

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

ENGROSSED

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

LLS NO. 26-0425.01 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, AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH,**
103 **MAKING AND REDUCING AN APPROPRIATION.**

Bill Summary

(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <http://leg.colorado.gov>.)

Joint Budget Committee. 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

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

HOUSE
Amended 2nd Reading
May 7, 2026

integrity service to conduct fraud investigations concerning eligibility for 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:*



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

5 (a) Access to public benefits is fundamental to the health,
6 stability, and economic security of Colorado residents; the systems used
7 to administer those benefits must be accessible, efficient, and reliable;

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

11 (c) The state's current benefits technology infrastructure is
12 fragmented, difficult to navigate, and imposes administrative burdens on
13 applicants, recipients, and staff who determine applicant eligibility, which
14 may limit access to services for eligible individuals and families;

15 (d) Colorado has the opportunity to redesign its benefits
16 infrastructure through modular technology built on published, open
17 standards—preserving state control of technology direction; ensuring
18 ongoing development of a comprehensive, long-term plan to redesign the
19 state's public benefits system to support cost mitigation; and increasing
20 administrative efficiency and the delivery of high-quality services for

1 individuals and families; and

2 (e) To ensure effective change management and minimize
3 disruption to services for individuals and families, the approach to
4 redesigning the safety net must occur within established timelines and
5 include structured planning processes, intentional stakeholder
6 engagement, and regular progress updates to the general assembly.

7 (2) The general assembly further declares that:

8 (a) The department of human services, the department of early
9 childhood, and the department of health care policy and financing, in
10 partnership with counties, front line workers, and other interested
11 stakeholders, shall conduct a structured, facilitated process to ensure that
12 Colorado operates a redesigned public benefits delivery model consisting
13 of no more than twelve cohorts of counties working together to
14 administer public assistance programs no later than July 1, 2028;

15 (b) The public benefits delivery system redesign:

16 (I) Replaces existing benefits technology with modular solutions
17 built on published, open standards to ensure adaptability, preserve state
18 control of technology direction, and enable continuous improvement in
19 service delivery;

20 (II) Ensures state-directed product management so the state retains
21 authority over strategy, roadmap, and measurement of user outcomes and
22 experience;

23 (III) Streamlines access through unified systems that are
24 integrated across programs to improve coordination and reduce
25 administrative burden on residents, applicants, and eligibility technicians;

26 (IV) Designs eligibility, enrollment, and redetermination
27 processes around the whole person using plain language and simple

1 processes so that seeking help is straightforward, dignified, and accessible
2 regardless of language or ability; and

3 (V) Adopts published, open standards and interoperability
4 requirements to ensure ongoing vendor competition and competitive
5 procurement that drives the best outcomes for residents; and

6 (c) The redesign of the state's benefits technology infrastructure
7 is a priority necessary to support improved program administration and
8 resident service delivery. State agencies responsible for benefits
9 administration should coordinate across programs, prioritize
10 implementation of redesign efforts, and report annually to the general
11 assembly, including working demonstrations of deployed service
12 improvements and measurable outcomes for residents.

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

15 **25.5-1-209. Centralized member integrity service - transition**
16 **plan - member integrity service fund.**

17 (1) THE STATE DEPARTMENT, IN COORDINATION WITH THE
18 DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES AND THE DEPARTMENT OF EARLY
19 CHILDHOOD, SHALL CONTRACT WITH A SINGLE COUNTY DEPARTMENT TO
20 ADMINISTER THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE. PURSUANT
21 TO THE TERMS OF THE CONTRACT, THE COUNTY ADMINISTERING THE
22 CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE MAY SUBCONTRACT WITH
23 OTHER COUNTIES TO FULFILL ITS OBLIGATIONS. THE CENTRALIZED
24 MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE MUST BE OPERATIONAL AND UTILIZED ON
25 JULY 1, 2027.

26 (2) THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE IS
27 RESPONSIBLE FOR CONDUCTING FRAUD INVESTIGATIONS FOR FRAUD

1 CLAIMS, FRAUD RECOVERY, FRAUD DISPUTE RESOLUTION CONFERENCES,
2 AND STATE-LEVEL FRAUD HEARINGS, INTENTIONAL PROGRAM VIOLATION
3 WAIVERS, AND CRIMINAL COURT PROCEEDINGS, CONCERNING PROGRAM
4 ELIGIBILITY OR FRAUD AFFECTING ELECTRONIC BENEFITS TRANSFER CARDS
5 OR SIMILAR CREDIT-CARD-TYPE DEVICES THROUGH WHICH FOOD STAMP OR
6 CASH 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 CHILDREN'S BASIC HEALTH PLAN ESTABLISHED PURSUANT
12 TO ARTICLE 8 OF TITLE 25.5;

13 (c) THE SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
14 ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO PART 3 OF ARTICLE 2 OF TITLE 26;

15 (d) THE COLORADO CHILD CARE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
16 ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO PART 1 OF ARTICLE 4 OF TITLE 26.5;

17 (e) THE TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES PROGRAM,
18 AS DEFINED IN SECTION 26-2-703; AND

19 (f) ADULT FINANCIAL PROGRAMS ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO PART
20 1 OF ARTICLE 2 OF TITLE 26, WHICH INCLUDES THE OLD AGE PENSION, AID
21 TO THE NEEDY DISABLED, AND HOME CARE ALLOWANCE.

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

26 (b) THE TRANSITION PLAN MUST OUTLINE THE PARAMETERS FOR
27 COUNTY DEPARTMENT FRAUD AND PROGRAM INTEGRITY FUNCTIONS,

1 INCLUDING FRAUD CLAIMS, FRAUD RECOVERY, FRAUD DISPUTE
2 RESOLUTION CONFERENCES, AND STATE-LEVEL FRAUD HEARINGS,
3 RELATED TO THE PROGRAMS DETAILED IN SUBSECTION (3) OF THIS
4 SECTION.

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

9 (d) A COUNTY DEPARTMENT SHALL CONTINUE TO CONDUCT AND
10 COMPLETE FRAUD PROGRAM INTEGRITY FUNCTIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH
11 ALL APPLICABLE STATE AND FEDERAL LAWS AND REGULATIONS UNTIL THE
12 COUNTY DEPARTMENT HAS TRANSITIONED TO THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER
13 INTEGRITY SERVICE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TRANSITION PLAN. ALL
14 FRAUD AND PROGRAM INTEGRITY FUNCTIONS, INCLUDING OPEN
15 INVESTIGATIONS, UNWORKED REFERRALS, RECOVERIES, FRAUD DISPUTE
16 RESOLUTION CONFERENCES, STATE-LEVEL FRAUD HEARINGS, INTENTIONAL
17 PROGRAM VIOLATION WAIVERS, AND CRIMINAL COURT PROCEEDINGS,
18 MUST BE TRANSFERRED TO THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE
19 BY JULY 1, 2028.

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

1 CONTRACTOR EXPENSES.

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

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

7 **26-1-119.5. State and county departments - minimum**
8 **requirements - state supervision - corrective action protocols -**
9 **definitions - legislative declaration.**

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

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

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

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

26 (IV) ESTABLISHING A STANDARDIZED FRAMEWORK FOR
27 PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENTS, MONITORING, AND CORRECTIVE ACTION

1 THROUGH STREAMLINED CONTRACTS BETWEEN THE STATE AND COUNTIES
2 PROMOTES TRANSPARENCY, ACCOUNTABILITY, AND EFFECTIVE
3 PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN THE STATE AND COUNTIES TO DELIVER SERVICES
4 TO INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES.

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

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

12 (2) AS USED IN THIS SECTION, UNLESS THE CONTEXT OTHERWISE
13 REQUIRES:

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

18 (b) "CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN" MEANS A FORMAL PLAN FOR WHEN
19 A COUNTY DEPARTMENT FAILS TO MEET THE REQUIREMENTS OF A
20 PERFORMANCE-BASED CONTRACT IN WHICH THE COUNTY IS A PARTY,
21 PERFORMANCE METRICS, OR APPLICABLE STATE OR FEDERAL LAW OR
22 REGULATION.

23 (c) "PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS" MEANS THE MEDICAL
24 ASSISTANCE PROGRAM ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO ARTICLES 4 TO 6 OF
25 TITLE 25.5; THE CHILDREN'S BASIC HEALTH PLAN ESTABLISHED PURSUANT
26 TO ARTICLE 8 OF TITLE 25.5; THE SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE
27 PROGRAM ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO PART 3 OF ARTICLE 2 OF THIS TITLE

1 26; THE COLORADO CHILD CARE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM ESTABLISHED
2 PURSUANT TO PART 1 OF ARTICLE 4 OF THIS TITLE 26.5; THE TEMPORARY
3 ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES PROGRAM, AS DEFINED IN SECTION
4 26-2-703; THE OLD AGE PENSION PROGRAM ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO
5 ARTICLE XXIV OF THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION; AND ADULT FINANCIAL
6 PROGRAMS.

7 (d) "STATE DEPARTMENTS" MEANS THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN
8 SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE POLICY AND FINANCING, AND
9 THE DEPARTMENT OF EARLY CHILDHOOD.

10 (3) ON OR BEFORE FEBRUARY 1, 2027, THE STATE DEPARTMENTS
11 SHALL COLLABORATE TO ESTABLISH ALIGNED MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS
12 FOR COUNTY DEPARTMENTS THROUGH PERFORMANCE-BASED CONTRACTS,
13 TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE SPECIFIC STATE AND FEDERAL REQUIREMENTS
14 APPLICABLE TO EACH PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAM. PRIOR TO FEBRUARY
15 1, 2027, THE STATE DEPARTMENTS SHALL SHARE DRAFT TEMPLATES OF
16 THE PERFORMANCE-BASED CONTRACT WITH THE COUNTY DEPARTMENTS
17 FOR REVIEW AND COMMENT.

18 (4) (a) ON OR BEFORE JULY 1, 2027, THE STATE DEPARTMENTS
19 SHALL ENTER INTO A PERFORMANCE-BASED CONTRACT WITH EACH
20 COUNTY DEPARTMENT FOR THE PURPOSES OF:

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

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

25 (III) CONSOLIDATING EXISTING CONTRACTS, MEMORANDA OF
26 UNDERSTANDING, AND OTHER AGREEMENTS RELATED TO THE
27 ADMINISTRATION OF PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS.

1 (b) EACH PERFORMANCE-BASED CONTRACT MUST INCLUDE, AT A
2 MINIMUM:

3 (I) MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR THE STATE DEPARTMENTS AND
4 COUNTY DEPARTMENTS;

5 (II) MEASURABLE OUTCOMES AND PERFORMANCE METRICS;

6 (III) CORRECTIVE ACTION PROTOCOLS AND CONSEQUENCES FOR A
7 COUNTY DEPARTMENT THAT FAILS TO MEET THE PERFORMANCE-BASED
8 CONTRACT REQUIREMENTS;

9 (IV) FOR COUNTY DEPARTMENTS, REQUIREMENTS TO MEET
10 PERFORMANCE THRESHOLDS IDENTIFIED IN THE PERFORMANCE-BASED
11 CONTRACT, INCLUDING:

12 [REDACTED]
13 (A) THRESHOLDS FOR METRICS INCLUDED IN MANAGEMENT
14 EVALUATIONS;

15 (B) THRESHOLDS FOR METRICS INCLUDED IN QUALITY ASSURANCE
16 REVIEWS;

17 (C) TRACKING AND REPORTING DATA FOR CONTINUOUS QUALITY
18 IMPROVEMENT AND PUBLIC REPORTING;

19 (D) REQUIREMENTS CURRENTLY INCLUDED IN CONTRACTS,
20 MEMORANDA OF UNDERSTANDING, AND OTHER AGREEMENTS BETWEEN
21 THE STATE DEPARTMENTS AND COUNTY DEPARTMENTS;

22 (E) REQUIRED PARTICIPATION IN STATE-PROVIDED TRAINING AND
23 TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE;

24 (F) COMPLYING WITH CORRECTIVE ACTION PROTOCOLS; AND

25 (G) THRESHOLDS FOR METRICS REQUIRED BY FEDERAL AGENCIES
26 OVERSEEING PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS; AND

27 (V) FOR THE STATE DEPARTMENTS, REQUIREMENTS TO MEET

1 PERFORMANCE THRESHOLDS IDENTIFIED IN THE PERFORMANCE-BASED
2 CONTRACT, INCLUDING:

3 (A) PROVIDING FUNDING, TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, AND TRAINING
4 TO ENABLE COUNTY DEPARTMENTS TO PROCESS CASES AND SERVE
5 RECIPIENTS;

6 (B) MAINTAINING PRIMARY ACCOUNTABILITY TO THE FEDERAL
7 GOVERNMENT AND ENSURING COMPLIANCE WITH STATE AND FEDERAL
8 LAW;

9 (C) REQUIREMENTS CURRENTLY INCLUDED IN CONTRACTS,
10 MEMORANDA OF UNDERSTANDING, AND OTHER AGREEMENTS BETWEEN
11 THE STATE DEPARTMENTS AND COUNTY DEPARTMENTS;

12 (D) REQUIREMENTS FOR CARRYING OUT MANAGEMENT
13 EVALUATIONS AND QUALITY ASSURANCE REVIEWS;

14 (E) REQUIREMENTS FOR LEADING STATEWIDE CONTINUOUS
15 QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PROCESSES IN CONSULTATION WITH COUNTY
16 DEPARTMENTS; AND

17 (F) REQUIREMENTS TO PUBLISH PUBLIC-FACING PERFORMANCE
18 DATA IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 26-1-144.

19 (5)(a) THE STATE DEPARTMENTS RETAIN ULTIMATE SUPERVISORY
20 AUTHORITY OVER EACH COUNTY DEPARTMENT AND SHALL MONITOR EACH
21 COUNTY DEPARTMENT'S COMPLIANCE WITH PERFORMANCE-BASED
22 CONTRACTS, STATE LAW, AND FEDERAL LAW. MONITORING MUST INCLUDE,
23 AT A MINIMUM:

24 (I) DETERMINING THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT'S COMPLIANCE WITH
25 PROGRAM PERFORMANCE METRICS;

26 (II) QUALITY ASSURANCE REVIEWS;

27 (III) CASE OR REPORT REVIEWS;

1 (IV) AUDIT FINDINGS; AND
2 (V) COMPLIANCE MONITORING REQUIRED BY STATE OR FEDERAL
3 LAW.

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

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

8 (I) A COUNTY DEPARTMENT'S PERFORMANCE FAILS TO MEET
9 REQUIREMENTS OUTLINED IN THE PERFORMANCE-BASED CONTRACTS OR
10 THIS SECTION 26-1-119.5 FOR THREE CONSECUTIVE MONTHS; OR

11 (II) MONITORING █████ SYSTEMIC PRACTICE OR COMPLIANCE
12 CONCERNS.

13 (d) UPON IDENTIFICATION OF A PERFORMANCE CONCERN, THE
14 DEPARTMENT SHALL PROVIDE WRITTEN NOTICE TO THE COUNTY
15 DEPARTMENT THAT INCLUDES:

16 (I) A DESCRIPTION OF THE CONCERN;

17 (II) APPLICABLE PERFORMANCE METRICS OR STANDARDS NOT
18 BEING MET;

19 (III) SUPPORTING DATA OR FINDINGS; AND

20 (IV) NOTICE OF WHETHER OR NOT A CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN IS
21 NECESSARY.

22 (e) A COUNTY DEPARTMENT HAS TEN BUSINESS DAYS AFTER
23 RECEIVING THE NOTICE REQUIRED BY SUBSECTION (5)(d) OF THIS SECTION
24 TO SUBMIT A WRITTEN DISPUTE OF THE FINDINGS OF A STATE
25 DEPARTMENT'S PERFORMANCE CONCERNS. THE STATE DEPARTMENTS
26 MUST RESPOND TO A COUNTY DEPARTMENT'S DISPUTE WITHIN TEN
27 BUSINESS DAYS AFTER RECEIVING NOTICE OF THE DISPUTE.

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

4 (6) (a) IF A CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN IS REQUIRED, THE COUNTY
5 DEPARTMENT SHALL SUBMIT THE CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN WITHIN TEN
6 BUSINESS DAYS, UNLESS AN EXTENSION IS GRANTED IN ACCORDANCE
7 WITH RULE, AFTER RECEIVING NOTICE OF THE STATE DEPARTMENT'S
8 PERFORMANCE CONCERNS AS REQUIRED BY SUBSECTION (5)(d) OF THIS
9 SECTION.

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

11 (I) A DESCRIPTION OF THE AREAS OF NONCOMPLIANCE OR
12 UNDERPERFORMANCE;

13 (II) REQUIRED CORRECTIVE ACTIONS;

14 (III) IMPLEMENTATION TIMELINES FOR THE CORRECTIVE ACTIONS;

15 (IV) MEASURABLE INDICATORS OF PROGRESS TOWARD
16 COMPLIANCE;

17 (V) REPORTING SCHEDULES;

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

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

22 (c) WITHIN TEN BUSINESS DAYS AFTER THE COUNTY
23 DEPARTMENT'S SUBMISSION OF A CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN, AS REQUIRED
24 BY SUBSECTION (6)(a) OF THIS SECTION, THE STATE DEPARTMENT SHALL
25 APPROVE THE CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN OR REQUEST MODIFICATIONS TO
26 THE CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN.

27 (d) THE CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN MONITORING PERIOD MUST BE

1 NO MORE THAN SIX MONTHS AND MAY INCLUDE CASE REVIEWS, SITE
2 VISITS, STAFF INTERVIEWS, DATA ANALYSIS, OR OTHER APPROPRIATE
3 MEASURES.

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

9 (f) CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN REQUIREMENTS MUST BE ALIGNED
10 ACROSS STATE DEPARTMENTS TO ENSURE UNIFORMITY, TAKING INTO
11 ACCOUNT DIFFERENCES IN STATE AND FEDERAL REQUIREMENTS FOR THE
12 INDIVIDUAL PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS.

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

16 (b) SANCTIONS MAY INCLUDE:

17 (I) DISALLOWANCE OF STATE FUNDS;

18 (II) ASSIGNMENT OF PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION TO ANOTHER
19 COUNTY DEPARTMENT; OR

20 (III) ASSUMPTION OF PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION BY A STATE
21 DEPARTMENT.

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

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

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

3 **26-1-143. Continuous quality improvement.**

4 (1) ON OR BEFORE SEPTEMBER 1, 2026, THE DEPARTMENT OF
5 HUMAN SERVICES, IN COLLABORATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
6 CARE POLICY AND FINANCING AND DEPARTMENT OF EARLY CHILDHOOD,
7 AND IN CONSULTATION WITH THE COUNTY DEPARTMENTS, SHALL
8 ESTABLISH A CONTINUOUS QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PROCESS TO REVIEW
9 THE METRICS REPORTED THROUGH COUNTY-LEVEL AND STATEWIDE
10 PERFORMANCE DATA, ERROR RATES, AND OTHER ERRORS AND
11 INCONSISTENCIES TO IDENTIFY ROOT CAUSES AND IMPLEMENT STRATEGIES
12 TO IMPROVE ACCURACY AND CONSISTENCY IN ELIGIBILITY
13 DETERMINATIONS.

14 (2) ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 1, 2027, AND ON OR BEFORE EVERY
15 JANUARY 1 THEREAFTER, THE DEPARTMENT, IN COLLABORATION WITH THE
16 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE POLICY AND FINANCING AND DEPARTMENT
17 OF EARLY CHILDHOOD, SHALL SUBMIT A REPORT TO THE JOINT BUDGET
18 COMMITTEE PROVIDING AN UPDATE ON THE CONTINUOUS QUALITY
19 IMPROVEMENT PROCESS AND DATA ON THE IMPACT OF THE CONTINUOUS
20 QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PROCESS ON THE METRICS INCLUDED IN THE
21 PROCESS.

22 **SECTION 5.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 25.5-1-137 as
23 follows:

24 **25.5-1-137. Data transparency and public reporting -**
25 **definitions.**

26 (1) AS USED IN THIS SECTION, UNLESS THE CONTEXT OTHERWISE
27 REQUIRES:

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

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

8 (c) "PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS" MEANS THE MEDICAL
9 ASSISTANCE PROGRAM ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO ARTICLES 4 TO 6 OF
10 TITLE 25.5; THE CHILDREN'S BASIC HEALTH PLAN ESTABLISHED PURSUANT
11 TO ARTICLE 8 OF TITLE 25.5; THE SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE
12 PROGRAM ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO PART 3 OF ARTICLE 2 OF THIS TITLE
13 26; THE COLORADO CHILD CARE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM ESTABLISHED
14 PURSUANT TO PART 1 OF ARTICLE 4 OF TITLE 26.5; THE TEMPORARY
15 ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES PROGRAM, AS DEFINED IN SECTION
16 26-2-703; THE OLD AGE PENSION PROGRAM ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO
17 ARTICLE XXIV OF THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION; AND ADULT FINANCIAL
18 PROGRAMS.

19 (2) BEGINNING JANUARY 2027, AND MONTHLY THEREAFTER, THE
20 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE POLICY AND FINANCING, IN
21 COLLABORATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES AND THE
22 DEPARTMENT OF EARLY CHILDHOOD, SHALL ESTABLISH A SINGLE, SHARED
23 ONLINE DASHBOARD USED TO PUBLISH COUNTY-LEVEL AND STATEWIDE
24 PERFORMANCE ON THE METRICS FOR EACH OF THE PUBLIC ASSISTANCE
25 PROGRAMS:

26 (a) FOR THE MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM, ESTABLISHED
27 PURSUANT TO ARTICLES 4 TO 6 OF TITLE 25.5 AND THE CHILDREN'S BASIC

1 HEALTH PLAN ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 8 OF TITLE 25.5:

2 (I) THE NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS AND RENEWAL APPLICATIONS
3 APPROVED WITHIN THE TIMELINES REQUIRED IN FEDERAL LAW AND
4 REGULATION FOR ALL APPLICATIONS, INCLUDING APPLICATIONS BASED ON
5 DISABILITY;

6 (II) THE NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS AND RENEWAL APPLICATIONS
7 DENIED WITHIN THE TIMELINES REQUIRED IN FEDERAL LAW AND
8 REGULATION FOR ALL APPLICATIONS, INCLUDING APPLICATIONS BASED ON
9 DISABILITY;


10 (III) THE TOTAL NUMBER OF RENEWAL APPLICATIONS PROCESSED
11 EACH MONTH, INCLUDING:

12 (A) THE NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS RENEWED USING EXISTING
13 DATA SOURCES AND THE NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS RENEWED USING
14 ADDITIONAL COMPLETED DOCUMENTATION SUBMITTED BY THE
15 RECIPIENTS;

16 (B) THE NUMBER OF INITIAL APPLICATIONS AND RENEWAL
17 APPLICATIONS PROCESSED AND DETERMINED INELIGIBLE;

18 (C) THE NUMBER OF INITIAL APPLICATIONS AND RENEWAL
19 APPLICATIONS DENIED FOR PROCEDURAL REASONS; AND

20 (D) THE NUMBER OF INITIAL APPLICATIONS AND RENEWAL
21 APPLICATIONS PENDING REVIEW;

22 
23 (IV) THE NUMBER OF FORMAL COMPLAINTS OR APPEALS
24 REGARDING ELIGIBILITY, BENEFITS, OR SERVICES FILED WITH THE
25 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE POLICY AND FINANCING; AND

26 (V) THE TOTAL NUMBER OF INITIAL APPLICATIONS AND RENEWAL
27 APPLICATIONS THAT ARE PENDING DETERMINATION AND THE TOTAL

1 NUMBER DEEMED UNTIMELY BASED ON THE TIMELINES REQUIRED BY
2 FEDERAL LAW AND REGULATION FOR APPLICATIONS BASED ON DISABILITY,
3 AND FOR ALL OTHER APPLICATIONS;

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

6 (I) THE RATE OF APPLICATION PROCESSING TIMELINESS FOR
7 STANDARD APPLICATIONS;

8 (II) THE RATE OF APPLICATION PROCESSING TIMELINESS FOR
9 EXPEDITED APPLICATIONS; AND


10 (III) THE RATE OF RECERTIFICATION PROCESSING TIMELINESS;

11 (c) FOR THE CHILD CARE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM, ESTABLISHED
12 PURSUANT TO PART 1 OF ARTICLE 4 OF TITLE 26.5:

13 (I) THE PERCENTAGE OF INITIAL APPLICATIONS AND APPLICATIONS
14 FOR REDETERMINATION APPROVED WITHIN THE TIMELINES REQUIRED BY
15 RULES ADOPTED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF EARLY CHILDHOOD; AND

16 (II) ENROLLMENT IN EACH OF THE FOLLOWING INCOME ELIGIBILITY
17 TIERS:

18 (A) ONE HUNDRED THIRTY PERCENT OF THE FEDERAL POVERTY
19 LINE AND BELOW; AND

20 
21 (B) ABOVE ONE HUNDRED THIRTY PERCENT OF THE FEDERAL
22 POVERTY LINE;

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

27 (e) FOR ADULT FINANCIAL PROGRAMS, THE PERCENTAGE OF

1 APPLICATIONS AND REDETERMINATIONS APPROVED WITHIN THE TIMELINES
2 REQUIRED BY RULES ADOPTED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES;
3 AND

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

5 (I) THE MONTHLY CASELOAD;

6 (II) THE PERCENTAGE OF APPLICATIONS, ENROLLMENTS, AND
7 RENEWALS PROCESSED THROUGH THE STATE'S ONLINE SYSTEM FOR
8 APPLICATION AND MANAGEMENT OF PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS, AND
9 THE PERCENTAGE OF APPLICATIONS, ENROLLMENTS, AND RENEWALS
10 PROCESSED BY OTHER METHODS; AND

11 [REDACTED]
12 (III) ON A QUARTERLY BASIS, THE NUMBER OF APPEALS FILED WITH
13 THE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE COURTS THAT NAME A COUNTY AS A
14 PARTY.

15 (3) (a) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (2)(f)(III) OF THIS
16 SECTION, THE DATA REPORTED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (2) OF THIS
17 SECTION MUST:

18 (b) BE PUBLISHED ON EACH OF THE DEPARTMENT'S WEBSITE'S IN A
19 PUBLICLY ACCESSIBLE FORMAT;

20 (c) BE UPDATED MONTHLY AND PUBLISHED IN ACCORDANCE WITH
21 DATA PRIVACY AND CONFIDENTIALITY LAWS OF THE STATE; AND

22 (d) BE MAINTAINED FROM PREVIOUS MONTHS IN A PUBLICLY
23 ACCESSIBLE MANNER.

24 (4) BEGINNING IN SEPTEMBER 2026, AND MONTHLY THEREAFTER,
25 EACH COUNTY DEPARTMENT SHALL PROVIDE THE INFORMATION DETAILED
26 IN SUBSECTION (2) OF THIS SECTION, OTHER THAN THE INFORMATION
27 DETAILED IN SUBSECTION (2)(a)(V) OF THIS SECTION, TO EACH RESPECTIVE

1 DEPARTMENT.

2 (5) THE STATE DEPARTMENT, IN COLLABORATION WITH THE
3 DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES AND THE DEPARTMENT OF EARLY
4 CHILDHOOD, SHALL PROVIDE TECHNICAL SUPPORT, TECHNOLOGY
5 ASSISTANCE, AND TRAINING TO THE COUNTY DEPARTMENTS, AS
6 REASONABLY NECESSARY, ON HOW TO PROVIDE THE INFORMATION
7 REQUIRED BY SUBSECTION (2) OF THIS SECTION TO THE RESPECTIVE
8 DEPARTMENTS.

9 SECTION 6. In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** part 8 to article
10 1 of title 26 as follows:

11 PART 8

12 DELIVERY OF PUBLIC BENEFITS

13

14 **26-1-801. Legislative declaration.**

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

16 (a) IN ADDITION TO NEAR-TERM POLICY CHANGES NEEDED TO
17 STABILIZE THE SAFETY NET, COLORADO SHOULD DEVELOP A
18 COMPREHENSIVE, LONG-TERM PLAN TO REDESIGN THE STATE'S PUBLIC
19 BENEFITS SYSTEM TO SUPPORT COST MITIGATION, INCREASED
20 ADMINISTRATIVE EFFICIENCY, AND THE DELIVERY OF HIGHER-QUALITY
21 SERVICES FOR INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES;

22 (b) TO ENSURE EFFECTIVE CHANGE MANAGEMENT AND TO
23 MINIMIZE DISRUPTION TO SERVICES FOR INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES, THE
24 APPROACH TO REDESIGNING THE SAFETY NET MUST OCCUR WITHIN
25 ESTABLISHED TIMELINES AND INCLUDE STRUCTURED PLANNING
26 PROCESSES, INTENTIONAL STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT, AND REGULAR
27 PROGRESS REPORTS TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY;

1 (c) IT IS NECESSARY FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES,
2 THE DEPARTMENT OF EARLY CHILDHOOD, AND THE DEPARTMENT OF
3 HEALTH CARE POLICY AND FINANCING, IN PARTNERSHIP WITH COUNTIES,
4 FRONT LINE WORKERS, AND OTHER INTERESTED STAKEHOLDERS, TO
5 CONDUCT A STRUCTURED, FACILITATED PROCESS IN ORDER TO ENSURE
6 THAT ON OR BEFORE JULY 1, 2028, COLORADO WILL OPERATE A
7 REDESIGNED PUBLIC BENEFITS DELIVERY MODEL CONSISTING OF NO MORE
8 THAN TWELVE COHORTS OF COUNTIES WORKING TOGETHER TO
9 ADMINISTER PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS; AND

10 (d) BECAUSE ACCESS TO PUBLIC BENEFITS IS FUNDAMENTAL TO
11 THE HEALTH, STABILITY, AND ECONOMIC SECURITY OF COLORADO
12 RESIDENTS, THE SYSTEMS USED TO ADMINISTER THOSE BENEFITS MUST BE
13 ACCESSIBLE, EFFICIENT, AND RELIABLE.

14 (2) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FURTHER FINDS AND DECLARES THAT:

15 (a) THE STATE'S CURRENT BENEFITS TECHNOLOGY
16 INFRASTRUCTURE IS FRAGMENTED, DIFFICULT TO NAVIGATE, AND IMPOSES
17 ADMINISTRATIVE BURDENS ON APPLICANTS, RECIPIENTS, AND STAFF WHO
18 DETERMINE APPLICANT ELIGIBILITY, WHICH MAY LIMIT ACCESS TO
19 SERVICES FOR ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES;

20 (b) MODERN, INTEGRATED TECHNOLOGY SYSTEMS ARE NECESSARY
21 TO SUPPORT EFFICIENT PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION, IMPROVE RECIPIENT
22 EXPERIENCE, AND ENSURE TIMELY AND EFFECTIVE DELIVERY OF BENEFITS
23 AND SERVICES;

24 (c) COLORADO HAS THE OPPORTUNITY TO REDESIGN ITS BENEFITS
25 TECHNOLOGY INFRASTRUCTURE THROUGH THE DEVELOPMENT OF A
26 STATE-OWNED, MODULAR, AND INTEROPERABLE PLATFORM TO IMPROVE
27 COORDINATION ACROSS PROGRAMS AND ENHANCE SERVICE DELIVERY;

1 AND

2 (d) REDESIGNING THE STATE'S BENEFITS TECHNOLOGY
3 INFRASTRUCTURE IS NECESSARY TO SUPPORT EFFECTIVE PROGRAM
4 ADMINISTRATION AND SERVICE DELIVERY UNDER THE REDESIGNED PUBLIC
5 BENEFITS DELIVERY MODEL. THE REDESIGN OF THE PUBLIC BENEFITS
6 DELIVERY MODEL WILL BE MOST EFFECTIVE WHEN THE STATE AGENCIES
7 RESPONSIBLE FOR BENEFITS ADMINISTRATION COORDINATE ACROSS
8 PROGRAMS, PRIORITIZE IMPLEMENTATION OF REDESIGN EFFORTS, AND
9 PROVIDE REPORTS TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY REGARDING PROGRESS
10 TOWARD THESE GOALS.

11 (3) THEREFORE, IT IS THE INTENT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
12 THAT THE FOLLOWING PRINCIPLES GUIDE BENEFITS TECHNOLOGY
13 REDESIGN:

14 (a) THE STATE SHOULD DEVELOP AND MAINTAIN A STATE-OWNED
15 BENEFITS PLATFORM THAT SUPPORTS MODULAR DESIGN,
16 INTEROPERABILITY, AND LONG-TERM ADAPTABILITY THAT ENABLE THE
17 MEASUREMENT OF PROGRAM OUTCOMES AND USER EXPERIENCE;

18 (b) THE STATE SHOULD DEVELOP AND MAINTAIN A CENTRALIZED
19 SYSTEM THROUGH WHICH RESIDENTS MAY ACCESS, APPLY FOR, AND
20 MANAGE BENEFITS ACROSS MULTIPLE PROGRAMS IN A MANNER THAT IS
21 ACCESSIBLE TO INDIVIDUALS OF ALL ABILITIES, LANGUAGES, AND LEVELS
22 OF DIGITAL ACCESS;

23 (c) THE STATE SHOULD IMPLEMENT A WHOLE-PERSON APPROACH
24 TO BENEFITS ADMINISTRATION BY STREAMLINING AND INTEGRATING
25 INTAKE, ELIGIBILITY, AND ENROLLMENT PROCESSES TO IMPROVE
26 COORDINATION AND REDUCE ADMINISTRATIVE BURDEN ON APPLICANTS,
27 RECIPIENTS, AND STAFF WHO DETERMINE APPLICANT ELIGIBILITY; AND

1 (d) THE STATE SHOULD ENSURE CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT AND
2 RESPONSIVENESS BY ADOPTING MODERN PRODUCT MANAGEMENT
3 PRACTICES IN ITS APPROACH TO BENEFITS TECHNOLOGY REDESIGN,
4 INCLUDING ONGOING USER RESEARCH, STATE-LED PRIORITIZATION OF
5 SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS AND ENHANCEMENTS, AND ITERATIVE, AGILE
6 DEVELOPMENT INFORMED BY PERFORMANCE METRICS AND USER
7 EXPERIENCE DATA.

8 **26-1-802. Definitions.**

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

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

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

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

21 (4) "PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS" MEANS THE MEDICAL
22 ASSISTANCE PROGRAM ESTABLISHED IN ARTICLES 4 TO 6 OF TITLE 25.5;
23 CHILDREN'S BASIC HEALTH PLAN ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 8 OF
24 TITLE 25.5, THE SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
25 ESTABLISHED IN PART 3 OF ARTICLE 2 OF THIS TITLE 26, THE COLORADO
26 CHILD CARE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM ESTABLISHED IN PART 1 OF ARTICLE 4
27 OF TITLE 26.5; THE TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES

1 PROGRAM DESCRIBED IN PART 7 OF ARTICLE 2 OF THIS TITLE 26; THE OLD
2 AGE 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) SECURITY ADMINISTRATION SERVICES TO MANAGE THE
21 PROVISION AND REVOCATION OF ACCESS BY COUNTY PERSONNEL TO
22 STATE-PROVIDED TECHNOLOGY PRODUCTS AND SYSTEMS.

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

26 (8) "THIRD-PARTY CONTRACTOR" MEANS THE ENTITY
27 CONTRACTED BY THE STATE DEPARTMENTS TO ASSIST THE

1 IMPLEMENTATION WORK GROUP PURSUANT TO SECTION 26-1-805.

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

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

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

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

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

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

1 DEPARTMENTS.

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

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

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

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

27 (1) THE STATE DEPARTMENTS AND COHORTS SHALL ENTER INTO A

1 PERIODICALLY NEGOTIATED PERFORMANCE-BASED CONTRACT THAT
2 IDENTIFIES THE DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF EACH PARTY UNDER THE
3 PUBLIC BENEFITS DELIVERY MODEL.

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

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

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

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

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

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

20 **26-1-805. Third-party contractor.**

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

27 (2) AT A MINIMUM, THE SELECTED THIRD-PARTY CONTRACTOR IS

1 RESPONSIBLE FOR:

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

5 (I) VARY IN SIZE AND STRUCTURE;

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

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

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

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

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

1 DEVELOPMENT OF THE TRANSITION PLAN AND CORRESPONDING REPORT;

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

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

14 (3) THE THIRD-PARTY CONTRACTOR SHALL BE SELECTED THROUGH
15 A PROCESS THAT INCLUDES COMMUNITY ADVOCATES, FRONT LINE
16 WORKERS, AND REPRESENTATIVES FROM COUNTIES, INCLUDING COUNTIES
17 WITH RURAL, URBAN, SUBURBAN, AND RESORT COMMUNITIES AND
18 COUNTIES WITH VARYING PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAM CASELOADS. THE
19 THIRD-PARTY CONTRACTOR MUST HAVE A DEMONSTRATED RECORD OF
20 EXPERTISE IN PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION, FISCAL
21 MODELING, FACILITATION OF MULTIPLE WORKING AND ADVISORY GROUP
22 STRUCTURES; IN STRUCTURED STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT; AND A
23 DEMONSTRATED ABILITY TO EFFECTIVELY OPERATE AND ENGAGE
24 STAKEHOLDERS ACROSS THE STATE TO ARRIVE AT RECOMMENDATIONS
25 THAT REFLECT A CONSENSUS, WHEN POSSIBLE.

26 (4) UPON APPROVAL BY THE STATE DEPARTMENTS, THE
27 THIRD-PARTY CONTRACTOR MAY SUBCONTRACT WITH OTHER

1 INDEPENDENT ENTITIES WITH RELEVANT EXPERIENCE TO CARRY OUT ONE
2 OR MORE OF THE REQUIREMENTS LISTED IN SUBSECTION (2) OF THIS
3 SECTION.

4 (5) COUNTY DEPARTMENTS AND STATE DEPARTMENTS SHALL
5 COOPERATE WITH REASONABLE REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION RECEIVED
6 FROM THE THIRD-PARTY CONTRACTOR OR A THIRD-PARTY CONTRACTOR'S
7 SUBCONTRACTOR.

8 (6) THE SELECTION OF THE THIRD-PARTY CONTRACTOR IS EXEMPT
9 FROM THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE "PROCUREMENT CODE", ARTICLES 101
10 TO 112 OF TITLE 24.

11 **26-1-806. Implementation work group - subgroups - reports.**

12 (1) ON OR BEFORE JULY 1, 2026, THE STATE DEPARTMENTS, IN
13 COLLABORATION WITH COUNTY DEPARTMENTS, SHALL ESTABLISH AN
14 IMPLEMENTATION WORK GROUP TO WORK WITH THE THIRD-PARTY
15 CONTRACTOR AND SUBGROUP DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (3) OF THIS
16 SECTION TO DEVELOP THE TRANSITION PLAN AND CORRESPONDING REPORT
17 AND TO DEVELOP RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFITS DELIVERY
18 MODEL.

19 (2) THE IMPLEMENTATION WORK GROUP IS COMPOSED OF THE
20 FOLLOWING FIFTEEN MEMBERS:

21 (a) SIX MEMBERS REPRESENTING COUNTIES, APPOINTED BY A
22 COLORADO ORGANIZATION THAT ASSISTS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS,
23 MAYORS, AND COUNCIL MEMBERS AND ENCOURAGES COUNTIES TO WORK
24 TOGETHER, WHO MUST BE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE STATE OF COLORADO
25 AND INCLUDE:

26 (I) AT LEAST ONE MEMBER WHO MUST BE A COUNTY
27 COMMISSIONER, HUMAN SERVICES DIRECTOR, OR A DESIGNEE OF A COUNTY

1 COMMISSIONER OR HUMAN SERVICES DIRECTOR, WHO HAS RELEVANT
2 SUBJECT MATTER EXPERTISE IN HUMAN SERVICES;

3 (II) AT LEAST ONE MEMBER WHO MUST REPRESENT A RURAL
4 COUNTY; AND

5 (III) AT LEAST TWO MEMBERS WHO MUST BE COUNTY
6 REPRESENTATIVES REPRESENTING COUNTIES WITH HIGH HUMAN SERVICES
7 CASELOADS;

8 (b) THREE REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE,
9 APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR;

10 (c) A REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE
11 POLICY AND FINANCING, APPOINTED BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE
12 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE POLICY AND FINANCING;

13 (d) A REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN
14 SERVICES, APPOINTED BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT
15 OF HUMAN SERVICES;

16 (e) A REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF EARLY
17 CHILDHOOD, APPOINTED BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE
18 DEPARTMENT OF EARLY CHILDHOOD; AND

19 (f) THREE REPRESENTATIVES FROM PHILANTHROPIC
20 ORGANIZATIONS, COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS, OR MEMBER EXPERIENCE
21 COUNCILS WHO ARE NOT STATE OR COUNTY GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES
22 AND HAVE RELEVANT SUBJECT MATTER EXPERTISE:

23 (I) ONE APPOINTED BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE
24 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE POLICY AND FINANCING;

25 (II) ONE APPOINTED BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE
26 DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES; AND

27 (III) ONE APPOINTED BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE

1 DEPARTMENT OF EARLY CHILDHOOD.

2 (3) (a) THE IMPLEMENTATION WORK GROUP SHALL CONVENE A
3 SUBGROUP TO ADVISE THE IMPLEMENTATION WORK GROUP ON THE
4 DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE TRANSITION PLAN AND
5 CORRESPONDING REPORT.

6 (b) THE SUBGROUP MUST INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS
7 AND REPRESENTATIVES:

8 (I) BENEFIT RECIPIENTS OR THE PARENTS OF CHILD BENEFIT
9 RECIPIENTS;

10 (II) HUMAN SERVICES PROVIDERS AND PROVIDERS ENROLLED IN
11 THE STATE MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM;

12 (III) COUNTY PUBLIC ASSISTANCE BENEFIT ELIGIBILITY EMPLOYEES
13 AND CASE WORKERS;

14 (IV) REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE SOUTHERN UTE INDIAN TRIBE
15 AND THE UTE MOUNTAIN UTE TRIBE;

16 (V) DISABILITY ADVOCATES;

17 (VI) REPRESENTATIVES OF ADVOCACY ORGANIZATIONS THAT
18 REPRESENT SENIOR CITIZENS AND CHILDREN AND ADVOCATE FOR POVERTY
19 REFORM;

20 (VII) REPRESENTATIVES OF BUSINESSES AND EMPLOYERS THAT
21 PARTICIPATE IN WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES FOR PUBLIC
22 ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS; AND

23 (VIII) REPRESENTATIVES OF MANAGED CARE ENTITIES.

24 (c) MEMBERS OF THE SUBGROUP MUST NOT BE MEMBERS WHO
25 SERVE ON THE IMPLEMENTATION WORK GROUP.

26 (d) THE SUBGROUP FUNCTIONS IN AN ADVISORY ROLE TO THE
27 IMPLEMENTATION WORK GROUP.

1 (e) THE IMPLEMENTATION WORK GROUP SHALL SOLICIT INPUT ON
2 THE DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE TRANSITION PLAN AND
3 CORRESPONDING REPORT FROM THE SUBGROUP AND INCLUDE THE
4 SUBGROUP'S INPUT IN THE FINAL REPORT.

5 (4) THE IMPLEMENTATION WORK GROUP MAY CONVENE
6 ADDITIONAL SUBGROUPS TO ASSIST THE IMPLEMENTATION WORK GROUP
7 ON TOPICS THAT MAY INCLUDE:

8 (a) TECHNOLOGY MODERNIZATION;

9 (b) PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAM RECIPIENT ENGAGEMENT, CASE
10 MANAGEMENT, AND PROGRAM DELIVERY PROCESS IMPROVEMENT;

11 (c) FISCAL, ALLOCATION, AND GOVERNANCE REFORM;

12 (d) WORKFORCE TRANSITION AND LABOR PROTECTIONS;

13 (e) PERFORMANCE-BASED CONTRACTS AND OUTCOME MEASURES;

14 OR

15 (f) ANY OTHER TOPIC THE IMPLEMENTATION WORK GROUP DEEMS
16 APPROPRIATE.

17 (5) (a) IN DEVELOPING THE TRANSITION PLAN AND
18 CORRESPONDING REPORT, THE IMPLEMENTATION WORK GROUP AND
19 SUBGROUPS SHALL ENGAGE WITH, TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE, INTERESTED
20 AND IMPACTED INDIVIDUALS FROM ALL AREAS OF THE STATE, INCLUDING
21 URBAN, SUBURBAN, AND RURAL AREAS, AND ACROSS PUBLIC ASSISTANCE
22 PROGRAMS, AND SHALL ACTIVELY SEEK THE INPUT AND GUIDANCE OF
23 PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAM RECIPIENTS, HUMAN SERVICES PROVIDERS,
24 MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROVIDERS, COUNTY ELIGIBILITY EMPLOYEES AND
25 CASEWORKERS, THE SOUTHERN UTE INDIAN TRIBE AND UTE MOUNTAIN
26 UTE TRIBE, ADVOCACY GROUPS, AND OTHER INTERESTED AND IMPACTED
27 COMMUNITY MEMBERS. THE IMPLEMENTATION WORK GROUP MAY

1 INCLUDE DIFFERENT APPROACHES AND MULTIPLE OPTIONS FOR THE PUBLIC
2 BENEFITS DELIVERY MODEL IN ITS REPORTS OR RECOMMENDATIONS. A
3 MEMBER OF THE IMPLEMENTATION WORK GROUP MAY SUBMIT A MINORITY
4 REPORT WITH AN ALTERNATIVE APPROACH OR RECOMMENDATIONS AS
5 PART OF THE IMPLEMENTATION WORK GROUP'S FINAL REPORT.

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

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

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

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

1 HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE, AND THE SENATE HEALTH AND
2 HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE, OR THEIR SUCCESSOR COMMITTEES.

3 **26-1-807. Transition plan.**

4 (1) THE IMPLEMENTATION WORK GROUP SHALL WORK WITH THE
5 THIRD-PARTY CONTRACTOR TO DESIGN A TRANSITION PLAN FOR THE
6 ADMINISTRATION OF PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS UNDER THE PUBLIC
7 BENEFITS DELIVERY MODEL. **THE TRANSITION PLAN MUST BE DELIVERED**
8 **TO THE JOINT BUDGET COMMITTEE BY JANUARY 1, 2027.**

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

16 (3) AT A MINIMUM, THE TRANSITION PLAN MUST ADDRESS THE
17 FOLLOWING:

18 (a) FOR THE STATE DEPARTMENTS:

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

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

26 (III) PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAM COMPLIANCE WITH FEDERAL
27 AND STATE LAW;

1 (IV) POLICY ANALYSIS AND GUIDANCE FOR THE ADMINISTRATION
2 OF PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS THROUGH SHARED WORK AND POOLED
3 RESOURCES IN CONSULTATION WITH THE CROSS-DEPARTMENTAL POLICY
4 ALIGNMENT TEAM;

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

10 (VI) CONTINUOUS QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PROCESSES;

11 (VII) MANAGEMENT EVALUATION AND QUALITY ASSURANCE
12 PROCESSES;

13 (VIII) ACHIEVEMENT OF METRICS ESTABLISHED IN THE
14 PERFORMANCE-BASED CONTRACTS;

15 (IX) INITIATION OF CORRECTIVE ACTION PROTOCOLS;

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

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

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

24 (b) FOR THE COHORTS:

25 (I) STANDARDIZED AND CONSISTENT ADMINISTRATION OF PUBLIC
26 ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS;

27 (II) STANDARDIZED AND CONSISTENT GOVERNANCE AND

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

1 REQUIREMENTS OF THIS PART 8;

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

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

18 (d) INCLUDE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE ROLE, STRUCTURE,
19 AUTHORITY, AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE REGIONAL MANAGERS
20 DESCRIBED IN SECTION 26-1-803, INCLUDING THE GEOGRAPHICAL
21 DISTRIBUTION OF THE REGIONAL MANAGERS THROUGHOUT THE STATE, TO
22 SUPPORT PERFORMANCE, ACCOUNTABILITY, AND COMMUNICATION OF
23 COUNTY DEPARTMENTS AND COHORTS;

24 (e) INCLUDE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ESTABLISHING A PHASED
25 OUTCOME MEASUREMENT FRAMEWORK FOR PERFORMANCE-BASED
26 CONTRACTS THAT INCLUDES BASELINE DATA DEVELOPMENT,
27 ADMINISTRATIVE PERFORMANCE METRICS, AND CLIENT-CENTERED

1 OUTCOME MEASURES THAT ALIGN METRICS ACROSS THE STATE
2 DEPARTMENTS AND SUPPORT A TRANSITION TOWARD HOLISTIC,
3 FAMILY-CENTERED OUTCOMES RELATED TO STABILITY, ACCESS, AND
4 WELL-BEING;

5 (f) INCLUDE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE DESIGN AND
6 IMPLEMENTATION OF A PUBLIC REPORTING FRAMEWORK, INCLUDING
7 TIMELY PUBLICATION OF COHORT AND STATEWIDE PERFORMANCE DATA,
8 AND ANNUAL REPORTS OF THE DATA TO THE JOINT BUDGET COMMITTEE,
9 THE JOINT TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
10 HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE, THE SENATE HEALTH AND
11 HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE, OR THEIR SUCCESSOR COMMITTEES. THE
12 TRANSITION PLAN MUST ALSO INCLUDE PERFORMANCE DATA REPORTED
13 PURSUANT TO SECTION 25.5-1-138 AND THE FOLLOWING METRICS:

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

16 (A) THE PERCENTAGE OF INITIAL APPLICATIONS AND RENEWAL
17 APPLICATIONS DETERMINED ELIGIBLE DURING THE NINETY DAY
18 RECONSIDERATION PERIOD, IN ACCORDANCE WITH 42 CFR 435.916
19 (b)(2)(III); AND

20 (B) THE PERCENTAGE OF PERSONAL INFORMATION CHANGE
21 REQUESTS FOR MEDICAL ASSISTANCE ENROLLMENT APPROVED WITHIN THE
22 FEDERALLY REQUIRED TIMELINES AND THE PERCENTAGE DENIED WITHIN
23 THE FEDERALLY REQUIRED TIMELINES; AND

24 (II) FOR EACH PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAM, THE AVERAGE CALL
25 TIME, INCLUDING THE CALL TIME AND EXPERIENCE RATING FOR CALLS
26 THAT OCCUR AT A COHORT CALL CENTER.

27 (g) INCLUDE RECOMMENDATIONS BASED ON FISCAL MODELING,

1 TAKING INTO ACCOUNT REQUIREMENTS OF FEDERAL LAW, FOR AN
2 INTEGRATED ALLOCATION COMMITTEE THAT INCLUDES:

3 (I) A BALANCED MEMBERSHIP OF REPRESENTATIVES FROM STATE
4 AGENCIES, THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE, COUNTY DEPARTMENTS, THE FAMILY
5 VOICE COUNCIL WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES, FRONT
6 LINE WORKERS, AND OTHER STAKEHOLDERS WITH RELEVANT EXPERIENCE;

7 (II) ALIGNMENT AND INTEGRATION OF EXISTING ALLOCATION
8 COMMITTEES AND CURRENT STRUCTURES FOR ALLOCATING AVAILABLE
9 FUNDING IN EACH PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAM TO A SINGLE INTEGRATED
10 ALLOCATION COMMITTEE;

11 (III) A GOVERNANCE AND VOTING STRUCTURE FOR
12 DECISION-MAKING; AND

13 (IV) DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE INTEGRATED
14 ALLOCATION COMMITTEE, INCLUDING ALLOCATION OF AVAILABLE
15 FUNDING BASED UPON:

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

17 (B) SPENDING PRIORITIES BASED ON AVAILABLE ALLOCATIONS AND
18 THE RECOMMENDATIONS DEVELOPED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (4)(e) OF
19 THIS SECTION; AND

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

23 **26-1-808. State cross-departmental policy alignment team.**

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

26 (2) THE TEAM CONSISTS OF STAFF DESIGNATED BY THE EXECUTIVE
27 DIRECTORS OF THE STATE DEPARTMENTS. THE STAFF DESIGNATED

1 PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION (2) MUST HAVE SUBJECT MATTER
2 EXPERTISE ON THE PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS AND DECISION-MAKING
3 AUTHORITY RELATED TO POLICY AND PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION.

4 (3) THE TEAM SHALL:

5 (a) FOCUS ON ALIGNMENT OF PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
6 POLICIES TO IMPROVE SERVICE DELIVERY AND OUTCOMES FOR
7 COLORADANS, WITH AN EMPHASIS ON INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES
8 ACCESSING MULTIPLE PROGRAMS AND SERVICES;

9 (b) ANALYZE FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL POLICIES CONCERNING
10 THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS, INCLUDING
11 THE IMPACTS OF THOSE POLICIES ON OTHER PROGRAMS AND ON
12 ALLOCATIONS OF AVAILABLE FUNDING FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE
13 PROGRAMS;

14 (c) CREATE EVIDENCE-BASED ALIGNED AND STANDARDIZED
15 POLICY GUIDANCE FOR ADMINISTERING THE PUBLIC ASSISTANCE
16 PROGRAMS THAT ENABLES ADMINISTRATIVE UNIFORMITY AND
17 CONSISTENCY TO THE EXTENT ALLOWABLE UNDER FEDERAL LAW;

18 (d) ANNUALLY REVIEW THE INTERNAL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES
19 UTILIZED BY THE PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS, AS WELL AS PROGRESS
20 TOWARD ESTABLISHED GOALS AND OUTCOMES, INCLUDING, BUT NOT
21 LIMITED TO:

22 (I) REDUCING ADMINISTRATIVE BURDEN;

23 (II) IMPROVING COST EFFICIENCY;

24 (III) DECREASING THE NUMBER OF ELIGIBLE BUT NOT ENROLLED
25 INDIVIDUALS;

26 (IV) EVALUATING BENEFIT AMOUNTS;

27 (V) ASSESSING PARTICIPANT DIRECT SERVICES; AND

1 (VI) MEASURING COUNTY AND PROGRAM PARTNER PERFORMANCE
2 OUTCOMES IN ORDER TO IDENTIFY AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT;

3 (e) ANALYZE THE IMPACT OF AND OVERSEE THE ALIGNMENT OF
4 SIGNIFICANT POLICY OR PROGRAMMATIC CHANGES TO THE
5 ADMINISTRATION OF PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS;

6 (f) CREATE A PROCESS FOR THE STATE DEPARTMENTS TO
7 COORDINATE ALIGNED IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAM GUIDANCE AND
8 OVERSIGHT ACTIVITIES FOR COUNTIES, AS WELL AS COORDINATE BUDGET
9 REQUESTS ACROSS STATE DEPARTMENTS PRIOR TO SUBMISSION; AND

10 (g) SUBMIT QUARTERLY REPORTS TO RELEVANT STATE BOARDS
11 AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS OF STATE DEPARTMENTS THAT INCLUDE A
12 SUMMARY OF POLICY ITEMS DISCUSSED AND EVIDENCE-BASED DECISIONS
13 MADE TO DATE.

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

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

19 **SECTION 7.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 26-2-307, **amend**
20 (1)(b)(I) and (1)(b)(V) introductory portion as follows:

21 **26-2-307. Fuel assistance payments - eligibility for federal**
22 **standard utility allowance - supplemental utility assistance fund**
23 **established - definitions - repeal.**

24 (1) (b) (I) The state department shall make the fuel assistance
25 payments to ~~eligible~~ households that receive SNAP benefits ~~but that do~~
26 ~~not receive assistance under LEAP in order to qualify those households~~
27 ~~for the standard utility allowance to maximize their SNAP benefits~~ THAT

1 HAVE NOT RECEIVED LEAP ASSISTANCE IN THE PRECEDING TWELVE
2 MONTHS AND THAT ARE ELIGIBLE FOR THE STANDARD UTILITY
3 ALLOWANCE PURSUANT 7 U.S.C. SEC. 2014 (e)(6)(C)(iv).

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

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

18 **25.5-1-115. Locating violators - recoveries - repeal.**

19 (1) The executive director of the state department, AND A COUNTY
20 CONTRACTED TO ADMINISTER THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY
21 SERVICE PURSUANT TO SECTION 25.5-1-209, or district attorneys may
22 request and ~~shall~~ MUST receive from departments, boards, bureaus, or
23 other agencies of the state or any of its political subdivisions, and the
24 same are authorized to provide, ~~such~~ THE assistance and data as will
25 enable the state department, ~~and~~ county departments, AND A COUNTY
26 CONTRACTED TO ADMINISTER THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY
27 SERVICE PURSUANT TO SECTION 25.5-1-209 TO properly ~~to~~ carry out their

1 powers and duties to locate and prosecute A person who has fraudulently
2 obtained medical assistance under this ~~title~~. Any TITLE 25.5. Records
3 established pursuant to the provisions of this section ~~shall be~~ ARE
4 available only to the state department, the department of human services,
5 the county departments, A COUNTY CONTRACTED TO ADMINISTER THE
6 CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE PURSUANT TO SECTION
7 25.5-1-209, the attorney general, and the district attorneys, county
8 attorneys, and courts having jurisdiction in fraud or recovery proceedings
9 or actions.

10 (2) (a) All departments and agencies of the state and local
11 governments shall cooperate in the location and prosecution of ~~any~~ A
12 person who has fraudulently obtained medical assistance under this ~~title~~
13 TITLE 25.5, and, on request of the county board, the county director, the
14 state department, or the district attorney of any judicial district in this
15 state, shall supply all information on hand relative to the location,
16 employment, income, and property of ~~such~~ THE persons, notwithstanding
17 any other provision of law making such information confidential, except
18 the laws pertaining to confidentiality of any tax returns filed pursuant to
19 law with the department of revenue. The department of revenue shall
20 furnish at no cost to inquiring departments and agencies ~~such~~ information
21 ~~as may be~~ necessary to effectuate the purposes of this ~~article~~ ARTICLE 1.
22 The procedures ~~whereby this information will be requested and provided~~
23 ~~shall~~ USED TO REQUEST AND PROVIDE THIS INFORMATION MUST be
24 established by rule of the state department. The state department or
25 county departments shall use ~~such~~ THE information only for the purposes
26 of administering medical assistance under this ~~title~~ TITLE 1, and the
27 district attorney shall use it only for the prosecution of persons who have

1 fraudulently obtained medical assistance under this title, and shall not use
2 the information, or disclose it, for any other purpose. THE STATE
3 DEPARTMENT SHALL UTILIZE THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY
4 SERVICE, ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO SECTION 25.5-1-209, TO CONDUCT
5 FRAUD INVESTIGATIONS, FRAUD CLAIMS, FRAUD RECOVERY, FRAUD
6 DISPUTE RESOLUTION CONFERENCES, STATE-LEVEL HEARINGS,
7 INTENTIONAL PROGRAM VIOLATION WAIVERS, AND CRIMINAL COURT
8 PROCEEDINGS CONCERNING MEMBER ELIGIBILITY IN THE MEDICAL
9 ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.

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

23 (II) (A) Whenever a county department, a county board, a district
24 attorney, A COUNTY CONTRACTED TO ADMINISTER THE CENTRALIZED
25 MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE PURSUANT TO SECTION 25.5-1-209, or a state
26 department on behalf of a county department recovers any amount of
27 fraudulently obtained public assistance funds in the form of assistance

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

22 (B) Whenever a county department, a county board, a district
23 attorney, A COUNTY CONTRACTED TO ADMINISTER THE CENTRALIZED
24 MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE PURSUANT TO SECTION 25.5-1-209, or a state
25 department on behalf of a county department recovers any amount of
26 fraudulently obtained medical assistance, ~~it shall~~ THE RECOVERED FUNDS
27 MUST be deposited in the county social services fund ~~and the~~ UNTIL THE

1 COUNTY HAS FULLY TRANSITIONED TO UTILIZING THE CENTRALIZED
2 MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE PURSUANT TO SECTION 25.5-1-209. WHEN
3 THE COUNTY HAS FULLY TRANSITIONED TO UTILIZING THE CENTRALIZED
4 MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE, THE COUNTY SHALL NOTIFY THE STATE
5 DEPARTMENT OF THE FULL TRANSITION AND THE COUNTY SHALL TRANSFER
6 THE MONEY IN THE COUNTY SOCIAL SERVICES FUND TO THE STATE
7 TREASURER, WHO SHALL CREDIT THE MONEY TO THE CENTRALIZED
8 MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE CASH FUND CREATED IN SECTION 25.5-1-209.
9 AFTER THE COUNTY HAS FULLY TRANSITIONED TO UTILIZING THE
10 CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE, AN ENTITY THAT RECOVERS,
11 ON BEHALF OF A COUNTY, AN AMOUNT OF FRAUDULENTLY OBTAINED
12 MEDICAL ASSISTANCE FUNDS SHALL TRANSFER THE RECOVERED FUNDS TO
13 THE STATE TREASURER, WHO SHALL CREDIT THE MONEY TO THE
14 CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE CASH FUND. THE federal
15 government is entitled to a share proportionate to the amount of federal
16 funds paid, unless a different amount is provided for by federal law, and
17 the county is entitled to the remaining funds.

18 (C) THIS SUBSECTION (2)(b)(II) IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE JULY 1,
19 2028.

20 (III) (A) BEGINNING JULY 1, 2028, WHENEVER A COUNTY
21 DEPARTMENT, A COUNTY BOARD, A DISTRICT ATTORNEY, A COUNTY
22 CONTRACTED TO ADMINISTER THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY
23 SERVICE PURSUANT TO SECTION 25.5-1-209, OR A STATE DEPARTMENT ON
24 BEHALF OF A COUNTY DEPARTMENT RECOVERS ANY AMOUNT OF
25 FRAUDULENTLY OBTAINED PUBLIC ASSISTANCE FUNDS IN THE FORM OF
26 ASSISTANCE PAYMENTS, THE FRAUDULENT FUNDS SHALL BE TRANSFERRED
27 TO THE STATE TREASURER, WHO SHALL CREDIT THE MONEY TO THE

1 CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE CASH FUND CREATED IN
2 SECTION 25.5-1-209. THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT IS ENTITLED TO A SHARE
3 PROPORTIONATE TO THE AMOUNT OF FEDERAL FUNDS PAID, UNLESS A
4 DIFFERENT AMOUNT IS PROVIDED FOR BY FEDERAL LAW, THE STATE IS
5 ENTITLED TO A SHARE PROPORTIONATE TO ONE-HALF THE AMOUNT OF
6 STATE FUNDS PAID, AND THE COUNTY IS ENTITLED TO A SHARE
7 PROPORTIONATE TO THE AMOUNT OF COUNTY FUNDS PAID AND, IN
8 ADDITION, A SHARE PROPORTIONATE TO ONE-HALF THE AMOUNT OF STATE
9 FUNDS PAID.

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

23 ~~(3) Whenever a county department, a county board, a district~~
24 ~~attorney, or the state department on behalf of the county recovers any~~
25 ~~amount of medical assistance payments that were obtained through~~
26 ~~unintentional member error, the federal government is entitled to a share~~
27 ~~proportionate to the amount of federal funds paid, unless a different~~

1 amount is provided for by federal law; the state is entitled to a share
2 proportionate to seventy-five percent of the amount of state funds paid;
3 and the county is entitled to a share proportionate to the amount of county
4 funds paid, if any, and, in addition, a share proportionate to twenty-five
5 percent of the amount of state funds paid.

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

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

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

17 **25.5-1-118. Duties of county departments.**

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

25 (3) ~~The county department or other state designated agencies,~~
26 ~~where applicable, in each county shall submit quarterly and annually to~~
27 ~~the board of county commissioners a budget containing an estimate and~~

1 ~~supporting data setting forth the amount of money needed to carry out the~~
2 ~~provisions of this title.~~

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

5 **25.5-1-121. County expenditures - advancements - procedures.**

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

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

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

18 **25.5-1-137. State income tax refund offset - rules.**

19 (1) (a) AT ANY TIME PRESCRIBED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF
20 REVENUE, BUT NOT LESS FREQUENTLY THAN ANNUALLY, THE STATE
21 DEPARTMENT SHALL CERTIFY TO THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE
22 INFORMATION REGARDING PERSONS WHO ARE OBLIGATED TO THE STATE
23 FOR OVERPAYMENT OF BENEFITS RECEIVED PURSUANT TO ARTICLES 4 TO
24 6 OF THIS TITLE 25.5. THE INFORMATION MUST INCLUDE CERTIFICATION OF
25 THE AMOUNT OF OVERPAYMENT THAT HAS BEEN DETERMINED BY FINAL
26 AGENCY ACTION, HAS BEEN ORDERED BY A COURT AS RESTITUTION, OR
27 HAS BEEN REDUCED TO JUDGMENT.

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

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

1 OBLIGATED PERSON MAY NOT OBJECT TO THE FACT THAT AN
2 OVERPAYMENT OCCURRED. A PERSON WHO HAS RECEIVED A NOTICE
3 PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION (2) MAY REQUEST, WITHIN THIRTY DAYS
4 AFTER THE DATE THE NOTICE WAS MAILED, AN ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW
5 OR EVIDENTIARY CONFERENCE, AS PROVIDED IN THIS SUBSECTION (2).

6 (3) UPON NOTIFICATION BY THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE OF
7 AMOUNTS DEPOSITED TO THE STATE TREASURER PURSUANT TO SECTION
8 39-21-108, THE STATE DEPARTMENT SHALL DETERMINE WHETHER THE
9 AMOUNT DEPOSITED IS RELATED TO THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY
10 SERVICE, ESTABLISHED IN SECTION 25.5-1-209. IF THE AMOUNT IS NOT
11 RELATED TO THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE, THE STATE
12 DEPARTMENT SHALL DISBURSE THE AMOUNTS TO THE APPROPRIATE
13 COUNTY FOR PROCESSING FOR DISTRIBUTION TO THE FEDERAL, STATE, OR
14 LOCAL AGENCY TO WHICH THE PERSON IS OBLIGATED. IF THE AMOUNT IS
15 RELATED TO THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE, THE COUNTY
16 CONTRACTED TO ADMINISTER THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY
17 SERVICE, AS DESCRIBED IN SECTION 25.5-1-209, SHALL DETERMINE THE
18 FEDERAL, STATE, OR LOCAL AGENCY TO WHICH THE PERSON IS OBLIGATED,
19 AND THE STATE DEPARTMENT SHALL DISTRIBUTE THE MONEY TO THE
20 FEDERAL, STATE, OR LOCAL AGENCY TO WHICH THE PERSON IS OBLIGATED.

21 (4) THE STATE DEPARTMENT SHALL ADOPT RULES PURSUANT TO
22 ARTICLE 4 OF TITLE 24 ESTABLISHING PROCEDURES TO IMPLEMENT THIS
23 SECTION.

24 (5) FOR A PROGRAM THAT IS NOT SUBJECT TO THE CENTRALIZED
25 MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE DESCRIBED IN SECTION 25.5-1-209, THE
26 HOME ADDRESSES AND SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBERS OF PERSONS SUBJECT
27 TO THE INCOME TAX REFUND OFFSET, PROVIDED TO THE STATE

1 DEPARTMENT BY THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE, MUST BE SENT TO THE
2 RESPECTIVE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN OR SOCIAL SERVICES. FOR
3 A PROGRAM THAT IS SUBJECT TO THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY
4 SERVICE DESCRIBED IN SECTION 25.5-1-209, THE HOME ADDRESSES AND
5 SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBERS OF PERSONS SUBJECT TO THE INCOME TAX
6 REFUND OFFSET, PROVIDED TO THE STATE DEPARTMENT BY THE
7 DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE, MUST BE SENT TO THE COUNTY CONTRACTED
8 TO ADMINISTER THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE PURSUANT
9 TO SECTION 25.5-1-209.

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

12 **25.5-4-204. Automated medical assistance administration.**

13 (4) COUNTY-LEVEL FRAUD FUNCTIONS MUST BE ADMINISTERED
14 USING THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE, ESTABLISHED IN
15 SECTION 25.5-1-209, OR SHARED SERVICES, AS DEFINED IN SECTION
16 26-1-802.

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

19 **26-1-112. Locating violators - recoveries - repeal.**

20 (2) (b) (II) (A) Whenever a county department, a county board, A
21 COUNTY DEPARTMENT CONTRACTED TO ADMINISTER THE CENTRALIZED
22 MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE PURSUANT TO SECTION 25.5-1-209, a district
23 attorney, or a state department on behalf of a county department recovers
24 any amount of fraudulently obtained public assistance funds in the form
25 of assistance payments, it shall be deposited in the county general fund
26 ~~and the~~ UNTIL THE COUNTY HAS FULLY TRANSITIONED TO UTILIZING THE
27 CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE PURSUANT TO SECTION

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

1 CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE PURSUANT TO SECTION
2 25.5-1-209. WHEN THE COUNTY HAS FULLY TRANSITIONED TO UTILIZING
3 THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE, THE COUNTY MUST
4 NOTIFY THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE POLICY AND FINANCING OF THE
5 FULL TRANSITION AND THE COUNTY SHALL TRANSFER THE FUNDS TO THE
6 STATE TREASURER, WHO SHALL CREDIT THE MONEY TO THE CENTRALIZED
7 MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE CASH FUND CREATED IN SECTION 25.5-1-209.

8 (B) THIS SUBSECTION (1)(b)(II) IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE JULY 1,
9 2028.

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

1 OBTAINED FOOD STAMP COUPONS BY THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OR A
2 COUNTY CONTRACTED TO ADMINISTER THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER
3 INTEGRITY SERVICE PURSUANT TO SECTION 25.5-1-209, THE ENTITY THAT
4 RECOVERED THE FUNDS SHALL TRANSFER THE FUNDS TO THE STATE
5 TREASURER, WHO SHALL CREDIT THE MONEY TO THE CENTRALIZED
6 MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE CASH FUND CREATED IN SECTION 25.5-1-209.

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

9 **26-1-118. Duties of county departments, county directors, and**
10 **district attorneys.**

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

21 (6) The county department, OR A COUNTY CONTRACTED TO
22 ADMINISTER THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE PURSUANT TO
23 SECTION 25.5-1-209, shall report, to the district attorney monthly, data
24 relating to fraudulent activities covering, as a minimum, the activities
25 specified in ~~paragraphs (a), (b), and (d) of this subsection (6),~~
26 SUBSECTIONS (6)(a), (6)(b), AND (6)(d) OF THIS SECTION, and the district
27 attorney shall likewise report, monthly, to the county department, OR TO

1 A COUNTY CONTRACTED TO ADMINISTER THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER
2 INTEGRITY SERVICE PURSUANT TO SECTION 25.5-1-209, the data specified
3 in ~~paragraph (c) of this subsection (6)~~ SUBSECTION (6)(c) OF THIS
4 SECTION, as follows when applicable:

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

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

19 **26-1-122. County appropriations and expenditures -**
20 **advancements - procedures.**

21 (3) (c) For purposes of this ~~article~~ ARTICLE 1, and except as
22 otherwise provided in subsection (6) of this section, under rules of the
23 state department, administrative costs ~~shall~~ include: Salaries of the county
24 director and employees of the county department staff engaged in the
25 performance of assistance payments, food stamps, and social services
26 activities; the county's payments on behalf of ~~such~~ employees for old age
27 and survivors' insurance or pursuant to a county officers' and employees'

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

14 (4) (i) Notwithstanding any other provision of this ~~article~~ ARTICLE
15 1, the county department may receive and spend federal funds to which
16 it is entitled by reason of the county's expenditures in excess of the twenty
17 percent required by subsection (1) of this section for ~~any~~ A social services
18 activity that has been approved by the STATE department as an activity
19 that is eligible for reimbursement under any federal program. Acceptance
20 and expenditure of ~~such~~ federal funds ~~shall~~ in no way ~~affect~~ AFFECTS the
21 state's share of and contribution to ~~such~~ THE payments, and the county
22 ~~shall be~~ IS solely responsible for the provision of the nonfederal share that
23 is in excess of the twenty percent. EXPENDITURES THAT ARE DUPLICATIVE
24 OF COSTS COVERED BY THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE,
25 ESTABLISHED IN SECTION 25.5-1-209, AND SHARED SERVICES, AS DEFINED
26 IN SECTION 26-1-802, ARE NOT ELIGIBLE FOR FEDERAL OR STATE
27 REIMBURSEMENT.

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

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

23 **26-2-107. Verification - record.**

24 (1) (c) Within ten working days after a discrepancy relating to a
25 fraudulent or suspected fraudulent act affecting eligibility is discovered,
26 ~~if~~ THE DISCREPANCY shall be referred to the appropriate investigatory
27 agency for investigation. The investigatory agency shall take action

1 within thirty days ~~following~~ AFTER receipt of the information from the
2 county department OR A COUNTY CONTRACTED TO ADMINISTER THE
3 CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE PURSUANT TO SECTION
4 25.5-1-209.

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

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

20 **26-2-133. State income tax refund offset - rules.**

21 (3) Upon notification by the department of revenue of amounts
22 deposited with the state treasurer pursuant to section 39-21-108, ~~C.R.S.~~,
23 THE STATE DEPARTMENT SHALL DETERMINE WHETHER THE AMOUNT
24 DEPOSITED IS RELATED TO THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE,
25 ESTABLISHED IN SECTION 25.5-1-209. IF THE AMOUNT IS NOT RELATED TO
26 THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE, the state department shall
27 disburse ~~such amounts~~ THE AMOUNT to the appropriate county for

1 processing for distribution to the federal, state, or local agency to ~~whom~~
2 WHICH the person is obligated. IF THE AMOUNT IS RELATED TO THE
3 CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE, A COUNTY CONTRACTED TO
4 ADMINISTER THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE PURSUANT TO
5 SECTION 25.5-1-209 SHALL DETERMINE THE FEDERAL, STATE, OR LOCAL
6 AGENCY TO WHICH THE PERSON IS OBLIGATED AND INFORM THE
7 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE POLICY AND FINANCING OF THE AGENCY,
8 AND THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE POLICY AND FINANCING SHALL
9 DISTRIBUTE THE MONEY TO THE FEDERAL, STATE, OR LOCAL AGENCY TO
10 WHICH THE PERSON IS OBLIGATED.

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

23 **SECTION 18.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 26.5-4-103, **amend**
24 (3) as follows:

25 **26.5-4-103. Definitions.**

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

27 (3) "County department" means the county or district department

1 of human or social services, OR, FOR FUNCTIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES
2 ADMINISTERED PURSUANT TO THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY
3 SERVICE, ESTABLISHED IN SECTION 25.5-1-209, A COUNTY CONTRACTED
4 TO ADMINISTER THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE PURSUANT
5 TO SECTION 25.5-1-209.

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

8 **26.5-4-106. Applications for child care assistance -**
9 **applications for child care employees - verification - award - not**
10 **assignable - limitation - rules.**

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

21 (e) The county department, the department, A COUNTY
22 CONTRACTED TO ADMINISTER THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY
23 SERVICE PURSUANT TO SECTION 25.5-1-209, and the officers and
24 authorized employees of each ENTITY may conduct visits to the home of
25 the applicant at reasonable times, make investigations and require the
26 attendance and testimony of witnesses and the production of books,
27 records, and papers by subpoena, and make application to the district

1 court to compel and enforce ~~such~~ attendance and testimony of witnesses
2 and the production of ~~such~~ books, records, and papers. Officers and
3 employees designated by the ~~county department~~ or the department OR A
4 COUNTY CONTRACTED TO ADMINISTER THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER
5 INTEGRITY SERVICE PURSUANT TO SECTION 25.5-1-209 may administer
6 oaths and affirmations.

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

9 **26.5-4-116. Recovery from recipient - estate.**

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

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

25 (c) Except as provided in subsections (3) and (4) of this section,
26 any previously provided excess child care assistance to which the
27 recipient was not entitled is recoverable by the county, ~~as a debt due~~ OR

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

20 (d) If the debt for fraudulently obtained child care assistance,
21 fraudulently obtained overpayments of child care assistance, or excess
22 child care assistance paid for which the recipient was ineligible has been
23 reduced to a judgment in a court of record in this state, the county
24 department, OR A COUNTY CONTRACTED TO ADMINISTER THE
25 CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE PURSUANT TO SECTION
26 25.5-1-209, may seek a continuing garnishment to collect the debt ~~under~~
27 PURSUANT TO article 54.5 of title 13.

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

11 (3) When a recipient was ineligible for child care assistance solely
12 because of property in excess of that permitted by department rules
13 pursuant to section 26.5-4-106 (4), the amount for which the recipient is
14 liable is the amount by which the property exceeded the amount allowable
15 under ~~said~~ THE rules or the total amount of child care assistance received,
16 whichever is the lesser amount. Except as provided in subsection (4) of
17 this section, actions for the recovery of these sums must be prosecuted 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 department in a court of record that has jurisdiction.

21 (4) The department and a county department, OR A COUNTY
22 CONTRACTED TO ADMINISTER THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY
23 SERVICE PURSUANT TO SECTION 25.5-1-209, may elect not to attempt
24 recovery of an overpayment of child care assistance from an individual
25 who is no longer receiving public assistance or child care assistance if the
26 overpayment amount is less than thirty-five dollars. If the overpayment
27 amount owed by an individual who is no longer receiving public

1 assistance or child care assistance is thirty-five dollars or more, the
2 department and the county department, OR A COUNTY CONTRACTED TO
3 ADMINISTER THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE PURSUANT TO
4 SECTION 25.5-1-209, may determine, consistent with the six-year time
5 limitation for the execution on judgments involving state debt, that it is
6 no longer cost-effective to continue to pursue recovery of the
7 overpayment.

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

10 **26.5-4-117. Locating violators - recoveries.**

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

27 (2) All departments and agencies of the state and local

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

21 (3) A district attorney shall bill the actual costs and expenses
22 incurred by the district attorney's office in carrying out ~~the provisions of~~
23 subsection (2) of this section to counties or a county within the judicial
24 district, OR A COUNTY CONTRACTED TO ADMINISTER THE CENTRALIZED
25 MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE PURSUANT TO SECTION 25.5-1-209, in the
26 proportions specified in section 20-1-302. Each county, OR A COUNTY
27 CONTRACTED TO ADMINISTER THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY

1 SERVICE PURSUANT TO SECTION 25.5-1-209, shall make an annual
2 accounting to the department on all amounts recovered.

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

5 **39-21-108. Refunds.**

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

16 (B) MONEY WITHHELD FOR PAYMENT OF OBLIGATIONS OWED THE
17 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE POLICY AND FINANCING FOR
18 OVERPAYMENT OF PUBLIC ASSISTANCE BENEFITS PAID PURSUANT TO THIS
19 SUBSECTION (3) MUST BE DEPOSITED WITH THE STATE TREASURER FOR
20 DISBURSEMENT BY THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE POLICY AND
21 FINANCING. FOR ALL NAMES AND ASSOCIATED AMOUNTS CERTIFIED BY THE
22 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE POLICY AND FINANCING PURSUANT TO
23 SECTION 25.5-1-137, THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF
24 REVENUE SHALL PROVIDE TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE POLICY
25 AND FINANCING THE NAMES OF TAXPAYERS AND THE ASSOCIATED
26 AMOUNTS DEPOSITED WITH THE STATE TREASURER AND ANY OTHER
27 IDENTIFYING INFORMATION REQUIRED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

1 CARE POLICY AND FINANCING.

2 **SECTION 23. Appropriation.** (1) For the 2026-27 state fiscal
3 year, \$2,438,656 is appropriated to the department of health care policy
4 and financing for use by the executive director's office. This appropriation
5 consists of \$1,628,568 from the general fund and \$810,088 from the
6 healthcare affordability and sustainability hospital provider fee cash fund
7 created in section 25.5-4-402.4 (5)(a), C.R.S. To implement this act, the
8 office may use this appropriation as follows:

9 (a) \$447,737, which consists of \$297,166 from general fund and
10 \$150,571 from the healthcare affordability and sustainability hospital
11 provider fee cash fund, for personal services, which amount is based on
12 an assumption that the office will require an additional 8.5 FTE;

13 (b) \$35,173, which consists of \$23,527 from general fund and
14 \$11,646 from the healthcare affordability and sustainability hospital
15 provider fee cash fund, for operating expenses;

16 (c) \$907,419, which consists of \$606,718 from general fund and
17 \$300,701 from the healthcare affordability and sustainability hospital
18 provider fee cash fund, for general professional services and special
19 projects;

20 (d) \$868,590, which consists of \$580,997 from general fund and
21 \$287,593 from the healthcare affordability and sustainability hospital
22 provider fee cash fund, for member case integrity centralized service
23 related to eligibility determinations and client services;

24 (e) \$60,649, which consists of \$40,502 from general fund and
25 \$20,147 from the healthcare affordability and sustainability hospital
26 provider fee cash fund, for the purchase of information technology
27 services; and

1 (f) \$119,088, which consists of \$79,658 from general fund and
2 \$39,430 from the healthcare affordability and sustainability hospital
3 provider fee cash fund, for the purchase of legal services.

4 (2) For the 2026-27 state fiscal year, the general assembly
5 anticipates that the department of health care policy and financing will
6 receive \$3,051,099 in federal funds for use by the executive director's
7 office to implement this act, which amount is subject to the "(I)" notation
8 as defined in the annual general appropriation act for the same fiscal year.
9 The appropriation in subsection (1) of this section is based on the
10 assumption that the office will receive this amount of federal funds to be
11 used as follows:

12 (a) \$460,423 for personal services;

13 (b) \$35,613 for operating expenses;

14 (c) \$1,375,231 for general professional services and special
15 projects;

16 (d) \$879,420 for member case integrity centralized service related
17 to eligibility determinations and client services;

18 (e) \$179,840 for the purchase of information technology services;
19 and

20 (f) \$120,572 for the purchase of legal services.

21 (3) For the 2026-27 state fiscal year, \$212,593 is appropriated to
22 the department of health care policy and financing. This appropriation
23 consists of \$141,280 from the general fund, which is subject to the "(M)"
24 notation as defined in the annual general appropriation act for the same
25 fiscal year, and \$71,313 from the healthcare affordability and
26 sustainability hospital provider fee cash fund created in section
27 25.5-4-402.4 (5)(a), C.R.S. To implement this act, the department may

1 use this appropriation for Colorado benefits management systems,
2 operating and contract expenses.

3 (4) For the 2026-27 state fiscal year, the general assembly
4 anticipates that the department of health care policy and financing will
5 receive \$1,805,948 in federal funds for Colorado benefits management
6 systems, operating and contract expenses to implement this act. The
7 appropriation in subsection (3) of this section is based on the assumption
8 that the department will receive this amount of federal funds.

9 (5) For the 2026-27 state fiscal year, \$240,489 is appropriated to
10 the office of the governor for use by the office of information technology.
11 This appropriation is from reappropriated funds received from the
12 department of health care policy and financing under subsections (1)(e)
13 and (2)(e) of this section. To implement this act, the office may use this
14 appropriation to provide information technology services for the
15 department of health care policy and financing.

16 (6) For the 2026-27 state fiscal year, \$239,660 is appropriated to
17 the department of law. This appropriation is from reappropriated funds
18 received from the department of health care policy and financing under
19 subsection (1)(f) and 2(f) of this section and is based on an assumption
20 that the department of law will require an additional 1.3 FTE. To
21 implement this act, the department of law may use this appropriation to
22 provide legal services for the department of health care policy and
23 financing.

24 **SECTION 24. Appropriation.** (1) For the 2026-27 state fiscal
25 year, \$968,791 is appropriated to the department of human services for
26 use by the office of economic security. This appropriation is from the
27 general fund. To implement this act, the office may use this appropriation

1 as follows:

2 **Administration**

3 Administration \$401,997

4 **Colorado benefits management system; ongoing expenses**

5 Operating and contract expenses \$146,694

6 **Food and energy assistance**

7 Electronic benefits transfer services \$59,850

8 **County administration**

9 Member case integrity centralized service \$360,250

10 (2) For the 2026-27 state fiscal year, \$320,291 is appropriated to
11 the department of human services for use by the office of economic
12 security. This appropriation is from the healthy school meals for all
13 program fund created in section 22-82.9-211 (2)(a), C.R.S. To implement
14 this act, the office may use this appropriation as follows:

15 **Administration**

16 Administration \$143,287

17 **Colorado benefits management system; ongoing expenses**

18 Operating and contract expenses \$36,092

19 **Food and energy assistance**

20 Electronic benefits transfer services \$18,450

21 **County administration**

22 Member case integrity centralized service \$122,462

23 (3) For the 2026-27 state fiscal year, the general assembly
24 anticipates that the department of human services will receive \$139,003
25 for use by the office of economic security. This appropriation is from the
26 old age pension fund created in section 1 of article XXIV of the state
27 constitution, which is subject to the "(I)" notation as defined in the annual

1 general appropriation act for the same fiscal year. To implement this act,
2 the office may use this appropriation as follows:

3	Administration	
4	Administration	\$36,833
5	Colorado benefits management system; ongoing expenses	
6	Operating and contract expenses	\$9,278
7	Food and energy assistance	
8	Electronic benefits transfer services	\$23,250
9	County administration	
10	Member case integrity centralized service	\$69,642

11 (4) For the 2026-27 state fiscal year, \$189,149 is appropriated to
12 the department of human services for the office of economic security.
13 This appropriation is from federal temporary assistance for needy families
14 block grant funds. To implement this act, the office may use this
15 appropriation as follows:

16	Administration	
17	Administration	\$37,680
18	Colorado benefits management system; ongoing expenses	
19	Operating and contract expenses	\$75,531
20	Food and energy assistance	
21	Electronic benefits transfer services	\$17,550
22	County administration	
23	Member case integrity centralized service	\$58,388

24 (5) For the 2026-27 state fiscal year, the general assembly
25 anticipates that the department of human services will receive \$554,880
26 in federal funds for use by the office of economic security to implement
27 this act, which amount is subject to the "(I)" notation as defined in the

1 annual general appropriation act for the same fiscal year. The
2 appropriations in subsections (1) and (2) of this section are based on the
3 assumption that the department will receive this amount of federal funds
4 to be used as follows:

5 **Administration**
6 Administration \$238,810

7 **Colorado benefits management system; ongoing expenses**
8 Operating and contract expenses \$80,758

9 **Food and energy assistance**
10 Electronic benefits transfer services \$30,900

11 **County administration**
12 Member case integrity centralized service \$204,412

13 (6) For the 2026-27 state fiscal year, \$2,022,114 is appropriated
14 to the department of health care policy and financing for use by the
15 executive director's office. This appropriation is from reappropriated
16 funds received from the department of human services under subsections
17 (1), (2), (3), (4), and (5) of this section. To implement this act, the office
18 may use this appropriation as follows:

19 **General administration**
20 Personal services \$198,952

21 Operating expenses \$18,008
22 Legal services \$60,966

23 Payments to OIT \$61,180
24 General professional services

25 and special projects \$580,681
26 **Information technology contracts and projects**

27 Colorado benefits management systems,

1 operating and contract expenses \$348,353

2 **Eligibility determinations and client services**

3 Member case integrity centralized service \$753,974

4 (7) For the 2026-27 state fiscal year, \$61,180 is appropriated to
5 the office of the governor for use by the office of information technology.

6 This appropriation is from reappropriated funds received from the
7 department of health care policy and financing under subsection (6) of
8 this section for payments to OIT. To implement this act, the office may
9 use this appropriation to provide information technology services for the
10 department of health care policy and financing.

11 (8) For the 2026-27 state fiscal year, \$60,966 is appropriated to
12 the department of law. This appropriation is from reappropriated funds
13 received from the department of health care policy and financing under
14 subsection (6) of this section for legal services. To implement this act, the
15 department of law may use this appropriation to provide legal services for
16 the department of health care policy and financing.

17 **SECTION 25. Appropriation.** (1) For the 2026-27 state fiscal
18 year, \$445,196 is appropriated to the department of early childhood. This
19 appropriation consists of \$222,598 from the general fund and \$222,598
20 from federal child care development funds. To implement this act, the
21 department may use this appropriation as follows:

22 (a) \$59,283, which consists of \$29,641 from general fund and
23 \$29,642 from federal child care development funds, for information
24 technology systems managed by other departments; and

25 (b) \$385,913, which consists of \$192,957 from general fund and
26 \$192,956 from federal child care development funds, for use by early
27 learning access and quality for county shared services.

1 (2) For the 2026-27 state fiscal year, \$432,913 is appropriated to
2 the department of health care policy and financing for use by the
3 executive director's office. This appropriation is from reappropriated
4 funds received from the department of early childhood under subsection
5 (1) of this section. To implement this act, the office may use this
6 appropriation as follows:

7	General administration	
8	Personal services	\$61,273
9	Operating expenses	\$4,936
10	Legal services	\$16,712
11	Payments to OIT	\$16,770
12	General professional services	
13	and special projects	\$159,174
14	Information technology contracts and projects	
15	Colorado benefits management systems,	
16	operating and contract expenses	\$59,283
17	Eligibility determinations and client services	
18	Member case integrity centralized service	\$121,892

19 (3) For the 2026-27 state fiscal year, \$16,770 is appropriated to
20 the office of the governor for use by the office of information technology.
21 This appropriation is from reappropriated funds received from the
22 department of health care policy and financing under subsection (2) of
23 this section for payments to OIT. To implement this act, the office may
24 use this appropriation to provide information technology services for the
25 department of health care policy and financing.

26 (4) For the 2026-27 state fiscal year, \$16,712 is appropriated to
27 the department of law. This appropriation is from reappropriated funds

1 received from the department of health care policy and financing under
2 subsection (6) of this section for legal services. To implement this act, the
3 department of law may use this appropriation to provide legal services for
4 the department of health care policy and financing.

5 **SECTION 26. Appropriation - adjustments to 2026 long bill.**

6 (1) Except as provided in subsection (2) of this section, to implement this
7 act, the appropriation from federal child care development funds made in
8 the annual general appropriation act for the 2026-27 state fiscal year to
9 the department of early childhood for intrastate child care assistance
10 program redistribution is decreased by \$222,598.

11 (2) Subsection (1) of this section does not require a reduction of
12 an appropriation in the annual general appropriation act for the 2026-27
13 state fiscal year if:

14 (a) The amount of the federal child care development funds
15 appropriation made in the annual general appropriation act for the
16 2026-27 state fiscal year to the department of early childhood for
17 intrastate child care assistance program redistribution is less than the
18 amount of the adjustment required in subsection (1) of this section; or

19 (b) The annual general appropriation act for the 2026-27 state
20 fiscal year does not include an appropriation to the department of early
21 childhood for intrastate child care assistance program redistribution.

22 **SECTION 27. Effective date.** This act takes effect upon passage;
23 except that section 26 of this act takes effect only if the annual general
24 appropriation act for the 2026-27 state fiscal year becomes law, in which
25 case section 26 takes effect upon the effective date of this act or of the
26 annual general appropriation act for state fiscal year 2026-27, whichever
27 is later.

1 **SECTION 28. Safety clause.** The general assembly finds,
2 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate
3 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety or for appropriations for
4 the support and maintenance of the departments of the state and state
5 institutions.