

## CHAPTER 443

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**PROFESSIONS AND OCCUPATIONS**

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**HOUSE BILL 22-1267**

BY REPRESENTATIVE(S) Valdez A. and Boesenecker, Michaelson Jenet, Amabile, Bacon, Bernett, Caraveo, Cutter, Duran, Froelich, Gonzales-Gutierrez, Gray, Herod, Hooton, Jodeh, Kennedy, Kipp, Lontine, McCormick, McLachlan, Mullica, Sirota, Sullivan, Titone, Young, Benavidez, Bird, Esgar, Exum, Lindsay, McCluskie, Ortiz, Ricks, Weissman, Woodrow; also SENATOR(S) Ginal and Fields, Buckner, Jaquez Lewis, Lee, Moreno, Pettersen, Story, Winter, Zenzinger.

**AN ACT**

**CONCERNING CULTURALLY RELEVANT TRAINING AVAILABLE TO HEALTH-CARE PROVIDERS, AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, MAKING AN APPROPRIATION.**

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

**SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add 25-4-2209** as follows:

**25-4-2209. Culturally relevant and affirming health-care training - health-care providers - grants - definition.** (1) AS USED IN THIS SECTION:

(a) "PRIORITY POPULATIONS" MEANS PEOPLE EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS; PEOPLE INVOLVED WITH THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM; BLACK PEOPLE, INDIGENOUS PEOPLE, AND PEOPLE OF COLOR; AMERICAN INDIANS AND ALASKA NATIVES; VETERANS; PEOPLE WHO ARE LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL, TRANSGENDER, QUEER, OR QUESTIONING; PEOPLE OF DISPROPORTIONATELY AFFECTED SEXUAL ORIENTATIONS AND GENDER IDENTITIES; PEOPLE WHO HAVE AIDS OR HIV; OLDER ADULTS; CHILDREN AND FAMILIES; AND PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES, INCLUDING PEOPLE WHO ARE DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING, PEOPLE WHO ARE BLIND AND DEAFBLIND, PEOPLE WITH BRAIN INJURIES, PEOPLE WITH INTELLECTUAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES, PEOPLE WITH OTHER CO-OCCURRING DISABILITIES; AND OTHER POPULATIONS AS DEEMED APPROPRIATE BY THE OFFICE OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH.

(b) "PROGRAM" MEANS THE CULTURALLY RELEVANT AND AFFIRMING HEALTH-CARE TRAINING GRANT PROGRAM CREATED IN SUBSECTION (2) OF THIS SECTION.

(c) "PROVIDER" MEANS AN INDIVIDUAL LICENSED, CERTIFIED, OR REGISTERED

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*Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material added to existing law; dashes through words or numbers indicate deletions from existing law and such material is not part of the act.*

PURSUANT TO TITLE 12 TO PROVIDE HEALTH-CARE SERVICES AND AN INDIVIDUAL CERTIFIED OR LICENSED AS AN EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE PROVIDER BY THE DEPARTMENT. "PROVIDER" DOES NOT INCLUDE A VETERINARIAN.

(d) "REGULATOR" HAS THE SAME MEANING AS SET FORTH IN SECTION 12-20-102 (14).

(2) (a) ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 1, 2023, THE OFFICE SHALL CREATE A CULTURALLY RELEVANT AND AFFIRMING HEALTH-CARE TRAINING GRANT PROGRAM TO PROVIDE MONEY TO NONPROFIT ENTITIES AND STATEWIDE ASSOCIATIONS OF HEALTH-CARE PROVIDERS TO DEVELOP NEW, CULTURALLY RESPONSIVE TRAINING PROGRAMS TO BENEFIT PRIORITY POPULATIONS.

(b) THE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE SHALL CONTRACT WITH A THIRD-PARTY ADMINISTRATOR TO ADMINISTER THE PROGRAM. THE THIRD-PARTY ADMINISTRATOR SHALL:

(I) ISSUE A GRANT APPLICATION FOR NONPROFIT ENTITIES AND STATEWIDE ASSOCIATIONS OF HEALTH-CARE PROVIDERS WHO WISH TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PROGRAM TO DEVELOP CULTURALLY RELEVANT AND AFFIRMING HEALTH-CARE TRAINING FOR PROVIDERS; AND

(II) SUBMIT THE LIST OF THE QUALIFIED APPLICANTS FOR THE PROGRAM TO THE COMMISSION FOR APPROVAL.

(3) IN ORDER TO BE QUALIFIED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PROGRAM, THE NONPROFIT ENTITY AND STATEWIDE ASSOCIATIONS OF HEALTH-CARE PROVIDERS MUST BE ABLE TO PROVIDE CULTURALLY RELEVANT AND AFFIRMING HEALTH-CARE TRAINING THAT:

(a) TEACHES PROVIDERS HOW TO PROVIDE EFFECTIVE, EQUITABLE, UNDERSTANDABLE, SAFE, QUALITY, AND RESPECTFUL CARE AND SERVICES THAT ARE RESPONSIVE TO DIVERSE CULTURAL HEALTH BELIEFS AND PRACTICES, PREFERRED LANGUAGES, HEALTH LITERACY, AND OTHER COMMUNICATION NEEDS;

(b) EQUIPS PROVIDERS WITH THE KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, AND AWARENESS TO BEST SERVE ALL PATIENTS, REGARDLESS OF CULTURAL OR LANGUAGE BACKGROUND; AND

(c) FOCUSES ON:

(I) CULTURALLY RESPONSIVE AND CLINICALLY COMPETENT CARE FOR PRIORITY POPULATIONS; AND

(II) INTERSECTIONALITY, RESPECTFUL CARE, IMPLICIT BIASES, AND SEXUAL ORIENTATION AND GENDER IDENTITY DATA COLLECTION.

(4) WHILE CREATING THE LIST OF QUALIFIED ENTITIES TO CONDUCT THE CULTURALLY RELEVANT AND AFFIRMING HEALTH-CARE TRAINING, THE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE SHALL CONSIDER THE ABILITY OF EACH QUALIFIED ENTITY TO ADDRESS THE NEEDS OF PRIORITY POPULATIONS THROUGH ITS TRAINING PROGRAM.

(5) THE COMMISSION SHALL REVIEW THE LIST OF QUALIFIED ENTITIES THAT APPLY

FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE GRANT PROGRAM, SELECT ENTITIES TO PARTICIPATE IN THE GRANT PROGRAM, AND PROVIDE A LIST OF THE SELECTED ENTITIES TO THE OFFICE.

(6) (a) THE OFFICE SHALL PROVIDE A LIST OF QUALIFIED ENTITIES THAT ARE SELECTED BY THE COMMISSION, A DESCRIPTION OF THE TRAINING OFFERED, AND INFORMATION REGARDING THE GRANT PROGRAM TO THE REGULATOR OF EACH PROVIDER.

(b) EACH QUALIFIED ENTITY THAT IS SELECTED BY THE COMMISSION TO PROVIDE TRAINING IS ENCOURAGED TO WORK WITH REGULATORS IN EACH HEALTH-CARE PROFESSION TO ENSURE THAT EACH PROVIDER WHO COMPLETES THE TRAINING RECEIVES CONTINUING EDUCATION CREDIT WHERE APPLICABLE.

(7) FOR THE 2022-23 STATE FISCAL YEAR, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SHALL APPROPRIATE NINE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS FROM THE GENERAL FUND TO THE DEPARTMENT FOR ALLOCATION TO THE OFFICE FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION, INCLUDING PAYMENT FOR A THIRD-PARTY ADMINISTRATOR. ANY UNEXPENDED MONEY REMAINING AT THE END OF THE 2022-23 STATE FISCAL YEAR:

(a) DOES NOT REVERT TO THE GENERAL FUND OR ANY OTHER FUND;

(b) MAY BE USED BY THE DEPARTMENT IN SUBSEQUENT STATE FISCAL YEARS WITHOUT FURTHER APPROPRIATION; AND

(c) SHALL NOT BE USED FOR ANY OTHER PURPOSE OTHER THAN THE PURPOSES SET FORTH IN THIS SECTION.

**SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add 12-30-119** as follows:

**12-30-119. Culturally relevant and affirming health-care training - health-care providers - grants - definition.** (1) AS USED IN THIS SECTION, "HEALTH-CARE PROVIDER" MEANS AN INDIVIDUAL LICENSED, CERTIFIED, OR REGISTERED PURSUANT TO THIS TITLE 12 TO PROVIDE HEALTH-CARE SERVICES. "HEALTH-CARE PROVIDER" DOES NOT INCLUDE A VETERINARIAN.

(2) EACH REGULATOR OF HEALTH-CARE PROVIDERS SHALL PROVIDE EACH HEALTH-CARE PROVIDER WITH THE INFORMATION THAT THE REGULATOR RECEIVES FROM THE OFFICE OF HEALTH EQUITY PURSUANT TO SECTION 25-4-2209 REGARDING THE CULTURALLY RELEVANT AND AFFIRMING HEALTH-CARE TRAINING COURSES THAT ARE AVAILABLE TO EACH LICENSEE, CERTIFICATE HOLDER, AND REGISTRANT. EACH REGULATOR SHALL PROVIDE THE INFORMATION TO EACH HEALTH-CARE PROVIDER AT THE TIME THE HEALTH-CARE PROVIDER IS ISSUED OR RENEWS A LICENSE, CERTIFICATE, OR REGISTRATION AND SHALL ENCOURAGE PARTICIPATION IN THE TRAINING COURSES.

**SECTION 3. Appropriation.** For the 2022-23 state fiscal year, \$900,000 is appropriated to the department of public health and environment for use by administration and support. This appropriation is from the general fund. To implement this act, the department may use this appropriation for program costs related to the office of health equity. Any money appropriated in this section not

expended prior to July 1, 2023, is further appropriated to the department for the 2023-24 state fiscal year for the same purpose.

**SECTION 4. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly; except that, if a referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V of the state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this act within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take effect unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in November 2022 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.

Approved: June 8, 2022