

**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. 21-0961.01 Yelana Love x2295

SENATE BILL 21-243

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Moreno, Bridges, Buckner, Fields, Garcia, Ginal, Gonzales, Hansen, Jaquez Lewis, Pettersen, Story, Winter

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

McCluskie,

Senate Committees

Health & Human Services
Appropriations

House Committees

Appropriations

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 **CONCERNING ANNUAL APPROPRIATIONS TO THE DEPARTMENT OF**
102 **PUBLIC HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT.**

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 each of the 2021-22, 2022-23, and 2023-24 state fiscal years, the bill requires the general assembly to appropriate \$21,090,149 to the department of public health and environment as follows:

- \$10,000,000 for distributions to local public health agencies; and
- \$11,090,149 for disease control and public health response.

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.*

SENATE
3rd Reading Unamended
May 19, 2021

SENATE
Amended 2nd Reading
May 18, 2021

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

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

4 (a) Due to the COVID-19 pandemic that spread to Colorado in
5 February of 2020, the state of Colorado and local public health agencies
6 and other public institutions have faced an unprecedented amount of
7 measures required to prevent and address the spread of COVID-19,
8 including testing, contact tracing, isolation and quarantine, public
9 communications, issuance and enforcement of health orders, expansions
10 to health system capacity like alternative care facilities, and, in recent
11 months, a massive nationwide mobilization around vaccinations;

12 (b) In March 2021, Congress enacted the federal "American
13 Rescue Plan Act of 2021" (ARPA), Pub.L. 117-2, to provide emergency
14 assistance to state, local, and tribal governments. Under ARPA, the state
15 of Colorado received \$3,828,761,789.90 in coronavirus state fiscal
16 recovery funds.

17 (c) The assistance provided to the state under ARPA will be
18 deposited into several cash funds, including the economic recovery and
19 relief cash fund created in Senate Bill 21-291;

20 (d) The federal department of the treasury has issued guidance on
21 states' use of the assistance provided under ARPA, indicating that the
22 money provided to the states may be used "to meet and address these
23 emergent public health needs, including through measures to counter the
24 spread of COVID-19, through the provision of care for those impacted by
25 the virus, and through programs or services that address disparities in
26 public health that have been exacerbated by the pandemic."; and

1 (e) It is the intent of the general assembly that the appropriations
2 in this act comply with the guidelines set forth by the federal department
3 of the treasury because they are intended to provide funding for
4 administration and support, research, outreach, laboratory services, and
5 emergency preparedness and disaster response activities as well as to
6 support Colorado's 53 local public health agencies.

7 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 25-1-131 as
8 follows:

9 **25-1-131. Two-year appropriation to the department - repeal.**

10 (1) FOR THE 2022-23 AND 2023-24 STATE FISCAL YEARS, THE GENERAL
11 ASSEMBLY SHALL ANNUALLY APPROPRIATE TEN MILLION DOLLARS PER
12 FISCAL YEAR FROM THE GENERAL FUND TO THE DEPARTMENT, FOR
13 DISTRIBUTION TO LOCAL PUBLIC HEALTH AGENCIES.

14 (2) FOR THE 2022-23 AND 2023-24 STATE FISCAL YEARS, THE
15 GENERAL ASSEMBLY SHALL ANNUALLY APPROPRIATE ELEVEN MILLION
16 NINETY THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED FORTY NINE DOLLARS PER FISCAL YEAR
17 FROM THE GENERAL FUND TO THE DEPARTMENT, FOR USE BY THE DIVISION
18 OF DISEASE CONTROL AND PUBLIC HEALTH RESPONSE FOR
19 ADMINISTRATION AND SUPPORT.

20 (3) THIS SECTION IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025.

21 **SECTION 3. Appropriation.** (1) For the 2021-22 state fiscal
22 year, \$21,090,149 is appropriated to the department of public health and
23 environment. This appropriation is from the economic recovery and relief
24 cash fund created in section 24-75-228 (2)(a), C.R.S., and of money the
25 state received from the federal coronavirus state fiscal recovery fund. To
26 implement this act, the department may use this appropriation as follows:

27 (a) \$10,000,000 for use by administration and support for

1 distributions to local public health agencies; and

2 (b) \$11,090,149 for use by the division of disease control and
3 public health response for administration and support, which is based on
4 the assumption that the division will require an additional 121.4 FTE.

5 (2) For the 2021-22 state fiscal year, \$16,000,000 is appropriated
6 from the general fund to the economic recovery and relief cash fund.

7 **SECTION 4. Effective date.** This act takes effect upon passage;
8 except that sections 1 and 3 of this act take effect only if Senate Bill
9 21-291 becomes law and take effect either upon the effective date of this
10 act or Senate Bill 21-291, whichever is later.

11 **SECTION 5. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds,
12 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate
13 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety.