

**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. 22-0909.02 Conrad Imel x2313

**SENATE BILL 22-172**

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**SENATE SPONSORSHIP**

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**Senate Committees**

Health & Human Services  
Appropriations

**House Committees**

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**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

101      **CONCERNING AN INITIATIVE TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF**  
102                    **HEALTH-CARE PROFESSIONALS PRACTICING IN COLORADO'S**  
103                    **RURAL AREAS, AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, MAKING AN**  
104                    **APPROPRIATION.**

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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 establishes the Colorado rural health-care workforce initiative (initiative) to expand the number of health-care professionals practicing in Colorado's rural or frontier counties. As part of the initiative,

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.

an institution of higher education (institution) is authorized to establish and operate a health-care professionals rural track within any health-care professional education program offered by the institution.

A rural track must set aside seats in its health-care professional education program for students who express an interest in studying and working in a rural or frontier county, offer didactic curriculum related to practicing the health-care discipline in rural or frontier counties, place students in rural or frontier counties for hands-on instruction and training, and award scholarships to students in the rural track. In order to receive a scholarship, a student must commit to working as a health-care professional in a rural or frontier county for 2 years after completing education and training.

The rural office at the university of Colorado's school of medicine (rural program office) provides technical assistance to the institutions operating a rural track regarding recruiting and admitting students committed to working in rural areas and identifying rural or frontier counties in which students may be placed for clinical training. The rural program office also facilitates, arranges, or advises an institution about arranging housing for students placed in a rural or frontier county. The rural program office must provide, without charge, to institutions operating a rural track, didactic curriculum related to practicing in rural or frontier counties. The bill requires the rural program office to annually evaluate the effectiveness of the initiative and report to the general assembly's education committees about the initiative.

The bill requires the general assembly to annually appropriate \$150,000 to the rural program office to support institutions that operate a rural track. For state fiscal year 2022-23, the general assembly is required to appropriate up to \$400,000 to certain institutions to establish or expand rural tracks in 12 programs specified in the bill.

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

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

4           (a) Nearly three-quarters of Colorado's sixty-four counties are  
5 designated as rural or frontier counties by the state office of rural health;

6           (b) Rural and frontier counties have difficulty recruiting and  
7 retaining health-care workers;

8           (c) The ongoing COVID-19 pandemic that decimated the

1 health-care workforce across Colorado hit rural areas especially hard, and  
2 the associated burnout is causing health-care workers to leave medicine  
3 and nursing;

4 (d) The university of Colorado (CU) school of medicine's rural  
5 office at the Anschutz medical campus provides a model program for  
6 educating health-care professionals that wish to live and work in rural  
7 areas. Other institutions that educate health-care professionals can take  
8 advantage of the expertise, experience, and infrastructure in place at the  
9 CU school of medicine's rural office in order to prepare their health-care  
10 students to work in rural or frontier counties.

11 (e) Establishing and funding a limited number of health-care  
12 professional rural track programs allows the general assembly to collect  
13 data and information on best practices for providing  
14 rural-practice-focused education to health-care professionals; and

15 (f) The general assembly can use the lessons learned to later  
16 expand the new Colorado rural health-care workforce initiative to other  
17 institutions and practice areas to increase the number of health-care  
18 professionals practicing in Colorado's rural and frontier counties.

19 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** article 76.5 to  
20 title 23 as follows:

21 **ARTICLE 76.5**

22 **Colorado Rural Health-care Workforce Initiative**

23 **23-76.5-101. Definitions.** AS USED IN THIS ARTICLE 76.5, UNLESS  
24 THE CONTEXT OTHERWISE REQUIRES:

25 (1) "HEALTH-CARE PROFESSIONAL" MEANS A PHYSICIAN,  
26 PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT, PHYSICAL THERAPIST, NURSE, INCLUDING NURSE  
27 PRACTITIONER, PHARMACIST, DENTIST, PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR,

1 PSYCHOLOGIST, SOCIAL WORKER, OR MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPIST  
2 WHO IS REGISTERED, CERTIFIED, OR LICENSED PURSUANT TO TITLE 12 AND  
3 WHO IS SUBJECT TO CREDENTIALING. "HEALTH-CARE PROFESSIONAL" ALSO  
4 INCLUDES A PUBLIC HEALTH PROFESSIONAL WHO IS NOT REQUIRED TO BE  
5 REGISTERED, CERTIFIED, OR LICENSED PURSUANT TO STATE LAW.

6 (2) "HEALTH-CARE PROFESSIONALS RURAL TRACK" OR "RURAL  
7 TRACK" MEANS A HEALTH-CARE PROFESSIONALS RURAL TRACK OR  
8 PROGRAM ESTABLISHED BY AN INSTITUTION PURSUANT TO SECTION  
9 23-76.5-102.

10 (3) "INITIATIVE" MEANS THE COLORADO RURAL HEALTH-CARE  
11 WORKFORCE INITIATIVE ESTABLISHED IN THIS ARTICLE 76.5.

12 (4) "INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION" OR "INSTITUTION"  
13 MEANS STATE INSTITUTIONS AS DEFINED IN SECTION 23-18-102 (10)(a),  
14 LOCAL DISTRICT COLLEGES, AND AREA TECHNICAL COLLEGES.

15 (5) "PRECEPTOR" MEANS A HEALTH-CARE PROFESSIONAL WHO IS  
16 REGISTERED, CERTIFIED, OR LICENSED, AS APPROPRIATE, PURSUANT TO  
17 TITLE 12 WHO ASSUMES THE RESPONSIBILITY OF TEACHING, SUPERVISING,  
18 AND EVALUATING A STUDENT SEEKING A DEGREE IN A HEALTH-CARE  
19 PROFESSION DISCIPLINE AS PART OF THE STUDENT'S CLINICAL TRAINING  
20 AND EDUCATION IN A RURAL OR FRONTIER COUNTY.

21 (6) "RURAL OR FRONTIER COUNTY" MEANS A COUNTY IN  
22 COLORADO DESIGNATED BY THE STATE OFFICE OF RURAL HEALTH, KNOWN  
23 AS THE COLORADO RURAL HEALTH CENTER, AS A RURAL OR FRONTIER  
24 COUNTY.

25 (7) "RURAL PROGRAM OFFICE" MEANS THE OFFICE THAT  
26 ADMINISTERS THE UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO'S SCHOOL OF MEDICINE'S  
27 RURAL PROGRAM AT THE HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER CAMPUS.

1                   **23-76.5-102. Colorado rural health-care workforce initiative**

2   **- institution health-care professionals rural tracks.** (1) THERE IS  
3 ESTABLISHED THE COLORADO RURAL HEALTH-CARE WORKFORCE  
4 INITIATIVE TO EXPAND THE NUMBER OF HEALTH-CARE PROFESSIONALS  
5 PRACTICING IN COLORADO'S RURAL OR FRONTIER COUNTIES.

6           (2) AS PART OF THE INITIATIVE, AN INSTITUTION OF HIGHER  
7 EDUCATION MAY ESTABLISH A HEALTH-CARE PROFESSIONALS RURAL  
8 TRACK, OR EXPAND AN EXISTING RURAL TRACK, THAT MEETS THE CRITERIA  
9 DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (3) OF THIS SECTION, WITHIN ANY SPECIFIED  
10 HEALTH-CARE PROFESSIONAL CREDENTIAL OR DEGREE PROGRAM OFFERED  
11 AT THE INSTITUTION. ON OR BEFORE AUGUST 1 OF EACH FISCAL YEAR IN  
12 WHICH AN INSTITUTION RECEIVES FUNDING FOR A RURAL TRACK, THE  
13 INSTITUTION SHALL SUBMIT TO THE RURAL PROGRAM OFFICE A WRITTEN  
14 PLAN DESCRIBING HOW THE INSTITUTION INTENDS TO USE THE FUNDING TO  
15 MEET THE REQUIREMENTS FOR A RURAL TRACK DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION  
16 (3) OF THIS SECTION.

17           (3) SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS, IN OPERATING A  
18 RURAL TRACK, AN INSTITUTION SHALL:

19           (a) CONDUCT AN OUTREACH CAMPAIGN TO PROMOTE KNOWLEDGE  
20 OF AND INTEREST IN RURAL HEALTH-CARE CAREERS, INFORM STUDENTS  
21 AND PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS OF THE INITIATIVE, AND IDENTIFY POTENTIAL  
22 STUDENT APPLICANTS;

23           (b) PRIORITIZE ADMISSION TO THE INSTITUTION AND SET ASIDE  
24 SEATS IN ITS HEALTH-CARE PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION PROGRAM FOR  
25 STUDENTS IN THE RURAL TRACK;

26           (c) AWARD SCHOLARSHIPS TO STUDENTS IN THE RURAL TRACK, AS  
27 DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (6) OF THIS SECTION;

1 (d) OFFER DIDACTIC CURRICULUM THAT THE RURAL PROGRAM  
2 OFFICE DEVELOPS IN COLLABORATION WITH OTHER INSTITUTIONS THAT  
3 OPERATE A RURAL TRACK RELATED TO PRACTICING THE HEALTH-CARE  
4 DISCIPLINE IN RURAL OR FRONTIER COUNTIES TO STUDENTS IN THE RURAL  
5 TRACK;

6 (e) IDENTIFY RURAL OR FRONTIER COUNTIES IN WHICH STUDENTS  
7 MAY ACCOMPLISH THEIR CLINICAL TRAINING AND ESTABLISH  
8 RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN STUDENTS AND HEALTH-CARE PROFESSIONALS  
9 IN RURAL OR FRONTIER COUNTIES WHO CAN SERVE AS PRECEPTORS;

10 (f) PROVIDE INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT AND ADMINISTRATIVE  
11 RESOURCES FOR PRECEPTORS; AND

12 (g) PLACE STUDENTS FOR A SIGNIFICANT DURATION IN RURAL OR  
13 FRONTIER COUNTIES FOR CLINICAL INSTRUCTION AND TRAINING OF  
14 SIGNIFICANT DEPTH FROM A PRECEPTOR, WHICH PLACEMENT MAY BE IN  
15 COLLABORATION WITH THE RURAL PROGRAM OFFICE AND OTHER  
16 PARTICIPATING PROGRAMS IN THE INITIATIVE.

17 (4) AN INSTITUTION THAT RECEIVES FUNDING FOR A RURAL TRACK  
18 SHALL REPORT TO THE RURAL PROGRAM OFFICE INFORMATION ABOUT THE  
19 RURAL TRACK REQUESTED BY THE RURAL PROGRAM OFFICE FOR THE  
20 PURPOSE OF PREPARING THE REPORT DESCRIBED IN SECTION 23-76.5-104.

21 (5) AN INSTITUTION MAY USE THE MONEY APPROPRIATED FOR ITS  
22 RURAL TRACK PURSUANT TO SECTION 23-76.5-105 FOR THE FOLLOWING:

23 (a) TOTAL OR PARTIAL COMPENSATION FOR ONE OR MORE FACULTY  
24 OR STAFF TO DEVELOP THE RURAL TRACK AND TO OPERATE THE RURAL  
25 TRACK IN A MANNER THAT MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS LISTED IN  
26 SUBSECTION (3) OF THIS SECTION;

27 (b) THE COST OF HOUSING FOR STUDENTS FOR ALL OR PART OF THE

1 DURATION OF THE STUDENTS' CLINICAL INSTRUCTION AND TRAINING IN A  
2 RURAL OR FRONTIER COUNTY;

3 (c) TRAINING PRECEPTORS WHO PRACTICE IN RURAL OR FRONTIER  
4 COUNTIES TO PROVIDE PERSONALIZED CLINICAL INSTRUCTION OR TRAINING  
5 TO RURAL TRACK STUDENTS; AND

6 (d) PROVIDING SCHOLARSHIPS TO STUDENTS IN THE RURAL TRACK,  
7 AS DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (6) OF THIS SECTION.

8 (6) (a) AN INSTITUTION THAT OPERATES A RURAL TRACK SHALL  
9 AWARD SCHOLARSHIPS TO STUDENTS PARTICIPATING IN THE RURAL TRACK  
10 WHO COMMIT IN WRITING TO LIVING AND WORKING AS A HEALTH-CARE  
11 PROFESSIONAL IN A RURAL OR FRONTIER COUNTY FOR TWO YEARS AFTER  
12 COMPLETING EDUCATION AND TRAINING. AN INSTITUTION SHALL USE  
13 FORTY PERCENT OF THE FUNDING RECEIVED FOR THE RURAL TRACK TO  
14 AWARD SCHOLARSHIPS. THE INSTITUTION MAY DETERMINE THE AMOUNT  
15 OF EACH SCHOLARSHIP BASED ON THE SCHOLARSHIP APPLICANT'S  
16 DEMONSTRATED FINANCIAL NEED AND DEMONSTRATED COMMITMENT TO  
17 WORKING AS A HEALTH-CARE PROFESSIONAL IN A RURAL OR FRONTIER  
18 COUNTY.

19 (b) A STUDENT WHO FAILS TO FULFILL THE COMMITMENT TO WORK  
20 IN A RURAL OR FRONTIER COUNTY AFTER ACCEPTING A SCHOLARSHIP  
21 SHALL REMIT THE FULL AMOUNT OF THE SCHOLARSHIP TO THE INSTITUTION  
22 THAT AWARDED THE SCHOLARSHIP. EACH INSTITUTION THAT OPERATES A  
23 RURAL TRACK IS RESPONSIBLE FOR DEVELOPING A PROCESS FOR  
24 DETERMINING WHETHER A STUDENT FULFILLS THE COMMITMENT AND FOR  
25 RECOVERING SCHOLARSHIP MONEY WHEN NECESSARY. AN INSTITUTION  
26 THAT RECOVERS SCHOLARSHIP MONEY PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION  
27 (6)(b) SHALL USE THE MONEY FOR ANY PERMISSIBLE USE DESCRIBED IN

1 SUBSECTION (3) OF THIS SECTION.

2 (c) RECEIVING A SCHOLARSHIP DESCRIBED IN THIS SUBSECTION (6)  
3 DOES NOT AFFECT THE STUDENTS' ELIGIBILITY FOR THE COLORADO  
4 HEALTH SERVICE CORPS DESCRIBED IN PART 5 OF ARTICLE 1.5 OF TITLE 25  
5 OR FOR THE DENTAL LOAN REPAYMENT PROGRAM DESCRIBED IN ARTICLE  
6 23 OF TITLE 25.

7 **23-76.5-103. Initiative administrative and education support**  
8 **- university of Colorado school of medicine rural program.** (1) THE  
9 RURAL PROGRAM OFFICE SHALL PROVIDE ASSISTANCE TO THE  
10 INSTITUTIONS ESTABLISHING AND OPERATING A RURAL TRACK. THE RURAL  
11 PROGRAM OFFICE SHALL:

12 (a) PROVIDE GUIDANCE TO AN INSTITUTION REGARDING  
13 RECRUITING AND ADMITTING STUDENTS COMMITTED TO WORKING IN  
14 RURAL AREAS;

15 (b) ASSIST AN INSTITUTION WITH IDENTIFYING RURAL OR FRONTIER  
16 COUNTIES IN WHICH STUDENTS MAY ACCOMPLISH THEIR CLINICAL  
17 TRAINING AND ESTABLISHING RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN STUDENTS AND  
18 HEALTH-CARE PROFESSIONALS IN RURAL OR FRONTIER COUNTIES WHO CAN  
19 SERVE AS PRECEPTORS;

20 (c) FACILITATE, ARRANGE, OR ADVISE AN INSTITUTION ABOUT  
21 ARRANGING HOUSING FOR STUDENTS RECEIVING CLINICAL INSTRUCTION  
22 AND TRAINING IN A RURAL OR FRONTIER COUNTY;

23 (d) DEVELOP, IN COLLABORATION WITH INSTITUTIONS THAT  
24 OPERATE A RURAL TRACK, DIDACTIC CURRICULUM RELATED TO  
25 PRACTICING IN RURAL OR FRONTIER COUNTIES AND PROVIDE THE  
26 CURRICULUM WITHOUT CHARGE TO EACH INSTITUTION THAT OPERATES A  
27 RURAL TRACK; AND



1 (e) PROVIDE ANY OTHER TECHNICAL OR ADMINISTRATIVE  
2 ASSISTANCE THAT MAY BENEFIT AN INSTITUTION THAT IS ESTABLISHING OR  
3 OPERATING A RURAL TRACK.

4 (2) (a) THE RURAL PROGRAM OFFICE SHALL DEVELOP METRICS TO  
5 EVALUATE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE INITIATIVE AND RURAL TRACKS,  
6 ANNUALLY EVALUATE THE INITIATIVE AND RURAL TRACKS, AND CREATE  
7 THE REPORT DESCRIBED IN SECTION 23-76.5-104.

8 (b) THE RURAL PROGRAM OFFICE MAY COLLABORATE WITH THE  
9 COLORADO AREA HEALTH EDUCATION CENTERS, THE DEPARTMENT OF  
10 PUBLIC HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT, A STATEWIDE ORGANIZATION OF  
11 HOSPITALS, AND THE COLORADO RURAL HEALTH CENTER TO ASSESS  
12 UNMET RURAL COMMUNITY HEALTH-CARE PRIORITY NEEDS, COLLECT  
13 DATA TO SUPPORT THE ASSESSMENT, AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO  
14 THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FOR FUNDING TO SUPPORT ADDING MORE  
15 SCHOOLS, PROGRAMS, AND HEALTH-CARE PROFESSIONALS TO MEET THAT  
16 NEED. THE RURAL PROGRAM OFFICE MAY INCLUDE THE  
17 RECOMMENDATIONS IN ITS ANNUAL REPORT.

18 **23-76.5-104. Initiative reporting.** (1) ON OR BEFORE NOVEMBER  
19 1, 2023, AND ON OR BEFORE NOVEMBER 1 EACH YEAR THEREAFTER, THE  
20 RURAL PROGRAM OFFICE SHALL SUBMIT A REPORT TO THE HOUSE OF  
21 REPRESENTATIVES EDUCATION COMMITTEE AND THE SENATE EDUCATION  
22 COMMITTEE, OR THEIR SUCCESSOR COMMITTEES, CONCERNING THE  
23 INITIATIVE. THE REPORT MUST INCLUDE:

24 (a) INFORMATION ABOUT EACH INSTITUTION'S HEALTH-CARE  
25 PROFESSIONALS RURAL TRACKS, THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS ENROLLED IN  
26 EACH RURAL TRACK, THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS WHO HAVE COMPLETED  
27 EACH RURAL TRACK AND ARE PRACTICING IN A RURAL OR FRONTIER

1 COUNTY; AND ANY OTHER RELEVANT DATA AND INFORMATION ABOUT THE  
2 INITIATIVE; AND

3 (b) THE RURAL PROGRAM OFFICE'S ANALYSIS OF THE  
4 EFFECTIVENESS OF THE INITIATIVE AND RURAL TRACKS.

5 (2) THE REPORT MAY INCLUDE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR  
6 LEGISLATIVE CHANGES TO THE INITIATIVE, INCLUDING RECOMMENDATIONS  
7 FOR EXPANDING THE INITIATIVE.

8 **23-76.5-105. Initiative funding - fee for service contracts -**  
9 **repeal.** (1) SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS, THE DEPARTMENT  
10 OF HIGHER EDUCATION SHALL ENTER INTO A LIMITED PURPOSE  
11 FEE-FOR-SERVICE CONTRACT WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO  
12 HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER PURSUANT TO SECTION 23-18-308 TO PROVIDE  
13 FUNDING FOR THE RURAL PROGRAM OFFICE TO CARRY OUT ITS DUTIES  
14 DESCRIBED IN SECTION 23-76.5-103. THE FUNDING FOR THE RURAL  
15 PROGRAM OFFICE MAY BE INCLUDED IN A SINGLE FEE-FOR-SERVICE  
16 CONTRACT WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO HEALTH SCIENCES  
17 CENTER DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (2) OF THIS SECTION.

18 (2) SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS, THE DEPARTMENT OF  
19 HIGHER EDUCATION SHALL ENTER INTO A LIMITED PURPOSE  
20 FEE-FOR-SERVICE CONTRACT WITH THE GOVERNING BOARDS OF EACH OF  
21 THE FOLLOWING INSTITUTIONS, EXCEPT FOR COLORADO MOUNTAIN  
22 COLLEGE, FOR ALLOCATION TO EACH PROGRAM \_\_\_ OR SCHOOL LISTED IN  
23 THIS SUBSECTION (2) TO ESTABLISH OR EXPAND AN EXISTING RURAL  
24 TRACK PURSUANT TO THIS ARTICLE 76.5:

- 25 (I) ADAMS STATE UNIVERSITY, IN ITS NURSING PROGRAM;  
26 (II) COLORADO MESA UNIVERSITY, IN ITS NURSING PROGRAM;  
27 (III) THE COLORADO SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH, IN ITS MASTER

1 OF PUBLIC HEALTH PROGRAM;

2 (IV) COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY - PUEBLO, IN ITS SCHOOL OF

3 NURSING;

4 (V) METROPOLITAN STATE UNIVERSITY OF DENVER, IN ITS

5 NURSING PROGRAM;

6 (VI) THE UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO, IN THE FOLLOWING

7 PROGRAMS OR SCHOOLS:

8 (A) AT THE HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER CAMPUS, IN ITS SCHOOL OF

9 DENTAL MEDICINE AND IN ITS DOCTOR OF MEDICINE PROGRAM IN THE

10 SCHOOL OF MEDICINE; ==

11 (B) AT THE COLORADO SPRINGS CAMPUS, IN ITS NURSING

12 PROGRAM; AND

13 (C) AT THE HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER CAMPUS, IN ITS PHYSICIAN

14 ASSISTANTS PROGRAM IN THE SCHOOL OF MEDICINE;

15 (VII) THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN COLORADO, IN ITS SCHOOL

16 OF NURSING;

17 (VIII) WESTERN COLORADO UNIVERSITY, IN ITS MASTER OF

18 BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE IN RURAL COMMUNITY HEALTH PROGRAM; ==

19 (IX) COLORADO MOUNTAIN COLLEGE, IN ITS NURSING PROGRAM;

20 (X) FORT LEWIS COLLEGE, IN ITS NURSING PROGRAM OPERATED IN

21 AGREEMENT WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO NURSING PROGRAM;

22 AND

23 (XI) AT THE FOLLOWING INSTITUTIONS GOVERNED BY THE STATE

24 BOARD FOR COMMUNITY COLLEGES AND OCCUPATIONAL EDUCATION:

25 (A) MORGAN COMMUNITY COLLEGE, IN ITS NURSING PROGRAM;

26 AND

27 (B) TRINIDAD STATE COLLEGE, IN ITS NURSING PROGRAM.

1           (b)(I) SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS, THE DEPARTMENT  
2           OF HIGHER EDUCATION SHALL ALLOCATE MONEY TO COLORADO  
3           MOUNTAIN COLLEGE TO ESTABLISH A RURAL TRACK IN ITS NURSING  
4           PROGRAM.

5           (II) FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022-23, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SHALL  
6           NOT APPROPRIATE MONEY TO AN INSTITUTION AND THE DEPARTMENT OF  
7           HIGHER EDUCATION SHALL NOT ENTER INTO A LIMITED PURPOSE  
8           FEE-FOR-SERVICE CONTRACT WITH A GOVERNING BOARD OR ALLOCATE  
9           MONEY TO AN INSTITUTION TO ESTABLISH OR OPERATE A RURAL TRACK  
10          OTHER THAN AS DESCRIBED IN THIS SUBSECTION (2).

11          (III) THIS SUBSECTION (2)(b) IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE JULY 1,  
12          2023.

13          SECTION 3. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 23-18-308, add (1)(j)  
14          as follows:

15          **23-18-308. Fee-for-service contracts - limited purpose - repeal.**

16          (1) Subject to available appropriations, the department shall enter into  
17          fee-for-service contracts for the following purposes:

18               (j) THE COLORADO RURAL HEALTH-CARE WORKFORCE INITIATIVE  
19               ESTABLISHED IN ARTICLE 76.5 OF THIS TITLE 23, INCLUDING FOR  
20               HEALTH-CARE PROFESSIONALS RURAL TRACKS AT INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER  
21               EDUCATION AND ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS AND EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT  
22               PROVIDED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO'S SCHOOL OF MEDICINE'S  
23               RURAL PROGRAM.

24          SECTION 4. Appropriation. (1) For the 2022-23 state fiscal  
25          year, \$1,135,000 is appropriated to the department of higher education.  
26          This appropriation is from the general fund. To implement this act, the  
27          department may use this appropriation for the college opportunity fund

1 program to be used for limited purpose fee-for-service contracts with  
2 state institutions.

3 (2) For the FY 2022-23 state fiscal year \$1,135,000 is  
4 appropriated to the department of higher education. This appropriation is  
5 from reappropriated funds received from the limited purpose  
6 fee-for-service contracts with state institutions under subsection (1) of  
7 this section. To implement this act, the department may use this  
8 appropriation as follows:

9 (a) \$65,000 for the trustees of Adams state university for  
10 allocation to its nursing program;

11 (b) \$65,000 for the trustees of Colorado Mesa university for  
12 allocation to its nursing program;

13 (c) \$65,000 for the trustees of Metropolitan state university of  
14 Denver for allocation to its nursing program;

15 (d) \$65,000 for the trustees of Western Colorado university for  
16 allocation to its behavioral science in rural community health program;

17 (e) \$65,000 for the board of governors of the Colorado state  
18 university system for allocation to Colorado state university Pueblo for its  
19 school of nursing;

20 (f) \$65,000 for the trustees of Fort Lewis college for allocation to  
21 its nursing program;

22 (g) \$550,000 for the regents of the university of Colorado, which  
23 amount includes \$225,000 for allocation to the health sciences center for  
24 the rural program office, \$65,000 for allocation to the health sciences  
25 center for the school of dental medicine, \$65,000 for allocation to the  
26 health sciences center for the school of medicine for the doctor of  
27 medicine program, \$65,000 for allocation to the health sciences center for

1 the school of medicine for the physician assistant program, \$65,000 for  
2 allocation to the Colorado Springs campus for its nursing program, and  
3 \$65,000 for allocation to the Colorado school of public health operated  
4 by the university of Colorado, Colorado state university, and the  
5 university of Northern Colorado;

6 (h) \$65,000 for the university of Northern Colorado for allocation  
7 to its school of nursing; and

8 (i) \$130,000 for the state board for community colleges and  
9 occupational education state system community colleges, which amount  
10 includes \$65,000 for allocation to Morgan community college for its  
11 nursing program and \$65,000 for allocation to Trinidad state college for  
12 its nursing program.

13 (3) For the 2022-23 state fiscal year, \$65,000 is appropriated to  
14 the department of higher education. This appropriation is from the general  
15 fund. To implement this act, the department may use this appropriation  
16 for Colorado mountain college for allocation to its nursing program.

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