HOUSE COMMITTEE OF REFERENCE REPORT

March 17, 2022
Chair of Committee Date
Committee on Education.
After consideration on the merits, the Committee recommends the following:
HB22-1295 be amended as follows, and as so amended, be referred to the Committee on <u>Appropriations</u> with favorable recommendation:
Amend printed bill, page 11, line 24, strike "MULTIPLE" and substitute "TWO".
Page 12, after line 27 insert: "(g) If the executive director decides not to follow the recommendations of the council with regard to a rule, the executive director shall provide a written explanation of the rationale for the decision."
Reletter succeeding paragraphs accordingly.
Page 16, line 25, strike "POWERS." and substitute "POWERS,".
Page 21, line 3, strike "SERVICES" and substitute "SERVICES THAT ARE UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE DEPARTMENT".
Page 21, line 17, after "DATA," insert "ELIMINATING DUPLICATION OF DATA COLLECTION WHEN POSSIBLE,".
Page 31, after line 25 insert: "(I) Administration of Part C of the Federal "Individuals with Disabilities Education Act", 20 U.S.C. sec. 1400 et seq., as amended, and coordination with the department of Education of the transition of Children from Part C to Part B as agreed to in the interagency operating agreement described in section 26.5-3-404 (3) between the department and the department of Education;".

- 1 Renumber succeeding subparagraphs accordingly.
- 2 Page 31, line 26, strike "INTERAGENCY AGREEMENT" and substitute
- 3 "MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING".
- 4 Page 36, line 12, strike "NETWORKS," and substitute "NETWORKS AND
- 5 COLLABORATIVES,".
- 6 Page 36, line 14, after the period add "THE SOLICITATION AND SELECTION
- 7 OF ENTITIES TO SERVE AS LOCAL COORDINATING ORGANIZATIONS ARE NOT
- 8 SUBJECT TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE "PROCUREMENT CODE", ARTICLES
- 9 101 to 112 of title 24.".
- 10 Page 37, line 3, after "PROVIDERS," insert "EARLY CHILDHOOD
- 11 councils,".
- Page 37, line 3, after "AGENCIES," insert "SCHOOL DISTRICTS, CHARTER
- 13 schools,"
- 14 Page 37, line 12, strike "AND".
- 15 Page 37, after line 12 insert:
- 16 "(IV) FAMILY RESOURCE CENTERS, AS DEFINED IN SECTION
- 17 26.5-3-102; AND".
- 18 Renumber succeeding subparagraph accordingly.
- 19 Page 43, strike lines 22 through 24 and substitute "PROVIDERS;".
- 20 Page 45, line 16, strike "(2)(a)(III)," and substitute "(2)(c),".
- Page 46, line 14, after "RULE." insert "THE COORDINATOR AGREEMENTS
- 22 ARE NOT SUBJECT TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE "PROCUREMENT CODE",
- 23 ARTICLES 101 TO 112 OF TITLE 24.".
- 24 Page 47, line 10, strike "(2)(a)(III);" and substitute "(2)(c);".
- 25 Page 48, line 18, strike "(2)" and substitute "(3)".
- 26 Page 50, line 13, strike "(2)(a)(III)," and substitute "(2)(c),".
- 27 Page 52, after line 19 insert:
- 28 "(5) The executive director shall establish by rule a

- 1 PROCESS BY WHICH AN APPLYING ENTITY THAT IS NOT SELECTED TO ACT
- 2 AS A LOCAL COORDINATING ORGANIZATION, OR A LOCAL COORDINATING
- 3 organization for which the coordinating agreement is
- 4 TERMINATED, MAY APPEAL THE DECISION OF THE DEPARTMENT.".
- 5 Page 59, line 3, strike "42" and substitute "42 20".
- 6 Page 73, line 24, strike "seventeen" and substitute "seventeen NINETEEN".
- 7 Page 74, after line 1, insert:
- 8 "(b) The executive director of the department of early
- 9 CHILDHOOD OR THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S DESIGNEE;".
- 10 Reletter succeeding paragraphs according.
- Page 74, line 6, strike "two" and substitute "two THREE".
- 12 Page 74, line 18, strike "(2)(d)" and substitute "(2)(d) (2)(e)".
- 13 Page 83, line 13, strike "2023." and substitute "2028."
- Page 84, line 24, before "there" insert "AS AMENDED,".
- 15 Page 90, line 16, strike "26.5-3-(408) (1)(a)." and substitute "26.5-3-408
- 16 (1).".
- Page 91, line 1, strike "PART" and substitute "PART".
- Page 93, line 5, after "26.5-3-404." insert "[Formerly 27-10.5-704]".
- 19 Page 140, line 1, strike "26.5-5-303 (5)." and substitute "26.5-5-303.".
- 20 Page 140, line 15, strike "26.5-5-303 (5)," and substitute "26.5-5-303,".
- 21 Page 140, line 16, strike "26.5-5-303 (12)," and substitute "26.5-5-303,".
- 22 Page 140, line 20, strike "26.5-5-303 (27)," and substitute "26.5-5-303,".
- 23 Page 142, line 12, strike "26.5-5-303 (5)." and substitute "26.5-5-303.".
- 24 Page 143, line 7, strike "26.5-5-303 (12)." and substitute "26.5-5-303.".
- 25 Page 159, after line 1 insert:

"PART 9 FAMILY STRENGTHENING HOME VISITING PROGRAMS

1 2

26.5-3-901. Legislative declaration. (1) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FINDS AND DECLARES THAT:

- (a) TRADITIONAL METHODS OF DELIVERING FAMILY-STRENGTHENING SERVICE PROGRAMS, WHICH OFTEN REQUIRE PARENTS AND THEIR CHILDREN TO TRAVEL TO A PROGRAM SITE TO ACCESS SERVICES DELIVERED SIMULTANEOUSLY TO MULTIPLE FAMILIES, OFTEN CREATE BARRIERS, SUCH AS LIMITED ACCESS TO TRANSPORTATION OR CREATION OF A STIGMA AROUND RECEIVING SERVICES, THAT PREVENT FAMILIES, ESPECIALLY LOW-INCOME FAMILIES, FROM RECEIVING THE BENEFITS OF THE SERVICES;
- (b) EVIDENCE DEMONSTRATES THAT VOLUNTARY, HIGH-QUALITY, EVIDENCE-BASED PROGRAMS THAT DELIVER FAMILY-STRENGTHENING SUPPORT SERVICES HELP PARENTS AND OTHER CAREGIVERS DEVELOP THE SKILLS AND CONFIDENCE NEEDED TO PROMOTE THEIR CHILDREN'S HEALTHY DEVELOPMENT AND LEARNING;
- (c) HOME VISITING IS A SERVICE DELIVERY STRATEGY THAT IS SUCCESSFULLY USED TO DELIVER A WIDE ARRAY OF HIGH-QUALITY, VOLUNTARY FAMILY-STRENGTHENING SUPPORT SERVICES AND THAT ENABLES FAMILIES TO OVERCOME BARRIERS TO ACCESS BECAUSE THE SERVICES ARE DELIVERED IN THE HOME OR OTHER CONVENIENT SETTINGS, WHICH ARE OFTEN SELECTED BY THE FAMILY;
- (d) Home visiting is a service delivery strategy that can be leveraged to provide high-quality, voluntary, family-strengthening support services to more Colorado families who have fewer resources and are exposed to risk factors that may lead to poor outcomes in child development. Using home visiting to provide these services results in a strong return on investment by improving school readiness and helping Colorado's children reach their full potential.
- (e) Family-strengthening support services that are delivered through home visiting have also demonstrated improved family and child outcomes by promoting solid parent-child relationships, improving child and parental social-emotional and physical health, improving family economic security, identifying developmental delays early, providing timely child welfare intervention services, and preventing trauma and toxic stress.
- (2) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FINDS, THEREFORE, THAT AUTHORIZING GRANT PROGRAMS TO SUPPORT HOME VISITING PROGRAMS THAT DELIVER HIGH-QUALITY, VOLUNTARY, FAMILY-STRENGTHENING

SUPPORT SERVICES IS ONE OF THE BEST STRATEGIES AVAILABLE TO SUPPORT PARENTS AND OTHER CAREGIVERS IN PREPARING CHILDREN FOR FUTURE SUCCESS AND ENSURE ALL COLORADO CHILDREN ARE READY TO LEARN WHEN THEY ARRIVE AT SCHOOL.

26.5-3-902. Definition. AS USED IN THIS PART 9, UNLESS THE CONTEXT OTHERWISE REQUIRES, "HOME VISITING" MEANS A TWO-GENERATION DELIVERY STRATEGY THAT IS DESIGNED TO OVERCOME BARRIERS TO ACCESSING SERVICES BY PROVIDING A COMPREHENSIVE ARRAY OF VOLUNTARY, EVIDENCE-BASED, FAMILY-STRENGTHENING SERVICES TO A FAMILY IN A LOCATION USUALLY SELECTED BY THE FAMILY THAT IS CONGRUENT WITH THE SERVICES BEING PROVIDED, WHICH LOCATION MAY INCLUDE, BUT NEED NOT BE LIMITED TO, THE FAMILY'S HOME, A HEALTH CARE SETTING, OR A FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER.

26.5-3-903. Family-strengthening grant programs - authorized requirements - implementation partner - rules. (1) The Department is authorized to operate grant programs to support local providers in Delivering High-Quality, Voluntary, family-strengthening support services using home visiting strategies that are designed to overcome the access barriers often created by traditional delivery strategies. The executive director may promulgate rules as necessary to implement grant programs as authorized in this section.

- (2) ANY GRANT PROGRAMS THAT THE DEPARTMENT OPERATES PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION MUST BE DESIGNED TO AWARD GRANTS TO FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES PROVIDERS THAT PROVIDE A CONTINUUM OF HIGH-QUALITY, VOLUNTARY, FAMILY-STRENGTHENING SUPPORT SERVICES THAT:
- (a) SERVE FAMILIES AT SOME POINT DURING THE PERIOD THAT EXTENDS FROM PREGNANCY THROUGH THE CHILD'S ENROLLMENT IN EARLY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL GRADES;
- (b) ARE EVIDENCE-BASED AND HAVE DEMONSTRATED SIGNIFICANT POSITIVE OUTCOMES IN ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING AREAS:
 - (I) CHILD DEVELOPMENT AND SCHOOL READINESS;
 - (II) FAMILY ECONOMIC SELF-SUFFICIENCY;
 - (III) MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH;
 - (IV) REDUCTIONS IN CHILD MALTREATMENT;
 - (V) FAMILY LINKAGES AND REFERRALS TO RESOURCES; AND
 - (VI) POSITIVE PARENTING PRACTICES; AND
- (c) ARE DELIVERED USING A HOME VISITING STRATEGY TO PROVIDE FAMILY SERVICES THAT IS BASED ON A NATIONAL MODEL FOR HOME VISITING SERVICES OR HAS BEEN OTHERWISE PROVEN EFFECTIVE IN OVERCOMING BARRIERS TO ACCESSING SERVICES;
 - (3) IN IMPLEMENTING A FAMILY-STRENGTHENING GRANT PROGRAM

- 1 PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL CONTRACT WITH AN
- 2 IMPLEMENTATION PARTNER. IF A GRANT PROGRAM IS BASED ON A
- 3 NATIONAL MODEL FOR DELIVERING FAMILY-STRENGTHENING SERVICES,
- 4 THE DEPARTMENT SHALL CONTRACT WITH A LOCAL PUBLIC OR PRIVATE
- 5 ENTITY THAT IS CERTIFIED, OR OTHERWISE AUTHORIZED, TO LEAD IN
- 6 IMPLEMENTING THE NATIONAL MODEL IN THE STATE, TO ACT AS THE
- 7 IMPLEMENTATION PARTNER. IF A GRANT PROGRAM IS NOT BASED ON A
- 8 NATIONAL MODEL, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ISSUE A REQUEST FOR
- 9 PROPOSALS TO SELECT AN IMPLEMENTATION PARTNER. THE PUBLIC OR
- 10 PRIVATE ENTITY THAT THE DEPARTMENT SELECTS MUST, AT A MINIMUM,
- 11 HAVE DEMONSTRATED EXPERIENCE AND EXPERTISE WITH HOME VISITING
- 12 AND THE TYPES OF FAMILY-STRENGTHENING SERVICES THAT MEET THE
- 13 PURPOSE OF THE GRANT PROGRAM. THE DUTIES OF AN IMPLEMENTATION
- 14 PARTNER MAY BE ESTABLISHED BY DEPARTMENT RULE AND MAY VARY
- 15 BASED ON THE PURPOSE OF A PARTICULAR GRANT PROGRAM, BUT MUST, AT
- 16 A MINIMUM, INCLUDE:

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- (a) ASSISTING THE DEPARTMENT IN REVIEWING APPLICATIONS AND SELECTING GRANTEES; AND
- 19 (b) Working with applicants to complete a community 20 Readiness assessment when needed.
- 21 (4) This part 9 does not apply to nor affect
- 22 IMPLEMENTATION OF THE "COLORADO NURSE HOME VISITOR PROGRAM
- ACT", PART 5 OF THIS ARTICLE 3.".
- 24 Page 164, line 20, strike "9858 (e)," and substitute "9858 (e) 9858e,".
- 25 Page 167, strike lines 11 and 12 and substitute "TITLE 26, by DEPARTMENT
- rule; of the state board, or by policy of a county department; or".
- 27 Page 167, strike lines 16 through 19 and substitute:
- 28 "(c) At the county's discretion, a family that transitions off the
- 29 works program, is eligible for CCCAP, and resides in a county that has
- 30 families on its waiting list may be added to the waiting list or be provided
- 31 child care assistance without first being added to the waiting list.".
- 32 Page 168, line 27, strike "REVISE," and substitute "REVISE, AS
- 33 APPROPRIATE,".
- Page 169, strike lines 1 through 3 and substitute "as the family income
- 35 approaches self-sufficiency income levels. This revised copayment
- 36 schedule should allow families to retain a portion of its THEIR increases
- in income.".

- Page 175, strike lines 18 and 19 and substitute "to the child, the hours
- 2 authorized for the provision of child care through CCCAP must include
- 3 authorized hours for the child that promote".
- 4 Page 175, strike lines 23 through 25 and substitute "number of hours
- 5 authorized for AMOUNT OF child care AUTHORIZED should be based on the
- 6 number of hours the parent is participating in an eligible activity and the
- 7 PARENT'S AND child's needs for CHILD care.".
- 8 Page 177, lines 12 and 13, strike "NOT BE BASED ON DAILY
- 9 REIMBURSEMENT RATES" and substitute "ALLOW DAILY REIMBURSEMENT
- 10 RATES ONLY FOR DROP-IN CHILD CARE, BACK-UP CHILD CARE, AND CARE
- 11 THAT IS COMMONLY PAID ON A DAILY REIMBURSEMENT BASIS IN THE CHILD
- 12 CARE MARKET".
- 13 Page 179, lines 5 and 6, strike "Subject to available capacity to raise
- 14 federal or state funding, shall" and substitute "Subject to available
- 15 capacity to raise federal or state funding, Shall".
- 16 Page 189, line 17, strike "PART 1 OF".
- 17 Page 190, line 5, strike "26.5-2-102" and substitute "26.5-2-103".
- Page 190, strike lines 12 through 14 and substitute:
- 19 "(13) "PARENT" HAS THE SAME MEANING AS PROVIDED IN SECTION
- 20 22-20-103.".
- 21 Page 194, line 12, after "PRESCHOOL," insert "OTHER THAN FEDERAL
- 22 MONEY PROVIDED THROUGH IDEA,".
- Page 197, strike lines 3 through 6 and substitute "THE GOAL OF
- 24 SUPPORTING INCREASED ATTAINMENT OF BACCALAUREATE DEGREES IN
- 25 EARLY CHILDHOOD OR BACCALAUREATE DEGREES WITH SUPPLEMENTAL
- 26 EARLY LEARNING CREDENTIALS FOR LEAD TEACHERS EMPLOYED BY
- 27 PRESCHOOL PROVIDERS; AND".
- Page 200, line 7, strike "ALIGN, TO THE FULLEST EXTENT POSSIBLE," and
- 29 substitute "ENSURE THAT A PRESCHOOL EDUCATOR MAY MEET THE
- 30 QUALIFICATIONS FOR PRESCHOOL EDUCATORS BY DEMONSTRATING
- 31 COMPLIANCE WITH THE QUALIFICATIONS FOR AN EARLY CHILDHOOD
- 32 TEACHING LICENSE ENDORSEMENT PROVIDED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF
- 33 EDUCATION.".

- 1 Page 200, strike lines 8 through 10.
- 2 Page 200, line 17, after "IS" insert "APPROPRIATE FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD
- 3 EDUCATION AND".
- 4 Page 200, line 20, strike "ALIGN, TO THE FULLEST" and substitute "ALLOW,
- 5 TO THE FULLEST EXTENT POSSIBLE, A TEACHER WHO IS LICENSED BY THE
- 6 DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO USE THE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT
- 7 REQUIRED TO RENEW THE TEACHING LICENSE TO ALSO MEET THE
- 8 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT REQUIREMENTS ESTABLISHED BY THE
- 9 DEPARTMENT FOR TEACHERS EMPLOYED BY A PRESCHOOL PROVIDER.".
- 10 Page 200, strike lines 21 through 24.
- 11 Page 202, strike lines 12 and 13 and substitute "SCREENINGS, WHICH
- 12 MUST, AT A MINIMUM, INCLUDE THE USE OF VALID AND RELIABLE
- 13 SCREENING TOOLS THAT ARE".
- Page 202, line 14, strike "APPROPRIATE;" and substitute "APPROPRIATE.".
- 15 Page 202, strike lines 15 through 17.
- Page 202, line 19, strike "AN ADVISORY LIST" and substitute "A RESOURCE
- 17 BANK".
- Page 202, line 20, strike "LIST" and substitute "RESOURCE BANK".
- 19 Page 202, line 27, strike "LITERACY" and substitute "LITERACY, AS
- 20 DEVELOPMENTALLY APPROPRIATE,".
- 21 Page 203, strike line 3 and substitute "APPROPRIATE INSTRUCTION TO
- 22 SUPPORT CHILDREN'S SUCCESS IN EARLY ELEMENTARY GRADES WHEN
- 23 RECEIVING INSTRUCTION PURSUANT TO".
- Page 203, line 4, strike "REQUIREMENTS OF".
- Page 203, lines 12 and 13, strike "ON THE ADVISORY LIST" and substitute
- 26 "IN THE RESOURCE BANK".
- Page 203, line 24, strike "ON THE ADVISORY LIST" and substitute "IN THE
- 28 RESOURCE BANK".
- 29 Page 203, line 25, strike "THIS LIST," and substitute "THE RESOURCE

- 1 BANK,".
- 2 Page 203, line 26, strike "ADVISORY LIST" and substitute "RESOURCE
- 3 BANK".
- 4 Page 203, line 27, strike "LIST" and substitute "RESOURCE BANK".
- 5 Page 204, line 1, strike "ADVISORY LIST," and substitute "RESOURCE
- 6 BANK,".
- 7 Page 204, strike lines 4 through 15 and substitute:
- 8 "(c) The department shall make the resource bank
- 9 ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC THROUGH THE DEPARTMENT WEBSITE.".
- 10 Page 204, line 17, strike "interagency agreement." and substitute
- 11 "memorandum of understanding.".
- 12 Page 204, lines 18 and 19, strike "AN INTERAGENCY AGREEMENT" and
- 13 substitute "A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING".
- Page 205, line 2, strike "PRACTICES," and substitute "PRACTICES;".
- 15 Page 205, strike lines 3 through 6.
- Page 205, strike lines 7 through 9 and substitute:
- 17 "(b) Create training for preschool providers concerning
- 18 THE LEGAL OBLIGATIONS FOR SERVING CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES,
- 19 INCLUDING THE RESPONSIBILITIES AND OBLIGATIONS OF ADMINISTRATIVE
- 20 UNITS SPECIFIED IN IDEA AND ECEA; AND".
- 21 Page 205, line 14, strike "AN INTERAGENCY AGREEMENT" and substitute
- "A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING".
- 23 Page 205, line 22, strike "FEDERALLY MANDATED TIMELINES," and
- 24 substitute "FEDERAL REQUIREMENTS AND TIMELINES,".
- 25 Page 206, strike lines 12 through 16.
- Page 206, line 17, strike "(II)" and substitute "(I)".
- 27 Page 206, line 18, after "ECEA;" insert "AND".
- 28 Page 206, strike lines 19 and 20.

- 1 Page 206, line 21, strike "(IV)" and substitute "(II)".
- 2 Page 206, line 22, strike "LEGISLATIVE" and substitute "LEGAL".
- 3 Page 224, line 19, strike "QUALITATIVE DATA," and substitute
- 4 "QUANTITATIVE DATA, AND QUALITATIVE DATA IF AVAILABLE,".
- 5 Page 225, after line 13 insert:

6 "PART 3

KINDERGARTEN READINESS ONLINE PILOT PROGRAM

26.5-4-301. Legislative declaration. (1) THE GENERAL 9 ASSEMBLY FINDS AND DECLARES THAT:

- (a) ALL CHILDREN IN THE YEAR BEFORE THEY ARE ELIGIBLE TO ENROLL IN KINDERGARTEN SHOULD HAVE ACCESS TO SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL AND ACADEMIC SUPPORTS THAT ARE IMPORTANT FOR SCHOOL READINESS;
- (b) THE STATE SHOULD PROVIDE A WIDE RANGE OF CHOICES FOR FAMILIES TO ACCESS KINDERGARTEN READINESS SUPPORTS, INCLUDING THE OPTION FOR ONLINE KINDERGARTEN READINESS PROGRAMS; AND
- (c) To receive state funding, an online kindergarten readiness program should demonstrate strong evidence of effectiveness in teaching a diverse array of children, provide evidence-based online curriculum, incorporate family engagement, and undergo periodic evaluation to measure effectiveness in preparing children to learn in kindergarten.
- (2) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY THEREFORE FINDS THAT, TO BEST SERVE ALL FAMILIES, IT IS APPROPRIATE FOR THE STATE TO SUPPORT AN ONLINE KINDERGARTEN READINESS PILOT PROGRAM AS A CHOICE FOR PARENTS WHO SEEK TO ACCESS ACADEMIC AND READINESS SUPPORT SERVICES FOR THEIR CHILDREN IN THE YEAR PRECEDING KINDERGARTEN ELIGIBILITY.
- **26.5-4-302. Online kindergarten readiness pilot program created- survey provider selection funding.** (1) There is created in the department the online kindergarten readiness pilot program, referred to in this part 3 as the "pilot program", to provide funding for a voluntary, online kindergarten readiness program that serves children in the year before eligibility for kindergarten enrollment. The purposes of the pilot program are to:
- (a) HELP ENSURE THAT, IN THE YEAR BEFORE ELIGIBILITY FOR KINDERGARTEN ENROLLMENT, CHILDREN RECEIVE PERSONALIZED, ONLINE SUPPORT IN READING, MATHEMATICS, AND SCIENCE THAT IS

DEVELOPMENTALLY APPROPRIATE;

- (b) PROVIDE TRAINING FOR PARENTS AND OTHER FAMILY MEMBERS TO HELP THEM ASSIST THEIR CHILDREN IN LEARNING; AND
- (c) RAISE THE LEVEL OF KINDERGARTEN READINESS FOR ALL CHILDREN, INCLUDING CHILDREN WHO ARE IN LOW-INCOME FAMILIES.
- (2) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL CONDUCT A STATEWIDE SURVEY TO DETERMINE THE NUMBER OF FAMILIES WHO WOULD BE INTERESTED IN PARTICIPATING IN THE PILOT PROGRAM. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL COMPILE AND SUBMIT THE RESULTS OF THE SURVEY BY DECEMBER 1, 2022, TO THE JOINT BUDGET COMMITTEE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND THE OFFICE OF STATE PLANNING AND BUDGETING.
- (3) (a) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ISSUE A REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR A PROVIDER TO MAKE AN ONLINE KINDERGARTEN READINESS PROGRAM AVAILABLE TO FAMILIES STATEWIDE. AT A MINIMUM, A PROVIDER MUST DEMONSTRATE:
- (I) THE ABILITY TO PROVIDE TECHNOLOGY TO FAMILIES THAT CHOOSE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE ONLINE PROGRAM BUT DO NOT HAVE THE APPROPRIATE TECHNOLOGY TO BE ABLE TO DO SO;
- (II) THE USE OF A CURRICULUM THAT IS DEVELOPMENTALLY APPROPRIATE AND EVIDENCE BASED AND HAS DEMONSTRATED EFFECTIVENESS IN PREPARING CHILDREN TO LEARN IN KINDERGARTEN;
- (III) STRONG EVIDENCE OF THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVIDER'S ONLINE KINDERGARTEN READINESS PROGRAM OVERALL IN PREPARING CHILDREN TO LEARN IN KINDERGARTEN AND IN DEVELOPING STRONG SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL SKILLS IN CHILDREN WHO PARTICIPATE IN THE PROGRAM; AND
- (IV) AN EFFECTIVE PLAN FOR RECRUITING FAMILIES FROM DIVERSE BACKGROUNDS IN ALL GEOGRAPHIC AREAS OF THE STATE TO VOLUNTARILY ENROLL IN THE PROGRAM.
- (b) By March 15, 2023, based on the proposals received, the department shall select and contract with a single provider to provide an online kindergarten readiness program. At a minimum, the contract must require the provider to provide statewide notice of the availability of the online kindergarten readiness program and begin enrolling families, free of charge, for the 2023-24 school year.
- **26.5-4-303. Reporting.** (1) BEGINNING WITH THE HEARING HELD IN JANUARY OF 2025, AS PART OF THE ANNUAL HEARING HELD PURSUANT TO THE "STATE MEASUREMENT FOR ACCOUNTABLE, RESPONSIVE, AND TRANSPARENT (SMART) GOVERNMENT ACT", PART 2 OF ARTICLE 7 OF TITLE 2, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PILOT PROGRAM, INCLUDING:
 - (a) THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN ENROLLED IN THE PILOT PROGRAM

FOR THE PRECEDING FISCAL YEAR;

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- (b) The number and percentage of children enrolled in the preschool program who were in low-income families and who met one or more of the qualifying factors established in department rule pursuant to section 26.5-4-204 (4)(a)(II), including identifying the qualifying factors that were met;
- (c) THE DEMOGRAPHICS OF THE CHILDREN ENROLLED IN THE PILOT PROGRAM, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, RACE, ETHNICITY, DISABILITY, AND INCOME;
- (d) QUANTITATIVE AND, TO THE EXTENT AVAILABLE, QUALITATIVE DATA, INCLUDING STUDENT OUTCOMES TO THE EXTENT THEY ARE AVAILABLE, DEMONSTRATING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PILOT PROGRAM IN IMPROVING THE OVERALL LEARNING AND KINDERGARTEN READINESS OF CHILDREN ENROLLED IN THE PILOT PROGRAM; AND
- 15 (e) ANY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION NECESSARY TO DETERMINE 16 THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PILOT PROGRAM IN PREPARING CHILDREN TO 17 LEARN IN KINDERGARTEN.
 - (2) THE DEPARTMENT MAY REQUEST AND THE PROVIDER SHALL PROVIDE INFORMATION AS NECESSARY FOR THE DEPARTMENT TO PREPARE THE REPORT DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (1) OF THIS SECTION.
 - (3) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ANNUALLY PUBLISH ON THE DEPARTMENT WEBSITE THE INFORMATION PROVIDED IN THE REPORT DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (1) OF THIS SECTION.
- 24 **26.5-4-304. Repeal of part.** This part 3 is repealed, effective July 1, 2029.".
- Page 234, line 14, strike "PART 3 OF ARTICLE 5 OF THIS TITLE 26.5" and
- 27 substitute "PART 3 OF THIS ARTICLE 5".
- Page 237, lines 21 and 22, strike "In addition, some children are placed
- 29 in facilities for residential care for their protection and well-being." and
- 30 substitute "In addition, some children are placed in facilities for
- 31 residential care for their protection and well-being.".
- Page 253, line 9, strike "purpose;" and substitute "purpose, AS DEFINED IN
- 33 DEPARTMENT RULE;".
- Page 255, line 2, after "body that" insert "HAS HAD ITS LICENSE
- 35 SUSPENDED PURSUANT TO SECTION 24-4-104 OR".
- Page 255, line 3, strike "suspension or" and substitute "suspension or".
- 37 Page 274, strike lines 25 through 27.

- 1 Page 275, strike lines 1 through 18.
- 2 Page 288, line 21, strike "appeal, but that the" and substitute "appeal. but
- 3 that the entire appeals process shall last no more than one hundred
- 4 calendar days after the date of the notice of denial of the waiver request.".
- 5 Page 288, strike lines 22 through 24.
- 6 Page 310, lines 9 and 10, strike "subsection (3)" and substitute
- 7 "subsection (3) SUBSECTION (9)".
- 8 Page 313, line 6, strike "3;" and substitute "3 OR ANY OF THE STANDARDS
- 9 PRESCRIBED AND PUBLISHED IN DEPARTMENT RULE PURSUANT TO THIS
- 10 PART 3;".
- Page 313, line 21, strike "For the purposes of this" and substitute "For the
- 12 purposes of this".
- Page 313, line 22, before "SUBSECTION" insert "AS USED IN THIS".
- Page 317, line 2, strike "OF THE DEPARTMENT".
- Page 317, lines 4 and 5, strike "PART 3 AND shall render his or her A
- 16 recommendation to the" and substitute "shall render his or her
- 17 recommendation to PART 3 AND ISSUE AN INITIAL DECISION. The".
- Page 317, strike line 6 and substitute "of human services who shall render
- 19 the final decision of the department," and substitute "of human services
- 20 who shall render SHALL REVIEW THE INITIAL DECISION AND ISSUE the final
- 21 decision of the department.".
- Page 317, line 7, strike "and" and substitute "and", and strike "A" and
- 23 substitute "A".
- 24 Page 317, line 25, strike "(8)," and substitute "(7),".
- Page 323, strike lines 12 through 14 and substitute "MUST be before an
- administrative law judge, of the department, who shall render his or her
- 27 recommendation to WHO SHALL ISSUE AN INITIAL DECISION. The executive
- 28 director of the department who render SHALL REVIEW THE INITIAL
- 29 DECISION AND ISSUE the final decision of the department.".
- Page 330, line 18, strike "DEPARTMENT" and substitute "DEPARTMENT, IN

- 1 PARTNERSHIP WITH THE EARLY CHILDHOOD LEADERSHIP COMMISSION,".
- 2 Page 330, line 21, after "DEPARTMENT" insert "AND THE COMMISSION".
- Page 330, strike line 23 and substitute "EMPLOYMENT AND WITH".
- 4 Page 330, line 24, strike "WITH" and substitute "THAT HAVE".
- 5 Page 331, line 27, strike "ENSURING THAT ALL LEAD" and substitute
- 6 "SUPPORTING INCREASED ATTAINMENT OF BACCALAUREATE DEGREES IN
- 7 EARLY CHILDHOOD OR BACCALAUREATE DEGREES WITH SUPPLEMENTAL
- 8 EARLY LEARNING CREDENTIALS FOR LEAD TEACHERS EMPLOYED BY
- 9 PRESCHOOL PROVIDERS;".
- 10 Page 332, strike lines 1 through 4.
- Page 348, line 7, before "CHILD" insert "AND".
- Page 355, line 6, strike "FOR PURPOSES OF" and substitute "AS USED IN".
- Page 360, line 7, after "BODY" insert "FOR WHICH THE LICENSE IS
- 14 SUSPENDED PURSUANT TO SECTION 24-4-104 OR".
- 15 Page 360, line 8, strike "SUSPENSION OR".
- Page 393, line 15, strike "No LATER THAN JANUARY 1, 2016, THE" and
- 17 substitute "THE".
- Page 410, line 6, strike "9;" and substitute "9 OR ANY OF THE STANDARDS
- 19 PRESCRIBED AND PUBLISHED IN DEPARTMENT RULE PURSUANT TO THIS
- 20 PART 9;".
- 21 Page 410, lines 21 and 22, strike "FOR THE PURPOSES OF" and substitute
- 22 "AS USED IN".
- 23 Page 422, line 17, after "(16)(a)(VII)" insert "and (23)".
- 24 Page 422, after line 27 insert:
- 25 "(23) (a) THE FOLLOWING STATUTORY AUTHORIZATIONS FOR THE
- DESIGNATED ADVISORY COMMITTEES WILL REPEAL ON JULY 1, 2032:
- 27 (I) THE RULES ADVISORY COUNCIL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF EARLY
- 28 CHILDHOOD CONVENED PURSUANT TO SECTION 26.5-1-105 (2).

- 1 (b) This subsection (23) is repealed, effective July 1, 2034.".
- 2 Page 423, line 7, strike "ARTICLE 26.5" and substitute "ARTICLE 3 OF TITLE
- 3 26.5".
- 4 Page 429, line 10, strike "For the purposes of" and substitute "For the
- 5 purposes of AS USED IN".
- 6 Page 430, line 10, strike "(2)(k), (2)(k.5)," and substitute "(2)(j.8), (2)(k),
- 7 (2)(k.5), (2)(1),".
- 8 Page 430, line 11, strike "and (2)(y)" and substitute "(2)(s), (2)(y), and
- 9 (2.5)(a)".
- 10 Page 431, line 18, strike "state department of human services" and
- substitute "state department of human services,".
- Page 431, line 19, strike "CHILDHOOD" and substitute "CHILDHOOD,".
- Page 432, after line 7, insert:
- 14 "(j.8) The state department of human services OR DEPARTMENT OF
- 15 EARLY CHILDHOOD investigating any person required to submit to a
- background check pursuant to section 26-6-705 (2), when the person has
- given written authorization to the state department of human services OR
- 18 DEPARTMENT OF EARLY CHILDHOOD to check records or reports of child
- 19 abuse or neglect;".
- 20 Page 432, line 27, strike "services," and substitute "services OR
- 21 DEPARTMENT OF EARLY CHILDHOOD,".
- Page 433, line 8, after "services" insert "OR DEPARTMENT OF EARLY
- 23 CHILDHOOD".
- Page 433, after line 19 insert:
- 25 "(1) The state department of human services OR DEPARTMENT OF
- 26 EARLY CHILDHOOD, when requested in writing by the department of
- 27 education to check records or reports of child abuse or neglect for the
- 28 purpose of aiding the department of education in its investigation of an
- 29 allegation of abuse by an employee of a school district in this state.
- 30 Within ten days of the department of education's request, the state
- 31 department of human services OR DEPARTMENT OF EARLY CHILDHOOD
- 32 shall provide the date of the report of the incident, the location of
- investigation, the type of abuse or neglect, and the county which THAT

investigated the incident contained in the confirmed reports of child abuse 1 2 or neglect. The department of education shall be IS subject to the fee assessment established in subsection (2.5) of this section. Any employee 4 of the department of education who releases any information obtained under this paragraph (1) SUBSECTION (2)(1) to any person not authorized 6 to receive such THE information pursuant to the provisions of section 7 22-32-109.7 C.R.S., or any member of the board of education of a school 8 district who releases such THE information obtained pursuant to said 9 section shall be deemed to have violated VIOLATES the provisions of 10 subsection (4) of this section and shall be IS subject to the penalty therefor 11 FOR THE VIOLATION.".

12 Page 434, after line 9, insert:

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"(s) The state department of human services OR THE DEPARTMENT OF EARLY CHILDHOOD investigating a prospective CASA volunteer for the CASA program when the prospective CASA volunteer has given written authorization to the CASA program to check any records or reports of child abuse or neglect pursuant to section 19-1-205 (3)(a.5);".

Page 434, after line 15, insert:

19 "(2.5) Fee - rules - records and reports fund. (a) Any person or 20 agency provided information from the state department of human services 21 OR DEPARTMENT OF EARLY CHILDHOOD pursuant to subsections (2)(i), 22 (2)(k) to (2)(0), (2)(t), and (2)(y) of this section and any child placement 23 agency must be assessed a fee that is established and collected by the state 24 department of human services pursuant to parameters set forth in rule 25 established by the state board of human services OR THE DEPARTMENT OF 26 EARLY CHILDHOOD PURSUANT TO PARAMETERS SET FORTH IN RULE 27 ESTABLISHED BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF 28 EARLY CHILDHOOD, WHICHEVER IS APPLICABLE. At a minimum, the rules 29 must include a provision requiring the state department of human services 30 OR DEPARTMENT OF EARLY CHILDHOOD, AS APPLICABLE, to provide notice 31 of the fee to interested persons and the maximum fee amount that the 32 department shall not exceed without the express approval of the state 33 board of human services OR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT 34 OF EARLY CHILDHOOD, AS APPLICABLE. The fee established must not 35 exceed the direct and indirect costs of administering subsections (2)(i), 36 (2)(k) to (2)(o), (2)(t), and (2)(y) of this section and the direct and indirect 37 costs of administering section 19-3-313.5 (3) and (4).".

38 Page 435, line 7, strike "(2)(m)" and substitute "(2)(m), (2)(ll), and

39 (2)(mm); and **add** (2)(nn)".

- 1 Page 435, after line 13, insert:
- 2 "(ll) Officials or employees of county departments of health,
- 3 human services, or social services; and
- 4 (mm) Naturopathic doctor registered under article 250 of title 12;
- 5 AND
- 6 (nn) Employees of the department of Early Childhood.".
- 7 Page 446, lines 21 and 22, strike "child care centers" and substitute "child
- 8 care centers PUBLIC PRESCHOOL PROVIDERS".
- 9 Page 448, line 11, before "and" insert "AS AMENDED,".
- 10 Page 452, after line 26 insert:
- "SECTION 60. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-101-105,
- amend (1)(a) introductory portion, (1)(a)(XIV), and (1)(a)(XV); and add
- (1)(a)(XVI) as follows:
- **24-101-105. Application of this code.** (1) (a) This code shall
- 15 apply APPLIES to all publicly funded contracts entered into by all
- 16 governmental bodies of the executive branch of this state; except that this
- 17 code shall DOES not apply to:
- 18 (XIV) Annuities; and
- 19 (XV) Real property or interest in real property; AND
- 20 (XVI) THE DEPARTMENT OF EARLY CHILDHOOD AND LOCAL
- 21 COORDINATING ORGANIZATIONS, INCLUDING ENTITIES THAT APPLY TO
- 22 SERVE AS LOCAL COORDINATING ORGANIZATIONS, PURSUANT TO PART 1
- 23 OF ARTICLE 2 OF TITLE 26.5.".
- 24 Renumber succeeding sections accordingly.
- 25 Page 454, line 21, strike "SECTION".
- 26 Page 457, line 5, strike "(7)".
- 27 Page 461, line 11, strike "SECTION".
- Page 465, after line 11 insert:
- "SECTION 77. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 26-1-127, amend
- 30 (1), (1.5), (2)(a), and (3) as follows:
- 31 **26-1-127. Fraudulent acts.** (1) Any person who obtains or any
- 32 person who willfully aids or abets another to obtain public assistance or
- vendor payments or medical assistance as defined in this title 26 OR CHILD
- 34 CARE ASSISTANCE AS DESCRIBED IN PART 1 OF ARTICLE 4 OF TITLE 26.5 to
- 35 which the person is not entitled or in an amount greater than that to which

the person is justly entitled or payment of any forfeited installment grants or benefits to which the person is not entitled or in a greater amount than that to which the person is entitled, by means of a willfully false statement or representation, or by impersonation, or by any other fraudulent device, commits the crime of theft, which crime is classified in accordance with section 18-4-401 (2) and which crime is punished as provided in section 18-1.3-401 if the crime is classified as a felony, or section 18-1.3-501 if the crime is classified as a misdemeanor. To the extent not otherwise prohibited by state or federal law, any person violating the provisions of this subsection (1) is disqualified from participation in the public assistance program under PURSUANT TO article 2 of this title 26 OR PART 1 OF ARTICLE 4 OF TITLE 26.5 in which a recipient is found to have committed an intentional program violation for one year for a first offense, two years for a second offense, and permanently for a third or subsequent offense. Such disqualification is mandatory and is in addition to any other penalty imposed by law.

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(1.5) To the extent not otherwise prohibited by state or federal law, any person against whom a county department of social services or the state department obtains a civil judgment in a state or federal court of record in this state based on allegations that the person obtained or willfully aided and abetted another to obtain public assistance or vendor payments or medical assistance as defined in this title 26 OR CHILD CARE ASSISTANCE AS DESCRIBED IN PART 1 OF ARTICLE 4 OF TITLE 26.5 to which the person is not entitled or in an amount greater than that to which the person is justly entitled or payment of any forfeited installment grants or benefits to which the person is not entitled or in a greater amount than that to which the person is entitled, by means of a willfully false statement or representation, or by impersonation, or by any other fraudulent device, is disqualified from participation in the public assistance program under PURSUANT TO article 2 of this title 26 OR PART 1 OF ARTICLE 4 OF TITLE 26.5 in which a recipient is found to have committed an intentional program violation for one year for a first incident, two years for a second incident, and permanently for a third or subsequent incident. Such disqualification is mandatory and is in addition to any other remedy available to a judgment creditor.

(2) (a) If, at any time during the continuance of public assistance under PURSUANT TO this title 26 OR CHILD CARE ASSISTANCE PURSUANT TO PART 1 OF ARTICLE 4 OF TITLE 26.5, the recipient thereof acquires any property or receives any increase in income or property, or both, in excess of that declared at the time of determination or redetermination of eligibility or if there is any other change in circumstances affecting the recipient's eligibility, it shall be the duty of the recipient to notify the county department within thirty days in writing or take steps to secure

- 1 county assistance to prepare such notification in writing of the acquisition
- 2 of such property, receipt of such income, or change in such
- 3 circumstances; and any recipient of such public assistance who knowingly
- 4 fails to do so commits a petty offense and shall be punished as provided
- 5 in section 18-1.3-503. If such property or income is received infrequently
- 6 or irregularly and does not exceed a total value of ninety dollars in any
- 7 calendar quarter, such property or income shall be IS excluded from the
- 8 thirty-day written reporting requirement but shall be MUST BE reported at
- 9 the time of the next redetermination of eligibility of a recipient.
 - (3) Any recipient or vendor who falsifies any report required
- 11 under Pursuant to this title 26 or Part 1 of Article 4 of Title 26.5
- commits a petty offense and shall be IS punished as provided in section
- 13 18-1.3-503.".

- 14 Renumber succeeding sections accordingly.
- 15 Page 465, line 19, strike "AND DAY TREATMENT" and substitute "DAY
- 16 TREATMENT, AND AGENCY".
- 17 Page 466, line 23, strike "section" and substitute "SECTION".
- 18 Page 476, line 19, strike "section 26-5.4-103 (19.5)," and substitute
- 19 "section 26-5.4-103 (19.5) SECTION 25.5-4-103 (19.5),".
- Page 483, line 7, strike the second "section" and substitute "section".
- Page 483, line 18, strike the second "section" and substitute "section".
- Page 484, line 17, strike "AND DAY TREATMENT" and substitute "DAY
- 23 TREATMENT, AND AGENCY".

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