

Second Regular Session
Seventy-fifth General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 26-0425.01 Chelsea Princell x4335

HOUSE BILL 26-1429

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Brown and Sirota, Taggart

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Bridges and Kirkmeyer, Amabile

House Committees
Appropriations

Senate Committees

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 CONCERNING THE CONSOLIDATED ADMINISTRATION OF PUBLIC
102 ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS.

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. The bill requires the department of health care policy and financing, in coordination with the department of human services and the department of early childhood (state departments), to contract with a single county department of human or social services (county department) to administer a centralized member integrity service to conduct fraud investigations concerning eligibility for

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.

medicaid, the supplemental nutrition assistance program, the Colorado child care assistance program, temporary assistance for needy families, and adult financial programs (public assistance programs), and benefit overpayments. The bill creates the centralized member integrity service cash fund consisting of money recouped from member fraud investigations.

On or before September 1, 2026, the bill requires the state departments to establish aligned requirements for county departments to comply with through a performance-based contract established between the state departments and each county department. On or before January 1, 2027, the state departments shall enter into a performance-based contract with each county department. The performance-based contract must establish requirements for the state departments and county departments to comply with in administering public assistance programs and establish corrective action protocols that are consistently utilized by the state departments.

Beginning September 1, 2026, the bill requires the state departments to work together to establish a continuous quality improvement process to review data reported to the state departments by the county departments. Beginning January 1, 2027, the department of human services (department), in collaboration with the state departments, must annually submit a report to the joint budget committee that includes an update on the continuous quality improvement process and data on the impact of the continuous quality improvement process.

Beginning January 1, 2027, the department, in collaboration with the department of health care policy and financing and the department of early childhood, must publish county-level and statewide performance data for the public assistance programs on a monthly basis on the department's website.

Beginning July 1, 2028, the state departments must oversee a streamlined public benefits delivery model to coordinate and distribute eligibility and case processing work to county departments. In supervising the work of the public benefits delivery model, the state departments must designate up to 12 cohorts in the state that will work together to administer public assistance benefits. The state departments shall enter into performance-based contracts with each cohort, identifying the roles and responsibilities of the state departments and the cohorts for administering a new public benefits delivery model to ensure public assistance programs are administered consistently and uniformly across the public assistance programs in the state.

On or before July 1, 2026, the state departments must contract with a third-party contractor to help the state departments and county departments develop and implement a transition plan that must be followed when transitioning to the new public benefits delivery model. The bill establishes the implementation work group to work with the

third-party contractor to develop and implement the transition plan.

The bill establishes the state cross-departmental policy alignment team to align the policies of the public assistance programs to improve service delivery and outcomes for recipients of public assistance benefits.

The bill makes a household eligible for fuel assistance payments if the household has not received low-income energy assistance program assistance in the previous 12 months and if it is eligible for the standard utility allowance under federal law.

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

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

4 (a) In addition to near-term policy changes needed to stabilize the
5 safety net, Colorado must develop a comprehensive, long-term plan to
6 redesign the state's public benefits system to support cost mitigation,
7 increased administrative efficiency, and the delivery of higher-quality
8 services for individuals and families;

9 (b) To ensure effective change management and minimize
10 disruption to services for individuals and families, the approach to
11 redesigning the safety net must occur within established timelines and
12 include structured planning processes, intentional stakeholder
13 engagement, and regular progress reports to the general assembly;

14 (c) It is necessary for the department of human services, the
15 department of early childhood, and the department of health care policy
16 and financing, in partnership with counties and other interested
17 stakeholders, to conduct a structured, facilitated process in order to ensure
18 that on or before July 1, 2028, Colorado will operate a redesigned public
19 benefits delivery model consisting of no more than twelve cohorts of
20 counties working together to administer public assistance programs; and

21 (d) Because access to public benefits is fundamental to the health,

1 stability, and economic security of Colorado residents, the systems used
2 to administer those benefits must be accessible, efficient, and reliable.

3 (2) The general assembly further finds and declares that:

4 (a) The state's current benefits technology infrastructure is
5 fragmented, difficult to navigate, and imposes administrative burdens on
6 applicants, recipients, and staff who determine applicant eligibility, which
7 may limit access to services for eligible individuals and families;

8 (b) Modern, integrated technology systems are necessary to
9 support efficient program administration, improve recipient experience,
10 and ensure timely and effective delivery of benefits and services;

11 (c) Colorado has the opportunity to redesign its benefits
12 technology infrastructure through the development of a state-owned,
13 modular, and interoperable platform to improve coordination across
14 programs and enhance service delivery; and

15 (d) Redesigning the state's benefits technology infrastructure is
16 necessary to support effective program administration and service
17 delivery under the redesigned public benefits delivery model. The
18 redesign of the public benefits delivery model will be most effective
19 when the state agencies responsible for benefits administration coordinate
20 across programs, prioritize implementation of redesign efforts, and
21 provide reports to the general assembly regarding progress toward these
22 goals.

23 (3) Therefore, it is the intent of the general assembly that the
24 following principles guide benefits technology redesign:

25 (a) The state should develop and maintain a state-owned benefits
26 platform that supports modular design, interoperability, and long-term
27 adaptability and that enables the measurement of program outcomes and

1 user experience;

2 (b) The state should develop and maintain a centralized system
3 through which residents may access, apply for, and manage benefits
4 across multiple programs in a manner that is accessible to individuals of
5 all abilities, languages, and levels of digital access;

6 (c) The state should implement a whole-person approach to
7 benefits administration by streamlining and integrating intake, eligibility,
8 and enrollment processes to improve coordination and reduce
9 administrative burden on applicants, recipients, and staff who determine
10 applicant eligibility; and

11 (d) The state should ensure continuous improvement and
12 responsiveness by adopting modern product management practices in its
13 approach to benefits technology redesign, including ongoing user
14 research, state-led prioritization of system requirements and
15 enhancements, and iterative, agile development informed by performance
16 metrics and user experience data.

17 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 25.5-1-209 as
18 follows:

19 **25.5-1-209. Centralized member integrity service - transition**
20 **plan - member integrity service fund.**

21 (1) THE STATE DEPARTMENT, IN COORDINATION WITH THE
22 DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES AND THE DEPARTMENT OF EARLY
23 CHILDHOOD, SHALL CONTRACT WITH A SINGLE COUNTY DEPARTMENT TO
24 ADMINISTER THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE. THE
25 CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE MUST BE OPERATIONAL AND
26 UTILIZED ON JULY 1, 2027.

27 (2) THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE IS

1 RESPONSIBLE FOR CONDUCTING FRAUD INVESTIGATIONS FOR FRAUD
2 CLAIMS, FRAUD RECOVERY, FRAUD DISPUTE RESOLUTION CONFERENCES,
3 AND STATE-LEVEL FRAUD HEARINGS, CONCERNING PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY
4 OR FRAUD AFFECTING ELECTRONIC BENEFITS TRANSFER CARDS OR SIMILAR
5 CREDIT-CARD-TYPE DEVICES THROUGH WHICH FOOD STAMP OR CASH
6 ASSISTANCE BENEFITS MAY BE DELIVERED.

7 (3) THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE MUST BE
8 UTILIZED FOR THE FOLLOWING PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS:

9 (a) THE MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM ESTABLISHED PURSUANT
10 TO ARTICLES 4 TO 6 OF THIS TITLE 25.5;

11 (b) THE SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
12 ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO PART 3 OF ARTICLE 2 OF TITLE 26;

13 (c) THE COLORADO CHILD CARE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
14 ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO PART 1 OF ARTICLE 4 OF TITLE 26.5;

15 (d) THE TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES PROGRAM,
16 AS DEFINED IN SECTION 26-2-703; AND

17 (e) ADULT FINANCIAL PROGRAMS ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO PART
18 1 OF ARTICLE 2 OF TITLE 26, WHICH INCLUDES THE OLD AGE PENSION, AID
19 TO THE NEEDY DISABLED, AND HOME CARE ALLOWANCE.

20 (4) (a) BY JANUARY 1, 2027, THE STATE DEPARTMENTS SHALL
21 COLLABORATE WITH THE COUNTY DEPARTMENTS TO CREATE A TRANSITION
22 PLAN THAT MUST BE USED TO TRANSITION COUNTIES TO THE CENTRALIZED
23 MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE.

24 (b) THE TRANSITION PLAN MUST OUTLINE THE PARAMETERS FOR
25 COUNTY DEPARTMENT FRAUD AND PROGRAM INTEGRITY FUNCTIONS,
26 INCLUDING FRAUD CLAIMS, FRAUD RECOVERY, FRAUD DISPUTE
27 RESOLUTION CONFERENCES, AND STATE-LEVEL FRAUD HEARINGS,

1 RELATED TO THE PROGRAMS DETAILED IN SUBSECTION (3) OF THIS
2 SECTION.

3 (c) THE TRANSITION PLAN MUST INCLUDE A PHASED TRANSITION
4 PROCESS, WHICH BEGINS JULY 1, 2027, AND CONCLUDES WITH ALL FRAUD
5 AND PROGRAM INTEGRITY FUNCTIONS BEING CONDUCTED THROUGH THE
6 CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE BY JULY 1, 2028.

7 (d) A COUNTY DEPARTMENT SHALL CONTINUE TO CONDUCT AND
8 COMPLETE FRAUD PROGRAM INTEGRITY FUNCTIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH
9 ALL APPLICABLE STATE AND FEDERAL LAWS AND REGULATIONS UNTIL THE
10 COUNTY DEPARTMENT HAS TRANSITIONED TO THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER
11 INTEGRITY SERVICE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TRANSITION PLAN. ALL
12 FRAUD AND PROGRAM INTEGRITY FUNCTIONS, INCLUDING OPEN
13 INVESTIGATIONS, UNWORKED REFERRALS, AND RECOVERIES, MUST BE
14 TRANSFERRED TO THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE BY JULY
15 1, 2028.

16 (5)(a) THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE CASH FUND
17 IS CREATED IN THE STATE TREASURY. THE FUND CONSISTS OF RECOUPED
18 MONEY BY THE STATE DEPARTMENT THAT RESULTS FROM MEMBER FRAUD
19 INVESTIGATIONS AND ANY OTHER MONEY THAT THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
20 MAY APPROPRIATE OR TRANSFER TO THE FUND. SUBJECT TO ANNUAL
21 APPROPRIATION BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, MONEY IN THE FUND MAY BE
22 USED FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OF CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY
23 SERVICE FUNCTIONS AS REQUIRED BY THIS SECTION, INCLUDING
24 CONTRACTOR EXPENSES.

25 (b) THE STATE TREASURER SHALL CREDIT ALL INTEREST AND
26 INCOME DERIVED FROM THE DEPOSIT AND INVESTMENT OF MONEY IN THE
27 CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE CASH FUND TO THE FUND.

1 **SECTION 3.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 26-1-119.5 as
2 follows:

3 **26-1-119.5. State and county departments - minimum**
4 **requirements - state supervision - corrective action protocols -**
5 **definitions - legislative declaration.**

6 (1) (a) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FINDS AND DECLARES THAT:

7 (I) COLORADO CURRENTLY OPERATES A STATE-SUPERVISED,
8 COUNTY-ADMINISTERED HUMAN SERVICES SYSTEM IN WHICH COUNTIES
9 DELIVER SERVICES DIRECTLY TO RESIDENTS;

10 (II) CONSISTENT STATEWIDE PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENTS,
11 INCLUDING OVERSIGHT AND PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENT PROCESSES,
12 ARE NECESSARY TO ENSURE THAT INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES RECEIVE
13 SERVICES IN ACCORDANCE WITH STATE LAW, FEDERAL REQUIREMENTS,
14 AND PROGRAM STANDARDS;

15 (III) PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENTS, INCLUDING OVERSIGHT AND
16 CORRECTIVE ACTION PROCESSES, CURRENTLY VARY ACROSS PUBLIC
17 ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS ADMINISTERED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN
18 SERVICES, THE DEPARTMENT OF EARLY CHILDHOOD, AND THE
19 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE POLICY AND FINANCING, RESULTING IN
20 INCONSISTENCIES IN ACCOUNTABILITY, TRANSPARENCY, AND SUPPORT;
21 AND

22 (IV) ESTABLISHING A STANDARDIZED FRAMEWORK FOR
23 PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENTS, MONITORING, AND CORRECTIVE ACTION
24 THROUGH STREAMLINED CONTRACTS BETWEEN THE STATE AND COUNTIES
25 PROMOTES TRANSPARENCY, ACCOUNTABILITY, AND EFFECTIVE
26 PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN THE STATE AND COUNTIES TO DELIVER SERVICES
27 TO INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES.

1 (b) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FURTHER FINDS AND DECLARES THAT
2 A CONSISTENT CORRECTIVE ACTION FRAMEWORK MUST ENSURE:

- 3 (I) EARLY IDENTIFICATION OF PERFORMANCE CONCERNS;
- 4 (II) TIMELY TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND SUPPORT;
- 5 (III) CLEAR EXPECTATIONS FOR CORRECTIVE ACTIONS; AND
- 6 (IV) APPROPRIATE REMEDIAL MEASURES WHEN SYSTEMIC ISSUES
7 REMAIN UNRESOLVED.

8 (2) AS USED IN THIS SECTION, UNLESS THE CONTEXT OTHERWISE
9 REQUIRES:

10 (a) "ADULT FINANCIAL PROGRAMS" MEANS A STATE-RUN BENEFIT
11 ADMINISTERED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES THAT INCLUDES
12 THE OLD AGE PENSION, AID TO THE NEEDY DISABLED, AND HOME CARE
13 ALLOWANCE, AS DETAILED IN PART 1 OF ARTICLE 2 OF THIS TITLE 26.

14 (b) "CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN" MEANS A FORMAL PLAN FOR WHEN
15 A COUNTY DEPARTMENT FAILS TO MEET THE REQUIREMENTS OF A
16 PERFORMANCE-BASED CONTRACT, IN WHICH THE COUNTY IS A PARTY; A
17 PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENT PROCESS; OR APPLICABLE STATE OR
18 FEDERAL LAW.

19 (c) "PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS" MEANS THE MEDICAL
20 ASSISTANCE PROGRAM ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO ARTICLES 4 TO 6 OF
21 TITLE 25.5, THE SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
22 ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO PART 3 OF ARTICLE 2 OF THIS TITLE 26; THE
23 COLORADO CHILD CARE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM ESTABLISHED PURSUANT
24 TO PART 1 OF ARTICLE 4 OF THIS TITLE 26.5; THE TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE
25 FOR NEEDY FAMILIES PROGRAM, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 26-2-703; THE
26 OLD AGE PENSION PROGRAM ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO ARTICLE XXIV
27 OF THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION; AND ADULT FINANCIAL PROGRAMS.

1 (d) "STATE DEPARTMENTS" MEANS THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN
2 SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE POLICY AND FINANCING, AND
3 THE DEPARTMENT OF EARLY CHILDHOOD.

4 (3) ON OR BEFORE SEPTEMBER 1, 2026, THE STATE DEPARTMENTS
5 SHALL COLLABORATE TO ESTABLISH ALIGNED MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS
6 FOR COUNTY DEPARTMENTS THROUGH PERFORMANCE-BASED CONTRACTS,
7 TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE SPECIFIC STATE AND FEDERAL REQUIREMENTS
8 APPLICABLE TO EACH PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAM. PRIOR TO SEPTEMBER
9 1, 2026, THE STATE DEPARTMENTS SHALL SHARE DRAFT TEMPLATES OF
10 THE PERFORMANCE-BASED CONTRACT WITH THE COUNTY DEPARTMENTS
11 FOR REVIEW AND COMMENT.

12 (4) (a) ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 1, 2027, THE STATE DEPARTMENTS
13 SHALL ENTER INTO A PERFORMANCE-BASED CONTRACT WITH EACH
14 COUNTY DEPARTMENT FOR THE PURPOSES OF:

15 (I) ESTABLISHING REQUIREMENTS FOR THE STATE AND COUNTY
16 DEPARTMENTS FOR ADMINISTERING PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS;

17 (II) ESTABLISHING CORRECTIVE ACTION PROTOCOLS APPLICABLE
18 TO BOTH THE STATE DEPARTMENTS AND COUNTY DEPARTMENTS; AND

19 (III) CONSOLIDATING EXISTING CONTRACTS, MEMORANDA OF
20 UNDERSTANDING, AND OTHER AGREEMENTS RELATED TO THE
21 ADMINISTRATION OF PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS.

22 (b) EACH PERFORMANCE-BASED CONTRACT MUST INCLUDE, AT A
23 MINIMUM:

24 (I) MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR THE STATE DEPARTMENTS AND
25 COUNTY DEPARTMENTS;

26 (II) MEASURABLE OUTCOMES AND PERFORMANCE METRICS;

27 (III) CORRECTIVE ACTION PROTOCOLS AND CONSEQUENCES FOR A

1 COUNTY DEPARTMENT THAT FAILS TO MEET THE PERFORMANCE-BASED
2 CONTRACT REQUIREMENTS;

3 (IV) FOR COUNTY DEPARTMENTS, REQUIREMENTS TO MEET
4 PERFORMANCE THRESHOLDS IDENTIFIED IN THE PERFORMANCE-BASED
5 CONTRACT, INCLUDING:

6 (A) TRACKING METRICS THROUGH CONTINUOUS QUALITY
7 IMPROVEMENT PROCESSES;

8 (B) PUBLISHING PERFORMANCE DATA IN ACCORDANCE WITH
9 SECTION 26-1-144;

10 (C) ASSESSING METRICS INCLUDED IN MANAGEMENT
11 EVALUATIONS;

12 (D) ASSESSING METRICS INCLUDED IN QUALITY ASSURANCE
13 REVIEWS;

14 (E) TRACKING AND REPORTING DATA FOR CONTINUOUS QUALITY
15 IMPROVEMENT AND PUBLIC REPORTING;

16 (F) REQUIRING PARTICIPATION IN STATE-PROVIDED TRAINING AND
17 TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE;

18 (G) COMPLYING WITH CORRECTIVE ACTION PROTOCOLS; AND

19 (H) ASSESSING METRICS REQUIRED BY FEDERAL AGENCIES
20 OVERSEEING PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS; AND

21 (V) FOR THE STATE DEPARTMENTS, REQUIREMENTS TO MEET
22 PERFORMANCE THRESHOLDS, INCLUDING:

23 (A) PROVIDING FUNDING, TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, AND TRAINING
24 TO ENABLE COUNTY DEPARTMENTS TO PROCESS CASES AND SERVE
25 RECIPIENTS;

26 (B) MAINTAINING PRIMARY ACCOUNTABILITY TO THE FEDERAL
27 GOVERNMENT AND ENSURING COMPLIANCE WITH STATE AND FEDERAL

1 LAW;

2 (C) REQUIREMENTS CURRENTLY INCLUDED IN CONTRACTS,
3 MEMORANDA OF UNDERSTANDING, AND OTHER AGREEMENTS BETWEEN
4 THE STATE DEPARTMENTS AND COUNTY DEPARTMENTS;

5 (D) REQUIREMENTS FOR LEADING STATEWIDE CONTINUOUS
6 QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PROCESSES IN CONSULTATION WITH COUNTY
7 DEPARTMENTS; AND

8 (E) REQUIREMENTS TO PUBLISH PUBLIC-FACING PERFORMANCE
9 DATA ON A REGULAR BASIS.

10 (5)(a) THE STATE DEPARTMENTS RETAIN ULTIMATE SUPERVISORY
11 AUTHORITY OVER EACH COUNTY DEPARTMENT AND SHALL MONITOR EACH
12 COUNTY DEPARTMENT'S COMPLIANCE WITH PERFORMANCE-BASED
13 CONTRACTS, STATE LAW, AND FEDERAL LAW. MONITORING MUST INCLUDE,
14 AT A MINIMUM:

15 (I) DETERMINING THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT'S COMPLIANCE WITH
16 PROGRAM PERFORMANCE METRICS;

17 (II) QUALITY ASSURANCE REVIEWS;

18 (III) CASE OR REPORT REVIEWS;

19 (IV) AUDIT FINDINGS; AND

20 (V) COMPLIANCE MONITORING REQUIRED BY STATE OR FEDERAL
21 LAW.

22 (b) MONITORING MUST OCCUR AT LEAST MONTHLY, OR MORE
23 FREQUENTLY WHEN PROGRAM PERFORMANCE METRICS PERMIT.

24 (c) THE STATE DEPARTMENTS SHALL NOTIFY A COUNTY
25 DEPARTMENT OF PERFORMANCE CONCERNS WHEN:

26 (I) A COUNTY DEPARTMENT'S PERFORMANCE FAILS TO MEET
27 REQUIREMENTS OUTLINED IN THE PERFORMANCE-BASED CONTRACTS OR

1 THIS SECTION 26-1-119.5 FOR THREE CONSECUTIVE MONTHS; OR

2 (II) MONITORING IDENTIFIES SYSTEMIC PRACTICE OR COMPLIANCE
3 CONCERNS.

4 (d) UPON IDENTIFICATION OF A PERFORMANCE CONCERN, THE
5 DEPARTMENT SHALL PROVIDE WRITTEN NOTICE TO THE COUNTY
6 DEPARTMENT THAT INCLUDES:

7 (I) A DESCRIPTION OF THE CONCERN;

8 (II) APPLICABLE PERFORMANCE METRICS OR STANDARDS NOT
9 BEING MET;

10 (III) SUPPORTING DATA OR FINDINGS; AND

11 (IV) NOTICE OF WHETHER OR NOT A CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN IS
12 NECESSARY.

13 (e) A COUNTY DEPARTMENT HAS TEN BUSINESS DAYS AFTER
14 RECEIVING THE NOTICE REQUIRED BY SUBSECTION (5)(d) OF THIS SECTION
15 TO SUBMIT A WRITTEN DISPUTE OF THE FINDINGS OF A STATE
16 DEPARTMENT'S PERFORMANCE CONCERNS. THE STATE DEPARTMENTS
17 MUST RESPOND TO A COUNTY DEPARTMENT'S DISPUTE WITHIN TEN
18 BUSINESS DAYS AFTER RECEIVING NOTICE OF THE DISPUTE.

19 (f) THE STATE DEPARTMENTS SHALL PROVIDE TECHNICAL
20 ASSISTANCE, TRAINING, AND PROGRAM SUPPORT THROUGHOUT ALL
21 PHASES OF PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENT AND CORRECTIVE ACTION.

22 (6) (a) IF A CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN IS REQUIRED, THE COUNTY
23 DEPARTMENT SHALL SUBMIT THE CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN WITHIN TEN
24 BUSINESS DAYS AFTER RECEIVING NOTICE OF THE STATE DEPARTMENT'S
25 PERFORMANCE CONCERNS AS REQUIRED BY SUBSECTION (5)(d) OF THIS
26 SECTION.

27 (b) THE CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN MUST INCLUDE, AT A MINIMUM:

1 (I) A DESCRIPTION OF THE AREAS OF NONCOMPLIANCE OR
2 UNDERPERFORMANCE;

3 (II) REQUIRED CORRECTIVE ACTIONS;

4 (III) IMPLEMENTATION TIMELINES FOR THE CORRECTIVE ACTIONS;

5 (IV) MEASURABLE INDICATORS OF PROGRESS TOWARD
6 COMPLIANCE;

7 (V) REPORTING SCHEDULES;

8 (VI) A TARGET DATE FOR ACHIEVING COMPLIANCE, AS
9 DETERMINED BY THE STATE DEPARTMENTS; AND

10 (VII) A CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN MONITORING PERIOD THAT
11 COMPLIES WITH SUBSECTION (6)(d) OF THIS SECTION.

12 (c) WITHIN TEN BUSINESS DAYS AFTER THE COUNTY
13 DEPARTMENT'S SUBMISSION OF A CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN, AS REQUIRED
14 BY SUBSECTION (6)(a) OF THIS SECTION, THE STATE DEPARTMENT SHALL
15 APPROVE THE CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN OR REQUEST MODIFICATIONS TO
16 THE CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN.

17 (d) THE CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN MONITORING PERIOD MUST BE
18 NO MORE THAN SIX MONTHS AND MAY INCLUDE CASE REVIEWS, SITE
19 VISITS, STAFF INTERVIEWS, DATA ANALYSIS, OR OTHER APPROPRIATE
20 MEASURES.

21 (e) THE STATE DEPARTMENTS MAY EXTEND THE CORRECTIVE
22 ACTION PLAN MONITORING PERIOD ONLY WHEN NECESSARY TO ACCOUNT
23 FOR DATA AVAILABILITY OR A REPORTING DELAY. AN EXTENSION MUST BE
24 BASED ON OBJECTIVE CRITERIA, APPLIED CONSISTENTLY ACROSS COUNTY
25 DEPARTMENTS, AND DOCUMENTED IN WRITING.

26 (f) CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN REQUIREMENTS MUST BE ALIGNED
27 ACROSS STATE DEPARTMENTS TO ENSURE UNIFORMITY, TAKING INTO

1 ACCOUNT DIFFERENCES IN STATE AND FEDERAL REQUIREMENTS FOR THE
2 INDIVIDUAL PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS.

3 (7) (a) IF A COUNTY DEPARTMENT FAILS TO COMPLY WITH A
4 PERFORMANCE-BASED CONTRACT OR AN APPROVED CORRECTIVE ACTION
5 PLAN, THE STATE DEPARTMENT MAY IMPOSE SANCTIONS.

6 (b) SANCTIONS MAY INCLUDE:

7 (I) DISALLOWANCE OF STATE FUNDS;

8 (II) ASSIGNMENT OF PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION TO ANOTHER
9 COUNTY DEPARTMENT; OR

10 (III) ASSUMPTION OF PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION BY A STATE
11 DEPARTMENT.

12 (c) IF NONCOMPLIANCE PRESENTS AN IMMINENT RISK TO THE
13 HEALTH OR SAFETY OF RECIPIENTS, THE STATE DEPARTMENTS MAY TAKE
14 IMMEDIATE ACTION AS AUTHORIZED BY LAW.

15 (8) THIS SECTION DOES NOT RESTRICT OR AFFECT THE POWERS,
16 DUTIES, OR FUNCTIONS OF A STATE DEPARTMENT AS AUTHORIZED OR
17 REQUIRED PURSUANT TO ANY OTHER PROVISION OF STATE LAW.

18 **SECTION 4.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 26-1-143 as
19 follows:

20 **26-1-143. Continuous quality improvement.**

21 (1) ON OR BEFORE SEPTEMBER 1, 2026, THE DEPARTMENT OF
22 HUMAN SERVICES, IN COLLABORATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
23 CARE POLICY AND FINANCING AND DEPARTMENT OF EARLY CHILDHOOD,
24 AND IN CONSULTATION WITH THE COUNTY DEPARTMENTS, SHALL
25 ESTABLISH A CONTINUOUS QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PROCESS TO REVIEW
26 THE METRICS REPORTED THROUGH COUNTY-LEVEL AND STATEWIDE
27 PERFORMANCE DATA, ERROR RATES, AND OTHER ERRORS AND

1 INCONSISTENCIES TO IDENTIFY ROOT CAUSES AND IMPLEMENT STRATEGIES
2 TO IMPROVE ACCURACY AND CONSISTENCY IN ELIGIBILITY
3 DETERMINATIONS.

4 (2) ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 1, 2027, AND ON OR BEFORE EVERY
5 JANUARY 1 THEREAFTER, THE DEPARTMENT, IN COLLABORATION WITH THE
6 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE POLICY AND FINANCING AND DEPARTMENT
7 OF EARLY CHILDHOOD, SHALL SUBMIT A REPORT TO THE JOINT BUDGET
8 COMMITTEE PROVIDING AN UPDATE ON THE CONTINUOUS QUALITY
9 IMPROVEMENT PROCESS AND DATA ON THE IMPACT OF THE CONTINUOUS
10 QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PROCESS ON THE METRICS INCLUDED IN THE
11 PROCESS.

12 **SECTION 5.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 26-1-144 as
13 follows:

14 **26-1-144. Data transparency and public reporting -**
15 **definitions.**

16 (1) AS USED IN THIS SECTION, UNLESS THE CONTEXT OTHERWISE
17 REQUIRES:

18 (a) "ADULT FINANCIAL PROGRAMS" MEANS A STATE-RUN BENEFIT
19 ADMINISTERED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES AND INCLUDES
20 THE OLD AGE PENSION, AID TO THE NEEDY DISABLED, AND HOME CARE
21 ALLOWANCE.

22 (b) "PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS" MEANS THE MEDICAL
23 ASSISTANCE PROGRAM ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO ARTICLES 4 TO 6 OF
24 TITLE 25.5; THE SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
25 ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO PART 3 OF ARTICLE 2 OF THIS TITLE 26; THE
26 COLORADO CHILD CARE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM ESTABLISHED PURSUANT
27 TO PART 1 OF ARTICLE 4 OF TITLE 26.5; THE TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR

1 NEEDY FAMILIES PROGRAM, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 26-2-703; THE OLD
2 AGE PENSION PROGRAM ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO ARTICLE XXIV OF
3 THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION; AND ADULT FINANCIAL PROGRAMS.

4 (c) "STATE DEPARTMENTS" MEANS THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN
5 SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE POLICY AND FINANCING, AND
6 THE DEPARTMENT OF EARLY CHILDHOOD.

7 (2) BEGINNING JANUARY 2027, AND MONTHLY THEREAFTER, THE
8 DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES, IN COLLABORATION WITH THE
9 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE POLICY AND FINANCING AND DEPARTMENT
10 OF EARLY CHILDHOOD, SHALL PUBLISH COUNTY-LEVEL AND STATEWIDE
11 PERFORMANCE DATA ON THE FOLLOWING METRICS FOR EACH OF THE
12 FOLLOWING PUBLIC BENEFITS ON THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES'S
13 WEBSITE IN A PUBLICLY ACCESSIBLE FORMAT:

14 (a) FOR THE MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM, ESTABLISHED
15 PURSUANT TO ARTICLES 4 TO 6 OF TITLE 25.5:

16 (I) THE NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS AND RENEWAL APPLICATIONS
17 APPROVED WITHIN THE TIMELINES REQUIRED IN FEDERAL LAW AND
18 REGULATION FOR ALL APPLICATIONS, INCLUDING APPLICATIONS BASED ON
19 DISABILITY;

20 (II) THE NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS AND RENEWAL APPLICATIONS
21 DENIED WITHIN THE TIMELINES REQUIRED IN FEDERAL LAW AND
22 REGULATION FOR ALL APPLICATIONS, INCLUDING APPLICATIONS BASED ON
23 DISABILITY;

24 (III) THE TOTAL NUMBER OF RENEWAL APPLICATIONS PROCESSED
25 EACH MONTH, INCLUDING:

26 (A) THE NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS RENEWED USING EXISTING
27 DATA SOURCES AND THE NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS RENEWED USING

1 ADDITIONAL COMPLETED DOCUMENTATION SUBMITTED BY THE
2 RECIPIENTS;

3 (B) THE NUMBER OF INITIAL APPLICATIONS AND RENEWAL
4 APPLICATIONS PROCESSED AND DETERMINED INELIGIBLE;

5 (C) THE NUMBER OF INITIAL APPLICATIONS AND RENEWAL
6 APPLICATIONS DENIED FOR PROCEDURAL REASONS; AND

7 (D) THE NUMBER OF INITIAL APPLICATIONS AND RENEWAL
8 APPLICATIONS PENDING REVIEW;

9 (IV) THE NUMBER OF INITIAL APPLICATIONS AND RENEWAL
10 APPLICATIONS DETERMINED ELIGIBLE DURING THE NINETY-DAY
11 RECONSIDERATION PERIOD, IN ACCORDANCE WITH 42 CFR 435.916
12 (b)(2)(iii);

13 (V) THE NUMBER OF FORMAL COMPLAINTS OR APPEALS
14 REGARDING ELIGIBILITY, BENEFITS, OR SERVICES FILED WITH THE
15 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE POLICY AND FINANCING; AND

16 (VI) THE NUMBER OF PERSONAL INFORMATION CHANGE REQUESTS
17 FOR MEDICAL ASSISTANCE ENROLLMENT APPROVED WITHIN THE
18 FEDERALLY REQUIRED TIMELINES AND THE NUMBER DENIED WITHIN THE
19 FEDERALLY REQUIRED TIMELINES;

20 (b) FOR THE SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM,
21 ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO PART 3 OF ARTICLE 2 OF THIS TITLE 26:

22 (I) THE RATE OF APPLICATION PROCESSING TIMELINESS FOR
23 STANDARD APPLICATIONS;

24 (II) THE RATE OF APPLICATION PROCESSING TIMELINESS FOR
25 EXPEDITED APPLICATIONS; AND

26 (III) THE RATE OF RECERTIFICATION PROCESSING TIMELINESS;

27 (c) FOR THE CHILD CARE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM, ESTABLISHED

1 PURSUANT TO PART 1 OF ARTICLE 4 OF TITLE 26.5:

2 (I) THE PERCENTAGE OF INITIAL APPLICATIONS AND APPLICATIONS
3 FOR REDETERMINATION APPROVED WITHIN THE TIMELINES REQUIRED BY
4 RULES ADOPTED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF EARLY CHILDHOOD; AND

5 (II) ENROLLMENT IN EACH OF THE FOLLOWING INCOME ELIGIBILITY
6 TIERS:

7 (A) ONE HUNDRED THIRTY PERCENT OF THE FEDERAL POVERTY
8 LINE AND BELOW;

9 (B) MORE THAN ONE HUNDRED THIRTY-ONE PERCENT BUT ONE
10 HUNDRED EIGHTY-FIVE PERCENT OR LESS OF THE FEDERAL POVERTY LINE;
11 AND

12 (C) ABOVE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTY-FIVE PERCENT OF THE FEDERAL
13 POVERTY LINE;

14 (d) FOR THE TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES
15 PROGRAM, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 26-2-703, THE PERCENTAGE OF
16 APPLICATIONS AND REDETERMINATIONS APPROVED WITHIN THE TIMELINES
17 REQUIRED BY RULES ADOPTED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES;

18 (e) FOR ADULT FINANCIAL PROGRAMS, THE PERCENTAGE OF
19 APPLICATIONS AND REDETERMINATIONS APPROVED WITHIN THE TIMELINES
20 REQUIRED BY RULES ADOPTED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES;
21 AND

22 (f) FOR EACH OF THE PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS:

23 (I) THE MONTHLY CASELOAD;

24 (II) THE PERCENTAGE OF APPLICATIONS, ENROLLMENTS, AND
25 RENEWALS PROCESSED THROUGH THE STATE'S ONLINE SYSTEM FOR
26 APPLICATION AND MANAGEMENT OF PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS, AND
27 THE PERCENTAGE OF APPLICATIONS, ENROLLMENTS, AND RENEWALS

1 PROCESSED BY OTHER METHODS;

2 (III) THE AVERAGE CALL HOLD TIME FOR RECIPIENTS AND
3 APPLICANTS; AND

4 (IV) THE NUMBER OF APPEALS FILED WITH THE OFFICE OF
5 ADMINISTRATIVE COURTS THAT NAME A COUNTY AS A PARTY.

6 (3) THE DATA REPORTED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (2) OF THIS
7 SECTION MUST BE UPDATED MONTHLY AND PUBLISHED IN ACCORDANCE
8 WITH DATA PRIVACY AND CONFIDENTIALITY LAWS OF THE STATE. DATA
9 FROM PREVIOUS MONTHS MUST REMAIN PUBLICLY ACCESSIBLE.

10 (4) BEGINNING IN SEPTEMBER 2026, AND MONTHLY THEREAFTER,
11 EACH COUNTY DEPARTMENT SHALL PROVIDE THE INFORMATION DETAILED
12 IN SUBSECTION (2) OF THIS SECTION, OTHER THAN THE INFORMATION
13 DETAILED IN SUBSECTION (2)(a)(VI) OF THIS SECTION, TO EACH
14 RESPECTIVE STATE DEPARTMENT. THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE
15 POLICY AND FINANCING SHALL PROVIDE THE INFORMATION DETAILED IN
16 SUBSECTION (2)(a)(VI) OF THIS SECTION TO THE STATE DEPARTMENT.

17 (5) THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES, IN COLLABORATION
18 WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE POLICY AND FINANCING AND THE
19 DEPARTMENT OF EARLY CHILDHOOD, SHALL PROVIDE TECHNICAL SUPPORT,
20 TECHNOLOGY ASSISTANCE, AND TRAINING TO THE COUNTY DEPARTMENTS,
21 AS REASONABLY NECESSARY, ON HOW TO PROVIDE THE INFORMATION
22 REQUIRED BY SUBSECTION (2) OF THIS SECTION TO THE RESPECTIVE STATE
23 DEPARTMENTS.

24 **SECTION 6.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** part 8 to article
25 1 of title 26 as follows:

26

PART 8

27

DELIVERY OF PUBLIC BENEFITS

1 **26-1-801. Legislative declaration.**

2 (1) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FINDS AND DECLARES THAT:

3 (a) ACCESS TO PUBLIC ASSISTANCE BENEFITS IS FUNDAMENTAL TO
4 THE HEALTH, STABILITY, AND ECONOMIC SECURITY OF COLORADO
5 RESIDENTS, AND THE SYSTEMS USED TO ADMINISTER THOSE BENEFITS
6 MUST BE ACCESSIBLE, EFFICIENT, AND RELIABLE;

7 (b) MODERN, INTEGRATED TECHNOLOGY SYSTEMS ARE NECESSARY
8 TO SUPPORT EFFICIENT PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION, IMPROVE PROGRAM
9 RECIPIENT EXPERIENCE, AND ENSURE THE TIMELY AND EFFECTIVE
10 DELIVERY OF PUBLIC ASSISTANCE BENEFITS AND SERVICES;

11 (c) THE STATE'S CURRENT BENEFITS TECHNOLOGY
12 INFRASTRUCTURE IS FRAGMENTED, DIFFICULT TO NAVIGATE, AND IMPOSES
13 ADMINISTRATIVE BURDENS ON APPLICANTS, RECIPIENTS, AND STAFF WHO
14 DETERMINE APPLICANT ELIGIBILITY, WHICH MAY LIMIT ACCESS TO
15 SERVICES FOR ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES;

16 (d) COLORADO HAS THE OPPORTUNITY TO REDESIGN ITS BENEFITS
17 TECHNOLOGY INFRASTRUCTURE THROUGH THE DEVELOPMENT OF A
18 STATE-OWNED, MODULAR, AND INTEROPERABLE PLATFORM TO IMPROVE
19 COORDINATION ACROSS PROGRAMS AND ENHANCE SERVICE DELIVERY;

20 (e) DEVELOPING A COMPREHENSIVE, LONG-TERM PLAN TO
21 REDESIGN THE STATE'S PUBLIC BENEFITS SYSTEM SUPPORTS COST
22 MITIGATION, INCREASES ADMINISTRATIVE EFFICIENCY, AND RESULTS IN
23 THE DELIVERY OF HIGHER-QUALITY SERVICES TO INDIVIDUALS AND
24 FAMILIES;

25 (f) TO ENSURE EFFECTIVE CHANGE MANAGEMENT AND MINIMIZE
26 DISRUPTION TO SERVICES FOR RECIPIENT INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES,
27 REDESIGNING THE PUBLIC BENEFITS DELIVERY MODEL FOR THE STATE'S

1 PUBLIC BENEFITS SYSTEM MUST OCCUR WITHIN ESTABLISHED TIMELINES
2 AND INCLUDE STRUCTURED PLANNING PROCESSES, INTENTIONAL
3 STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT, AND REGULAR PROGRESS UPDATES TO THE
4 GENERAL ASSEMBLY; AND

5 (g) REDESIGNING THE STATE'S BENEFITS TECHNOLOGY
6 INFRASTRUCTURE MUST BE PRIORITIZED TO SUPPORT EFFECTIVE PROGRAM
7 ADMINISTRATION AND SERVICE DELIVERY UNDER THE REDESIGNED PUBLIC
8 BENEFITS DELIVERY MODEL.

9 (2) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FURTHER DECLARES THAT:

10 (a) THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES, THE DEPARTMENT OF
11 EARLY CHILDHOOD, AND THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE POLICY AND
12 FINANCING, IN PARTNERSHIP WITH COUNTIES AND OTHER INTERESTED
13 STAKEHOLDERS, SHOULD CONDUCT A STRUCTURED, FACILITATED PROCESS
14 TO ENSURE THAT COLORADO OPERATES A REDESIGNED PUBLIC BENEFITS
15 DELIVERY MODEL BEGINNING IN 2028.

16 (b) THE PUBLIC BENEFITS DELIVERY SYSTEM REDESIGN SHOULD
17 PRIORITIZE:

18 (I) THE DEVELOPMENT AND MAINTENANCE OF A STATE-OWNED,
19 MODULAR, INTEROPERABLE BENEFITS PLATFORM THAT IS ADAPTABLE
20 LONG TERM AND MEASURES PROGRAM OUTCOMES AND USER EXPERIENCE;

21 (II) THE DEVELOPMENT AND MAINTENANCE OF A CENTRALIZED
22 SYSTEM THROUGH WHICH INDIVIDUALS MAY ACCESS, APPLY FOR, AND
23 MANAGE BENEFITS ACROSS MULTIPLE BENEFITS PROGRAMS. THE
24 CENTRALIZED SYSTEM SHOULD BE ACCESSIBLE TO INDIVIDUALS OF ALL
25 ABILITIES, LANGUAGES, AND LEVELS OF DIGITAL ACCESS.

26 (III) THE IMPLEMENTATION OF A WHOLE-PERSON APPROACH TO
27 PUBLIC BENEFITS ADMINISTRATION THAT STREAMLINES AND INTEGRATES

1 INTAKE, ELIGIBILITY, AND ENROLLMENT PROCESSES TO IMPROVE
2 COORDINATION AND REDUCE ADMINISTRATIVE BURDEN ON APPLICANTS,
3 RECIPIENTS, AND STAFF; AND

4 (IV) MODERN PRODUCT MANAGEMENT PRACTICES THAT ALLOW
5 FOR CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT AND RESPONSIVENESS, INCLUDING
6 ONGOING USER RESEARCH, SYSTEM ENHANCEMENTS, AND SYSTEM
7 DEVELOPMENT INFORMED BY PERFORMANCE METRICS AND USER
8 EXPERIENCE DATA.

9 **26-1-802. Definitions.**

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

12 (1) "COHORT" MEANS A GROUP OF COUNTIES THAT ARE REQUIRED
13 TO WORK TOGETHER TO ADMINISTER PUBLIC ASSISTANCE BENEFITS
14 THROUGH SHARED WORK AND POOLED RESOURCES. A COHORT'S WORK IS
15 INFORMED BY THE TRANSITION PLAN, REPORT, AND RECOMMENDATIONS
16 REQUIRED BY THIS PART 8.

17 (2) "CROSS-DEPARTMENTAL POLICY ALIGNMENT TEAM" OR "TEAM"
18 MEANS THE CROSS-DEPARTMENTAL POLICY ALIGNMENT TEAM CREATED IN
19 SECTION 26-1-808.

20 (3) "IMPLEMENTATION WORK GROUP" MEANS THE
21 IMPLEMENTATION WORK GROUP CREATED IN SECTION 26-1-806.

22 (4) "PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS" MEANS THE MEDICAL
23 ASSISTANCE PROGRAM ESTABLISHED IN ARTICLES 4 TO 6 OF TITLE 25.5,
24 THE SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM ESTABLISHED IN
25 PART 3 OF ARTICLE 2 OF THIS TITLE 26, THE COLORADO CHILD CARE
26 ASSISTANCE PROGRAM ESTABLISHED IN PART 1 OF ARTICLE 4 OF TITLE
27 26.5, THE TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES PROGRAM

1 DESCRIBED IN PART 7 OF ARTICLE 2 OF THIS TITLE 26, THE OLD AGE
2 PENSION PROGRAM ESTABLISHED IN ARTICLE XXIV OF THE STATE
3 CONSTITUTION, AND THE ADULT FINANCIAL PROGRAMS DESCRIBED IN PART
4 1 OF ARTICLE 2 OF THIS TITLE 26, WHICH INCLUDE THE OLD AGE PENSION,
5 AID TO THE NEEDY DISABLED, AND HOME CARE ALLOWANCE.

6 (5) "PUBLIC BENEFITS DELIVERY MODEL" MEANS A SYSTEM IN
7 WHICH THE ADMINISTRATION, PROCESSING, AND DELIVERY OF PUBLIC
8 ASSISTANCE BENEFITS AND SERVICES ARE CONSOLIDATED INTO A SINGLE
9 CENTRALIZED AND UNIFORM DELIVERY MODEL.

10 (6) "SHARED SERVICES" MEANS AN ADMINISTRATIVE OR
11 OPERATIONAL FUNCTION PERFORMED BY A COUNTY DEPARTMENT ON
12 BEHALF OF COUNTY DEPARTMENTS IN A COHORT AND DEVELOPED IN
13 CONSULTATION AND COLLABORATION WITH THE STATE DEPARTMENTS AND
14 ALL COUNTY DEPARTMENTS. SHARED SERVICES INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

15 (a) A CALL CENTER TO HANDLE ALL CALLS RELATED TO PROGRAM
16 ELIGIBILITY ON BEHALF OF ALL COUNTY DEPARTMENTS;

17 (b) QUALITY ASSURANCE TO HANDLE ALL RESPONSIBILITIES
18 RELATED TO THE QUALITY OF ELIGIBILITY DETERMINATION FOR THE PUBLIC
19 ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS; AND

20 (c) CENTRAL SCANNING SERVICES TO MANAGE DOCUMENTS
21 RECEIVED FROM APPLICANTS AND RECIPIENTS.

22 (7) "STATE DEPARTMENTS" MEANS THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN
23 SERVICES, THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE POLICY AND FINANCING,
24 AND THE DEPARTMENT OF EARLY CHILDHOOD.

25 (8) "THIRD-PARTY CONTRACTOR" MEANS THE ENTITY
26 CONTRACTED BY THE STATE DEPARTMENTS TO ASSIST THE
27 IMPLEMENTATION WORK GROUP PURSUANT TO SECTION 26-1-805.

1 (9) "TRANSITION PLAN" MEANS THE TRANSITION PLAN DESCRIBED
2 IN SECTION 26-1-807.

3 **26-1-803. Public benefits delivery model - state departments**
4 **responsibilities.**

5 (1) BEGINNING JULY 1, 2028, THE STATE DEPARTMENTS SHALL
6 OVERSEE A STREAMLINED PUBLIC BENEFITS DELIVERY MODEL MADE UP OF
7 NO MORE THAN TWELVE COHORTS. EACH COHORT SHALL COORDINATE AND
8 DISTRIBUTE PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY AND CASE
9 PROCESSING WORK ACCORDING TO A SHARED WORKFLOW, AS DETERMINED
10 BY THE TRANSITION PLAN.

11 (2) THE STATE DEPARTMENTS SHALL ENSURE THAT THE PUBLIC
12 BENEFITS DELIVERY MODEL IS IMPLEMENTED WITH CONSISTENCY ACROSS
13 THE STATE DEPARTMENTS AND COHORTS, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE
14 DIFFERENCES AND REQUIREMENTS OF EACH STATE DEPARTMENT IN
15 ADMINISTERING THE STATE DEPARTMENT'S PUBLIC ASSISTANCE
16 PROGRAMS.

17 (3) THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES SHALL EMPLOY UP TO
18 TWELVE HUMAN SERVICES REGIONAL MANAGERS WHO ARE
19 GEOGRAPHICALLY DISPERSED THROUGHOUT THE STATE TO SUPPORT THE
20 COHORTS AND PROVIDE GUIDANCE, DIRECTION, AND TECHNICAL
21 ASSISTANCE TO THE COHORTS TO ENSURE CONSISTENT, EFFECTIVE,
22 COMPLIANT, AND ACCOUNTABLE DELIVERY OF PUBLIC ASSISTANCE
23 PROGRAMS.

24 (4) THE STATE DEPARTMENTS, THROUGH REGULAR MONITORING
25 AND SUPERVISION, SHALL ENSURE COHORTS COMPLY WITH THE
26 REQUIREMENTS OF THIS PART 8 AND WITH RULES ADOPTED BY THE STATE
27 DEPARTMENTS.

1 (5) THE STATE DEPARTMENTS RETAIN SUPERVISORY AUTHORITY
2 OVER THE COHORTS AND COUNTIES WITHIN THE COHORTS UNDER THE
3 PUBLIC BENEFITS DELIVERY MODEL. THE STATE DEPARTMENTS SHALL
4 MONITOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAM COMPLIANCE AND INSTITUTE
5 CORRECTIVE ACTION PROTOCOLS, WHICH MUST BE ALIGNED ACROSS THE
6 STATE DEPARTMENTS AND INCLUDED IN ALL PERFORMANCE-BASED
7 CONTRACTS REQUIRED BY SECTION 26-1-804. THE STATE DEPARTMENTS
8 SHALL COMMUNICATE WITH COHORTS AS NEEDED REGARDING
9 COMPLIANCE, CORRECTIVE ACTION PROTOCOLS, AND PROGRAM-SPECIFIC
10 PERFORMANCE ISSUES.

11 (6) FULL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PUBLIC BENEFITS DELIVERY
12 MODEL IS CONTINGENT ON AVAILABLE AND OPERATIONAL READINESS OF
13 SYSTEM ENHANCEMENTS NECESSARY TO SUPPORT CROSS-COUNTY WORK
14 SHARING. THE STATE DEPARTMENTS MUST ENSURE THAT COHORTS AND
15 COUNTIES ARE PROVIDED ADEQUATE TIME, TRAINING, AND SUPPORT TO
16 IMPLEMENT THE PUBLIC BENEFITS DELIVERY MODEL, INCLUDING NEW
17 WORKFORCE PROCESSES, UPDATED TECHNOLOGY, AND OPERATIONAL
18 MODELS NECESSARY TO SUPPORT CROSS-COUNTY WORK SHARING.

19 (7) A COUNTY DEPARTMENT IN A COHORT IS NOT FINANCIALLY OR
20 LEGALLY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE PERFORMANCE OF ANOTHER COUNTY
21 DEPARTMENT IN THE COHORT, SUBJECT TO THE TERMS OF A
22 PERFORMANCE-BASED CONTRACT WITH THE STATE DEPARTMENTS OR
23 INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENTS BETWEEN COUNTIES, TO THE EXTENT
24 ALLOWABLE UNDER FEDERAL LAW.

25 **26-1-804. Performance-based contracts.**

26 (1) THE STATE DEPARTMENTS AND COHORTS SHALL ENTER INTO A
27 PERIODICALLY NEGOTIATED PERFORMANCE-BASED CONTRACT THAT

1 IDENTIFIES THE DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF EACH PARTY UNDER THE
2 PUBLIC BENEFITS DELIVERY MODEL.

3 (2) STATE DEPARTMENTS SHALL DEVELOP PERFORMANCE-BASED
4 CONTRACTS IN CONSULTATION WITH THE COHORTS, AND
5 PERFORMANCE-BASED CONTRACTS MUST COMPLY WITH STATE AND
6 FEDERAL LAW.

7 (3) AT A MINIMUM, A PERFORMANCE-BASED CONTRACT MUST
8 INCLUDE:

9 (a) MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS ESTABLISHED FOR THE STATE
10 DEPARTMENTS AND COHORTS IN THE TRANSITION PLAN, IN ACCORDANCE
11 WITH SECTION 26-1-807;

12 (b) MEASURABLE OUTCOME- AND PERFORMANCE-BASED METRICS
13 AND ANY ASSOCIATED INCENTIVE PAYMENT STRUCTURES;

14 (c) CORRECTIVE ACTION PROTOCOLS WHEN A COHORT OR COUNTY
15 DEPARTMENT WITHIN A COHORT FAILS TO MEET THE REQUIREMENTS OF
16 THE PERFORMANCE-BASED CONTRACT; AND

17 (d) OPERATIONAL PLANS FOR SHARED WORK AND SHARED
18 RESOURCES.

19 **26-1-805. Third-party contractor.**

20 (1) ON OR BEFORE JULY 1, 2026, THE STATE DEPARTMENTS, IN
21 CONSULTATION WITH THE COUNTY DEPARTMENTS, SHALL CONTRACT WITH
22 AT LEAST ONE THIRD-PARTY CONTRACTOR TO ASSIST THE
23 IMPLEMENTATION WORK GROUP IN DEVELOPING AND IMPLEMENTING THE
24 TRANSITION PLAN AND CORRESPONDING REPORT AND DEVELOPING
25 RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFITS DELIVERY MODEL.

26 (2) AT A MINIMUM, THE SELECTED THIRD-PARTY CONTRACTOR IS
27 RESPONSIBLE FOR:

1 (a) PRESENTING MULTIPLE COHORT-BASED MODEL OPTIONS TO THE
2 STATE DEPARTMENTS FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OF PUBLIC ASSISTANCE
3 PROGRAMS. THE COHORT-BASED MODEL OPTIONS MUST:

4 (I) VARY IN SIZE AND STRUCTURE;

5 (II) IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF SERVICES RENDERED TO PUBLIC
6 ASSISTANCE PROGRAM RECIPIENTS; AND

7 (III) INCLUDE FISCAL, OPERATIONAL, AND SHARED SERVICES
8 CONSIDERATIONS, THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE
9 ESTABLISHED IN SECTION 25.5-1-209, SHARED SERVICES, AND STRATEGIES
10 THAT SUPPORT COMPLIANCE, COST CONTAINMENT, MAXIMIZATION OF
11 EXISTING CAPACITY AND STRENGTHS, AND INCREASED EFFICACY. THE
12 CONSIDERATIONS AND STRATEGIES MUST DRAW UPON AVAILABLE DATA,
13 RESEARCH, EXISTING STRUCTURES, AND EXAMPLES FROM OTHER STATES.

14 (b) CONVENING AND FACILITATING DISCUSSIONS AMONG THE
15 STATE DEPARTMENTS, COUNTY DEPARTMENTS, AND OTHER RELEVANT
16 STAKEHOLDERS THROUGH THE IMPLEMENTATION WORK GROUP TO
17 SUPPORT THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE TRANSITION PLAN AND
18 CORRESPONDING REPORT FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFITS DELIVERY MODEL;

19 (c) FACILITATING THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE TRANSITION PLAN
20 AND CORRESPONDING REPORT IN ALIGNMENT WITH THE REQUIREMENTS
21 FOR THE TRANSITION PLAN;

22 (d) ENSURING INTENTIONAL OUTREACH TO AND ENGAGEMENT
23 WITH COUNTIES OF VARYING SIZES AND GEOGRAPHIES, INCLUDING SMALL
24 AND RURAL COUNTIES; ADVOCATES; FRONTLINE WORKERS EMPLOYED BY
25 THE COUNTY DEPARTMENTS; COMMUNITY PARTNERS; AND PUBLIC
26 ASSISTANCE PROGRAM RECIPIENT REPRESENTATIVES, TO SUPPORT THE
27 DEVELOPMENT OF THE TRANSITION PLAN AND CORRESPONDING REPORT;

1 (e) RESEARCHING AND PRESENTING OPTIONS FOR PUBLIC
2 ASSISTANCE PROGRAM RECIPIENT CASE MANAGEMENT MODELS AND FOR
3 TRACKING PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAM RECIPIENTS' EXPERIENCES AND
4 ENGAGEMENT THROUGHOUT THE APPLICATION PROCESS, ENROLLMENT
5 PROCESS, AND UTILIZATION OF PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS, TO
6 IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF CUSTOMER SERVICE AND OUTCOMES; AND

7 (f) FACILITATING DISCUSSIONS AND STRATEGY DEVELOPMENT
8 RELATED TO THE IMPACT OF CHANGES IN THE AVAILABILITY OF STATE AND
9 FEDERAL FUNDING ON PUBLIC BENEFIT PROGRAMS, TAKING INTO
10 CONSIDERATION THE IMPACTS OF H.R. 1, 119TH CONGRESS (2025-2026),
11 PUB.L. 119-21, AND THE FINANCIAL IMPACTS ON ERROR RATES,
12 REDUCTIONS IN RESOURCES, AND INCREASED WORKLOAD.

13 (3) THE THIRD-PARTY CONTRACTOR SHALL BE SELECTED THROUGH
14 A PROCESS THAT INCLUDES CONSULTATION WITH AND INPUT FROM
15 COMMUNITY ADVOCATES AND REPRESENTATIVES FROM COUNTIES THAT
16 VARY IN SIZE.

17 (4) UPON APPROVAL BY THE STATE DEPARTMENTS, THE
18 THIRD-PARTY CONTRACTOR MAY SUBCONTRACT WITH OTHER
19 INDEPENDENT ENTITIES WITH RELEVANT EXPERIENCE TO CARRY OUT ONE
20 OR MORE OF THE REQUIREMENTS LISTED IN SUBSECTION (2) OF THIS
21 SECTION.

22 (5) COUNTY DEPARTMENTS AND STATE DEPARTMENTS SHALL
23 COOPERATE WITH REASONABLE REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION RECEIVED
24 FROM THE THIRD-PARTY CONTRACTOR OR A THIRD-PARTY CONTRACTOR'S
25 SUBCONTRACTOR.

26 (6) THE SELECTION OF THE THIRD-PARTY CONTRACTOR IS EXEMPT
27 FROM THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE "PROCUREMENT CODE", ARTICLES 101

1 TO 112 OF TITLE 24.

2 **26-1-806. Implementation work group - subgroups - reports.**

3 (1) ON OR BEFORE JULY 1, 2026, THE STATE DEPARTMENTS, IN
4 COLLABORATION WITH COUNTY DEPARTMENTS, SHALL ESTABLISH AN
5 IMPLEMENTATION WORK GROUP TO WORK WITH THE THIRD-PARTY
6 CONTRACTOR AND SUBGROUP DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (3) OF THIS
7 SECTION TO DEVELOP THE TRANSITION PLAN AND CORRESPONDING REPORT
8 AND TO DEVELOP RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFITS DELIVERY
9 MODEL.

10 (2) THE IMPLEMENTATION WORK GROUP IS COMPOSED OF NO MORE
11 THAN FIFTEEN MEMBERS MADE UP OF REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE
12 GOVERNOR'S OFFICE, STATE DEPARTMENTS, COUNTY DEPARTMENTS FROM
13 COUNTIES THAT VARY IN SIZE, AND OTHER STAKEHOLDERS WITH
14 RELEVANT SUBJECT MATTER EXPERTISE, INCLUDING PHILANTHROPIC
15 ORGANIZATIONS, COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS, AND HUMAN SERVICES
16 PROVIDERS.

17 (3) (a) THE IMPLEMENTATION WORK GROUP SHALL CONVENE A
18 SUBGROUP TO ADVISE THE IMPLEMENTATION WORK GROUP ON THE
19 DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE TRANSITION PLAN AND
20 CORRESPONDING REPORT.

21 (b) THE SUBGROUP MUST INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS
22 AND REPRESENTATIVES:

23 (I) BENEFIT RECIPIENTS OR THE PARENTS OF CHILD BENEFIT
24 RECIPIENTS;

25 (II) HUMAN SERVICES PROVIDERS AND PROVIDERS ENROLLED IN
26 THE STATE MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM;

27 (III) COUNTY PUBLIC ASSISTANCE BENEFIT ELIGIBILITY EMPLOYEES

1 AND CASE WORKERS, OR THEIR SUPERVISORS;
2 (IV) REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE SOUTHERN UTE INDIAN TRIBE
3 AND THE UTE MOUNTAIN UTE TRIBE;
4 (V) DISABILITY ADVOCATES;
5 (VI) REPRESENTATIVES OF ADVOCACY ORGANIZATIONS THAT
6 REPRESENT SENIOR CITIZENS AND CHILDREN AND ADVOCATE FOR POVERTY
7 REFORM;
8 (VII) REPRESENTATIVES OF BUSINESSES AND EMPLOYERS THAT
9 PARTICIPATE IN WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES FOR PUBLIC
10 ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS; AND
11 (VIII) REPRESENTATIVES OF MANAGED CARE ENTITIES.
12 (4) THE IMPLEMENTATION WORK GROUP MAY CONVENE
13 ADDITIONAL SUBGROUPS TO ASSIST THE IMPLEMENTATION WORK GROUP
14 ON THE FOLLOWING TOPICS:
15 (a) TECHNOLOGY MODERNIZATION;
16 (b) PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAM RECIPIENT ENGAGEMENT, CASE
17 MANAGEMENT, AND PROGRAM DELIVERY PROCESS IMPROVEMENT;
18 (c) FISCAL, ALLOCATION, AND GOVERNANCE REFORM;
19 (d) WORKFORCE TRANSITION AND LABOR PROTECTIONS; AND
20 (e) PERFORMANCE-BASED CONTRACTS AND OUTCOME MEASURES.
21 (5) (a) IN DEVELOPING THE TRANSITION PLAN AND
22 CORRESPONDING REPORT, THE IMPLEMENTATION WORK GROUP AND
23 SUBGROUPS SHALL ENGAGE WITH, TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE, INTERESTED
24 AND IMPACTED INDIVIDUALS FROM ALL AREAS OF THE STATE, INCLUDING
25 URBAN, SUBURBAN, AND RURAL AREAS, AND ACROSS PUBLIC ASSISTANCE
26 PROGRAMS, AND SHALL ACTIVELY SEEK THE INPUT AND GUIDANCE OF
27 PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAM RECIPIENTS, HUMAN SERVICES PROVIDERS,

1 MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROVIDERS, COUNTY ELIGIBILITY EMPLOYEES AND
2 CASEWORKERS, THE SOUTHERN UTE INDIAN TRIBE AND UTE MOUNTAIN
3 UTE TRIBE, ADVOCACY GROUPS, AND OTHER INTERESTED AND IMPACTED
4 COMMUNITY MEMBERS.

5 (b) TO FACILITATE THE ENGAGEMENT DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION
6 (5)(a) OF THIS SECTION, THE IMPLEMENTATION WORK GROUP MUST
7 ENGAGE WITH STAKEHOLDERS THROUGH PUBLIC MEETINGS, WORKING
8 SESSIONS, WRITTEN COMMENTS, AND PUBLIC REPORTING OF
9 RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE TRANSITION PLAN.

10 (c) TO INCREASE EFFICIENCY AND MEET WITH AS MANY
11 STAKEHOLDERS AS POSSIBLE, THE IMPLEMENTATION WORK GROUP MAY
12 MEET WITH STAKEHOLDERS USING ELECTRONIC OR DIGITAL PLATFORMS
13 AND FORMATS.

14 (6) (a) FROM JULY 1, 2026, THROUGH JANUARY 1, 2027, THE
15 STATE DEPARTMENTS, IN COLLABORATION WITH COUNTY DEPARTMENTS,
16 SHALL PROVIDE MONTHLY PROGRESS REPORTS ON THE WORK OF THE
17 IMPLEMENTATION WORK GROUP TO THE JOINT BUDGET COMMITTEE, THE
18 JOINT TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
19 HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE, AND THE SENATE HEALTH AND
20 HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE, OR THEIR SUCCESSOR COMMITTEES.

21 (b) FROM JANUARY 1, 2027, THROUGH JULY 1, 2028, THE STATE
22 DEPARTMENTS, IN COLLABORATION WITH COUNTY DEPARTMENTS, SHALL
23 PROVIDE QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORTS ON THE WORK OF THE
24 IMPLEMENTATION WORK GROUP AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE TRANSITION
25 PLAN AND CORRESPONDING REPORT TO THE JOINT BUDGET COMMITTEE,
26 THE JOINT TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
27 HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE, AND THE SENATE HEALTH AND

1 HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE, OR THEIR SUCCESSOR COMMITTEES.

2 **26-1-807. Transition plan.**

3 (1) THE IMPLEMENTATION WORK GROUP SHALL WORK WITH THE
4 THIRD-PARTY CONTRACTOR TO DESIGN A TRANSITION PLAN FOR THE
5 ADMINISTRATION OF PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS UNDER THE PUBLIC
6 BENEFITS DELIVERY MODEL.

7 (2) THE TRANSITION PLAN MUST TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE STATE
8 DEPARTMENTS' AND COUNTY DEPARTMENTS' EXISTING WORK,
9 STRUCTURES, AGREEMENTS, AND UPDATES TO ENSURE THE NEW PUBLIC
10 BENEFITS DELIVERY MODEL BUILDS ON EXISTING PROCESSES AND
11 PROCEDURES. THE TRANSITION PLAN MUST ALSO CONSIDER PUBLIC
12 BENEFITS DELIVERY MODELS USED BY OTHER STATES THAT OPERATE A
13 COUNTY-ADMINISTERED PUBLIC BENEFITS SYSTEM.

14 (3) AT A MINIMUM, THE TRANSITION PLAN MUST ADDRESS THE
15 FOLLOWING:

16 (a) FOR THE STATE DEPARTMENTS:

17 (I) FUNDING, TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, AND TRAINING FOR THE
18 PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS THE INDIVIDUAL STATE DEPARTMENTS
19 OVERSEE;

20 (II) STANDARDS FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY,
21 SERVICE DELIVERY, EFFICIENCY, AND PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION AND
22 HOW THOSE STANDARDS ARE ALIGNED ACROSS PUBLIC ASSISTANCE
23 PROGRAMS;

24 (III) PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAM COMPLIANCE WITH FEDERAL
25 AND STATE LAW;

26 (IV) POLICY ANALYSIS AND GUIDANCE FOR THE ADMINISTRATION
27 OF PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS THROUGH SHARED WORK AND POOLED

1 RESOURCES IN CONSULTATION WITH THE CROSS-DEPARTMENTAL POLICY
2 ALIGNMENT TEAM;

3 (V) TECHNOLOGY INFRASTRUCTURE AND IMPROVEMENTS
4 NECESSARY TO ENABLE THE RECOMMENDED PUBLIC BENEFITS DELIVERY
5 MODEL AND SUPPORT COHORTS OR INDIVIDUAL COUNTIES WITHIN COHORTS
6 IN MEETING THE PERFORMANCE AND OUTCOME MEASURES ESTABLISHED
7 IN THE PERFORMANCE-BASED CONTRACTS REQUIRED IN SECTION 26-1-804;

8 (VI) CONTINUOUS QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PROCESSES;

9 (VII) MANAGEMENT EVALUATION AND QUALITY ASSURANCE
10 PROCESSES;

11 (VIII) ACHIEVEMENT OF METRICS ESTABLISHED IN THE
12 PERFORMANCE-BASED CONTRACTS;

13 (IX) INITIATION OF CORRECTIVE ACTION PROTOCOLS;

14 (X) PUBLICATION OF PUBLIC-FACING PERFORMANCE DATA ON A
15 MONTHLY BASIS REQUIRED PURSUANT TO SECTION 26-1-144;

16 (XI) ESTABLISHMENT AND MONITORING OF THE CENTRALIZED
17 MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE DESCRIBED IN SECTION 25.5-1-209 AND ANY
18 OTHER CENTRALIZED SERVICES AND PROCESSES; AND

19 (XII) DEVELOPMENT OF PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAM RECIPIENT
20 EXPERIENCE MEASUREMENT TOOLS, INCLUDING SURVEYS THAT CAPTURE
21 EXPERIENCES ACROSS PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS.

22 (b) FOR THE COHORTS:

23 (I) STANDARDIZED AND CONSISTENT ADMINISTRATION OF PUBLIC
24 ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS;

25 (II) STANDARDIZED AND CONSISTENT GOVERNANCE AND
26 COORDINATION STRUCTURE;

27 (III) ACHIEVEMENT OF METRICS ESTABLISHED IN

- 1 PERFORMANCE-BASED CONTRACTS;
- 2 (IV) DATA TRACKING AND REPORTING FOR CONTINUOUS QUALITY
3 IMPROVEMENT PROCESSES AND PERFORMANCE REPORTING;
- 4 (V) REQUIRED PARTICIPATION IN THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER
5 INTEGRITY SERVICE DESCRIBED IN SECTION 25.5-1-209 AND ANY OTHER
6 SHARED SERVICE MODELS;
- 7 (VI) REQUIRED PARTICIPATION IN CONTINUOUS QUALITY
8 IMPROVEMENT PROCESSES ESTABLISHED IN SECTION 26-1-143;
- 9 (VII) REQUIRED PARTICIPATION IN STATE-PROVIDED TRAINING
10 AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE;
- 11 (VIII) REQUIRED IMPLEMENTATION OF STATE-PROVIDED
12 TECHNOLOGY TO MEET FEDERAL OR STATE REQUIREMENTS;
- 13 (IX) COMPLIANCE WITH CORRECTIVE ACTION PROTOCOLS;
- 14 (X) STANDARDIZED AND CONSISTENT PUBLIC ASSISTANCE
15 PROGRAM RECIPIENT ELIGIBILITY, ENROLLMENT, AND ENGAGEMENT
16 PROTOCOLS;
- 17 (XI) CONSISTENT USE OF PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAM RECIPIENT
18 EXPERIENCE MEASUREMENT TOOLS, INCLUDING SURVEYS THAT CAPTURE
19 EXPERIENCE ACROSS THE PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS; AND
- 20 (XII) RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE OPERATION OF SHARED
21 SERVICES.
- 22 (4) THE TRANSITION PLAN MUST:
- 23 (a) ESTABLISH RECOMMENDATIONS, OPTIONS, AND MODELS FOR A
24 COHORT-BASED PUBLIC BENEFITS DELIVERY MODEL THAT INCLUDES NO
25 MORE THAN TWELVE COHORTS AND COMPONENTS THAT ALIGN WITH THE
26 REQUIREMENTS OF THIS PART 8;
- 27 (b) ENSURE THAT THE TECHNOLOGY SYSTEMS AND

1 INFRASTRUCTURE NEEDED TO SUPPORT THE PUBLIC BENEFITS DELIVERY
2 MODEL ARE IDENTIFIED AND ENSURE THAT TECHNOLOGY MODERNIZATION
3 PROCEEDS INDEPENDENTLY AS AN ESSENTIAL ENABLER OF PUBLIC
4 BENEFITS DELIVERY, DESIGNED TO BE FLEXIBLE TO SUPPORT A RANGE OF
5 STRUCTURES, PROMOTE INTEROPERABILITY, DATA SECURITY, AND
6 EQUITABLE ACCESS FOR RECIPIENTS AND STAFF. TECHNOLOGY
7 MODERNIZATION MUST NOT BE DELAYED OR CONSTRAINED BY OTHER
8 ASPECTS OF THE TRANSITION PLAN.

9 (c) INCLUDE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ESTABLISHING A COHORT OR
10 STATEWIDE SHARED SERVICES MODEL FOR KEY ADMINISTRATIVE
11 FUNCTIONS IN THE PUBLIC BENEFITS DELIVERY MODEL, INCLUDING A CALL
12 CENTER, QUALITY ASSURANCE, AND SECURITY ADMINISTRATION SERVICES,
13 AND IDENTIFY ADDITIONAL FUNCTIONS THAT ARE SUITABLE FOR SHARED
14 DELIVERY AND ARE NECESSARY TO IMPROVE CONSISTENCY, REDUCE
15 DUPLICATION, AND ENSURE COMPLIANCE;

16 (d) INCLUDE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR A STATE OR
17 COUNTY-SUPPORTED STAFFING MODEL, INCLUDING THE ROLE, STRUCTURE,
18 AUTHORITY, AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE STATE TO SUPPORT
19 PERFORMANCE, ACCOUNTABILITY, AND COMMUNICATION;

20 (e) INCLUDE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ESTABLISHING A PHASED
21 OUTCOME MEASUREMENT FRAMEWORK FOR PERFORMANCE-BASED
22 CONTRACTS THAT INCLUDES BASELINE DATA DEVELOPMENT,
23 ADMINISTRATIVE PERFORMANCE METRICS, AND CLIENT-CENTERED
24 OUTCOME MEASURES THAT ALIGN METRICS ACROSS THE STATE
25 DEPARTMENTS AND SUPPORT A TRANSITION TOWARD HOLISTIC,
26 FAMILY-CENTERED OUTCOMES RELATED TO STABILITY, ACCESS, AND
27 WELL-BEING;

1 (f) INCLUDE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE DESIGN AND
2 IMPLEMENTATION OF A PUBLIC REPORTING FRAMEWORK, INCLUDING
3 TIMELY PUBLICATION OF COHORT AND STATEWIDE PERFORMANCE DATA,
4 AND ANNUAL REPORTS OF THE DATA TO THE JOINT BUDGET COMMITTEE,
5 THE JOINT TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
6 HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE, THE SENATE HEALTH AND
7 HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE, OR THEIR SUCCESSOR COMMITTEES;

8 (g) INCLUDE RECOMMENDATIONS BASED ON FISCAL MODELING,
9 TAKING INTO ACCOUNT REQUIREMENTS OF FEDERAL LAW, FOR AN
10 INTEGRATED ALLOCATION COMMITTEE THAT INCLUDES:

11 (I) A BALANCED MEMBERSHIP OF REPRESENTATIVES FROM STATE
12 AGENCIES, THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE, COUNTY DEPARTMENTS, THE FAMILY
13 VOICE COUNCIL WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES, AND
14 OTHER STAKEHOLDERS WITH RELEVANT EXPERIENCE;

15 (II) ALIGNMENT AND INTEGRATION OF EXISTING ALLOCATION
16 COMMITTEES AND CURRENT STRUCTURES FOR ALLOCATING AVAILABLE
17 FUNDING IN EACH PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAM TO A SINGLE INTEGRATED
18 ALLOCATION COMMITTEE;

19 (III) A GOVERNANCE AND VOTING STRUCTURE FOR
20 DECISION-MAKING; AND

21 (IV) DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE INTEGRATED
22 ALLOCATION COMMITTEE, INCLUDING ALLOCATION OF AVAILABLE
23 FUNDING BASED UPON:

24 (A) DATA METRICS RELATED TO COMMUNITY NEED; AND

25 (B) SPENDING PRIORITIES BASED ON AVAILABLE ALLOCATIONS AND
26 THE RECOMMENDATIONS DEVELOPED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (4)(e) OF
27 THIS SECTION; AND

1 (h) INCLUDE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR INTEGRATION OF CURRENT
2 RULE-MAKING STRUCTURES AND PROCESSES ACROSS STATE DEPARTMENTS,
3 TAKING INTO ACCOUNT REQUIREMENTS OF FEDERAL LAW.

4 **26-1-808. State cross-departmental policy alignment team.**

5 (1) THERE IS CREATED IN THE STATE DEPARTMENT THE STATE
6 CROSS-DEPARTMENTAL POLICY ALIGNMENT TEAM.

7 (2) THE TEAM CONSISTS OF STAFF DESIGNATED BY THE EXECUTIVE
8 DIRECTORS OF THE STATE DEPARTMENTS. THE STAFF DESIGNATED
9 PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION (2) MUST HAVE SUBJECT MATTER
10 EXPERTISE ON THE PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS AND DECISION-MAKING
11 AUTHORITY RELATED TO POLICY AND PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION.

12 (3) THE TEAM SHALL:

13 (a) FOCUS ON ALIGNMENT OF PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
14 POLICIES TO IMPROVE SERVICE DELIVERY AND OUTCOMES FOR
15 COLORADANS, WITH AN EMPHASIS ON INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES
16 ACCESSING MULTIPLE PROGRAMS AND SERVICES;

17 (b) ANALYZE FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL POLICIES CONCERNING
18 THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS, INCLUDING
19 THE IMPACTS OF THOSE POLICIES ON OTHER PROGRAMS AND ON
20 ALLOCATIONS OF AVAILABLE FUNDING FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE
21 PROGRAMS;

22 (c) CREATE EVIDENCE-BASED ALIGNED AND STANDARDIZED
23 POLICY GUIDANCE FOR ADMINISTERING THE PUBLIC ASSISTANCE
24 PROGRAMS THAT ENABLES ADMINISTRATIVE UNIFORMITY AND
25 CONSISTENCY TO THE EXTENT ALLOWABLE UNDER FEDERAL LAW;

26 (d) ANNUALLY REVIEW THE INTERNAL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES
27 UTILIZED BY THE PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS, AS WELL AS PROGRESS

1 TOWARD ESTABLISHED GOALS AND OUTCOMES, INCLUDING, BUT NOT
2 LIMITED TO:

- 3 (I) REDUCING ADMINISTRATIVE BURDEN;
- 4 (II) IMPROVING COST EFFICIENCY;
- 5 (III) DECREASING THE NUMBER OF ELIGIBLE BUT NOT ENROLLED
6 INDIVIDUALS;
- 7 (IV) EVALUATING BENEFIT AMOUNTS;
- 8 (V) ASSESSING PARTICIPANT DIRECT SERVICES; AND
- 9 (VI) MEASURING COUNTY AND PROGRAM PARTNER PERFORMANCE
10 OUTCOMES IN ORDER TO IDENTIFY AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT;

11 (e) ANALYZE THE IMPACT OF AND OVERSEE THE ALIGNMENT OF
12 SIGNIFICANT POLICY OR PROGRAMMATIC CHANGES TO THE
13 ADMINISTRATION OF PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS;

14 (f) CREATE A PROCESS FOR THE STATE DEPARTMENTS TO
15 COORDINATE ALIGNED IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAM GUIDANCE AND
16 OVERSIGHT ACTIVITIES FOR COUNTIES, AS WELL AS COORDINATE BUDGET
17 REQUESTS ACROSS STATE DEPARTMENTS PRIOR TO SUBMISSION; AND

18 (g) SUBMIT QUARTERLY REPORTS TO RELEVANT STATE BOARDS
19 AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS OF STATE DEPARTMENTS THAT INCLUDE A
20 SUMMARY OF POLICY ITEMS DISCUSSED AND EVIDENCE-BASED DECISIONS
21 MADE TO DATE.

22 (4) THE TEAM SHALL MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE STATE
23 DEPARTMENTS CONCERNING ITS FINDINGS REGARDING THE ITEMS LISTED
24 IN SUBSECTION (3) OF THIS SECTION.

25 (5) NOTHING IN THIS SECTION DIMINISHES EXISTING RULE-MAKING
26 AUTHORITY OR ROLE OF BOARDS OR THE STATE DEPARTMENTS.

27 **SECTION 7.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 26-2-307, **amend**

1 (1)(b)(I) and (1)(b)(V) introductory portion as follows:

2 **26-2-307. Fuel assistance payments - eligibility for federal**
3 **standard utility allowance - supplemental utility assistance fund**
4 **established - definitions - repeal.**

5 (1) (b) (I) The state department shall make the fuel assistance
6 payments to ~~eligible~~ households that receive SNAP benefits ~~but that do~~
7 ~~not receive assistance under LEAP in order to qualify those households~~
8 ~~for the standard utility allowance to maximize their SNAP benefits~~ THAT
9 HAVE NOT RECEIVED LEAP ASSISTANCE IN THE PRECEDING TWELVE
10 MONTHS AND THAT ARE ELIGIBLE FOR THE STANDARD UTILITY
11 ALLOWANCE PURSUANT 7 U.S.C. SEC. 2014 (e)(6)(C)(iv).

12 (V) ~~On or before April 1, 2024, and on or before April 1 of each~~
13 ~~year, thereafter,~~ the state department shall submit a budget to the
14 organization and the commission to include the state department's
15 administrative costs to implement the program, including the cost to issue
16 payments to ELIGIBLE recipients' electronic benefits transfer cards for
17 payments made pursuant to subsection (1)(a) of this section, and the
18 projected number of eligible households, ~~that the state department~~
19 ~~identifies as receiving SNAP benefits but that are not receiving assistance~~
20 ~~under LEAP,~~ including an estimated number of new SNAP cases THAT
21 ARE ELIGIBLE FOR THE BENEFIT, that the state department will approve
22 during the upcoming federal fiscal year. Based on the budget that the state
23 department submits, the organization shall:

24 **SECTION 8.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **amend 25.5-1-115**
25 as follows:

26 **25.5-1-115. Locating violators - recoveries - repeal.**

27 (1) The executive director of the state department, AND A COUNTY

1 CONTRACTED TO ADMINISTER THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY
2 SERVICE PURSUANT TO SECTION 25.5-1-209, or district attorneys may
3 request and ~~shall~~ MUST receive from departments, boards, bureaus, or
4 other agencies of the state or any of its political subdivisions, and the
5 same are authorized to provide, ~~such~~ THE assistance and data as will
6 enable the state department, ~~and~~ county departments, AND A COUNTY
7 CONTRACTED TO ADMINISTER THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY
8 SERVICE PURSUANT TO SECTION 25.5-1-209 TO properly ~~to~~ carry out their
9 powers and duties to locate and prosecute A person who has fraudulently
10 obtained medical assistance under this ~~title~~. ~~Any~~ TITLE 25.5. Records
11 established pursuant to the provisions of this section ~~shall be~~ ARE
12 available only to the state department, the department of human services,
13 the county departments, A COUNTY CONTRACTED TO ADMINISTER THE
14 CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE PURSUANT TO SECTION
15 25.5-1-209, the attorney general, and the district attorneys, county
16 attorneys, and courts having jurisdiction in fraud or recovery proceedings
17 or actions.

18 (2) (a) All departments and agencies of the state and local
19 governments shall cooperate in the location and prosecution of ~~any~~ A
20 person who has fraudulently obtained medical assistance under this ~~title~~
21 TITLE 25.5, and, on request of the county board, the county director, the
22 state department, or the district attorney of any judicial district in this
23 state, shall supply all information on hand relative to the location,
24 employment, income, and property of ~~such~~ THE persons, notwithstanding
25 any other provision of law making such information confidential, except
26 the laws pertaining to confidentiality of any tax returns filed pursuant to
27 law with the department of revenue. The department of revenue shall

1 furnish at no cost to inquiring departments and agencies such information
2 as may be necessary to effectuate the purposes of this article ARTICLE 1.
3 The procedures whereby this information will be requested and provided
4 shall USED TO REQUEST AND PROVIDE THIS INFORMATION MUST be
5 established by rule of the state department. The state department or
6 county departments shall use such THE information only for the purposes
7 of administering medical assistance under this title TITLE 1, and the
8 district attorney shall use it only for the prosecution of persons who have
9 fraudulently obtained medical assistance under this title, and shall not use
10 the information, or disclose it, for any other purpose. THE STATE
11 DEPARTMENT SHALL UTILIZE THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY
12 SERVICE, ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO SECTION 25.5-1-209, TO CONDUCT
13 FRAUD INVESTIGATIONS CONCERNING MEMBER ELIGIBILITY IN THE
14 MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.

15 (b) (I) Whenever the state department, A COUNTY CONTRACTED TO
16 ADMINISTER THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE PURSUANT TO
17 SECTION 25.5-1-209, or a district attorney for the state department, or the
18 state department on behalf of a county department, recovers any amount
19 of fraudulently obtained medical assistance funds, the federal government
20 shall be IS entitled to a share proportionate to the amount of federal funds
21 paid unless a different amount is otherwise provided by federal law, the
22 state shall be IS entitled to a share proportionate to the amount of state
23 funds paid and such additional amounts of federal funds recovered as
24 provided by federal law, and the county department shall be IS entitled to
25 a share proportionate to the amount of county funds paid unless a
26 different amount is provided pursuant to federal law or this section.

27 (II) (A) Whenever a county department, a county board, a district

1 attorney, A COUNTY CONTRACTED TO ADMINISTER THE CENTRALIZED
2 MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE PURSUANT TO SECTION 25.5-1-209, or a state
3 department on behalf of a county department recovers any amount of
4 fraudulently obtained public assistance funds in the form of assistance
5 payments, ~~it shall~~ THE RECOVERED FUNDS MUST be deposited in the county
6 social services fund ~~and the~~ UNTIL THE COUNTY HAS FULLY TRANSITIONED
7 TO UTILIZING THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE PURSUANT
8 TO SECTION 25.5-1-209. WHEN THE COUNTY HAS FULLY TRANSITIONED TO
9 UTILIZING THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE, THE COUNTY
10 SHALL NOTIFY THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF THE FULL TRANSITION AND THE
11 COUNTY SHALL TRANSFER THE MONEY IN THE COUNTY SOCIAL SERVICES
12 FUND TO THE STATE TREASURER, WHO SHALL CREDIT THE MONEY TO THE
13 CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE CASH FUND CREATED IN
14 SECTION 25.5-1-209. AFTER THE COUNTY HAS FULLY TRANSITIONED TO
15 UTILIZING THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE, AN ENTITY
16 THAT RECOVERS, ON BEHALF OF A COUNTY, AN AMOUNT OF
17 FRAUDULENTLY OBTAINED PUBLIC ASSISTANCE FUNDS SHALL TRANSFER
18 THE RECOVERED FUNDS TO THE STATE TREASURER, WHO SHALL CREDIT
19 THE MONEY TO THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE CASH
20 FUND. THE federal government is entitled to a share proportionate to the
21 amount of federal funds paid, unless a different amount is provided for
22 by federal law, the state is entitled to a share proportionate to one-half the
23 amount of state funds paid, and the county is entitled to a share
24 proportionate to the amount of county funds paid and, in addition, a share
25 proportionate to one-half the amount of state funds paid.

26 (B) Whenever a county department, a county board, a district
27 attorney, A COUNTY CONTRACTED TO ADMINISTER THE CENTRALIZED

1 MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE PURSUANT TO SECTION 25.5-1-209, or a state
2 department on behalf of a county department recovers any amount of
3 fraudulently obtained medical assistance, ~~it shall~~ THE RECOVERED FUNDS
4 MUST be deposited in the county social services fund ~~and the~~ UNTIL THE
5 COUNTY HAS FULLY TRANSITIONED TO UTILIZING THE CENTRALIZED
6 MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE PURSUANT TO SECTION 25.5-1-209. WHEN
7 THE COUNTY HAS FULLY TRANSITIONED TO UTILIZING THE CENTRALIZED
8 MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE, THE COUNTY SHALL NOTIFY THE STATE
9 DEPARTMENT OF THE FULL TRANSITION AND THE COUNTY SHALL TRANSFER
10 THE MONEY IN THE COUNTY SOCIAL SERVICES FUND TO THE STATE
11 TREASURER, WHO SHALL CREDIT THE MONEY TO THE CENTRALIZED
12 MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE CASH FUND CREATED IN SECTION 25.5-1-209.
13 AFTER THE COUNTY HAS FULLY TRANSITIONED TO UTILIZING THE
14 CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE, AN ENTITY THAT RECOVERS,
15 ON BEHALF OF A COUNTY, AN AMOUNT OF FRAUDULENTLY OBTAINED
16 MEDICAL ASSISTANCE FUNDS SHALL TRANSFER THE RECOVERED FUNDS TO
17 THE STATE TREASURER, WHO SHALL CREDIT THE MONEY TO THE
18 CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE CASH FUND. THE federal
19 government is entitled to a share proportionate to the amount of federal
20 funds paid, unless a different amount is provided for by federal law, and
21 the county is entitled to the remaining funds.

22 (C) THIS SUBSECTION (2)(b)(II) IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE JULY 1,
23 2028.

24 (III) (A) BEGINNING JULY 1, 2028, WHENEVER A COUNTY
25 DEPARTMENT, A COUNTY BOARD, A DISTRICT ATTORNEY, A COUNTY
26 CONTRACTED TO ADMINISTER THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY
27 SERVICE PURSUANT TO SECTION 25.5-1-209, OR A STATE DEPARTMENT ON

1 BEHALF OF A COUNTY DEPARTMENT RECOVERS ANY AMOUNT OF
2 FRAUDULENTLY OBTAINED PUBLIC ASSISTANCE FUNDS IN THE FORM OF
3 ASSISTANCE PAYMENTS, THE FRAUDULENT FUNDS SHALL BE TRANSFERRED
4 TO THE STATE TREASURER, WHO SHALL CREDIT THE MONEY TO THE
5 CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE CASH FUND CREATED IN
6 SECTION 25.5-1-209. THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT IS ENTITLED TO A SHARE
7 PROPORTIONATE TO THE AMOUNT OF FEDERAL FUNDS PAID, UNLESS A
8 DIFFERENT AMOUNT IS PROVIDED FOR BY FEDERAL LAW, THE STATE IS
9 ENTITLED TO A SHARE PROPORTIONATE TO ONE-HALF THE AMOUNT OF
10 STATE FUNDS PAID, AND THE COUNTY IS ENTITLED TO A SHARE
11 PROPORTIONATE TO THE AMOUNT OF COUNTY FUNDS PAID AND, IN
12 ADDITION, A SHARE PROPORTIONATE TO ONE-HALF THE AMOUNT OF STATE
13 FUNDS PAID.

14 (B) BEGINNING JULY 1, 2028, WHENEVER A COUNTY DEPARTMENT,
15 A COUNTY BOARD, A DISTRICT ATTORNEY, A COUNTY CONTRACTED TO
16 ADMINISTER THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE PURSUANT TO
17 SECTION 25.5-1-209, OR A STATE DEPARTMENT ON BEHALF OF A COUNTY
18 DEPARTMENT RECOVERS ANY AMOUNT OF FRAUDULENTLY OBTAINED
19 MEDICAL ASSISTANCE, AN AMOUNT FROM AN INDIVIDUAL FOR THE VALUE
20 OF THE MEDICAL ASSISTANCE BENEFITS THE INDIVIDUAL FRAUDULENTLY
21 OBTAINED SHALL BE TRANSFERRED TO THE STATE TREASURER, WHO SHALL
22 CREDIT THE MONEY TO THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE
23 CASH FUND CREATED IN SECTION 25.5-1-209. THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT
24 IS ENTITLED TO A SHARE PROPORTIONATE TO THE AMOUNT OF FEDERAL
25 FUNDS PAID, UNLESS A DIFFERENT AMOUNT IS PROVIDED FOR BY FEDERAL
26 LAW, AND THE COUNTY IS ENTITLED TO THE REMAINING FUNDS.

27 (3) ~~Whenever a county department, a county board, a district~~

1 ~~attorney, or the state department on behalf of the county recovers any~~
2 ~~amount of medical assistance payments that were obtained through~~
3 ~~unintentional member error, the federal government is entitled to a share~~
4 ~~proportionate to the amount of federal funds paid, unless a different~~
5 ~~amount is provided for by federal law; the state is entitled to a share~~
6 ~~proportionate to seventy-five percent of the amount of state funds paid;~~
7 ~~and the county is entitled to a share proportionate to the amount of county~~
8 ~~funds paid, if any, and, in addition, a share proportionate to twenty-five~~
9 ~~percent of the amount of state funds paid.~~

10 (4) ~~Actual costs and expenses incurred by the district attorney's~~
11 ~~office in carrying out the provisions of subsection (2) of this section shall~~
12 ~~be billed to counties or a county within the judicial district in the~~
13 ~~proportions specified in section 20-1-302, C.R.S. Each county shall make~~
14 ~~an annual accounting to the state department on all amounts recovered.~~

15 (5) THE STATE PORTION OF THE MONEY RECOUPED BY THE STATE
16 DEPARTMENT PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION MUST BE DEPOSITED INTO THE
17 CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE CASH FUND CREATED IN
18 SECTION 25.5-1-209.

19 **SECTION 9.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 25.5-1-118, **amend**
20 (1); and **repeal** (3) as follows:

21 **25.5-1-118. Duties of county departments.**

22 (1) The county departments or other state designated agencies,
23 where applicable, shall serve as agents of the state department and NO
24 LATER THAN JULY 1, 2028, shall ~~be charged with the~~ UTILIZE THE
25 CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE, ESTABLISHED IN SECTION
26 25.5-1-209, FOR THE administration of medical assistance and related
27 activities in the respective counties in accordance with the rules of the

1 state department.

2 (3) ~~The county department or other state designated agencies,~~
3 ~~where applicable, in each county shall submit quarterly and annually to~~
4 ~~the board of county commissioners a budget containing an estimate and~~
5 ~~supporting data setting forth the amount of money needed to carry out the~~
6 ~~provisions of this title.~~

7 **SECTION 10.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 25.5-1-121, **amend**
8 (2); and **add** (4) as follows:

9 **25.5-1-121. County expenditures - advancements - procedures.**

10 (2) Notwithstanding any other provision of this ~~article~~ ARTICLE 1,
11 the county department may spend in excess of twenty percent of actual
12 costs for the purpose of matching federal funds for the administration of
13 the child support enforcement program or for the administrative costs of
14 activities involving food stamp OR public assistance. ~~or medical~~
15 ~~assistance fraud investigations or prosecutions.~~

16 (4) ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS DO NOT INCLUDE EXPENDITURES THAT
17 ARE DUPLICATIVE OF COSTS COVERED BY THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER
18 INTEGRITY SERVICE, ESTABLISHED IN SECTION 25.5-1-209, OR SHARED
19 SERVICES, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 26-1-802.

20 **SECTION 11.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 25.5-1-137 as
21 follows:

22 **25.5-1-137. State income tax refund offset - rules.**

23 (1) (a) AT ANY TIME PRESCRIBED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF
24 REVENUE, BUT NOT LESS FREQUENTLY THAN ANNUALLY, THE STATE
25 DEPARTMENT SHALL CERTIFY TO THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE
26 INFORMATION REGARDING PERSONS WHO ARE OBLIGATED TO THE STATE
27 FOR OVERPAYMENT OF BENEFITS RECEIVED PURSUANT TO ARTICLES 4 TO

1 6 OF THIS TITLE 25.5. THE INFORMATION MUST INCLUDE CERTIFICATION OF
2 THE AMOUNT OF OVERPAYMENT THAT HAS BEEN DETERMINED BY FINAL
3 AGENCY ACTION, HAS BEEN ORDERED BY A COURT AS RESTITUTION, OR
4 HAS BEEN REDUCED TO JUDGMENT.

5 (b) THE INFORMATION REGARDING OVERPAYMENT OF BENEFITS
6 MUST ALSO INCLUDE THE NAME AND THE SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER OF
7 THE PERSON OBLIGATED TO THE STATE FOR THE OVERPAYMENT, THE
8 AMOUNT OF THE OVERPAYMENT, AND ANY OTHER IDENTIFYING
9 INFORMATION REQUIRED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE.

10 (2) AS A CONDITION OF CERTIFYING AN OVERPAYMENT TO THE
11 DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (1) OF THIS
12 SECTION, THE STATE DEPARTMENT MUST ENSURE THAT THE OBLIGATED
13 PERSON HAS BEEN AFFORDED THE OPPORTUNITY FOR A CONFERENCE AT
14 THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT LEVEL AND AFFORDED THE OPPORTUNITY FOR
15 AN APPEAL TO THE STATE DEPARTMENT PURSUANT TO SECTION
16 25.5-4-207. IN ADDITION, THE STATE DEPARTMENT, PRIOR TO FINAL
17 CERTIFICATION OF THE INFORMATION SPECIFIED IN SUBSECTION (1) OF THIS
18 SECTION TO THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE, MUST NOTIFY THE OBLIGATED
19 PERSON, IN WRITING, AT THE OBLIGATED PERSON'S LAST-KNOWN ADDRESS,
20 THAT THE STATE INTENDS TO REFER THE PERSON'S NAME TO THE
21 DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN AN ATTEMPT TO OFFSET THE OBLIGATION
22 AGAINST THE PERSON'S STATE INCOME TAX REFUND. THE NOTIFICATION
23 MUST INFORM THE OBLIGATED PERSON OF THE OPPORTUNITY FOR A
24 CONFERENCE WITH THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT, AS DESCRIBED IN SECTION
25 25.5-4-207, OR THE COUNTY CONTRACTED TO ADMINISTER A CENTRALIZED
26 MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE PURSUANT TO SECTION 25.5-1-209, AND OF
27 THE OPPORTUNITY FOR AN APPEAL TO THE STATE DEPARTMENT PURSUANT

1 TO SECTION 25.5-4-207. IN ADDITION, THE NOTICE MUST SPECIFY ISSUES
2 THAT MAY BE RAISED AT AN EVIDENTIARY CONFERENCE OR ON APPEAL, AS
3 PROVIDED BY THIS SUBSECTION (2), BY THE OBLIGATED PERSON IN
4 OBJECTING TO THE OFFSET. THE NOTICE MUST SPECIFY THAT THE
5 OBLIGATED PERSON MAY NOT OBJECT TO THE FACT THAT AN
6 OVERPAYMENT OCCURRED. A PERSON WHO HAS RECEIVED A NOTICE
7 PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION (2) MAY REQUEST, WITHIN THIRTY DAYS
8 AFTER THE DATE THE NOTICE WAS MAILED, AN ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW
9 OR EVIDENTIARY CONFERENCE, AS PROVIDED IN THIS SUBSECTION (2).

10 (3) UPON NOTIFICATION BY THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE OF
11 AMOUNTS DEPOSITED TO THE STATE TREASURER PURSUANT TO SECTION
12 39-21-108, THE STATE DEPARTMENT SHALL DETERMINE WHETHER THE
13 AMOUNT DEPOSITED IS RELATED TO THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY
14 SERVICE, ESTABLISHED IN SECTION 25.5-1-209. IF THE AMOUNT IS NOT
15 RELATED TO THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE, THE STATE
16 DEPARTMENT SHALL DISBURSE THE AMOUNTS TO THE APPROPRIATE
17 COUNTY FOR PROCESSING FOR DISTRIBUTION TO THE FEDERAL, STATE, OR
18 LOCAL AGENCY TO WHICH THE PERSON IS OBLIGATED. IF THE AMOUNT IS
19 RELATED TO THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE, THE COUNTY
20 CONTRACTED TO ADMINISTER THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY
21 SERVICE, AS DESCRIBED IN SECTION 25.5-1-209, SHALL DETERMINE THE
22 FEDERAL, STATE, OR LOCAL AGENCY TO WHICH THE PERSON IS OBLIGATED,
23 AND THE STATE DEPARTMENT SHALL DISTRIBUTE THE MONEY TO THE
24 FEDERAL, STATE, OR LOCAL AGENCY TO WHICH THE PERSON IS OBLIGATED.

25 (4) THE STATE DEPARTMENT SHALL ADOPT RULES PURSUANT TO
26 ARTICLE 4 OF TITLE 24 ESTABLISHING PROCEDURES TO IMPLEMENT THIS
27 SECTION.

1 (5) FOR A PROGRAM THAT IS NOT SUBJECT TO THE CENTRALIZED
2 MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE DESCRIBED IN SECTION 25.5-1-209, THE
3 HOME ADDRESSES AND SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBERS OF PERSONS SUBJECT
4 TO THE INCOME TAX REFUND OFFSET, PROVIDED TO THE STATE
5 DEPARTMENT BY THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE, MUST BE SENT TO THE
6 RESPECTIVE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN OR SOCIAL SERVICES. FOR
7 A PROGRAM THAT IS SUBJECT TO THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY
8 SERVICE DESCRIBED IN SECTION 25.5-1-209, THE HOME ADDRESSES AND
9 SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBERS OF PERSONS SUBJECT TO THE INCOME TAX
10 REFUND OFFSET, PROVIDED TO THE STATE DEPARTMENT BY THE
11 DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE, MUST BE SENT TO THE COUNTY CONTRACTED
12 TO ADMINISTER THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE PURSUANT
13 TO SECTION 25.5-1-209.

14 **SECTION 12.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 25.5-4-204, **add** (4)
15 as follows:

16 **25.5-4-204. Automated medical assistance administration.**

17 (4) COUNTY-LEVEL FRAUD FUNCTIONS MUST BE ADMINISTERED
18 USING THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE, ESTABLISHED IN
19 SECTION 25.5-1-209, OR SHARED SERVICES, AS DEFINED IN SECTION
20 26-1-802.

21 **SECTION 13.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 26-1-112, **amend**
22 (2)(b)(II); and **add** (2)(b)(III) as follows:

23 **26-1-112. Locating violators - recoveries - repeal.**

24 (2) (b) (II) (A) Whenever a county department, a county board, A
25 COUNTY DEPARTMENT CONTRACTED TO ADMINISTER THE CENTRALIZED
26 MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE PURSUANT TO SECTION 25.5-1-209, a district
27 attorney, or a state department on behalf of a county department recovers

1 any amount of fraudulently obtained public assistance funds in the form
2 of assistance payments, it shall be deposited in the county general fund
3 ~~and the~~ UNTIL THE COUNTY HAS FULLY TRANSITIONED TO UTILIZING THE
4 CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE PURSUANT TO SECTION
5 25.5-1-209. WHEN THE COUNTY HAS FULLY TRANSITIONED TO UTILIZING
6 THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE, THE COUNTY SHALL
7 NOTIFY THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE POLICY AND FINANCING OF THE
8 FULL TRANSITION AND THE COUNTY SHALL TRANSFER THE MONEY IN THE
9 COUNTY SOCIAL SERVICES FUND TO THE STATE TREASURER, WHO SHALL
10 CREDIT THE MONEY TO THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE
11 CASH FUND CREATED IN SECTION 25.5-1-209. AFTER THE COUNTY HAS
12 FULLY TRANSITIONED TO UTILIZING THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY
13 SERVICE, AN ENTITY THAT RECOVERS, ON BEHALF OF A COUNTY, AN
14 AMOUNT OF FRAUDULENTLY OBTAINED PUBLIC ASSISTANCE FUNDS SHALL
15 TRANSFER THE RECOVERED FUNDS TO THE STATE TREASURER, WHO SHALL
16 CREDIT THE MONEY TO THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE
17 CASH FUND. THE federal government ~~shall be~~ IS entitled to a share
18 proportionate to the amount of federal funds paid unless a different
19 amount is provided for by federal law, the state ~~shall be~~ IS entitled to a
20 share proportionate to one-half the amount of state funds paid, and the
21 county ~~shall be~~ CONTRACTED TO ADMINISTER THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER
22 INTEGRITY SERVICE PURSUANT TO SECTION 25.5-1-209 IS entitled to a
23 share proportionate to the amount of county funds paid and, in addition,
24 a share proportionate to one-half the amount of state funds paid. In the
25 case of funds recovered from fraudulently obtained food stamp coupons
26 by ~~the~~ A county department, A COUNTY CONTRACTED TO ADMINISTER THE
27 CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE PURSUANT TO SECTION

1 25.5-1-209, the county board, the district attorney, the state department,
2 ~~on behalf of a county department~~, OR the county ~~shall be~~ IS entitled to the
3 share of the recovered funds provided by the federal "Food Stamp Act"
4 UNTIL THE COUNTY HAS FULLY TRANSITIONED TO UTILIZING THE
5 CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE PURSUANT TO SECTION
6 25.5-1-209. WHEN THE COUNTY HAS FULLY TRANSITIONED TO UTILIZING
7 THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE, THE COUNTY MUST
8 NOTIFY THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE POLICY AND FINANCING OF THE
9 FULL TRANSITION AND THE COUNTY SHALL TRANSFER THE FUNDS TO THE
10 STATE TREASURER, WHO SHALL CREDIT THE MONEY TO THE CENTRALIZED
11 MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE CASH FUND CREATED IN SECTION 25.5-1-209.

12 (B) THIS SUBSECTION (1)(b)(II) IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE JULY 1,
13 2028.

14 (III) BEGINNING JULY 1, 2028, WHENEVER A COUNTY
15 DEPARTMENT, A COUNTY BOARD, A COUNTY DEPARTMENT CONTRACTED
16 TO ADMINISTER THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE PURSUANT
17 TO SECTION 25.5-1-209, A DISTRICT ATTORNEY, OR A STATE DEPARTMENT
18 ON BEHALF OF A COUNTY DEPARTMENT RECOVERS ANY AMOUNT OF
19 FRAUDULENTLY OBTAINED PUBLIC ASSISTANCE FUNDS IN THE FORM OF
20 ASSISTANCE PAYMENTS, THE FUNDS SHALL BE TRANSFERRED TO THE STATE
21 TREASURER, WHO SHALL CREDIT THE MONEY TO THE CENTRALIZED
22 MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE CASH FUND CREATED IN SECTION 25.5-1-209.
23 THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT IS ENTITLED TO A SHARE PROPORTIONATE TO
24 THE AMOUNT OF FEDERAL FUNDS PAID UNLESS A DIFFERENT AMOUNT IS
25 PROVIDED FOR BY FEDERAL LAW, THE STATE IS ENTITLED TO A SHARE
26 PROPORTIONATE TO ONE-HALF THE AMOUNT OF STATE FUNDS PAID, AND
27 THE COUNTY CONTRACTED TO ADMINISTER THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER

1 INTEGRITY SERVICE PURSUANT TO SECTION 25.5-1-209 IS ENTITLED TO A
2 SHARE PROPORTIONATE TO THE AMOUNT OF COUNTY FUNDS PAID AND, IN
3 ADDITION, A SHARE PROPORTIONATE TO ONE-HALF THE AMOUNT OF STATE
4 FUNDS PAID. IN THE CASE OF FUNDS RECOVERED FROM FRAUDULENTLY
5 OBTAINED FOOD STAMP COUPONS BY THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OR A
6 COUNTY CONTRACTED TO ADMINISTER THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER
7 INTEGRITY SERVICE PURSUANT TO SECTION 25.5-1-209, THE ENTITY THAT
8 RECOVERED THE FUNDS SHALL TRANSFER THE FUNDS TO THE STATE
9 TREASURER, WHO SHALL CREDIT THE MONEY TO THE CENTRALIZED
10 MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE CASH FUND CREATED IN SECTION 25.5-1-209.

11 **SECTION 14.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 26-1-118, **amend**
12 (1)(a), (6) introductory portion, and (7) as follows:

13 **26-1-118. Duties of county departments, county directors, and**
14 **district attorneys.**

15 (1) (a) The county departments or other state designated agencies,
16 where applicable, shall serve as agents of the state department and are
17 charged with the administration of public assistance, and welfare and
18 related activities in the respective counties in accordance with the rules
19 of the state department. ON OR BEFORE JULY 1, 2028, THE COUNTY
20 DEPARTMENTS SHALL PARTICIPATE IN THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER
21 INTEGRITY SERVICE, ESTABLISHED IN SECTION 25.5-1-209, AND SHARED
22 SERVICES, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 26-1-802, TO ENSURE EFFICIENT AND
23 CONSISTENT ADMINISTRATION OF PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS AND
24 RELATED ACTIVITIES THROUGHOUT THE STATE.

25 (6) The county department, OR A COUNTY CONTRACTED TO
26 ADMINISTER THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE PURSUANT TO
27 SECTION 25.5-1-209, shall report, to the district attorney monthly, data

1 relating to fraudulent activities covering, as a minimum, the activities
2 specified in ~~paragraphs (a), (b), and (d) of this subsection (6);~~
3 SUBSECTIONS (6)(a), (6)(b), AND (6)(d) OF THIS SECTION, and the district
4 attorney shall likewise report, monthly, to the county department, OR TO
5 A COUNTY CONTRACTED TO ADMINISTER THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER
6 INTEGRITY SERVICE PURSUANT TO SECTION 25.5-1-209, the data specified
7 in ~~paragraph (c) of this subsection (6)~~ SUBSECTION (6)(c) OF THIS
8 SECTION, as follows when applicable:

9 (7) The counties may prepare and issue to all payees, excluding
10 heads of households in nonpublic assistance food stamp cases, at the time
11 of delivery of any public assistance, a hermetically sealed photo
12 identification card ~~which~~ THAT is manufactured in ~~such~~ a secure manner
13 as to resist duplication or intrusion and containing the full name, a card
14 identification number, and any other data ~~which~~ THAT would ensure
15 proper identification. A county department, OR A COUNTY CONTRACTED
16 TO ADMINISTER THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE PURSUANT
17 TO SECTION 25.5-1-209, shall refer to the appropriate law enforcement
18 agency for investigation, within ten working days after discovery, any
19 information it may have concerning the improper use of a photo
20 identification card by a person not eligible to possess ~~such~~ THE card.

21 **SECTION 15.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 26-1-122, **amend**
22 (3)(c), (4)(i), and (6)(c) as follows:

23 **26-1-122. County appropriations and expenditures -**
24 **advancements - procedures.**

25 (3) (c) For purposes of this ~~article~~ ARTICLE 1, and except as
26 otherwise provided in subsection (6) of this section, under rules of the
27 state department, administrative costs ~~shall~~ include: Salaries of the county

1 director and employees of the county department staff engaged in the
2 performance of assistance payments, food stamps, and social services
3 activities; the county's payments on behalf of ~~such~~ employees for old age
4 and survivors' insurance or pursuant to a county officers' and employees'
5 retirement plan and for any health insurance plan, if approved by the state
6 department; the necessary travel expenses of the county board and the
7 administrative staff of the county department in the performance of their
8 duties; necessary telephone and telegraph COSTS; necessary equipment
9 and supplies; necessary payments for postage and printing, including the
10 printing and preparation of county warrants required for the
11 administration of the county department; and ~~such~~ other administrative
12 costs ~~as may be~~ approved by the state department; but advancements for
13 office space, utilities, and fixtures may be made from state funds only if
14 federal matching funds are available. ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS DO NOT
15 INCLUDE EXPENDITURES THAT ARE DUPLICATIVE OF COSTS COVERED BY
16 THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE, ESTABLISHED IN SECTION
17 25.5-1-209, AND SHARED SERVICES, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 26-1-802.

18 (4) (i) Notwithstanding any other provision of this ~~article~~ ARTICLE
19 1, the county department may receive and spend federal funds to which
20 it is entitled by reason of the county's expenditures in excess of the twenty
21 percent required by subsection (1) of this section for ~~any~~ A social services
22 activity that has been approved by the STATE department as an activity
23 that is eligible for reimbursement under any federal program. Acceptance
24 and expenditure of ~~such~~ federal funds ~~shall~~ in no way ~~affect~~ AFFECTS the
25 state's share of and contribution to ~~such~~ THE payments, and the county
26 ~~shall be~~ IS solely responsible for the provision of the nonfederal share that
27 is in excess of the twenty percent. EXPENDITURES THAT ARE DUPLICATIVE

1 OF COSTS COVERED BY THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE,
2 ESTABLISHED IN SECTION 25.5-1-209, AND SHARED SERVICES, AS DEFINED
3 IN SECTION 26-1-802, ARE NOT ELIGIBLE FOR FEDERAL OR STATE
4 REIMBURSEMENT.

5 (6) (c) The state department shall establish rules concerning what
6 constitutes administrative costs and program costs for the Colorado works
7 program. The executive director of the department of early childhood, in
8 coordination with county departments, shall establish rules concerning
9 what constitutes administrative costs and program costs for the Colorado
10 child care assistance program. The state treasurer shall make
11 advancements to county departments for the costs of administering the
12 Colorado works program and the Colorado child care assistance program
13 from funds appropriated or made available for ~~such~~ THAT purpose, upon
14 authorization of the department of early childhood or the state
15 department, as applicable; except that ~~in no event shall~~ the department of
16 early childhood or the state department SHALL NOT authorize expenditures
17 greater than the annual appropriation by the general assembly for ~~such~~
18 THE administrative costs of the county departments. As funds are
19 advanced, adjustment ~~shall~~ MUST be made from subsequent monthly
20 payments for those purposes. ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS DO NOT INCLUDE
21 EXPENDITURES THAT ARE DUPLICATIVE OF COSTS COVERED BY THE
22 CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE, ESTABLISHED IN SECTION
23 25.5-1-209, AND SHARED SERVICES, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 26-1-802, AND
24 ARE NOT ELIGIBLE FOR FEDERAL OR STATE REIMBURSEMENT.

25 **SECTION 16.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 26-2-107, **amend**
26 (1)(c) and (2) as follows:

27 **26-2-107. Verification - record.**

1 (1) (c) Within ten working days after a discrepancy relating to a
2 fraudulent or suspected fraudulent act affecting eligibility is discovered,
3 ~~if~~ THE DISCREPANCY shall be referred to the appropriate investigatory
4 agency for investigation. The investigatory agency shall take action
5 within thirty days ~~following~~ AFTER receipt of the information from the
6 county department OR A COUNTY CONTRACTED TO ADMINISTER THE
7 CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE PURSUANT TO SECTION
8 25.5-1-209.

9 (2) The county department, A COUNTY CONTRACTED TO
10 ADMINISTER THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE PURSUANT TO
11 SECTION 25.5-1-209, the state department, and the officers and authorized
12 employees of each ENTITY may conduct visits to the home of the applicant
13 at reasonable times, make investigations and require the attendance and
14 testimony of witnesses and the production of books, records, and papers
15 by subpoena, and make application to the district court to compel and
16 enforce ~~such~~ attendance and testimony of witnesses and the production
17 of ~~such~~ books, records, and papers. Officers and employees designated by
18 the county department, A COUNTY CONTRACTED TO ADMINISTER THE
19 CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE PURSUANT TO SECTION
20 25.5-1-209, or the state department may administer oaths and
21 affirmations.

22 **SECTION 17.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 26-2-133, **amend**
23 (3) and (5) as follows:

24 **26-2-133. State income tax refund offset - rules.**

25 (3) Upon notification by the department of revenue of amounts
26 deposited with the state treasurer pursuant to section 39-21-108, ~~C.R.S.~~,
27 THE STATE DEPARTMENT SHALL DETERMINE WHETHER THE AMOUNT

1 DEPOSITED IS RELATED TO THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE,
2 ESTABLISHED IN SECTION 25.5-1-209. IF THE AMOUNT IS NOT RELATED TO
3 THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE, ~~the state department shall~~
4 ~~disburse such amounts~~ THE AMOUNT to the appropriate county for
5 processing for distribution to the federal, state, or local agency to ~~whom~~
6 WHICH the person is obligated. IF THE AMOUNT IS RELATED TO THE
7 CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE, A COUNTY CONTRACTED TO
8 ADMINISTER THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE PURSUANT TO
9 SECTION 25.5-1-209 SHALL DETERMINE THE FEDERAL, STATE, OR LOCAL
10 AGENCY TO WHICH THE PERSON IS OBLIGATED AND INFORM THE
11 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE POLICY AND FINANCING OF THE AGENCY,
12 AND THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE POLICY AND FINANCING SHALL
13 DISTRIBUTE THE MONEY TO THE FEDERAL, STATE, OR LOCAL AGENCY TO
14 WHICH THE PERSON IS OBLIGATED.

15 (5) FOR A PROGRAM THAT IS NOT THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER
16 INTEGRITY SERVICE, ESTABLISHED IN SECTION 25.5-1-209, the home
17 addresses and social security numbers of persons subject to the income
18 tax refund offset, provided to the state department by the department of
19 revenue, must be sent to the respective county department. ~~of human or~~
20 ~~social services.~~ FOR A PROGRAM THAT IS THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER
21 INTEGRITY SERVICE, ESTABLISHED IN SECTION 25.5-1-209, THE HOME
22 ADDRESSES AND SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBERS OF PERSONS SUBJECT TO THE
23 INCOME TAX REFUND OFFSET, PROVIDED TO THE STATE DEPARTMENT BY
24 THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE, MUST BE SENT TO THE COUNTY
25 CONTRACTED TO ADMINISTER THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY
26 SERVICE PURSUANT TO SECTION 25.5-1-209.

27 **SECTION 18.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 26.5-4-103, **amend**

1 (3) as follows:

2 **26.5-4-103. Definitions.**

3 As used in this part 1, unless the context otherwise requires:

4 (3) "County department" means the county or district department
5 of human or social services, OR, FOR FUNCTIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES
6 ADMINISTERED PURSUANT TO THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY
7 SERVICE, ESTABLISHED IN SECTION 25.5-1-209, A COUNTY CONTRACTED
8 TO ADMINISTER THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE PURSUANT
9 TO SECTION 25.5-1-209.

10 **SECTION 19.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 26.5-4-106, **amend**
11 (2)(d) and (2)(e) as follows:

12 **26.5-4-106. Applications for child care assistance -**
13 **applications for child care employees - verification - award - not**
14 **assignable - limitation - rules.**

15 (2) (d) Within ten working days after the county department
16 discovers a discrepancy relating to a fraudulent or suspected fraudulent
17 act affecting eligibility, the county department shall refer the matter to the
18 appropriate investigatory agency, INCLUDING A COUNTY OR A COUNTY
19 CONTRACTED TO ADMINISTER THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY
20 SERVICE PURSUANT TO SECTION 25.5-1-209 for investigation. The
21 investigatory agency, WHICH MAY BE A COUNTY CONTRACTED TO
22 ADMINISTER THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE PURSUANT TO
23 SECTION 25.5-1-209, shall take action within thirty days ~~following~~ AFTER
24 receipt of the information from the county department.

25 (e) The county department, the department, A COUNTY
26 CONTRACTED TO ADMINISTER THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY
27 SERVICE PURSUANT TO SECTION 25.5-1-209, and the officers and

1 authorized employees of each ENTITY may conduct visits to the home of
2 the applicant at reasonable times, make investigations and require the
3 attendance and testimony of witnesses and the production of books,
4 records, and papers by subpoena, and make application to the district
5 court to compel and enforce ~~such~~ attendance and testimony of witnesses
6 and the production of ~~such~~ books, records, and papers. Officers and
7 employees designated by the ~~county department~~ or the department OR A
8 COUNTY CONTRACTED TO ADMINISTER THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER
9 INTEGRITY SERVICE PURSUANT TO SECTION 25.5-1-209 may administer
10 oaths and affirmations.

11 **SECTION 20.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **amend** 26.5-4-116
12 as follows:

13 **26.5-4-116. Recovery from recipient - estate.**

14 (1) (a) If, at any time during the continuance of child care
15 assistance, the recipient becomes possessed of property having a value in
16 excess of that amount set pursuant to ~~the provisions of~~ section 26.5-4-106
17 (4) and department rules or receives ~~any~~ AN increase in income, the
18 recipient shall notify the county department of the possession of the
19 property or receipt of the income, and the county department may either
20 terminate the child care assistance or alter the amount of child care
21 assistance in accordance with the circumstances and department rules.

22 (b) To the extent not otherwise prohibited by state or federal law,
23 if the recipient is found to have committed an intentional program
24 violation, the recipient is disqualified from participation in CCCAP for
25 twelve months for the first incident, twenty-four months for a second
26 incident, and permanently for a third or subsequent incident. This
27 disqualification is mandatory and is in addition to any other penalty

1 imposed by law.

2 (c) Except as provided in subsections (3) and (4) of this section,
3 any previously provided excess child care assistance to which the
4 recipient was not entitled is recoverable by the county, ~~as a debt due~~ OR
5 BY A COUNTY CONTRACTED TO ADMINISTER THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER
6 INTEGRITY SERVICE PURSUANT TO SECTION 25.5-1-209, AS A DEBT OWED.
7 IF THE DEBT OWED IS DUE TO FRAUDULENTLY OBTAINED CHILD CARE
8 ASSISTANCE OR FRAUDULENTLY OBTAINED OVERPAYMENTS OF CHILD
9 CARE ASSISTANCE, THE RECOVERY OF THE DEBT MUST BE DISTRIBUTED TO
10 THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE CASH FUND CREATED IN
11 SECTION 25.5-1-209 AND THE COUNTY IN A PROPORTION DETERMINED BY
12 DEPARTMENT RULE. IF THE DEBT OWED IS DUE TO EXCESS CHILD CARE
13 ASSISTANCE PAID FOR WHICH THE RECIPIENT WAS INELIGIBLE BUT THAT
14 WAS NOT FRAUDULENTLY OBTAINED, THE RECOVERY OF THAT DEBT MUST
15 BE DISTRIBUTED to the state and the county in proportion to the amount
16 of child care assistance paid by each respectively. ~~except that~~ ON AN
17 AMOUNT OF CHILD CARE ASSISTANCE FRAUDULENTLY OBTAINED, interest
18 ~~is~~ MUST BE charged and paid to the county department, ~~on any sum~~
19 ~~fraudulently obtained~~, OR A COUNTY CONTRACTED TO ADMINISTER THE
20 CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE PURSUANT TO SECTION
21 25.5-1-209, calculated at the legal rate and calculated from the date the
22 sum was paid to a provider on behalf of the recipient to the date the sum
23 is recovered.

24 (d) If the debt for fraudulently obtained child care assistance,
25 fraudulently obtained overpayments of child care assistance, or excess
26 child care assistance paid for which the recipient was ineligible has been
27 reduced to a judgment in a court of record in this state, the county

1 department, OR A COUNTY CONTRACTED TO ADMINISTER THE
2 CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE PURSUANT TO SECTION
3 25.5-1-209, may seek a continuing garnishment to collect the debt ~~under~~
4 PURSUANT TO article 54.5 of title 13.

5 (2) If, upon the death or mental incompetency of ~~any~~ A recipient,
6 the inventory of the recipient's estate shows assets in excess of the amount
7 that the recipient was allowed to have in order to receive child care
8 assistance, or if it ~~be~~ IS shown that the recipient was otherwise ineligible
9 for child care assistance, then the claim of the county, OR OF A COUNTY
10 CONTRACTED TO ADMINISTER THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY
11 SERVICE PURSUANT TO SECTION 25.5-1-209, and state for the excess child
12 care assistance paid for which the recipient was ineligible, if filed as
13 required by section 15-12-804, has priority as a debt given preference
14 ~~under~~ PURSUANT TO section 15-12-805 (1)(f.7).

15 (3) When a recipient was ineligible for child care assistance solely
16 because of property in excess of that permitted by department rules
17 pursuant to section 26.5-4-106 (4), the amount for which the recipient is
18 liable is the amount by which the property exceeded the amount allowable
19 under ~~said~~ THE rules or the total amount of child care assistance received,
20 whichever is the lesser amount. Except as provided in subsection (4) of
21 this section, actions for the recovery of these sums must be prosecuted by
22 the county department, A COUNTY CONTRACTED TO ADMINISTER THE
23 CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE PURSUANT TO SECTION
24 25.5-1-209, or the department in a court of record that has jurisdiction.

25 (4) The department and a county department, OR A COUNTY
26 CONTRACTED TO ADMINISTER THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY
27 SERVICE PURSUANT TO SECTION 25.5-1-209, may elect not to attempt

1 recovery of an overpayment of child care assistance from an individual
2 who is no longer receiving public assistance or child care assistance if the
3 overpayment amount is less than thirty-five dollars. If the overpayment
4 amount owed by an individual who is no longer receiving public
5 assistance or child care assistance is thirty-five dollars or more, the
6 department and the county department, OR A COUNTY CONTRACTED TO
7 ADMINISTER THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE PURSUANT TO
8 SECTION 25.5-1-209, may determine, consistent with the six-year time
9 limitation for the execution on judgments involving state debt, that it is
10 no longer cost-effective to continue to pursue recovery of the
11 overpayment.

12 **SECTION 21.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **amend** 26.5-4-117
13 as follows:

14 **26.5-4-117. Locating violators - recoveries.**

15 (1) The executive director or district attorneys may request and
16 receive from departments, boards, bureaus, or other agencies of the state
17 or any of its political subdivisions, and ~~the same~~ THE DEPARTMENTS,
18 BOARDS, BUREAUS, OR OTHER AGENCIES OF THE STATE OR ANY OF ITS
19 POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS are required to provide ~~such~~ assistance and data
20 as will enable the department and county departments, ~~properly to~~ OR A
21 COUNTY CONTRACTED TO ADMINISTER THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER
22 INTEGRITY SERVICE PURSUANT TO SECTION 25.5-1-209, TO PROPERLY carry
23 out their powers and duties to locate and prosecute ~~any~~ A person who
24 fraudulently obtains child care assistance pursuant to this part 1. ~~Any~~
25 Records established pursuant to ~~the provisions of~~ this section are
26 available only to the department, the county departments OR A COUNTY
27 CONTRACTED TO ADMINISTER THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY

1 SERVICE PURSUANT TO SECTION 25.5-1-209, the attorney general, and the
2 district attorneys, county attorneys, and courts having jurisdiction in fraud
3 or recovery proceedings or actions.

4 (2) All departments and agencies of the state and local
5 governments shall cooperate in the location and prosecution of a person
6 who fraudulently obtains child care assistance pursuant to this part 1, and,
7 on request of the county or district board of human or social services, the
8 county director, the department, or the district attorney of ~~any~~ A judicial
9 district in this state shall supply all information on hand relative to the
10 location, employment, income, and property of ~~said persons~~ THE PERSON,
11 notwithstanding any other provision of law making the information
12 confidential, except the laws pertaining to confidentiality of tax returns
13 filed pursuant to law with the department of revenue. The department of
14 revenue shall furnish at no cost to inquiring departments and agencies
15 ~~such~~ information ~~as may be~~ necessary to effectuate the purposes of this
16 part 1. The executive director shall, by rule, establish the procedures
17 whereby this information is requested and provided. The department or
18 county departments, OR A COUNTY CONTRACTED TO ADMINISTER THE
19 CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE PURSUANT TO SECTION
20 25.5-1-209, shall use ~~such~~ THE information only for the purposes of
21 administering the Colorado child care assistance program pursuant to this
22 part 1, and a district attorney shall use it only for the prosecution of
23 persons who fraudulently obtain child care assistance pursuant to this part
24 1, and shall not use the information, or disclose it, for any other purpose.

25 (3) A district attorney shall bill the actual costs and expenses
26 incurred by the district attorney's office in carrying out ~~the provisions of~~
27 subsection (2) of this section to counties or a county within the judicial

1 district, OR A COUNTY CONTRACTED TO ADMINISTER THE CENTRALIZED
2 MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE PURSUANT TO SECTION 25.5-1-209, in the
3 proportions specified in section 20-1-302. Each county, OR A COUNTY
4 CONTRACTED TO ADMINISTER THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY
5 SERVICE PURSUANT TO SECTION 25.5-1-209, shall make an annual
6 accounting to the department on all amounts recovered.

7 **SECTION 22.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 39-21-108, **amend**
8 (3)(a)(VII) as follows:

9 **39-21-108. Refunds.**

10 (3) (a) (VII) ~~Any moneys~~ MONEY withheld for payment of
11 obligations owed the department of human services for overpayment of
12 public assistance OR MEDICAL ASSISTANCE benefits pursuant to this
13 subsection (3) ~~shall~~ MUST be deposited with the state treasurer for
14 disbursement by the department of human services. For all names and
15 associated amounts certified by the department of human services
16 pursuant to section 26-2-133, ~~C.R.S.~~, the executive director of the
17 department of revenue shall provide to the department of human services
18 the names of taxpayers and the associated amounts deposited with the
19 state treasurer and any other identifying information as required by the
20 department of human services.

21 **SECTION 23. Safety clause.** The general assembly finds,
22 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate
23 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety or for appropriations for
24 the support and maintenance of the departments of the state and state
25 institutions.