

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

**PREAMENDED**

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

LLS NO. 24-0941.01 Rebecca Bayetti x4348

**HOUSE BILL 24-1287**

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**HOUSE SPONSORSHIP**

**Marshall and Soper,**

**SENATE SPONSORSHIP**

**(None),**

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**House Committees**

State, Civic, Military, & Veterans Affairs  
Appropriations

**Senate Committees**

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**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

101 **CONCERNING ACCESS TO STATE GRANT OPPORTUNITIES.**

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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>.)*

**Section 1** of the bill creates an online database managed by the department of personnel that includes information on all grant opportunities that are funded by state money or administered by the state. The database must be created by December 31, 2025, and reviewed and updated on an annual basis.

**Section 2** creates the grant assistance to rural communities program. This program, administered by the department of local affairs, provides assistance in accessing state grants to entities in rural

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.

communities, which are defined as counties with populations of fewer than 25,000 residents and municipalities with populations of fewer than 10,000 residents that do not border another municipality with a population of 10,000 residents or more. The bill directs the department to designate at least one full-time equivalent employee, who resides in a rural community or whose principal place of employment is in a rural community, to implement the program.

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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** 24-30-105 as  
3 follows:

4           **24-30-105. Database of state grants - creation - definitions.**

5 (1) AS USED IN THIS SECTION, UNLESS THE CONTEXT OTHERWISE  
6 REQUIRES:

7           (a) "COMPETITIVE STATE TAX EXPENDITURE" MEANS A STATE TAX  
8 EXPENDITURE FOR WHICH ONE OF THE FOLLOWING APPLIES:

9           (I) THERE IS A LIMITED AMOUNT OF DOLLARS OR CREDITS  
10 AVAILABLE; OR

11           (II) A DISCRETIONARY DETERMINATION MADE BY A STATE AGENCY  
12 IS NECESSARY TO QUALIFY FOR THE TAX EXPENDITURE.

13           (b) "STATE GRANT OPPORTUNITY" OR "GRANT" MEANS A  
14 COMPETITIVE STATE TAX EXPENDITURE AND A GRANT FUNDED BY STATE  
15 MONEY OR ADMINISTERED BY THE STATE.

16           (2) NO LATER THAN DECEMBER 31, 2025, THE EXECUTIVE  
17 DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL OR THE EXECUTIVE  
18 DIRECTOR'S DESIGNEE SHALL CREATE AND MAINTAIN A SEARCHABLE  
19 DATABASE OF ALL STATE GRANT OPPORTUNITIES AND SHALL MAKE THE  
20 DATABASE ACCESSIBLE FROM ITS WEBSITE.

21           (3) (a) THE DATABASE CREATED IN SUBSECTION (2) OF THIS  
22 SECTION MUST BE EASILY NAVIGABLE AND INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING

1 INFORMATION FOR EACH STATE GRANT OPPORTUNITY:

2 (I) THE INTENDED PURPOSE OF THE GRANT;

3 (II) ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR GRANT APPLICANTS;

4 (III) THE AVAILABLE GRANT AMOUNT PER APPLICANT, IF THERE IS  
5 A SET GRANT AMOUNT, OR A RANGE OF AVAILABLE GRANT AMOUNTS;

6 (IV) APPLICATION PROCEDURES;

7 (V) TIMELINES FOR APPLICATION AND SELECTION;

8 (VI) ANY AVAILABLE GRANT WRITING AND APPLICATION  
9 ASSISTANCE;

10 (VII) PERFORMANCE CRITERIA AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS;

11 AND

12 (VIII) CONTACT INFORMATION FOR QUESTIONS REGARDING THE  
13 GRANT.

14 (b) THE INFORMATION REQUIRED BY THIS SUBSECTION (3) MAY BE  
15 INCLUDED IN THE DATABASE AS REGULARLY UPDATED LINKS TO OTHER  
16 STATE AGENCY OR DEPARTMENT WEBSITES THAT INCLUDE THE REQUIRED  
17 INFORMATION.

18 (4) THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL  
19 OR THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S DESIGNEE SHALL CONTINUOUSLY REVIEW  
20 AND UPDATE THE DATABASE CREATED IN THIS SECTION.

21 (5) UPON REQUEST, ANY STATE AGENCY OR DEPARTMENT SHALL  
22 PROVIDE THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL  
23 OR THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S DESIGNEE WITH INFORMATION NECESSARY  
24 TO CREATE AND UPDATE THE DATABASE CREATED IN THIS SECTION.

25 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 24-32-135 as  
26 follows:

27 **24-32-135. Grant assistance to rural communities and rural**

1 **schools program - creation - definitions.** (1) AS USED IN THIS SECTION,  
2 UNLESS THE CONTEXT OTHERWISE REQUIRES:

3 (a) "DEPARTMENT" MEANS THE DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL AFFAIRS.

4 (b) "EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR" MEANS THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF  
5 THE DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL AFFAIRS OR THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S  
6 DESIGNEE.

7 (c) "GRANT OPPORTUNITIES" MEANS ALL GRANTS FUNDED BY  
8 STATE MONEY OR ADMINISTERED BY THE STATE.

9 (d) "PROGRAM" MEANS THE GRANT ASSISTANCE TO RURAL  
10 COMMUNITIES AND RURAL SCHOOLS PROGRAM CREATED IN THIS SECTION.

11 (e) "RURAL COMMUNITY" MEANS A COUNTY WITH A POPULATION  
12 OF FEWER THAN TWENTY-FIVE THOUSAND RESIDENTS OR A MUNICIPALITY  
13 WITH A POPULATION OF FEWER THAN TEN THOUSAND RESIDENTS IF THE  
14 MUNICIPALITY IS NOT CONTIGUOUS TO A MUNICIPALITY WITH A  
15 POPULATION OF TEN THOUSAND RESIDENTS OR MORE.

16 (f) (I) "RURAL COMMUNITY ENTITY" MEANS ANY ENTITY THAT IS  
17 ELIGIBLE FOR GRANT OPPORTUNITIES AND THAT IS LOCATED WITHIN A  
18 RURAL COMMUNITY, INCLUDING ANY PUBLIC OR PRIVATE ORGANIZATION,  
19 LOCAL GOVERNMENT, OR RURAL SCHOOL DISTRICT.

20 (II) FOR PURPOSES OF THIS SUBSECTION (1)(f), "RURAL SCHOOL  
21 DISTRICT" MEANS A RURAL OR SMALL RURAL SCHOOL DISTRICT AS  
22 DETERMINED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION BASED ON THE SIZE OF  
23 THE DISTRICT, THE DISTANCE FROM THE NEAREST LARGE, URBANIZED  
24 AREA, AND THE STUDENT POPULATION.

25 (2) THE GRANT ASSISTANCE TO RURAL COMMUNITIES AND RURAL  
26 SCHOOLS PROGRAM IS CREATED WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT AND THE  
27 DEPARTMENT SHALL ADMINISTER THE PROGRAM.

1           (3) THE PURPOSE OF THE PROGRAM IS TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE TO  
2 RURAL COMMUNITY ENTITIES IN ACCESSING GRANT OPPORTUNITIES. THE  
3 DEPARTMENT SHALL PROVIDE THIS ASSISTANCE THROUGHOUT THE LIFE  
4 CYCLE OF A GRANT, INCLUDING ASSISTANCE WITH:

5           (a) IDENTIFYING GRANT OPPORTUNITIES FOR WHICH THE RURAL  
6 COMMUNITY ENTITY IS ELIGIBLE;

7           (b) APPLYING FOR GRANT OPPORTUNITIES AND WRITING GRANT  
8 APPLICATIONS;

9           (c) CAPACITY BUILDING AS NECESSARY TO ADHERE TO GRANT  
10 PERFORMANCE CRITERIA AND MONITORING REQUIREMENTS; AND

11           (d) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.

12           (4) THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MAY PROMULGATE RULES IN  
13 ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE 4 OF THIS TITLE 24 AS NECESSARY TO  
14 IMPLEMENT AND ADMINISTER THE PROGRAM.

15           (5) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL DESIGNATE AT LEAST ONE FULL-TIME  
16 EQUIVALENT EMPLOYEE TO IMPLEMENT THE PROGRAM. THE EMPLOYEE OR  
17 EMPLOYEES MUST RESIDE IN A RURAL COMMUNITY OR HAVE A PRINCIPAL  
18 PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT IN A RURAL COMMUNITY.

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