

SENATE COMMITTEE OF REFERENCE REPORT

Chair of Committee

March 28, 2024
Date

Committee on Business, Labor, & Technology.

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

SB24-153 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, 24-90-105.5, **amend**
4 (5); and **add** (6) as follows:

5 **24-90-105.5. Literacy support services for persons who are**
6 **blind or print-disabled - authority of state librarian - fund.** (5) The
7 general assembly ~~hereby~~ recognizes the importance of privately operated
8 reading services to enable ~~those~~ persons who ~~cannot effectively read~~
9 ~~newspapers or other printed documents~~ ARE BLIND OR PRINT-DISABLED to
10 gain access to ~~such~~ otherwise inaccessible print materials. The state
11 librarian ~~shall have~~ HAS the authority to administer ~~funds~~ MONEY in the
12 reading services for the blind cash fund, which is ~~hereby~~ created IN THE
13 STATE TREASURY, for the support of ~~said~~ privately operated reading
14 services. The fund ~~shall consist~~ CONSISTS of any public or private ~~moneys~~
15 MONEY transferred, appropriated, or otherwise credited ~~thereto~~ TO THE
16 FUND. All ~~moneys~~ MONEY credited to the fund and all interest earned on
17 the investment of ~~moneys~~ MONEY in the fund ~~shall be~~ IS a part of the fund
18 and ~~shall~~ MUST not be transferred or credited to the general fund or to any
19 other fund except as directed by the general assembly acting by bill. The
20 general assembly shall make annual appropriations from the reading
21 services for the blind cash fund to the state librarian to carry out the
22 purposes of this ~~subsection (5)~~ SECTION.

23 (6) THE SERVICES AVAILABLE THROUGH PROVIDERS OF
24 ON-DEMAND NEWS AND INFORMATION SERVICES TO COLORADANS WHO
25 ARE BLIND OR PRINT-DISABLED MUST BE EXPANDED TO ENHANCE THE
26 ABILITY OF COLORADANS WHO ARE BLIND OR PRINT-DISABLED TO USE THE
27 ON-DEMAND AND INFORMATION SERVICES, AND TO INCREASE THE NUMBER

1 OF COLORADANS WHO ARE BLIND OR PRINT-DISABLED WHO ARE AWARE OF
2 SUCH SERVICES. THE ON-DEMAND NEWS AND INFORMATION SERVICES
3 MUST BE EXPANDED TO INCLUDE AN ENLARGED ARRAY OF INFORMATION
4 AND LITERACY SUPPORT SERVICES THROUGHOUT THE STATE, SUCH AS THE
5 PROVISION OF INFORMATION ABOUT A VARIETY OF
6 COMMUNICATION-RELATED ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGIES AND
7 BLINDNESS-RELATED SERVICES, INTRODUCTORY TRAINING, AND METHODS
8 TO FIND AND USE ADDITIONAL RESOURCES IN OR NEAR COMMUNITIES
9 WHERE A PERSON LIVES. THE EXPANDED SERVICES MAY INCLUDE, BUT ARE
10 NOT LIMITED TO:

11 (a) INFORMATION SHARING, MARKETING OF EXPANDED SERVICES,
12 AND OTHER METHODS FOR INFORMING PERSONS WHO ARE BLIND OR
13 PRINT-DISABLED ABOUT THE AVAILABILITY OF THESE SERVICES;

14 (b) SUPPORT SERVICES FOR USERS TO RESOLVE TECHNICAL
15 QUESTIONS ABOUT THE SERVICES OR THE DEVICES THAT MIGHT BE USED TO
16 ACCESS THE INFORMATION AVAILABLE THROUGH THESE SERVICES; AND

17 (c) THE PROVISION OF INFORMATION ABOUT
18 COMMUNICATION-RELATED ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGIES.

19 **SECTION 2. Safety clause.** The general assembly finds,
20 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate
21 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety or for appropriations for
22 the support and maintenance of the departments of the state and state
23 institutions."

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