



# Legislative Council Staff

## Research Note

Version: Final

Date: 8/3/2016

### Bill Number

House Bill 16-1386

### Sponsors

*Representative Kraft-Tharp*  
*Senator Steadman*

### Short Title

*Necessary Document Program*

### Research Analyst

Katie Ruedebusch (x3001)

### Status

This research note reflects the final version of the bill, which was signed by the Governor and became effective on June 10, 2016.

### Summary

The bill creates the Necessary Document Program in the Office of Health Equity in the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE). The purpose of the program is to help Colorado residents who are victims of domestic violence, impacted by a natural disaster, low-income, disabled, homeless, or elderly pay the fees to acquire a necessary document. Necessary documents are defined as social security cards, driver's licenses, identification cards, or a vital statistics report (such as a birth, death, or marriage certificate).

The bill includes a \$300,000 appropriation to CDPHE from the General Fund to implement the necessary document program. The Office of Health Equity is required to annually make at least one grant or contract with a nonprofit organization to implement the program. The Office of Health Equity may expend up to \$15,000 for the office's direct and indirect costs in administering the program.

The bill requires a continuing annual appropriation of up to \$300,000. The program repeals on September 1, 2021.

### Background

In 2015, amendment J.116 to Senate Bill 15-234 (Long Bill) appropriated \$300,000 from the General Fund to CDPHE for a Necessary Document Assistance Grant Program. House

*This research note was prepared by Legislative Council Staff, the nonpartisan research staff for the Colorado General Assembly. The research note is provided for informational purposes only and should not be relied upon as an official record of action by the General Assembly. Legislative Council Staff are not attorneys, and the research note is not a legal opinion. If you have legal questions about the bill, including questions about the meaning of the bill language or amendments, please contact the drafter.*

Bill 16-1386 clarifies that the Office of Health Equity may use contract services or hire part-time employees to develop criteria and guidelines for the grant program's nonprofit partners, as well as to review applications, award and monitor grants, and prepare reports as needed.

## House Action

**House Finance Committee (April 7, 2016).** At the hearing, representatives from Colorado Legal Services, Metro Caring, the League of Woman Voters, and the Colorado Coalition Against Domestic Violence testified in support of the bill. The committee adopted amendment L.001, which repealed the program in 2021 and added a safety clause. The committee referred the bill, as amended, to the House Appropriations Committee.

**House Appropriations Committee (April 22, 2016).** The committee adopted amendment L.002, which clarified that "up to" \$300,000 will be appropriated for the program annually. The committee also adopted amendment J.001, which added an appropriations clause to the bill. The committee referred the bill, as amended, to the House Committee of the Whole.

**House second reading (April 22, 2016).** The House adopted the House Finance Committee report and the House Appropriations Committee report. The House passed the bill on second reading with no additional amendments.

**House third reading (April 25, 2016).** The House passed the bill on third reading with no amendments.

## Senate Action

**Senate State, Veterans, & Military Affairs Committee (May 2, 2016).** At the hearing, representatives of Grand Valley Peace and Justice, the Colorado Coalition Against Domestic Violence, Metro Caring, Colorado Legal Services, and Catholic Charities of Central Colorado testified in support of the bill. The committee referred the bill to the Senate Appropriations Committee unamended.

**Senate Appropriations Committee (May 5, 2016).** The committee referred the bill to the Senate Committee of the Whole unamended.

**Senate second reading (May 5, 2016).** The Senate passed the bill on second reading with no amendments.

**Senate third reading (May 6, 2016).** The Senate passed the bill on third reading with no amendments.