

**Second Regular Session
Seventy-fourth General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO**

PREAMENDED

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

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
Appropriations

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) "FUND" MEANS THE STATEWIDE WELCOME, RECEPTION, AND
3 INTEGRATION CASH FUND CREATED IN SECTION 8-3.7-205.

4 (d) "GRANT PROGRAM" MEANS THE STATEWIDE WELCOME,
5 RECEPTION, AND INTEGRATION GRANT PROGRAM CREATED IN SECTION
6 8-3.7-202.

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

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

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

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

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

24 (b) PROVIDING CULTURAL ORIENTATION;

25 (c) PROVIDING CASE MANAGEMENT;

26 (d) DISTRIBUTING EMERGENCY AND TRANSITIONAL SUPPLIES,
27 INCLUDING FOOD AND CLOTHING;

1 (e) PROVIDING EMPLOYMENT SERVICES OR REFERRALS TO
2 EMPLOYMENT SERVICES, INCLUDING CAREER COACHING, COUNSELING,
3 NAVIGATING, TRAINING, INCLUDING TRAINING ON WORKERS' RIGHTS AND
4 IDENTIFYING HOW TO ADDRESS AND AVOID EXPLOITATION, CERTIFICATION
5 AND LICENSURE, AND JOB PLACEMENT;

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

11 (g) PROVIDING ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE CLASSES OR A
12 REFERRAL TO ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE CLASSES;

13 (h) PROVIDING FINANCIAL ORIENTATION, INCLUDING
14 UNDERSTANDING CREDIT, LOANS, AND UNBANKED ISSUES FOR
15 UNDOCUMENTED INDIVIDUALS;

16 (i) PROVIDING OR PROVIDING REFERRALS TO MENTAL HEALTH
17 SERVICES;

18 (j) PROVIDING REFERRALS TO PHYSICAL HEALTH SERVICES;

19 (k) PROVIDING SERVICES OR REFERRALS TO DISABILITY SERVICES;

20 (l) ASSISTING MIGRANT PARENTS TO ENROLL THEIR CHILDREN IN
21 PUBLIC SCHOOL OR SUMMER PROGRAMS, INCLUDING EARLY CHILDHOOD
22 PROGRAMS, TO ENABLE THE PARENTS TO FIND EMPLOYMENT AND TO HELP
23 THE PARENTS NAVIGATE SCHOOL AND SUMMER PROGRAM SYSTEMS;

24 (m) PROVIDING INTERPRETATION AND TRANSLATION SERVICES;

25 (n) PROVIDING TRANSPORTATION, BUS PASSES, AND ORIENTATION
26 TO THE BUS AND TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM;

27 (o) PROVIDING IMMIGRATION LEGAL ASSISTANCE OR REFERRALS

1 TO IMMIGRATION LEGAL SERVICES; AND

2 (p) OTHER ELIGIBLE EXPENSES, AS DETERMINED BY THE
3 DEPARTMENT AND THE ADMINISTERING ENTITY IN CONSULTATION WITH
4 COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATIONS.

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

12 (I) ADMINISTERING GRANT MONEY;

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

15 (III) PROVIDING METRICS AND SUBMITTING REQUIRED REPORTING
16 IN A TIMELY FASHION;

17 (IV) WORKING COLLABORATIVELY WITH OTHER MIGRANT-SERVING
18 ORGANIZATIONS; AND

19 (V) WORKING WITH MULTILINGUAL MIGRANT COMMUNITIES.

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

23 (II) NOTWITHSTANDING SUBSECTION (3)(b)(I) OF THIS SECTION, IF
24 THE DEPARTMENT ISSUES A REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL BUT DOES NOT
25 IDENTIFY A NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION THAT MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS
26 FOR SELECTION AS THE ADMINISTERING ENTITY, THE COLORADO OFFICE OF
27 NEW AMERICANS CREATED IN SECTION 8-3.7-103, SHALL ACT AS THE

1 ADMINISTERING ENTITY OF THE PROGRAM. █

2 (c) THE ADMINISTERING ENTITY SHALL COLLABORATE WITH THE
3 DEPARTMENT TO DEVELOP THE GRANT APPLICATION, THE APPLICATION
4 PROCESS, AND THE SELECTION PROCESS FOR GRANT RECIPIENTS THAT ARE
5 CULTURALLY COMPETENT AND LINGUISTICALLY ACCESSIBLE, AND COMPLY
6 WITH THE STATE "PROCUREMENT CODE", ARTICLES 101 TO 112 OF TITLE
7 24.

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

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

17 **8-3.7-203. Administering entity - duties - funding.** (1) THE
18 ADMINISTERING ENTITY SHALL:

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

23 (b) CONDUCT STATEWIDE OUTREACH TO ENSURE THAT ALL
24 COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATIONS THAT SERVE MIGRANTS ARE AWARE
25 OF THE OPPORTUNITY TO APPLY FOR A GRANT;

26 (c) CONVENE A STATEWIDE SELECTION PANEL WITH THE
27 DEPARTMENT THAT INCLUDES REPRESENTATION FROM IMPACTED

1 COMMUNITIES TO SELECT GRANT RECIPIENTS BASED ON THE FOLLOWING
2 CRITERIA:

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

5 (II) DEMONSTRABLE ABILITY TO RESPOND TO EMERGING NEEDS OF
6 THE MIGRANT POPULATION;

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

9 (IV) EXPERIENCE IN MANAGING PRIVATE OR PUBLIC CONTRACTS
10 OR GRANTS; AND

11 (d) SUBMIT AN ANNUAL REPORT TO THE DEPARTMENT PURSUANT
12 TO SECTION 8-3.7-204 (1) REGARDING THE NUMBER OF MIGRANTS SERVED,
13 THE TYPES OF SERVICES PROVIDED, THE NUMBER OF REFERRALS FOR
14 SERVICES PROVIDED BY OTHER GRANT RECIPIENTS, THE MIGRANTS' LEVEL
15 OF SATISFACTION FOR THE SERVICES RECEIVED, KEY BARRIERS TO
16 RECEIVING SERVICES, INCLUDING, IF POSSIBLE, THE NUMBER OF MIGRANTS
17 WHO REQUESTED AND WERE NOT ABLE TO ACCESS AND RECEIVE SERVICES
18 AND THE REASONS WHY.

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

22 (b) IN SELECTING GRANT RECIPIENTS, THE ADMINISTERING ENTITY
23 SHALL GIVE CONSIDERATION TO GRANT APPLICANTS THAT ARE BASED IN,
24 OR SERVE POPULATIONS IN, RURAL AND NON-METRO AREAS WITH LIMITED
25 ACCESS TO RESOURCES.

26 (3) OF THE MONEY TRANSFERRED TO THE FUND, THE DEPARTMENT
27 SHALL NOT USE MORE THAN TWENTY PERCENT TO COMPENSATE THE

1 ADMINISTERING ENTITY TO OFFSET THE COSTS THAT THE ADMINISTERING
2 ENTITY INCURS IN ADMINISTERING THE GRANT PROGRAM AND IN
3 PROVIDING ASSISTANCE TO GRANT RECIPIENTS FOR CAPACITY BUILDING TO
4 ENSURE COMPLIANCE WITH THE GRANT PROGRAM AND SUCCESSFUL
5 EXECUTION OF THE GRANT PROGRAM'S GOALS. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL
6 NOT AGREE TO PAY ANY ADDITIONAL AMOUNT OF REMUNERATION TO THE
7 ADMINISTERING ENTITY FROM THE STATE. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL
8 COMPENSATE THE ADMINISTERING ENTITY WITH FUNDS FROM THE
9 APPROPRIATION FOR PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION.

10 **8-3.7-204. Reporting requirements.** (1) (a) ONE YEAR AFTER
11 THE DATE OF THE CONTRACT ENTERED INTO PURSUANT TO SECTION
12 8-3.7-202 (3)(b), THE ADMINISTERING ENTITY SHALL SUBMIT A REPORT TO
13 THE DEPARTMENT. AT A MINIMUM, THE REPORT MUST INCLUDE:

- 14 (I) A DESCRIPTION OF EXPENSES MADE WITH THE GRANT MONEY;
- 15 (II) THE NUMBER OF GRANT APPLICANTS;
- 16 (III) THE NUMBER OF COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATIONS THAT
17 RECEIVED A GRANT;
- 18 (IV) THE GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION OF EACH GRANT RECIPIENT; AND
- 19 (V) THE AGGREGATE NUMBER OF MIGRANTS SERVED BY EACH
20 GRANT RECIPIENT, THE SERVICES PROVIDED, AND THE MIGRANTS' LEVEL OF
21 SATISFACTION FOR EACH SERVICE PROVIDED.

22 (b) ANY INFORMATION INCLUDED IN THE REPORT REQUIRED
23 PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION (1) MUST NOT INCLUDE PERSONAL
24 IDENTIFYING INFORMATION.

25 (2) NO LATER THAN THREE MONTHS AFTER THE REPORT IS
26 SUBMITTED TO THE DEPARTMENT PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (1) OF THIS
27 SECTION, AND EACH YEAR THEREAFTER, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL SUBMIT

1 THE ADMINISTERING ENTITY'S REPORT TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
2 HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE AND THE SENATE HEALTH AND
3 HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE, OR THEIR SUCCESSOR COMMITTEES,
4 REGARDING THE GRANT PROGRAM.

5 (3) NOTWITHSTANDING SECTION 24-1-136 (11)(a)(I), THE
6 REPORTING REQUIREMENTS SET FORTH IN THIS SECTION CONTINUE AS LONG
7 AS THE GRANT PROGRAM IS OPERATIONAL.

8 **8-3.7-205. Statewide welcome, reception, and integration cash**
9 **fund - appropriation - repeal.** (1) THE STATEWIDE WELCOME,
10 RECEPTION, AND INTEGRATION CASH FUND IS CREATED IN THE STATE
11 TREASURY. THE FUND CONSISTS OF MONEY TRANSFERRED TO THE FUND
12 PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (6) OF THIS SECTION AND ANY OTHER MONEY
13 THAT THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY MAY APPROPRIATE OR TRANSFER TO THE
14 FUND.

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

18 (3) ANY UNEXPENDED AND UNENCUMBERED MONEY REMAINING
19 IN THE FUND AT THE END OF ANY FISCAL YEAR SHALL REMAIN IN THE FUND
20 AND SHALL NOT BE TRANSFERRED TO THE GENERAL FUND OR ANY OTHER
21 FUND.

22 (4) SUBJECT TO ANNUAL APPROPRIATION BY THE GENERAL
23 ASSEMBLY, THE COLORADO OFFICE OF NEW AMERICANS MAY EXPEND
24 MONEY FROM THE FUND FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS PART 2.

25 (5) THE ONA MAY SEEK, ACCEPT, AND EXPEND GIFTS, GRANTS, OR
26 DONATIONS FROM PRIVATE OR PUBLIC SOURCES FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS
27 PART 2. THE ONA SHALL TRANSMIT ALL MONEY RECEIVED THROUGH

1 GIFTS, GRANTS, OR DONATIONS TO THE STATE TREASURER, WHO SHALL
2 CREDIT THE MONEY TO THE FUND.

3 (6) (a) ON JULY 1, 2024, THE STATE TREASURER SHALL TRANSFER
4 TWO MILLION FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS FROM THE GENERAL
5 FUND TO THE FUND FOR THE PURPOSE OF THE GRANT PROGRAM.

6 (b) THIS SUBSECTION (6) IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025.

7 **SECTION 2. Appropriation.** For the 2024-25 state fiscal year,
8 \$2,500,000 is appropriated to the department of labor and employment for
9 use by the office of new Americans. This appropriation is from the
10 statewide welcome, reception, and integration cash fund created in
11 section 8-3.7-205. To implement this act, the office may use this
12 appropriation for the statewide welcome, reception, and integration grant
13 program.

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