

CHAPTER 92

EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

HOUSE BILL 24-1387

BY REPRESENTATIVE(S) Sirota and Taggart, Bird, Bacon, English, Garcia, Hernandez, Herod, Jodeh, Joseph, Lindsay, Lindstedt, Lukens, Marvin, Ricks, Rutinel, Snyder, Young, McCluskie;
also SENATOR(S) Bridges and Kirkmeyer, Zenzinger, Cutter, Exum, Hinrichsen, Michaelson Jenet, Priola.

AN ACT**CONCERNING MODIFICATIONS TO THE PRESCHOOL PROGRAMS CASH FUND.**

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

SECTION 1. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 26.5-4-209, **amend** (3)(b) and (4) introductory portion, and **add** (5.5) as follows:

26.5-4-209. Preschool programs cash fund - created - use - repeal.
(3) (b) The department ~~shall use money remaining in~~ MAY USE THE REMAINING MONEY ANNUALLY APPROPRIATED FROM the preschool programs cash fund after the uses described in subsection (3)(a) of this section to provide additional preschool services for children who are in low-income families or who meet at least one qualifying factor.

(4) In furtherance of the purposes set forth in subsection (3) of this section and to meet an expansion of preschool populations, in addition to the use described in subsection (3)(b) of this section, the department may use ~~money remaining in~~ the REMAINING MONEY ANNUALLY APPROPRIATED FROM THE PRESCHOOL PROGRAMS CASH fund after meeting the uses described in subsection (3)(a) of this section to ensure the availability of quality, voluntary preschool services provided through a mixed delivery system by means the department deems appropriate, including:

(5.5) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SHALL NOT APPROPRIATE THE FULL BALANCE OF THE PRESCHOOL PROGRAMS CASH FUND PRIOR TO THE START OF A STATE FISCAL YEAR. THE UNAPPROPRIATED BALANCE IN THE PRESCHOOL PROGRAMS CASH FUND AT THE START OF THE FISCAL YEAR IS THE RESERVE. THE DEPARTMENT MAY SUBMIT A REQUEST FOR A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION FROM THE PRESCHOOL PROGRAMS

Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material added to existing law; dashes through words or numbers indicate deletions from existing law and such material is not part of the act.

CASH FUND RESERVE TO THE JOINT BUDGET COMMITTEE PURSUANT TO SECTION 2-3-208 (3)(a) AND (3)(b)(II).

SECTION 2. Safety clause. The general assembly finds, determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety or for appropriations for the support and maintenance of the departments of the state and state institutions.

Approved: April 18, 2024