

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

**PREAMENDED**

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

LLS NO. 22-1035.01 Christy Chase x2008

**HOUSE BILL 22-1394**

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**HOUSE SPONSORSHIP**

**Esgar and Roberts, Will**

**SENATE SPONSORSHIP**

**Winter and Donovan,**

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**House Committees**

Transportation & Local Government  
Appropriations

**Senate Committees**

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**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

101 **CONCERNING FUNDING FOR JUST TRANSITION PROGRAMS TO ASSIST**  
102 **COMMUNITIES WITH ECONOMIC TRANSITIONS.**

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**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 transfers \$15 million from the general fund, with \$5 million allocated to the just transition cash fund and \$10 million allocated to the coal transition workforce assistance program account, and directs the department of labor and employment, through the just transition office, to expend the money for specified coal community and worker supports.

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.  
Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material to be added to existing statute.  
Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.

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

2           **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 8-83-504, **amend** (1),  
3 (4)(a), (4)(b)(II), (4)(b)(III), and (4)(b)(IV) as (4)(a) introductory portion  
4 is **amended by House Bill 22-1193** as follows:

5           **8-83-504. Just transition cash fund - transfer from general**  
6 **fund - transfer from account - definition - repeal.** (1) There is hereby  
7 created in the state treasury the just transition cash fund. The fund  
8 consists of money credited to the fund in accordance with section  
9 39-29-108 (2)(d) and any other money that the general assembly may  
10 appropriate or transfer to the fund. The state treasurer shall credit all  
11 interest and income derived from the deposit and investment of money in  
12 the fund to the fund. Subject to annual appropriation by the general  
13 assembly, the office may expend money from the fund and the department  
14 may expend money from the coal transition workforce assistance program  
15 account of the fund created in section 8-83-504.5 (1) for purposes  
16 specified in this part 5, including paying for the office's direct and indirect  
17 costs in administering this part 5. ANY UNEXPENDED AND UNENCUMBERED  
18 MONEY IN THE FUND AT THE END OF ANY FISCAL YEAR REMAINS IN THE  
19 FUND AND SHALL NOT BE CREDITED OR TRANSFERRED TO THE GENERAL  
20 FUND.

21           (4) (a) (I) (A) On June 30, 2021, the state treasurer shall transfer  
22 eight million dollars from the general fund to the fund.

23           (B) ~~On the effective date of the introductory portion to this~~  
24 ~~subsection (4)(a), as amended~~ MARCH 7, 2022, the state treasurer shall  
25 transfer two million dollars from the account to the fund.

26           (C) ON JULY 1, 2022, THE STATE TREASURER SHALL TRANSFER

1 FIVE MILLION DOLLARS FROM THE GENERAL FUND TO THE FUND.

2 (II) Subject to annual appropriation by the general assembly, the  
3 office shall expend the money transferred to the fund pursuant to this  
4 subsection (4)(a) to implement the final just transition plan for Colorado  
5 prepared as required by section 8-83-503 (4) and to provide supplemental  
6 funding for existing state programs that the office identifies as the most  
7 effective vehicles for targeted investment in coal transition communities.  
8 In providing such supplemental funding, the office shall place a heavy  
9 emphasis on investment in tier one transition communities and shall  
10 support programs that:

11 ~~(I)~~ (A) Support targeted economic development;

12 ~~(II)~~ (B) Assist with regional capacity for coordination of economic  
13 development programs and worker assistance programs;

14 ~~(III)~~ (C) Support infrastructure projects and workforce  
15 development programs; or

16 ~~(IV)~~ (D) Are consistent with the goals and strategies outlined in  
17 the final just transition plan.

18 (III) FOR PURPOSES OF THE MONEY TRANSFERRED TO THE FUND  
19 PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (4)(a)(I)(C) OF THIS SECTION, THE OFFICE  
20 SHALL USE THE MONEY TO SUPPORT TARGETED ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
21 FOR THE FOLLOWING:

22 (A) EXPANSION ASSISTANCE FOR EXISTING LOCAL BUSINESSES;

23 (B) EXPANDING PRIVATE FINANCIAL INVESTMENT; AND

24 (C) SITE SELECTOR AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE ENGAGEMENTS.

25 (b) In addition to the requirements set forth in subsection (4)(a) of  
26 this section, the office shall expend money transferred to the fund  
27 pursuant to subsection (4)(a) of this section in accordance with the

1 following requirements and limitations:

2 (II) The office may provide for the transfer of money from the  
3 fund to other state agencies only if the transfer is approved by the  
4 director, the executive director of the department, the executive director  
5 of the department of local affairs, and the ~~executive~~ director of the  
6 Colorado office of economic development.

7 (III) (A) The office shall expend ~~at least seventy percent of the~~  
8 ~~money~~ TRANSFERRED TO THE FUND PURSUANT TO SUBSECTIONS  
9 (4)(a)(I)(A) AND (4)(a)(I)(B) OF THIS SECTION by the close of state fiscal  
10 year ~~2021-22 and shall expend any remaining money by the close of state~~  
11 ~~fiscal year 2022-23~~ 2023-24.

12 (B) THE OFFICE SHALL EXPEND THE MONEY TRANSFERRED TO THE  
13 FUND PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (4)(a)(I)(C) OF THIS SECTION BY THE  
14 CLOSE OF STATE FISCAL YEAR 2025-26.

15 (IV) The department is authorized to use up to five percent of the  
16 money IN THE FUND to fund operational support for the office's  
17 expenditure of the money, including funding for the compensation of  
18 existing office employees.

19 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 8-83-504.5, **amend**  
20 (1)(a) as (1) introductory portion, (1)(a) introductory portion, and  
21 (1)(a)(V) are **amended by House Bill 22-1193** and as (1)(a)(VII) and  
22 (1)(a)(VIII) are **added by House Bill 22-1193**; and **add** (1)(e) and (1)(f)  
23 as follows:

24 **8-83-504.5. Additional coal transition workforce assistance**  
25 **program funding - coal transition workforce assistance program**  
26 **account.** (1) (a) (I) The coal transition workforce assistance program  
27 account is hereby created in the fund.

1 (II) (A) On June 30, 2021, the state treasurer shall transfer seven  
2 million dollars from the general fund to the account.

3 (B) ON JULY 1, 2022, THE STATE TREASURER SHALL TRANSFER TEN  
4 MILLION DOLLARS FROM THE GENERAL FUND TO THE ACCOUNT.

5 (III) Subject to annual appropriation by the general assembly, the  
6 department shall expend money from the account for coal transition  
7 workforce assistance programs ~~subject to the following requirements and~~  
8 ~~limitations:~~

9 ~~(a) The money must be expended for programs~~ that directly assist  
10 coal transition workers or their family members and other household  
11 members, including programs that:

12 ~~(I)~~ (A) Establish or expand existing apprenticeship programs, the  
13 training capacity of such programs, and the placement of coal transition  
14 workers into such programs, prioritizing programs that are recognized as  
15 registered apprenticeship programs by the department or are  
16 industry-recognized apprenticeship programs that satisfy United States  
17 department of labor requirements for such programs;

18 ~~(II)~~ (B) Aid implementation of the final just transition plan;

19 ~~(III)~~ (C) Provide tuition reimbursement;

20 ~~(IV)~~ (D) Provide job search assistance;

21 ~~(V)~~ (E) Provide individualized financial and transition planning;

22 ~~(VI)~~ (F) Provide other services authorized by the federal  
23 "Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act", Pub.L. 113-128, such as  
24 on-the-job training, subsidized employment, and other strategies that aid  
25 in the implementation of individual transition plans;

26 ~~(VII)~~ (G) Support family members or other household members  
27 of coal transition workers; or

1           ~~(VIII)~~ (H) Test innovative coal transition work support programs  
2 through a pilot program. The department is encouraged to limit any pilot  
3 program to no more than forty total participants who are coal transition  
4 workers, coal transition worker family members, coal transition worker  
5 households, or a combination of coal transition workers, family members,  
6 and households.

7           (IV) FOR PURPOSES OF THE MONEY TRANSFERRED TO THE  
8 ACCOUNT PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (1)(a)(II)(B) OF THIS SECTION, THE  
9 OFFICE SHALL USE THE MONEY FOR THE FOLLOWING PURPOSES THAT  
10 DIRECTLY ASSIST COAL TRANSITION WORKERS, THEIR FAMILY MEMBERS,  
11 AND OTHER HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS, INCLUDING COAL TRANSITION  
12 WORKERS, THEIR FAMILY MEMBERS, AND THEIR HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS  
13 WHO ARE MEMBERS OF A DISPROPORTIONATELY IMPACTED COMMUNITY:

14           (A) TUITION ASSISTANCE AND APPRENTICESHIPS;

15           (B) EXPANDED CHILD CARE ASSISTANCE;

16           (C) CAREER PLANNING SERVICES;

17           (D) FINANCIAL COUNSELING; AND

18           (E) HOUSING ASSISTANCE.

19           (e) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL EXPEND THE MONEY TRANSFERRED  
20 TO THE ACCOUNT PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (1)(a)(II)(B) OF THIS SECTION  
21 BY THE CLOSE OF STATE FISCAL YEAR 2026-27.

22           (f) ANY UNEXPENDED AND UNENCUMBERED MONEY IN THE  
23 ACCOUNT AT THE END OF ANY FISCAL YEAR REMAINS IN THE ACCOUNT AND  
24 SHALL NOT BE CREDITED OR TRANSFERRED TO THE GENERAL FUND.

25           **SECTION 3.** In Session Laws of Colorado 2021, section 4 of  
26 chapter 400, (HB21-1290), **amend** (1) as follows:

27           Section 4. **Appropriation.** (1) For the 2020-21 state fiscal year,

1 \$8,000,000 is appropriated to the department of labor and employment for  
2 use by the division of employment and training, just transition office. This  
3 appropriation is from the just transition cash fund created in section  
4 8-83-504 (1), C.R.S., and is based on an assumption that the department  
5 will require an additional 1.0 FTE. To implement this act, the department  
6 may use this appropriation for the purposes specified in section 8-83-504  
7 (4), C.R.S. Any money appropriated in this section not expended prior to  
8 July 1, 2021, is further appropriated to the just transition office for the  
9 2021-22, and 2022-23, AND 2023-24 state fiscal years for the same  
10 purpose.

11 **SECTION 4.** In Session Laws of Colorado 2022, section 5 of  
12 chapter 11, (HB22-1193), **amend** (3) and (4) as follows:

13 Section 5. **Appropriation.** (3) For the 2021-22 state fiscal year,  
14 \$1,295,000 is appropriated to the department of labor and employment for  
15 use by the division of employment and training. This appropriation is  
16 from the just transition cash fund created in section 8-83-504 (1), C.R.S.  
17 To implement this act, the division may use this appropriation for the  
18 purposes specified in section 8-83-504, C.R.S. ANY MONEY  
19 APPROPRIATED IN THIS SUBSECTION (3) NOT EXPENDED BEFORE JULY 1,  
20 2022, IS FURTHER APPROPRIATED TO THE DEPARTMENT FOR THE 2022-23  
21 AND 2023-24 STATE FISCAL YEARS FOR THE SAME PURPOSE.

22 (4) For the 2022-23 state fiscal year, \$555,000 is appropriated to  
23 the department of labor and employment for use by the division of  
24 employment and training. This appropriation is from the just transition  
25 cash fund created in section 8-83-504 (1), C.R.S. To implement this act,  
26 the division may use this appropriation for the purposes specified in  
27 section 8-83-504, C.R.S. ANY MONEY APPROPRIATED IN THIS SUBSECTION

1 (4) NOT EXPENDED BEFORE JULY 1, 2023, IS FURTHER APPROPRIATED TO  
2 THE DEPARTMENT FOR THE 2023-24 STATE FISCAL YEAR FOR THE SAME  
3 PURPOSE.

4 **SECTION 5. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds,  
5 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate  
6 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety.