

Second Regular Session
Seventy-fifth General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO

ENGROSSED

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

LLS NO. 26-0921.01 Jed Franklin x5484

HOUSE BILL 26-1397

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Sirota and Taggart, Brown

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Amabile and Bridges, Kirkmeyer

House Committees
Appropriations

Senate Committees

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 **CONCERNING THE USE OF GENERAL FUND MONEY TO SUPPORT**
102 **BENEFITS PROVIDED TO CERTAIN PUBLIC SAFETY PERSONNEL**
103 **THROUGH A MULTIPLE EMPLOYER HEALTH TRUST, AND, IN**
104 **CONNECTION THEREWITH, REDUCING AN APPROPRIATION.**

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/>.)

Joint Budget Committee. Current law requires the state treasurer to transfer \$2.5 million to the firefighter benefits cash fund from the general fund on July 1, 2028, and on each July 1 thereafter, sufficient

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.

HOUSE
Amended 2nd Reading
April 9, 2026

funds, subject to annual appropriation, to reimburse employers for the direct costs of providing certain benefits to firefighters and volunteer firefighters. Current law also requires the general assembly to appropriate \$650,000 from the general fund to the department of local affairs (department) on July 1, 2026, \$1 million from the general fund to the department on July 1, 2027, to reduce participating employer contributions to a multiple employer health trust (trust) for volunteer firefighters and part-time firefighters. The bill repeals the required transfers and required appropriations.

Current law requires the general assembly to appropriate money from the general fund to the division of criminal justice in the department of public safety for the purpose of reimbursing a multiple employer health trust for the direct costs of providing cardiac and other health screenings for peace officers as follows:

- \$350,000 for the state fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026;
- \$500,000 for the state fiscal year beginning July 1, 2027;
- \$1 million for the state fiscal year beginning July 1, 2028; and
- On each July 1 thereafter, sufficient funds.

The bill repeals these required appropriations.

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

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 29-5-302, **amend**
3 (11)(a)(II) and (11)(a)(III) as follows:

4 **29-5-302. Required benefits - conditions of receiving benefits**
5 **- repeal.**

6 [REDACTED]

7 (11)(a)(II) The general assembly shall appropriate three hundred
8 thousand dollars for the state fiscal year beginning on July 1, 2024, [REDACTED]
9 five hundred thousand dollars for the state fiscal year beginning on July
10 1, 2025, ~~six hundred fifty thousand dollars for the state fiscal year~~
11 ~~beginning on July 1, 2026,~~ and one million dollars for the state fiscal year
12 beginning on July 1, 2027, from the general fund to the department of
13 local affairs to reduce participating employer contributions for volunteer
14 firefighters and part-time firefighters. Money appropriated pursuant to

1 this subsection (11)(a)(II) shall be first used to reduce participating
2 employer contributions for volunteer firefighters and the remainder shall
3 be first used for part-time firefighters and any remaining amounts may
4 then be used for full-time firefighters.

5 (III) Subsection (11)(a)(II) of this section is repealed, effective
6 July 1, 2028.

7 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 29-5-604, **amend**
8 **(3)(a)(I)(A); and repeal (3)(a)(I)(C) as follows:**

9 **29-5-604. Employer participation in health trust required -**
10 **cardiovascular screening for peace officers - repeal.**

11 (3) (a) (I) The general assembly shall appropriate money from the
12 general fund or any other authorized source to the division of criminal
13 justice within the department of public safety for the purpose of
14 reimbursing a multiple employer health trust for the direct costs of
15 providing a program as required by this part 6 as follows:

16 (A) For the state fiscal year beginning on July 1, 2024, the general
17 assembly shall appropriate two hundred thousand dollars from the general
18 fund to the division of criminal justice in the department of public safety
19 to be used for the purpose set forth in this subsection (3)(a)(I);

20 ~~(C) For the state fiscal year beginning on July 1, 2026, the general~~
21 ~~assembly shall appropriate three hundred fifty thousand dollars from the~~
22 ~~general fund to the division of criminal justice in the department of public~~
23 ~~safety to be used for the purpose set forth in this subsection (3)(a)(I);~~

24
25 **SECTION 3. Appropriation - adjustments to 2026 long bill.**

26 (1) Except as provided in subsection (3) of this section, to implement this
27 act, appropriations made in the annual general appropriation act for the

1 2026-27 state fiscal year to the department of local affairs for use by the
2 division of local government are adjusted as follows:

3 (a) The general fund appropriation for firefighter heart and
4 circulatory malfunction benefits is decreased by \$150,000; and

5 (b) The reappropriated funds appropriation from the firefighter
6 benefits cash fund created in section 29-5-302 (11)(a), C.R.S., for
7 firefighter heart and circulatory malfunction benefits is decreased by
8 \$150,000.

9 (2) Except as provided in subsection (4) of this section, to
10 implement this act, the general fund appropriation made in the annual
11 general appropriation act for the 2026-27 state fiscal year to the
12 department of public safety for use by the division of criminal justice for
13 first responder employer health benefit trusts is decreased by \$100,000.

14 (3) Subsection (1) of this section does not require a reduction of
15 an appropriation in the annual general appropriation act for the 2026-27
16 state fiscal year if:

17 (a) The amount of the general fund appropriation made in the
18 annual general appropriation act for the 2026-27 state fiscal year to the
19 department of local affairs for use by the division of local government for
20 firefighter heart and circulatory malfunction benefits is less than the
21 amount of the adjustment required in subsection (1)(a) of this section;

22 (b) The amount of the reappropriated funds appropriation from the
23 firefighter benefits cash fund created in section 29-5-302 (11)(a), C.R.S.,
24 made in the annual general appropriation act for the 2026-27 state fiscal
25 year to the department of local affairs for use by the division of local
26 government for firefighter heart and circulatory malfunction benefits, is
27 less than the amount of the adjustment required in subsection (1)(b) of

1 this section; or

2 (c) The annual general appropriation act for the 2026-27 state
3 fiscal year does not include an appropriation to the department of local
4 affairs for use by the division of local government for firefighter heart
5 and circulatory malfunction benefits.

6 (4) Subsection (2) of this section does not require a reduction of
7 an appropriation in the annual general appropriation act for the 2026-27
8 state fiscal year if:

9 (a) The amount of the general fund appropriation made in the
10 annual general appropriation act for the 2026-27 state fiscal year to the
11 department of public safety for use by the division of criminal justice for
12 first responder employer health benefit trusts is less than the amount of
13 the adjustment required in subsection (2) of this section; or

14 (b) The annual general appropriation act for the 2026-27 state
15 fiscal year does not include an appropriation to the department of public
16 safety for use by the division of criminal justice for first responder
17 employer health benefit trusts.

18 **SECTION 4. Effective date.** This act takes effect upon passage;
19 except that section 3 of this act takes effect only if the annual general
20 appropriation act for the 2026-27 state fiscal year becomes law, in which
21 case section 3 takes effect upon the effective date of this act or of the
22 annual general appropriation act for state fiscal year 2026-27, whichever
23 is later.

24 **SECTION 5. Safety clause.** The general assembly finds,
25 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate

1 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety or for appropriations for
2 the support and maintenance of the departments of the state and state
3 institutions.