

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

REVISED

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

LLS NO. 26-0661.01 Anna Petrini x5497

SENATE BILL 26-080

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Coleman and Simpson, Amabile, Cutter, Danielson, Exum, Gonzales J., Jodeh, Kipp, Lindstedt, Marchman, Wallace

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Lukens and English,

Senate Committees

Local Government & Housing
Appropriations

House Committees

Education
Finance
Appropriations

A BILL FOR AN ACT

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

Bill Summary

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

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

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

HOUSE
Amended 2nd Reading
May 12, 2026

SENATE
3rd Reading Unamended
April 13, 2026

SENATE
Amended 2nd Reading
April 10, 2026

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

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

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

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

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

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

4 **ARTICLE 25**

5 **Cradle to Career Grant Program**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

14 (7) "HIGH-QUALITY" MEANS EVIDENCE-BASED OR
15 EVIDENCE-INFORMED.

16 (8) "LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER" MEANS:

17 (a) A SCHOOL DISTRICT;

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

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

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

24 (9) "LOCAL GOVERNMENT" MEANS A STATUTORY OR HOME RULE
25 CITY, TOWN, CITY AND COUNTY, OR COUNTY.

26 (10) "SUBCONTRACTED ENTITY" MEANS AN ELIGIBLE ENTITY THAT
27 ENTERS A FORMAL PARTNERSHIP WITH AN ELIGIBLE ENTITY RECEIVING A

1 GRANT PURSUANT TO THIS ARTICLE 25 AND THAT PROVIDES
2 COMPLEMENTARY COMMUNITY RESOURCES IN THE GRANT RECIPIENT'S
3 DESIGNATED SERVICE AREA.

4 (11) "YOUTH" MEANS AN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS UNDER TWENTY-FIVE
5 YEARS OLD.

6 **26-25-103. Cradle to career grant program - created -**
7 **program guidelines and criteria - rules.**

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

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

23 (a) PROMOTING FAMILY STABILITY AND WELL-BEING THROUGH
24 ACCESS TO:

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

26 (II) HIGH-QUALITY CHILD CARE AND EARLY CHILDHOOD
27 PROGRAMS THAT SUPPORT CHILD DEVELOPMENT AND SUCCESSFUL

1 TRANSITIONS TO AND THROUGH ELEMENTARY EDUCATION;

2 (III) ADEQUATE NUTRITION AND HEALTH CARE, INCLUDING
3 MATERNAL, BEHAVIORAL, AND MENTAL HEALTH CARE; AND

4 (IV) SUPPORTS AND SERVICES FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH WITH
5 DISABILITIES;

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

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

15 (I) FOCUS ON SPORTS AND FITNESS, CHARACTER AND LEADERSHIP,
16 OR ARTS AND CULTURE; AND

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

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

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

27 (f) COORDINATING AND ALIGNING PROGRAMS AND STRATEGIES

1 WITHIN A DESIGNATED SERVICE AREA, INCLUDING THE DEVELOPMENT OF
2 SHARED DATA SYSTEMS; AND

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

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

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

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

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

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

1 (III) PROCESSES FOR AN ELIGIBLE ENTITY TO SOLICIT AND
2 INCORPORATE INTO ITS COMPREHENSIVE PROPOSAL INPUT FROM
3 ORGANIZATIONS AND INDIVIDUALS IN THE COMMUNITY PURSUANT TO
4 SUBSECTION (5)(b)(III) OF THIS SECTION.

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

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

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

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

27 (IV) THAT THE COMPREHENSIVE PROPOSAL RELIES ON

1 EVIDENCE-BASED OR EVIDENCE-INFORMED PRACTICES IN THE DELIVERY OF
2 SERVICES, SUPPORTS, AND OPPORTUNITIES;

3 (V) THAT THE ELIGIBLE ENTITY DEMONSTRATES EVIDENCE OF
4 IMPACT WITH RESPECT TO THE TYPE OF PROGRAMMING OR SERVICES THAT
5 THE ELIGIBLE ENTITY PROPOSES TO PROVIDE WITH A GRANT AWARD; AND

6 (VI) THAT THE ELIGIBLE ENTITY HAS, WITH A SUCCESSFUL TRACK
7 RECORD, BEEN SERVING THE DESIGNATED SERVICE AREA FOR AT LEAST
8 THREE YEARS.

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

11 (I) COMPLY WITH ALL APPLICABLE STATE AND LOCAL HEALTH AND
12 SAFETY REGULATIONS;

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

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

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

20 (V) DELIVER SERVICES OR ACCEPT PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS
21 WITHOUT REGARD TO RACE, COLOR, NATIONAL ORIGIN, CREED, SEX,
22 GENDER IDENTITY, ETHNICITY, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, MENTAL OR
23 PHYSICAL DISABILITY, ATHLETIC PERFORMANCE, PROFICIENCY IN THE
24 ENGLISH LANGUAGE, OR PAST ACADEMIC OR DISCIPLINARY HISTORY;

25 (VI) COMPLY WITH ALL APPLICABLE STATE AND FEDERAL LAWS
26 PROHIBITING DISCRIMINATION, INCLUDING TITLE IX OF THE FEDERAL
27 "EDUCATION AMENDMENTS OF 1972", THE FEDERAL "AMERICANS WITH

1 DISABILITIES ACT OF 1990", SECTION 504 OF THE FEDERAL
2 "REHABILITATION ACT OF 1973", AND TITLES VI AND VII OF THE FEDERAL
3 "CIVIL RIGHTS ACT OF 1964; AND

4 (VII) IF THE ELIGIBLE ENTITY IS A LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER,
5 NOT USE MONEY AWARDED PURSUANT TO THIS ARTICLE 25 TO SUPPORT ITS
6 STANDARD ACADEMIC PROGRAMMING OR OPERATIONS.

7 (d) IN ADDITION TO THE GUIDELINES AND CRITERIA DEVELOPED
8 PURSUANT TO SUBSECTIONS (5)(a) AND (5)(b) OF THIS SECTION, THE STATE
9 DEPARTMENT SHALL ESTABLISH TIMELINES FOR SUBMITTING AND
10 REVIEWING GRANT APPLICATIONS AND TIMELINES FOR SUBMITTING THE
11 LIST OF ELIGIBLE ENTITIES CHOSEN TO RECEIVE GRANTS TO THE COUNCIL.

12 (6) THE STATE DEPARTMENT IS ONLY REQUIRED TO IMPLEMENT
13 SECTIONS 26-25-103 (3), 26-25-103 (4), 26-25-103 (5), 26-25-104,
14 26-25-105, AND 26-25-106 IF THE SECTIONS BECOME EFFECTIVE PURSUANT
15 TO SECTION 26-25-108. THE WORK OF THE STATE DEPARTMENT, THE
16 COUNCIL, OR ANY OTHER ENTITY CONDUCTED PURSUANT TO THIS ARTICLE
17 25 IS CONTINGENT ON MONEY BEING AVAILABLE TO IMPLEMENT THIS
18 ARTICLE 25.

19 **26-25-104. Cradle to career advisory council - created - duties**
20 **- repeal.**

21 (1) THE CRADLE TO CAREER ADVISORY COUNCIL IS CREATED IN THE
22 STATE DEPARTMENT.

23
24 (2) (a) THE COUNCIL CONSISTS OF THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS:

25 (I) THE GOVERNOR SHALL APPOINT:
26 (A) ONE MEMBER WHO IS AN EDUCATOR WITH EXPERIENCE IN
27 EARLY CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION;

1 (B) ONE MEMBER WHO IS A REPRESENTATIVE OF A NONPROFIT
2 ORGANIZATION OR INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION WITH EXPERTISE
3 IN MEASURING CHILD AND YOUTH POVERTY AND IMPLEMENTING POLICIES
4 TO ALLEVIATE IT; ■

5 (C) ONE MEMBER WHO HAS EXPERTISE AND EXPERIENCE IN
6 POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION AND STATE WORKFORCE READINESS
7 INITIATIVES;

8 (D) ONE MEMBER WHO IS A REPRESENTATIVE OF A STATEWIDE
9 ORGANIZATION THAT REPRESENTS LICENSED TEACHERS; AND

10 (E) ONE MEMBER WHO IS A REPRESENTATIVE OF A STATEWIDE
11 ORGANIZATION REPRESENTING SCHOOL EXECUTIVES.

12 (II) THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE SHALL APPOINT:

13 (A) ONE MEMBER WHO, AT THE TIME OF APPOINTMENT, HAS BEEN
14 SERVING IN A PROFESSIONAL CAPACITY AT A COLORADO PUBLIC SCHOOL
15 OR SCHOOL DISTRICT FOR AT LEAST THREE YEARS, AND WHO HAS HAD
16 DIRECT RESPONSIBILITY FOR AND ACTIVELY PARTICIPATED IN THE
17 IMPLEMENTATION OF A COMPREHENSIVE COMMUNITY SCHOOL STRATEGY;

18 (B) ONE MEMBER WHO REPRESENTS A STATEWIDE ORGANIZATION
19 REPRESENTING LOCAL SCHOOL BOARDS;

20 (C) ONE MEMBER WHO REPRESENTS PROVIDERS OF DIRECT
21 SERVICES TO LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDERS; AND

22 (D) ONE MEMBER WHO IS A REPRESENTATIVE OF AN
23 ORGANIZATION THAT REPRESENTS RURAL LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDERS.

24 (III) THE MINORITY LEADER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
25 SHALL APPOINT A REPRESENTATIVE OF AN ELIGIBLE ENTITY WHO HAS
26 EXPERTISE IN ECONOMIC MOBILITY ISSUES AND A REPRESENTATIVE OF A
27 STATEWIDE ORGANIZATION THAT REPRESENTS PARENTS.

1 (IV) THE COMMISSIONER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION OR
2 THE COMMISSIONER'S DESIGNEE.

3 (b) IN APPOINTING THE MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL, THE
4 APPOINTING AUTHORITIES SHALL CONSIDER ETHNICITY, GENDER, AND
5 GEOGRAPHIC REPRESENTATION TO PROMOTE DIVERSE COUNCIL
6 MEMBERSHIP. A MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL MUST BE A COLORADO
7 RESIDENT AND MUST NOT BE A GRANTOR OR DONOR WHOSE GIFTS,
8 GRANTS, OR DONATIONS ARE CREDITED TO THE FUND PURSUANT TO
9 SECTION 26-25-107.

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

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

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

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

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

27 (c) THE COUNCIL SHALL MEET AT LEAST TWO TIMES PER YEAR. THE

1 CHAIR MAY CALL ADDITIONAL MEETINGS AS ARE NECESSARY FOR THE
2 COUNCIL TO COMPLETE ITS DUTIES.

3 (5) THE COUNCIL SHALL:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

26 (b) A PROPOSAL FOR THE FORMATION OF A FORMAL PARTNERSHIP
27 WITH OTHER ELIGIBLE ENTITIES WITH ESTABLISHED TIES TO THE

1 COMMUNITY THAT CAN PROVIDE COMPLEMENTARY COMMUNITY
2 RESOURCES IN THE APPLICANT'S DESIGNATED SERVICE AREA. IF AN
3 APPLICANT IS A LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER, THE APPLICATION MUST BE
4 COMPLETED IN COLLABORATION WITH AT LEAST ONE OTHER ELIGIBLE
5 ENTITY THAT THE LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER DESIGNATES AS A FORMAL
6 PARTNER PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION (1)(b). THE PROPOSAL FOR THE
7 FORMATION OF A FORMAL PARTNERSHIP MUST IDENTIFY ALL PROSPECTIVE
8 SUBCONTRACTED ENTITIES AND DESCRIBE HOW MONEY RECEIVED
9 THROUGH A GRANT AWARDED PURSUANT TO THIS ARTICLE 25 WILL BE
10 ALLOCATED.

11 (c) A COMPREHENSIVE PROPOSAL:

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

15 (II) THAT LEVERAGES A PARTNERSHIP PROPOSED PURSUANT TO
16 SUBSECTION (1)(b) OF THIS SECTION TO PROVIDE A COORDINATED
17 CONTINUUM OF SUPPORTS AND SERVICES THAT OPEN OPPORTUNITIES FOR
18 ECONOMIC MOBILITY FROM POVERTY; AND

19 (III) THAT PRIORITIZES CONNECTING CHILDREN AND YOUTH WITH
20 HIGH-QUALITY EDUCATIONAL, EXTRACURRICULAR, OR WORKFORCE
21 PROGRAMMING OR FAMILIES WITH KEY HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES IN
22 ACCORDANCE WITH THE AREAS OF GREATEST NEED IDENTIFIED IN THE
23 ECONOMIC MOBILITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT SUBMITTED PURSUANT TO
24 SUBSECTION (1)(a) OF THIS SECTION.

25 (2) TWO OR MORE ELIGIBLE ENTITIES MAY JOINTLY APPLY FOR A
26 GRANT AWARD TO DELIVER SERVICES ON A REGIONAL BASIS AND MAY
27 RECEIVE A JOINT GRANT AWARD THAT IS THE AGGREGATE OF THE

1 AMOUNTS EACH INDIVIDUAL ELIGIBLE ENTITY WOULD HAVE RECEIVED HAD
2 EACH ELIGIBLE ENTITY APPLIED INDEPENDENTLY.

3 (3) THE STATE DEPARTMENT SHALL REVIEW ALL APPLICATIONS
4 RECEIVED PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION AND SELECT THE GRANT RECIPIENTS
5 AND THE AMOUNT OF EACH GRANT. THE STATE DEPARTMENT SHALL NOT
6 AWARD A GRANT WITHOUT THE PRIOR APPROVAL OF THE COUNCIL, AS
7 DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (4) OF THIS SECTION.

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

18 (5) THE STATE DEPARTMENT SHALL AWARD EACH GRANT
19 APPROVED BY THE COUNCIL. EACH GRANT IS FOR A PERIOD OF FOUR
20 YEARS. AN ELIGIBLE ENTITY THAT RECEIVES A GRANT PURSUANT TO THIS
21 ARTICLE 25 MAY APPLY FOR A ONE- OR TWO-YEAR EXTENSION OF THE
22 GRANT PERIOD.

23 (6) THE STATE DEPARTMENT SHALL BEGIN AWARDING GRANTS
24 PURSUANT TO THIS ARTICLE 25 ONLY AFTER THE BALANCE OF THE FUND
25 REACHES OR EXCEEDS NINE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS. SUBJECT TO
26 AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS, ON OR BEFORE JULY 1, 2027, THE STATE
27 DEPARTMENT SHALL AWARD AT LEAST THREE GRANTS AS PROVIDED IN

1 THIS ARTICLE 25. THE STATE DEPARTMENT SHALL NOT AWARD MORE THAN
2 FORTY-NINE PERCENT OF AVAILABLE GRANT PROGRAM MONEY PURSUANT
3 TO A SINGLE APPLICATION, WHETHER COMPLETED JOINTLY,
4 COLLABORATIVELY, OR BY A SINGLE ELIGIBLE ENTITY. SUBJECT TO
5 AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS, ON OR BEFORE JULY 1 IN EACH SUBSEQUENT
6 YEAR OF THE GRANT PROGRAM, THE STATE DEPARTMENT SHALL AWARD
7 ADDITIONAL GRANTS AS PROVIDED IN THIS ARTICLE 25.

8 (7) WITH THE STATE DEPARTMENT'S APPROVAL, AN ELIGIBLE
9 ENTITY MAY ENTER A FORMAL PARTNERSHIP, AS DESCRIBED IN
10 SUBSECTION (1) OF THIS SECTION, AND SUBCONTRACT WITH AND PAY
11 MONEY RECEIVED PURSUANT TO THIS ARTICLE 25 TO SUBCONTRACTED
12 ENTITIES TO PROVIDE A COORDINATED CONTINUUM OF SERVICES,
13 SUPPORTS, AND OPPORTUNITIES IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TERMS OF THE
14 FORMAL PARTNERSHIP. A FORMAL PARTNERSHIP MUST INCLUDE A LOCAL
15 GOVERNMENT, A LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER, AND A NONPROFIT OR
16 NOT-FOR-PROFIT COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATION.

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

21 **26-25-106. Reporting requirements - performance indicators.**

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

26 (I) INCREASED FAMILY ECONOMIC SECURITY;

27 (II) INCREASED HOUSING SECURITY;

1 (III) PROGRESS TOWARD EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENTAL
2 MILESTONES, INCLUDING SCHOOL READINESS;

3 (IV) LOWER RATES OF JUVENILE DELINQUENCY, ADJUDICATION, OR
4 DETENTION;

5 (V) LOWER RATES OF FAMILY INVOLVEMENT WITH THE CHILD
6 WELFARE SYSTEM;

7 (VI) IMPROVED K-12 ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE;

8 (VII) HIGHER RATES OF HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION;

9 (VIII) IMPROVEMENTS IN THE RATES OF COLLEGE READINESS,
10 MATRICULATION, AND RETENTION AT INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER
11 EDUCATION;

12 (IX) ENROLLMENT IN WORKFORCE READINESS PROGRAMS;

13 (X) POSTSECONDARY CREDENTIAL ATTAINMENT; AND

14 (XI) INCREASED NET WORTH AND DECREASED WEALTH DISPARITY.

15 (b) ON OR BEFORE OCTOBER 1, 2028, AND EACH OCTOBER 1
16 THEREAFTER, EACH ELIGIBLE ENTITY THAT RECEIVES A GRANT THROUGH
17 THE GRANT PROGRAM SHALL SUBMIT TO THE STATE DEPARTMENT A
18 REPORT THAT ADDRESSES ITS PROGRESS ON THE APPLICABLE
19 PERFORMANCE INDICATORS DEVELOPED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (1)(a)
20 OF THIS SECTION. AT A MINIMUM, THE REPORT MUST ALSO INCLUDE THE
21 FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

22 (I) THE TOTAL NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS SERVED;

23 (II) THE DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION OF EACH INDIVIDUAL
24 SERVED; AND

25 (III) A DESCRIPTION OF THE SERVICES PROVIDED THROUGH THE
26 GRANT PROGRAM AND HOW THE SERVICES MEET ONE OR MORE OF THE
27 FOLLOWING ECONOMIC MOBILITY PRIORITIES:

1 (A) PROMOTING FAMILY STABILITY AND WELL-BEING THROUGH
2 ACCESS TO SAFE, AFFORDABLE, AND STABLE HOUSING; HIGH-QUALITY
3 CHILD CARE AND EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAMS; ADEQUATE NUTRITION
4 AND HEALTH CARE; AND SUPPORTS AND SERVICES FOR CHILDREN AND
5 YOUTH WITH DISABILITIES;

6 (B) IMPLEMENTING PUBLIC SAFETY PROTECTIONS, COMMUNITY
7 ENGAGEMENT STRATEGIES, AND INTERVENTIONS TO STRENGTHEN
8 FAMILIES;

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

13 (D) CONNECTING YOUTH TO QUALITY JOBS AND IN-DEMAND
14 OCCUPATIONS THROUGH POSTSECONDARY AND WORKFORCE READINESS
15 PROGRAMS;

16 (E) INCREASING ACCESS TO WEALTH-BUILDING OPPORTUNITIES
17 THROUGH ASSET-BUILDING STRATEGIES.

18 (F) COORDINATING AND ALIGNING PROGRAMS AND STRATEGIES
19 WITHIN A DESIGNATED SERVICE AREA, INCLUDING THE DEVELOPMENT OF
20 SHARED DATA SYSTEMS; AND

21 (G) SUCCESS IN MATCHING ADDITIONAL FEDERAL, LOCAL, AND
22 PRIVATE FUNDING FOR ECONOMIC MOBILITY INITIATIVES IN THE ELIGIBLE
23 ENTITY'S DESIGNATED SERVICE AREA.

24 (2) ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 31, 2028, AND EACH DECEMBER 31
25 THEREAFTER FOR THE DURATION OF THE GRANT PROGRAM, THE STATE
26 DEPARTMENT SHALL SUBMIT A SUMMARIZED REPORT ON THE GRANT
27 PROGRAM TO THE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEES OF THE

1 SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, OR ANY SUCCESSOR
2 COMMITTEES, AND TO THE GOVERNOR. AT A MINIMUM, THE REPORT MUST
3 INCLUDE THE NUMBER AND AMOUNT OF GRANTS AWARDED SINCE THE
4 LAST REPORT, THE AMOUNT OF GRANT MONEY AWARDED TO NON-PUBLIC
5 ENTITIES THROUGH THE GRANT PROGRAM, INFORMATION ABOUT
6 RELEVANT STAFF CREDENTIALS AND CERTIFICATIONS FOR EACH ELIGIBLE
7 ENTITY THAT RECEIVES A GRANT THROUGH THE GRANT PROGRAM, AND A
8 SUMMARY OF INFORMATION CONCERNING THE PERFORMANCE INDICATORS
9 USED TO ASSESS THE POVERTY-REDUCTION OUTCOMES AND IMPACTS OF
10 GRANTS AWARDED PURSUANT TO THIS ARTICLE 25.

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

14 **26-25-107. Cradle to career grant program cash fund - grant**
15 **program funding.**

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

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

26 (3) THE STATE TREASURER SHALL CREDIT ALL INTEREST AND
27 INCOME DERIVED FROM THE DEPOSIT AND INVESTMENT OF MONEY IN THE

1 FUND TO THE FUND.

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

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

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

10 (6) (a) IF, ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 31, 2028, THE MONEY IN THE
11 FUND HAS NEVER REACHED OR EXCEEDED NINE HUNDRED THOUSAND
12 DOLLARS, THE STATE TREASURER SHALL RETURN FROM THE FUND TO THE
13 GRANTOR OR DONOR THE AMOUNT OF THE GRANTOR'S OR DONOR'S GIFTS,
14 GRANTS, OR DONATIONS AND, NOTWITHSTANDING SUBSECTION (2) OF THIS
15 SECTION, THE STATE DEPARTMENT SHALL NOT ACCEPT ADDITIONAL GIFTS,
16 GRANTS, OR DONATIONS FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS ARTICLE 25.

17 (b) IF ANY MONEY REMAINS IN THE FUND AFTER THE STATE
18 TREASURER RETURNS MONEY TO DONORS OR GRANTORS PURSUANT TO
19 SUBSECTION (6)(a) OF THIS SECTION, AS APPLICABLE, THE STATE
20 TREASURER SHALL, PRIOR TO THE REPEAL OF THE FUND, TRANSFER ALL
21 UNEXPENDED AND UNENCUMBERED MONEY IN THE FUND TO THE GENERAL
22 FUND.

23 26-25-108. Effective date - repeal of article - review of
24 functions.

25 (1) SECTIONS 26-25-103 (3), 26-25-103 (4), 26-25-103 (5),
26 26-25-104, 26-25-105, AND 26-25-106 TAKE EFFECT IF THE DEPARTMENT
27 RECEIVES, ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 31, 2028, AT LEAST NINE HUNDRED

1 THOUSAND DOLLARS FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS ARTICLE 25. THE
2 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SHALL NOTIFY THE REVISOR OF STATUTES IN
3 WRITING OF THE DATE ON WHICH THE CONDITION SPECIFIED IN THIS
4 SUBSECTION (1) HAS OCCURRED BY EMAILING THE NOTICE TO
5 REVISOROFSTATUTES.GA@COLEG.GOV. SECTIONS 26-25-103 (3),
6 26-25-103(4),26-25-103(5),26-25-104,26-25-105,AND26-25-106TAKE
7 EFFECT UPON THE DATE IDENTIFIED IN THE NOTICE THAT THE DEPARTMENT
8 HAS RECEIVED AT LEAST NINE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS FOR THE
9 PURPOSES OF THIS ARTICLE 25 OR, IF THE NOTICE DOES NOT SPECIFY THAT
10 DATE, UPON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE TO THE REVISOR OF STATUTES.

11 (2) THIS ARTICLE 25 AND SECTION 24-34-104 (34)(a)(XIV) ARE
12 REPEALED, EFFECTIVE JANUARY 31, 2029; EXCEPT THAT, IF THE CONDITION
13 SPECIFIED IN SUBSECTION (1) OF THIS SECTION OCCURS:

14 (a) SECTION 24-34-104 (34)(a)(XIV) IS NOT REPEALED PURSUANT
15 TO THIS SUBSECTION (2);

16 (b) THIS ARTICLE 25 IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 1, 2033;
17 AND

18 (c) BEFORE THE REPEAL OCCURS PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (2)(b)
19 OF THIS SECTION, THIS ARTICLE 25 IS SCHEDULED FOR REVIEW IN
20 ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 24-34-104.

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

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

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

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

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