

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

**INTRODUCED**

LLS NO. 24-0401.01 Jacob Baus x2173

**SENATE BILL 24-012**

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**SENATE SPONSORSHIP**

**Gonzales and Coleman,**

**HOUSE SPONSORSHIP**

**Young and Mabrey,**

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**Senate Committees**  
Judiciary

**House Committees**

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**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

101     **CONCERNING THE CREATION OF A REENTRY WORKFORCE**  
102             **DEVELOPMENT CASH ASSISTANCE PILOT PROGRAM FOR PERSONS**  
103             **WHO WERE INCARCERATED.**

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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 creates the reentry workforce development cash assistance pilot program (pilot program) in the department of corrections (department) to provide cash assistance to persons who enroll and participate in workforce services or training programs after incarceration. The pilot program provides a total payment of up to \$3,000 to eligible

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

persons for basic life expenses.

The bill requires the department to contract with an organization to administer the pilot program, perform an annual survey of pilot program recipients, and produce an annual report that is submitted to the judiciary committees of the senate and house of representatives.

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

2           **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** article 35 to title  
3 17 as follows:

4   **ARTICLE 35**

5   **Reentry Workforce Development**

6   **Cash Assistance Pilot Program**

7           **17-35-101. Definitions.** AS USED IN THIS ARTICLE 35, UNLESS THE  
8 CONTEXT OTHERWISE REQUIRES:

9           (1) "ADMINISTERING ENTITY" MEANS THE ENTITY THAT IS  
10 SELECTED BY THE DEPARTMENT TO ADMINISTER THE REENTRY  
11 WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT CASH ASSISTANCE PILOT PROGRAM.

12           (2) "ELIGIBLE PERSON" MEANS A PERSON WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO  
13 RECEIVE CASH ASSISTANCE PURSUANT TO THE REENTRY WORKFORCE  
14 DEVELOPMENT CASH ASSISTANCE PILOT PROGRAM.

15           (3) "PILOT PROGRAM" MEANS THE REENTRY WORKFORCE  
16 DEVELOPMENT CASH ASSISTANCE PILOT PROGRAM CREATED IN SECTION  
17 17-35-102.

18           **17-35-102. Reentry workforce development cash assistance**  
19 **pilot program - created - duties - policies.** (1) THERE IS CREATED IN  
20 THE DEPARTMENT THE REENTRY WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT CASH  
21 ASSISTANCE PILOT PROGRAM TO PROVIDE CASH ASSISTANCE TO PERSONS  
22 WHO ARE ENROLLED AND PARTICIPATING IN WORKFORCE SERVICES OR  
23 TRAINING PROGRAMS AFTER INCARCERATION.

1           (2) TO BE ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE CASH ASSISTANCE PURSUANT TO  
2 THE PILOT PROGRAM, A PERSON MUST:

3           (a) HAVE BEEN PREVIOUSLY INCARCERATED IN A DEPARTMENT  
4 FACILITY, A PRIVATE CORRECTIONAL FACILITY UNDER CONTRACT WITH  
5 THE DEPARTMENT, A JAIL FOLLOWING A FELONY CONVICTION, OR A  
6 JUVENILE FACILITY FOLLOWING ADJUDICATION FOR AN OFFENSE THAT  
7 WOULD HAVE BEEN A FELONY IF COMMITTED BY AN ADULT;

8           (b) BE ENROLLED AND PARTICIPATING IN A WORKFORCE SERVICE  
9 OR TRAINING PROGRAM OFFERED BY A REENTRY SERVICE PROVIDER  
10 LOCATED IN THE STATE;

11           (c) AGREE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE COMPREHENSIVE SURVEY OF  
12 ELIGIBLE PERSONS WHO RECEIVED CASH ASSISTANCE PURSUANT TO THE  
13 PILOT PROGRAM PURSUANT TO SECTION 17-35-105 (1);

14           (d) ENROLL IN THE PILOT PROGRAM PURSUANT TO SECTION  
15 17-35-104 NO MORE THAN SIX MONTHS AFTER THE DATE THAT THE PERSON  
16 IS RELEASED FROM THE CUSTODY OF A DEPARTMENT FACILITY, PRIVATE  
17 CORRECTIONAL FACILITY UNDER CONTRACT WITH THE DEPARTMENT, JAIL,  
18 OR JUVENILE FACILITY; AND

19           (e) HAVE NOT PREVIOUSLY RECEIVED CASH ASSISTANCE PURSUANT  
20 TO THE PILOT PROGRAM.

21           (3) AN ELIGIBLE PERSON WHO RECEIVES CASH ASSISTANCE  
22 PURSUANT TO THE PILOT PROGRAM SHALL USE THE CASH ASSISTANCE FOR  
23 BASIC LIVING EXPENSES, SUCH AS HOUSING, FOOD, HEALTH CARE, HYGIENE  
24 PRODUCTS, CLOTHES, FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS RELATED TO THE ELIGIBLE  
25 PERSON'S LEGAL PROCEEDINGS, TRANSPORTATION, AND TECHNOLOGY.

26           (4) CASH ASSISTANCE RECEIVED BY AN ELIGIBLE PERSON  
27 PURSUANT TO THE PILOT PROGRAM IS NOT COMPENSATION OR A STIPEND

1 FOR WORK PERFORMED IN A WORKFORCE SERVICE OR TRAINING PROGRAM.

2 (5) NO LATER THAN SEPTEMBER 30, 2024, THE DEPARTMENT  
3 SHALL ISSUE A REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR AN ENTITY TO ADMINISTER  
4 THE PILOT PROGRAM. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL SELECT AND CONTRACT  
5 WITH AN ENTITY THAT IS A NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION THAT IS EXEMPT  
6 FROM FEDERAL TAXATION PURSUANT TO SECTION 501 (c)(3) OF THE  
7 FEDERAL "INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1986", AS AMENDED, WITH  
8 PREFERENCE GIVEN TO AN ENTITY THAT HAS DEMONSTRATED SUCCESS IN  
9 PROVIDING WORKFORCE SERVICES OR TRAINING PROGRAMS,  
10 ADMINISTERING CASH ASSISTANCE, AND COLLABORATING WITH SERVICE  
11 PROVIDERS WHO ASSIST PERSONS AFTER INCARCERATION. THE  
12 DEPARTMENT SHALL SELECT AND ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH THE  
13 ADMINISTERING ENTITY NO LATER THAN DECEMBER 31, 2024, SUBJECT TO  
14 ANNUAL REVIEW AND RENEWAL.

15 (6) THE DEPARTMENT MAY PROMULGATE POLICIES AS MAY BE  
16 NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT AND ADMINISTER THE PILOT PROGRAM.

17 **17-35-103. Administering entity - duties - funding.** (1) THE  
18 ADMINISTERING ENTITY SHALL IMPLEMENT AND ADMINISTER THE PILOT  
19 PROGRAM IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS ARTICLE 35 AND ANY POLICIES  
20 PROMULGATED BY THE DEPARTMENT PURSUANT TO SECTION 17-35-102  
21 (6).

22 (2) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL USE NO MORE THAN TEN PERCENT OF  
23 THE MONEY APPROPRIATED TO IT FOR THE PILOT PROGRAM TO  
24 COMPENSATE THE ADMINISTERING ENTITY FOR ITS COSTS IN  
25 IMPLEMENTING AND ADMINISTERING THE PILOT PROGRAM. THE  
26 DEPARTMENT SHALL NOT AGREE TO PROVIDE ANY ADDITIONAL AMOUNT  
27 OF REMUNERATION TO THE ADMINISTERING ENTITY. THE DEPARTMENT

1 SHALL COMPENSATE THE ADMINISTERING ENTITY WITH FUNDS FROM ANY  
2 APPROPRIATION FOR PURPOSES OF THIS ARTICLE 35.

3 **17-35-104. Enrollment - criteria.** (1) TO RECEIVE CASH  
4 ASSISTANCE PURSUANT TO THE PILOT PROGRAM, AN ELIGIBLE PERSON  
5 MUST COMPLETE THE ENROLLMENT PROCESS WITH THE ADMINISTERING  
6 ENTITY IN ACCORDANCE WITH ANY POLICIES PROMULGATED BY THE  
7 DEPARTMENT PURSUANT TO SECTION 17-35-102 (6).

8 (2) (a) THE ADMINISTERING ENTITY SHALL ISSUE THE CASH  
9 ASSISTANCE TO AN ELIGIBLE PERSON IN MULTIPLE PAYMENTS. THE TOTAL  
10 CASH ASSISTANCE PROVIDED TO AN ELIGIBLE PERSON SHALL NOT EXCEED  
11 THREE THOUSAND DOLLARS.

12 (b) IN A BUDGET YEAR WHEN THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY DOES NOT  
13 APPROPRIATE A SUFFICIENT AMOUNT TO FULLY FUND THE CASH  
14 ASSISTANCE PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION, THE ADMINISTERING ENTITY  
15 SHALL REDUCE THE AMOUNT OF EACH ELIGIBLE PERSON'S CASH  
16 ASSISTANCE BY THE SAME PERCENTAGE THAT THE DEFICIT BEARS TO THE  
17 AMOUNT REQUIRED TO FULLY FUND THE CASH ASSISTANCE TO EACH  
18 ELIGIBLE PERSON PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION.

19 **17-35-105. Evaluation and reporting requirements.** (1) ON OR  
20 BEFORE JULY 1, 2025, AND ON OR BEFORE JULY 1 EACH YEAR THEREAFTER,  
21 THE ADMINISTERING ENTITY SHALL PERFORM A COMPREHENSIVE SURVEY  
22 OF ELIGIBLE PERSONS WHO RECEIVED CASH ASSISTANCE PURSUANT TO THE  
23 PILOT PROGRAM. THE SURVEY MUST SOLICIT INFORMATION CONCERNING  
24 THE ELIGIBLE PERSON, INCLUDING, AT A MINIMUM, THE ELIGIBLE PERSON'S  
25 PERSONAL CIRCUMSTANCES, WORK, EDUCATION, PROGRESS IN THE  
26 WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT OR TRAINING PROGRAM, AND A DESCRIPTION  
27 OF THE BASIC LIVING ESSENTIALS PURCHASED WITH THE CASH ASSISTANCE.

1 THE ADMINISTERING ENTITY SHALL RETAIN THE SURVEYS, EVALUATE  
2 SUCCESSES OF THE PILOT PROGRAM, AND IDENTIFY OPPORTUNITIES TO  
3 IMPROVE THE PILOT PROGRAM FOR CURRENT AND FUTURE ELIGIBLE  
4 PERSONS.

5 (2) ON OR BEFORE OCTOBER 1, 2025, AND ON OR BEFORE OCTOBER  
6 1 EACH YEAR THEREAFTER, THE ADMINISTERING ENTITY SHALL SUBMIT A  
7 REPORT TO THE DEPARTMENT. AT A MINIMUM, THE REPORT MUST INCLUDE:

8 (a) A SUMMARY OF THE FINDINGS FROM THE SURVEY PERFORMED  
9 PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (1) OF THIS SECTION; AND

10 (b) AN ANALYSIS OF THE FINDINGS FROM THE SURVEY PERFORMED  
11 PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (1) OF THIS SECTION, INCLUDING COMPARISONS  
12 BETWEEN THE CURRENT YEAR'S AND PREVIOUS YEARS' FINDINGS TO  
13 EVALUATE THE EFFECTS OF PROVIDING CASH ASSISTANCE TO ELIGIBLE  
14 PERSONS PURSUANT TO THE PILOT PROGRAM.

15 (3) ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 31, 2025, AND ON OR BEFORE  
16 DECEMBER 31 EACH YEAR THEREAFTER, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL SUBMIT  
17 THE ADMINISTERING ENTITY'S REPORT TO THE JUDICIARY COMMITTEES OF  
18 THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, OR ANY SUCCESSOR  
19 COMMITTEES, REGARDING THE PILOT PROGRAM.

20 (4) NOTWITHSTANDING SECTION 24-1-136 (11)(a)(I), THE  
21 REPORTING REQUIREMENTS SET FORTH IN THIS SECTION CONTINUE  
22 INDEFINITELY.

23 **17-35-106. Federal waiver.** THE DEPARTMENT SHALL SEEK ANY  
24 FEDERAL WAIVER OR EXEMPTION NECESSARY FOR AN ELIGIBLE PERSON TO  
25 EXCLUDE CASH ASSISTANCE RECEIVED PURSUANT TO THE PILOT PROGRAM  
26 FROM AN INCOME DETERMINATION FOR ELIGIBILITY IN ANY  
27 FEDERALLY-FUNDED PUBLIC BENEFIT PROGRAM AND COLLABORATE WITH

1 ANY OTHER STATE AGENCIES NECESSARY TO SEEK THE WAIVER.

2 **17-35-107. Repeal of article.** THIS ARTICLE 35 IS REPEALED,  
3 EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026.

4 **SECTION 2. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act  
5 takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the  
6 ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly; except  
7 that, if a referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V  
8 of the state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this  
9 act within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take  
10 effect unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in  
11 November 2024 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the  
12 official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.