

Second Regular Session  
Seventy-third General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO

REVISED

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

LLS NO. 22-0929.01 Jacob Baus x2173

SENATE BILL 22-226

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

**Jaquez Lewis and Rankin**, Bridges, Buckner, Coleman, Donovan, Fenberg, Fields, Ginal, Gonzales, Hansen, Hinrichsen, Kolker, Moreno, Pettersen, Rodriguez, Simpson, Story

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Mullica,

Senate Committees

Health & Human Services  
Appropriations

House Committees

Health & Insurance  
Appropriations

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 CONCERNING MEASURES TO SUPPORT THE HEALTH-CARE WORKFORCE,  
102 AND, IN CONNECTION 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>.)*

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

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  
Amended 2nd Reading  
May 6, 2022

SENATE  
3rd Reading Unamended  
May 3, 2022

SENATE  
Amended 2nd Reading  
May 2, 2022

authorized to seek and expend gifts, grants, and donations to support the program. The program is exempt from the procurement code. The bill 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

1 demographics continue to shift over the coming decades, strategic  
2 investments and initiatives will be necessary in order to develop our  
3 health-care workforce so that all Coloradans have equitable access to care  
4 when needed; and

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

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

15 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** part 14 to article  
16 20.5 of title 25 as follows:

17 PART 14

18 HEALTH-CARE WORKFORCE

19 RESILIENCE AND RETENTION PROGRAM

20 **25-20.5-1401. Definitions.** AS USED IN THIS PART 14, UNLESS THE  
21 CONTEXT OTHERWISE REQUIRES:

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

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

1 (3) "PRE-CLINICAL" MEANS NONEMERGENCY PROGRAMS OR  
2 SERVICES THAT DO NOT REQUIRE A FORMAL REFERRAL FROM A PRIMARY  
3 CARE PROVIDER.

4 **25-20.5-1402. Health-care workforce resilience and retention**  
5 **program - implementation - duties.** (1) SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE  
6 APPROPRIATIONS, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL IMPLEMENT THE HEALTH-CARE  
7 WORKFORCE RESILIENCE AND RETENTION PROGRAM, REFERRED TO IN THIS  
8 SECTION AS THE "PROGRAM", USING EXISTING INITIATIVES TO ENSURE  
9 THAT COLORADO'S HEALTH-CARE WORKFORCE IS SUPPORTED IN ORDER TO  
10 MEET THE HEALTH-CARE DEMANDS OF COLORADANS.

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

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

18 (I) THAT PROMOTE HEALTHY WORK CULTURES;

19 (II) THAT PROMOTE THE ADOPTION OF INTERNAL EMPLOYEE  
20 ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS;

21 (III) THAT PROMOTE EXTERNAL THIRD-PARTY SUPPORT AND  
22 RESILIENCE PROGRAMS; AND

23 (IV) FOR GREATER PARTNERSHIPS BETWEEN CARE PROVIDERS AND  
24 FACILITY AND SYSTEM EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP;

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

27 (I) PEER SUPPORT PROGRAMS AND SERVICES;

- 1 (II) PRE-CLINICAL IN-PERSON AND TELEHEALTH SERVICES;
- 2 (III) TRAINING PROGRAMS; AND
- 3 (IV) RECOVERY AND RESILIENCE COACHING FOR STAFF AND
- 4 LEADERSHIP;
- 5 (c) PLANNING, RESEARCH, AND EVALUATION THAT SUPPORTS THE
- 6 RESILIENCE, WELL-BEING, AND RETENTION OF HEALTH-CARE WORKERS.

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

10 **25-20.5-1403. Health-care workforce resilience and retention**

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

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

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

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

1           **25-20.5-1404. Exemption from the procurement code.**

2           NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER LAW TO THE CONTRARY, THE PROGRAM  
3           AND THE EXPENDITURE OF MONEY FROM THE FUND ARE NOT SUBJECT TO  
4           THE PROVISIONS OF THE "PROCUREMENT CODE", ARTICLES 101 TO 112 OF  
5           TITLE 24.

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

8           **25-1.5-404. Primary care office - powers and duties - rules.**

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

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

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

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

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

26          **25-1.5-407. Practice-based health education grant program -**  
27          **creation - powers and duties.** (1) SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE

1 APPROPRIATIONS, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL IMPLEMENT THE  
2 PRACTICE-BASED HEALTH EDUCATION GRANT PROGRAM, REFERRED TO IN  
3 THIS SECTION AS THE "GRANT PROGRAM", TO INCREASE PRACTICE-BASED  
4 TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES NECESSARY FOR HEALTH PROFESSION STUDENTS  
5 ENROLLED IN ACCREDITED COLORADO SCHOOLS TO COMPLETE DEGREE  
6 REQUIREMENTS AND BECOME LICENSED TO PRACTICE, OR PROGRAM  
7 PARTICIPANTS ENROLLED IN OTHER TRAINING OR RESIDENCY PROGRAMS  
8 OFFERED BY A PUBLIC OR NONPROFIT COLORADO MEDICAL SCHOOL OR  
9 RESIDENCY PROGRAM ACCREDITED BY THE ACCREDITATION COUNCIL FOR  
10 GRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION (ACGME) TO GAIN HANDS-ON  
11 EXPERIENCE IN PURSUIT OF A LICENSE IN THE HEALTH-CARE FIELD.

12 (2) (a) THE GRANT PROGRAM SHALL SUPPORT THE EXPANSION OF  
13 PRACTICE-BASED TRAINING BY PROVIDING GRANTS TO ORGANIZATIONS,  
14 PUBLIC OR NONPROFIT COLORADO MEDICAL SCHOOLS, OR  
15 ACGME-ACCREDITED RESIDENCY PROGRAMS THAT INCREASE CLINICAL  
16 PRACTICE-BASED TRAINING CAPACITY FOR HEALTH PROFESSION STUDENTS  
17 AND PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS. THE GRANT PROGRAM SHALL GIVE PRIORITY  
18 TO STUDENTS FROM THE COLORADO PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER  
19 EDUCATION THAT OFFER CLINICAL-BASED TRAINING TO STUDENTS.  
20 ORGANIZATIONS, MEDICAL SCHOOLS, AND RESIDENCY PROGRAMS THAT  
21 RECEIVE GRANTS MAY APPLY GRANT FUNDING TO COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH  
22 STUDENT AND PROGRAM PARTICIPANT EXPERIENCE COORDINATION,  
23 CLINICAL INSTRUCTORS OR PRECEPTORS, OR ANY OTHER REASONABLE  
24 COSTS DIRECTLY ASSOCIATED WITH THE EXPANSION OF PRACTICE-BASED  
25 TRAINING FOR HEALTH PROFESSION STUDENTS OR PARTICIPANTS IN THE  
26 ORGANIZATION, MEDICAL SCHOOL, OR RESIDENCY PROGRAM.

27 (b) THE PRIMARY CARE OFFICE SHALL CONSIDER THE ABILITY OF



1 THE ORGANIZATIONS, MEDICAL SCHOOLS, OR RESIDENCY PROGRAMS  
2 APPLYING FOR A GRANT TO PROVIDE FINANCIAL OR IN-KIND MATCHING  
3 SUPPORT WHEN THE OFFICE DETERMINES GRANT AWARDEES, BUT THE  
4 OFFICE SHALL AVOID DISADVANTAGING SMALL, RURAL, OR NONPROFIT  
5 APPLICANTS WITH A HIGH PUBLIC PAYER MIX OR APPLICANTS THAT  
6 DISPROPORTIONATELY PROVIDE UNCOMPENSATED CARE.

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

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

11 (a) GRANT PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA;

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

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

16 (d) WAYS TO PROMOTE EVIDENCE-BASED TECHNOLOGY-ENHANCED  
17 CLINICAL LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES IN ORGANIZATIONS, MEDICAL  
18 SCHOOLS, OR RESIDENCY PROGRAMS AWARDED A GRANT. THESE  
19 OPPORTUNITIES MUST INCLUDE CLINICAL SIMULATION LAB INVESTMENTS  
20 IN AT LEAST ONE GRANT AWARD.

21 (e) WAYS TO EVALUATE APPLICANT PRINCIPLES THAT ARE ALIGNED  
22 WITH IMPLEMENTING LASTING ORGANIZATIONAL CULTURE CHANGE AND  
23 INTERNAL PLANS THAT SUPPORT STAFF WELLNESS, RETENTION, AND  
24 TRAINING, SUCH AS:

25 (I) EXPANDED EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE OR WELLNESS PROGRAMS;

26 (II) COMMITMENT TO ESTABLISHING AND MAINTAINING STAFFING  
27 COMMITTEES TASKED WITH OPERATIONAL INPUT AND REVIEW OF

1 WORKPLACE PRACTICES; AND

2 (III) STRATEGIES FOR SUSTAINING INCREASED PRECEPTOR AND  
3 PRACTICE-BASED TRAINING CAPACITY;

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

7 (g) METRICS AND REPORTING RESPONSIBILITIES FOR GRANTEEES.

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

13 (a) DOES NOT REVERT TO THE GENERAL FUND OR ANY OTHER  
14 FUND;

15 (b) MAY BE USED BY THE DEPARTMENT IN THE 2023-24 OR  
16 2024-25 STATE FISCAL YEARS WITHOUT FURTHER APPROPRIATION; AND

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

19 (6) AS USED IN THIS SECTION, "PRECEPTOR" MEANS A  
20 HEALTH-CARE PROFESSIONAL WHO IS REGISTERED, CERTIFIED, OR  
21 LICENSED, AS APPROPRIATE, PURSUANT TO TITLE 12 AND WHO ASSUMES  
22 THE RESPONSIBILITY OF TEACHING, SUPERVISING, AND EVALUATING A  
23 STUDENT SEEKING A CREDENTIAL IN A HEALTH-CARE PROFESSION  
24 DISCIPLINE AS PART OF THE STUDENT'S CLINICAL TRAINING AND  
25 EDUCATION.

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

1           **23-3.3-1008. Support for in-demand short-term health-care**  
2           **credentials - report - definitions - repeal.** (1) SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE  
3           APPROPRIATIONS, THE STATE BOARD FOR COMMUNITY COLLEGES AND  
4           OCCUPATIONAL EDUCATION, IN COORDINATION WITH ITS CAREER AND  
5           TECHNICAL EDUCATION ROLE AND MISSION AS COLORADO'S STATE  
6           ADMINISTRATOR OF THE FEDERAL "CARL D. PERKINS CAREER AND  
7           TECHNICAL EDUCATION IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 1998", 20 U.S.C. SEC.  
8           2301 ET SEQ., AS AMENDED, SHALL ADMINISTER THE IN-DEMAND  
9           SHORT-TERM HEALTH-CARE CREDENTIALS PROGRAM OR CARE FORWARD  
10          COLORADO, REFERRED TO IN THIS SECTION AS THE "PROGRAM", IN ORDER  
11          TO SUPPORT THE EXPANSION OF AVAILABLE HEALTH-CARE PROFESSIONALS.

12          (2) THE STATE BOARD FOR COMMUNITY COLLEGES AND  
13          OCCUPATIONAL EDUCATION SHALL ALLOCATE MONEY TO COMMUNITY  
14          COLLEGES, AREA TECHNICAL COLLEGES, LOCAL DISTRICT COLLEGES, AND  
15          COMMUNITY NOT-FOR-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS THAT DELIVER HYBRID  
16          PROGRAMMING THAT LEVERAGES PLACE-BASED SUPPORTS IN PARTNERSHIP  
17          WITH LOCAL DISTRICT COLLEGES, COMMUNITY COLLEGES, AND AREA  
18          TECHNICAL COLLEGES THROUGH REIMBURSEMENT BASED ON STUDENTS  
19          ENROLLED IN ELIGIBLE PROGRAMS FOR FISCAL YEARS 2022-23 TO 2025-26  
20          TO:

21          (a) PROVIDE ASSISTANCE FOR TUITION, FEES, AND COURSE  
22          MATERIALS FOR ELIGIBLE PROGRAMS;

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

27          (c) IF UNEXPENDED RESOURCES EXIST OR IF THE PROGRAM USE IS

1 LESS THAN ANTICIPATED, TO EXPAND ELIGIBLE PROGRAMS IN ALLIED  
2 HEALTH BASED ON IN-DEMAND CREDENTIAL NEEDS OR INCLUDE HIGH  
3 SCHOOL EQUIVALENCY SUPPORT AND ATTAINMENT FOR STUDENTS  
4 WITHOUT A HIGH SCHOOL DEGREE WHO PARTICIPATE IN THE PROGRAM.

5 (3) IN ALLOCATING THE MONEY PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (2) OF  
6 THIS SECTION, THE FIRST PRIORITY IS FOR STUDENTS ENROLLED IN ELIGIBLE  
7 ALLIED HEALTH PROGRAMS WITH NURSING AIDE PROGRAMS AND THE  
8 SECOND PRIORITY IS FOR STUDENTS ENROLLED IN AN EMERGENCY MEDICAL  
9 TECHNICIAN PROGRAM.

10 (4) THE PROGRAM BEGINS NO LATER THAN THE 2022-23 ACADEMIC  
11 YEAR.

12 (5) DEPENDING ON THE CREDENTIAL PATHWAY, STUDENTS  
13 PARTICIPATING IN THE PROGRAM MUST COMPLETE A FREE APPLICATION  
14 FOR FEDERAL STUDENT AID OR COLORADO APPLICATION FOR THE COLLEGE  
15 OPPORTUNITY FUND AND STATE FINANCIAL AID AND SUBMIT AN  
16 APPLICATION FOR THE COLLEGE OPPORTUNITY SCHOLARSHIP INITIATIVE  
17 FUND. SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS, THE PROGRAM  
18 RESOURCES MUST COVER REMAINING TUITION, FEES, BOOKS, AND  
19 MATERIAL COSTS.

20 (6) AS USED IN THIS SECTION, UNLESS THE CONTEXT OTHERWISE  
21 REQUIRES, "ELIGIBLE PROGRAMS" MEANS IN-DEMAND CREDENTIALS IN  
22 ALLIED HEALTH CARE LESS THAN ONE YEAR IN DURATION THROUGH  
23 CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS, INCLUDING CERTIFIED  
24 NURSING ASSISTANT, EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIAN, PHLEBOTOMY  
25 TECHNICIAN, PHARMACY TECHNICIAN, MEDICAL ASSISTANT, AND DENTAL  
26 ASSISTANT.

27 (7) (a) FOR THE 2022-23 STATE FISCAL YEAR, THE GENERAL

1 ASSEMBLY SHALL APPROPRIATE TO THE DEPARTMENT FOR ALLOCATION BY  
2 THE BOARD TWENTY-SIX MILLION DOLLARS FROM THE ECONOMIC  
3 RECOVERY AND RELIEF CASH FUND CREATED IN SECTION 24-75-228 FOR  
4 THE ELIGIBLE PROGRAMS, OF WHICH TWENTY-FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS  
5 MAY BE USED FOR PURPOSES OF MARKETING THE PROGRAM AND ONE  
6 PERCENT MAY BE USED FOR ADMINISTRATION PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION.  
7 ANY UNEXPENDED MONEY REMAINING AT THE END OF THE 2022-23 STATE  
8 FISCAL YEAR FROM THIS APPROPRIATION:

9 (I) DOES NOT REVERT TO THE GENERAL FUND OR ANY OTHER FUND;

10 (II) MAY BE USED BY THE BOARD IN THE 2023-24 OR 2024-25  
11 STATE FISCAL YEARS WITHOUT FURTHER APPROPRIATION; AND

12 (III) MUST NOT BE USED FOR ANY OTHER PURPOSE OTHER THAN  
13 THE PURPOSES SET FORTH IN THIS SECTION.

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

17 (8) BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2023, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL  
18 INCLUDE A SUMMARIZED REPORT REGARDING THE PROGRAM IN THE  
19 DEPARTMENT'S ANNUAL PRESENTATION TO THE COMMITTEES OF  
20 REFERENCE PURSUANT TO SECTION 2-7-203. NOTWITHSTANDING SECTION  
21 24-1-136 (11)(a)(I), THE REPORTING REQUIREMENT IN THIS SUBSECTION  
22 (8) CONTINUES INDEFINITELY.

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

24 **SECTION 6.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 12-255-115, **amend**  
25 (3) as follows:

26 **12-255-115. Volunteer nurse licensure.** (3) ~~A nurse who holds~~  
27 ~~a volunteer nursing license shall not accept compensation for nursing~~

1 ~~tasks that are performed while in possession of the license.~~ A volunteer  
2 nursing license shall permit the nurse to engage in volunteer nursing tasks  
3 within the scope of the nurse's license.

4 **SECTION 7.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 12-30-105, **amend**  
5 (5)(i); and **add** (5)(k), (5)(l), (5)(m), and (5)(n) as follows:

6 **12-30-105. Nurse-physician advisory task force for Colorado**  
7 **health care - creation - duties - definition - repeal.** (5) The NPATCH  
8 shall prioritize consideration of and make recommendations on the  
9 following topics:

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

13 (k) ALIGNMENT OF HEALTH-CARE LICENSING WITH FEDERAL  
14 STATUTORY MINIMUMS;

15 (l) IDENTIFICATION OF UNNECESSARY REGULATORY BURDENS OR  
16 BARRIERS;

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

19 (n) FEASIBILITY OF TEMPORARY CANDIDATE LICENSES FOR  
20 STUDENTS NEARING THE COMPLETION OF AN ACCREDITED HEALTH-CARE  
21 PROGRAM. AT A MINIMUM, THEY MUST CONSIDER REIMBURSEMENT,  
22 LIABILITY, AND HEALTH AND SAFETY ISSUES IN THEIR ANALYSIS.

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

25 **24-75-112. Annual general appropriation act - headnote**  
26 **definitions - general provisions - footnotes.** (1) As used in the annual  
27 general appropriation act, the following definitions and general provisions

1 shall apply for the headnote terms preceding and specifying the purpose  
2 of certain line items of appropriation:

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

16 **SECTION 9.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 25-1.5-406, **amend**  
17 (3), (4)(a), (5)(e), and (6); and **add** (9) and (10) as follows:

18 **25-1.5-406. School nurse grant program - creation - eligibility**  
19 **- award of grants - rules - report - legislative declaration - definitions.**

20 (3) There is created in the department the school nurse grant program to  
21 award grants ~~on a five-year grant cycle~~ to local education providers to  
22 increase the number of school nurses in Colorado public schools. The  
23 grant program ~~shall be~~ IS administered by the primary care office in the  
24 department. The state board may promulgate rules, as necessary, to  
25 implement the grant program.

26 (4) (a) Except as provided in subsection (4)(b) of this section, a  
27 local education provider awarded a grant pursuant to this section shall use

1 the grant money to hire a school nurse or nurses in the selected school or  
2 schools. The grant shall supplement, not supplant, a local education  
3 provider's funding for school nurse positions and student health-care  
4 services ~~existing prior to May 29, 2019,~~ EXISTING IN THE LOCAL  
5 EDUCATION PROVIDER'S MOST RECENT FISCAL YEAR PRIOR TO THE YEAR OF  
6 THE APPLICATION TO THE GRANT PROGRAM.

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

11 (e) The amount of money necessary to attract and retain a school  
12 nurse in the school or schools of the local education provider for the  
13 ~~five-year~~ grant cycle and whether the local education provider intends to  
14 supplement a grant with any additional money to hire the school nurse  
15 position or positions; and

16 (6) (a) ~~Subject to available appropriations, the state board shall~~  
17 ~~award up to three million dollars annually in grants. Each grant has an~~  
18 ~~initial term of one year and shall be renewed annually for an additional~~  
19 ~~four years as long as a school nurse is retained in the grant-funded~~  
20 ~~position and the local education provider continues to use the grant~~  
21 ~~money for authorized purposes.~~ DEPARTMENT SHALL ANNUALLY AWARD  
22 GRANTS IN THE GRANT PROGRAM. The ~~state board~~ DEPARTMENT may fund  
23 more than one school nurse position per grant recipient. The amount of  
24 the grant must cover up to the cost of hiring a school nurse position or  
25 positions in the local education provider's selected school or schools.

26 (b) ~~Subject to available appropriations, at the end of the initial~~  
27 ~~five-year grant cycle and each subsequent five-year grant cycle, the~~



1 ~~department shall solicit and review grant applications, and the state board~~  
2 ~~shall award new grants.~~

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

7 (I) ~~Is a small rural school district or rural school district; or~~

8 (II) ~~Is eligible to receive money under Title I, part A of the federal~~  
9 ~~"Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965", 20 U.S.C. sec. 6301~~  
10 ~~et seq.~~

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

14 (10) ~~THE DEPARTMENT AND ANY PERSON WHO RECEIVES MONEY~~  
15 ~~FROM THE DEPARTMENT SHALL COMPLY WITH THE COMPLIANCE,~~  
16 ~~REPORTING, RECORD-KEEPING, AND PROGRAM EVALUATION~~  
17 ~~REQUIREMENTS ESTABLISHED BY THE OFFICE OF STATE PLANNING AND~~  
18 ~~BUDGETING AND THE STATE CONTROLLER IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION~~  
19 ~~24-75-226 (5).~~

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

22 **25-1.5-102. Epidemic and communicable diseases - powers and**  
23 **duties of department - rules - definitions.** (1) ~~The department has, in~~  
24 ~~addition to all other powers and duties imposed upon it by law, the~~  
25 ~~powers and duties provided in this section as follows:~~

26 (e) ~~FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022-23, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SHALL~~  
27 ~~APPROPRIATE TEN MILLION DOLLARS FROM THE ECONOMIC RECOVERY AND~~

1 RELIEF CASH FUND CREATED IN SECTION 24-75-228 TO THE DEPARTMENT.  
2 THE DEPARTMENT SHALL USE THIS APPROPRIATION FOR RECRUITMENT AND  
3 RE-ENGAGEMENT EFFORTS OF WORKERS IN THE HEALTH-CARE PROFESSION  
4 WITH CURRENT OR EXPIRED LICENSES AND STAFFING.

5 **SECTION 11.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **repeal 25-1-108.7.**

6 **SECTION 12. Appropriation.** (1) For the 2022-23 state fiscal  
7 year, \$35,000,000 is appropriated to the department of public health and  
8 environment. This appropriation is from the economic recovery and relief  
9 cash fund created in section 24-75-228 (2)(a), C.R.S., and is of money the  
10 state recieved from the coronavirus state fiscal recovery fund. To  
11 implement this act, the department may use this appropriation as follows:

12 (a) \$2,000,000 for use by the office of emergency preparedness  
13 and response for the appropriation to the health care workforce and  
14 resilience and retention cash fund;

15 (b) \$10,000,000 for use by disease control and public health  
16 response for immunization operating expenses; and

17 (c) \$23,000,000 for use by the prevention services division for the  
18 primary care office.

19 (2) For the 2022-23 state fiscal year, \$26,000,000 is appropriated  
20 to the department of higher education. This appropriation is from the  
21 economic recovery and relief cash fund created in section 24-75-228  
22 (2)(a) C.R.S., and is of money the state recieved from the coronavirus  
23 state fiscal recovery fund. To implement this act, the department may use  
24 this appropriation for the state board for community colleges and  
25 occupational education state system community colleges.

26 **SECTION 13. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds,

- 1 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate
- 2 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety.