

HOUSE COMMITTEE OF REFERENCE REPORT

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Chair of Committee

February 17, 2026  
Date

Committee on Health & Human Services.

After consideration on the merits, the Committee recommends the following:

HB26-1018 be amended as follows, and as so amended, be referred to the Committee on Appropriations with favorable recommendation:

1 Amend printed bill, strike everything below the enacting clause and  
2 substitute:

3           **"SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add 25.5-6-120** as  
4 follows:

5           **25.5-6-120. Transition coordination stakeholder process - data**  
6 **collection - report - legislative recommendations - definitions - repeal.**

7           (1) AS USED IN THIS SECTION, UNLESS THE CONTEXT OTHERWISE  
8 REQUIRES:

9           (a) "ESCALATION" MEANS A DOCUMENTED PROCEDURE USED BY A  
10 TRANSITION COORDINATION AGENCY, CASE MANAGEMENT AGENCY,  
11 MANAGED CARE ENTITY, COUNTY DEPARTMENT, OR THE STATE  
12 DEPARTMENT TO ELEVATE AND RESOLVE DELAYS, BARRIERS, OR  
13 COORDINATION FAILURES THAT PREVENT OR RISK PREVENTING TIMELY  
14 COMPLETION OF A TRANSITION, FOR THE PURPOSE OF FACILITATING AND  
15 EXPEDITING THE PROCESSING AND COMPLETION OF THE TRANSITION.

16           (b) "TRANSITION COORDINATION AGENCY" MEANS AN ENTITY  
17 CONTRACTED WITH OR DESIGNATED BY THE STATE DEPARTMENT TO  
18 PROVIDE TRANSITION COORDINATION SERVICES TO MEMBERS  
19 TRANSITIONING FROM AN INSTITUTIONAL OR FACILITY-BASED SETTING TO  
20 A HOME- AND COMMUNITY-BASED SETTING, INCLUDING ASSISTING WITH  
21 DISCHARGE PLANNING, SERVICE COORDINATION, PROVIDER  
22 IDENTIFICATION, AND FACILITATION OF HOME- AND COMMUNITY-BASED  
23 SERVICES NECESSARY TO SUPPORT A SAFE AND TIMELY TRANSITION.

24           (c) "TRANSITION PROCESS" MEANS THE SERIES OF COORDINATED  
25 ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED BY THE STATE DEPARTMENT, TRANSITION  
26 COORDINATION AGENCIES, CASE MANAGEMENT AGENCIES, MANAGED CARE  
27 ENTITIES, COUNTIES, PROVIDERS, AND OTHER INVOLVED ENTITIES TO PLAN,

1 AUTHORIZE, AND IMPLEMENT A MEMBER'S MOVEMENT FROM AN  
2 INSTITUTIONAL OR FACILITY-BASED SETTING TO A HOME- AND  
3 COMMUNITY-BASED SETTING, INCLUDING ASSESSMENT, SERVICE  
4 PLANNING, SERVICE AUTHORIZATION, PROVIDER ARRANGEMENT, AND  
5 DISCHARGE COORDINATION.

6 (2) ON OR BEFORE AUGUST 12, 2026, THE STATE DEPARTMENT  
7 SHALL ENGAGE A STAKEHOLDER PROCESS TO EVALUATE DATA REGARDING  
8 INDIVIDUALS TRANSITIONING OUT OF A NURSING FACILITY AND INTO A  
9 HOME- AND COMMUNITY-BASED SETTING AND DEVELOP LEGISLATIVE  
10 RECOMMENDATIONS TO ENSURE CONTINUITY OF CARE, THROUGH-CARE  
11 COORDINATION, AND SERVICE PLANNING FOR INDIVIDUALS TRANSITIONING  
12 OUT OF A NURSING FACILITY AND INTO A HOME- AND COMMUNITY-BASED  
13 SETTING.

14 (3) AT A MINIMUM, THE STAKEHOLDER PROCESS MUST INCLUDE  
15 REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE FOLLOWING AGENCIES AND ORGANIZATIONS:

- 16 (a) TRANSITION COORDINATION AGENCIES;
- 17 (b) COUNTY DEPARTMENTS OF HUMAN OR SOCIAL SERVICES;
- 18 (c) CASE MANAGEMENT AGENCIES, AS DEFINED IN SECTION  
19 25.5-6-1702;
- 20 (d) MANAGED CARE ENTITIES;
- 21 (e) INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE TRANSITIONED OUT OF A NURSING  
22 FACILITY AND INTO THE COMMUNITY AND THE INDIVIDUALS' CAREGIVERS  
23 OR LEGAL REPRESENTATIVES;
- 24 (f) PROVIDERS WHO PROVIDE SERVICES IN RURAL AREAS;
- 25 (g) REPRESENTATIVES OF THE INTELLECTUAL AND  
26 DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITY COMMUNITY; AND
- 27 (h) ANY OTHER AGENCY OR ORGANIZATION THE STATE  
28 DEPARTMENT DEEMS NECESSARY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE STAKEHOLDER  
29 PROCESS.

30 (4) AT A MINIMUM, THE STAKEHOLDER PROCESS MUST:

- 31 (a) DEVELOP A DETAILED, STEP-BY-STEP DESCRIPTION OF THE  
32 CURRENT TRANSITION COORDINATION PROCESS, INCLUDING  
33 IDENTIFICATION OF EACH ENTITY RESPONSIBLE FOR EACH STAGE OF THE  
34 TRANSITION PROCESS;
- 35 (b) IDENTIFY STATUTORY, REGULATORY, AND CONTRACTUAL  
36 TIMELINES APPLICABLE TO EACH ENTITY INVOLVED IN THE TRANSITION  
37 PROCESS AND THE AMOUNT OF TIME EACH ENTITY HAS TO COMPLETE  
38 REQUIRED ACTIONS;
- 39 (c) TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE, COLLECT AND ANALYZE DATA  
40 REGARDING:
  - 41 (I) THE AVERAGE TIME REQUIRED TO COMPLETE EACH STAGE OF  
42 THE TRANSITION PROCESS;
  - 43 (II) THE AVERAGE DELAY THAT OCCURS AT EACH STAGE OF THE

1 TRANSITION PROCESS, IF ANY;  
2 (III) THE NUMBER AND FREQUENCY OF ESCALATIONS USED WITHIN  
3 THE TRANSITION PROCESS AND THE CIRCUMSTANCES UNDER WHICH  
4 ESCALATION OCCURS;  
5 (IV) THE NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF INDIVIDUALS WHO  
6 TRANSITION OUT OF A NURSING FACILITY WITHOUT HOME- AND  
7 COMMUNITY-BASED SERVICES IN PLACE AT THE TIME OF DISCHARGE; AND  
8 (V) ANY ADDITIONAL DATA NECESSARY TO EVALUATE TRANSITION  
9 PROCESS SYSTEM PERFORMANCE, ACCOUNTABILITY, AND OUTCOMES;  
10 (d) IDENTIFY SYSTEM GAPS, DUPLICATIONS, BARRIERS, OR  
11 MISALIGNED INCENTIVES CONTRIBUTING TO DELAYS OR FAILED  
12 TRANSITIONS;  
13 (e) EVALUATE, AS THEY RELATE TO THE TRANSITION PROCESS,  
14 PAYMENT STRUCTURES, ACCOUNTABILITY MECHANISMS,  
15 INFORMATION-SHARING PRACTICES, AND ROLE CLARITY AMONG ENTITIES;  
16 AND  
17 (f) DEVELOP LEGISLATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE  
18 TIMELINES, ACCOUNTABILITY, AND OUTCOMES OF TRANSITION  
19 COORDINATION.  
20 (5) THE STATE DEPARTMENT SHALL USE THE EXISTING TRANSITION  
21 STAKEHOLDER ADVISORY COUNCIL ESTABLISHED BY THE STATE  
22 DEPARTMENT TO SUPPORT THE REQUIREMENTS OF SECTION 25.5-6-1501,  
23 OR A SUCCESSOR ADVISORY BODY, TO FACILITATE THE WORK REQUIRED BY  
24 THIS SECTION.  
25 (6) THE STATE DEPARTMENT SHALL INCLUDE AS PART OF THE  
26 STATE DEPARTMENT'S "SMART ACT" PRESENTATION REQUIRED BY  
27 SECTION 2-7-203, A SUMMARY OF THE INFORMATION DETAILED IN  
28 SUBSECTION (4) OF THIS SECTION AND LEGISLATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS  
29 TO ESTABLISH LONG-TERM SERVICES AND SUPPORTS FOR AN INDIVIDUAL  
30 TRANSITIONING OUT OF A NURSING FACILITY FOR CONSIDERATION DURING  
31 THE 2027 LEGISLATIVE SESSION.  
32 (7) THIS SECTION IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2027.  
33 **SECTION 2. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act  
34 takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the  
35 ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly (August  
36 12, 2026, if adjournment sine die is on May 13, 2026); except that, if a  
37 referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V of the  
38 state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this act  
39 within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take effect  
40 unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in  
41 November 2026 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the  
42 official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor."

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