

SENATE COMMITTEE OF REFERENCE AMENDMENT

Committee on Agriculture & Natural Resources.

SB25-120 be amended as follows:

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

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

5 (a) Nuclear energy is a critical component of Colorado's clean
6 energy strategy and economic development, offering consistent, reliable
7 and noncarbon power generation to support grid stability and emissions
8 reduction goals;

9 (b) A highly skilled workforce is essential for the deployment and
10 operation of advanced nuclear technologies, small modular reactors, and
11 commercial fusion systems. Workforce readiness in engineering, radiation
12 safety, fusion energy operations, and reactor technology is necessary to
13 support Colorado's energy transition.

14 (c) The Colorado nuclear workforce development and education
15 council will harness private investment, federal funding, and strategic
16 partnerships to make the state a leader in nuclear energy workforce
17 development. Through grants to eligible institutions of higher education
18 and related technical assistance, the council will expand educational
19 pathways to careers in the nuclear energy sector.

20 (d) The Colorado school of mines' expertise in energy resource
21 management, workforce development, and federal grant facilitation
22 uniquely positions it to house the Colorado nuclear workforce
23 development and education council; and

30 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** part 3 to article
31 41 of title 23 as follows:

PART 3

COLORADO NUCLEAR WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AND EDUCATION COUNCIL

35 **23-41-301. Definitions.** AS USED IN THIS PART 3, UNLESS THE
36 CONTEXT OTHERWISE REQUIRES:

37 (1) "CASH FUND" MEANS THE COLORADO NUCLEAR WORKFORCE
38 DEVELOPMENT AND EDUCATION CASH FUND CREATED IN SECTION
39 23-41-306.

(2) "COAL TRANSITION COMMUNITY" MEANS A COAL TRANSITION COMMUNITY, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 8-83-502.

(3) "COUNCIL" MEANS THE COLORADO NUCLEAR WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AND EDUCATION COUNCIL CREATED IN SECTION 23-41-302.

(4) "ELIGIBLE INSTITUTION" MEANS A STATE INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 23-18-102 (10)(a); A LOCAL DISTRICT COLLEGE, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 23-71-102; OR AN AREA TECHNICAL COLLEGE, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 23-60-103.

(5) "GRANT PROGRAM" MEANS THE COLORADO NUCLEAR WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AND EDUCATION GRANT PROGRAM CREATED IN SECTION 23-41-304.

(6) "THIRD-PARTY ENTITY" MEANS AN ENTITY THAT HAS ENTERED INTO A CONTRACT WITH THE COUNCIL TO PROVIDE STAFFING OR OPERATIONAL SERVICES TO THE COUNCIL OR TO HELP IMPLEMENT THIS PART 3, INCLUDING THE GRANT PROGRAM.

23-41-302. Colorado nuclear workforce development and education council - created. (1) THE COLORADO NUCLEAR WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AND EDUCATION COUNCIL IS CREATED IN THE COLORADO SCHOOL OF MINES. THE PURPOSE OF THE COUNCIL IS TO MEET GROWING WORKFORCE DEMAND IN THE NUCLEAR ENERGY SECTOR BY:

(a) PROVIDING GRANTS TO ELIGIBLE INSTITUTIONS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OR EXPANSION OF DEGREE PROGRAMS, CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS, INDIVIDUAL COURSES, OR MODULAR TRAINING FOCUSED ON NUCLEAR ENERGY, INCLUDING FUSION AND FISSION, THROUGH THE COLORADO NUCLEAR WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AND EDUCATION GRANT PROGRAM CREATED IN SECTION 23-41-304; AND

(b) PROVIDING ELIGIBLE INSTITUTIONS RELATED TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.

(2) THE COUNCIL IS ONLY REQUIRED TO IMPLEMENT SECTIONS 23-41-303, 23-41-304, AND 23-41-305 IF, PURSUANT TO SECTION 23-41-307, SECTIONS 23-41-303, 23-41-304, AND 23-41-305 BECOME EFFECTIVE.

(3) THE COUNCIL ACTIVITIES, INCLUDING PROVIDING TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, ANY CONTRACTED WORK PERFORMED BY A THIRD-PARTY ENTITY, THE GRANT PROGRAM, AND ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS, MUST BE FUNDED ENTIRELY BY GIFTS, GRANTS, AND DONATIONS. GIFTS, GRANTS, AND DONATIONS MUST FUND THE COUNCIL'S WORK THROUGHOUT THE COURSE OF THE COUNCIL'S WORK, AND GENERAL FUND MONEY SHALL NOT BE APPROPRIATED FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS PART 3.

(4) THE WORK OF THE COUNCIL OR ANY OTHER ENTITY PURSUANT TO THIS PART 3 IS CONTINGENT ON MONEY BEING AVAILABLE TO IMPLEMENT THIS PART 3. IF MONEY IS NOT AVAILABLE FOR THE COUNCIL OR ANY OTHER ENTITY TO CARRY OUT THE DUTIES REQUIRED BY THIS PART

1 3, THE COUNCIL OR ENTITY IS NOT REQUIRED TO CARRY OUT THE DUTIES.
2 A CONTRACT WITH A THIRD-PARTY ENTITY OR ELIGIBLE INSTITUTION MUST
3 PROVIDE THAT THE CONTRACT IS CONTINGENT ON FUNDS BEING
4 AVAILABLE FOR THE SPECIFIED PURPOSE AND THE FUNDS BEING AVAILABLE
5 FOR THE DURATION OF THE CONTRACT.

6 (5)(a) THE COUNCIL CONSISTS OF ELEVEN MEMBERS APPOINTED BY
7 THE DESIGNATED APPOINTING OFFICIALS AS FOLLOWS:

8 (I) THE GOVERNOR SHALL APPOINT THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS OF
9 THE COUNCIL:

10 (A) ONE MEMBER WHO IS A REPRESENTATIVE OF A PRIVATE
11 COMPANY IN THE NUCLEAR OR CLEAN ENERGY SECTOR;

12 (B) ONE MEMBER WHO IS A REPRESENTATIVE OF A COAL
13 TRANSITION COMMUNITY OR RURAL AREA OF THE STATE; AND

14 (C) ONE MEMBER WHO IS A NUCLEAR PHYSICIST OR ENGINEER
15 FROM A FEDERAL LABORATORY; AND

16 (II) THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE, THE MINORITY LEADER OF THE
17 SENATE, THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, AND THE
18 MINORITY LEADER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES SHALL EACH
19 APPOINT:

20 (A) ONE MEMBER WHO IS A REPRESENTATIVE OF A PRIVATE
21 COMPANY IN THE NUCLEAR OR CLEAN ENERGY SECTOR; AND

22 (B) ONE MEMBER WHO IS A REPRESENTATIVE OF A LABOR
23 ORGANIZATION, A REPRESENTATIVE OF A SMALL OR MID-SIZED NUCLEAR
24 SUPPLY CHAIN BUSINESS, AN ENVIRONMENTAL SAFETY EXPERT, OR A
25 WORKFORCE TRAINING PROFESSIONAL.

26 (b) A MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL MUST NOT HAVE A FINANCIAL OR
27 OTHER CONFLICT OF INTEREST THAT WOULD PREVENT THE MEMBER FROM
28 IMPARTIALLY REVIEWING GRANT APPLICATIONS FOR THE GRANT PROGRAM
29 OR THAT WOULD OTHERWISE GIVE RISE TO AN APPEARANCE OF
30 IMPROPRIETY. A MEMBER MUST NOT HAVE A PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATION
31 WITH AN ELIGIBLE INSTITUTION.

32 (c) THE APPOINTING OFFICIALS SHALL MAKE THE INITIAL
33 APPOINTMENTS TO THE COUNCIL AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AFTER THE
34 EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS SECTION BUT NO LATER THAN JANUARY 1, 2026.

35 (d) THE TERM OF APPOINTMENT IS FOUR YEARS; EXCEPT THAT THE
36 TERM OF EACH MEMBER INITIALLY APPOINTED IS TWO YEARS.

37 **23-41-303. Colorado nuclear workforce development and**
38 **education council - meetings - duties - authority to contract.**

39 (1)(a) THE COUNCIL SHALL ELECT A CHAIR FROM AMONG THE COUNCIL'S
40 MEMBERS TO SERVE FOR A TERM NOT TO EXCEED TWO YEARS, AS
41 DETERMINED BY THE COUNCIL.

42 (b) THE CHAIR OF THE COUNCIL SHALL CONVENE THE FIRST
43 MEETING OF THE COUNCIL NO LATER THAN FORTY-TWO DAYS AFTER THE

1 EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS SECTION. THEREAFTER, THE COUNCIL SHALL
2 MEET AT LEAST QUARTERLY. THE CHAIR MAY CALL ADDITIONAL MEETINGS
3 AS ARE NECESSARY FOR THE COUNCIL TO COMPLETE ITS DUTIES.

4 (2) MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL SERVE WITHOUT COMPENSATION
5 BUT ARE ENTITLED TO RECEIVE REIMBURSEMENT FOR ACTUAL AND
6 NECESSARY EXPENSES INCURRED IN THE PERFORMANCE OF THE MEMBERS'
7 DUTIES ON THE COUNCIL.

8 (3) WITH STAFFING AND OPERATIONAL ASSISTANCE FROM A
9 THIRD-PARTY ENTITY, THE COUNCIL SHALL:

10 (a) CONVENE, AT A FREQUENCY TO BE DETERMINED BY THE
11 COUNCIL, ADVISORY SESSIONS WITH STAKEHOLDERS FROM THE NUCLEAR,
12 EDUCATIONAL, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SECTORS TO ASSESS AND
13 ADOPT STRATEGIES TO RESPOND TO EVOLVING WORKFORCE DEMANDS AND
14 OPPORTUNITIES IN THE NUCLEAR ENERGY SECTOR; AND

15 (b) IMPLEMENT THE GRANT PROGRAM, INCLUDING:

16 (I) REVIEWING AND APPROVING GRANT PROGRAM GUIDELINES AND
17 PROCEDURES TO ENSURE GRANTS ARE AWARDED THROUGH AN OPEN,
18 COMPETITIVE PROCESS USING NATIONAL BEST PRACTICES;

19 (II) REVIEWING APPLICATIONS FROM ELIGIBLE INSTITUTIONS;

20 (III) SELECTING GRANT RECIPIENTS AND DETERMINING GRANT
21 AWARD AMOUNTS;

22 (IV) PROVIDING ELIGIBLE INSTITUTIONS TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE;

23 AND

24 (V) EVALUATING THE GRANT PROGRAM.

25 (4) THE COUNCIL MAY PROMOTE NUCLEAR ENERGY EDUCATION
26 AND RESEARCH ACTIVITIES AMONG ELIGIBLE INSTITUTIONS TO ENHANCE
27 THE ELIGIBLE INSTITUTIONS' ABILITY TO ATTRACT FEDERAL AND PRIVATE
28 SECTOR FUNDING FOR NUCLEAR ENERGY EDUCATION, TRAINING, AND
29 RELATED RESEARCH.

30 (5) THE COUNCIL SHALL DEVELOP GUIDELINES AND PROCEDURES
31 AS NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT THIS PART 3.

32 (6) THE COUNCIL SHALL CONTRACT WITH ONE OR MORE
33 THIRD-PARTY ENTITIES TO PROVIDE STAFFING AND OPERATIONAL
34 ASSISTANCE TO THE COUNCIL OR TO HELP IMPLEMENT OTHER PROVISIONS
35 OF THIS PART 3.

36 (7) THE COUNCIL MUST USE A REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL PROCESS TO
37 DESIGNATE AND CONTRACT WITH A THIRD-PARTY ENTITY FOR THE
38 PURPOSES OF THIS PART 3. A DESIGNATED THIRD-PARTY ENTITY MAY
39 PROVIDE IN-KIND STAFF SUPPORT OR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO ASSIST
40 THE COUNCIL IN PERFORMING THE COUNCIL'S DUTIES AND
41 RESPONSIBILITIES. THIRD-PARTY ENTITY PERSONNEL ARE NOT EMPLOYEES
42 OF THE COUNCIL OR THE STATE.

43 (8) THE COUNCIL MAY USE UP TO TEN PERCENT OF THE MONEY IN

1 THE CASH FUND TO PAY DIRECT AND INDIRECT ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.

2 **23-41-304. Colorado nuclear workforce development and**
3 **education grant program - created - application - criteria - awards.**

4 (1) THE COLORADO NUCLEAR WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AND
5 EDUCATION GRANT PROGRAM IS CREATED IN THE COLORADO SCHOOL OF
6 MINES TO MEET GROWING WORKFORCE DEMAND IN THE NUCLEAR ENERGY
7 SECTOR BY PROVIDING GRANTS TO ELIGIBLE INSTITUTIONS FOR THE
8 DEVELOPMENT OR EXPANSION OF NUCLEAR ENERGY DEGREE PROGRAMS,
9 CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS, INDIVIDUAL COURSES, OR MODULAR TRAINING.

10 (2) PURSUANT TO SECTION 23-41-307, THE COUNCIL SHALL BEGIN
11 AWARDING GRANTS ONLY AFTER THE BALANCE OF THE COLORADO
12 NUCLEAR WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AND EDUCATION CASH FUND
13 REACHES OR EXCEEDS FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS. THE COUNCIL
14 SHALL EXPLORE OPPORTUNITIES TO LEVERAGE FEDERAL FUNDING,
15 INCLUDING FEDERAL WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT MATCHING GRANTS.

16 (3) GRANT RECIPIENTS MAY USE THE MONEY RECEIVED THROUGH
17 THE GRANT PROGRAM FOR THE DESIGN OF COURSES OR DEGREE
18 PROGRAMS, CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS, OR TRAINING PROGRAMS FOCUSED
19 ON NUCLEAR ENERGY, INCLUDING FUSION AND FISSION; FOR PERSONNEL;
20 OR FOR ADMINISTRATIVE OR FACILITY EXPENSES NECESSARY TO DEVELOP
21 OR EXPAND NUCLEAR ENERGY DEGREE, CERTIFICATE, TRAINING, OR
22 COURSE OFFERINGS.

23 (4) THE COUNCIL, WITH ASSISTANCE FROM AND IN COORDINATION
24 WITH A THIRD-PARTY ENTITY, SUBJECT TO THE AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS
25 PURSUANT TO SECTION 23-41-307, SHALL ADMINISTER THE GRANT
26 PROGRAM AND SHALL AWARD GRANTS AS PROVIDED IN THIS PART 3.
27 GRANTS MUST BE PAID OUT OF THE CASH FUND.

28 (5) TO RECEIVE A GRANT, AN ELIGIBLE INSTITUTION MUST SUBMIT
29 AN APPLICATION TO THE COUNCIL IN ACCORDANCE WITH GUIDELINES AND
30 PROCEDURES ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO SECTION 23-41-303 (5).

31 (6) (a) THE COUNCIL SHALL REVIEW THE APPLICATIONS RECEIVED
32 PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION. IN SELECTING GRANT RECIPIENTS, THE
33 COUNCIL SHALL PRIORITIZE ELIGIBLE INSTITUTIONS THAT CAN PROVIDE A
34 TRAINED WORKFORCE EXPEDITIOUSLY. IN ADDITION TO OTHER RELEVANT
35 FACTORS, THE COUNCIL SHALL CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA WHEN
36 AWARDING GRANTS:

37 (I) THE DISTRIBUTION OF NUCLEAR ENERGY DEGREE PROGRAMS,
38 CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS, INDIVIDUAL COURSES, AND MODULAR TRAINING
39 OPPORTUNITIES OFFERED ACROSS THE STATE, INCLUDING PROGRAMS,
40 COURSES, AND TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES RELATED TO NUCLEAR FUSION
41 AND FISSION;

42 (II) THE NEED FOR A NUCLEAR ENERGY WORKFORCE IN THE
43 SURROUNDING COMMUNITY OR REGION OF THE STATE; AND

4 (b) TO AWARD A GRANT, AT LEAST A MAJORITY OF THE MEMBERS
5 OF THE COUNCIL SHALL APPROVE THE GRANT.

23-41-305. Reporting requirements. (1) ON OR BEFORE THE FIRST NOVEMBER 1 AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS SECTION, AND ON OR BEFORE NOVEMBER 1 EACH YEAR THEREAFTER UNTIL THE REPEAL OF THIS PART 3, THE COUNCIL SHALL SUBMIT A REPORT TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES EDUCATION COMMITTEE, THE SENATE TRANSPORTATION AND ENERGY COMMITTEE, AND THE SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE, OR THEIR SUCCESSOR COMMITTEES. AT A MINIMUM, THE REPORT MUST INCLUDE:

15 (a) A SUMMARY OF THE GRANT PROGRAM AND ITS
16 IMPLEMENTATION AND ANY RELATED TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROVIDED
17 TO GRANT RECIPIENTS; AND

**23-41-306. Colorado nuclear workforce development and
education cash fund - created.** (1) THE COLORADO NUCLEAR
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AND EDUCATION CASH FUND IS CREATED IN
THE STATE TREASURY. THE CASH FUND CONSISTS OF GIFTS, GRANTS, AND
DONATIONS CREDITED TO THE CASH FUND PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (2)
OF THIS SECTION.

43 (5) THE COUNCIL MAY ACCEPT DONATIONS OF IN-KIND SERVICES

1 FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS PART 3, INCLUDING FOR TECHNICAL
2 ASSISTANCE.

3 (6) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SHALL NOT APPROPRIATE GENERAL
4 FUND DOLLARS FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS PART 3.

5 **23-41-307. Effective date - repeal of part - review of functions.**

6 (1) SECTIONS 23-41-303, 23-41-304, AND 23-41-305 TAKE EFFECT IF THE
7 COUNCIL RECEIVES AT LEAST FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS OF
8 GIFTS, GRANTS, OR DONATIONS FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS PART 3. THE
9 PRESIDENT OF THE COLORADO SCHOOL OF MINES SHALL NOTIFY THE
10 REVISOR OF STATUTES IN WRITING OF THE DATE ON WHICH THE CONDITION
11 SPECIFIED IN THIS SUBSECTION (1) HAS OCCURRED BY EMAILING THE
12 NOTICE TO REVISOROFSTATUTES.GA@COLEG.GOV. SECTIONS 23-41-303,
13 23-41-304, AND 23-41-305 TAKE EFFECT UPON THE DATE IDENTIFIED IN
14 THE NOTICE THAT THE COUNCIL HAS RECEIVED AT LEAST FIVE HUNDRED
15 THOUSAND DOLLARS OF GIFTS, GRANTS, OR DONATIONS FOR THE PURPOSES
16 OF THIS PART 3 OR, IF THE NOTICE DOES NOT SPECIFY THAT DATE, UPON
17 THE DATE OF THE NOTICE TO THE REVISOR OF STATUTES.

18 (2) THIS PART 3 IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 1, 2032.
19 BEFORE THE REPEAL, THIS PART 3 IS SCHEDULED FOR REVIEW IN
20 ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 24-34-104.

21 **SECTION 3.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-34-104, **add**
22 (33)(a)(X) as follows:

23 **24-34-104. General assembly review of regulatory agencies**
24 **and functions for repeal, continuation, or reestablishment - legislative**
25 **declaration - repeal.** (33)(a) The following agencies, functions, or both,
26 are scheduled for repeal on September 1, 2032:

27 (X) THE COLORADO NUCLEAR WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AND
28 EDUCATION COUNCIL CREATED IN PART 3 OF ARTICLE 41 OF TITLE 23.

29 **SECTION 4. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act
30 takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the
31 ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly; except
32 that, if a referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V
33 of the state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this
34 act within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take
35 effect unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in
36 November 2026 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the
37 official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.".

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