A BILL FOR AN ACT

CONCERNING CREATION OF A GRANT PROGRAM FOR CAPITAL COSTS RELATING TO CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION.

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 career and technical education capital grant program (program) in the department of labor and employment. The state workforce development council (state council) will award grants through the program to area technical colleges, school districts, and community colleges to use for equipment, or construction and maintenance of buildings, related to career and technical education. In awarding grants,
the state council will prioritize applicants from rural areas of the state and consider each applicant's demonstrated need. For each year in which it awards grants, the state council must publish a report that identifies the grant recipients and how the grant money was used.

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

SECTION 1. In Colorado Revised Statutes, add part 5 to article 46.3 of title 24 as follows:

PART 5
CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION
CAPITAL GRANT PROGRAM

24-46.3-501. Definitions. As used in this part 5, unless the context otherwise requires:

(1) "Area technical college" has the same meaning as provided in section 23-60-103.

(2) "Career and technical education" means training and retraining that is conducted as a part of a program designed to prepare individuals for gainful employment as semiskilled or skilled workers or technicians in recognized occupations; except that "career and technical education" does not include a program to prepare individuals for employment in occupations generally considered to be professional or that require a baccalaureate or higher degree.

(3) "Community college" means a postsecondary institution that is within the state system of community and technical colleges under the jurisdiction of the state board for community colleges and occupational education as provided in article 60 of title 23.
(4) "DEPARTMENT" MEANS THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND
EMPLOYMENT CREATED IN SECTION 24-1-121.

(5) "PROGRAM" MEANS THE CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION
CAPITAL GRANT PROGRAM CREATED IN SECTION 24-46.3-502.

(6) "SCHOOL DISTRICT" MEANS A SCHOOL DISTRICT ORGANIZED
AND EXISTING AS PROVIDED IN ARTICLE 30 OF TITLE 22.

(7) "STATE COUNCIL" MEANS THE STATE WORK FORCE
DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL CREATED IN SECTION 24-46.3-101.

24-46.3-502. Career and technical education capital grant
program - created. (1) THERE IS CREATED IN THE DEPARTMENT THE
CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION CAPITAL GRANT PROGRAM TO
PROVIDE MONEY TO AREA TECHNICAL COLLEGES, COMMUNITY COLLEGES,
AND SCHOOL DISTRICTS FOR PURCHASING OR LEASING EQUIPMENT
REQUIRED FOR CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION RELATED TO A
RECOGNIZED OCCUPATION OR FOR CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE OF
A BUILDING THAT IS USED FOR CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION.

(2) THE STATE COUNCIL SHALL ADMINISTER THE PROGRAM BY:

(a) ADOPTING GUIDELINES BY WHICH AREA TECHNICAL COLLEGES,
COMMUNITY COLLEGES, AND SCHOOL DISTRICTS, INDIVIDUALLY OR IN
COMBINATION, MAY APPLY FOR A GRANT THROUGH THE PROGRAM;

(b) REVIEWING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED; AND

(c) SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS, AWARDING GRANTS
AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (3) OF THIS SECTION.

(3) IN AWARDING GRANTS THROUGH THE PROGRAM, THE STATE
COUNCIL SHALL FIRST AWARD GRANTS TO APPLICANTS THAT ARE LOCATED
IN RURAL AREAS OF THE STATE, AS DETERMINED BY THE STATE COUNCIL.
The state council shall also take into account the level of
FINANCIAL NEED DEMONSTRATED BY EACH APPLICANT.

(4) THE STATE COUNCIL SHALL ANNUALLY DISTRIBUTE THROUGH
THE PROGRAM SUCH AMOUNT AS THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY MAY
APPROPRIATE FOR THE PROGRAM, LESS UP TO THREE PERCENT, WHICH THE
DEPARTMENT MAY EXPEND FOR ANY DIRECT COSTS INCURRED IN
ASSISTING THE STATE COUNCIL TO ADMINISTER THE PROGRAM.

24-46.3-503. Career and technical education capital grant
program - report. (1) FOR ANY FISCAL YEAR IN WHICH THE STATE
COUNCIL AWWARDS GRANTS THROUGH THE PROGRAM, THE STATE COUNCIL
SHALL PREPARE A REPORT THAT IDENTIFIES THE TOTAL AMOUNT
APPRIORATED FOR THE PROGRAM, THE GRANT RECIPIENTS AND THE
AMOUNT AWARDED TO EACH RECIPIENT, AND THE PURPOSE FOR WHICH
EACH RECIPIENT USED THE GRANT MONEY. THE STATE COUNCIL SHALL
SUBMIT COPIES OF THE REPORT TO THE JOINT BUDGET COMMITTEE OF THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND THE EDUCATION COMMITTEES OF THE SENATE
AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, OR ANY SUCCESSOR COMMITTEES, AND
SHALL POST A COPY OF THE REPORT ON ITS WEBSITE FOR PUBLIC REVIEW.

(2) NOTWITHSTANDING THE PROVISIONS OF SECTION 24-1-136
(11)(a)(I), THE REPORT REQUIRED BY THIS SECTION CONTINUES
INDEFINITELY.

SECTION 2. Act subject to petition - effective date. This act
takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the
ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly (August
8, 2018, if adjournment sine die is on May 9, 2018); except that, if a
referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V of the
state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this act
within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take effect
unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in
November 2018 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the
official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.