

Second Regular Session
Seventy-fourth General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 24-0845.01 Shelby Ross x4510

HOUSE BILL 24-1280

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Velasco and Garcia, Weissman, Duran, Hernandez, Lindsay, Mabrey, Martinez, Marvin, Ortiz, Rutinel

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Fields,

House Committees
Business Affairs & Labor

Senate Committees

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 CONCERNING THE CREATION OF A GRANT PROGRAM FOR
102 COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATIONS TO PROVIDE APPROPRIATE
103 SERVICES FOR MIGRANTS WHO ARE WITHIN ONE YEAR OF
104 ARRIVAL IN THE UNITED STATES, AND, IN CONNECTION
105 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 statewide welcome, reception, and integration grant program (grant program) in the department of labor and

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

employment (department) to provide grants to community-based organizations that provide culturally and linguistically appropriate navigation of services and programs to migrants who are within one year of arrival in the United States. A grant may be used for:

- Conducting an intake and assessment of needs;
- Providing cultural orientation; case management; employment services or referrals to employment services; housing, housing-related services, or referrals to housing; English as a second language classes or referrals to classes; financial orientation; referrals to mental and physical health services; interpretation and translation services; transportation services; and immigration legal assistance or referrals to immigration legal services;
- Distributing emergency and transitional supplies;
- Assisting migrant parents to enroll their children in public school or summer programs, including early childhood programs; and
- Other eligible expenses.

The bill requires the department to issue a request for proposal for a nonprofit organization to administer the grant program.

For the 2024-25 state fiscal year, the bill appropriates \$2.5 million from the general fund to the department for the grant program.

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

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** part 2 to article
3 3.7 of title 8 as follows:

4 PART 2

5 STATEWIDE WELCOME, RECEPTION, AND INTEGRATION

6 GRANT PROGRAM

7 **8-3.7-201. Definitions.** (1) AS USED IN THIS PART 2, UNLESS THE
8 CONTEXT OTHERWISE REQUIRES:

9 (a) "ADMINISTERING ENTITY" MEANS THE STATEWIDE ENTITY
10 SELECTED BY THE DEPARTMENT TO ADMINISTER THE STATEWIDE
11 WELCOME, RECEPTION, AND INTEGRATION GRANT PROGRAM PURSUANT TO
12 SECTION 8-3.7-202.

13 (b) "DEPARTMENT" MEANS THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND

1 EMPLOYMENT CREATED IN SECTION 24-1-121.

2 (c) "GRANT PROGRAM" MEANS THE STATEWIDE WELCOME,
3 RECEPTION, AND INTEGRATION GRANT PROGRAM CREATED IN SECTION
4 8-3.7-202.

5 (d) "GRANT RECIPIENT" MEANS A COMMUNITY-BASED
6 ORGANIZATION THAT IS SELECTED TO RECEIVE A GRANT PURSUANT TO
7 SECTION 8-3.7-202.

8 (e) "MIGRANT" MEANS AN INDIVIDUAL WHO HAS ARRIVED IN THE
9 UNITED STATES WITHIN THE PAST YEAR AS A MIGRANT AND DOES NOT
10 QUALIFY FOR FEDERAL SUPPORT SERVICES OR REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT
11 ASSISTANCE BENEFITS.

12 **8-3.7-202. Statewide welcome, reception, and integration grant**
13 **program - created - rules.** (1) THE STATEWIDE WELCOME, RECEPTION,
14 AND INTEGRATION GRANT PROGRAM IS CREATED IN THE DEPARTMENT TO
15 PROVIDE GRANTS TO COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATIONS THAT PROVIDE
16 CULTURALLY AND LINGUISTICALLY APPROPRIATE NAVIGATION OF
17 SERVICES AND PROGRAMS TO MIGRANTS.

18 (2) GRANT RECIPIENTS SHALL USE THE GRANT AWARD FOR ONE OR
19 MORE OF THE FOLLOWING SERVICES AND PROGRAMS, INCLUDING, BUT NOT
20 LIMITED TO:

21 (a) CONDUCTING AN INTAKE AND ASSESSMENT OF NEEDS;

22 (b) PROVIDING CULTURAL ORIENTATION;

23 (c) PROVIDING CASE MANAGEMENT;

24 (d) DISTRIBUTING EMERGENCY AND TRANSITIONAL SUPPLIES,
25 INCLUDING FOOD AND CLOTHING;

26 (e) PROVIDING EMPLOYMENT SERVICES OR REFERRALS TO
27 EMPLOYMENT SERVICES, INCLUDING CAREER COACHING, COUNSELING,

1 NAVIGATING, TRAINING, CERTIFICATION AND LICENSURE, AND JOB
2 PLACEMENT;

3 (f) PROVIDING HOUSING, HOUSING-RELATED SERVICES, OR
4 REFERRALS TO HOUSING, INCLUDING ADVISING ABOUT THE OBLIGATIONS
5 UNDER A LEASE, PAYING SECURITY DEPOSITS, CONDUCTING BACKGROUND
6 CHECKS AND HOME VISITS FOR SPONSORS, AND ORIENTING MIGRANTS TO
7 RENT AND ONLINE PAYMENT SYSTEMS;

8 (g) PROVIDING ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE CLASSES OR A
9 REFERRAL TO ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE CLASSES;

10 (h) PROVIDING FINANCIAL ORIENTATION, INCLUDING
11 UNDERSTANDING CREDIT, LOANS, AND UNBANKED ISSUES FOR
12 UNDOCUMENTED INDIVIDUALS;

13 (i) PROVIDING OR PROVIDING REFERRALS TO MENTAL HEALTH
14 SERVICES;

15 (j) PROVIDING REFERRALS TO PHYSICAL HEALTH SERVICES;

16 (k) ASSISTING MIGRANT PARENTS TO ENROLL THEIR CHILDREN IN
17 PUBLIC SCHOOL OR SUMMER PROGRAMS, INCLUDING EARLY CHILDHOOD
18 PROGRAMS, TO ENABLE THE PARENTS TO FIND EMPLOYMENT AND TO HELP
19 THE PARENTS NAVIGATE SCHOOL AND SUMMER PROGRAM SYSTEMS;

20 (l) PROVIDING INTERPRETATION AND TRANSLATION SERVICES;

21 (m) PROVIDING TRANSPORTATION, BUS PASSES, AND ORIENTATION
22 TO THE BUS AND TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM;

23 (n) PROVIDING IMMIGRATION LEGAL ASSISTANCE OR REFERRALS
24 TO IMMIGRATION LEGAL SERVICES; AND

25 (o) OTHER ELIGIBLE EXPENSES, AS DETERMINED BY THE
26 DEPARTMENT AND THE ADMINISTERING ENTITY IN CONSULTATION WITH
27 THE MIGRANT SUPPORT POLICY GROUP IN THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE AND

1 COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATIONS.

2 (3) (a) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ISSUE A REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
3 FOR A NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION THAT IS EXEMPT FROM TAXATION UNDER
4 SECTION 501(c)(3) OF THE FEDERAL "INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1986"
5 TO ADMINISTER THE GRANT PROGRAM. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL SELECT
6 AND CONTRACT WITH A NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION THAT HAS A
7 STATEWIDE REACH OF ORGANIZATIONS SERVING MIGRANTS AND
8 DEMONSTRATED EXPERTISE IN:

9 (I) ADMINISTERING GRANT MONEY;

10 (II) TRAINING, MONITORING, AND EVALUATING GRANT RECIPIENTS
11 TO ENSURE THE GRANT RECIPIENTS COMPLY WITH GRANT REQUIREMENTS;

12 (III) PROVIDING METRICS AND SUBMITTING REQUIRED REPORTING
13 IN A TIMELY FASHION;

14 (IV) WORKING COLLABORATIVELY WITH OTHER MIGRANT-SERVING
15 ORGANIZATIONS; AND

16 (V) WORKING WITH MULTILINGUAL MIGRANT COMMUNITIES.

17 (b) (I) NO LATER THAN DECEMBER 31, 2024, THE DEPARTMENT
18 SHALL SELECT AND ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH THE ADMINISTERING
19 ENTITY, WHICH CONTRACT IS SUBJECT TO ANNUAL REVIEW AND RENEWAL.

20 (II) NOTWITHSTANDING SUBSECTION (3)(b)(I) OF THIS SECTION, IF
21 THE DEPARTMENT ISSUES A REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL BUT DOES NOT
22 IDENTIFY A NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION THAT MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS
23 FOR SELECTION AS THE ADMINISTERING ENTITY, THE COLORADO OFFICE OF
24 NEW AMERICANS CREATED IN SECTION 8-3.7-103, SHALL ACT AS THE
25 ADMINISTERING ENTITY OF THE GRANT PROGRAM AND MAY PROMULGATE
26 RULES TO ADMINISTER THE GRANT PROGRAM.

27 (c) THE ADMINISTERING ENTITY SHALL COLLABORATE WITH THE

1 DEPARTMENT TO DEVELOP THE GRANT APPLICATION, THE APPLICATION
2 PROCESS, AND THE SELECTION PROCESS FOR GRANT RECIPIENTS THAT ARE
3 CULTURALLY COMPETENT AND LINGUISTICALLY ACCESSIBLE, AND COMPLY
4 WITH THE STATE "PROCUREMENT CODE", ARTICLES 101 TO 112 OF TITLE
5 24.

6 (4) THE DEPARTMENT AND ADMINISTERING ENTITY SHALL
7 IMPLEMENT THE GRANT PROGRAM PURSUANT TO THIS PART 2. GRANTS
8 MUST BE AWARDED PURSUANT TO THIS PART 2.

9 (5) UPON RECEIVING NOTICE FROM THE ADMINISTERING ENTITY
10 THAT A COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATION IS SELECTED TO RECEIVE A
11 GRANT, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL, AS SOON AS PRACTICABLE, TRANSFER
12 THE AMOUNT OF THE GRANT AWARD TO THE ADMINISTERING ENTITY,
13 WHICH MUST THEN TRANSMIT THE GRANT AWARD TO THE GRANT
14 RECIPIENT.

15 **8-3.7-203. Administering entity - duties - funding.** (1) THE
16 ADMINISTERING ENTITY SHALL:

17 (a) ADMINISTER THE GRANT PROGRAM PURSUANT TO THIS PART 2,
18 INCLUDING ESTABLISHING AND IMPLEMENTING, IN COLLABORATION WITH
19 THE DEPARTMENT, THE PROCESS BY WHICH A COMMUNITY-BASED
20 ORGANIZATION MAY APPLY TO RECEIVE A GRANT;

21 (b) CONVENE A STATEWIDE SELECTION PANEL WITH THE
22 DEPARTMENT THAT INCLUDES REPRESENTATION FROM IMPACTED
23 COMMUNITIES TO SELECT GRANT RECIPIENTS BASED ON THE FOLLOWING
24 CRITERIA:

25 (I) DEMONSTRATED HISTORICAL COMMITMENT TO WORKING WITH
26 AND IN THE IMMIGRANT AND MIGRANT POPULATIONS PROVIDING SERVICES;

27 (II) DEMONSTRABLE ABILITY TO RESPOND TO EMERGING NEEDS OF

1 THE MIGRANT POPULATION;

2 (III) EXPERIENCE IN PROVIDING ANY OF THE SERVICES DESCRIBED
3 IN SECTION 8-3.7-202 (2); AND

4 (IV) EXPERIENCE IN MANAGING PRIVATE OR PUBLIC CONTRACTS
5 OR GRANTS; AND

6 (c) SUBMIT AN ANNUAL REPORT TO THE DEPARTMENT PURSUANT
7 TO SECTION 8-3.7-204 (1) REGARDING THE NUMBER OF MIGRANTS SERVED,
8 THE TYPES OF SERVICES PROVIDED, THE NUMBER OF REFERRALS FOR
9 SERVICES PROVIDED BY OTHER GRANT RECIPIENTS, THE MIGRANTS' LEVEL
10 OF SATISFACTION FOR THE SERVICES RECEIVED, AND THE NUMBER OF
11 MIGRANTS WHO WERE NOT ABLE TO ACCESS AND RECEIVE SERVICES AND
12 THE REASONS WHY.

13 (2) IN SELECTING GRANT RECIPIENTS, PRIORITY MUST BE GIVEN TO
14 GRANT APPLICANTS WHO PROVIDE TWO OR MORE OF THE SERVICES
15 DESCRIBED IN SECTION 8-3.7-202 (2)(a), (2)(b), (2)(c), (2)(e), OR (2)(f).

16 (3) OF THE MONEY ANNUALLY APPROPRIATED TO THE
17 DEPARTMENT, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL NOT USE MORE THAN TWENTY
18 PERCENT TO COMPENSATE THE ADMINISTERING ENTITY TO OFFSET THE
19 COSTS THAT THE ADMINISTERING ENTITY INCURS IN ADMINISTERING THE
20 GRANT PROGRAM AND IN PROVIDING ASSISTANCE TO GRANT RECIPIENTS
21 FOR CAPACITY BUILDING TO ENSURE COMPLIANCE WITH THE GRANT
22 PROGRAM AND SUCCESSFUL EXECUTION OF THE GRANT PROGRAM'S GOALS.
23 THE DEPARTMENT SHALL NOT AGREE TO PAY ANY ADDITIONAL AMOUNT
24 OF REMUNERATION TO THE ADMINISTERING ENTITY FROM THE STATE. THE
25 DEPARTMENT SHALL COMPENSATE THE ADMINISTERING ENTITY WITH
26 FUNDS FROM THE APPROPRIATION FOR PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION.

27 **8-3.7-204. Reporting requirements.** (1) (a) ONE YEAR AFTER

1 THE DATE OF THE CONTRACT ENTERED INTO PURSUANT TO SECTION
2 8-3.7-202 (3)(b), THE ADMINISTERING ENTITY SHALL SUBMIT A REPORT TO
3 THE DEPARTMENT. AT A MINIMUM, THE REPORT MUST INCLUDE:

4 (I) A DESCRIPTION OF EXPENSES MADE WITH THE GRANT MONEY;

5 (II) THE NUMBER OF GRANT APPLICANTS;

6 (III) THE NUMBER OF COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATIONS THAT
7 RECEIVED A GRANT;

8 (IV) THE GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION OF EACH GRANT RECIPIENT; AND

9 (V) THE AGGREGATE NUMBER OF MIGRANTS SERVED BY EACH
10 GRANT RECIPIENT, THE SERVICES PROVIDED, AND THE MIGRANTS' LEVEL OF
11 SATISFACTION FOR EACH SERVICE PROVIDED.

12 (b) ANY INFORMATION INCLUDED IN THE REPORT REQUIRED
13 PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION (1) MUST NOT INCLUDE PERSONAL
14 IDENTIFYING INFORMATION.

15 (2) NO LATER THAN THREE MONTHS AFTER THE REPORT IS
16 SUBMITTED TO THE DEPARTMENT PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (1) OF THIS
17 SECTION, AND EACH YEAR THEREAFTER, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL SUBMIT
18 THE ADMINISTERING ENTITY'S REPORT TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
19 HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE AND THE SENATE HEALTH AND
20 HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE, OR THEIR SUCCESSOR COMMITTEES,
21 REGARDING THE GRANT PROGRAM.

22 (3) NOTWITHSTANDING SECTION 24-1-136 (11)(a)(I), THE
23 REPORTING REQUIREMENTS SET FORTH IN THIS SECTION CONTINUE
24 INDEFINITELY.

25 **SECTION 2. Appropriation.** For the 2024-25 state fiscal year,
26 \$2,500,000 is appropriated to the department of labor and employment.
27 This appropriation is from the general fund. To implement this act, the

1 department may use this appropriation for the statewide welcome,
2 reception, and integration grant program.

3 **SECTION 3. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act
4 takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the
5 ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly; except
6 that, if a referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V
7 of the state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this
8 act within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take
9 effect unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in
10 November 2024 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the
11 official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.