

CHAPTER 199

EDUCATION - POSTSECONDARY

HOUSE BILL 23-1246

BY REPRESENTATIVE(S) McCluskie and Pugliese, Amabile, Bird, Boesenecker, Brown, Duran, English, Gonzales-Gutierrez, Hamrick, Herod, Jodeh, Joseph, Kipp, Lieder, Lindsay, Lindstedt, Lukens, Martinez, McCormick, McLachlan, Sirota, Snyder, Story, Taggart, Titone, Valdez, Velasco, Weissman, Willford, Young, deGruy Kennedy, Ricks, Vigil;
also SENATOR(S) Buckner and Will, Bridges, Cutter, Exum, Fields, Gonzales, Hansen, Hinrichsen, Moreno, Mullica, Pelton B., Priola, Roberts, Rodriguez, Simpson, Sullivan, Zenzinger, Fenberg.

AN ACT

CONCERNING MEASURES TO SUPPORT THE IN-DEMAND CAREER WORKFORCE, AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, MAKING AN APPROPRIATION.

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

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

(a) Colorado has significant workforce demands in various industries, including early childhood education, education, law enforcement, fire and forestry, construction, and nursing;

(b) These industries support other industries across the economy and have a positive return on public investment because: All Coloradans benefit from the availability of child care and education so that they may work while knowing their children are safe and cared for; that the foundational infrastructure is secure through high-quality construction; that fundamental public services are provided through fire protection, forest management, and law enforcement; and that people have access to quality health care;

(c) According to labor market index data, Colorado has an opportunity to scale these industries because demand for these industries is projected to grow based on recent patterns suggesting an average of ten to fifteen percent annual increase in these industry jobs;

(d) These in-demand industries have significant job openings:

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.

(I) The education sector consistently has approximately five thousand job openings, which openings have been exacerbated by professionals leaving the sector because of industry pressures and the COVID-19 pandemic;

(II) The nursing sector consistently has approximately twenty thousand job openings;

(III) Job openings in the construction sector are anticipated to double because of the historic federal investment in infrastructure and electrification; and

(IV) The early childhood sector, the fire and forestry sector, and the law enforcement sector each have approximately one thousand job openings;

(e) Investment in postsecondary education and training that leads to careers in these industries demonstrates to Coloradans that these professions are a priority for the state and that supporting enrollment in educational and training programs will ensure a qualified workforce with limited debt and a clear path to employment;

(f) The state's investment in the in-demand short-term credentials program is intended to support twenty thousand students pursuing credentials in these industries; and

(g) The extraordinary demand for short-term education and training in nursing exceeds the state's current capacity to meet the demand. The state's investment in increasing the capacity is intended to support the training of two hundred additional nurses annually.

SECTION 2. In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** part 12 to article 60 of title 23 as follows:

PART 12
IN-DEMAND SHORT-TERM
CREDENTIALS PROGRAM

23-60-1201. Support for in-demand short-term credentials program - created - report - appropriation - definitions - repeal. (1) SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS, THE BOARD, IN COORDINATION WITH ITS CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION ROLE AND MISSION AS COLORADO'S STATE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE FEDERAL "CARL D. PERKINS CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2006", 20 U.S.C. SEC. 2301 ET SEQ., AS AMENDED, SHALL ADMINISTER THE IN-DEMAND SHORT-TERM CREDENTIALS PROGRAM TO SUPPORT THE EXPANSION OF THE NUMBER OF AVAILABLE AND QUALIFIED PROFESSIONALS WHO ARE ABLE TO MEET COLORADO'S IN-DEMAND WORKFORCE NEEDS.

(2) THE BOARD SHALL ALLOCATE MONEY TO AN ELIGIBLE INSTITUTION BASED ON THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS ENROLLED IN ELIGIBLE PROGRAMS FOR STATE FISCAL YEARS 2023-24 THROUGH 2025-26 TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE TO STUDENTS FOR ELIGIBLE EXPENSES THAT SUPPORT THEIR ENROLLMENT IN ELIGIBLE PROGRAMS.

(3) AN ELIGIBLE INSTITUTION THAT RECEIVES FUNDS PURSUANT TO THE PROGRAM

SHALL PROVIDE EMPLOYMENT ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS TO STUDENTS WHO EXPRESS INTEREST IN PARTICIPATING IN THE ELIGIBLE PROGRAM PRIOR TO THE STUDENT'S ADMISSION TO THE PROGRAM, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE FEDERAL "HIGHER EDUCATION ACT OF 1965", AS AMENDED, AND REGULATIONS ADOPTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE ACT.

(4) THE PROGRAM BEGINS NO LATER THAN THE START OF THE 2023-24 ACADEMIC YEAR.

(5) (a) A STUDENT PARTICIPATING IN THE PROGRAM SHALL COMPLETE AND SUBMIT THE FREE APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL STUDENT AID OR COLORADO APPLICATION FOR STATE FINANCIAL AID.

(b) ANY FINANCIAL AID RECEIVED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (5)(a) OF THIS SECTION, AND ANY OTHER FINANCIAL AID OR SCHOLARSHIPS RECEIVED BY THE STUDENT, MUST BE FULLY APPLIED TO THE STUDENT'S COST OF ATTENDANCE BEFORE PROGRAM RESOURCES ARE APPLIED TO THE STUDENT'S ELIGIBLE EXPENSES.

(6) (a) (I) FOR THE 2023-24 STATE FISCAL YEAR, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SHALL APPROPRIATE TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION FOR ALLOCATION BY THE BOARD THIRTY-EIGHT MILLION SIX HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS FROM THE GENERAL FUND FOR THE PROGRAM, OF WHICH NOT MORE THAN EIGHTY THOUSAND DOLLARS MAY BE USED FOR PURPOSES OF MARKETING THE PROGRAM AND NOT MORE THAN ONE PERCENT MAY BE USED FOR ADMINISTRATION PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION.

(II) ANY UNEXPENDED MONEY FROM THE APPROPRIATION PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION (6)(a) MUST BE USED TO PAY FOR EXPENSES THAT ARE NOT ELIGIBLE EXPENSES BUT ARE RELATED TO A STUDENT'S HOUSING, TRANSPORTATION, CHILD OR DEPENDENT CARE, AND FOOD EXPENSES.

(b) ANY UNEXPENDED MONEY REMAINING FROM THE APPROPRIATION PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION (6) AT THE END OF THE 2023-24 STATE FISCAL YEAR:

(I) DOES NOT REVERT TO THE GENERAL FUND OR ANY OTHER FUND;

(II) MAY BE USED BY THE BOARD IN THE 2024-25 OR 2025-26 STATE FISCAL YEAR WITHOUT FURTHER APPROPRIATION; AND

(III) MUST NOT BE USED FOR ANY PURPOSE OTHER THAN THE PURPOSES SET FORTH IN THIS SECTION.

(7) (a) ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 1, 2024, AND ON OR BEFORE EVERY JANUARY 1 THEREAFTER, THE BOARD SHALL SUBMIT A REPORT TO THE COLORADO COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION, THE EDUCATION COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND THE SENATE, OR ANY SUCCESSOR COMMITTEES, AND THE JOINT BUDGET COMMITTEE. THE REPORT MUST INCLUDE:

(I) THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS AWARDED FUNDS PURSUANT TO THE PROGRAM IN EACH ELIGIBLE PROGRAM, IN TOTAL AND DISAGGREGATED BY ANY FACTORS DETERMINED BY THE BOARD;

(II) IF AVAILABLE, THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS AWARDED FUNDS PURSUANT TO THE PROGRAM WHO CONTINUED ENROLLMENT IN THE ELIGIBLE PROGRAM IN A SUBSEQUENT ACADEMIC TERM, IN TOTAL AND DISAGGREGATED BY ANY FACTORS DETERMINED BY THE BOARD;

(III) IF AVAILABLE, THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS AWARDED FUNDS PURSUANT TO THE PROGRAM WHO COMPLETED AN ELIGIBLE PROGRAM, IN TOTAL AND DISAGGREGATED BY ANY FACTORS DETERMINED BY THE BOARD;

(IV) IF AVAILABLE, EMPLOYMENT AND EARNINGS OUTCOMES FOR STUDENTS AWARDED FUNDS PURSUANT TO THE PROGRAM, IN TOTAL AND DISAGGREGATED BY ANY FACTORS DETERMINED BY THE BOARD; AND

(V) A DETAILED STATEMENT OF THE ALLOCATION OF FUNDS FOR THE PROGRAM, INCLUDING COSTS INCURRED TO ADMINISTER THE PROGRAM.

(b) BEGINNING IN 2024 AND EACH YEAR THEREAFTER, THE COLORADO COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION SHALL SUBMIT A REPORT COMPILING THE DATA COLLECTED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (7)(a) OF THIS SECTION TO THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES EDUCATION COMMITTEES, OR THEIR SUCCESSOR COMMITTEES, DURING THE HEARINGS HELD PURSUANT TO THE "SMART ACT", PART 2 OF ARTICLE 7 OF TITLE 2.

(c) NOTWITHSTANDING SECTION 24-1-136 (11)(a)(I), THE REPORTING REQUIREMENT IN THIS SUBSECTION (7) CONTINUES INDEFINITELY.

(8) AS USED IN THIS SECTION, UNLESS THE CONTEXT OTHERWISE REQUIRES:

(a) "ELIGIBLE EXPENSES" MEANS TUITION, FEES, BOOKS, MATERIALS, OR SUPPLIES FOR ELIGIBLE PROGRAMS.

(b) "ELIGIBLE INSTITUTION" MEANS A COMMUNITY OR TECHNICAL COLLEGE DESCRIBED IN SECTION 23-60-205, AN AREA TECHNICAL COLLEGE DEFINED IN SECTION 23-60-103 (1), A LOCAL DISTRICT COLLEGE DEFINED IN SECTION 23-71-102 (1), AND COLORADO MESA UNIVERSITY ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO SECTION 23-53-101.

(c) "ELIGIBLE PROGRAM" MEANS AN IN-DEMAND CREDENTIAL IN EARLY CHILDHOOD, EDUCATION, LAW ENFORCEMENT, FIRE AND FORESTRY, CONSTRUCTION, OR NURSING THAT IS TWO YEARS OR LESS IN DURATION.

(d) "PROGRAM" MEANS THE IN-DEMAND SHORT-TERM CREDENTIALS PROGRAM DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (1) OF THIS SECTION.

(9) THIS SECTION IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2027.

SECTION 3. In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** part 7 to article 83 of title 8 as follows:

PART 7
CONSTRUCTION REGISTERED APPRENTICESHIP
GRANT PROGRAM

8-83-701. Construction registered apprenticeship grant program - created - reports - appropriation - definitions. (1) (a) THERE IS CREATED IN THE OFFICE OF THE FUTURE OF WORK WITHIN

THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT THE CONSTRUCTION REGISTERED APPRENTICESHIP GRANT PROGRAM TO PROVIDE GRANTS TO REGISTERED APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAMS IN THE BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION TRADES THAT PROVIDE TRAINING AT NO COST TO APPRENTICES.

(b) THE OFFICE SHALL CONSULT WITH THE OFFICE OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, THE DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION, THE STATE BOARD FOR COMMUNITY COLLEGES AND OCCUPATIONAL EDUCATION, LOCAL DISTRICT COLLEGES, THE WORK FORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, AND AREA TECHNICAL COLLEGES IN THE DEVELOPMENT AND ADMINISTRATION OF THE GRANT PROGRAM TO ENSURE ALIGNMENT WITH, AND REDUCE DUPLICATION OF, RELATED PROGRAMS AND INITIATIVES.

(2) (a) THE OFFICE SHALL CREATE A COMPETITIVE APPLICATION PROCESS THROUGH WHICH IT SELECTS REGISTERED APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAMS IN THE BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION TRADES AS GRANT RECIPIENTS. A GRANT RECIPIENT MUST SATISFY, AT A MINIMUM, THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA:

(I) TRAIN APPRENTICES IN THE BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION TRADES;

(II) AS A PART OF ITS GRANT APPLICATION, DEMONSTRATE HOW IT WILL USE THE GRANT AWARD TO PROVIDE TRAINING TO APPRENTICES AT NO COST TO THE APPRENTICES;

(III) AS A PART OF ITS GRANT APPLICATION, DEMONSTRATE HOW IT WILL USE THE GRANT AWARD TO DIRECTLY PROVIDE TRAINING, OR REMOVE BARRIERS TO ACCESSING TRAINING, TO PERSONS FROM TARGET POPULATIONS;

(IV) AS A PART OF ITS GRANT APPLICATION, COMMIT TO DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION IN ITS REGISTERED APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM; AND

(V) AS PART OF ITS GRANT APPLICATION, PROVIDE ANY OTHER CRITERIA OR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION DETERMINED NECESSARY BY THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT.

(b) THE OFFICE SHALL DEVELOP PERFORMANCE EXPECTATIONS FOR GRANT RECIPIENTS. THE OFFICE OF THE FUTURE OF WORK MAY TERMINATE A REGISTERED APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM'S PARTICIPATION IN THE GRANT PROGRAM IF THE REGISTERED APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM FAILS TO SATISFY THE PERFORMANCE EXPECTATIONS.

(c) THE OFFICE SHALL DEVELOP A SCALE FOR THE AMOUNT OF MONEY TO BE AWARDED TO GRANT RECIPIENTS BASED UPON FACTORS INCLUDING THE NUMBER OF

APPRENTICES IN THE REGISTERED APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM AND THE LOCATION OF THE REGISTERED APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM.

(3) (a) THE OFFICE SHALL REQUIRE GRANT RECIPIENTS TO ANNUALLY REPORT DATA TO THE OFFICE. AT A MINIMUM, THE GRANT RECIPIENTS MUST REPORT:

(I) THE NUMBER OF APPRENTICES AWARDED FUNDS PURSUANT TO THE GRANT PROGRAM, IN TOTAL AND DISAGGREGATED BY ANY FACTORS DETERMINED BY THE OFFICE;

(II) IF AVAILABLE, THE NUMBER OF APPRENTICES AWARDED FUNDS PURSUANT TO THE GRANT PROGRAM WHO COMPLETED A REGISTERED APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM, IN TOTAL AND DISAGGREGATED BY ANY FACTORS DETERMINED BY THE OFFICE;

(III) IF AVAILABLE, EMPLOYMENT AND EARNINGS OUTCOMES FOR APPRENTICES AWARDED FUNDS PURSUANT TO THE GRANT PROGRAM, IN TOTAL AND DISAGGREGATED BY ANY FACTORS DETERMINED BY THE OFFICE; AND

(IV) A DETAILED STATEMENT OF THE ALLOCATION OF FUNDS FOR THE PROGRAM, INCLUDING COSTS INCURRED TO ADMINISTER THE PROGRAM.

(b) BEGINNING IN 2025 AND EACH YEAR THEREAFTER, THE OFFICE SHALL SUBMIT A REPORT COMPILING THE DATA COLLECTED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (3)(a) OF THIS SECTION TO THE SENATE BUSINESS, LABOR, AND TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES BUSINESS AFFAIRS AND LABOR COMMITTEE, OR THEIR SUCCESSOR COMMITTEES, DURING THE HEARINGS HELD PURSUANT TO THE "SMART ACT", PART 2 OF ARTICLE 7 OF TITLE 2.

(4) FOR THE 2023-24 STATE FISCAL YEAR, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SHALL APPROPRIATE TO THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT FOR ALLOCATION BY THE OFFICE ONE MILLION FOUR HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS FROM THE GENERAL FUND FOR PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION. ANY UNEXPENDED MONEY REMAINING AT THE END OF THE 2023-24 STATE FISCAL YEAR FROM THE APPROPRIATION LISTED IN THIS SUBSECTION (4):

(a) DOES NOT REVERT TO THE GENERAL FUND OR ANY OTHER FUND;

(b) MAY BE USED BY THE OFFICE IN THE 2024-25 OR 2025-26 STATE FISCAL YEAR WITHOUT FURTHER APPROPRIATION; AND

(c) MUST NOT BE USED FOR ANY PURPOSE OTHER THAN THE PURPOSES SET FORTH IN THIS SECTION.

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

(a) "GRANT PROGRAM" MEANS THE CONSTRUCTION REGISTERED APPRENTICESHIP GRANT PROGRAM CREATED IN SUBSECTION (1) OF THIS SECTION.

(b) "OFFICE" MEANS THE OFFICE OF THE FUTURE OF WORK DESCRIBED IN SECTION 8-77-110.

(c) "REGISTERED APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM" HAS THE SAME MEANING AS DEFINED IN SECTION 8-15.7-101 (13).

(d) "TARGET POPULATIONS" HAS THE SAME MEANING AS DEFINED IN SECTION 8-83-601 (13).

8-83-702. Repeal of part. THIS PART 7 IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2027.

SECTION 4. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 23-1-104, **amend** (1)(b)(I); and **add** (1)(c.5) as follows:

23-1-104. Financing the system of postsecondary education - report. (1)(b)(I) For the 2010-11 fiscal year and for fiscal years beginning on or after July 1, 2016, the general assembly shall make annual appropriations of general fund money, of cash funds received from tuition income, and of money that is estimated to be received by an institution, under the direction and control of the governing board, as stipends, as defined in section 23-18-102, and through fee-for-service contracts, as authorized in section 23-1-109.7 or 23-18-303.5, whichever is applicable, as a single line item to each governing board for the operation of its campuses; except that, if the general assembly appropriates money, as described in subsection (1)(c) of this section, to the Colorado state forest service, the agricultural experiment station department of the Colorado state university, ~~or~~ the Colorado state university cooperative extension service, OR TO THE STATE BOARD FOR COMMUNITY COLLEGES AND OCCUPATIONAL EDUCATION AS DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (1)(c.5) OF THIS SECTION, such money shall not be included within the single line item appropriations described in this subsection (1)(b).

(c.5) IN ADDITION TO ANY APPROPRIATIONS MADE PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (1)(b) OR (1)(c) OF THIS SECTION, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY MAY MAKE ANNUAL APPROPRIATIONS OF GENERAL FUND MONEY AS SEPARATE LINE ITEMS TO THE STATE BOARD FOR COMMUNITY COLLEGES AND OCCUPATIONAL EDUCATION FOR THE IN-DEMAND SHORT-TERM CREDENTIALS PROGRAM CREATED IN SECTION 23-60-1201.

SECTION 5. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 23-3.3-103, **add** (15) as follows:

23-3.3-103. Annual appropriations - repeal. (15) (a) THE PROVISIONS OF SUBSECTION (1) OF THIS SECTION CONCERNING APPROPRIATIONS FOR STUDENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE UNDER THIS ARTICLE 3.3 DO NOT APPLY TO APPROPRIATIONS MADE PURSUANT TO SECTION 23-60-1201 FOR THE IN-DEMAND SHORT-TERM CREDENTIALS PROGRAM.

(b) THIS SUBSECTION (15) IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2027.

SECTION 6. In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 23-60-214 as follows:

23-60-214. Develop short-term degree nursing programs - appropriation - repeal. (1) FOR THE 2023-24 STATE FISCAL YEAR, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SHALL APPROPRIATE TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION FOR ALLOCATION BY THE BOARD FIVE MILLION DOLLARS FROM THE GENERAL FUND TO ESTABLISH TWO NEW SHORT-TERM DEGREE NURSING PROGRAMS AT COMMUNITY OR TECHNICAL COLLEGES DESCRIBED IN SECTION 23-60-205. THE FUNDS MUST BE USED FOR THE FOLLOWING

PURPOSES, AS APPLICABLE, TO SUPPORT THE EXPANSION OF SHORT-TERM DEGREE NURSING PROGRAMS:

- (a) NEW SHORT-TERM DEGREE PROGRAM CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT;
- (b) NEW SHORT-TERM DEGREE PROGRAM EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES;
- (c) NEW SHORT-TERM DEGREE PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION, INCLUDING ACCREDITATION COSTS; AND
- (d) NEW SHORT-TERM DEGREE ADMINISTRATION COSTS, INCLUDING REPORTING ON AN ANNUAL BASIS UNTIL ALL FUNDS ARE EXPENDED.

(2) ANY UNEXPENDED MONEY REMAINING AT THE END OF THE 2023-24 STATE FISCAL YEAR FROM THE APPROPRIATION PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (1) OF THIS SECTION:

- (a) DOES NOT REVERT TO THE GENERAL FUND OR ANY OTHER FUND;
- (b) MAY BE USED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN THE 2024-25 OR 2025-26 STATE FISCAL YEAR WITHOUT FURTHER APPROPRIATION; AND
- (c) MUST NOT BE USED FOR ANY PURPOSE OTHER THAN THE PURPOSES SET FORTH IN THIS SECTION.

(3) THIS SECTION IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2027.

SECTION 7. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 25-1.5-102, **amend** (1)(e) as follows:

25-1.5-102. Epidemic and communicable diseases - powers and duties of department - rules - definitions. (1) The department has, in addition to all other powers and duties imposed upon it by law, the powers and duties provided in this section as follows:

(e) For fiscal year 2022-23, the general assembly shall appropriate ten million dollars from the economic recovery and relief cash fund created in section 24-75-228 to the department. The department shall use this appropriation for recruitment and re-engagement efforts of workers in the health-care profession with current or expired licenses and staffing. ANY MONEY REMAINING AT THE END OF THE 2022-23 STATE FISCAL YEAR FROM THIS APPROPRIATION IS FURTHER APPROPRIATED TO THE DEPARTMENT FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION. ANY MONEY THAT IS NOT EXPENDED OR OBLIGATED BY DECEMBER 30, 2024, REVERTS TO THE "AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT OF 2021" CASH FUND CREATED IN SECTION 24-75-226 (2) IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 24-75-226 (4)(d). ANY MONEY OBLIGATED BY DECEMBER 30, 2024, MUST BE EXPENDED BY DECEMBER 31, 2026.

SECTION 8. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 25-1.5-406, **amend** (9) as follows:

25-1.5-406. School nurse grant program - creation - eligibility - award of grants - rules - report - legislative declaration - definitions. (9) The general

assembly shall appropriate three million dollars from the economic recovery and relief cash fund created in section 24-75-228 to the department for the GRANT program. ANY MONEY REMAINING AT THE END OF THE 2022-23 STATE FISCAL YEAR FROM THIS APPROPRIATION IS FURTHER APPROPRIATED TO THE DEPARTMENT FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION. ANY MONEY THAT IS NOT EXPENDED OR OBLIGATED BY DECEMBER 30, 2024, REVERTS TO THE "AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT OF 2021" CASH FUND CREATED IN SECTION 24-75-226 (2) IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 24-75-226 (4)(d). ANY MONEY OBLIGATED BY DECEMBER 30, 2024, MUST BE EXPENDED BY DECEMBER 31, 2026.

SECTION 9. Appropriation. (1) For the 2023-24 state fiscal year, \$43,600,000 is appropriated to the department of higher education for allocation to the state board for community colleges and occupational education. This appropriation is from the general fund. To implement this act, the board may use this appropriation as follows:

- (a) \$38,600,000 for the in-demand short-term credentials program; and
- (b) \$5,000,000 for short-term degree nursing programs.

(2) For the 2023-24 state fiscal year, \$1,400,000 is appropriated to the department of labor and employment. This appropriation is from the general fund, and is based on an assumption that the department will require an additional 1.2 FTE. To implement this act, the department may use this appropriation for the construction registered apprenticeship grant program administered by the office of the future of work.

SECTION 10. Safety clause. The general assembly hereby finds, determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety.

Approved: May 16, 2023