

**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. 26-0661.01 Anna Petrini x5497

SENATE BILL 26-080

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Coleman and Simpson,

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Lukens and English,

Senate Committees

Local Government & Housing
Appropriations

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.

SENATE
Amended 2nd Reading
April 10, 2026

1 (2) "COUNCIL" MEANS THE CRADLE TO CAREER ADVISORY COUNCIL
2 CREATED IN SECTION 26-25-104.

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

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

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

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

14 (7) "LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER" MEANS:

15 (a) A SCHOOL DISTRICT;

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

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

20 (d) A BOARD OF COOPERATIVE SERVICES CREATED AND OPERATING
21 PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 5 OF TITLE 22.

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; TO HELP CHILDREN AND YOUTH MAKE SMOOTH TRANSITIONS
16 THROUGHOUT THE SECONDARY AND POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION
17 SYSTEMS; AND TO CREATE WEALTH BUILDING OPPORTUNITIES THAT
18 PROMOTE LIFELONG FINANCIAL SECURITY.

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

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

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

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

27 (III) ADEQUATE NUTRITION AND HEALTH CARE, INCLUDING

1 MATERNAL, BEHAVIORAL, AND MENTAL HEALTH CARE; AND

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

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

9 (c) PROVIDING HIGH-QUALITY EDUCATIONAL AND ACADEMIC
10 ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR K-12 STUDENTS THAT SUPPLEMENT BUT
11 DO NOT SUPPLANT INSTRUCTIONAL TIME, INCLUDING OUT-OF-SCHOOL-TIME
12 PROGRAMS THAT:

13 (I) FOCUS ON SPORTS AND FITNESS, CHARACTER AND LEADERSHIP,
14 OR ARTS AND CULTURE; AND

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

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

22 (e) USING ASSET-BUILDING STRATEGIES TO ADDRESS WEALTH
23 DISPARITIES AND INCREASE ACCESS TO HIGHER EDUCATION, HOME
24 OWNERSHIP, AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR ENTREPRENEURSHIP;

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

1 (g) LEVERAGING ADDITIONAL FEDERAL, LOCAL, OR PRIVATE
2 FUNDING FOR POVERTY REDUCTION INITIATIVES IN THE ELIGIBLE ENTITY'S
3 DESIGNATED SERVICE AREA.

4 (3) THE STATE DEPARTMENT SHALL ADMINISTER THE GRANT
5 PROGRAM AND, SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS, SHALL AWARD
6 GRANTS AS PROVIDED IN THIS ARTICLE 25. GRANTS MUST BE PAID OUT OF
7 THE CRADLE TO CAREER GRANT PROGRAM CASH FUND CREATED IN
8 SECTION 26-25-107.

9 (4) THE STATE DEPARTMENT SHALL IMPLEMENT THE GRANT
10 PROGRAM IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS ARTICLE 25. THE STATE
11 DEPARTMENT SHALL ADOPT THE RULES REQUIRED IN THIS ARTICLE 25 AND
12 ANY ADDITIONAL RULES NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT THE GRANT PROGRAM.

13 (5) (a) THE STATE DEPARTMENT, IN COLLABORATION WITH THE
14 COUNCIL, SHALL DEVELOP AND MAKE AVAILABLE PROGRAM GUIDELINES,
15 INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO:

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

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

26 (III) PROCESSES FOR AN ELIGIBLE ENTITY TO SOLICIT AND
27 INCORPORATE INTO ITS COMPREHENSIVE PROPOSAL INPUT FROM

1 ORGANIZATIONS AND INDIVIDUALS IN THE COMMUNITY PURSUANT TO
2 SUBSECTION (5)(b)(III) OF THIS SECTION.

3 (b) IN ADDITION TO THE GUIDELINES DEVELOPED PURSUANT TO
4 SUBSECTION (5)(a) OF THIS SECTION, THE STATE DEPARTMENT, IN
5 COLLABORATION WITH THE COUNCIL, SHALL DEVELOP CRITERIA FOR
6 AWARDING GRANTS, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE FOLLOWING
7 REQUIREMENTS:

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

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

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

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

1 (c) AN ELIGIBLE ENTITY THAT RECEIVES A GRANT AWARD
2 PURSUANT TO THIS ARTICLE 25 MUST:

3 (I) COMPLY WITH ALL APPLICABLE STATE AND LOCAL HEALTH AND
4 SAFETY REGULATIONS;

5 (II) REQUIRE ITS EMPLOYEES TO SUBMIT TO A NAME-BASED
6 CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORD CHECK;

7 (III) REQUIRE EVIDENCE OF FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY,
8 INCLUDING BONDING OR LICENSURE, FOR EMPLOYEES INVOLVED IN THE
9 ELIGIBLE ENTITY'S FINANCIAL AFFAIRS;

10 (IV) COMPLY WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE "COLORADO OPEN
11 RECORDS ACT", PART 2 OF ARTICLE 72 OF TITLE 24;

12 (V) DELIVER SERVICES OR ACCEPT PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS
13 WITHOUT REGARD TO RACE, COLOR, NATIONAL ORIGIN, CREED, SEX,
14 GENDER IDENTITY, ETHNICITY, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, MENTAL OR
15 PHYSICAL DISABILITY, ATHLETIC PERFORMANCE, PROFICIENCY IN THE
16 ENGLISH LANGUAGE, OR PAST ACADEMIC OR DISCIPLINARY HISTORY; AND

17 (VI) COMPLY WITH ALL APPLICABLE STATE AND FEDERAL LAWS
18 PROHIBITING DISCRIMINATION, INCLUDING TITLE IX OF THE FEDERAL
19 "EDUCATION AMENDMENTS OF 1972", THE FEDERAL "AMERICANS WITH
20 DISABILITIES ACT OF 1990", SECTION 504 OF THE FEDERAL
21 "REHABILITATION ACT OF 1973", AND TITLES VI AND VII OF THE FEDERAL
22 "CIVIL RIGHTS ACT OF 1964.

23 (d) 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 COUNCIL.

1 (6) THE STATE DEPARTMENT IS ONLY REQUIRED TO IMPLEMENT
2 SECTIONS 26-25-103 (3), 26-25-103 (4), 26-25-103 (5), 26-25-104,
3 26-25-105, AND 26-25-106 IF THE SECTIONS BECOME EFFECTIVE PURSUANT
4 TO SECTION 26-25-108. THE WORK OF THE STATE DEPARTMENT, THE
5 BOARD, OR ANY OTHER ENTITY CONDUCTED PURSUANT TO THIS ARTICLE
6 25 IS CONTINGENT ON MONEY BEING AVAILABLE TO IMPLEMENT THIS
7 ARTICLE 25.

8 **26-25-104. Cradle to career advisory council - created - duties**
9 **- repeal.**

10 (1) THE CRADLE TO CAREER ADVISORY COUNCIL IS CREATED IN THE
11 STATE DEPARTMENT.

12

13 (2) (a) THE COUNCIL CONSISTS OF THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS:

14 (I) THE GOVERNOR SHALL APPOINT:

15 (A) ONE MEMBER WHO IS AN EDUCATOR WITH EXPERIENCE IN
16 EARLY CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION;

17 (B) ONE MEMBER WHO IS A REPRESENTATIVE OF A NONPROFIT
18 ORGANIZATION OR INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION WITH EXPERTISE
19 IN MEASURING CHILD AND YOUTH POVERTY AND IMPLEMENTING POLICIES
20 TO ALLEVIATE IT; AND

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

23 (II) THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE SHALL APPOINT A MEMBER
24 WHO, AT THE TIME OF APPOINTMENT, HAS BEEN SERVING IN A
25 PROFESSIONAL CAPACITY AT A COLORADO PUBLIC SCHOOL OR SCHOOL
26 DISTRICT FOR AT LEAST THREE YEARS, AND WHO HAS HAD DIRECT
27 RESPONSIBILITY FOR AND ACTIVELY PARTICIPATED IN THE

1 IMPLEMENTATION OF A COMPREHENSIVE COMMUNITY SCHOOL STRATEGY.

2 (III) THE MINORITY LEADER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
3 SHALL APPOINT A REPRESENTATIVE OF AN ELIGIBLE ENTITY WHO HAS
4 EXPERTISE IN ECONOMIC MOBILITY ISSUES.

5 (b) IN APPOINTING THE MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL, THE
6 APPOINTING AUTHORITIES SHALL CONSIDER ETHNICITY, GENDER, AND
7 GEOGRAPHIC REPRESENTATION TO PROMOTE DIVERSE COUNCIL
8 MEMBERSHIP.

9 (c) THE APPOINTING AUTHORITIES SHALL MAKE THE INITIAL
10 APPOINTMENTS TO THE COUNCIL NO LATER THAN ONE MONTH AFTER THE
11 EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS SECTION.

12 (d) EACH MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL WHO IS APPOINTED PURSUANT
13 TO THIS SECTION SERVES AT THE PLEASURE OF THE COUNCIL MEMBER'S
14 RESPECTIVE APPOINTING AUTHORITY. THE TERM OF APPOINTMENT IS FOUR
15 YEARS; EXCEPT THAT THE TERM OF EACH MEMBER INITIALLY APPOINTED
16 PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION IS TWO YEARS.

17 (3) MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL SERVE WITHOUT COMPENSATION.

18 (4) (a) NO LATER THAN TWO MONTHS AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE
19 OF THIS SECTION, BUT NOT BEFORE OCTOBER 1, 2026, THE EXECUTIVE
20 DIRECTOR SHALL ORGANIZE AND CONVENE THE FIRST MEETING OF THE
21 COUNCIL.

22 (b) THE COUNCIL SHALL ELECT A CHAIR FROM AMONG THE
23 COUNCIL'S MEMBERS TO SERVE FOR A TERM NOT TO EXCEED TWO YEARS,
24 AS DETERMINED BY THE COUNCIL. A MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL IS NOT
25 ELIGIBLE TO SERVE AS CHAIR FOR MORE THAN TWO SUCCESSIVE TERMS.

26 (c) THE COUNCIL SHALL MEET AT LEAST TWO TIMES PER YEAR. THE
27 CHAIR MAY CALL ADDITIONAL MEETINGS AS ARE NECESSARY FOR THE

1 COUNCIL TO COMPLETE ITS DUTIES.

2 (5) THE COUNCIL SHALL:

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

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

8 **26-25-105. Cradle to career grant program - application -**
9 **awards.**

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

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

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

16 (II) ANALYZES EXISTING CONDITIONS AND ECONOMIC MOBILITY
17 OPPORTUNITIES FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH AND THEIR FAMILIES IN THE
18 DESIGNATED SERVICE AREA; AND

19 (III) INCLUDES QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DATA
20 MEASURING POVERTY, DEMOGRAPHIC DISPARITIES, AND NEEDS WITHIN THE
21 DESIGNATED SERVICE AREA IN CONNECTION WITH EACH OF THE
22 PERMISSIBLE USES OF GRANT MONEY IDENTIFIED IN SECTION 26-25-103 (2),
23 AND SPECIFIES AT LEAST ONE POLICY AREA AS THE FOCAL POINT FOR
24 INTERVENTION;

25 (b) A PROPOSAL FOR THE FORMATION OF A FORMAL PARTNERSHIP
26 WITH OTHER ELIGIBLE ENTITIES THAT CAN PROVIDE COMPLEMENTARY
27 COMMUNITY RESOURCES IN THE APPLICANT'S DESIGNATED SERVICE AREA.

1 THE PROPOSAL FOR THE FORMATION OF A FORMAL PARTNERSHIP MUST
2 IDENTIFY ALL PROSPECTIVE SUBCONTRACTED ENTITIES AND DESCRIBE HOW
3 MONEY RECEIVED THROUGH A GRANT AWARDED PURSUANT TO THIS
4 ARTICLE 25 WILL BE ALLOCATED.

5 (c) A COMPREHENSIVE PROPOSAL:

6 (I) TO DEVELOP OR EXPAND COORDINATED COMMUNITY-BASED
7 SUPPORTS AND SERVICES THAT OPEN OPPORTUNITIES FOR ECONOMIC
8 MOBILITY FROM POVERTY IN THE DESIGNATED SERVICE AREA;

9 (II) THAT LEVERAGES A PARTNERSHIP PROPOSED PURSUANT TO
10 SUBSECTION (1)(b) OF THIS SECTION TO PROVIDE A COORDINATED
11 CONTINUUM OF SUPPORTS AND SERVICES THAT OPEN OPPORTUNITIES FOR
12 ECONOMIC MOBILITY FROM POVERTY; AND

13 (III) THAT PRIORITIZES CONNECTING CHILDREN AND YOUTH WITH
14 HIGH-QUALITY EDUCATIONAL, EXTRACURRICULAR, OR WORKFORCE
15 PROGRAMMING OR FAMILIES WITH KEY HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES IN
16 ACCORDANCE WITH THE AREAS OF GREATEST NEED IDENTIFIED IN THE
17 ECONOMIC MOBILITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT SUBMITTED PURSUANT TO
18 SUBSECTION (1)(a) OF THIS SECTION.

19 (2) TWO OR MORE ELIGIBLE ENTITIES MAY JOINTLY APPLY FOR A
20 GRANT AWARD TO DELIVER SERVICES ON A REGIONAL BASIS AND MAY
21 RECEIVE A JOINT GRANT AWARD THAT IS THE AGGREGATE OF THE
22 AMOUNTS EACH INDIVIDUAL ELIGIBLE ENTITY WOULD HAVE RECEIVED HAD
23 EACH ELIGIBLE ENTITY APPLIED INDEPENDENTLY.

24 (3) THE STATE DEPARTMENT SHALL REVIEW ALL APPLICATIONS
25 RECEIVED PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION AND SELECT THE GRANT RECIPIENTS
26 AND THE AMOUNT OF EACH GRANT. THE STATE DEPARTMENT SHALL NOT
27 AWARD A GRANT WITHOUT THE PRIOR APPROVAL OF THE COUNCIL, AS

1 DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (4) OF THIS SECTION.

2 (4) THE STATE DEPARTMENT, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE
3 TIMELINES ADOPTED PURSUANT TO SECTION 26-25-103 (5)(c), SHALL
4 SUBMIT TO THE COUNCIL A LIST OF THE APPLICANTS CHOSEN TO RECEIVE
5 GRANTS. THE COUNCIL SHALL EITHER APPROVE OR DISAPPROVE THE
6 ENTIRE LIST OF ENTITIES BY RESPONDING TO THE STATE DEPARTMENT
7 WITHIN TWENTY DAYS AFTER SUBMISSION. IF THE COUNCIL DOES NOT
8 RESPOND TO THE STATE DEPARTMENT WITHIN TWENTY DAYS AFTER
9 RECEIPT OF THE LIST, THE LIST IS APPROVED. IF THE COUNCIL DISAPPROVES
10 THE LIST, THE STATE DEPARTMENT MAY SUBMIT A REPLACEMENT LIST
11 WITHIN THIRTY DAYS AFTER THE DISAPPROVAL.

12 (5) THE STATE DEPARTMENT SHALL AWARD EACH GRANT
13 APPROVED BY THE COUNCIL. EACH GRANT IS FOR A PERIOD OF FOUR
14 YEARS. AN ELIGIBLE ENTITY THAT RECEIVES A GRANT PURSUANT TO THIS
15 ARTICLE 25 MAY APPLY FOR A ONE- OR TWO-YEAR EXTENSION OF THE
16 GRANT PERIOD.

17 (6) THE STATE DEPARTMENT SHALL BEGIN AWARDING GRANTS
18 PURSUANT TO THIS ARTICLE 25 ONLY AFTER THE BALANCE OF THE FUND
19 REACHES OR EXCEEDS NINE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS. SUBJECT TO
20 AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS, ON OR BEFORE JULY 1, 2027, THE STATE
21 DEPARTMENT SHALL AWARD AT LEAST TWO GRANTS AS PROVIDED IN THIS
22 ARTICLE 25. SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS, ON OR BEFORE
23 JULY 1 IN EACH SUBSEQUENT YEAR OF THE GRANT PROGRAM, THE STATE
24 DEPARTMENT SHALL AWARD ADDITIONAL GRANTS AS PROVIDED IN THIS
25 ARTICLE 25.

26 (7) WITH THE STATE DEPARTMENT'S APPROVAL, AN ELIGIBLE
27 ENTITY MAY ENTER A FORMAL PARTNERSHIP, AS DESCRIBED IN

1 SUBSECTION (1) OF THIS SECTION, AND SUBCONTRACT WITH AND PAY
2 MONEY RECEIVED PURSUANT TO THIS ARTICLE 25 TO SUBCONTRACTED
3 ENTITIES TO PROVIDE A COORDINATED CONTINUUM OF SERVICES,
4 SUPPORTS, AND OPPORTUNITIES IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TERMS OF THE
5 FORMAL PARTNERSHIP. A FORMAL PARTNERSHIP MUST INCLUDE A LOCAL
6 GOVERNMENT, A LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER, AND A NONPROFIT OR
7 NOT-FOR-PROFIT COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATION.

8 (8) NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION OF THIS ARTICLE 25
9 TO THE CONTRARY, THE STATE DEPARTMENT IS NOT REQUIRED TO
10 IMPLEMENT THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ARTICLE 25 UNTIL THE BALANCE
11 OF THE FUND REACHES OR EXCEEDS NINE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS.

12 **26-25-106. Reporting requirements - performance indicators.**

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

- 17 (I) INCREASED FAMILY ECONOMIC SECURITY;
- 18 (II) INCREASED HOUSING SECURITY;
- 19 (III) PROGRESS TOWARD EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENTAL
20 MILESTONES, INCLUDING SCHOOL READINESS;
- 21 (IV) LOWER RATES OF JUVENILE DELINQUENCY, ADJUDICATION, OR
22 DETENTION;
- 23 (V) LOWER RATES OF FAMILY INVOLVEMENT WITH THE CHILD
24 WELFARE SYSTEM;
- 25 (VI) IMPROVED K-12 ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE;
- 26 (VII) HIGHER RATES OF HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION;
- 27 (VIII) IMPROVEMENTS IN THE RATES OF COLLEGE READINESS,

1 MATRICULATION, AND RETENTION AT INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER
2 EDUCATION;

- 3 (IX) ENROLLMENT IN WORKFORCE READINESS PROGRAMS;
- 4 (X) POSTSECONDARY CREDENTIAL ATTAINMENT; AND
- 5 (XI) INCREASED NET WORTH AND DECREASED WEALTH DISPARITY.

6 (b) ON OR BEFORE OCTOBER 1, 2028, AND EACH OCTOBER 1
7 THEREAFTER, EACH ELIGIBLE ENTITY THAT RECEIVES A GRANT THROUGH
8 THE GRANT PROGRAM SHALL SUBMIT TO THE STATE DEPARTMENT A
9 REPORT THAT ADDRESSES ITS PROGRESS ON THE APPLICABLE
10 PERFORMANCE INDICATORS DEVELOPED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (1)(a)
11 OF THIS SECTION. AT A MINIMUM, THE REPORT MUST ALSO INCLUDE THE
12 FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

- 13 (I) THE TOTAL NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS SERVED;
- 14 (II) THE DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION OF EACH INDIVIDUAL
15 SERVED; AND
- 16 (III) A DESCRIPTION OF THE SERVICES PROVIDED THROUGH THE
17 GRANT PROGRAM AND HOW THE SERVICES MEET ONE OR MORE OF THE
18 FOLLOWING ECONOMIC MOBILITY PRIORITIES:
 - 19 (A) PROMOTING FAMILY STABILITY AND WELL-BEING THROUGH
20 ACCESS TO SAFE, AFFORDABLE, AND STABLE HOUSING; HIGH-QUALITY
21 CHILD CARE AND EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAMS; ADEQUATE NUTRITION
22 AND HEALTH CARE; AND SUPPORTS AND SERVICES FOR CHILDREN AND
23 YOUTH WITH DISABILITIES;
 - 24 (B) IMPLEMENTING PUBLIC SAFETY PROTECTIONS, COMMUNITY
25 ENGAGEMENT STRATEGIES, AND INTERVENTIONS TO STRENGTHEN
26 FAMILIES;
 - 27 (C) PROVIDING HIGH-QUALITY EDUCATIONAL AND ACADEMIC

1 ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR K-12 STUDENTS THAT SUPPLEMENT BUT
2 DO NOT SUPPLANT INSTRUCTIONAL TIME, INCLUDING OUT-OF-SCHOOL-TIME
3 PROGRAMS;

4 (D) CONNECTING YOUTH TO QUALITY JOBS AND IN-DEMAND
5 OCCUPATIONS THROUGH POSTSECONDARY AND WORKFORCE READINESS
6 PROGRAMS;

7 (E) INCREASING ACCESS TO WEALTH-BUILDING OPPORTUNITIES
8 THROUGH ASSET-BUILDING STRATEGIES.

9 (F) COORDINATING AND ALIGNING PROGRAMS AND STRATEGIES
10 WITHIN A DESIGNATED SERVICE AREA, INCLUDING THE DEVELOPMENT OF
11 SHARED DATA SYSTEMS; AND

12 (G) SUCCESS IN LEVERAGING ADDITIONAL FEDERAL, LOCAL, AND
13 PRIVATE FUNDING FOR ECONOMIC MOBILITY INITIATIVES IN THE ELIGIBLE
14 ENTITY'S DESIGNATED SERVICE AREA.

15 (2) ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 31, 2028, AND EACH DECEMBER 31
16 THEREAFTER FOR THE DURATION OF THE GRANT PROGRAM, THE STATE
17 DEPARTMENT SHALL SUBMIT A SUMMARIZED REPORT ON THE GRANT
18 PROGRAM TO THE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEES OF THE
19 SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, OR ANY SUCCESSOR
20 COMMITTEES, AND TO THE GOVERNOR. AT A MINIMUM, THE REPORT MUST
21 INCLUDE THE NUMBER AND AMOUNT OF GRANTS AWARDED SINCE THE
22 LAST REPORT, THE AMOUNT OF GRANT MONEY AWARDED TO NON-PUBLIC
23 ENTITIES THROUGH THE GRANT PROGRAM, INFORMATION ABOUT
24 RELEVANT STAFF CREDENTIALS AND CERTIFICATIONS FOR EACH ELIGIBLE
25 ENTITY THAT RECEIVES A GRANT THROUGH THE GRANT PROGRAM, AND A
26 SUMMARY OF INFORMATION CONCERNING THE PERFORMANCE INDICATORS
27 USED TO ASSESS THE POVERTY-REDUCTION OUTCOMES AND IMPACTS OF

1 GRANTS AWARDED PURSUANT TO THIS ARTICLE 25.

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

5 **26-25-107. Cradle to career grant program cash fund - grant**
6 **program funding.**

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

12 (2) THE STATE DEPARTMENT MAY SEEK, ACCEPT, AND EXPEND
13 GIFTS, GRANTS, OR DONATIONS FROM PRIVATE OR PUBLIC SOURCES FOR
14 THE PURPOSES OF THIS ARTICLE 25. THE STATE DEPARTMENT SHALL
15 TRANSMIT ALL MONEY RECEIVED THROUGH GIFTS, GRANTS, OR DONATIONS
16 TO THE STATE TREASURER, WHO SHALL CREDIT THE MONEY TO THE FUND.

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

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

23 (5) (a) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SHALL ANNUALLY APPROPRIATE
24 MONEY FROM THE FUND TO THE STATE DEPARTMENT TO IMPLEMENT THE
25 GRANT PROGRAM.

26 (b) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SHALL NOT APPROPRIATE GENERAL
27 FUND MONEY FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS ARTICLE 25.

1 **26-25-108. Effective date - repeal of article - review of**
2 **functions.**

3 (1) SECTIONS 26-25-103 (3), 26-25-103 (4), 26-25-103 (5),
4 26-25-104, 26-25-105, AND 26-25-106 TAKE EFFECT IF THE DEPARTMENT
5 RECEIVES AT LEAST NINE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS FOR THE
6 PURPOSES OF THIS ARTICLE 25. THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SHALL NOTIFY
7 THE REVISOR OF STATUTES IN WRITING OF THE DATE ON WHICH THE
8 CONDITION SPECIFIED IN THIS SUBSECTION (1) HAS OCCURRED BY
9 EMAILING THE NOTICE TO REVISOROFSTATUTES.GA@COLEG.GOV.
10 SECTIONS 26-25-103 (3), 26-25-103 (4), 26-25-103 (5), 26-25-104,
11 26-25-105, AND 26-25-106 TAKE EFFECT UPON THE DATE IDENTIFIED IN
12 THE NOTICE THAT THE DEPARTMENT HAS RECEIVED AT LEAST NINE
13 HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS ARTICLE 25 OR,
14 IF THE NOTICE DOES NOT SPECIFY THAT DATE, UPON THE DATE OF THE
15 NOTICE TO THE REVISOR OF STATUTES.

16 (2) THIS ARTICLE 25 IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 1, 2033.
17 BEFORE THE REPEAL, THIS ARTICLE 25 IS SCHEDULED FOR REVIEW IN
18 ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 24-34-104.

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

21 **24-34-104. General assembly review of regulatory agencies**
22 **and functions for repeal, continuation, or reestablishment - legislative**
23 **declaration - repeal.**

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

26 (XIV) THE CRADLE TO CAREER GRANT PROGRAM AND THE CRADLE
27 TO CAREER ADVISORY COUNCIL CREATED IN ARTICLE 25 OF TITLE 26.

1 **SECTION 3. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act
2 takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the
3 ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly (August
4 12, 2026, if adjournment sine die is on May 13, 2026); except that, if a
5 referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V of the
6 state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this act
7 within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take effect
8 unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in
9 November 2026 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the
10 official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.