

**Second Regular Session
Seventy-fifth General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO**

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 26-0661.01 Anna Petrini x5497

SENATE BILL 26-080

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Coleman and Simpson,

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Lukens,

Senate Committees
Local Government & Housing

House Committees

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 **CONCERNING CREATING THE CRADLE TO CAREER GRANT PROGRAM.**

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 cradle to career grant program (grant program) in the state department of human services (state department) to provide grants that promote coordinated community-based supports and services that open opportunities for economic mobility from poverty. The grant program must connect children and youth with high-quality educational and extracurricular programming and families with key health and social services in order to improve prenatal and early childhood outcomes, student achievement, and workforce readiness. A local government, local

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

education provider, state institution of higher education, Indian tribe or tribal organization, or community-based nonprofit or not-for-profit organization (eligible entity) is eligible for a grant award.

The bill creates an advisory board to approve the state department's potential grant recipients and to collaborate with the state department to develop grant program guidelines and criteria for awarding grants.

To receive a grant, an eligible entity must submit an application that includes an economic mobility needs assessment and a comprehensive proposal to address the needs within its designated service area. The application must identify community partners as prospective subcontractors. Each grant recipient must annually report to the state department on a set of performance indicators assessing the economic mobility outcomes and impacts associated with the grant award. The state department must make a related report to the general assembly each year.

The state department may seek, accept, and expend gifts, grants, and donations for grant-program-related purposes. The state department is not required to implement the grant program until sufficient money is available to adequately fund grant program operations. The general assembly shall not appropriate general fund dollars for grant program operations in its first year. General fund appropriations for grant program operations in subsequent years are limited to 50% of the gifts, grants, and donations that the program received in the prior calendar year.

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

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** article 25 to title
3 26 as follows:

4 **ARTICLE 25**

5 **Cradle to Career Grant Program**

6 **26-25-101. Short title.**

7 THE SHORT TITLE OF THIS ARTICLE 25 IS THE "CRADLE TO CAREER
8 GRANT PROGRAM ACT".

9 **26-25-102. Definitions.**

10 AS USED IN THIS ARTICLE 25, UNLESS THE CONTEXT OTHERWISE
11 REQUIRES:

12 (1) "BOARD" MEANS THE CRADLE TO CAREER ADVISORY BOARD
13 CREATED IN SECTION 26-25-104.

1 (2) "CHILD" HAS THE MEANING SET FORTH IN SECTION 19-1-103.

2 (3) "DESIGNATED SERVICE AREA" MEANS A GEOGRAPHICALLY
3 BOUNDED LOCAL SERVICE AREA IN WHICH THE CONCENTRATION OF
4 POVERTY MEETS THE LEVEL SPECIFIED IN SECTION 26-25-103 (5)(b)(I).

5 (4) "ELIGIBLE ENTITY" MEANS A LOCAL GOVERNMENT, A LOCAL
6 EDUCATION PROVIDER, A STATE INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION, AN
7 INDIAN TRIBE OR TRIBAL ORGANIZATION, OR A NONPROFIT OR
8 NOT-FOR-PROFIT COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATION.

9 (5) "FUND" MEANS THE CRADLE TO CAREER GRANT PROGRAM CASH
10 FUND CREATED IN SECTION 26-25-107.

11 (6) "GRANT PROGRAM" MEANS THE CRADLE TO CAREER GRANT
12 PROGRAM CREATED IN SECTION 26-25-103.

13 (7) "LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER" MEANS:

14 (a) A SCHOOL DISTRICT;

15 (b) A CHARTER SCHOOL AUTHORIZED BY A SCHOOL DISTRICT
16 PURSUANT TO PART 1 OF ARTICLE 30.5 OF TITLE 22;

17 (c) A CHARTER SCHOOL AUTHORIZED BY THE STATE CHARTER
18 SCHOOL INSTITUTE PURSUANT TO PART 5 OF ARTICLE 30.5 OF TITLE 22; OR

19 (d) A BOARD OF COOPERATIVE SERVICES CREATED AND OPERATING
20 PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 5 OF TITLE 22 THAT OPERATES ONE OR MORE
21 PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

22 (8) "LOCAL GOVERNMENT" MEANS A STATUTORY OR HOME RULE
23 CITY, TOWN, CITY AND COUNTY, OR COUNTY.

24 (9) "SUBCONTRACTED ENTITY" MEANS AN ELIGIBLE ENTITY THAT
25 ENTERS A FORMAL PARTNERSHIP WITH AN ELIGIBLE ENTITY RECEIVING A
26 GRANT PURSUANT TO THIS ARTICLE 25 AND THAT PROVIDES
27 COMPLEMENTARY COMMUNITY RESOURCES IN THE GRANT RECIPIENT'S

1 DESIGNATED SERVICE AREA.

2 (10) "YOUTH" MEANS AN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS UNDER TWENTY-FIVE
3 YEARS OLD.

4 **26-25-103. Cradle to career grant program - created -**
5 **program guidelines and criteria - rules.**

6 (1) THE CRADLE TO CAREER GRANT PROGRAM IS CREATED IN THE
7 STATE DEPARTMENT. THE PURPOSE OF THE GRANT PROGRAM IS TO
8 PROVIDE GRANTS TO ELIGIBLE ENTITIES TO PROMOTE COORDINATED
9 COMMUNITY-BASED SUPPORTS AND SERVICES THAT OPEN OPPORTUNITIES
10 FOR ECONOMIC MOBILITY FROM POVERTY. THE GRANT PROGRAM MUST
11 CONNECT CHILDREN AND YOUTH WITH HIGH-QUALITY EDUCATIONAL AND
12 EXTRACURRICULAR PROGRAMMING AND FAMILIES WITH KEY HEALTH AND
13 SOCIAL SERVICES IN ORDER TO IMPROVE PRENATAL AND EARLY
14 CHILDHOOD OUTCOMES, STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT, AND WORKFORCE
15 READINESS AND TO HELP CHILDREN AND YOUTH MAKE SMOOTH
16 TRANSITIONS THROUGHOUT THE SECONDARY AND POSTSECONDARY
17 EDUCATION SYSTEMS.

18 (2) GRANT RECIPIENTS MAY USE THE MONEY RECEIVED THROUGH
19 THE GRANT PROGRAM FOR THE FOLLOWING PURPOSES:

20 (a) PROMOTING FAMILY STABILITY AND WELL-BEING THROUGH
21 ACCESS TO:

22 (I) SAFE, AFFORDABLE, AND STABLE HOUSING;

23 (II) HIGH-QUALITY CHILD CARE AND EARLY CHILDHOOD
24 PROGRAMS THAT SUPPORT CHILD DEVELOPMENT AND SUCCESSFUL
25 TRANSITIONS TO AND THROUGH ELEMENTARY EDUCATION;

26 (III) ADEQUATE NUTRITION AND HEALTH CARE, INCLUDING
27 MATERNAL, BEHAVIORAL, AND MENTAL HEALTH CARE; AND

1 (IV) SUPPORTS AND SERVICES FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH WITH
2 DISABILITIES;

3 (b) IMPLEMENTING FAMILY-STRENGTHENING PUBLIC SAFETY
4 PROTECTIONS, COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT STRATEGIES, AND
5 INTERVENTIONS THAT ENHANCE CHILD AND YOUTH WELFARE, PREVENT
6 JUSTICE-SYSTEM INVOLVEMENT, AND REDUCE EXPOSURE TO SUBSTANCE
7 USE, FAMILY CONFLICT, AND CHILD ABUSE OR NEGLECT;

8 (c) PROVIDING HIGH-QUALITY EDUCATIONAL AND ACADEMIC
9 ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR K-12 STUDENTS, INCLUDING
10 OUT-OF-SCHOOL-TIME PROGRAMS THAT:

11 (I) FOCUS ON SPORTS AND FITNESS, CHARACTER AND LEADERSHIP,
12 OR ARTS AND CULTURE; AND

13 (II) REINFORCE AND COMPLEMENT SCHOOL-BASED ACADEMIC
14 PROGRAMS IN A SAFE AND HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT;

15 (d) CONNECTING YOUTH TO QUALITY JOBS AND IN-DEMAND
16 OCCUPATIONS THROUGH POSTSECONDARY AND WORKFORCE READINESS
17 PROGRAMS THAT MAY INCLUDE WORK-BASED LEARNING, CREDENTIAL
18 COMPLETION, OR APPRENTICESHIPS, WITH A FOCUS ON HIGH-NEED,
19 IN-DEMAND CAREER PATHWAYS;

20 (e) COORDINATING AND ALIGNING PROGRAMS AND STRATEGIES
21 WITHIN A DESIGNATED SERVICE AREA, INCLUDING THE DEVELOPMENT OF
22 SHARED DATA SYSTEMS; AND

23 (f) LEVERAGING ADDITIONAL FEDERAL, LOCAL, OR PRIVATE
24 FUNDING FOR POVERTY REDUCTION INITIATIVES IN THE ELIGIBLE ENTITY'S
25 DESIGNATED SERVICE AREA.

26 (3) THE STATE DEPARTMENT SHALL ADMINISTER THE GRANT
27 PROGRAM AND, SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS, SHALL AWARD

1 GRANTS AS PROVIDED IN THIS ARTICLE 25. GRANTS MUST BE PAID OUT OF
2 THE CRADLE TO CAREER GRANT PROGRAM CASH FUND CREATED IN
3 SECTION 26-25-107.

4 (4) THE STATE DEPARTMENT SHALL IMPLEMENT THE GRANT
5 PROGRAM IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS ARTICLE 25. THE STATE
6 DEPARTMENT SHALL ADOPT THE RULES REQUIRED IN THIS ARTICLE 25 AND
7 ANY ADDITIONAL RULES NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT THE GRANT PROGRAM.

8 (5) (a) THE STATE DEPARTMENT, IN COLLABORATION WITH THE
9 BOARD, SHALL DEVELOP AND MAKE AVAILABLE PROGRAM GUIDELINES,
10 INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO:

11 (I) GUIDELINES FOR THE CONTENT OF AN ECONOMIC MOBILITY
12 NEEDS ASSESSMENT AND COMPREHENSIVE PROPOSAL FOR SINGLE ELIGIBLE
13 ENTITY APPLICANTS AND MULTIPLE ELIGIBLE ENTITY APPLICANTS
14 APPLYING JOINTLY PURSUANT TO SECTION 26-25-105 (2);

15 (II) GUIDELINES FOR PROPOSING, APPROVING, AND IMPLEMENTING
16 DIFFERENT GRANT STRUCTURES TO PROMOTE BUILDING CAPACITY FOR
17 DELIVERING, IN AN APPLICANT'S DESIGNATED SERVICE AREA, SERVICES
18 THAT PROMOTE ECONOMIC MOBILITY. GRANT STRUCTURES MAY INCLUDE
19 PLANNING, EARLY IMPLEMENTATION, AND FULL IMPLEMENTATION PHASES
20 FOR SERVICE DELIVERY.

21 (III) PROCESSES FOR AN ELIGIBLE ENTITY TO SOLICIT AND
22 INCORPORATE INTO ITS COMPREHENSIVE PROPOSAL INPUT FROM
23 ORGANIZATIONS AND INDIVIDUALS IN THE COMMUNITY PURSUANT TO
24 SUBSECTION (5)(b)(III) OF THIS SECTION.

25 (b) IN ADDITION TO THE GUIDELINES DEVELOPED PURSUANT TO
26 SUBSECTION (5)(a) OF THIS SECTION, THE STATE DEPARTMENT, IN
27 COLLABORATION WITH THE BOARD, SHALL DEVELOP CRITERIA FOR

1 AWARDING GRANTS, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE FOLLOWING
2 REQUIREMENTS:

3 (I) THAT THE COMPREHENSIVE PROPOSAL TARGETS A DESIGNATED
4 SERVICE AREA IN WHICH AT LEAST THIRTY PERCENT OF HOUSEHOLDS WITH
5 CHILDREN HAVE AN ANNUAL HOUSEHOLD INCOME AT OR BELOW TWO
6 HUNDRED PERCENT OF THE FEDERAL POVERTY LINE;

7 (II) THAT THE ELIGIBLE ENTITY'S COMPREHENSIVE PROPOSAL
8 PRIORITIZES CONNECTING CHILDREN AND YOUTH WITH HIGH-QUALITY
9 EDUCATIONAL, EXTRACURRICULAR, OR WORKFORCE PROGRAMMING OR
10 FAMILIES WITH KEY HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES IN ACCORDANCE WITH
11 THE AREAS OF GREATEST NEED IDENTIFIED IN THE ELIGIBLE ENTITY'S
12 NEEDS ASSESSMENT;

13 (III) THAT THE ELIGIBLE ENTITY HAS SOLICITED AND
14 INCORPORATED INTO ITS COMPREHENSIVE PROPOSAL INPUT FROM
15 ORGANIZATIONS AND INDIVIDUALS IN THE COMMUNITY, INCLUDING LOCAL
16 EDUCATION PROVIDERS, COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH CENTERS, LOCAL
17 NONPROFIT OR NOT-FOR-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS, LOCAL LAW
18 ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES, BUSINESSES, AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT
19 LEADERS; AND

20 (IV) THAT THE COMPREHENSIVE PROPOSAL RELIES ON
21 EVIDENCE-BASED OR EVIDENCE-INFORMED PRACTICES IN THE DELIVERY OF
22 SERVICES, SUPPORTS, AND OPPORTUNITIES.

23 (c) IN ADDITION TO THE GUIDELINES AND CRITERIA DEVELOPED
24 PURSUANT TO SUBSECTIONS (5)(a) AND (5)(b) OF THIS SECTION, THE STATE
25 DEPARTMENT SHALL ESTABLISH TIMELINES FOR SUBMITTING AND
26 REVIEWING GRANT APPLICATIONS AND TIMELINES FOR SUBMITTING THE
27 LIST OF ELIGIBLE ENTITIES CHOSEN TO RECEIVE GRANTS TO THE BOARD.

1 **26-25-104. Cradle to career advisory board - created - duties**
2 **- repeal.**

3 (1) THE CRADLE TO CAREER ADVISORY BOARD IS CREATED IN THE
4 STATE DEPARTMENT.

5 (2) THE BOARD IS A **TYPE 2** ENTITY, AS DEFINED IN SECTION
6 24-1-105, AND EXERCISES ITS POWERS AND PERFORMS ITS DUTIES AND
7 FUNCTIONS UNDER THE STATE DEPARTMENT.

8 (3) (a) THE BOARD CONSISTS OF THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS:

9 (I) THE GOVERNOR SHALL APPOINT:

10 (A) ONE MEMBER WHO POSSESSES KNOWLEDGE OF EARLY
11 CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION;

12 (B) ONE MEMBER WHO IS A REPRESENTATIVE OF A NONPROFIT
13 ORGANIZATION OR INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION WITH EXPERTISE
14 IN MEASURING CHILD AND YOUTH POVERTY AND IMPLEMENTING POLICIES
15 TO ALLEVIATE IT; AND

16 (C) ONE MEMBER WHO HAS EXPERTISE IN POSTSECONDARY
17 EDUCATION AND STATE WORKFORCE READINESS INITIATIVES.

18 (II) THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE SHALL APPOINT A
19 REPRESENTATIVE OF AN ELIGIBLE ENTITY WITH EXPERTISE IN ECONOMIC
20 MOBILITY ISSUES.

21 (III) THE MINORITY LEADER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
22 SHALL APPOINT A REPRESENTATIVE OF A LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER.

23 (b) IN APPOINTING THE MEMBERS OF THE BOARD, THE APPOINTING
24 AUTHORITIES SHALL CONSIDER ETHNICITY, GENDER, AND GEOGRAPHIC
25 REPRESENTATION TO PROMOTE DIVERSE BOARD MEMBERSHIP.

26 (c) THE APPOINTING AUTHORITIES SHALL MAKE THE INITIAL
27 APPOINTMENTS TO THE BOARD NO LATER THAN SEPTEMBER 1, 2026.

1 (d) EACH MEMBER OF THE BOARD WHO IS APPOINTED PURSUANT TO
2 THIS SECTION SERVES AT THE PLEASURE OF THE BOARD MEMBER'S
3 RESPECTIVE APPOINTING AUTHORITY. THE TERM OF APPOINTMENT IS FOUR
4 YEARS; EXCEPT THAT THE TERM OF EACH MEMBER INITIALLY APPOINTED
5 PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION IS TWO YEARS.

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

10 (5) (a) NO LATER THAN ONE MONTH AFTER THE STATE
11 DEPARTMENT DETERMINES IT HAS RECEIVED SUFFICIENT MONEY TO
12 ADEQUATELY FUND THE OPERATIONS OF THE GRANT PROGRAM, BUT NOT
13 BEFORE OCTOBER 1, 2026, THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SHALL ORGANIZE
14 AND CONVENE THE FIRST MEETING OF THE BOARD.

15 (b) THE BOARD SHALL ELECT A CHAIR FROM AMONG THE BOARD'S
16 MEMBERS TO SERVE FOR A TERM NOT TO EXCEED TWO YEARS, AS
17 DETERMINED BY THE BOARD. A MEMBER OF THE BOARD IS NOT ELIGIBLE
18 TO SERVE AS CHAIR FOR MORE THAN TWO SUCCESSIVE TERMS.

19 (c) THE BOARD SHALL MEET AT LEAST QUARTERLY. THE CHAIR
20 MAY CALL ADDITIONAL MEETINGS AS ARE NECESSARY FOR THE BOARD TO
21 COMPLETE ITS DUTIES.

22 (6) THE BOARD SHALL:

23 (a) APPROVE OR DISAPPROVE ELIGIBLE ENTITIES THAT THE STATE
24 DEPARTMENT HAS SELECTED AS POTENTIAL GRANT RECIPIENTS; AND

25 (b) COLLABORATE WITH THE STATE DEPARTMENT TO DEVELOP AND
26 MAKE AVAILABLE GRANT PROGRAM GUIDELINES AND CRITERIA FOR
27 AWARDING GRANTS PURSUANT TO SECTION 26-25-103 (5)(a) AND (5)(b).

1 **26-25-105. Cradle to career grant program - application -**
2 **awards.**

3 (1) TO RECEIVE A GRANT, AN ELIGIBLE ENTITY MUST SUBMIT AN
4 APPLICATION TO THE STATE DEPARTMENT IN ACCORDANCE WITH RULES
5 ADOPTED BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR. AT A MINIMUM, THE APPLICATION
6 MUST INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

7 (a) A COMMUNITY ECONOMIC MOBILITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT THAT:

8 (I) IDENTIFIES THE APPLICANT'S DESIGNATED SERVICE AREA;

9 (II) ANALYZES EXISTING CONDITIONS AND ECONOMIC MOBILITY
10 OPPORTUNITIES FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH AND THEIR FAMILIES IN THE
11 DESIGNATED SERVICE AREA; AND

12 (III) INCLUDES QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DATA
13 MEASURING POVERTY, DEMOGRAPHIC DISPARITIES, AND NEEDS WITHIN THE
14 DESIGNATED SERVICE AREA IN CONNECTION WITH EACH OF THE
15 PERMISSIBLE USES OF GRANT MONEY IDENTIFIED IN SECTION 26-25-103(2),
16 AND SPECIFIES AT LEAST ONE POLICY AREA AS THE FOCAL POINT FOR
17 INTERVENTION;

18 (b) A PROPOSAL FOR THE FORMATION OF A FORMAL PARTNERSHIP
19 WITH OTHER ELIGIBLE ENTITIES THAT CAN PROVIDE COMPLEMENTARY
20 COMMUNITY RESOURCES IN THE APPLICANT'S DESIGNATED SERVICE AREA.
21 THE PROPOSAL FOR THE FORMATION OF A FORMAL PARTNERSHIP MUST
22 IDENTIFY ALL PROSPECTIVE SUBCONTRACTED ENTITIES AND DESCRIBE HOW
23 MONEY RECEIVED THROUGH A GRANT AWARDED PURSUANT TO THIS
24 ARTICLE 25 WILL BE ALLOCATED.

25 (c) A COMPREHENSIVE PROPOSAL:

26 (I) TO DEVELOP OR EXPAND COORDINATED COMMUNITY-BASED
27 SUPPORTS AND SERVICES THAT OPEN OPPORTUNITIES FOR ECONOMIC

1 MOBILITY FROM POVERTY IN THE DESIGNATED SERVICE AREA;

2 (II) THAT LEVERAGES A PARTNERSHIP PROPOSED PURSUANT TO

3 SUBSECTION (1)(b) OF THIS SECTION TO PROVIDE A COORDINATED

4 CONTINUUM OF SUPPORTS AND SERVICES THAT OPEN OPPORTUNITIES FOR

5 ECONOMIC MOBILITY FROM POVERTY; AND

6 (III) THAT PRIORITIZES CONNECTING CHILDREN AND YOUTH WITH

7 HIGH-QUALITY EDUCATIONAL, EXTRACURRICULAR, OR WORKFORCE

8 PROGRAMMING OR FAMILIES WITH KEY HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES IN

9 ACCORDANCE WITH THE AREAS OF GREATEST NEED IDENTIFIED IN THE

10 ECONOMIC MOBILITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT SUBMITTED PURSUANT TO

11 SUBSECTION (1)(a) OF THIS SECTION.

12 (2) TWO OR MORE ELIGIBLE ENTITIES MAY JOINTLY APPLY FOR A

13 GRANT AWARD TO DELIVER SERVICES ON A REGIONAL BASIS AND MAY

14 RECEIVE A JOINT GRANT AWARD THAT IS THE AGGREGATE OF THE

15 AMOUNTS EACH INDIVIDUAL ELIGIBLE ENTITY WOULD HAVE RECEIVED HAD

16 EACH ELIGIBLE ENTITY APPLIED INDEPENDENTLY.

17 (3) THE STATE DEPARTMENT SHALL REVIEW ALL APPLICATIONS

18 RECEIVED PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION AND SELECT THE GRANT RECIPIENTS

19 AND THE AMOUNT OF EACH GRANT. THE STATE DEPARTMENT SHALL NOT

20 AWARD A GRANT WITHOUT THE PRIOR APPROVAL OF THE BOARD, AS

21 DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (4) OF THIS SECTION.

22 (4) THE STATE DEPARTMENT, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE

23 TIMELINES ADOPTED PURSUANT TO SECTION 26-25-103 (5)(c), SHALL

24 SUBMIT TO THE BOARD A LIST OF THE APPLICANTS CHOSEN TO RECEIVE

25 GRANTS. THE BOARD SHALL EITHER APPROVE OR DISAPPROVE THE ENTIRE

26 LIST OF ENTITIES BY RESPONDING TO THE STATE DEPARTMENT WITHIN

27 TWENTY DAYS AFTER SUBMISSION. IF THE BOARD DOES NOT RESPOND TO

1 THE STATE DEPARTMENT WITHIN TWENTY DAYS AFTER RECEIPT OF THE
2 LIST, THE LIST IS APPROVED. IF THE BOARD DISAPPROVES THE LIST, THE
3 STATE DEPARTMENT MAY SUBMIT A REPLACEMENT LIST WITHIN THIRTY
4 DAYS AFTER THE DISAPPROVAL.

5 (5) THE STATE DEPARTMENT SHALL AWARD EACH GRANT
6 APPROVED BY THE BOARD. EACH GRANT IS FOR A PERIOD OF FOUR YEARS.
7 AN ELIGIBLE ENTITY THAT RECEIVES A GRANT PURSUANT TO THIS ARTICLE
8 25 MAY APPLY FOR A ONE- OR TWO-YEAR EXTENSION OF THE GRANT
9 PERIOD.

10 (6) SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS, ON OR BEFORE JULY
11 1, 2027, THE STATE DEPARTMENT SHALL AWARD AT LEAST TWO GRANTS
12 AS PROVIDED IN THIS ARTICLE 25. SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE
13 APPROPRIATIONS, ON OR BEFORE JULY 1 IN EACH SUBSEQUENT YEAR OF
14 THE GRANT PROGRAM, THE STATE DEPARTMENT SHALL AWARD
15 ADDITIONAL GRANTS AS PROVIDED IN THIS ARTICLE 25.

16 (7) WITH THE STATE DEPARTMENT'S APPROVAL, AN ELIGIBLE
17 ENTITY MAY ENTER A FORMAL PARTNERSHIP, AS DESCRIBED IN
18 SUBSECTION (1) OF THIS SECTION, AND SUBCONTRACT WITH AND PAY
19 MONEY RECEIVED PURSUANT TO THIS ARTICLE 25 TO SUBCONTRACTED
20 ENTITIES TO PROVIDE A COORDINATED CONTINUUM OF SERVICES,
21 SUPPORTS, AND OPPORTUNITIES IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TERMS OF THE
22 FORMAL PARTNERSHIP. A FORMAL PARTNERSHIP MUST INCLUDE A LOCAL
23 GOVERNMENT, A LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER, AND A NONPROFIT OR
24 NOT-FOR-PROFIT COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATION.

25 (8) NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION OF THIS ARTICLE 25
26 TO THE CONTRARY, THE STATE DEPARTMENT IS NOT REQUIRED TO
27 IMPLEMENT THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ARTICLE 25 UNTIL THE STATE

1 DEPARTMENT HAS RECEIVED AN AMOUNT IN GIFTS, GRANTS, AND
2 DONATIONS, OR APPROPRIATIONS PURSUANT TO SECTION 26-25-107 THAT
3 THE STATE DEPARTMENT DEEMS SUFFICIENT TO ADEQUATELY FUND THE
4 OPERATIONS OF THE GRANT PROGRAM.

5 **26-25-106. Reporting requirements - performance indicators.**

6 (1) (a) THE STATE DEPARTMENT SHALL DEVELOP A SET OF
7 PERFORMANCE INDICATORS TO ASSESS THE ECONOMIC MOBILITY
8 OUTCOMES AND IMPACTS OF GRANTS AWARDED PURSUANT TO THIS
9 ARTICLE 25. INDICATORS MAY INCLUDE, BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO:

10 (I) INCREASED FAMILY ECONOMIC SECURITY;

11 (II) INCREASED HOUSING SECURITY;

12 (III) PROGRESS TOWARD EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENTAL
13 MILESTONES, INCLUDING SCHOOL READINESS;

14 (IV) LOWER RATES OF JUVENILE DELINQUENCY, ADJUDICATION, OR
15 DETENTION;

16 (V) LOWER RATES OF FAMILY INVOLVEMENT WITH THE CHILD
17 WELFARE SYSTEM;

18 (VI) IMPROVED K-12 ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE;

19 (VII) HIGHER RATES OF HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION;

20 (VIII) IMPROVEMENTS IN THE RATES OF COLLEGE READINESS,
21 MATRICULATION, AND RETENTION AT INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER
22 EDUCATION;

23 (IX) ENROLLMENT IN WORKFORCE READINESS PROGRAMS; AND

24 (X) POSTSECONDARY CREDENTIAL ATTAINMENT.

25 (b) ON OR BEFORE OCTOBER 1, 2028, AND EACH OCTOBER 1
26 THEREAFTER, EACH ELIGIBLE ENTITY THAT RECEIVES A GRANT THROUGH
27 THE GRANT PROGRAM SHALL SUBMIT TO THE STATE DEPARTMENT A

1 REPORT THAT ADDRESSES ITS PROGRESS ON THE APPLICABLE
2 PERFORMANCE INDICATORS DEVELOPED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (1)(a)
3 OF THIS SECTION. AT A MINIMUM, THE REPORT MUST ALSO INCLUDE THE
4 FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

5 (I) THE TOTAL NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS SERVED;

6 (II) THE DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION OF EACH INDIVIDUAL
7 SERVED; AND

8 (III) A DESCRIPTION OF THE SERVICES PROVIDED THROUGH THE
9 GRANT PROGRAM AND HOW THE SERVICES MEET ONE OR MORE OF THE
10 FOLLOWING ECONOMIC MOBILITY PRIORITIES:

11 (A) PROMOTING FAMILY STABILITY AND WELL-BEING THROUGH
12 ACCESS TO SAFE, AFFORDABLE, AND STABLE HOUSING; HIGH-QUALITY
13 CHILD CARE AND EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAMS; ADEQUATE NUTRITION
14 AND HEALTH CARE; AND SUPPORTS AND SERVICES FOR CHILDREN AND
15 YOUTH WITH DISABILITIES;

16 (B) IMPLEMENTING PUBLIC SAFETY PROTECTIONS, COMMUNITY
17 ENGAGEMENT STRATEGIES, AND INTERVENTIONS TO STRENGTHEN
18 FAMILIES;

19 (C) PROVIDING HIGH-QUALITY EDUCATIONAL AND ACADEMIC
20 ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR K-12 STUDENTS, INCLUDING
21 OUT-OF-SCHOOL-TIME PROGRAMS;

22 (D) CONNECTING YOUTH TO QUALITY JOBS AND IN-DEMAND
23 OCCUPATIONS THROUGH POSTSECONDARY AND WORKFORCE READINESS
24 PROGRAMS;

25 (E) COORDINATING AND ALIGNING PROGRAMS AND STRATEGIES
26 WITHIN A DESIGNATED SERVICE AREA, INCLUDING THE DEVELOPMENT OF
27 SHARED DATA SYSTEMS; AND

1 (F) SUCCESS IN LEVERAGING ADDITIONAL FEDERAL, LOCAL, AND
2 PRIVATE FUNDING FOR ECONOMIC MOBILITY INITIATIVES IN THE ELIGIBLE
3 ENTITY'S DESIGNATED SERVICE AREA.

4 (2) ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 31, 2028, AND EACH DECEMBER 31
5 THEREAFTER FOR THE DURATION OF THE GRANT PROGRAM, THE STATE
6 DEPARTMENT SHALL SUBMIT A SUMMARIZED REPORT ON THE GRANT
7 PROGRAM TO THE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEES OF THE
8 SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, OR ANY SUCCESSOR
9 COMMITTEES, AND TO THE GOVERNOR. AT A MINIMUM, THE REPORT MUST
10 INCLUDE THE NUMBER AND AMOUNT OF GRANTS AWARDED SINCE THE
11 LAST REPORT AND A SUMMARY OF INFORMATION CONCERNING THE
12 PERFORMANCE INDICATORS USED TO ASSESS THE POVERTY-REDUCTION
13 OUTCOMES AND IMPACTS OF GRANTS AWARDED PURSUANT TO THIS
14 ARTICLE 25.

15 (3) NOTWITHSTANDING SECTION 24-1-136 (11)(a)(I), THE
16 REPORTING REQUIREMENTS SET FORTH IN THIS SECTION CONTINUE
17 INDEFINITELY.

18 **26-25-107. Cradle to career grant program cash fund - grant**
19 **program funding.**

20 (1) THE CRADLE TO CAREER GRANT PROGRAM CASH FUND IS
21 CREATED IN THE STATE TREASURY. THE FUND CONSISTS OF GIFTS, GRANTS,
22 AND DONATIONS CREDITED TO THE FUND PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (2) OF
23 THIS SECTION AND ANY OTHER MONEY THAT THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY MAY
24 APPROPRIATE OR TRANSFER TO THE FUND.

25 (2) THE STATE DEPARTMENT MAY SEEK, ACCEPT, AND EXPEND
26 GIFTS, GRANTS, OR DONATIONS FROM PRIVATE OR PUBLIC SOURCES FOR
27 THE PURPOSES OF THIS ARTICLE 25. THE STATE DEPARTMENT SHALL

1 TRANSMIT ALL MONEY RECEIVED THROUGH GIFTS, GRANTS, OR DONATIONS
2 TO THE STATE TREASURER, WHO SHALL CREDIT THE MONEY TO THE FUND.

3 (3) THE STATE TREASURER SHALL CREDIT ALL INTEREST AND
4 INCOME DERIVED FROM THE DEPOSIT AND INVESTMENT OF MONEY IN THE
5 FUND TO THE FUND.

6 (4) SUBJECT TO ANNUAL APPROPRIATION BY THE GENERAL
7 ASSEMBLY, THE STATE DEPARTMENT MAY EXPEND ANY STATE MONEY
8 FROM THE FUND FOR THE PURPOSES SPECIFIED IN THIS ARTICLE 25.

9 (5) (a) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SHALL ANNUALLY APPROPRIATE
10 MONEY FROM THE FUND TO THE STATE DEPARTMENT TO IMPLEMENT THE
11 GRANT PROGRAM.

12 (b) FOR FISCAL YEAR 2026-27, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SHALL
13 NOT APPROPRIATE GENERAL FUND MONEY FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS
14 ARTICLE 25. NOTWITHSTANDING SECTION 24-75-1305, FOR STATE FISCAL
15 YEAR 2027-28 AND ANY SUBSEQUENT FISCAL YEAR, THE GENERAL
16 ASSEMBLY MAY APPROPRIATE MONEY FROM THE GENERAL FUND FOR THE
17 PURPOSES OF THIS ARTICLE 25. AN APPROPRIATION FROM THE GENERAL
18 FUND FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS ARTICLE 25 MUST NOT EXCEED FIFTY
19 PERCENT OF THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF GIFTS, GRANTS, AND DONATIONS
20 CREDITED TO THE FUND IN THE PRIOR CALENDAR YEAR.

21 **26-25-108. Repeal of article - review of functions.**

22 THIS ARTICLE 25 IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 1, 2033.
23 BEFORE THE REPEAL, THIS ARTICLE 25 IS SCHEDULED FOR REVIEW IN
24 ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 24-34-104.

25 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-34-104, **add**
26 (34)(a)(XIV) as follows:

27 **24-34-104. General assembly review of regulatory agencies**

1 **and functions for repeal, continuation, or reestablishment - legislative**
2 **declaration - repeal.**

3 (34) (a) The following agencies, functions, or both, are scheduled
4 for repeal on September 1, 2033:

5 (XIV) THE CRADLE TO CAREER GRANT PROGRAM AND THE CRADLE
6 TO CAREER ADVISORY BOARD CREATED IN ARTICLE 25 OF TITLE 26.

7 **SECTION 3. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act
8 takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the
9 ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly (August
10 12, 2026, if adjournment sine die is on May 13, 2026); except that, if a
11 referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V of the
12 state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this act
13 within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take effect
14 unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in
15 November 2026 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the
16 official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.