

Second Regular Session
Seventy-third General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 22-0848.01 Christy Chase x2008

HOUSE BILL 22-1298

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Mullica,

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Jaquez Lewis and Hinrichsen,

House Committees
Finance

Senate Committees

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 CONCERNING A TRANSFER FROM THE GENERAL FUND TO THE DIVISION
102 OF PROFESSIONS AND OCCUPATIONS CASH FUND IN THE 2022-23
103 STATE FISCAL YEAR TO FACILITATE FEE RELIEF FOR
104 HEALTH-CARE PROVIDERS REGULATED BY THE STATE BOARD OF
105 NURSING.

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 directs the state treasurer to transfer \$11,720,278 from the general fund to the division of professions and occupations cash fund for

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.
Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material to be added to existing statute.
Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.

use beginning in the 2022-23 state fiscal year and until fully expended to fund the expenses of the state board of nursing in order to facilitate fee relief for nurses, nurse aides, and psychiatric technicians.

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

2 **SECTION 1. Legislative declaration.** (1) The general assembly
3 finds and declares that:

4 (a) The global pandemic has caused tremendous strain on the
5 health-care system and, in particular, on frontline health-care providers;

6 (b) Nurses, nurse aides, and psychiatric technicians have been
7 especially hard hit as they are the primary providers of direct care and
8 services in hospitals, nursing care facilities, assisted living residences,
9 and mental health facilities, all of which have experienced significant
10 challenges throughout the pandemic, from above-capacity patient levels
11 to frequent exposure to COVID-19; and

12 (c) Due to these tremendous challenges, many of these critical
13 health-care providers are leaving the field or struggling to remain in their
14 jobs, given the stressful work environments.

15 (2) In recognition of the incredible services these critical
16 health-care providers have delivered throughout the pandemic and of the
17 selfless sacrifices they have made, it is the intent of the general assembly
18 to provide licensure and certification fee relief for nurses, nurse aides,
19 and psychiatric technicians.

20 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 12-20-105, **add** (7)
21 as follows:

22 **12-20-105. Fee adjustments - division of professions and**
23 **occupations cash fund created - legal defense account created -**
24 **general fund transfer - definition - repeal.** (7) (a) ON JULY 1, 2022,

1 THE STATE TREASURER SHALL TRANSFER ELEVEN MILLION SEVEN
2 HUNDRED TWENTY THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED SEVENTY-EIGHT DOLLARS
3 FROM THE GENERAL FUND TO THE DIVISION OF PROFESSIONS AND
4 OCCUPATIONS CASH FUND. THE MONEY TRANSFERRED PURSUANT TO THIS
5 SUBSECTION (7)(a) IS NOT SUBJECT TO ANNUAL APPROPRIATION BY THE
6 GENERAL ASSEMBLY. THE DIVISION SHALL USE THE MONEY TRANSFERRED
7 PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION (7)(a) BEGINNING IN THE 2022-23 STATE
8 FISCAL YEAR AND UNTIL THE AMOUNT IS FULLY EXPENDED TO FUND THE
9 COSTS OF THE STATE BOARD OF NURSING IN ADMINISTERING ARTICLES 255
10 AND 295 OF THIS TITLE 12.

11 (b) THIS SUBSECTION (7) IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025.

12 **SECTION 3. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds,
13 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate
14 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety.