

SENATE COMMITTEE OF REFERENCE REPORT

Chair of Committee

February 15, 2024
Date

Committee on Health & Human Services.

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

SB24-015 be amended as follows, and as so amended, be referred to the Committee on Finance with favorable recommendation:

1 Amend printed bill, page 3, line 16, after "mental" insert "and
2 behavioral".

3 Page 3, line 17, after "mental" insert "and behavioral".

4 Page 3, strike lines 18 through 27.

5 Strike pages 4 through 8.

6 Page 9, strike lines 1 and 2 and substitute:

7 "SECTION 2. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 25-1.5-404, **add**
8 (1)(d.5) as follows:

9 **25-1.5-404. Primary care office - powers and duties - rules.**

10 (1) The primary care office has, at a minimum, the following powers and
11 duties:

12 (d.5) TO ADMINISTER THE DUAL LICENSURE STIPEND PROGRAM
13 PURSUANT TO SECTION 25-1.5-503.3;

14 **SECTION 3.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 25-1.5-501, **amend**
15 (1) and (2); and **add** (4) as follows:

16 **25-1.5-501. Legislative declaration.** (1) The general assembly
17 ~~hereby~~ finds that there are areas of Colorado that suffer from a lack of
18 health-care professionals, geriatric advanced practice providers, ~~or~~ AND
19 behavioral health-care providers ~~to serve~~ and a lack of nursing or other
20 health-care professional faculty to train health-care professionals to meet
21 AND SERVE the medical and behavioral health-care needs of communities.
22 The general assembly further finds that the state needs to implement
23 incentives to encourage health-care professionals, geriatric advanced

1 practice providers, and behavioral health-care providers to practice in
2 these underserved areas and to encourage nursing faculty and other
3 health-care professional faculty to teach health-care professionals.

4 (2) It is therefore the intent of the general assembly in enacting
5 this part 5 to create a state health service corps program that uses state
6 money; federal money, when permissible; and contributions from
7 communities and private sources to help repay the outstanding education
8 loans that many health-care professionals, geriatric advanced practice
9 providers, behavioral health-care providers, candidates for licensure,
10 nursing faculty, and health-care professional faculty hold. In exchange for
11 repayment of loans incurred for the purpose of obtaining education in
12 their chosen health-care, geriatric care, ~~and~~ OR behavioral health-care
13 professions, the health care professionals; geriatric advanced practice
14 providers, behavioral health-care providers, and candidates for licensure
15 will commit to provide health care; geriatric care; or behavioral
16 health-care services, as applicable; in communities with underserved
17 health-care, geriatric care, or behavioral health-care needs throughout the
18 state, ~~and~~ the nursing and health-care professional faculty will commit to
19 provide a specified period of service in a qualified faculty position, AND
20 DUAL LICENSURE CANDIDATES PURSUING A DUAL LICENSE AS A LICENSED
21 PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR WILL AGREE TO SERVE A SPECIFIC NUMBER OF
22 ACADEMIC YEARS IN A PUBLIC SCHOOL IN A BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
23 POSITION.

24 (4) IN ADDITION, FOR THE PURPOSES OF INCREASING THE
25 AVAILABILITY OF LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS WHO HOLD A
26 SPECIAL SERVICE PROVIDER LICENSE WITH THE APPROPRIATE
27 ENDORSEMENT, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SHALL CREATE A STIPEND
28 PROGRAM TO REDUCE THE BARRIERS FOR SCHOOL COUNSELORS WHO ARE
29 SEEKING DUAL LICENSURE AS LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS.
30 PROVIDING FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO SUPPORT SCHOOL COUNSELORS
31 WHO SEEK DUAL LICENSURE AS LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS
32 WILL HELP ALLEVIATE THE MENTAL AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH-CARE
33 WORKFORCE SHORTAGE AND WILL PROVIDE MENTAL AND BEHAVIORAL
34 HEALTH-CARE SUPPORTS TO STUDENTS.

35 **SECTION 4.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 25-1.5-502, **add**
36 (1.8), (3.5), (3.6), (6.6), (6.7), and (10.5) as follows:

37 **25-1.5-502. Definitions.** As used in this part 5, unless the context
38 otherwise requires:

39 (1.8) "CLINICAL SUPERVISION" HAS THE SAME MEANING SET FORTH
40 IN SECTION 12-245-601.

41 (3.5) "DUAL LICENSURE CANDIDATE" MEANS A COLORADO SCHOOL
42 COUNSELOR WHO HOLDS A SPECIAL SERVICES PROVIDER LICENSE WITH THE
43 APPROPRIATE ENDORSEMENT ISSUED PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 60.5 OF TITLE

1 22 AND WHO IS SEEKING DUAL LICENSURE AS A LICENSED PROFESSIONAL
2 COUNSELOR.

3 (3.6) "DUAL LICENSURE STIPEND PROGRAM" OR "STIPEND
4 PROGRAM" MEANS THE DUAL LICENSURE STIPEND PROGRAM CREATED IN
5 SECTION 25-1.5-503.3.

6 (6.6) "LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR" HAS THE SAME
7 MEANING SET FORTH IN SECTION 12-245-601.

8 (6.7) "LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR SUPERVISOR" HAS THE
9 SAME MEANING SET FORTH IN SECTION 12-245-601.

10 (10.5) "PUBLIC SCHOOL" MEANS A SCHOOL OF A SCHOOL DISTRICT,
11 A DISTRICT CHARTER SCHOOL AUTHORIZED BY A SCHOOL DISTRICT
12 PURSUANT TO PART 1 OF ARTICLE 30.5 OF TITLE 22, AN INSTITUTE
13 CHARTER SCHOOL AUTHORIZED BY THE STATE CHARTER SCHOOL
14 INSTITUTE PURSUANT TO PART 5 OF ARTICLE 30.5 OF TITLE 22, AN
15 APPROVED FACILITY SCHOOL, OR THE COLORADO SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF
16 AND THE BLIND.

17 **SECTION 5.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add 25-1.5-503.3** as
18 follows:

19 **25-1.5-503.3. Dual licensure stipend program - creation -**
20 **rules.** (1) THE DUAL LICENSURE STIPEND PROGRAM IS CREATED IN THE
21 PRIMARY CARE OFFICE TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF LICENSED
22 PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS WHO WORK IN COMMUNITIES BY:

23 (a) REIMBURSING LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR
24 SUPERVISORS WHO PROVIDE CLINICAL SUPERVISION TO DUAL LICENSURE
25 CANDIDATES; AND

26 (b) REIMBURSING DUAL LICENSURE CANDIDATES FOR THE COSTS
27 OF EXAMINATION FEES AND APPLICATION FEES DESCRIBED IN SECTION
28 12-245-205 ONCE DUAL LICENSURE CANDIDATES DEMONSTRATE
29 PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCIES BY PASSING THE EXAMINATION DESCRIBED
30 IN SECTION 12-245-604 (1)(e) AND PROVIDING THE PRIMARY CARE OFFICE
31 WITH PROOF OF PAYMENT FOR THE EXAMINATION FEES AND THE
32 APPLICATION FEES.

33 (2) (a) A DUAL LICENSURE CANDIDATE IS ELIGIBLE FOR THE
34 STIPEND PROGRAM IF THE DUAL LICENSURE CANDIDATE IS A LICENSED
35 SPECIAL SERVICES PROVIDER, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 22-60.5-102, AND
36 HAS COMPLETED A MASTER'S OR DOCTORAL DEGREE IN PROFESSIONAL
37 COUNSELING FROM AN ACCREDITED SCHOOL OR COLLEGE OR AN
38 EQUIVALENT PROGRAM AS DETERMINED BY THE STATE BOARD OF
39 LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR EXAMINERS, CREATED IN SECTION
40 12-245-602. THE DEGREE OR PROGRAM MUST INCLUDE A PRACTICUM OR
41 INTERNSHIP IN THE PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICE OF PROFESSIONAL
42 COUNSELING. THE PRIMARY CARE OFFICE SHALL SELECT DUAL LICENSURE
43 CANDIDATES FOR THE STIPEND PROGRAM ON FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED

1 BASIS.

2 (b) A DUAL LICENSURE CANDIDATE MUST SELECT A LICENSED
3 PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR SUPERVISOR WHO HAS OPTED IN TO
4 PARTICIPATE IN THE STIPEND PROGRAM TO FULFILL THE DUAL LICENSURE
5 CANDIDATE'S CLINICAL SUPERVISION HOURS.

6 (c) A DUAL LICENSURE CANDIDATE SHALL ENTER INTO A
7 CONTRACT WITH THE DEPARTMENT THAT REQUIRES THE DUAL LICENSURE
8 CANDIDATE TO REMAIN EMPLOYED BY A PUBLIC SCHOOL AS A SCHOOL
9 COUNSELOR OR SCHOOL-BASED THERAPIST FOR AT LEAST THREE YEARS
10 AFTER THE DATE THE DUAL LICENSURE CANDIDATE BECOMES A LICENSED
11 PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR.

12 (d) A LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR SUPERVISOR SHALL
13 ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH THE DEPARTMENT THAT REQUIRES
14 SUPERVISION OF A DUAL LICENSURE CANDIDATE. THE CONTRACT MUST SET
15 STANDARDS FOR THE TERMS OF SUPERVISION, MONTHLY HOURS OF
16 SUPERVISION, INVOICING PROCEDURES, AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.
17 LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR SUPERVISORS SHALL NOT CHARGE
18 DUAL LICENSURE CANDIDATES ADDITIONAL FEES IN THE CONTEXT OF THE
19 CLINICAL SUPERVISION RELATIONSHIP.

20 (3) (a) IF A DUAL LICENSURE CANDIDATE FAILS TO COMPLETE DUAL
21 LICENSURE IN A TIMELY MANNER OR FAILS TO COMPLETE THE TERMS OF
22 SERVICE PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (2)(c) OF THIS SECTION, THE DUAL
23 LICENSURE CANDIDATE SHALL REPAY THE DEPARTMENT FOR THE TOTAL
24 DIRECT COSTS INCURRED BY THE DEPARTMENT, INCLUDING THE DUAL
25 LICENSURE CANDIDATE'S CLINICAL SUPERVISION HOURS, EXAMINATION
26 FEES, AND APPLICATION FEES PAID TO OR ON BEHALF OF THE DUAL
27 LICENSURE CANDIDATE. IF THE DEPARTMENT HAS TO FILE A CIVIL ACTION
28 FOR REPAYMENT PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION (3)(a), THE DEPARTMENT
29 IS ENTITLED TO THE COST OF COLLECTIONS AND REASONABLE ATTORNEY
30 FEES. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL COLLECT THE TOTAL DIRECT COSTS OR
31 COSTS OF COLLECTIONS AND REASONABLE ATTORNEY FEES AND RETURN
32 THE MONEY TO THE COLORADO HEALTH SERVICES CORPS FUND, WHICH IS
33 CONTINUOUSLY APPROPRIATED FOR THE PURPOSE OF THE FUND.

34 (b) THE DEPARTMENT MAY ELECT TO WAIVE ALL OR A PORTION OF
35 DAMAGES FOR BREACH OF CONTRACT PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (3)(a) OF
36 THIS SECTION IF ENFORCEMENT IS IMPOSSIBLE OR WOULD INVOLVE AN
37 EXTREME HARDSHIP TO THE DUAL LICENSURE CANDIDATE AND THE
38 ENFORCEMENT OF THE CONTRACTUAL COMMITMENT IS UNCONSCIONABLE.

39 (4) THE PRIMARY CARE OFFICE SHALL MAINTAIN A LIST OF
40 LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR SUPERVISORS WHO OPT IN TO
41 PARTICIPATE IN THE STIPEND PROGRAM AND PROVIDE CLINICAL
42 SUPERVISION TO DUAL LICENSURE CANDIDATES SEEKING DUAL LICENSURE.

43 (5) THE PRIMARY CARE OFFICE SHALL CREATE AN APPLICATION

1 AND SELECTION PROCESS FOR DUAL LICENSURE CANDIDATES TO APPLY TO
2 THE STIPEND PROGRAM.

3 (6) THE STATE BOARD OF HEALTH MAY PROMULGATE RULES TO
4 ESTABLISH:

5 (a) THE MAXIMUM REIMBURSEMENT RATE FOR LICENSED
6 PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR SUPERVISORS WHO PROVIDE CLINICAL
7 SUPERVISION TO DUAL LICENSURE CANDIDATES;

8 (b) PROCEDURES FOR A DUAL LICENSURE CANDIDATE WHO LOSES
9 A LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR SUPERVISOR BEFORE THE
10 COMPLETION OF THE DUAL LICENSURE CANDIDATE'S SUPERVISION HOURS;

11 (c) A DEFINITION OF "TIMELY MANNER" FOR PURPOSES OF
12 SUBSECTION (3)(a) OF THIS SECTION; AND

13 (d) ANY OTHER CRITERIA NECESSARY FOR THE ADMINISTRATION
14 OF THE STIPEND PROGRAM.

15 **SECTION 6.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 25-1.5-505, **amend**
16 (1) introductory portion, (1)(e), and (1)(f); and **add** (1)(g) as follows:

17 **25-1.5-505. Advisory council - report.** (1) On or before
18 December 1, 2011, and on or before December 1 every two years
19 thereafter, the primary care office, with assistance from the advisory
20 council, shall submit to the governor, the health and human services
21 committee of the senate and the ~~health and insurance and public and~~
22 ~~behavioral~~ health and human services ~~committees~~ COMMITTEE of the
23 house of representatives, or ~~any~~ THEIR successor committees, a report that
24 includes, at a minimum, the following information:

25 (e) A summary of any assessment or evaluation of program
26 performance conducted during the year; and

27 (f) A description of the nursing faculty or other health-care
28 professional faculty members participating in the Colorado health service
29 corps and the educational institutions where the participants teach; AND

30 (g) A DESCRIPTION OF THE DUAL LICENSURE CANDIDATE
31 PARTICIPANTS IN THE STIPEND PROGRAM, INCLUDING:

32 (I) THE NUMBER OF DUAL LICENSURE CANDIDATES PARTICIPATING
33 IN THE STIPEND PROGRAM;

34 (II) THE NUMBER OF LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR
35 SUPERVISORS PARTICIPATING IN THE STIPEND PROGRAM;

36 (III) THE GEOGRAPHIC LOCATIONS OF DUAL LICENSURE
37 CANDIDATES AND LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR SUPERVISORS;
38 AND

39 (IV) THE AVERAGE LENGTH OF TIME IT TAKES A DUAL LICENSURE
40 CANDIDATE TO COMPLETE THE REQUIRED HOURS NECESSARY TO ATTAIN
41 LICENSURE.

42 **SECTION 7.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 25-1.5-506, **add**
43 (4)(e) as follows:

1 **25-1.5-506. Colorado health service corps fund - created -**
2 **acceptance of grants and donations - annual appropriation from**
3 **marijuana tax cash fund - repeal.** (4) (e) FOR THE 2024-25 STATE
4 FISCAL YEAR, AND EACH STATE FISCAL YEAR THEREAFTER, THE GENERAL
5 ASSEMBLY SHALL APPROPRIATE FOUR MILLION DOLLARS FROM THE
6 GENERAL FUND FOR THE DUAL LICENSURE STIPEND PROGRAM FOR DUAL
7 LICENSURE CANDIDATES. FUNDS ARE CONTINUOUSLY APPROPRIATED FOR
8 THE PURPOSE OF THE FUND. ALL INTEREST ACCRUED BY THE FUND MUST
9 REMAIN IN THE FUND FOR THE PURPOSES OF THE DUAL LICENSURE STIPEND
10 PROGRAM."

11 Renumber succeeding section accordingly.

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