

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

**REVISED**

*This Version Includes All Amendments Adopted  
on Second Reading in the Second House*

LLS NO. 21-1038.01 Alana Rosen x2606

**SENATE BILL 21-290**

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**SENATE SPONSORSHIP**

**Danielson and Buckner**, Bridges, Cooke, Coram, Fenberg, Fields, Garcia, Ginal, Gonzales, Hisey, Jaquez Lewis, Kirkmeyer, Kolker, Lee, Moreno, Pettersen, Rankin, Rodriguez, Simpson, Story, Winter, Woodward

**HOUSE SPONSORSHIP**

**Young and Bradfield**,

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**Senate Committees**

Finance  
Appropriations

**House Committees**

Appropriations

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**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

101      **CONCERNING THE ALLOCATION OF FIFTEEN MILLION DOLLARS FROM**  
102                    **THE GENERAL FUND TO ESTABLISH THE AREA AGENCY ON AGING**  
103                    **GRANT PROGRAM FOR PROGRAMS PROVIDING ASSISTANCE TO**  
104                    **OLDER COLORADANS, AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH,**  
105                    **MAKING AN APPROPRIATION.**

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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 area agency on aging grant program (grant program) in the department of human service's state office on aging (state

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

HOUSE  
2nd Reading Unamended  
June 3, 2021

SENATE  
3rd Reading Unamended  
June 2, 2021

SENATE  
Amended 2nd Reading  
June 1, 2021

office). The purpose of the grant program is to assist and support the health, well-being, and security of older Coloradans.

The bill requires the state office and the area agency on aging to collaborate and establish criteria for the following:

- Adopting the policies and procedures for the administration of the grant program;
- Establishing and publishing criteria for the grant program; and
- Creating application procedures by which eligible organizations may apply for and receive money from the grant program.

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

2 **SECTION 1. Legislative declaration.** (1) The general assembly  
3 finds and declares that:

4 (a) Colorado currently has more than 1.25 million residents over  
5 the age of sixty, and by 2030, there will be over 1.5 million residents over  
6 the age of sixty;

7 (b) The statewide population of Coloradans over the age of  
8 seventy-five is approximately 327,000, and by 2030, 559,000 Coloradans  
9 will be over the age of seventy-five;

10 (c) Compared to the rest of the United States, Colorado has the  
11 second-fastest aging population, with Coloradans over the age of sixty  
12 outnumbering Coloradans eighteen years of age and younger as soon as  
13 2023, with a widening margin through 2050;

14 (d) The federal "Older Americans Act of 1965" designates area  
15 agencies on aging as the leader on all aging issues in the planning and  
16 service areas. The mission of the area agency on aging network is to assist  
17 older adults to lead independent, meaningful, and dignified lives in their  
18 own homes and communities for as long as they choose.

19 (e) The COVID-19 public health emergency has amplified the

1 demand for community-based services, with the pandemic significantly  
2 impacting older Coloradans and highlighting the importance of  
3 supporting aging Coloradans in the community. As of December 2020,  
4 Coloradans over the age of sixty accounted for 90% of COVID-19-related  
5 deaths.

6 (2) Therefore, the general assembly finds there must be  
7 investments in area agencies on aging that address the systemic health and  
8 economic challenges that have been exacerbated by the COVID-19 public  
9 health emergency. Providing critical programs for older Coloradans will  
10 immediately improve their physical and mental health. Fall prevention  
11 programs will keep seniors out of the hospital and free from long-term  
12 debilitating effects that often require moving into a nursing home facility.  
13 Home modifications for increased accessibility will allow seniors to  
14 safely live independently in their own homes for as long as possible.  
15 Transportation services will guarantee greater access to critical services  
16 and ensure independence for seniors. These programs will improve the  
17 health, well-being, and security of older Coloradans and provide much  
18 needed relief and recovery to the population hit hardest by the COVID-19  
19 pandemic.

20 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 26-11-208 as  
21 follows:

22 **26-11-208. Area agency on aging grant program - fund created**  
23 **- report - definitions - repeal.** (1) AS USED IN THIS SECTION, UNLESS THE  
24 CONTEXT OTHERWISE REQUIRES:

25 (a) "ELIGIBLE ORGANIZATION" MEANS AN AREA AGENCY ON AGING,  
26 AS DEFINED IN SECTION 26-11-201.

27 (b) "FUND" MEANS THE AREA AGENCY ON AGING CASH FUND

1       CREATED IN SUBSECTION (5) OF THIS SECTION.

2               (c) "GRANT PROGRAM" OR "PROGRAM" MEANS THE AREA AGENCY  
3       ON AGING GRANT PROGRAM CREATED IN SUBSECTION (2) OF THIS SECTION.

4               (2) THE AREA AGENCY ON AGING GRANT PROGRAM IS ESTABLISHED  
5       IN THE STATE OFFICE. THE STATE OFFICE SHALL ESTABLISH AND  
6       ADMINISTER THE GRANT PROGRAM. THE PURPOSE OF THE GRANT PROGRAM  
7       IS TO PROVIDE STATE ASSISTANCE RECEIVED IN THE FORM OF GRANT  
8       AWARDS TO FINANCE VARIOUS PROJECTS ACROSS THE STATE THAT ARE  
9       INTENDED TO ASSIST AND SUPPORT OLDER COLORADANS. THE GRANT  
10       PROGRAM IS INTENDED TO SUPPORT PROJECTS THAT PROMOTE THE  
11       HEALTH, WELL-BEING, AND SECURITY OF OLDER COLORADANS ACROSS THE  
12       STATE, INCLUDING:

13               (a) COMMUNITY SERVICES FOR OLDER COLORADANS;

14               (b) INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS;

15               (c) HEALTH PROMOTION, CONGREGATE MEALS, AND  
16       SOCIALIZATION ACTIVITIES;

17               (d) TRANSPORTATION SERVICES;

18               (e) HOME MODIFICATION PROGRAMS; AND

19               (f) IMPLEMENTATION OF EVIDENCE-BASED FALL PREVENTION AND  
20       CHRONIC DISEASE MANAGEMENT PROGRAMS.

21               (3) (a) BY OCTOBER 31, 2021, THE STATE OFFICE SHALL  
22       COLLABORATE WITH AREA AGENCIES ON AGING DESCRIBED IN SECTION  
23       26-11-204 TO:

24               (I) ADOPT POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR THE ADMINISTRATION  
25       OF THE PROGRAM;

26               (II) ESTABLISH AND PUBLICIZE CRITERIA FOR THE PROGRAM; AND

27               (III) CREATE APPLICATION PROCEDURES BY WHICH ELIGIBLE

1 ORGANIZATIONS MAY APPLY FOR AND RECEIVE MONEY FROM THE  
2 PROGRAM.

3 (b) ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 1, 2022, THE STATE OFFICE SHALL:

4 (I) BEGIN ACCEPTING GRANT APPLICATIONS; AND

5 (II) VERIFY THAT EACH ACCEPTED APPLICATION MEETS THE  
6 CRITERIA ESTABLISHED IN SUBSECTION (3)(a) OF THIS SECTION.

7 (c) IN MAKING AN AWARD, THE STATE OFFICE SHALL SPECIFY THE  
8 AMOUNT OF EACH GRANT.

9 (d) DURING THE 2023 REGULAR LEGISLATIVE SESSION, THE STATE  
10 DEPARTMENT SHALL INCLUDE IN ITS REPORT TO THE COMMITTEES OF  
11 REFERENCE PURSUANT TO THE "STATE MEASUREMENT FOR  
12 ACCOUNTABLE, RESPONSIVE, AND TRANSPARENT (SMART)  
13 GOVERNMENT ACT" HEARING REQUIRED BY SECTION 2-7-203  
14 INFORMATION FROM THE STATE OFFICE REGARDING THE GRANT PROGRAM,  
15 AS SET FORTH IN THIS SUBSECTION (3), PRIOR TO ITS REPEAL IN 2022,  
16 INCLUDING INFORMATION ON THE TYPE OF PROJECTS FINANCED BY GRANT  
17 AWARDS, THE AMOUNT OF MONEY AWARDED TO EACH PROJECT, AND  
18 WHERE THOSE PROJECTS WERE CONDUCTED AND THE PROGRAM'S IMPACT  
19 ON THE HEALTH, WELL-BEING, AND SECURITY OF OLDER COLORADANS.

20 (4) THE STATE OFFICE MAY SEEK, ACCEPT, AND EXPEND GIFTS,  
21 GRANTS, OR DONATIONS FROM PRIVATE OR PUBLIC SOURCES FOR THE  
22 PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION.

23 (5) (a) THERE IS CREATED IN THE STATE TREASURY THE AREA  
24 AGENCY ON AGING CASH FUND. THE FUND CONSISTS OF MONEY  
25 APPROPRIATED TO THE FUND BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

26 (b) FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021-22, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SHALL  
27 APPROPRIATE FIFTEEN MILLION DOLLARS FROM THE GENERAL FUND TO THE

1 FUND.

2 (c) ANY UNEXPENDED AND UNENCUMBERED MONEY IN THE FUND  
3 AT THE END OF FISCAL YEAR 2021-22 REMAINS IN THE FUND AND IS NOT  
4 TRANSFERRED TO THE GENERAL FUND OR ANY OTHER FUND; EXCEPT THAT  
5 ANY REMAINING MONEY IN THE FUND AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2022, SHALL  
6 BE CREDITED TO THE GENERAL FUND.

7 (d) SUBJECT TO ANNUAL APPROPRIATION BY THE GENERAL  
8 ASSEMBLY, THE STATE OFFICE MAY EXPEND MONEY FROM THE FUND FOR  
9 THE PURPOSE OF IMPLEMENTING THIS SECTION, INCLUDING ANY DIRECT  
10 AND INDIRECT COSTS. THE STATE OFFICE MAY ONLY EXPEND THREE  
11 PERCENT OF THE MONEY ON ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.

12 (6) THIS SECTION IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 31, 2022.

13 **SECTION 3. Appropriation.** (1) For the 2021-22 state fiscal  
14 year, \$15,000,000 is appropriated to the area agency on aging cash fund  
15 created in section 26-11-208 (5)(a), C.R.S. This appropriation is from the  
16 general fund. The department of human services is responsible for the  
17 accounting related to this appropriation.

18 (2) For the 2021-22 state fiscal year, \$15,000,000 is appropriated  
19 to the department of human services for use by adult assistance programs.  
20 This appropriation is from reappropriated funds in the area agency on  
21 aging cash fund under subsection (1) of this section. To implement this  
22 act, the adult assistance programs may use the appropriation for the area  
23 agency on aging grant program related to community services for the  
24 elderly.

25 **SECTION 4. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds,  
26 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate  
27 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety.