

SENATE COMMITTEE OF REFERENCE REPORT

Chair of Committee

February 4, 2025
Date

Committee on Business, Labor, & Technology.

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

SB25-037 be amended as follows, and as so amended, be referred to the Committee on Appropriations with favorable recommendation:

1 Amend printed bill page 3, strike line 3 and substitute "(4)(a)(II)
2 introductory portion, (4)(a)(II)(C), and (4)(a)(II)(D); and **add** (4)(a)(II)(E)
3 and (4)(a)(II.5) as follows:".

4 Page 3, strike line 15 and substitute "AND TIER TWO COAL transition
5 communities and shall PRIORITIZE COMMUNITIES EXPERIENCING
6 SOCIOECONOMIC IMPACTS OF COAL CLOSURES, OPPORTUNITIES FOR
7 ECONOMIC DIVERSIFICATION, LOCAL COMMUNITY INPUT, AND NEEDS
8 ASSESSMENTS. THE OFFICE SHALL support programs AND BASE FUNDING
9 DECISIONS ON FACTORS that:".

10 Page 3, strike lines 20 through 23.

11 Page 4, strike lines 1 through 4 and substitute:

12 "(E) FORMONEY APPROPRIATED TO THE FUND AFTER JULY 1, 2025,
13 SUPPORT TARGETED INVESTMENT IN COAL TRANSITION COMMUNITIES BY
14 COLLABORATING WITH COAL TRANSITION COMMUNITIES AND ELIGIBLE
15 ENTITIES, STATE AND REGIONALLY RECOGNIZED GOVERNMENTAL AND
16 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ENTITIES, EMPLOYEE ORGANIZATIONS THAT
17 REPRESENT COAL TRANSITION WORKERS, AND WORKERS WHO ARE NOT
18 AFFILIATED WITH EMPLOYEE ORGANIZATIONS TO IMPLEMENT EFFECTIVE
19 PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS FOR THOSE COMMUNITIES CONSISTENT WITH
20 THIS PART 5.

21 (II.5) (A) THE OFFICE SHALL ESTABLISH A TIMELINE FOR
22 REVIEWING PROJECT PROPOSALS AND APPLICATIONS AND SHALL PROMPTLY
23 NOTIFY APPLICANTS OF ANY DEFICIENCIES OR INCOMPLETENESS THAT MAY
24 BE REMEDIED PRIOR TO A FINAL FUNDING DETERMINATION. APPLICANTS

1 MUST BE ALLOWED FIFTEEN DAYS TO MAKE CHANGES OR ADD
2 SUPPLEMENTARY DOCUMENTATION.

3 (B) PROJECT FUNDING DECISIONS MUST BE ISSUED WITHIN NINETY
4 DAYS OF RECEIVING A FINAL PROJECT PROPOSAL. IF A DECISION IS NOT
5 POSSIBLE WITHIN NINETY DAYS, THE OFFICE SHALL PROVIDE A STATUS
6 UPDATE TO THE APPLICANT AT THAT TIME. ALL FUNDING DECISIONS MUST
7 BE PUBLICLY ACCESSIBLE WITH PUBLISHED REASONS FOR DENIAL OF A
8 PROJECT PROPOSAL ALONG WITH RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMPROVEMENT.

9 (C) AT THE EARLIEST REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING OF THE
10 JOINT BUDGET COMMITTEE FOLLOWING THE CLOSE OF A FISCAL YEAR, THE
11 OFFICE SHALL REPORT TO THE JOINT BUDGET COMMITTEE ABOUT THE
12 GRANTS AWARDED BY THE OFFICE DURING THE PRECEDING FISCAL YEAR,
13 THEIR RECIPIENTS, AND THE PURPOSE FOR WHICH THEY WERE AWARDED
14 AND MAKE THE SAME PRESENTATION AT THE ANNUAL SMART ACT
15 HEARINGS OF THE SENATE LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND HOUSING COMMITTEE
16 AND THE HOUSE TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING, AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT
17 COMMITTEE."

18 Page 4, strike lines 12 through 27.

19 Strike pages 5 through 7.

20 Page 8, strike lines 1 through 16, and insert:

21 "SECTION 3. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-38.5-121, **amend**
22 (5) as follows:

23 **24-38.5-121. Assessment of advanced energy solutions in rural**
24 **Colorado - northwestern and west end of Montrose county Colorado**
25 **study - southeastern Colorado study - report - legislative declaration**
26 **- definitions - repeal.** (5) On or before ~~July 1, 2025~~ NOVEMBER 14,
27 2025, the director shall submit the findings and conclusions of the
28 northwestern and west end of Montrose county Colorado study and the
29 southeastern Colorado study required in subsection (3) of this section to
30 the house of representatives energy and environment committee and the
31 senate transportation and energy committee, or their successor
32 committees and to the just transition office created in section 8-83-503
33 (1). The findings and conclusions submitted must include any
34 recommendations including administrative or legislative action needed to
35 assist northwestern and west end of Montrose county, Colorado, in the
36 transition to firm energy generation sources and to assist southeastern
37 Colorado in the development of new energy resources."

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