

Second Regular Session  
Seventy-third General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 22-0929.01 Jacob Baus x2173

SENATE BILL 22-226

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SENATE SPONSORSHIP

**Jaquez Lewis and Rankin,**

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

**Mullica,**

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**Senate Committees**  
Health & Human Services

**House Committees**

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A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 **CONCERNING MEASURES TO SUPPORT THE HEALTH-CARE WORKFORCE.**

**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 health-care workforce resilience and retention program (program) using existing initiatives to ensure that Colorado's health-care workforce is adequately supported in order to meet the health-care demands of Coloradans and to support the resilience, well-being, and retention of health-care workers. The program is authorized to seek and expend gifts, grants, and donations to support the program. The program is exempt from the procurement code. The bill

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.*

appropriates \$2 million from the economic recovery and relief cash fund for the program.

The bill creates the practice-based health education grant program (grant program) to increase practice-based training opportunities necessary for health profession students enrolled in accredited Colorado schools to complete degree requirements and become licensed to practice. The primary care office in the department of public health and environment administers the grant program and shall conduct a stakeholder engagement process to determine key operational components of the grant program policies and procedures. The bill appropriates \$20 million from the economic recovery and relief cash fund for the grant program.

The bill directs the state board of community colleges and occupational education (board) to administer the in-demand short-term health-care credentials program in order to support the expansion of available health-care professionals. The bill appropriates \$26 million from the economic recovery and relief cash fund for these programs. The board shall allocate funds to community colleges, area technical colleges, local district colleges, and community not-for-profit organizations that deliver hybrid programming that leverages place-based supports in partnership with online accredited university programs through reimbursement based on students enrolled in eligible programs for fiscal years 2022-23 to 2025-26 to:

- Provide assistance for tuition, fees, and course materials for eligible programs;
- Support alignment with existing efforts, such as apprenticeship and work-based learning, for students to earn eligible program credentials that lead into health-care careers such as nursing; and
- If unexpended resources exist or if the program use is less than anticipated, to expand eligible programs in allied health based on in-demand credential needs or include high school equivalency support and attainment for students without a high school degree who participate in the program.

The bill requires the primary care office and the governor's office of information technology to work through the government data advisory board to determine data-sharing agreements that integrate data collected by the state under existing authorities that may inform the analysis of need, allocation of resources, and evaluation of performance of state-administered or state-financed health workforce planning or development initiatives.

Under current law, a nurse who holds a volunteer nurse license cannot get paid for nursing tasks. The bill removes this limitation.

The bill directs the nurse-physician advisory task force for

Colorado health care to make recommendations on:

- Alignment of health-care licensing with federal statutory minimums;
- Identification of unnecessary regulatory burdens or barriers;
- Regulatory reforms that support health-care licensees to work at their full scope of practice; and
- Feasibility of temporary candidate licenses for students nearing the completion of an accredited health-care program.

The bill makes the following changes and additions to the school nurse grant program:

- Repeals the requirement of a 5-year grant cycle;
- Requires that the grant supplement, not supplant, funding for school nurse positions existing in the local education provider's most recent fiscal year prior to applying for a grant;
- Directs the department of public health and environment to annually award grants; and
- Appropriates \$3 million to the department of public health and environment for the grant program from the economic recovery and relief cash fund.

The bill appropriates \$10 million from the economic recovery and relief cash fund to the department of public health and environment. The department shall use this appropriation for recruitment and re-engagement efforts of workers in the health-care profession with current or expired licenses and staffing.

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

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

4           (a) All Coloradans owe a significant debt of gratitude to our  
5 health-care, public health, emergency medical services, behavioral health,  
6 and direct care workforce who displayed perseverance, dedication,  
7 resilience, and bravery through the COVID-19 pandemic;

8           (b) As Colorado emerges from the COVID-19 pandemic and our  
9 demographics continue to shift over the coming decades, strategic  
10 investments and initiatives will be necessary in order to develop our

1 health-care workforce so that all Coloradans have equitable access to care  
2 when needed; and

3 (c) In order to meet this challenge, we will need collaborative  
4 partnerships across health-care providers, school systems, institutes of  
5 higher education, and all levels of government that build on existing  
6 efforts and capitalize on emerging opportunities.

7 (2) Therefore, the general assembly declares that it is necessary to  
8 intentionally recruit, support, and retain skilled talent in Colorado's  
9 health-care, public health, emergency medical services, behavioral health  
10 and direct care workforce, and the general assembly further declares that  
11 supporting Colorado's health-care workforce is a critical government  
12 service.

13 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** part 14 to article  
14 20.5 of title 25 as follows:

15 PART 14

16 HEALTH-CARE WORKFORCE

17 RESILIENCE AND RETENTION PROGRAM

18 **25-20.5-1401. Definitions.** AS USED IN THIS PART 14, UNLESS THE  
19 CONTEXT OTHERWISE REQUIRES:

20 (1) "COMMUNITY PARTNERS" MEANS PRIVATE AND NONPROFIT  
21 HEALTH-CARE PROVIDERS, HEALTH-CARE PROVIDER TRADE ASSOCIATIONS,  
22 AND HEALTH-CARE-FOCUSED NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS.

23 (2) "PEER SUPPORT" MEANS PROGRAMS AND SERVICES THAT  
24 MATCH A PERSON WITH LIVED OR OCCUPATIONAL EXPERIENCE TO AN  
25 INDIVIDUAL WITH A SIMILAR LIVED OR OCCUPATIONAL EXPERIENCE.

26 (3) "PRE-CLINICAL" MEANS NONEMERGENCY PROGRAMS OR  
27 SERVICES THAT DO NOT REQUIRE A FORMAL REFERRAL FROM A PRIMARY

1 CARE PROVIDER.

2 **25-20.5-1402. Health-care workforce resilience and retention**

3 **program - implementation - duties.** (1) SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE  
4 APPROPRIATIONS, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL IMPLEMENT THE HEALTH-CARE  
5 WORKFORCE RESILIENCE AND RETENTION PROGRAM, REFERRED TO IN THIS  
6 SECTION AS THE "PROGRAM", USING EXISTING INITIATIVES TO ENSURE  
7 THAT COLORADO'S HEALTH-CARE WORKFORCE IS SUPPORTED IN ORDER TO  
8 MEET THE HEALTH-CARE DEMANDS OF COLORADANS.

9 (2) THE PROGRAM IS INTENDED TO SUPPORT THE RESILIENCE,  
10 WELL-BEING, AND RETENTION OF HEALTH-CARE WORKERS. ACTIVITIES  
11 MAY INCLUDE:

12 (a) PROVIDING TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, GUIDANCE, AND FUNDING  
13 SUPPORT TO COMMUNITY PARTNERS SPECIFIC TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF  
14 PROGRAMS AND SERVICES AIMED AT RETAINING HEALTH-CARE WORKERS,  
15 SUCH AS BEST PRACTICES AND STRATEGIES:

16 (I) THAT PROMOTE HEALTHY WORK CULTURES;

17 (II) THAT PROMOTE THE ADOPTION OF INTERNAL EMPLOYEE  
18 ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS;

19 (III) THAT PROMOTE EXTERNAL THIRD-PARTY SUPPORT AND  
20 RESILIENCE PROGRAMS; AND

21 (IV) FOR GREATER PARTNERSHIPS BETWEEN CARE PROVIDERS AND  
22 FACILITY AND SYSTEM EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP;

23 (b) COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIPS WITH COMMUNITY PARTNERS,  
24 SUCH AS THE DEVELOPMENT, IMPLEMENTATION, AND EVALUATION OF:

25 (I) PEER SUPPORT PROGRAMS AND SERVICES;

26 (II) PRE-CLINICAL IN-PERSON AND TELEHEALTH SERVICES;

27 (III) TRAINING PROGRAMS; AND

1 (IV) RECOVERY AND RESILIENCE COACHING FOR STAFF AND  
2 LEADERSHIP;

3 (c) PLANNING, RESEARCH, AND EVALUATION THAT SUPPORTS THE  
4 RESILIENCE, WELL-BEING, AND RETENTION OF HEALTH-CARE WORKERS.

5 (3) THE DEPARTMENT MAY USE GIFTS, GRANTS, OR DONATIONS TO  
6 SUPPORT THE PROGRAM OR MATCHING FUNDS FROM HEALTH-CARE  
7 EMPLOYERS.

8 **25-20.5-1403. Health-care workforce resilience and retention**  
9 **cash fund.** (1) THE HEALTH-CARE WORKFORCE RESILIENCE AND  
10 RETENTION CASH FUND, REFERRED TO IN THIS SECTION AS THE "FUND", IS  
11 CREATED IN THE STATE TREASURY. THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SHALL  
12 APPROPRIATE TWO MILLION DOLLARS TO THE FUND FROM THE ECONOMIC  
13 RECOVERY AND RELIEF CASH FUND CREATED IN SECTION 24-75-228. THE  
14 FUND CONSISTS OF GIFTS, GRANTS, AND DONATIONS AND ANY OTHER  
15 MONEY THAT THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY MAY APPROPRIATE OR TRANSFER  
16 TO THE FUND.

17 (2) THE STATE TREASURER SHALL CREDIT ALL INTEREST AND  
18 INCOME DERIVED FROM THE DEPOSIT AND INVESTMENT OF MONEY IN THE  
19 FUND TO THE FUND.

20 (3) ANY UNEXPENDED AND UNENCUMBERED MONEY IN THE FUND  
21 REMAINING IN THE FUND AT THE END OF ANY FISCAL YEAR REMAINS IN THE  
22 FUND AND IS NOT TRANSFERRED TO THE GENERAL FUND OR ANY OTHER  
23 FUND.

24 (4) MONEY IN THE FUND IS CONTINUOUSLY APPROPRIATED TO THE  
25 DEPARTMENT FOR THE PURPOSES DESCRIBED IN SECTION 25-20.5-1402.

26 **25-20.5-1404. Exemption from the procurement code.**  
27 NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER LAW TO THE CONTRARY, THE PROGRAM

1 AND THE EXPENDITURE OF MONEY FROM THE FUND ARE NOT SUBJECT TO  
2 THE PROVISIONS OF THE "PROCUREMENT CODE", ARTICLES 101 TO 112 OF  
3 TITLE 24.

4 **SECTION 3.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 25-1.5-404, **amend**  
5 (1)(f); and **add** (1)(h) and (1)(i) as follows:

6 **25-1.5-404. Primary care office - powers and duties - rules.**

7 (1) The primary care office has, at a minimum, the following powers and  
8 duties:

9 (f) To seek and accept public or private gifts, grants, or donations  
10 to apply to the costs incurred in fulfilling the duties specified in this  
11 section and otherwise administering the programs within the office; ~~and~~

12 (h) TO DEVELOP AND ADMINISTER THE PRACTICE-BASED HEALTH  
13 EDUCATION GRANT PROGRAM AS DESCRIBED IN SECTION 25-1.5-407; AND

14 (i) WITH THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY,  
15 TO WORK THROUGH THE GOVERNMENT DATA ADVISORY BOARD, CREATED  
16 IN SECTION 24-37.5-702, TO DETERMINE DATA-SHARING AGREEMENTS  
17 THAT INTEGRATE DATA COLLECTED BY THE STATE UNDER EXISTING  
18 AUTHORITIES THAT MAY INFORM THE ANALYSIS OF NEED, ALLOCATION OF  
19 RESOURCES, AND EVALUATION OF PERFORMANCE OF STATE-ADMINISTERED  
20 OR STATE-FINANCED HEALTH WORKFORCE PLANNING OR DEVELOPMENT  
21 INITIATIVES.

22 **SECTION 4.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 25-1.5-407 as  
23 follows:

24 **25-1.5-407. Practice-based health education grant program -**  
25 **creation - powers and duties.** (1) SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE  
26 APPROPRIATIONS, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL IMPLEMENT THE  
27 PRACTICE-BASED HEALTH EDUCATION GRANT PROGRAM, REFERRED TO IN

1 THIS SECTION AS THE "GRANT PROGRAM", TO INCREASE PRACTICE-BASED  
2 TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES NECESSARY FOR HEALTH PROFESSION STUDENTS  
3 ENROLLED IN ACCREDITED COLORADO SCHOOLS TO COMPLETE DEGREE  
4 REQUIREMENTS AND BECOME LICENSED TO PRACTICE.

5 (2) (a) THE GRANT PROGRAM SHALL SUPPORT THE EXPANSION OF  
6 PRACTICE-BASED TRAINING BY PROVIDING GRANTS TO ORGANIZATIONS  
7 THAT INCREASE CLINICAL PRACTICE-BASED TRAINING CAPACITY FOR  
8 HEALTH PROFESSION STUDENTS. ORGANIZATIONS THAT RECEIVE GRANTS  
9 MAY APPLY GRANT FUNDING TO COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH STUDENT  
10 EXPERIENCE COORDINATION, CLINICAL INSTRUCTORS OR PRECEPTORS, OR  
11 ANY OTHER REASONABLE COSTS DIRECTLY ASSOCIATED WITH THE  
12 EXPANSION OF PRACTICE-BASED TRAINING FOR HEALTH PROFESSION  
13 STUDENTS IN THE ORGANIZATION.

14 (b) THE PRIMARY CARE OFFICE SHALL CONSIDER THE ABILITY OF  
15 THE ORGANIZATIONS APPLYING FOR A GRANT TO PROVIDE FINANCIAL OR  
16 IN-KIND MATCHING SUPPORT WHEN THE OFFICE DETERMINES GRANT  
17 AWARDEES, BUT THE OFFICE SHALL AVOID DISADVANTAGING SMALL,  
18 RURAL, AND NONPROFIT APPLICANTS.

19 (3) THE PRIMARY CARE OFFICE, REFERRED TO IN THIS SECTION AS  
20 THE "OFFICE", SHALL ADMINISTER THE GRANT PROGRAM.

21 (4) IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE GRANT PROGRAM, THE OFFICE  
22 SHALL CONDUCT A STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PROCESS TO RECOMMEND:

23 (a) GRANT PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA;

24 (b) STANDARDS TO MEASURE APPLICANT CAPACITY TO EXPAND  
25 PRACTICE-BASED TRAINING BASED UPON PREVIOUS YEARS;

26 (c) A MEANS TO EVALUATE APPLICANT STRATEGIES FOR REACHING  
27 EXPECTED TARGET PRACTICE-BASED TRAINING EXPANSION GOALS;



1 (d) WAYS TO PROMOTE EVIDENCE-BASED TECHNOLOGY-ENHANCED  
2 CLINICAL LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES IN ORGANIZATIONS AWARDED A  
3 GRANT. THESE OPPORTUNITIES MUST INCLUDE CLINICAL SIMULATION LAB  
4 INVESTMENTS IN AT LEAST ONE GRANT AWARD.

5 (e) WAYS TO EVALUATE APPLICANT PRINCIPLES THAT ARE ALIGNED  
6 WITH IMPLEMENTING LASTING ORGANIZATIONAL CULTURE CHANGE AND  
7 INTERNAL PLANS THAT SUPPORT STAFF WELLNESS, RETENTION, AND  
8 TRAINING, SUCH AS:

9 (I) EXPANDED EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE OR WELLNESS PROGRAMS;

10 (II) COMMITMENT TO ESTABLISHING AND MAINTAINING STAFFING  
11 COMMITTEES TASKED WITH OPERATIONAL INPUT AND REVIEW OF  
12 WORKPLACE PRACTICES; AND

13 (III) STRATEGIES FOR SUSTAINING INCREASED PRECEPTOR AND  
14 PRACTICE-BASED TRAINING CAPACITY;

15 (f) A STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES ALIGNED WITH EQUITY,  
16 INCLUSION, AND DIVERSITY GOALS, ESPECIALLY AS THEY RELATE TO  
17 HEALTH PROFESSIONAL WORKFORCE TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT; AND

18 (g) METRICS AND REPORTING RESPONSIBILITIES FOR GRANTEEES.

19 (5) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SHALL APPROPRIATE TWENTY  
20 MILLION DOLLARS FROM THE ECONOMIC RECOVERY AND RELIEF CASH  
21 FUND CREATED IN SECTION 24-75-228 TO THE DEPARTMENT TO IMPLEMENT  
22 THE GRANT PROGRAM. ANY UNEXPENDED MONEY REMAINING AT THE END  
23 OF THE 2022-23 STATE FISCAL YEAR FROM THIS APPROPRIATION:

24 (a) DOES NOT REVERT TO THE GENERAL FUND OR ANY OTHER  
25 FUND;

26 (b) MAY BE USED BY THE DEPARTMENT IN THE 2023-24 OR  
27 2024-25 STATE FISCAL YEARS WITHOUT FURTHER APPROPRIATION; AND

1 (c) MUST NOT BE USED FOR ANY OTHER PURPOSE OTHER THAN THE  
2 PURPOSES SET FORTH IN THIS SECTION.

3 (6) AS USED IN THIS SECTION, "PRECEPTOR" MEANS A  
4 HEALTH-CARE PROFESSIONAL WHO IS REGISTERED, CERTIFIED, OR  
5 LICENSED, AS APPROPRIATE, PURSUANT TO TITLE 12 AND WHO ASSUMES  
6 THE RESPONSIBILITY OF TEACHING, SUPERVISING, AND EVALUATING A  
7 STUDENT SEEKING A CREDENTIAL IN A HEALTH-CARE PROFESSION  
8 DISCIPLINE AS PART OF THE STUDENT'S CLINICAL TRAINING AND  
9 EDUCATION.

10 **SECTION 5.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add 23-3.3-1008** as  
11 follows:

12 **23-3.3-1008. Support for in-demand short-term health-care**  
13 **credentials - report - definitions - repeal.** (1) SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE  
14 APPROPRIATIONS, THE STATE BOARD OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES AND  
15 OCCUPATIONAL EDUCATION, IN COORDINATION WITH ITS CAREER AND  
16 TECHNICAL EDUCATION ROLE AND MISSION AS COLORADO'S STATE  
17 ADMINISTRATOR OF THE FEDERAL "CARL D. PERKINS CAREER AND  
18 TECHNICAL EDUCATION IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 1998", 20 U.S.C. SEC.  
19 2301 ET SEQ., AS AMENDED, SHALL ADMINISTER THE IN-DEMAND  
20 SHORT-TERM HEALTH-CARE CREDENTIALS PROGRAM OR CARE FORWARD  
21 COLORADO, REFERRED TO IN THIS SECTION AS THE "PROGRAM", IN ORDER  
22 TO SUPPORT THE EXPANSION OF AVAILABLE HEALTH-CARE PROFESSIONALS.

23 (2) THE STATE BOARD OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES AND  
24 OCCUPATIONAL EDUCATION SHALL ALLOCATE MONEY TO COMMUNITY  
25 COLLEGES, AREA TECHNICAL COLLEGES, LOCAL DISTRICT COLLEGES, AND  
26 COMMUNITY NOT-FOR-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS THAT DELIVER HYBRID  
27 PROGRAMMING THAT LEVERAGES PLACE-BASED SUPPORTS IN PARTNERSHIP

1 WITH ONLINE ACCREDITED UNIVERSITY PROGRAMS THROUGH  
2 REIMBURSEMENT BASED ON STUDENTS ENROLLED IN ELIGIBLE PROGRAMS  
3 FOR FISCAL YEARS 2022-23 TO 2025-26 TO:

4 (a) PROVIDE ASSISTANCE FOR TUITION, FEES, AND COURSE  
5 MATERIALS FOR ELIGIBLE PROGRAMS;

6 (b) SUPPORT ALIGNMENT WITH EXISTING EFFORTS, SUCH AS  
7 APPRENTICESHIP AND WORK-BASED LEARNING, FOR STUDENTS TO EARN  
8 ELIGIBLE PROGRAM CREDENTIALS THAT LEAD INTO HEALTH-CARE CAREERS  
9 SUCH AS NURSING; AND

10 (c) IF UNEXPENDED RESOURCES EXIST OR IF THE PROGRAM USE IS  
11 LESS THAN ANTICIPATED, TO EXPAND ELIGIBLE PROGRAMS IN ALLIED  
12 HEALTH BASED ON IN-DEMAND CREDENTIAL NEEDS OR INCLUDE HIGH  
13 SCHOOL EQUIVALENCY SUPPORT AND ATTAINMENT FOR STUDENTS  
14 WITHOUT A HIGH SCHOOL DEGREE WHO PARTICIPATE IN THE PROGRAM.

15 (3) IN ALLOCATING THE MONEY PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (2) OF  
16 THIS SECTION, THE FIRST PRIORITY IS FOR STUDENTS ENROLLED IN ELIGIBLE  
17 ALLIED HEALTH PROGRAMS WITH NURSING AIDE PROGRAMS AND THE  
18 SECOND PRIORITY IS FOR STUDENTS ENROLLED IN AN EMERGENCY MEDICAL  
19 TECHNICIAN PROGRAM.

20 (4) THE PROGRAM BEGINS NO LATER THAN THE 2022-23 ACADEMIC  
21 YEAR.

22 (5) STUDENTS PARTICIPATING IN THE PROGRAM MUST COMPLETE  
23 A FREE APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL STUDENT AID OR COLORADO  
24 APPLICATION FOR STATE FINANCIAL AID AND SUBMIT AN APPLICATION FOR  
25 THE COLLEGE OPPORTUNITY SCHOLARSHIP INITIATIVE FUND. SUBJECT TO  
26 AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS, THE PROGRAM RESOURCES MUST COVER  
27 REMAINING TUITION, FEES, BOOKS, AND MATERIAL COSTS.

1 (6) AS USED IN THIS SECTION, UNLESS THE CONTEXT OTHERWISE  
2 REQUIRES, "ELIGIBLE PROGRAMS" MEANS IN-DEMAND CREDENTIALS IN  
3 ALLIED HEALTH CARE LESS THAN ONE YEAR IN DURATION THROUGH  
4 CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS, INCLUDING CERTIFIED  
5 NURSING ASSISTANT, EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIAN, PHLEBOTOMY  
6 TECHNICIAN, AND PHARMACY TECHNICIAN.

7 (7) (a) FOR THE 2022-23 STATE FISCAL YEAR, THE GENERAL  
8 ASSEMBLY SHALL APPROPRIATE TO THE DEPARTMENT TWENTY-SIX  
9 MILLION DOLLARS FROM THE ECONOMIC RECOVERY AND RELIEF CASH  
10 FUND CREATED IN SECTION 24-75-228 FOR THE ELIGIBLE PROGRAMS, OF  
11 WHICH TWENTY-FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS MAY BE USED FOR PURPOSES OF  
12 MARKETING THE PROGRAM PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION. ANY  
13 UNEXPENDED MONEY REMAINING AT THE END OF THE 2022-23 STATE  
14 FISCAL YEAR FROM THIS APPROPRIATION:

- 15 (I) DOES NOT REVERT TO THE GENERAL FUND OR ANY OTHER FUND;
- 16 (II) MAY BE USED BY THE DEPARTMENT IN THE 2023-24 OR  
17 2024-25 STATE FISCAL YEARS WITHOUT FURTHER APPROPRIATION; AND
- 18 (III) MUST NOT BE USED FOR ANY OTHER PURPOSE OTHER THAN  
19 THE PURPOSES SET FORTH IN THIS SECTION.

20 (b) IN ADDITION TO THE APPROPRIATION IN THIS SECTION AND  
21 SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS, THE BOARD MAY SEEK GIFTS,  
22 GRANTS, AND DONATIONS FOR THE PROGRAM.

23 (8) BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2023, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL  
24 INCLUDE A SUMMARIZED REPORT REGARDING THE PROGRAM IN THE  
25 DEPARTMENT'S ANNUAL PRESENTATION TO THE COMMITTEES OF  
26 REFERENCE PURSUANT TO SECTION 2-7-203. NOTWITHSTANDING SECTION  
27 24-1-136 (11)(a)(I), THE REPORTING REQUIREMENT IN THIS SUBSECTION

1 (8) CONTINUES INDEFINITELY.

2 (9) THIS SECTION IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 1, 2027.

3 **SECTION 6.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 12-255-115, **amend**

4 (3) as follows:

5 **12-255-115. Volunteer nurse licensure.** (3) ~~A nurse who holds~~  
6 ~~a volunteer nursing license shall not accept compensation for nursing~~  
7 ~~tasks that are performed while in possession of the license.~~ A volunteer  
8 nursing license shall permit the nurse to engage in volunteer nursing tasks  
9 within the scope of the nurse's license.

10 **SECTION 7.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 12-30-105, **amend**

11 (5)(i); and **add** (5)(k), (5)(l), (5)(m), and (5)(n) as follows:

12 **12-30-105. Nurse-physician advisory task force for Colorado**  
13 **health care - creation - duties - definition - repeal.** (5) The NPATCH  
14 shall prioritize consideration of and make recommendations on the  
15 following topics:

16 (i) Physician standards, process, and metrics to ensure appropriate  
17 consultation, collaboration, and referral regarding advanced practice  
18 registered nurse prescriptive authority; **and**

19 (k) ALIGNMENT OF HEALTH-CARE LICENSING WITH FEDERAL  
20 STATUTORY MINIMUMS;

21 (l) IDENTIFICATION OF UNNECESSARY REGULATORY BURDENS OR  
22 BARRIERS;

23 (m) REGULATORY REFORMS THAT SUPPORT HEALTH-CARE  
24 LICENSEES TO WORK AT THEIR FULL SCOPE OF PRACTICE; AND

25 (n) FEASIBILITY OF TEMPORARY CANDIDATE LICENSES FOR  
26 STUDENTS NEARING THE COMPLETION OF AN ACCREDITED HEALTH-CARE  
27 PROGRAM. AT A MINIMUM, THEY MUST CONSIDER REIMBURSEMENT,

1 LIABILITY, AND HEALTH AND SAFETY ISSUES IN THEIR ANALYSIS.

2 **SECTION 8.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-75-112, **amend**  
3 (1)(d)(V) as follows:

4 **24-75-112. Annual general appropriation act - headnote**  
5 **definitions - general provisions - footnotes.** (1) As used in the annual  
6 general appropriation act, the following definitions and general provisions  
7 shall apply for the headnote terms preceding and specifying the purpose  
8 of certain line items of appropriation:

9 (d) (V) The number of FTE specified in a particular item of  
10 appropriation is the number utilized to calculate the amount appropriated  
11 and necessary to fund any combination of part-time positions or full-time  
12 positions equal to such number for the fiscal year to which the annual  
13 general appropriation act pertains in accordance with the definition  
14 contained in ~~subparagraphs (I) and (II) of this paragraph (d)~~ SUBSECTIONS  
15 (1)(d)(II) AND (1)(d)(III) OF THIS SECTION and is not a limitation on the  
16 number of FTE that may be employed. No department shall make a  
17 material change in the number of FTE specified in a particular item of  
18 appropriation prior to notifying the joint budget committee in writing of  
19 such change. THIS SUBSECTION (1)(d)(IV) DOES NOT APPLY TO  
20 DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND ADMINISTRATION STATE TRAINEE  
21 POSITIONS.

22 **SECTION 9.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 25-1.5-406, **amend**  
23 (3), (4)(a), (5)(e), and (6); and **add** (9) and (10) as follows:

24 **25-1.5-406. School nurse grant program - creation - eligibility**  
25 **- award of grants - rules - report - legislative declaration - definitions.**  
26 (3) There is created in the department the school nurse grant program to  
27 award grants ~~on a five-year grant cycle~~ to local education providers to

1 increase the number of school nurses in Colorado public schools. The  
2 grant program ~~shall be~~ IS administered by the primary care office in the  
3 department. The state board may promulgate rules, as necessary, to  
4 implement the grant program.

5 (4) (a) Except as provided in subsection (4)(b) of this section, a  
6 local education provider awarded a grant pursuant to this section shall use  
7 the grant money to hire a school nurse or nurses in the selected school or  
8 schools. The grant shall supplement, not supplant, a local education  
9 provider's funding for school nurse positions and student health-care  
10 services ~~existing prior to May 29, 2019,~~ EXISTING IN THE LOCAL  
11 EDUCATION PROVIDER'S MOST RECENT FISCAL YEAR PRIOR TO THE YEAR OF  
12 THE APPLICATION TO THE GRANT PROGRAM.

13 (5) In applying for a grant, in addition to complying with the  
14 application process and requirements established by the department or  
15 state board rule, a local education provider seeking a grant shall include  
16 the following information in the grant application:

17 (e) The amount of money necessary to attract and retain a school  
18 nurse in the school or schools of the local education provider for the  
19 ~~five-year~~ grant cycle and whether the local education provider intends to  
20 supplement a grant with any additional money to hire the school nurse  
21 position or positions; and

22 (6) (a) Subject to available appropriations, the ~~state board shall~~  
23 ~~award up to three million dollars annually in grants. Each grant has an~~  
24 ~~initial term of one year and shall be renewed annually for an additional~~  
25 ~~four years as long as a school nurse is retained in the grant-funded~~  
26 ~~position and the local education provider continues to use the grant~~  
27 ~~money for authorized purposes.~~ DEPARTMENT SHALL ANNUALLY AWARD

1 GRANTS IN THE GRANT PROGRAM. The ~~state board~~ DEPARTMENT may fund  
2 more than one school nurse position per grant recipient. The amount of  
3 the grant must cover up to the cost of hiring a school nurse position or  
4 positions in the local education provider's selected school or schools.

5 (b) ~~Subject to available appropriations, at the end of the initial~~  
6 ~~five-year grant cycle and each subsequent five-year grant cycle, the~~  
7 ~~department shall solicit and review grant applications, and the state board~~  
8 ~~shall award new grants.~~

9 (c) The department ~~shall review grant program applications and~~  
10 ~~make recommendations to the state board concerning the award of grants.~~  
11 ~~In awarding grants, the state board may establish by rule additional~~  
12 ~~selection criteria but shall give preference to an applicant that:~~

- 13 (I) Is a small rural school district or rural school district; or
- 14 (II) Is eligible to receive money under Title I, part A of the federal  
15 "Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965", 20 U.S.C. sec. 6301  
16 et seq.

17 (9) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SHALL APPROPRIATE THREE MILLION  
18 DOLLARS FROM THE ECONOMIC RECOVERY AND RELIEF CASH FUND  
19 CREATED IN SECTION 24-75-228 TO THE DEPARTMENT FOR THE PROGRAM.

20 (10) THE DEPARTMENT AND ANY PERSON WHO RECEIVES MONEY  
21 FROM THE DEPARTMENT SHALL COMPLY WITH THE COMPLIANCE,  
22 REPORTING, RECORD-KEEPING, AND PROGRAM EVALUATION  
23 REQUIREMENTS ESTABLISHED BY THE OFFICE OF STATE PLANNING AND  
24 BUDGETING AND THE STATE CONTROLLER IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION  
25 24-75-226 (5).

26 **SECTION 10.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 25-1.5-102, **add**  
27 (1)(e) as follows:



1           **25-1.5-102. Epidemic and communicable diseases - powers and**  
2           **duties of department - rules - definitions.** (1) The department has, in  
3           addition to all other powers and duties imposed upon it by law, the  
4           powers and duties provided in this section as follows:

5           (e) FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022-23, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SHALL  
6           APPROPRIATE TEN MILLION DOLLARS FROM THE ECONOMIC RECOVERY AND  
7           RELIEF CASH FUND CREATED IN SECTION 24-75-228 TO THE DEPARTMENT.  
8           THE DEPARTMENT SHALL USE THIS APPROPRIATION FOR RECRUITMENT AND  
9           RE-ENGAGEMENT EFFORTS OF WORKERS IN THE HEALTH-CARE PROFESSION  
10          WITH CURRENT OR EXPIRED LICENSES AND STAFFING.

11          **SECTION 11. 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.