

**First Regular Session
Seventy-first General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO**

PREAMENDED

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

LLS NO. 17-1206.01 Christy Chase x2008

HOUSE BILL 17-1357

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Pabon,

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

(None),

House Committees

Finance
Appropriations

Senate Committees

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 **CONCERNING MODIFICATIONS TO THE SKILLED WORKER TRAINING**
102 **PROGRAM ADMINISTERED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND**
103 **EMPLOYMENT.**

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:

- ! Extends the duration of the "Skilled Worker Outreach, Recruitment, and Key Training Act", also known as the "WORK Act", administered by the department of labor and employment through the 2018-19 state fiscal year; and

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

- ! Removes the cap on the amount of money appropriated to the WORK fund that may be expended in a given fiscal year.

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

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 8-83-304, **amend**
3 (1)(b)(I) and (2); and **add** (1)(d) as follows:

4 **8-83-304. Skilled worker outreach, recruitment, and key**
5 **training grant program - creation - award criteria.** (1) (b) (I) For the
6 2015-16 through ~~2017-18~~ 2018-19 fiscal years, the department shall
7 administer the grant program by accepting and processing matching grant
8 applications submitted pursuant to this section, and the grant review
9 committee shall review and make recommendations for awarding
10 matching grants. The department shall develop application guidelines and
11 establish deadlines for the grant program AND MAY DEVELOP AN
12 EXPEDITED APPLICATION PROCESS IN ACCORDANCE WITH SUBSECTION
13 (1)(d) OF THIS SECTION.

14 (d) NOTWITHSTANDING THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE
15 "PROCUREMENT CODE", ARTICLES 101 TO 112 OF TITLE 24, STARTING JULY
16 1, 2017, THE DEPARTMENT MAY USE AN EXPEDITED PROCEDURE FOR
17 ACCEPTING AND REVIEWING AN APPLICATION FROM AN ELIGIBLE
18 APPLICANT THAT RECEIVED MATCHING GRANT AWARDS IN THE 2015-16 OR
19 2016-17 FISCAL YEARS AND IS APPLYING FOR AN ADDITIONAL MATCHING
20 GRANT OR TO EXTEND A MATCHING GRANT AWARD UNDER AN EXISTING
21 AGREEMENT IF:

22 (I) THE ELIGIBLE APPLICANT DEMONSTRATES POSITIVE OUTCOMES
23 RESULTING FROM ITS RECEIPT AND USE OF MATCHING GRANTS UNDER THE
24 WORK GRANT PROGRAM;

1 (II) THE ELIGIBLE APPLICANT DEMONSTRATES THAT ALL
2 ORGANIZATIONS THAT WERE NAMED IN THE ORIGINAL GRANT APPLICATION
3 AGREE TO PARTICIPATE IN AN EXPEDITED APPLICATION PROCESS; AND

4 (III) THE WORK GRANT REVIEW COMMITTEE APPROVES THE USE
5 OF AN EXPEDITED APPLICATION PROCESS FOR THE ELIGIBLE APPLICANT.

6 (2) No later than January 1, 2016, and no later than each January
7 1 thereafter THROUGH JANUARY 1, 2018, the department shall start
8 accepting grant applications for matching grants to be awarded pursuant
9 to section 8-83-305 no later than the April 1 following the application
10 submittal deadline.

11 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 8-83-306, **amend** (2)
12 introductory portion as follows:

13 **8-83-306. Reports.** (2) By May 1, 2017, and by each May 1
14 thereafter through ~~May 1, 2019~~ MAY 1, 2020, the grant review committee
15 shall submit an annual report to the governor, the senate committee on
16 business, labor, and technology or its successor committee, and the house
17 of representatives committee on business affairs and labor or its successor
18 committee. The grant review committee shall include in the report at least
19 the following information:

20 **SECTION 3.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 8-83-307, **amend** (3)
21 as follows:

22 **8-83-307. Skilled worker outreach, recruitment, and key**
23 **training grant program fund - creation.** (3) For the 2015-16, 2016-17,
24 and 2017-18 fiscal years, the general assembly shall appropriate a total of
25 ten million dollars to the fund. ~~of which not more than three million five~~
26 ~~hundred thousand dollars may be expended in any given fiscal year.~~

27 **SECTION 4. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds,

- 1 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate
- 2 preservation of the public peace, health, and safety.