

HOUSE COMMITTEE OF REFERENCE REPORT

Chair of Committee

February 8, 2023
Date

Committee on Public & Behavioral Health & Human Services.

After consideration on the merits, the Committee recommends the following:

HB23-1117 be amended as follows, and as so amended, be referred to the Committee of the Whole with favorable recommendation:

1 Amend printed bill, page 2, strike lines 2 and 3 and substitute:

2 "SECTION 1. Legislative declaration. (1) The general assembly
3 finds and declares that:

4 (a) Colorado is home to more than half a million immigrants,
5 including refugees, who make up ten percent of the state's population and
6 play a vital role in our state's cultural fabric and shared prosperity;

7 (b) People who are lawful permanent residents and receive public
8 benefits are currently prohibited from sponsoring individuals, usually
9 family members, from coming to the United States, leading to
10 unnecessary family separation;

11 (c) Lawful permanent residents are treated differently under
12 current Colorado law than United States citizens who are allowed to be
13 a sponsor for immigrants; and

14 (d) Only United States citizens and lawful permanent residents
15 can provide sponsorship for individuals who want to immigrate to the
16 United States. Lawful permanent residents do not include undocumented
17 immigrants who are ineligible for most federal benefits.

18 SECTION 2. In Colorado Revised Statutes, amend 25.5-3-105
19 as follows:".

20 Renumber succeeding sections accordingly.

21 Page 2, line 17, after the period add: "THE COUNTY DEPARTMENTS
22 RESPONSIBLE FOR ADMINISTERING BENEFITS PROGRAMS UNDER THE
23 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE POLICY AND FINANCING AND THE
24 DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES SHALL IDENTIFY AND REVIEW ALL
25 CURRENT COUNTY GUIDANCE MATERIALS, INCLUDING FORMS, TRAINING

1 MATERIALS, WEBSITES, AND ANY OTHER MATERIALS THAT REFERENCE A
2 PROHIBITION ON SPONSORSHIP AS A CONDITION OF ELIGIBILITY FOR
3 BENEFITS AND SHALL REMOVE ALL SUCH REFERENCES FROM VERBAL AND
4 DIGITAL COMMUNICATIONS AND FROM ALL PHYSICAL MATERIALS
5 CURRENTLY PROVIDED TO APPLICANTS OR BENEFICIARIES."

6 Page 2, strike lines 18 and 19 and substitute:

7 "SECTION 3. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 25.5-5-101, **repeal**
8 (3); and **add** (5) as follows:"

9 Page 3, after line 6, insert:

10 "(5) THE COUNTY DEPARTMENTS RESPONSIBLE FOR
11 ADMINISTERING BENEFITS PROGRAMS UNDER THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
12 CARE POLICY AND FINANCING AND THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
13 SHALL IDENTIFY AND REVIEW ALL CURRENT COUNTY GUIDANCE
14 MATERIALS, INCLUDING FORMS, TRAINING MATERIALS, WEBSITES, AND
15 ANY OTHER MATERIALS THAT REFERENCE A PROHIBITION ON SPONSORSHIP
16 AS A CONDITION OF ELIGIBILITY FOR BENEFITS AND SHALL REMOVE ALL
17 SUCH REFERENCES FROM VERBAL AND DIGITAL COMMUNICATIONS AND
18 FROM ALL PHYSICAL MATERIALS CURRENTLY PROVIDED TO APPLICANTS OR
19 BENEFICIARIES."

20 Page 3, strike lines 7 and 8 and substitute:

21 "SECTION 4. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 26-2-111.8, **repeal**
22 (5); and **add** (5.5) as follows:"

23 Page 3, after line 18, insert:

24 "(5.5) THE COUNTY DEPARTMENTS RESPONSIBLE FOR
25 ADMINISTERING BENEFITS PROGRAMS UNDER THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
26 CARE POLICY AND FINANCING AND THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
27 SHALL IDENTIFY AND REVIEW ALL CURRENT COUNTY GUIDANCE
28 MATERIALS, INCLUDING FORMS, TRAINING MATERIALS, WEBSITES, AND
29 ANY OTHER MATERIALS THAT REFERENCE A PROHIBITION ON SPONSORSHIP
30 AS A CONDITION OF ELIGIBILITY FOR BENEFITS AND SHALL REMOVE ALL
31 SUCH REFERENCES FROM VERBAL AND DIGITAL COMMUNICATIONS AND
32 FROM ALL PHYSICAL MATERIALS CURRENTLY PROVIDED TO APPLICANTS OR
33 BENEFICIARIES."

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