

**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. 24-0554.01 Chelsea Princell x4335

HOUSE BILL 24-1286

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Joseph and Lindsay, Bacon, Brown, Clifford, Garcia, Mabrey, Rutinel, Velasco

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Roberts,

House Committees

Judiciary
Finance

Senate Committees

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 **CONCERNING MEASURES TO INCREASE ACCESS TO THE COURTS FOR**
102 **INDIGENT PERSONS.**

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 equal justice fund authority as a special purpose authority to administer the equal justice fund for the purpose of providing monetary support to local organizations that provide legal representation and legal advice to low-income individuals.

The bill requires certain court filings to incur an additional \$20 filing fee that must be annually deposited into the equal justice fund.

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.*

The bill prohibits a judge from requiring indigent parties to pay the docket fee for a civil action.

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

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

4 (a) Access to justice is a basic principle of the rule of law, and it
5 ensures that all persons, institutions, and entities, public and private,
6 including the state, are held accountable to laws that are publicly
7 promulgated, equally enforced, and independently adjudicated;

8 (b) In the absence of access to justice, people are unable to have
9 their voices heard, exercise their rights, challenge discrimination, or hold
10 decision-makers accountable;

11 (c) Providing civil legal aid to people in poverty is vital to
12 Colorado in supporting justice for victims of intimate partner violence,
13 ensuring veterans receive their well-earned benefits, protecting against
14 elder abuse, fighting human trafficking, protecting access to necessities
15 such as food and shelter, and other areas;

16 (d) Without access to civil legal representation, many laws and
17 protections remain unenforceable for low-income Coloradans;

18 (e) State-funded legal aid in certain civil matters reinforces the
19 importance of the right to counsel to ensure a fair trial;

20 (f) Equal access to justice would have little effective meaning if
21 an individual could not afford that right on the basis of income;

22 (g) In order to meet the needs of our most vulnerable community
23 members, it is necessary, appropriate, equitable, and in the best interest
24 of all Coloradans to create a special purpose authority to allow
25 low-income Coloradans access to the court system by imposing a fee on

1 a party's first court filing;

2 (h) The fee imposed is for the specific purpose of serving users of
3 Colorado courts, who will pay the fee on all initial pleadings and answers
4 because the fee:

5 (I) Will serve all qualified court users by increasing the efficiency
6 of courts for all court users by reducing slowdowns caused by
7 self-represented parties because providing guidance and legal assistance
8 to unrepresented litigants increases efficiency in courts;

9 (II) Will increase the provision of justice in our courts for all court
10 users, regardless of income, which is an interest shared among all court
11 users;

12 (III) Is collected at a rate reasonably calculated based on the
13 overall costs of the services provided by the authority; and

14 (IV) Is not a tax;

15 (i) Furthering access to Colorado's civil courts is a pillar of our
16 democratic legal systems; and

17 (j) The state of Colorado must endeavor to systematically support
18 the delivery of equal access to legal aid services to all qualified
19 Coloradans.

20 (2) Therefore, the general assembly declares that the lack of
21 access to civil legal justice is a problem that has serious social, legal,
22 economic, and political consequences, and the general assembly enacts
23 this legislation to fund equal access to justice and reaffirm the
24 commitment to equitable access to the civil legal process.

25 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** part 2 to article
26 5.7 of title 13 as follows:

27 **PART 2**

1 EQUAL JUSTICE FUND AUTHORITY

2 13-5.7-201. Definitions. AS USED IN THIS PART 2, UNLESS THE
3 CONTEXT OTHERWISE REQUIRES:

4 (1) "AUTHORITY" MEANS THE EQUAL JUSTICE FUND AUTHORITY
5 CREATED IN SECTION 13-5.7-202.

6 (2) "BOARD" MEANS THE EQUAL JUSTICE FUND AUTHORITY BOARD
7 CREATED IN SECTION 13-5.7-204.

8 (3) "EQUAL JUSTICE FUND FEE" MEANS THE FEE COLLECTED
9 PURSUANT TO THIS PART 2.

10 (4) "FILING FEE" MEANS A DOCKET FEE FOR A CIVIL ACTION AS SET
11 FORTH IN SECTIONS 13-4-112, 13-32-101, AND 13-32-102.

12 (5) "QUALIFIED CIVIL LEGAL AID PROVIDER" MEANS A 501 (c)(3)
13 NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION OTHER THAN THE COLORADO RECIPIENT OF A
14 FEDERAL LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION FIELD GRANT THAT PROVIDES
15 LEGAL REPRESENTATION AND ADVICE TO PEOPLE IN COLORADO WHO ARE
16 AT OR BELOW TWO HUNDRED FIFTY PERCENT OF THE FEDERAL POVERTY
17 GUIDELINE TO SUPPORT THEIR ACCESS TO BASIC NEEDS SUCH AS HOUSING,
18 EMPLOYMENT, HEALTH SERVICES, EDUCATION, AND ASSISTANCE WITH
19 FAMILY MATTERS AND IMMIGRATION STATUS ISSUES.

20 13-5.7-202. Creation and purpose. THERE IS CREATED AS A
21 SPECIAL PURPOSE AUTHORITY, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 24-77-102, THE
22 EQUAL JUSTICE FUND AUTHORITY, WHICH IS A BODY CORPORATE AND A
23 POLITICAL SUBDIVISION OF THE STATE, WHICH SHALL NOT BE AN AGENCY
24 OF STATE GOVERNMENT, AND SHALL NOT BE SUBJECT TO ADMINISTRATIVE
25 DIRECTION BY ANY DEPARTMENT, COMMISSION, BOARD, BUREAU, OR
26 AGENCY OF THE STATE. THE AUTHORITY IS RESPONSIBLE FOR
27 ADMINISTERING THE EQUAL JUSTICE FUND CREATED IN SECTION

1 13-5.7-205.

2 **13-5.7-203. General powers.** (1) IN ADDITION TO ANY OTHER
3 POWERS GRANTED TO THE AUTHORITY IN THIS PART 2, THE AUTHORITY HAS
4 THE FOLLOWING POWERS:

5 (a) TO HAVE THE DUTIES, PRIVILEGES, IMMUNITIES, RIGHTS,
6 LIABILITIES, AND DISABILITIES OF A BODY CORPORATE AND POLITICAL
7 SUBDIVISION OF THE STATE;

8 (b) TO HAVE PERPETUAL EXISTENCE AND SUCCESSION;

9 (c) TO ADOPT, HAVE, AND USE A SEAL AND TO ALTER THE SAME AT
10 ITS PLEASURE;

11 (d) TO SUE AND BE SUED;

12 (e) TO ENTER INTO ANY CONTRACT OR AGREEMENT NOT
13 INCONSISTENT WITH THIS PART 2 OR THE LAWS OF THE STATE;

14 (f) TO PURCHASE, LEASE, LEASE WITH AN OPTION TO PURCHASE,
15 TRADE, EXCHANGE, OR OTHERWISE ACQUIRE, MAINTAIN, HOLD, IMPROVE,
16 MORTGAGE, ENCUMBER, AND DISPOSE OF REAL PROPERTY AND PERSONAL
17 PROPERTY, WHETHER TANGIBLE OR INTANGIBLE, AND ANY INTEREST,
18 INCLUDING EASEMENTS AND RIGHTS-OF-WAY, WITHOUT RESTRICTION OR
19 LIMITATION;

20 (g) TO ACQUIRE OFFICE SPACE, EQUIPMENT, SERVICES, SUPPLIES,
21 AND INSURANCE NECESSARY TO CARRY OUT THE PURPOSES OF THIS PART
22 2;

23 (h) TO DEPOSIT ANY MONEY OF THE AUTHORITY IN ANY BANKING
24 INSTITUTION OR IN ANY DEPOSITORY AUTHORIZED PURSUANT TO SECTION
25 24-75-603, AND TO APPOINT, FOR THE PURPOSE OF MAKING SUCH
26 DEPOSITS, ONE OR MORE PERSONS TO ACT AS CUSTODIANS OF THE MONEY
27 OF THE AUTHORITY, WHO SHALL GIVE SURETY BONDS IN SUCH AMOUNTS

1 AND FORM AND FOR SUCH PURPOSES AS THE BOARD REQUIRES;

2 (i) TO CONTRACT FOR AND TO ACCEPT ANY GIFTS, GRANTS, AND
3 LOANS OF FUNDS, PROPERTY, OR ANY OTHER AID IN ANY FORM FROM THE
4 FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, THE STATE, ANY STATE AGENCY, OR ANY OTHER
5 SOURCE, OR ANY COMBINATION THEREOF, AND TO COMPLY, SUBJECT TO
6 THE PROVISIONS OF THIS PART 2, WITH THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF
7 SUCH CONTRACTS OR THE ACCEPTANCE OF SUCH ITEMS;

8 (j) TO HAVE AND EXERCISE ALL RIGHTS AND POWERS NECESSARY
9 OR INCIDENTAL TO OR IMPLIED FROM THE SPECIFIC POWERS GRANTED IN
10 THIS PART 2, WHICH SPECIFIC POWERS SHALL NOT BE CONSIDERED AS A
11 LIMITATION UPON ANY POWER NECESSARY OR APPROPRIATE TO CARRY OUT
12 THE PURPOSES AND INTENT OF THIS PART 2;

13 (k) TO FIX THE TIME AND PLACE OR PLACES AT WHICH ITS REGULAR
14 AND SPECIAL MEETINGS ARE TO BE HELD;

15 (l) TO ELECT ONE MEMBER AS CHAIRPERSON OF THE BOARD AND
16 ANOTHER MEMBER AS VICE-CHAIRPERSON OF THE BOARD AND TO ELECT
17 ONE OR MORE MEMBERS AS SECRETARY AND TREASURER OF THE BOARD
18 AND ELECT OR APPOINT SUCH OTHER OFFICERS AS THE BOARD MAY
19 DETERMINE AND PROVIDE FOR THEIR DUTIES AND TERMS OF OFFICE;

20 (m) TO APPOINT AGENTS, EMPLOYEES, AND PROFESSIONAL AND
21 BUSINESS ADVISERS, INCLUDING REAL ESTATE PROFESSIONALS,
22 CONSTRUCTION COMPANIES, PROPERTY MANAGERS, ATTORNEYS,
23 ACCOUNTANTS, AND FINANCIAL ADVISERS AS MAY FROM TIME TO TIME BE
24 NECESSARY IN THE AUTHORITY'S JUDGMENT TO ACCOMPLISH THE
25 PURPOSES OF THIS PART 2, AND TO FIX THE COMPENSATION OF SUCH
26 AGENTS, EMPLOYEES, AND ADVISERS, AND TO ESTABLISH THE POWERS AND
27 DUTIES OF ALL AGENTS, EMPLOYEES, AND ADVISERS, AS WELL AS ANY

1 OTHER PERSON CONTRACTING WITH THE AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE
2 SERVICES, INCLUDING TERMINATION OF EMPLOYMENT OR THE CONTRACT
3 FOR SERVICES;

4 (n) TO MAKE AND EXECUTE AGREEMENTS, CONTRACTS, AND
5 OTHER INSTRUMENTS NECESSARY OR CONVENIENT IN THE EXERCISE OF THE
6 POWERS AND FUNCTIONS OF THE AUTHORITY PURSUANT TO THIS PART 2,
7 INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, CONTRACTS WITH ANY PERSON, FIRM,
8 CORPORATION, MUNICIPALITY, STATE AGENCY, COUNTY, OR OTHER
9 ENTITY. ALL MUNICIPALITIES, COUNTIES, AND STATE AGENCIES MAY
10 ENTER INTO AND DO ALL THINGS NECESSARY TO PERFORM ANY SUCH
11 ARRANGEMENT OR CONTRACT WITH THE AUTHORITY.

12 (o) OTHER POWERS NECESSARY TO ACCOMPLISH THE AUTHORITY'S
13 SPECIFIC GOALS AS REQUIRED PURSUANT TO THIS PART 2.

14 **13-5.7-204. Equal justice fund authority board - membership**
15 **and meetings - fund - rules.** (1) THE AUTHORITY IS GOVERNED BY THE
16 EQUAL JUSTICE FUND AUTHORITY BOARD, WHICH IS MADE UP OF SEVEN
17 MEMBERS WHO ARE RESIDENTS OF THIS STATE AND HAVE A
18 DEMONSTRATED COMMITMENT TO PROVIDING CIVIL LEGAL AID THROUGH
19 CURRENT OR PRIOR EMPLOYMENT WITH A QUALIFIED CIVIL LEGAL AID
20 PROVIDER, OR THROUGH SUBSTANTIAL VOLUNTEER SERVICE WITH A
21 SIMILAR ORGANIZATION.

22 (2) MEMBERS OF THE BOARD MUST BE APPOINTED AS FOLLOWS:

23 (a) ONE MEMBER APPOINTED BY THE CHIEF JUSTICE OF THE
24 COLORADO SUPREME COURT;

25 (b) ONE MEMBER APPOINTED BY THE ATTORNEY GENERAL;

26 (c) ONE MEMBER APPOINTED BY THE COLORADO BAR
27 ASSOCIATION;

1 (d) ONE MEMBER APPOINTED BY THE COLORADO LAWYER TRUST
2 ACCOUNT FOUNDATION; AND

3 (e) THREE MEMBERS APPOINTED BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF
4 THE COLORADO ACCESS TO JUSTICE COMMISSION, AT LEAST TWO OF WHOM
5 ARE EMPLOYED BY A QUALIFIED CIVIL LEGAL AID PROVIDER, AND AT LEAST
6 ONE OF WHOM IS EMPLOYED BY A QUALIFIED CIVIL LEGAL AID PROVIDER
7 THAT EMPLOYS TEN OR FEWER FULL-TIME ATTORNEYS.

8 (3) THE APPOINTING AUTHORITIES SHALL MAKE REASONABLE
9 EFFORTS TO APPOINT BOARD MEMBERS THAT REFLECT THE GEOGRAPHIC
10 AND DEMOGRAPHIC DIVERSITY OF THE STATE, INCLUDING MEMBERS FROM
11 BOTH RURAL AND URBAN PARTS OF THE STATE, AND MEMBERS OF DIVERSE
12 POLITICAL, RACIAL, ABILITY, CULTURAL GROUP, AND SOCIOECONOMIC
13 STATUS.

14 (4) MEMBERS SERVE TERMS OF THREE YEARS; EXCEPT THAT
15 INITIAL TERMS OF THE MEMBERS APPOINTED BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
16 OF THE COLORADO ACCESS TO JUSTICE COMMISSION ARE TWO-YEAR
17 TERMS IN ORDER TO STAGGER THE TERMS SO THAT NO MORE THAN FOUR
18 MEMBERS' TERMS EXPIRE IN THE SAME YEAR. THE APPOINTING
19 AUTHORITIES SHALL DESIGNATE THE INITIAL TERMS AND FILL ANY
20 VACANCIES ON THE BOARD.

21 (5) TERMS EXPIRE ON DECEMBER 31 OF THE FINAL YEAR OF THE
22 TERM.

23 (6) MEMBERS MAY BE REAPPOINTED TO SERVE TWO ADDITIONAL
24 TERMS.

25 (7) A MEMBER MAY BE REMOVED FROM THE BOARD BY MAJORITY
26 VOTE OF THE BOARD FOR MISFEASANCE, MALFEASANCE, WILLFUL NEGLECT
27 OF DUTY, OR OTHER CAUSE AFTER NOTICE AND A PUBLIC HEARING, UNLESS

1 NOTICE AND A PUBLIC HEARING ARE EXPRESSLY WAIVED IN WRITING BY
2 THE MEMBER BEING REMOVED.

3 (8) THE BOARD SHALL MEET AT LEAST FOUR TIMES PER YEAR.

4 (9) THE BOARD SHALL ELECT A CHAIR AND A VICE-CHAIR AT ITS
5 FIRST MEETING OF EACH CALENDAR YEAR.

6 (10) MEMBERS SERVE WITHOUT COMPENSATION BUT MUST BE
7 REIMBURSED FOR ACTUAL AND REASONABLE EXPENSES INCURRED IN THE
8 PERFORMANCE OF THEIR DUTIES.

9 (11) THE BOARD SHALL ADOPT ITS OWN RULES OF PROCEDURE AND
10 KEEP A RECORD OF ALL PROCEEDINGS.

11 (12) (a) THE AUTHORITY MAY COOPERATE AND ENTER INTO
12 CONTRACTS WITH THE COMMISSION OR ANOTHER AGENCY OR ENTITY, FOR
13 ADMINISTRATIVE OR OPERATIONAL ASSISTANCE, INCLUDING FOR STAFFING.

14 (b) THE AUTHORITY SHALL PAY THE CONTRACTED ENTITY IN
15 ADVANCE FOR ALL AGREED UPON COSTS INCURRED BY THE CONTRACTED
16 ENTITY IN PROVIDING STAFFING FOR THE AUTHORITY TO CARRY OUT ITS
17 MISSION, INCLUDING COMPENSATION FOR EMPLOYEES STAFFING THE
18 AUTHORITY AND ANY ADMINISTRATION AND INDIRECT COSTS ASSOCIATED
19 WITH STAFFING THE AUTHORITY.

20 (13) IF THE COMMISSION EXPECTS TO INCUR ACTUAL COSTS AS A
21 RESULT OF STAFFING THE AUTHORITY THAT EXCEEDS THE AMOUNT
22 PROVIDED BY THE AUTHORITY PURSUANT TO SECTION 13-5.7-206, THE
23 AUTHORITY SHALL PAY THE COMMISSION FOR ALL COSTS INCURRED BY THE
24 COMMISSION IN PROVIDING STAFFING TO THE AUTHORITY, INCLUDING, BUT
25 LIMITED TO, COMPENSATION FOR EMPLOYEES STAFFING THE AUTHORITY
26 AND ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS IN AN AMOUNT AGREED UPON BY THE
27 AUTHORITY AND COMMISSION.

1 **13-5.7-205. Equal justice fund - creation.** (1) THERE IS
2 CREATED IN THE STATE TREASURY THE EQUAL JUSTICE FUND. THE EQUAL
3 JUSTICE FUND IS ADMINISTERED BY THE AUTHORITY. THE PURPOSE OF THE
4 FUND IS TO:

5 (a) PROVIDE ACCESS TO LEGAL REPRESENTATION TO INDIGENT
6 PERSONS BY PROVIDING ANNUAL GRANTS TO THE COLORADO RECIPIENT OF
7 A FEDERAL LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION FIELD GRANT AND OTHER
8 QUALIFIED CIVIL LEGAL AID PROVIDERS PURSUANT TO SECTION 13-5.7-206;

9 (b) INCREASE THE EFFICIENCY OF COLORADO COURTS FOR ALL
10 COURT USERS BY REDUCING SLOWDOWNS CAUSED BY
11 SELF-REPRESENTATION; AND

12 (c) PAY THE DIRECT AND INDIRECT COSTS OF ADMINISTERING THE
13 REQUIREMENTS OF THIS PART 2, INCLUDING PAYMENT FOR COSTS
14 ASSOCIATED WITH STAFFING THE AUTHORITY AND REIMBURSEMENT OF THE
15 ACTUAL AND NECESSARY EXPENSES OF BOARD MEMBERS AS REQUIRED BY
16 SECTION 13-5.7-204.

17 (2) THE COURT SHALL COLLECT THE EQUAL JUSTICE FUND FEE AT
18 THE TIME OF FILING AND QUARTERLY, BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2025, AND
19 SHALL REMIT THE COLLECTED EQUAL JUSTICE FUND FEES TO THE STATE
20 TREASURER TO BE DEPOSITED INTO THE EQUAL JUSTICE FUND.

21 (3) THE EQUAL JUSTICE FUND CONSISTS OF MONEY COLLECTED
22 FROM THE FILING FEE REQUIRED BY SECTIONS 13-4-112, 13-32-101, AND
23 13-32-102.

24 (4) THE EQUAL JUSTICE FUND IS CONTINUOUSLY APPROPRIATED TO
25 THE AUTHORITY AND IS NOT SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION BY THE GENERAL
26 ASSEMBLY. ANY INTEREST OR INCOME DERIVED FROM THE DEPOSIT AND
27 INVESTMENT OF MONEY IN THE EQUAL JUSTICE FUND REMAINS IN THE

1 EQUAL JUSTICE FUND AND IS NOT TRANSFERRED TO THE GENERAL FUND OR
2 ANY OTHER FUND AT THE END OF A FISCAL YEAR.

3 **13-5.7-206. Distribution of funds.** (1) ON JULY 1, 2025, AND
4 EACH JULY 1 THEREAFTER, THE AUTHORITY SHALL ANNUALLY DISTRIBUTE
5 ALL REVENUE DEPOSITED INTO THE EQUAL JUSTICE FUND, LESS THE
6 AUTHORITY'S DIRECT AND INDIRECT EXPENSES IN ADMINISTERING THE
7 REQUIREMENTS OF THIS PART 2 AND ANY OTHER RELATED WORK
8 COMPLETED TO ADVANCE THE MISSION OF THE AUTHORITY. THE
9 AUTHORITY SHALL DISTRIBUTE SIXTY-SEVEN PERCENT OF THE REMAINING
10 REVENUE TO THE COLORADO RECIPIENT OF A FEDERAL LEGAL SERVICES
11 CORPORATION FIELD GRANT, AND THIRTY-THREE PERCENT TO QUALIFIED
12 CIVIL LEGAL AID PROVIDERS.

13 (2) THE BOARD, BY RESOLUTION, SHALL ESTABLISH A FUNDING
14 FORMULA TO USE TO DETERMINE THE DISTRIBUTION AMOUNT FOR EACH
15 QUALIFIED CIVIL LEGAL AID PROVIDER. IN DEVELOPING THE FORMULA, THE
16 BOARD SHALL CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING FACTORS:

17 (a) THE NUMBER OF ATTORNEY HOURS SPENT SERVING PEOPLE IN
18 COLORADO IN POVERTY IN THE PREVIOUS YEAR;

19 (b) THE NUMBER OF FULL-TIME ATTORNEYS EMPLOYED BY THE
20 QUALIFIED CIVIL LEGAL AID PROVIDER;

21 (c) THE NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS LIVING IN POVERTY WHO RECEIVE
22 LEGAL REPRESENTATION OR LEGAL ADVICE FROM THE QUALIFIED CIVIL
23 LEGAL AID PROVIDER;

24 (d) GEOGRAPHIC REACH OF SERVICES; AND

25 (e) ABILITY AND EXPERIENCE SERVING POPULATIONS WITH
26 BARRIERS TO LEGAL ASSISTANCE, INCLUDING PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES
27 AND PEOPLE WITH LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENCY.

1 (3) IN ESTABLISHING THE FUNDING FORMULA PURSUANT TO
2 SUBSECTION (2) OF THIS SECTION, THE BOARD SHALL CONSIDER THE VITAL
3 IMPORTANCE OF THE WORK OF QUALIFIED CIVIL LEGAL AID PROVIDERS
4 THAT EMPLOY TEN OR FEWER FULL-TIME ATTORNEYS TO LOW-INCOME
5 COLORADO COMMUNITIES.

6 **13-5.7-207. Report.** (1) ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 1, 2026, AND
7 EACH JANUARY 1 THEREAFTER, THE AUTHORITY SHALL PREPARE AND
8 SUBMIT A REPORT TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES JUDICIARY
9 COMMITTEE AND THE SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE, OR THEIR
10 SUCCESSOR COMMITTEES, THAT DETAILS THE USE OF THE FUND. AT A
11 MINIMUM, THE REPORT MUST INCLUDE:

12 (a) HOW MUCH MONEY WAS COLLECTED IN THE FUND IN THE
13 PRECEDING YEAR;

14 (b) HOW MUCH MONEY THE COLORADO RECIPIENT OF A FEDERAL
15 LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION FIELD GRANT AND OTHER QUALIFIED CIVIL
16 LEGAL AID PROVIDERS RECEIVED FROM THE FUND IN THE PRECEDING YEAR;

17 (c) THE AMOUNT OF FUNDS LEFT UNUSED BY THE COLORADO
18 RECIPIENT OF A FEDERAL LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION FIELD GRANT
19 AND THE QUALIFIED CIVIL LEGAL AID PROVIDERS AT THE CONCLUSION OF
20 THE PRECEDING YEAR; AND

21 (d) THE TYPES OF LEGAL SERVICES PROVIDED TO INDIVIDUALS WHO
22 RECEIVED LEGAL SERVICES AS A RESULT OF THE FUND.

23 **SECTION 3.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **amend** 13-4-112 as
24 follows:

25 **13-4-112. Fees of the clerk of court of appeals.** (1) (a) Within
26 the time allowed or fixed for transmission of the record, the appellant
27 shall pay to the clerk of the court of appeals a docket fee of two hundred

1 ~~twenty-three~~ FORTY-THREE dollars.

2 (b) The docket fee for the appellee shall be one hundred
3 ~~forty-eight~~ SIXTY-EIGHT dollars to be paid upon the entry of appearance
4 of the appellee.

5 (2) (a) Each fee collected pursuant to ~~paragraph (a) of subsection~~
6 ~~(1)~~ SUBSECTION (1)(a) of this section shall be transmitted to the state
7 treasurer and divided as follows:

8 (I) One hundred fifty dollars shall be deposited in the supreme
9 court library fund created pursuant to section 13-2-120;

10 (II) Five dollars shall be deposited in the judicial stabilization cash
11 fund created in section 13-32-101 (6); ~~and~~

12 (III) Sixty-eight dollars shall be deposited in the justice center
13 cash fund created in section 13-32-101 (7)(a); AND

14 (IV) TWENTY DOLLARS MUST BE DEPOSITED IN THE EQUAL JUSTICE
15 FUND CREATED IN SECTION 13-5.7-205.

16 (b) Each fee collected pursuant to ~~paragraph (b) of subsection (1)~~
17 SUBSECTION (1)(b) of this section shall be transmitted to the state
18 treasurer and divided as follows:

19 (I) Seventy-five dollars shall be deposited in the supreme court
20 library fund created pursuant to section 13-2-120;

21 (II) Five dollars shall be deposited in the judicial stabilization cash
22 fund created in section 13-32-101 (6); ~~and~~

23 (III) Sixty-eight dollars shall be deposited in the justice center
24 cash fund created in section 13-32-101 (7)(a); AND

25 (IV) TWENTY DOLLARS MUST BE DEPOSITED IN THE EQUAL JUSTICE
26 FUND CREATED IN SECTION 13-5.7-205.

27 **SECTION 4.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 13-32-101, **add** (1.5)

1 and (3)(d) as follows:

2 **13-32-101. Docket fees in civil actions - judicial stabilization**
3 **cash fund - justice center cash fund - justice center maintenance fund**
4 **- created - report - legislative declaration.** (1.5) (a) BEGINNING
5 JANUARY 1, 2025, AN EQUAL JUSTICE FUND FEE OF TWENTY DOLLARS
6 MUST BE PAID ON ALL COURT FILINGS BY A PARTY AT THE TIME A FEE IS
7 REQUIRED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (1) OF THIS SECTION, EXCEPT FOR
8 FILINGS IN SMALL CLAIMS COURT.

9 (b) FEES COLLECTED PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION (1.5) MUST
10 BE ANNUALLY DEPOSITED INTO THE EQUAL JUSTICE FUND CREATED IN
11 SECTION 13-5.7-205.

12 (3) (d) A FILING FEE MUST NOT BE CHARGED TO A COLORADO
13 RECIPIENT OF A FEDERAL LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION FIELD GRANT OR
14 OTHER QUALIFIED CIVIL LEGAL AID PROVIDER, AS DEFINED IN SECTION
15 13-5.7-201.

16 **SECTION 5.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 13-32-102, **amend**
17 (1)(a), (1)(b), (1)(f), (6)(a)(II), (6)(b)(II), and (6)(f)(II) as follows:

18 **13-32-102. Fees in probate proceedings.** (1) On and after July
19 1, 2019, for services rendered by judges and clerks of district or probate
20 courts in all counties of the state of Colorado in proceedings had pursuant
21 to articles 10 to 17 of title 15, the court shall charge the following fees:

22 (a) Docket fee at the time of filing first papers in any decedent's
23 estate eligible for summary administrative procedures ~~under~~ PURSUANT
24 TO section 15-12-1203, or in any small estate of a person under disability
25 qualifying under section 15-14-118, which estates involve no real
26 property

27 \$ ~~83.00~~ **103.00**

1 (b) Docket fee at time of filing first papers in any estate not
2 coming within the provisions of subsection (1)(a) of this section

3 ~~199.00~~ **219.00**

4 (f) Docket fee at time of filing first papers in each action relating
5 to a trust

6 ~~199.00~~ **219.00**

7 (6) (a) Each fee collected pursuant to subsection (1)(a) of this
8 section shall be transmitted to the state treasurer and divided as follows:

9 (II) On and after July 1, 2019, forty-eight dollars shall be
10 deposited in the judicial stabilization cash fund created in section
11 13-32-101 (6), five dollars shall be deposited in the court security cash
12 fund established pursuant to section 13-1-204, fifteen dollars shall be
13 deposited in the office of public guardianship cash fund established
14 pursuant to section 13-94-108 (1), ~~and~~ fifteen dollars shall be deposited
15 in the justice center cash fund created in section 13-32-101 (7)(a), ~~AND~~
16 TWENTY DOLLARS SHALL BE DEPOSITED IN THE EQUAL JUSTICE FUND
17 CREATED IN SECTION 13-5.7-205.

18 (b) Each fee collected pursuant to subsection (1)(b) of this section
19 shall be transmitted to the state treasurer and divided as follows:

20 (II) On and after July 1, 2019, one hundred forty-three dollars
21 shall be deposited in the judicial stabilization cash fund created in section
22 13-32-101 (6), five dollars shall be deposited in the court security cash
23 fund established pursuant to section 13-1-204, fifteen dollars shall be
24 deposited in the justice center cash fund created in section 13-32-101
25 (7)(a), thirty-five dollars shall be deposited in the office of public
26 guardianship cash fund established pursuant to section 13-94-108 (1), ~~and~~
27 one dollar shall be deposited in the general fund pursuant to section

1 2-5-119, AND TWENTY DOLLARS SHALL BE DEPOSITED IN THE EQUAL
2 JUSTICE FUND CREATED IN SECTION 13-5.7-205.

3 (f) Each fee collected pursuant to subsection (1)(f) of this section
4 shall be transmitted to the state treasurer and divided as follows:

5 (II) On and after July 1, 2019, one hundred forty-three dollars
6 shall be deposited in the judicial stabilization cash fund created in section
7 13-32-101 (6), five dollars shall be deposited in the court security cash
8 fund established pursuant to section 13-1-204, fifteen dollars shall be
9 deposited in the justice center cash fund created in section 13-32-101
10 (7)(a), thirty-five dollars shall be deposited in the office of public
11 guardianship cash fund established pursuant to section 13-94-108 (1), and
12 one dollar shall be deposited in the general fund pursuant to section
13 2-5-119, AND TWENTY DOLLARS SHALL BE DEPOSITED IN THE EQUAL
14 JUSTICE FUND CREATED IN SECTION 13-5.7-205.

15 **SECTION 6.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-77-102, **amend**
16 (15)(b)(XIX) and (15)(b)(XX); and **add** (15)(b)(XXI) as follows:

17 **24-77-102. Definitions.** As used in this article 77, unless the
18 context otherwise requires:

19 (15) (b) "Special purpose authority" includes, but is not limited to:

20 (XIX) The Colorado electric transmission authority created in
21 section 40-42-103 (1); and

22 (XX) The middle-income housing authority created in section
23 29-4-1104 (1); AND

24 (XXI) THE EQUAL JUSTICE FUND AUTHORITY CREATED IN SECTION
25 13-5.7-202.

26 **SECTION 7. Safety clause.** The general assembly finds,
27 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate

- 1 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety or for appropriations for
- 2 the support and maintenance of the departments of the state and state
- 3 institutions.