

HOUSE COMMITTEE OF REFERENCE AMENDMENT

Committee on Health & Human Services.

HB25-1271 be amended as follows:

1 Amend printed bill, strike everything below the enacting clause and
2 substitute:

3 "SECTION 1. In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 19-7-105 as
4 follows:

5 **19-7-105. Federal benefits for children and youth in foster**
6 **care - rules - definitions - legislative intent - legislative declaration. (1)**

7 (a) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FINDS AND DECLARES THAT:

8 (I) THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT PROVIDES VARIOUS BENEFITS AND
9 RESOURCES TO PROMOTE THE WELL-BEING, EDUCATION, HEALTH, AND
10 SAFETY OF CHILDREN OR YOUTH IN FOSTER CARE;

11 (II) IN ADDITION TO THEIR NEEDS AND CIRCUMSTANCES MAKING
12 THEM ELIGIBLE FOR BENEFITS, CHILDREN OR YOUTH IN FOSTER CARE OFTEN
13 FACE SIGNIFICANT CHALLENGES, INCLUDING INSTABILITY IN LIVING
14 ARRANGEMENTS, LACK OF FINANCIAL RESOURCES, AND LIMITED ACCESS
15 TO LONG-TERM CARE AND SUPPORT;

16 (III) FEDERAL BENEFITS ARE OFTEN ALLOCATED TO SUPPORT
17 PLACEMENT OF CHILDREN IN THE FOSTER CARE SYSTEM; HOWEVER,
18 FEDERAL BENEFIT FUNDS ARE NOT ALWAYS DIRECTLY ALLOCATED FOR THE
19 PERSONAL USE AND NEEDS OF INDIVIDUAL CHILDREN OR YOUTH IN FOSTER
20 CARE;

21 (IV) INDIVIDUALIZED ALLOCATION OF FEDERAL BENEFITS IS
22 CRITICAL FOR ADDRESSING THE SPECIFIC NEEDS AND CIRCUMSTANCES OF
23 EACH CHILD OR YOUTH IN FOSTER CARE, PROVIDING THEM WITH THE
24 RESOURCES NECESSARY TO PROMOTE HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND
25 LONG-TERM SUCCESS; AND

26 (V) INDIVIDUALIZED ALLOCATION OF FEDERAL BENEFITS IS
27 CONSISTENT WITH THE POLICY OF THE STATE OF COLORADO TO PRIORITIZE
28 THE NEEDS OF CHILDREN OR YOUTH IN FOSTER CARE, PARTICULARLY THEIR
29 FINANCIAL SECURITY AND INDEPENDENCE, AS THEY TRANSITION TO
30 ADULTHOOD OR REUNIFICATION WITH FAMILIES.

31 (b) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FURTHER FINDS AND DECLARES THAT
32 THE INTENT OF THIS SECTION IS TO ENSURE THAT FEDERAL BENEFITS
33 PROVIDED TO CHILDREN OR YOUTH IN FOSTER CARE ARE SET ASIDE
34 SPECIFICALLY FOR THE USE OF INDIVIDUAL CHILDREN OR YOUTH IN FOSTER
35 CARE, THEREBY:

36 (I) ENABLING CHILDREN OR YOUTH IN FOSTER CARE TO ACCESS
37 BENEFITS DIRECTLY FOR THEIR PERSONAL CARE, EDUCATION, AND
38 WELFARE;

39 (II) HELPING TO MITIGATE THE EFFECTS OF INSTABILITY BY GIVING
40 CHILDREN OR YOUTH IN FOSTER CARE ACCESS TO THE RESOURCES THEY

1 NEED TO THRIVE IN THEIR CURRENT FOSTER CARE ENVIRONMENT OR
2 TRANSITION TO INDEPENDENCE; AND

3 (III) PROVIDING TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY IN THE USE
4 OF FEDERAL BENEFITS, ENSURING THAT CHILDREN OR YOUTH IN FOSTER
5 CARE RECEIVE THE FULL SUPPORT INTENDED FOR THEIR UNIQUE NEEDS.

6 (c) IT IS THE INTENT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO CREATE A
7 SYSTEM IN WHICH ALL FEDERAL BENEFITS ARE NOT GENERALIZED OR
8 POOLED FOR INSTITUTIONAL PURPOSES, BUT ARE INDIVIDUALLY
9 ALLOCATED AND PROTECTED FOR THE DIRECT USE OF EACH CHILD OR
10 YOUTH IN THE FOSTER CARE SYSTEM. IT IS FURTHER THE INTENT OF THE
11 GENERAL ASSEMBLY THAT:

12 (I) FEDERAL BENEFITS, WHICH ARE THE LEGAL ENTITLEMENT OF
13 INDIVIDUAL CHILDREN AND YOUTH, NOT BE USED TO COVER THE COSTS OF
14 CARE THAT THE STATE AND COUNTIES OF COLORADO ARE LEGALLY
15 REQUIRED TO COVER;

16 (II) FEDERAL BENEFIT FUNDS BE MANAGED AND DISTRIBUTED WITH
17 OVERSIGHT TO ENSURE THAT THEY ARE USED SOLELY FOR THE BENEFIT
18 AND ADVANCEMENT OF AN INDIVIDUAL CHILD OR YOUTH'S WELL-BEING
19 AND DEVELOPMENT; AND

20 (III) FEDERAL RESOURCES BE ALLOCATED TO PRIORITIZE THE
21 PERSONAL RIGHTS AND NEEDS OF INDIVIDUAL CHILDREN OR YOUTH IN
22 FOSTER CARE, AFFORDING THEM THE OPPORTUNITIES AND STABILITY
23 NECESSARY TO SUCCEED, REGARDLESS OF THEIR STATUS IN THE FOSTER
24 CARE SYSTEM.

25 (2) AS USED IN THIS SECTION, UNLESS THE CONTEXT OTHERWISE
26 REQUIRES:

27 (a) "FEDERAL BENEFITS" MEANS SURVIVOR BENEFITS THAT ARE
28 ADMINISTERED BY THE UNITED STATES SOCIAL SECURITY
29 ADMINISTRATION, VETERANS BENEFITS ADMINISTRATION, OR THE
30 RAILROAD RETIREMENT BOARD AND THAT ARE BASED ON THE ELIGIBILITY
31 OF AN INSURED PARENT.

32 (b) "INTERESTED PARTY" MEANS A CHILD OR YOUTH; THE CHILD'S
33 OR YOUTH'S COUNSEL FOR YOUTH; A PARENT AND THE PARENT'S COUNSEL,
34 UNLESS PARENTAL RIGHTS HAVE BEEN TERMINATED OR THERE IS A COURT
35 ORDER RESTRICTING ACCESS; THE INDIVIDUAL WITH WHOM THE CHILD OR
36 YOUTH IS CURRENTLY PLACED; THE GUARDIAN AD LITEM; OR OTHER PARTY
37 WHO MAY HAVE INFORMATION ABOUT THE CHILD'S OR YOUTH'S
38 ELIGIBILITY FOR OR RECEIPT OF FEDERAL BENEFITS.

39 (3) (a) BEGINNING ON OR BEFORE JULY 1, 2026, A COUNTY
40 DEPARTMENT SHALL, WITHIN NINETY DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF
41 PLACEMENT OF A CHILD OR YOUTH INTO THE LEGAL CUSTODY OR UNDER
42 THE LEGAL AUTHORITY OF THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT, DETERMINE
43 WHETHER EACH CHILD OR YOUTH IS RECEIVING FEDERAL BENEFITS.

1 (b) BEGINNING ON OR BEFORE JULY 1, 2026, A COUNTY
2 DEPARTMENT SHALL, WITHIN NINETY DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF
3 PLACEMENT OF A CHILD OR YOUTH INTO THE LEGAL CUSTODY OR UNDER
4 THE LEGAL AUTHORITY OF THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT, DETERMINE
5 WHETHER EACH CHILD OR YOUTH WHO IS NOT RECEIVING FEDERAL
6 BENEFITS MAY BE ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE FEDERAL BENEFITS. IF THE
7 COUNTY DEPARTMENT MAKES AN INITIAL DETERMINATION THAT THE
8 CHILD OR YOUTH IS NOT LIKELY TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR FEDERAL BENEFITS,
9 THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT SHALL ANNUALLY REVIEW THE CASE OF THE
10 CHILD OR YOUTH TO DETERMINE WHETHER CIRCUMSTANCES HAVE
11 CHANGED TO MAKE THE CHILD OR YOUTH ELIGIBLE FOR FEDERAL
12 BENEFITS.

13 (c) IN CONDUCTING AN INITIAL BENEFIT ELIGIBILITY
14 DETERMINATION OR AN ANNUAL REVIEW PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION
15 (3), THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT SHALL CONSULT WITH INTERESTED
16 PARTIES.

17 (d) IF THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT DETERMINES THAT THE CHILD OR
18 YOUTH MAY BE ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE FEDERAL BENEFITS, THEN THE
19 COUNTY DEPARTMENT SHALL, IN COMPLIANCE WITH ALL APPLICABLE
20 FEDERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS, APPLY FOR THE FEDERAL BENEFITS ON
21 BEHALF OF THE CHILD OR YOUTH.

22 (e) FOLLOWING A DENIAL OF FEDERAL BENEFITS OR OTHER
23 ADVERSE BENEFIT ELIGIBILITY DETERMINATION, THE COUNTY
24 DEPARTMENT SHALL CONSULT WITH INTERESTED PARTIES AND APPEAL THE
25 DENIAL OR ADVERSE DETERMINATION IF DOING SO IS IN THE BEST
26 INTERESTS OF THE CHILD OR YOUTH.

27 (f) IF A CHILD OR YOUTH IS IN A NONCERTIFIED KINSHIP CARE
28 PLACEMENT, AND IF THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OR NONCERTIFIED KINSHIP
29 CAREGIVER DETERMINES THAT THE CHILD OR YOUTH MAY BE ELIGIBLE FOR
30 FEDERAL BENEFITS, THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT SHALL PROVIDE THE
31 NONCERTIFIED KINSHIP CAREGIVER WITH THE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE
32 NEEDED FOR THE NONCERTIFIED KINSHIP CAREGIVER TO COMPLETE AND
33 SUBMIT A SUCCESSFUL APPLICATION FOR THE FEDERAL BENEFITS ON
34 BEHALF OF THE CHILD OR YOUTH.

35 (4) (a) IF A CHILD OR YOUTH IN THE LEGAL CUSTODY OR UNDER
36 THE LEGAL AUTHORITY OF A COUNTY DEPARTMENT IS ALREADY RECEIVING
37 FEDERAL BENEFITS OR MAY BE ELIGIBLE FOR FEDERAL BENEFITS PURSUANT
38 TO SUBSECTION (3) OF THIS SECTION, THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT SHALL
39 PERFORM AN ASSESSMENT OF POSSIBLE REPRESENTATIVE PAYEES OR
40 FIDUCIARIES. THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT SHALL FOLLOW THE ESTABLISHED
41 CATEGORIES OF PREFERRED PAYEES PURSUANT TO SOCIAL SECURITY OR
42 APPLICABLE FEDERAL GUIDELINES WHEN DETERMINING WHICH POTENTIAL
43 REPRESENTATIVE PAYEE OR FIDUCIARY TO INCLUDE IN AN APPLICATION TO

1 CHANGE THE REPRESENTATIVE PAYEE OR FIDUCIARY, IF THE COUNTY
2 DEPARTMENT DEEMS A CHANGE NECESSARY, OR IN AN APPLICATION FOR
3 FEDERAL BENEFITS. DECISIONS ABOUT WHICH POTENTIAL REPRESENTATIVE
4 PAYEE OR FIDUCIARY TO INCLUDE IN AN APPLICATION MUST BE MADE IN
5 CONSULTATION WITH INTERESTED PARTIES.

6 (b) IF A COUNTY DEPARTMENT PROVIDES A NONCERTIFIED KINSHIP
7 CAREGIVER WITH TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION
8 (3)(f) OF THIS SECTION, THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT MAY PRESUME THAT
9 THE NONCERTIFIED KINSHIP CAREGIVER IS THE APPROPRIATE
10 REPRESENTATIVE PAYEE OR FIDUCIARY IF THE PRESUMPTION IS
11 CONSISTENT WITH ESTABLISHED CATEGORIES OF PREFERRED PAYEES
12 PURSUANT TO SOCIAL SECURITY OR APPLICABLE FEDERAL GUIDELINES.

13 (c) IF THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT BECOMES THE REPRESENTATIVE
14 PAYEE OR FIDUCIARY, THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT SHALL ANNUALLY
15 REASSESS, IN CONSULTATION WITH INTERESTED PARTIES, WHETHER A
16 CANDIDATE OTHER THAN THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT WOULD BETTER
17 SERVE THE BEST INTERESTS OF THE CHILD OR YOUTH AS THE
18 REPRESENTATIVE PAYEE OR FIDUCIARY.

19 (5) (a) BEGINNING ON OR BEFORE JULY 1, 2026, IF A COUNTY
20 DEPARTMENT IS THE REPRESENTATIVE PAYEE OR FIDUCIARY FOR A CHILD
21 OR YOUTH, THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT SHALL:

22 (I) NOT USE ANY FEDERAL BENEFITS OF A CHILD OR YOUTH TO PAY
23 FOR OR REIMBURSE THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT FOR CARE OR SERVICES FOR
24 THE CHILD OR YOUTH, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, FOSTER CARE
25 MAINTENANCE EXPENSES AS DEFINED IN THE FEDERAL "SOCIAL SECURITY
26 ACT", 42 U.S.C. SEC. 675 (4)(A), COST OF CARE AS DEFINED IN SECTION
27 19-1-103, OR ANY SPECIAL ALLOWANCES OR EXPENSES ESTABLISHED BY
28 THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES FOR THE CARE OF A CHILD OR
29 YOUTH IN A PARTICULAR AGE RANGE;

30 (II) ESTABLISH AND MAINTAIN, CONSISTENT WITH FEDERAL AND
31 STATE ASSET AND RESOURCE LIMITS, AN ACCOUNT FOR DEPOSIT OF THE
32 FEDERAL BENEFITS OF A CHILD OR YOUTH. THE ACCOUNT MAY BE AN
33 INDIVIDUAL ACCOUNT OR AN APPROVED COLLECTIVE ACCOUNT, IF THE
34 REPRESENTATIVE PAYEE MAINTAINS A SEPARATE LEDGER AND
35 ACCOUNTING RECORDS FOR EACH CHILD OR YOUTH BENEFICIARY OF AN
36 APPROVED COLLECTIVE ACCOUNT. THE CONTENTS OF THE ACCOUNT,
37 INCLUDING APPLICABLE INTEREST OR EARNINGS, MUST BE SAVED FOR THE
38 FUTURE NEEDS OF THE INDIVIDUAL CHILD OR YOUTH.

39 (III) PROVIDE AN ANNUAL ACCOUNTING OF THE ACCUMULATION
40 OF THE CHILD'S OR YOUTH'S FEDERAL BENEFITS TO INTERESTED PARTIES.
41 THE ANNUAL ACCOUNTING INFORMATION MUST INCLUDE:

42 (A) THE AMOUNT AND SOURCE OF FEDERAL BENEFITS COLLECTED
43 BY THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT AND CREDITED TO THE ACCOUNT

1 MAINTAINED ON BEHALF OF THE CHILD OR YOUTH;
2 (B) THE BALANCE OF THE ACCOUNT MAINTAINED ON BEHALF OF
3 THE CHILD OR YOUTH; AND
4 (C) INFORMATION REGARDING THE CHILD'S OR YOUTH'S ASSETS
5 AND RESOURCES, INCLUDING BENEFITS, INSURANCE, CASH ASSETS, TRUST
6 ACCOUNTS, AND EARNINGS, IF THE ASSETS OR RESOURCES ARE
7 CONTROLLED BY THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT.
8 (b) IF A COUNTY DEPARTMENT IS NOT THE REPRESENTATIVE PAYEE
9 OR FIDUCIARY FOR A CHILD OR YOUTH, THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT IS NOT
10 RESPONSIBLE FOR ESTABLISHING OR MAINTAINING AN ACCOUNT FOR
11 DEPOSIT OF THE FEDERAL BENEFITS OF THE CHILD OR YOUTH OR PROVIDING
12 RELATED ACCOUNTING INFORMATION PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (5)(a) OF
13 THIS SECTION.
14 (c) IF A COUNTY DEPARTMENT IS THE REPRESENTATIVE PAYEE OR
15 FIDUCIARY FOR A CHILD OR YOUTH PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (5)(a) OF
16 THIS SECTION, THIS SECTION DOES NOT PREVENT OR LIMIT THE COUNTY
17 DEPARTMENT FROM CONSERVING FOR THE CHILD OR YOUTH BENEFITS
18 THAT:
19 (I) ARE ADMINISTERED BY A FEDERAL AGENCY; AND
20 (II) FALL OUTSIDE THE SCOPE OF THE DEFINITION OF FEDERAL
21 BENEFITS IN SUBSECTION (2)(a) OF THIS SECTION.
22 (6) (a) THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT SHALL PROVIDE TIMELY,
23 DEVELOPMENTALLY APPROPRIATE NOTICE TO INTERESTED PARTIES OF:
24 (I) SUBMISSION OF AN APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL BENEFITS ON
25 BEHALF OF A CHILD OR YOUTH;
26 (II) SUBMISSION OF A REQUEST FOR THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT TO
27 BECOME THE REPRESENTATIVE PAYEE OR FIDUCIARY FOR THE CHILD OR
28 YOUTH AND IDENTIFICATION OF THE REPRESENTATIVE PAYEE OR
29 FIDUCIARY ULTIMATELY SELECTED;
30 (III) RECEIPT BY THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF A FEDERAL
31 AGENCY'S DECISION REGARDING FEDERAL BENEFITS, INCLUDING DENIAL,
32 TERMINATION, OR REDUCTION OF FEDERAL BENEFITS;
33 (IV) A DECISION BY THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT ABOUT WHETHER
34 OR NOT TO APPEAL AN ADVERSE DETERMINATION, INCLUDING THE
35 OUTCOME OF ANY APPEAL FILED;
36 (V) RECEIPT OF AN ELIGIBILITY REDETERMINATION; AND
37 (VI) THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A SPECIAL ACCOUNT OR TRUST ON
38 BEHALF OF THE CHILD OR YOUTH.
39 (b) THE NOTICE MUST STATE THAT INTERESTED PARTIES MAY
40 SUBMIT INFORMATION RELEVANT TO THE SELECTION OF A
41 REPRESENTATIVE PAYEE OR FIDUCIARY FOR THE CHILD OR YOUTH, AND
42 THAT AN INDIVIDUAL MAY HAVE THE RIGHT TO CONTEST THE SELECTION
43 OF A REPRESENTATIVE PAYEE OR FIDUCIARY BEFORE THE RELEVANT

1 FEDERAL AGENCY, INCLUDING THE SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION OR
2 VETERANS ADMINISTRATION.

3 (7) ONCE A CHILD WHO IS RECEIVING FEDERAL BENEFITS LEAVES
4 THE LEGAL CUSTODY OR LEGAL AUTHORITY OF THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT,
5 THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT SHALL RELEASE, PURSUANT TO THE
6 REQUIREMENTS OF THE FUNDING SOURCE, ANY FUNDS THAT HAVE
7 ACCUMULATED IN AN ACCOUNT THAT THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT HAS
8 ESTABLISHED OR MAINTAINS FOR DEPOSIT OF THE FEDERAL BENEFITS OF
9 THE CHILD OR YOUTH.

10 (8) ON OR BEFORE JULY 1, 2026, THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN
11 SERVICES, IN CONSULTATION WITH INTERESTED STAKEHOLDERS,
12 INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, COUNTY DEPARTMENTS, ORGANIZATIONS
13 THAT ADVOCATE ON BEHALF OF YOUTH IN FOSTER CARE, GUARDIANS AD
14 LITEM, ORGANIZATIONS THAT REPRESENT COURT-APPOINTED SPECIAL
15 ADVOCATES, ORGANIZATIONS THAT ADVOCATE ON BEHALF OF DISABILITY
16 RIGHTS, THE OFFICE OF RESPONDENT PARENTS' COUNSEL, AND THE OFFICE
17 OF THE CHILD'S REPRESENTATIVE, SHALL ADOPT RULES FOR THE
18 IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS SECTION. THE RULES MUST INCLUDE GUIDANCE
19 TO THE COUNTY DEPARTMENTS ON:

20 (a) THE TYPES OF FEDERAL BENEFITS FOR WHICH A COUNTY
21 DEPARTMENT SHALL, PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (3) OF THIS SECTION,
22 CONDUCT AN ELIGIBILITY SCREENING, SUBMIT AN APPLICATION, OR APPEAL
23 AN ADVERSE DETERMINATION;

24 (b) SCREENING METHODS FOR IDENTIFYING WHETHER A CHILD OR
25 YOUTH IS ALREADY RECEIVING FEDERAL BENEFITS OR MAY BE ELIGIBLE TO
26 RECEIVE FEDERAL BENEFITS AND SCREENING METHODS FOR SUBSEQUENT
27 ANNUAL ELIGIBILITY REVIEWS;

28 (c) BEST PRACTICES FOR CONSULTING WITH THE CHILD OR YOUTH
29 OR OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES WHO MAY HAVE INFORMATION ABOUT THE
30 CHILD'S OR YOUTH'S RECEIPT OF OR ELIGIBILITY FOR FEDERAL BENEFITS;

31 (d) THE APPLICATION PROCESS FOR FEDERAL BENEFITS FOR EACH
32 CHILD OR YOUTH, WHO, PURSUANT TO SCREENING, IS LIKELY TO BE
33 DETERMINED ELIGIBLE FOR FEDERAL BENEFITS;

34 (e) THE PROCESS FOR APPEALING AND REQUESTING
35 RECONSIDERATION OF ADVERSE DECISIONS REGARDING ELIGIBILITY FOR
36 FEDERAL BENEFITS;

37 (f) THE PROCESS FOR PROVIDING TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO A
38 NONCERTIFIED KINSHIP CAREGIVER WHO IS APPLYING FOR FEDERAL
39 BENEFITS ON BEHALF OF A CHILD OR YOUTH;

40 (g) METHODS FOR IDENTIFYING, PURSUANT TO APPLICABLE
41 FEDERAL GUIDELINES, AN APPROPRIATE REPRESENTATIVE PAYEE OR
42 FIDUCIARY FOR A CHILD OR YOUTH IN THE LEGAL CUSTODY OR UNDER THE
43 LEGAL AUTHORITY OF THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OR IN A KINSHIP CARE

1 PLACEMENT;
2 (h) THE PROCESS FOR ESTABLISHING AND MAINTAINING AN
3 ACCOUNT FOR DEPOSIT AND ACCUMULATION OF THE FEDERAL BENEFITS OF
4 A CHILD OR YOUTH WHILE IN THE LEGAL CUSTODY OR UNDER THE LEGAL
5 AUTHORITY OF THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT AND FOR PROVIDING RELATED
6 ACCOUNTING INFORMATION ANNUALLY;
7 (i) SPECIFICATIONS FOR PROVIDING REQUIRED NOTICES REGARDING
8 FEDERAL BENEFIT APPLICATIONS, APPLICATIONS FOR A COUNTY
9 DEPARTMENT TO BECOME A REPRESENTATIVE PAYEE OR FIDUCIARY,
10 RECEIPT OF DECISIONS REGARDING FEDERAL BENEFIT ELIGIBILITY, APPEALS
11 OF DENIALS, AND ESTABLISHMENT OF ACCOUNTS;
12 (j) INFORMING A CHILD OR YOUTH ABOUT RIGHTS AND
13 RESPONSIBILITIES REGARDING THE CONTINUED RECEIPT OF FEDERAL
14 BENEFITS, THE SOURCES OF ASSISTANCE THAT MAY BE AVAILABLE FOR
15 RESOLVING RELATED PROBLEMS, AND THE PROCESS FOR TRANSFERRING
16 ACCUMULATED FEDERAL BENEFITS; AND
17 (k) FOR YOUTH PARTICIPATING IN THE FOSTER YOUTH IN
18 TRANSITION PROGRAM PURSUANT TO PART 3 OF THIS ARTICLE 7,
19 INFORMATION ABOUT APPLYING FOR AND CONSERVING FEDERAL BENEFITS
20 OR OBTAINING RELATED FINANCIAL LITERACY TRAINING.

21 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 19-7-305, **amend**
22 (1)(c)(IV) as follows:

23 **19-7-305. Available services and supports.** (1) Each county
24 department shall offer, at a minimum, the following services and supports
25 to participating youth in the transition program:

26 (c) Case management services, including the development of a
27 case plan with a roadmap to success for the participating youth, as well
28 as assistance in the following areas, as appropriate, and with the
29 agreement of the participating youth:

30 (IV) Obtaining appropriate community resources and public
31 benefits, INCLUDING APPLYING FOR FEDERAL BENEFITS AS DEFINED IN
32 SECTION 19-7-105, CONSERVING OR MANAGING FEDERAL BENEFITS
33 OBTAINED PURSUANT TO SECTION 19-7-105, OR OBTAINING RELATED
34 FINANCIAL LITERACY TRAINING;

35 **SECTION 3. Safety clause.** The general assembly finds,
36 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate
37 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety or for appropriations for
38 the support and maintenance of the departments of the state and state
39 institutions."

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