRIATE THIRTY-FIVE MILLION DOLLARS FROM THE WORKERS,**  
21 **EMPLOYERS, AND WORKFORCE CENTERS CASH FUND CREATED IN SECTION**  
22 **24-75-231 (2)(a) TO THE DEPARTMENT FOR ALLOCATION TO THE STATE**  
23 **COUNCIL FOR THE FOLLOWING PURPOSES:**

24 (a) SEVENTEEN MILLION FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS FOR  
25 ALLOCATION TO WORK FORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARDS FOR THE WORK  
26 FORCE INNOVATION GRANT PROGRAM AND PURPOSES SPECIFIED IN SECTION  
27 24-46.3-604 (1)(b); EXCEPT THAT A WORK FORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD

1 SHALL RETURN TO THE STATE COUNCIL ANY MONEY ALLOCATED TO AND  
2 NOT EXPENDED OR OBLIGATED BY THE WORK FORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD  
3 BY JANUARY 1, 2024; AND

4 (b) SEVENTEEN MILLION FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS, PLUS  
5 ANY AMOUNT RETURNED TO THE STATE COUNCIL PURSUANT TO  
6 SUBSECTION (1)(a) OF THIS SECTION, FOR STATEWIDE WORK FORCE  
7 INNOVATION INITIATIVES.

8 (2) THE STATE COUNCIL AND DEPARTMENT MAY USE UP TO  
9 TWELVE PERCENT OF THE AMOUNT APPROPRIATED PURSUANT TO THIS  
10 SECTION FOR COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH IMPLEMENTING AND  
11 ADMINISTERING THIS PART 6 AND FOR THE EVALUATION ACTIVITIES  
12 REQUIRED PURSUANT TO SECTION 24-46.3-606.

13 (3) ANY MONEY APPROPRIATED PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION THAT  
14 IS NOT EXPENDED OR ENCUMBERED AT THE END OF THE 2021-22 STATE  
15 FISCAL YEAR REMAINS AVAILABLE FOR EXPENDITURE IN SUBSEQUENT  
16 FISCAL YEARS WITHOUT FURTHER APPROPRIATION, SUBJECT TO THE  
17 REQUIREMENTS FOR OBLIGATING AND EXPENDING MONEY RECEIVED  
18 UNDER THE ARPA AS SPECIFIED IN SECTION 24-75-226 (4)(d).

19 (4) THE STATE COUNCIL SHALL COMPLY WITH THE REQUIREMENTS  
20 OF SECTION 24-75-226 (4) AND (5) REGARDING THE OBLIGATION,  
21 EXPENDITURE, AND TRACKING OF AND REPORTING ON THE USE OF ANY  
22 ARPA MONEY ALLOCATED TO THE STATE COUNCIL PURSUANT TO THIS  
23 SECTION.

24 **24-46.3-604. Work force innovation grant program - creation**  
25 **- local boards to administer - eligibility for grants - use of grants -**  
26 **grant proposal requirements - other innovation activities performed**  
27 **by local boards - reporting to statewide database. (1) (a) THE WORK**

1 FORCE INNOVATION GRANT PROGRAM IS HEREBY CREATED FOR THE  
2 PURPOSE OF PROMOTING INNOVATION IN ORDER TO IMPROVE OUTCOMES  
3 FOR LEARNERS AND WORKERS, INCLUDING UNDERSERVED POPULATIONS,  
4 BY PROMOTING PARTNERSHIPS AND HELPING PREPARE COLORADANS FOR  
5 WELL-PAYING, QUALITY JOBS. THE STATE COUNCIL SHALL ADMINISTER THE  
6 PROGRAM AND SHALL DISTRIBUTE THE MONEY ALLOCATED TO THE  
7 PROGRAM PURSUANT TO SECTION 24-46.3-603 (1)(a) TO WORK FORCE  
8 DEVELOPMENT BOARDS BASED ON A FORMULA THAT CONSIDERS THE  
9 FOLLOWING FACTORS IN EACH WORK FORCE DEVELOPMENT AREA:

- 10 (I) THE SHARE OF UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS;
- 11 (II) THE TOTAL JOBS LOST AND THE TOTAL JOBS LOST IN THE  
12 INDUSTRIES MOST IMPACTED BY THE PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY; AND
- 13 (III) OTHER FACTORS DETERMINED BY THE STATE COUNCIL.

14 (b) (I) THE WORK FORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARDS SHALL USE THE  
15 MONEY DISTRIBUTED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (1)(a) OF THIS SECTION:

16 (A) TO AWARD GRANTS TO ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS THROUGH A  
17 COMPETITIVE PROCESS, CONSISTENT WITH SUBSECTIONS (2) AND (3) OF  
18 THIS SECTION;

19 (B) FOR OUTCOMES-BASED OR PAY-FOR-PERFORMANCE  
20 CONTRACTS WITH GRANT RECIPIENTS, CONSISTENT WITH SUBSECTIONS (2)  
21 AND (3) OF THIS SECTION;

22 (C) FOR NEW PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT;

23 (D) TO EXPAND ACCESS TO EXISTING PROGRAMS;

24 (E) FOR OUTREACH AND ENGAGEMENT, ESPECIALLY TO  
25 MARGINALIZED OR DISPROPORTIONATELY IMPACTED POPULATIONS; AND

26 (F) FOR CAREER COACHING AND NAVIGATION FOR INDIVIDUALS.

27 (II) WORK FORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARDS MAY USE UP TO TEN



1 PERCENT OF THE MONEY DISTRIBUTED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (1)(a)  
2 OF THIS SECTION FOR ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH  
3 PERFORMING THE ACTIVITIES SPECIFIED IN SUBSECTION (1)(b)(I) OF THIS  
4 SECTION.

5 (2) (a) AN APPLICANT FOR A GRANT FROM A WORK FORCE  
6 DEVELOPMENT BOARD:

7 (I) MUST DEMONSTRATE THAT THE APPLICANT IS AN ELIGIBLE  
8 APPLICANT;

9 (II) MAY APPLY FOR A GRANT IN PARTNERSHIP WITH ONE OR MORE  
10 SUBAPPLICANTS; AND

11 (III) IS ENCOURAGED TO APPLY FOR A GRANT WITH PARTNERS IN  
12 ORDER TO SUPPORT TRANSFORMATIVE STRATEGIES FOCUSED ON SYSTEMIC  
13 ALIGNMENT WITH COLORADO WORK FORCE CENTERS.

14 (b) IF APPLYING WITH ONE OR MORE SUBAPPLICANTS, AN  
15 APPLICANT MUST IDENTIFY THE SPECIFIC ROLE EACH SUBAPPLICANT WILL  
16 SERVE AND THE REASON WHY THE APPLICANT AND SUBAPPLICANT HAVE  
17 PARTNERED IN THE APPLICATION, INCLUDING HOW THE LEAD APPLICANT  
18 WILL DISTRIBUTE MONEY TO SUBAPPLICANTS AND WHAT AMOUNTS WOULD  
19 BE SHARED AMONG THE APPLICANT AND SUBAPPLICANTS.

20 (c) THE WORK FORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARDS MAY PARTNER WITH  
21 EACH OTHER TO ADMINISTER GRANTS.

22 (d) ALL GRANTS AWARDED PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION MUST BE  
23 OBLIGATED BY DECEMBER 31, 2024, AND EXPENDED BY DECEMBER 31,  
24 2026.

25 (3) THE WORK FORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARDS SHALL AWARD  
26 GRANTS TO ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS APPLYING FOR GRANTS FOR PROPOSALS  
27 THAT WILL BUILD IN-DEMAND SKILLS, CONNECT WORKERS AND LEARNERS

1 TO QUALITY JOBS, AND DRIVE EMPLOYER ENGAGEMENT IN TALENT  
2 DEVELOPMENT IN ANY OF THE FOLLOWING AREAS:

3 (a) SUPPORTING WORK-BASED LEARNING, SKILL DEVELOPMENT,  
4 TRAINING COMPLETION, AND QUALITY JOB PLACEMENT THROUGH THE  
5 FOLLOWING:

6 (I) PROVIDING QUALITY EDUCATION AND TRAINING FOR  
7 RESKILLING, UPSKILLING, AND NEXT-SKILLING INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE IN  
8 COVID-19-IMPACTED HOUSEHOLDS AND UNDERSERVED POPULATIONS  
9 THAT WERE DISPROPORTIONATELY IMPACTED BY THE COVID-19 PUBLIC  
10 HEALTH EMERGENCY, WHICH MAY INCLUDE ENTREPRENEURSHIP; DIGITAL  
11 LITERACY AND INCLUSION ACTIVITIES; WORK FORCE READINESS;  
12 ON-THE-JOB TRAINING; SHORT-TERM, IN-DEMAND CREDENTIALS; OR  
13 APPRENTICESHIPS;

14 (II) BUILDING ACCOUNTABLE PARTNERSHIPS AND SYSTEMS TO  
15 DRAMATICALLY IMPROVE OUTCOMES OR DECREASE COSTS FOR WORKERS  
16 AND LEARNERS TO ACCESS QUALITY EDUCATION AND TRAINING;

17 (III) PROVIDING SUPPORTIVE SERVICES AND EQUIPMENT TO  
18 WORKERS AND LEARNERS WITH BARRIERS TO ACCESSING EDUCATION,  
19 TRAINING, AND JOB PLACEMENT;

20 (IV) INCREASING ACCESS TO CAREER COUNSELING AND  
21 NAVIGATION PROGRAMS FOR IN-SCHOOL AND OUT-OF-SCHOOL WORKERS  
22 AND LEARNERS;

23 (V) DEVELOPING NEW, WORK-BASED LEARNING PROGRAMS IN  
24 PARTNERSHIP WITH EMPLOYERS; OR

25 (VI) INCREASING ACCESS TO ENGLISH-AS-A-SECOND-LANGUAGE  
26 AND OTHER CAREER READINESS PROGRAMS THAT ENABLE EQUITABLE  
27 ACCESS AND INTEGRATION;

1           (b) SUPPORTING EMPLOYERS AND SMALL BUSINESSES TO MITIGATE  
2           FINANCIAL HARDSHIPS RESULTING FROM THE PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY  
3           OR PROVIDING GREATER OPPORTUNITIES FOR COMMUNITIES  
4           DISPROPORTIONATELY AFFECTED BY COVID-19 TO ENGAGE IN TALENT  
5           DEVELOPMENT THROUGH THE FOLLOWING:

6           (I) INCREASING ADOPTION OF SKILLS-BASED PRACTICES,  
7           INCLUDING INCENTIVIZING NEW SKILLS-BASED HIRES;

8           (II) DEVELOPING OR EXPANDING INCUMBENT WORKER TRAINING  
9           AND WORK-BASED LEARNING PROGRAMS IN PARTNERSHIP WITH COLORADO  
10           WORK FORCE CENTERS, TRAINING PROVIDERS, COMMUNITY-BASED  
11           ORGANIZATIONS, LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDERS, AND INSTITUTIONS OF  
12           HIGHER EDUCATION; OR

13           (III) BUILDING NEW INTERNAL PATHWAYS FOR EXISTING  
14           EMPLOYEES; AND

15           (c) INCREASING PARTICIPATION BY UNDERSERVED COMMUNITIES,  
16           INCLUDING BLACK, INDIGENOUS, AND PEOPLE OF COLOR, PEOPLE WITH  
17           DISABILITIES, NEW AMERICANS, EX-OFFENDERS, AND OLDER WORKERS,  
18           THROUGH THE FOLLOWING:

19           (I) ADOPTING FOCUSED OUTREACH STRATEGIES SPECIFIC TO  
20           UNDERSERVED COMMUNITIES;

21           (II) INCREASING PARTNERSHIP WITH COMMUNITY-BASED  
22           ORGANIZATIONS THAT SERVE THESE POPULATIONS IN ORDER TO SUPPORT  
23           EXISTING TRUSTED MESSENGERS THAT CAN ENHANCE OUTREACH; OR

24           (III) IMPROVING LANGUAGE ACCESS, TO INCLUDE AMERICAN SIGN  
25           LANGUAGE, TO ENSURE OUTREACH AND PARTICIPATION.

26           (4) AN APPLICANT SHOULD ADDRESS THE FOLLOWING IN ITS  
27           PROJECT PROPOSAL:

1           (a) THE NEED FOR THE PROJECT, SPECIFYING HOW AND WHY THE  
2           PROJECT IS DESIGNED TO MEET THE NEED BASED ON DATA AND EVIDENCE;

3           (b) THE PROPOSED IMPACT OF THE PROJECT, INCLUDING HOW THE  
4           PROJECT WILL IMPROVE OUTCOMES FOR WORKERS AND STUDENTS OR  
5           INCREASE EMPLOYER ENGAGEMENT;

6           (c) THE PARTNERSHIPS FOSTERED BY THE PROJECT, INCLUDING THE  
7           DEGREE TO WHICH THE PROJECT HAS SUPPORT FROM COMMUNITY-BASED  
8           ORGANIZATIONS SUCH AS LOCAL CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE, NONPROFIT  
9           ORGANIZATIONS, BUSINESSES, OR FAITH-BASED ORGANIZATIONS;

10          (d) THE SUSTAINABILITY OF THE PROJECT, SPECIFYING HOW THE  
11          PROJECT WILL CONTINUE AFTER THE GRANT TERM EXPIRES;

12          (e) THE GOVERNANCE OF THE PROJECT, SPECIFYING HOW THE  
13          PROJECT WILL ENSURE APPROPRIATE ADMINISTRATION, MONITORING,  
14          REPORTING, AND COMPLIANCE FOR THE GRANT;

15          (f) THE INNOVATION OF THE PROJECT, SPECIFYING HOW THE  
16          PROJECT SUPPORTS INNOVATIVE, LOCALLY DRIVEN SOLUTIONS TO RESPOND  
17          TO COMMUNITY NEEDS; AND

18          (g) THE EQUITY OF THE PROJECT, SPECIFYING HOW THE PROJECT  
19          WILL IMPROVE EDUCATION AND ECONOMIC OUTCOMES FOR UNDERSERVED  
20          POPULATIONS OR COMMUNITIES.

21          (5) EACH WORK FORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD THAT AWARDS  
22          GRANTS TO ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION SHALL  
23          REPORT INFORMATION AS REQUIRED BY SECTION 24-46.3-606 TO THE  
24          CONNECTING COLORADO DATABASE TO TRACK PARTICIPANTS AND  
25          FACILITATE AN EVALUATION OF THE GRANT RECIPIENT'S USE OF THE GRANT  
26          AWARD AND THE OUTCOMES ACHIEVED.

27          (6) EACH ELIGIBLE APPLICANT THAT RECEIVES A GRANT PURSUANT

1 TO THIS SECTION SHALL COMPLY WITH ANY REPORTING REQUIREMENTS AS  
2 DETERMINED BY THE STATE CONTROLLER PURSUANT TO SECTION  
3 24-75-226.

4 **24-46.3-605. Statewide work force innovation initiatives -**  
5 **development - stakeholder process - distribution of money for**  
6 **initiatives.** (1) THE STATE COUNCIL SHALL USE THE MONEY ALLOCATED  
7 PURSUANT TO SECTION 24-46.3-603 (1)(b) FOR STATEWIDE WORK FORCE  
8 INNOVATION INITIATIVES DESIGNED TO PERFORM THE ACTIVITIES  
9 SPECIFIED IN SUBSECTION (2) OF THIS SECTION TO ADDRESS THE NEGATIVE  
10 ECONOMIC IMPACTS OF THE COVID-19 PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY.

11 (2) THE STATE COUNCIL SHALL CONDUCT A STAKEHOLDER  
12 PROCESS TO ENGAGE WORK FORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARDS AND  
13 COMMUNITY LEADERS IN THE DESIGN OF STATEWIDE INITIATIVES, WHICH  
14 MAY INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING ACTIVITIES:

15 (a) SUPPORTING EMPLOYERS AND TRADE ASSOCIATIONS THAT  
16 OPERATE IN MULTIPLE COUNTIES IN DEVELOPING TRAINING PROGRAMS;

17 (b) MANAGING ALIGNMENT OF STATEWIDE ACTIVITIES IN  
18 PARTNERSHIP WITH WORK FORCE DEVELOPMENT AREAS FOR SKILLS-BASED  
19 HIRING AND TALENT DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES;

20 (c) CAPACITY BUILDING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE ACTIVITIES,  
21 SUCH AS STAFF OR CONTRACTORS TO SUPPORT THE ADMINISTRATION OF  
22 LOCAL COMPETITIONS AND RELATED ACTIVITIES AND CONTRACTING WITH  
23 LOCAL OR NATIONAL EXPERTS ON EVIDENCE-BASED POLICY,  
24 RESULTS-BASED CONTRACTING, RIGOROUS EVALUATION DESIGN, AND  
25 IMPLEMENTATION SCIENCE;

26 (d) CAPACITY BUILDING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR  
27 COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATIONS TO INCREASE KNOWLEDGE AND

1 UNDERSTANDING OF WORK FORCE PROGRAMMING;

2 (e) TESTING SIMILAR PROGRAMS IN MULTIPLE LOCATIONS TO  
3 ASSESS WHAT WORKS SO THAT SUCCESSFUL PRACTICES USED IN SPECIFIC  
4 LOCATIONS CAN BE SCALED OR REPLICATED IN OTHER LOCATIONS;

5 (f) EXECUTING AND MANAGING CONTRACTS WITH EXTERNAL  
6 EVALUATORS IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 24-46.3-606;

7 (g) PERFORMING MONITORING AND COMPLIANCE ACTIVITIES  
8 NECESSARY TO DEMONSTRATE FISCAL INTEGRITY; AND

9 (h) CONDUCTING OUTREACH AND COMMUNICATION CAMPAIGNS TO  
10 REACH COLORADANS, INCLUDING UNDERSERVED AND  
11 DISPROPORTIONATELY IMPACTED POPULATIONS, WHO MAY BENEFIT FROM  
12 AVAILABLE PROGRAMS.

13 (3) (a) THE STATE COUNCIL SHALL DISTRIBUTE MONEY IN  
14 ACCORDANCE WITH STATE AND FEDERAL PROCUREMENT GUIDELINES FOR  
15 STATEWIDE WORK FORCE INNOVATION INITIATIVES DEVELOPED PURSUANT  
16 TO THIS SECTION THAT WILL PERFORM ACTIVITIES SPECIFIED IN  
17 SUBSECTION (2) OF THIS SECTION.

18 (b) ANY PERSON THAT RECEIVES MONEY FOR A STATEWIDE WORK  
19 FORCE INNOVATION INITIATIVE PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION SHALL:

20 (I) REPORT INFORMATION AS REQUIRED BY SECTION 24-46.3-606  
21 TO THE CONNECTING COLORADO DATABASE TO FACILITATE AN  
22 EVALUATION OF THE ACTIVITIES AND THE OUTCOMES ACHIEVED; AND

23 (II) COMPLY WITH ANY REPORTING REQUIREMENTS AS  
24 DETERMINED BY THE STATE CONTROLLER PURSUANT TO SECTION  
25 24-75-226.

26 **24-46.3-606. Evaluation - grant-funded projects and programs**  
27 **- statewide innovation initiatives. (1) THE STATE COUNCIL SHALL**

1 CONDUCT OR FACILITATE AN EVALUATION OF ALL PROGRAMS, PROJECTS,  
2 AND INITIATIVES FUNDED PURSUANT TO THIS PART 6 ON EITHER A  
3 STATEWIDE LEVEL OR WORK FORCE DEVELOPMENT AREA LEVEL.

4 (2) ANY WORK FORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD OR PERSON THAT  
5 RECEIVES MONEY OR A GRANT PURSUANT TO SECTION 24-46.3-604 OR  
6 24-46.3-605 MUST USE THE CONNECTING COLORADO DATABASE TO  
7 REPORT INFORMATION ABOUT HOW THE RECIPIENT USED THE MONEY, THE  
8 OUTCOMES ACHIEVED, AND ANY OTHER INFORMATION NECESSARY TO  
9 FACILITATE THE EVALUATION REQUIRED BY THIS SECTION.

10 (3) IN ADDITION TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF SECTION 24-75-226(5),  
11 PROGRAMS, PROJECTS, AND INITIATIVES FUNDED PURSUANT TO THIS PART  
12 6 MUST BE EVALUATED TO:

13 (a) DETERMINE WHETHER THE PROGRAM, PROJECT, OR INITIATIVE  
14 DEMONSTRATES AN IMPACT ON WORK FORCE DEVELOPMENT AND  
15 INNOVATION IN THE FOLLOWING AREAS:

16 (I) SKILL OR COMPETENCY ATTAINMENT;

17 (II) INDUSTRY-RECOGNIZED CREDENTIAL ATTAINMENT;

18 (III) GRADUATION OR CREDENTIAL ATTAINMENT RATES;

19 (IV) JOB PLACEMENT; AND

20 (V) JOB QUALITY;

21 (b) SPECIFY THE PERCENTAGE OF MONEY THAT WAS ALLOCATED,  
22 DISTRIBUTED, OR AWARDED TO INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION  
23 THROUGH SCHOLARSHIPS OR OTHER MECHANISMS.

24 **24-46.3-607. Repeal of part.** THIS PART 6 IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE  
25 JULY 1, 2027.

26 **SECTION 4.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add 24-75-231 as**  
27 follows:

1           24-75-231. Workers, employers, and workforce centers cash  
2 fund - creation - allowable uses - definitions - repeal. (1) AS USED IN  
3 THIS SECTION, UNLESS THE CONTEXT OTHERWISE REQUIRES:

4           (a) "AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT OF 2021" MEANS THE FEDERAL  
5 "AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT OF 2021", PUB.L. 117-2, AS THE ACT MAY  
6 BE SUBSEQUENTLY AMENDED.

7           (b) "COVID-19" MEANS THE CORONAVIRUS DISEASE CAUSED BY  
8 THE SEVERE ACUTE RESPIRATORY SYNDROME CORONAVIRUS 2, ALSO  
9 KNOWN AS SARS-CoV-2.

10           (c) "COVID-19 PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY" OR "PUBLIC HEALTH  
11 EMERGENCY" MEANS THE PERIOD BEGINNING ON JANUARY 1, 2020, AND  
12 EXTENDING UNTIL THE TERMINATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY  
13 CONCERNING THE COVID-19 OUTBREAK DECLARED PURSUANT TO THE  
14 FEDERAL "NATIONAL EMERGENCIES ACT", 50 U.S.C. SEC. 1601 ET SEQ.

15           (d) "DEPARTMENT" MEANS A PRINCIPAL DEPARTMENT IDENTIFIED  
16 IN SECTION 24-1-110 AND THE JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT. THE TERM ALSO  
17 INCLUDES THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR, INCLUDING ANY OFFICES  
18 CREATED THEREIN.

19           (e) "FUND" MEANS THE WORKERS, EMPLOYERS, AND WORKFORCE  
20 CENTERS CASH FUND CREATED IN SUBSECTION (2)(a) OF THIS SECTION OR  
21 AN IDENTICAL COMPANION FUND CREATED BY OPERATION OF SECTION  
22 24-75-226 (4)(c).

23           (2) (a) THE WORKERS, EMPLOYERS, AND WORKFORCE CENTERS  
24 CASH FUND IS HEREBY CREATED IN THE STATE TREASURY. THE FUND  
25 CONSISTS OF MONEY CREDITED TO THE FUND IN ACCORDANCE WITH  
26 SUBSECTION (2)(b) OF THIS SECTION AND ANY OTHER MONEY THAT THE  
27 GENERAL ASSEMBLY MAY APPROPRIATE OR TRANSFER TO THE FUND. TO



1 RESPOND TO THE PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY OR ITS NEGATIVE ECONOMIC  
2 IMPACTS, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY MAY APPROPRIATE MONEY FROM THE  
3 FUND TO RESPOND TO THE NEGATIVE ECONOMIC IMPACTS OF THE  
4 COVID-19 PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY, INCLUDING FOR THE FOLLOWING  
5 PURPOSES:

6 (I) TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE TO UNEMPLOYED WORKERS,  
7 INCLUDING JOB TRAINING FOR INDIVIDUALS WHO WANT TO AND ARE  
8 AVAILABLE FOR WORK;

9 (II) TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE TO HOUSEHOLDS;

10 (III) FOR PROGRAMS, SERVICES, OR OTHER ASSISTANCE FOR  
11 POPULATIONS DISPROPORTIONATELY IMPACTED BY THE COVID-19 PUBLIC  
12 HEALTH EMERGENCY, SUCH AS PROGRAMS OR SERVICES THAT ADDRESS OR  
13 MITIGATE THE IMPACTS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY ON  
14 EDUCATION;

15 (IV) TO PROVIDE AID TO IMPACTED INDUSTRIES, SMALL  
16 BUSINESSES, AND NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS TO RESPOND TO THE  
17 NEGATIVE ECONOMIC IMPACTS OF THE COVID-19 PUBLIC HEALTH  
18 EMERGENCY THROUGH THE PROVISION OF RELATED EDUCATIONAL AND JOB  
19 TRAINING SERVICES; AND

20 (V) FOR ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS RELATED TO THE PURPOSES  
21 SPECIFIED IN SUBSECTIONS (2)(a)(I) TO (2)(a)(IV) OF THIS SECTION.

22 (b) (I) THREE DAYS AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS  
23 SUBSECTION (2)(b)(I), THE STATE TREASURER SHALL TRANSFER:

24 (A) TWO HUNDRED MILLION DOLLARS FROM THE "AMERICAN  
25 RESCUE PLAN ACT OF 2021" CASH FUND CREATED IN SECTION 24-75-226  
26 TO THE FUND; AND

27 (B) TWENTY-FIVE MILLION DOLLARS FROM THE GENERAL FUND TO

1 THE FUND.

2 (II) THE STATE TREASURER SHALL CREDIT ALL INTEREST AND  
3 INCOME DERIVED FROM THE DEPOSIT AND INVESTMENT OF MONEY IN THE  
4 FUND TO THE FUND.

5 (3) A DEPARTMENT MAY EXPEND MONEY APPROPRIATED FROM THE  
6 FUND FOR PURPOSES PERMITTED UNDER THE "AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN  
7 ACT OF 2021" AND SHALL NOT USE THE MONEY FOR ANY PURPOSE  
8 PROHIBITED BY THAT ACT. A DEPARTMENT OR ANY PERSON WHO RECEIVES  
9 MONEY FROM THE FUND SHALL COMPLY WITH ANY REQUIREMENTS SET  
10 FORTH IN SECTION 24-75-226.

11 (4) THIS SECTION IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2027.

12 SECTION 5. In Colorado Revised Statutes, add part 2 to article  
13 8 of title 23 as follows:

14 PART 2

15 CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

16 EQUIPMENT, FACILITY, AND

17 INSTRUCTION CAPACITY FUNDING

18 23-8-201. Funding for technical education equipment,  
19 facilities, and instruction capacity - allocation to CTE providers -  
20 definitions - repeal. (1) AS USED IN THIS SECTION, UNLESS THE CONTEXT  
21 OTHERWISE REQUIRES:

22 (a) "COLORADO TALENT REPORT" MEANS THE ANNUAL COLORADO  
23 TALENT REPORT PREPARED PURSUANT TO SECTION 24-46.3-103 (3).

24 (b) "COMMISSION" MEANS THE COLORADO COMMISSION ON  
25 HIGHER EDUCATION ESTABLISHED IN SECTION 23-1-102.

26 (c) "CTE PROVIDER" MEANS ANY OF THE FOLLOWING THAT  
27 PROVIDES CAREER OR TECHNICAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS APPROVED BY

1 THE BOARD:

2 (I) AN AREA TECHNICAL COLLEGE AS DEFINED IN SECTION  
3 23-60-103 (1);

4 (II) A COMMUNITY COLLEGE INCLUDED IN THE STATE SYSTEM OF  
5 COMMUNITY AND TECHNICAL COLLEGES PURSUANT TO SECTION  
6 23-60-205;

7 (III) COLORADO MESA UNIVERSITY ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO  
8 SECTION 23-53-101; OR

9 (IV) A LOCAL DISTRICT COLLEGE AS DEFINED IN SECTION  
10 23-71-102 (1)(a).

11 (d) "DEPARTMENT" MEANS THE DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER  
12 EDUCATION CREATED AND EXISTING PURSUANT TO SECTION 24-1-114.

13 (2) (a) FOR THE 2021-22 STATE FISCAL YEAR, THE GENERAL  
14 ASSEMBLY SHALL APPROPRIATE TEN MILLION DOLLARS FROM THE  
15 WORKERS, EMPLOYERS, AND WORKFORCE CENTERS CASH FUND CREATED  
16 IN SECTION 24-75-231 (2)(a) TO THE DEPARTMENT FOR ALLOCATION BY  
17 THE BOARD IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE METHODOLOGY DEVELOPED  
18 PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (2)(b) OF THIS SECTION TO CTE PROVIDERS TO  
19 EXPAND EQUIPMENT, FACILITY, AND INSTRUCTION CAPACITY IN KEY  
20 CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION JOB DEMAND AREAS AS IDENTIFIED  
21 IN THE COLORADO TALENT REPORT.

22 (b) THE BOARD SHALL DEVELOP A METHODOLOGY FOR  
23 DISTRIBUTING THE MONEY APPROPRIATED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION  
24 (2)(a) OF THIS SECTION TO CTE PROVIDERS, SUBJECT TO APPROVAL BY THE  
25 COMMISSION. THE METHODOLOGY MUST TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION  
26 FACTORS SUCH AS THE CAPACITY NEEDS OF CTE PROVIDERS, THE LENGTH  
27 OF WAIT LISTS, AND PROGRAMS OFFERED BY CTE PROVIDERS THAT

1 PROVIDE TRAINING FOR JOB DEMAND AREAS AS IDENTIFIED IN THE  
2 COLORADO TALENT REPORT.

3 (c) ANY MONEY APPROPRIATED PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION (2)  
4 THAT IS NOT EXPENDED OR ENCUMBERED AT THE END OF THE 2021-22  
5 STATE FISCAL YEAR REMAINS AVAILABLE FOR EXPENDITURE IN  
6 SUBSEQUENT FISCAL YEARS WITHOUT FURTHER APPROPRIATION, SUBJECT  
7 TO THE REQUIREMENTS FOR OBLIGATING AND EXPENDING MONEY  
8 RECEIVED UNDER THE FEDERAL "AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT OF 2021",  
9 PUB.L. 117-2, AS THE ACT MAY BE SUBSEQUENTLY AMENDED, AS  
10 SPECIFIED IN SECTION 24-75-226 (4)(d).

11 (3) THE BOARD SHALL COMPLY WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF  
12 SECTION 24-75-226 (4) AND (5) REGARDING THE OBLIGATION,  
13 EXPENDITURE, AND TRACKING OF AND REPORTING ON THE USE OF ANY  
14 MONEY APPROPRIATED TO THE DEPARTMENT AND ALLOCATED TO THE  
15 BOARD PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION.

16 (4) THIS SECTION IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2027.

17 **SECTION 6. Appropriation.** (1) For the 2021-22 state fiscal  
18 year, \$25,000,000 is appropriated to the department of labor and  
19 employment for use by the Colorado work force development council.  
20 This appropriation is from the workers, employers, and workforce centers  
21 cash fund created in section 24-75-231 (2)(a), C.R.S., and of money the  
22 state received from the federal coronavirus state fiscal recovery fund. To  
23 implement this act, the council may use this appropriation for the  
24 reskilling, upskilling, and next-skilling workers program.

25 (2) For the 2021-22 state fiscal year, \$35,000,000 is appropriated  
26 to the department of labor and employment for use by the Colorado work  
27 force development council. This appropriation is from the workers,

1 employers, and workforce centers cash fund created in section 24-75-231  
2 (2)(a), C.R.S., and of money the state received from the federal  
3 coronavirus state fiscal recovery fund. To implement this act, the council  
4 may use this appropriation for "Work Force Innovation Act" programs  
5 under part 6 of article 46.3 of title 24, C.R.S.

6 (3) For the 2021-22 state fiscal year, \$10,000,000 is appropriated  
7 to the department of higher education. This appropriation is from the  
8 workers, employers, and workforce centers cash fund created in section  
9 24-75-231 (2)(a), C.R.S., and of money the state received from the federal  
10 coronavirus state fiscal recovery fund. To implement this act, the  
11 department may use this appropriation for career and technical education  
12 equipment, facility, and instruction capacity funding.

13 (4) (a) For the 2021-22 state fiscal year, \$5,000,000 is  
14 appropriated to the department of education. This appropriation is from  
15 the workers, employers, and workforce centers cash fund created in  
16 section 24-75-231 (2)(a), C.R.S., and of money the state received from  
17 the federal coronavirus state fiscal recovery fund. To implement this act,  
18 the department may use this appropriation for the adult education and  
19 literacy grant program.

20 (b) Any money appropriated pursuant to subsection (4)(a) of this  
21 section that is not expended or encumbered at the end of the 2021-22 state  
22 fiscal year remains available for expenditure in subsequent fiscal years  
23 without further appropriation.

24 **SECTION 7. Effective date.** This act takes effect upon passage;  
25 except that sections 2 through 6 of this act take effect only if Senate Bill  
26 21-288 becomes law and, in which case, sections 2 through 6 of this act  
27 take effect either upon the effective date of this act or one day after the

1 effective date of Senate Bill 21-288, whichever is later.

2           **SECTION 8. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds,  
3 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate  
4 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety.