A BILL FOR AN ACT

CONCERNING MONETARY SUPPORT FOR AGRICULTURAL EVENTS IN COLORADO, AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, MAKING AN APPROPRIATION.

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 a program in the department of agriculture to provide COVID-19 relief payments to agricultural events organizations and appropriates $2 million from the general fund for the program. In addition, the bill appropriates:

- $3.5 million for the Colorado state fair and industrial
exhibition; and

$3.5 million for the national western stock show.

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

SECTION 1. In Colorado Revised Statutes, add 35-1-107.5 and 35-1-107.7 as follows:

35-1-107.5. Relief program for agricultural events organizations - created - definitions - report - repeal. (1) Definitions. AS USED IN THIS SECTION, UNLESS THE CONTEXT OTHERWISE REQUIRES:

(a) "AGRICULTURAL EVENTS ORGANIZATION" MEANS A NONPROFIT OR FOR-PROFIT ORGANIZATION THAT CONDUCTS ONE OR MORE AGRICULTURAL EVENTS IN THE STATE.

(b) "COVID-19" MEANS THE CORONAVIRUS DISEASE CAUSED BY THE SEVERE ACUTE RESPIRATORY SYNDROME CORONAVIRUS 2, ALSO KNOWN AS SARS-CoV-2.

(c) "PROGRAM" MEANS THE AGRICULTURAL EVENTS RELIEF PROGRAM CREATED IN SUBSECTION (2) OF THIS SECTION.

(2) Agricultural events relief program. THE AGRICULTURAL EVENTS RELIEF PROGRAM IS HEREBY CREATED WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT. THE COMMISSIONER SHALL ADMINISTER OR CONTRACT WITH A THIRD PARTY TO ADMINISTER A RELIEF PROGRAM TO PROVIDE RELIEF PAYMENTS TO AGRICULTURAL EVENTS ORGANIZATIONS THAT MEET ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA DEVELOPED BY THE COMMISSIONER. WHEN DETERMINING ELIGIBILITY FOR AND THE SIZE OF A RELIEF PAYMENT, THE COMMISSIONER OR THIRD-PARTY CONTRACTOR SHALL CONSIDER THE TYPE OF AGRICULTURAL EVENTS ORGANIZATION THAT IS APPLYING FOR A RELIEF PAYMENT, THE IMPACT OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC ON THE AGRICULTURAL EVENTS ORGANIZATION'S AGRICULTURAL EVENTS OR...
BUSINESS MODEL, THE SIZE OF THE ORGANIZATION, AND THE AVAILABILITY
OF AND THE ORGANIZATION’S ACCESS TO OTHER COVID-19 RELIEF OR
GRANT FUNDING. THE COMMISSIONER OR THIRD-PARTY CONTRACTOR
SHALL PRIORITIZE AWARDS GRANTS TO LOCAL COUNTY FAIRS BEFORE
AWARDING GRANTS TO OTHER AGRICULTURAL EVENTS ORGANIZATIONS.

(3) Funding. For the 2020-21 state fiscal year, the general
assembly shall appropriate two million dollars from the
general fund to the department for allocation to the
commissioner for the program. The commissioner may use the
money, not to exceed one hundred thousand dollars,
appropriated in accordance with this section for the costs of
administering or contracting with a third party to administer
the program.

(4) Report. (a) The commissioner shall submit a report:
(I) To the governor; and
(II) At the hearing required by the "State Measurement
for Accountable, Responsive, and Transparent (SMART)
Government Act", part 2 of article 7 of title 2.

(b) The report required by this subsection (4) must detail
how the money was allocated through the program, including:
(I) The list of relief payment recipients with the amount
allocated to each recipient;
(II) The types of agricultural events organizations that
received relief payments; and
(III) Any other information deemed pertinent by the
commissioner.

(5) Repeal. This section is repealed, effective December 31,
35-1-107.7. Support for national western stock show - administration by commissioner - report - repeal. (1) For the 2020-21 state fiscal year, the general assembly shall appropriate three million five hundred thousand dollars from the general fund to the department for allocation to the commissioner for use in supporting or aiding the national western stock show. At the end of the 2020-21 state fiscal year, any money not expended or encumbered from the appropriation remains available for expenditure in the 2021-22 fiscal year without further appropriation.

(2) (a) The commissioner shall submit a report:

(I) To the governor; and

(II) At the hearing required by the "State Measurement for Accountable, Responsive, and Transparent (SMART) Government Act", part 2 of article 7 of title 2.

(b) The report required by this subsection (2) must detail how the money was allocated to provide support for the national western stock show.

(3) This section is repealed, effective December 31, 2022.

SECTION 2. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 35-65-107, add (3)(a)(I.5) as follows:

35-65-107. Colorado state fair authority cash fund - lease and use of facilities - repeal. (3) (a) The Colorado state fair authority cash fund shall consist of:

(I.5) (A) Three million five hundred thousand dollars, which the state treasurer shall transfer from the general fund
TO THE FUND WITHIN THREE DAYS AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS SUBSECTION (3)(a)(I.5).

(B) THIS SUBSECTION (3)(a)(I.5) IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 31, 2022.

SECTION 3. Appropriation. (1) For the 2020-21 state fiscal year, $2,000,000 is appropriated to the department of agriculture for use by the commissioner's office and administrative services. This appropriation is from the general fund. The department may use this appropriation for the agriculture events relief program in accordance with section 35-1-107.5, C.R.S.

(2) For the 2020-21 state fiscal year, $3,500,000 is appropriated to the department of agriculture for use by the commissioner's office and administrative services. This appropriation is from the general fund. The department may use this appropriation to provide support for the national western stock show pursuant to section 35-1-107.7, C.R.S.

(3) For the 2020-21 state fiscal year, $3,500,000 is appropriated to the department of agriculture for use by the Colorado state fair. This appropriation is from the Colorado state fair authority cash fund created in section 35-65-107, C.R.S. The Colorado state fair may use this appropriation to implement this act.

(4) Any money appropriated in this section but not expended prior to July 1, 2021, is further appropriated to the department of agriculture for the 2021-22 fiscal year for the same purpose.

SECTION 4. Safety clause. The general assembly hereby finds, determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety.