

**Second Regular Session
Seventy-fourth General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO**

REVISED

*This Version Includes All Amendments Adopted
on Second Reading in the Second House*

LLS NO. 24-0465.01 Conrad Imel x2313

SENATE BILL 24-053

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

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Senate Committees

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House Committees

State, Civic, Military, & Veterans Affairs
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A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 **CONCERNING AN EVALUATION OF RACIAL EQUITY FOR BLACK**
102 **COLORADANS.**

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 requires the state historical society (society), commonly known as history Colorado, to conduct a study to determine any historical and ongoing effects of slavery and subsequent systemic racism on Black Coloradans that may be attributed to Colorado state policies, and to identify measures that are consistent with the constitution to address those effects. The society may enter into an agreement with a third-party entity

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

HOUSE
Amended 2nd Reading
May 2, 2024

SENATE
3rd Reading Unamended
March 20, 2024

SENATE
Amended 2nd Reading
March 19, 2024

to conduct all or parts of the study. As part of the study, the society shall conduct at least 2 public comment sessions for members of the public to provide input to the society related to the study. The society is required to submit a report to the general assembly and governor and make the report available on a publicly accessible webpage of the society's website.

The bill establishes the Black Coloradan racial equity steering committee (steering committee) to provide input to the society about the study, including guidance about the research, economic analysis, and recommendations. The steering committee also assists the society in conducting the public comment sessions. The society shall provide the steering committee with regular periodic updates about the status of the study. The steering committee may submit to the society comments and recommendations for inclusion in the society's report to the general assembly and governor. After the study is completed, the steering committee shall work as necessary to effectuate implementation of the recommendations in the study report.

The bill is contingent upon the society receiving \$100,000 of gifts, grants, or donations for the purpose of conducting the study.

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

2 **SECTION 1. In Colorado Revised Statutes, add part 23 to article**
3 **2 of title 2 as follows:**

4 **PART 23**

5 **BLACK COLORADAN RACIAL EQUITY STUDY**

6 **2-2-2301. Legislative declaration. (1) (a) THE GENERAL**
7 **ASSEMBLY FINDS, DETERMINES, AND DECLARES THAT:**

8 (I) THE LEGACY OF SLAVERY, RACIAL DISCRIMINATION, AND
9 SYSTEMIC RACISM HAS HARMED BLACK COLORADANS AND CONTINUES TO
10 HARM BLACK COLORADANS IN MATERIAL WAYS. BLACK INDIVIDUALS AND
11 COMMUNITIES, WHOSE UNPAID LABOR FORMED THE BASIS FOR WEALTH
12 AND POWER IN THIS COUNTRY, ARE OWED THE OPPORTUNITY AND
13 RESOURCES TO BUILD WEALTH AND POWER FOR THEMSELVES. LIKE MANY
14 WESTERN STATES, COLORADO IS WIDELY PERCEIVED AS HISTORICALLY
15 ABSTINENT FROM PARTICIPATING IN SLAVERY. HOWEVER, SLAVERY WAS

1 ONLY FULLY ABOLISHED IN THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION IN 2018.

2 (II) COLORADO DEMONSTRATES A TRACK RECORD OF RACIAL
3 DISCRIMINATION, RESULTING DIRECTLY IN RACIAL DISPARITIES. THE KU
4 KLUX KLAN WIELDED GREAT INFLUENCE AND POWER IN DENVER AND IN
5 STATE POLITICS IN THE 1920s. MAJOR COLORADO TOWNS SUCH AS
6 DENVER, GRAND JUNCTION, PUEBLO, AND CANON CITY WERE HOTBEDS
7 OF KLAN ACTIVITY. THE KLAN IN COLORADO PEAKED IN 1925. BY THIS
8 TIME, IT HAD INFILTRATED ALL LEVELS OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT. THE
9 KLAN CONTROLLED MANY MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATURE, HELD A STATE
10 SUPREME COURT JUDGESHIP AND SEVEN DENVER DISTRICT COURT
11 BENCHES, AND HAD CONTROLLING MAJORITIES IN SOME TOWN COUNCILS.
12 SOME OF THE MOST NOTABLE KLANSMEN AT THE TIME INCLUDED THE
13 MAYOR AND POLICE CHIEF OF DENVER AND THE GOVERNOR OF COLORADO.

14 (III) THE IMPACT OF THOSE IN POWER TRANSPIRES INTO POLICIES,
15 SYSTEMS, AND PRACTICES ADOPTED AT THE STATE LEVEL. THOSE POLICIES,
16 SYSTEMS, AND PRACTICES ARE BUILT UPON OVER DECADES AND FURTHER
17 INGRAIN INEQUITIES THAT HAVE A DISPARATE IMPACT ON BLACK
18 COLORADANS.

19 (IV) IN 2020, THE HOME OWNERSHIP GAP BETWEEN BLACK AND
20 WHITE COLORADANS WAS THIRTY-ONE PERCENT. JUST TWENTY-FIVE
21 PERCENT OF ADULT BLACK COLORADANS HAVE EARNED A
22 POSTSECONDARY DEGREE OR CREDENTIAL, WHILE NINETY-ONE AND
23 FOUR-TENTHS PERCENT OF TIER ONE JOBS IDENTIFIED IN THE COLORADO
24 WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL'S 2022 TALENT PIPELINE REPORT AND
25 SEVENTY AND FOUR-TENTHS PERCENT OF TIER TWO JOBS REQUIRE A
26 POSTSECONDARY CREDENTIAL. IN COLORADO, BLACK INDIVIDUALS
27 CONSTITUTE FIVE PERCENT OF THE POPULATION BUT SEVENTEEN PERCENT

1 OF THOSE IN JAIL AND EIGHTEEN PERCENT OF THOSE IN PRISON. AT
2 THIRTEEN AND SEVEN-TENTHS PERCENT UNEMPLOYMENT, BLACK
3 WORKERS IN COLORADO FACED HIGHER UNEMPLOYMENT RATES THAN
4 OTHER RACIAL GROUPS SURVEYED BETWEEN MAY 2021 AND APRIL 2022.
5 BLACK COLORADANS EXPERIENCE A WIDE ARRAY OF NEGATIVE HEALTH
6 OUTCOMES AT RATES THAT ARE DISPROPORTIONATE TO WHITE
7 COLORADANS IN THE FOLLOWING AREAS: FOOD INSECURITY, INFANT
8 MORTALITY, CHILDHOOD ASTHMA, DIABETES, AND HIV AND AIDS. THE
9 AVERAGE BLACK COLORADAN HAS A LIFE EXPECTANCY NEARLY THREE
10 YEARS FEWER THAN THE AVERAGE WHITE COLORADAN.

11 (V) DISPARITIES IN BOTH K-12 EDUCATION AND POSTSECONDARY
12 TRAINING, INCLUDING HIGHER EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE TRAINING;
13 HOME OWNERSHIP; HEALTH DISPARITIES AND ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE;
14 AND A SYSTEMICALLY UNJUST CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM, COMBINED WITH
15 POLICE BRUTALITY, HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO A REALITY IN WHICH HALF OF
16 BLACK FAMILIES IN COLORADO ARE CONSIDERED LOW-INCOME. A LACK
17 OF ACCESS TO ECONOMIC MOBILITY AND FINANCIAL PROSPERITY HAS
18 IMPACTED BLACK COLORADANS FOR GENERATIONS. BLACK COLORADANS'
19 LOST EARNINGS AND ASSETS DETRACT FROM COLORADO'S LABOR FORCE
20 AND TAX BASE, AS WELL AS THE GROWTH OF COLORADO'S ECONOMY.

21 (VI) RACIAL EQUITY STUDIES ARE TOOLS USED TO QUALIFY AND
22 QUANTIFY PAST DISCRIMINATION AND RECOMMEND CERTAIN CORRECTIVE
23 MEASURES AS MAY BE WARRANTED BY THE STUDY'S FINDINGS.

24 (b) THEREFORE, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY DECLARES THAT AN
25 INDEPENDENT STUDY MUST BE CONDUCTED AND A STEERING COMMITTEE
26 BE CREATED IN THE STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY TO DETERMINE THE
27 EXTENT TO WHICH BLACK COLORADANS HAVE EXPERIENCED AND

1 CONTINUE TO EXPERIENCE RACIAL DISCRIMINATION DIRECTLY LINKED TO
2 HARMFUL PRACTICES, SYSTEMS, AND POLICIES OF THE STATE AND TO
3 QUANTIFY THE ECONOMIC IMPACTS OF ANY DISCRIMINATION DISCOVERED
4 DURING THE STUDY.

5 **2-2-2302. Definitions.** AS USED IN THIS PART 23, UNLESS THE
6 CONTEXT OTHERWISE REQUIRES:

7 (1) "COMMISSION" MEANS THE BLACK COLORADAN RACIAL
8 EQUITY STUDY COMMISSION CREATED IN SECTION 2-2-2303.

9 (2) "ECONOMIC ANALYSIS" MEANS THE ECONOMIC ANALYSIS
10 CONDUCTED BY A THIRD-PARTY ENTITY PURSUANT TO SECTION 2-2-2306.

11 (3) "FUND" MEANS THE BLACK COLORADAN RACIAL EQUITY
12 STUDY CASH FUND CREATED IN SECTION 2-2-2308.

13 (4) "HISTORICALLY IMPACTED BLACK COLORADANS" OR "BLACK
14 COLORADANS" MEANS AFRICAN AMERICAN PERSONS, INCLUDING
15 INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE ORIGINS IN ANY OF THE BLACK RACIAL GROUPS,
16 WHO HAVE RESIDED OR WHO ARE RESIDING IN COLORADO.

17 (5) "HISTORICAL RESEARCH" MEANS THE HISTORICAL RESEARCH
18 CONDUCTED BY THE STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY PURSUANT TO SECTION
19 2-2-2305.

20 (6) "STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY" OR "SOCIETY" MEANS THE STATE
21 HISTORICAL SOCIETY ESTABLISHED IN SECTION 24-80-201 AND COMMONLY
22 KNOWN AS HISTORY COLORADO.

23 (7) "STUDY" MEANS THE STUDY TO DETERMINE ANY POTENTIAL
24 HISTORICAL AND ONGOING EFFECTS OF SLAVERY AND SUBSEQUENT
25 SYSTEMIC RACISM ON BLACK COLORADANS CONDUCTED PURSUANT TO
26 THIS PART 23.

27 (8) "THIRD-PARTY ENTITY" MEANS AN ENTITY THAT SATISFIES THE

1 QUALIFICATIONS SET FORTH IN SECTION 2-2-2303 (2) AND THAT HAS
2 ENTERED INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE COMMISSION OR WITH THE
3 SOCIETY TO CONDUCT ALL OR PART OF THE HISTORICAL RESEARCH.

4 **2-2-2303. Black Coloradan racial equity study - third-party**
5 **entity qualifications - commission created - membership - staff**
6 **support - legislative intent. (1) (a) THERE IS ESTABLISHED IN THE**
7 **LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT THE BLACK COLORADAN RACIAL EQUITY**
8 **STUDY COMMISSION TO CONDUCT A STUDY TO DETERMINE, AND MAKE**
9 **RECOMMENDATIONS RELATED TO, ANY POTENTIAL HISTORICAL AND**
10 **ONGOING EFFECTS OF SLAVERY AND SUBSEQUENT SYSTEMIC RACISM ON**
11 **BLACK COLORADANS THAT MAY BE ATTRIBUTED TO PRACTICES, SYSTEMS,**
12 **AND POLICIES OF THE STATE. THE COMMISSION IS ONLY REQUIRED TO**
13 **CONDUCT A STUDY IF, PURSUANT TO SECTION 2-2-2309, SECTIONS**
14 **2-2-2304, 2-2-2305, 2-2-2306, AND 2-2-2307 BECOME EFFECTIVE. THE**
15 **GOALS OF THE STUDY ARE TO:**

16 **(I) DETERMINE THE EXTENT TO WHICH BLACK COLORADANS HAVE**
17 **EXPERIENCED AND CONTINUE TO EXPERIENCE RACIAL DISCRIMINATION**
18 **DIRECTLY LINKED TO HARMFUL PRACTICES, SYSTEMS, AND POLICIES OF**
19 **THE STATE THAT HAVE EXISTED HISTORICALLY OR THAT CONTINUE TO**
20 **EXIST;**

21 **(II) QUANTIFY THE ECONOMIC IMPACT ON BLACK COLORADANS,**
22 **INCLUDING IMPACTS ON INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES, OF ANY**
23 **DISCRIMINATION DISCOVERED DURING THE STUDY, TO THE EXTENT THAT**
24 **THE STUDY ESTABLISHES THAT DISPARITIES ATTRIBUTABLE TO PAST OR**
25 **PRESENT DISCRIMINATION EXIST; AND**

26 **(III) IDENTIFY MEASURES THAT ARE CONSISTENT WITH THE**
27 **CONSTITUTION TO ADDRESS THE EFFECTS OF DISCRIMINATION THAT MAY**

1 BE ATTRIBUTED TO PRACTICES, SYSTEMS, AND POLICIES OF THE STATE.

2 (b) THE STUDY INCLUDES HISTORICAL RESEARCH CONDUCTED BY
3 THE SOCIETY PURSUANT TO SECTION 2-2-2305 AND AN ECONOMIC
4 ANALYSIS CONDUCTED PURSUANT TO SECTION 2-2-2306.

5 (c) (I) IT IS THE INTENT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY THAT THE
6 STUDY BE FUNDED ENTIRELY BY GIFTS, GRANTS, AND DONATIONS; THAT
7 GIFTS, GRANTS, AND DONATIONS WILL BE RECEIVED THROUGHOUT THE
8 COURSE OF THE STUDY; AND THAT NO ADDITIONAL GENERAL FUND MONEY
9 BE APPROPRIATED FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE STUDY.

10 (II) THE STUDY IS CONTINGENT ON MONEY BEING AVAILABLE TO
11 CARRY OUT THE STUDY. IF MONEY IS NOT AVAILABLE FOR THE
12 COMMISSION, STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY, OR ANY OTHER ENTITY TO
13 CARRY OUT ITS DUTIES REQUIRED PURSUANT TO THIS PART 23, THE
14 COMMISSION, SOCIETY, OR ENTITY IS NOT REQUIRED TO CARRY OUT THE
15 DUTIES. A CONTRACT WITH A THIRD-PARTY ENTITY MUST PROVIDE THAT
16 THE CONTRACT IS CONTINGENT ON FUNDS BEING AVAILABLE FOR THAT
17 PURPOSE.

18 (2) (a) A THIRD-PARTY ENTITY THAT ENTERS INTO AN AGREEMENT
19 WITH THE COMMISSION OR SOCIETY TO CONDUCT ECONOMIC ANALYSIS OR
20 RESEARCH PURSUANT TO THIS PART 23 MUST HAVE:

21 (I) EXPERIENCE WORKING WITH BLACK COMMUNITIES;
22 (II) AN UNDERSTANDING OF BLACK HISTORY AND CULTURE, WITH
23 DEMONSTRATED EXPERIENCE WORKING ON ISSUES RELATED TO BLACK
24 HISTORY, SOCIAL EQUITY, CIVIL RIGHTS, AND ECONOMIC MOBILITY; AND
25 (III) AN UNDERSTANDING OF THE IMPACT OF TRAUMA AND HOW IT
26 PASSES THROUGH GENERATIONS.

27 (b) THE THIRD-PARTY ENTITY MAY BE FROM OUTSIDE COLORADO.

1 (3) (a) THE COMMISSION CONSISTS OF THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS:

2 (I) THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS, APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR:

3 (A) ONE PERSON WHO HAS EXPERTISE IN QUANTIFYING THE
4 ECONOMIC IMPACTS ON HISTORICALLY IMPACTED BLACK COLORADANS;

5 (B) ONE COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVE WITH A TRACK RECORD OF
6 PUBLIC SERVICE WITH HISTORICALLY IMPACTED BLACK COLORADANS;

7 (C) ONE PERSON WHO HAS LEGAL EXPERTISE IN CONSTITUTIONAL
8 LAW AND RACIAL JUSTICE; AND

9 (D) ONE PERSON WHO IS A HISTORIAN WITH EXPERTISE IN THE
10 HISTORY OF BLACK COLORADANS;

11 (II) THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS, APPOINTED BY THE SPEAKER OF
12 THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

13 (A) ONE PERSON WHO HAS EXPERTISE IN QUANTIFYING THE
14 ECONOMIC IMPACTS ON HISTORICALLY IMPACTED BLACK COLORADANS;

15 (B) ONE PERSON WHO HAS EXPERTISE IN RESEARCHING THE
16 HISTORY AND IMPACT OF SLAVERY AND SYSTEMIC RACISM ON BLACK
17 COLORADANS;

18 (C) ONE COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVE WITH A TRACK RECORD OF
19 PUBLIC SERVICE WITH HISTORICALLY IMPACTED BLACK COLORADANS;

20 AND

21 (D) TWO MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES; AND

22 (III) THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS, APPOINTED BY THE PRESIDENT OF
23 THE SENATE:

24 (A) ONE PERSON WHO HAS LEGAL EXPERTISE IN CONSTITUTIONAL
25 LAW AND RACIAL JUSTICE;

26 (B) ONE PERSON WHO HAS EXPERTISE IN RESEARCHING THE
27 HISTORY AND IMPACT OF SLAVERY ON BLACK COLORADANS;

1 (C) ONE COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVE WITH A TRACK RECORD OF
2 PUBLIC SERVICE WITH HISTORICALLY IMPACTED BLACK COLORADANS;
3 AND

4 (D) TWO MEMBERS OF THE SENATE.

5 (b) THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE SHALL APPOINT ONE OF THE
6 MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION WHO IS A SENATOR AS THE CHAIR OF THE
7 COMMISSION. THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES SHALL
8 APPOINT ONE OF THE MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION WHO IS A MEMBER OF
9 THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AS THE VICE-CHAIR OF THE COMMISSION.

10 (c) THE APPOINTING AUTHORITIES SHALL APPOINT MEMBERS OF
11 THE COMMISSION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF
12 THIS SUBSECTION (3), BUT NO LATER THAN SEPTEMBER 1, 2024. THE TERM
13 OF APPOINTMENT IS FOR THE DURATION OF THE COMMISSION'S EXISTENCE.
14 IF A VACANCY ARISES ON THE COMMISSION, THE APPOINTING AUTHORITY
15 SHALL APPOINT A REPLACEMENT TO FILL THE VACANCY AS SOON AS
16 POSSIBLE.

17 (d) NONLEGISLATIVE MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION SERVE
18 WITHOUT COMPENSATION BUT ARE ENTITLED TO REIMBURSEMENT FOR
19 ACTUAL AND NECESSARY EXPENSES INCURRED IN THE DISCHARGE OF THE
20 MEMBERS' DUTIES.

21 (e) THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL STAFF SHALL ASSIST THE
22 COMMISSION IN CARRYING OUT ITS DUTIES; EXCEPT THAT LEGISLATIVE
23 COUNCIL STAFF SHALL NOT:

24 (I) CONDUCT RESEARCH FOR THE COMMISSION OR DRAFT THE
25 REPORT REQUIRED PURSUANT TO SECTION 2-2-2307;

26 (II) ORGANIZE OR OTHERWISE FACILITATE A COMMUNITY
27 ENGAGEMENT SESSION DESCRIBED IN SECTION 2-2-2305 (2); AND

1 (III) TRAVEL FOR THE PURPOSE OF ASSISTING THE COMMISSION,
2 UNLESS AUTHORIZED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE LEGISLATIVE
3 COUNCIL.

4 2-2-2304. Commission - meetings - duties. (1) (a) THE CHAIR OF
5 THE COMMISSION SHALL CONVENE THE FIRST MEETING OF THE
6 COMMISSION NO LATER THAN FORTY-TWO DAYS AFTER THE EFFECTIVE
7 DATE OF THIS SECTION.

8 (b) THE COMMISSION SHALL NOT MEET MORE THAN SIX TIMES IN A
9 CALENDAR YEAR AND SHALL NOT MEET DURING THE LEGISLATIVE SESSION;
10 EXCEPT THAT:

11 (I) MEETINGS WITHIN THE FIRST THREE MONTHS AFTER THE
12 EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS SECTION DO NOT COUNT TOWARD THE
13 SIX-MEETING LIMIT; AND

14 (II) THE COMMISSION MAY MEET ONCE DURING A LEGISLATIVE
15 SESSION FOLLOWING RECEIPT OF A QUARTERLY UPDATE FROM THE SOCIETY
16 PURSUANT TO SECTION 2-2-2305 (4).

17 (c) MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION MAY PARTICIPATE REMOTELY
18 IN COMMITTEE MEETINGS.

19 (d) THE COMMISSION MAY NOT TRAVEL UNLESS AUTHORIZED BY
20 THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL; EXCEPT THAT
21 MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION MAY TRAVEL TO PARTICIPATE IN A
22 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT SESSION DESCRIBED IN SECTION 2-2-2305 (2).

23 (2) THE COMMISSION SHALL:

24 (a) COLLABORATE WITH THE SOCIETY ABOUT THE STUDY'S SCOPE
25 OF RESEARCH IN THE SUBJECT AREAS DESCRIBED IN SECTION 2-2-2305 (1);

26 (b) IF THE SOCIETY ENTERS INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH A
27 THIRD-PARTY ENTITY TO CONDUCT ALL OR PART OF THE HISTORICAL

1 RESEARCH, ASSIST WITH THE DEVELOPMENT OF A RUBRIC FOR SELECTING
2 THE ENTITY;

3 (c) COLLABORATE WITH THE SOCIETY ABOUT DETERMINING THE
4 TIMING AND GEOGRAPHIC REACH FOR EACH COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT
5 SESSION DESCRIBED IN SECTION 2-2-2305 (2) TO MAXIMIZE ATTENDANCE
6 AT THE SESSION, CONSULT WITH THE SOCIETY ABOUT WHETHER TO HOLD
7 ADDITIONAL COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT SESSIONS, AND HELP THE SOCIETY
8 MAXIMIZE ATTENDANCE AT THE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT SESSIONS;

9 (d) PROVIDE FEEDBACK TO THE SOCIETY FOLLOWING THE RECEIPT
10 OF UPDATES ABOUT THE HISTORICAL RESEARCH;

11 (e) ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH ONE OR MORE THIRD-PARTY
12 ENTITIES TO CONDUCT AN ECONOMIC ANALYSIS, AS DESCRIBED IN SECTION
13 2-2-2306; AND

14 (f) DRAFT AND SUBMIT THE REPORT REQUIRED PURSUANT TO
15 SECTION 2-2-2307.

16 (3) AFTER THE COMMISSION SUBMITS THE REPORT TO THE
17 GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND GOVERNOR PURSUANT TO SECTION 2-2-2307 (1),
18 THE COMMISSION SHALL WORK WITH ANY PARTIES NECESSARY, INCLUDING
19 MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, TO IMPLEMENT THE
20 RECOMMENDATIONS IN THE REPORT.

21 **2-2-2305. Black Coloradan racial equity study - historical**
22 **research. (1)(a) AS PART OF THE STUDY, THE STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY**
23 **SHALL CONDUCT HISTORICAL RESEARCH TO DETERMINE ANY POTENTIAL**
24 **HISTORICAL AND ONGOING EFFECTS OF SLAVERY AND SUBSEQUENT**
25 **SYSTEMIC RACISM ON BLACK COLORADANS THAT MAY BE ATTRIBUTED TO**
26 **PRACTICES, SYSTEMS, AND POLICIES OF THE STATE. THE HISTORICAL**
27 **RESEARCH MUST FOCUS ON AND INCLUDE ALL OF THE FOLLOWING, AS EACH**

1 MAY BE ATTRIBUTABLE TO STATE GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES, POLICIES,
2 SYSTEMS, AND PRACTICES:

3 (I) RESEARCH ON POTENTIAL HISTORICAL AND ONGOING EFFECTS
4 OF SLAVERY AND SUBSEQUENT SYSTEMIC RACISM ON BLACK COLORADANS
5 IN THE FOLLOWING SUBJECT AREAS: ACCESS TO ASSET AND WEALTH
6 BUILDING, INCLUDING RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL LOANS, CAPITAL
7 INVESTMENTS, AND GRANTS FOR BUSINESSES; TAX POLICY; K-12
8 EDUCATION; POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION, INCLUDING HIGHER EDUCATION
9 AND WORKFORCE TRAINING PROGRAMS; HOME OWNERSHIP AND ACCESS TO
10 HOUSING AS AN OWNER OR TENANT; HEALTH DISPARITIES AND ACCESS TO
11 HEALTH CARE; POLICING AND POLICE BRUTALITY; INCARCERATION FOR
12 CRIMES; AND OVERALL TREATMENT OF BLACK COLORADANS AND TRENDS
13 IN THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM. THE SOCIETY SHALL FOCUS ITS
14 RESEARCH IN THE SUBJECT AREAS BASED ON GUIDANCE FROM THE
15 COMMISSION ABOUT SPECIFIC TOPICS FOR STUDY WITHIN THE SUBJECT
16 AREAS.

17 (II) RESEARCH INTO THE EXTENT STATE GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES'
18 POLICIES, SYSTEMS, AND PRACTICES MAY HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO ANY
19 HARM CAUSED TO HISTORICALLY IMPACTED BLACK COLORADANS.

20 (b) IN CONDUCTING THE HISTORICAL RESEARCH, THE SOCIETY MAY
21 CONSIDER AND INCORPORATE OTHER RESEARCH AND STUDIES THAT ARE
22 RELEVANT TO THE SUBJECT AREAS DESCRIBED IN THIS SUBSECTION (1).

23 (2) (a) THE SOCIETY SHALL CONDUCT AT LEAST TWO COMMUNITY
24 ENGAGEMENT SESSIONS IN DIFFERENT GEOGRAPHIC LOCATIONS IN THE
25 STATE FOR THE PUBLIC TO OFFER INPUT BASED ON LIVED EXPERIENCE WITH
26 STATE GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES, POLICIES, SYSTEMS, AND PRACTICES
27 THAT HAVE RESULTED IN SYSTEMIC RACISM AND DISCRIMINATION AGAINST

1 HISTORICALLY IMPACTED BLACK COLORADANS-AND THEIR IMPACT ON
2 INDIVIDUALS, FAMILIES, AND THE COMMUNITY AS A WHOLE. EACH
3 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT SESSION MUST BE HELD AT A TIME AND IN A
4 PLACE THAT THE COMMISSION DETERMINES IS SUFFICIENT TO MAXIMIZE
5 ATTENDANCE. THE SOCIETY SHALL ALLOW MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO
6 PARTICIPATE AND PROVIDE COMMENTS IN PERSON, REMOTELY, AND IN
7 WRITING.

8 (b) THE SOCIETY MAY CONDUCT ADDITIONAL COMMUNITY
9 ENGAGEMENT SESSIONS OR ENGAGE WITH THE COMMUNITY THROUGH
10 INTERVIEWS AND OTHER METHODS DETERMINED BY THE SOCIETY.

11 (3) THE SOCIETY MAY ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH ONE OR
12 MORE THIRD-PARTY ENTITIES TO CONDUCT ALL OR PART OF THE
13 HISTORICAL RESEARCH.

14 (4) BEGINNING THREE MONTHS AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF
15 THIS SECTION, THE SOCIETY SHALL PROVIDE THE COMMISSION WITH
16 QUARTERLY UPDATES ABOUT THE STATUS OF THE STUDY. THE SOCIETY
17 SHALL CONSIDER THE COMMISSION'S FEEDBACK ON THE UPDATES.

18 (5) NO LATER THAN TWO YEARS AND SIX MONTHS AFTER THE
19 EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS SECTION, THE SOCIETY SHALL SUBMIT A REPORT
20 TO THE COMMISSION WITH THE RESULTS OF ITS HISTORICAL RESEARCH
21 CONDUCTED PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION AND ANY RECOMMENDATIONS OF
22 THE SOCIETY.

23 **2-2-2306. Black Coloradan racial equity study - economic**
24 **analysis - contractor. (1) THE COMMISSION SHALL ENTER INTO AN**
25 **AGREEMENT WITH ONE OR MORE THIRD-PARTY ENTITIES TO CONDUCT AN**
26 **ECONOMIC ANALYSIS OF THE FINANCIAL IMPACT OF SYSTEMIC RACISM ON**
27 **HISTORICALLY IMPACTED BLACK COLORADANS UTILIZING THE FINDINGS**

1 OF THE HISTORICAL RESEARCH AND, IF FEASIBLE, AN ESTIMATION OF THE
2 FINANCIAL IMPACT ON COLORADO'S ECONOMY RESULTING FROM STATE
3 GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES, POLICIES, SYSTEMS, AND PRACTICES IN
4 COLORADO.

5 (2) (a) THE THIRD-PARTY ENTITY SHALL BEGIN CONDUCTING ITS
6 ECONOMIC ANALYSIS AFTER THE SOCIETY HAS COMPLETED ITS RESEARCH
7 AND NO LATER THAN THE DATE THAT THE COMMISSION RECEIVES THE
8 HISTORICAL RESEARCH REPORT FROM THE SOCIETY PURSUANT TO SECTION
9 2-2-2305 (5).

10 (b) NO LATER THAN SIX MONTHS AFTER BEGINNING TO CONDUCT
11 ITS ECONOMIC ANALYSIS, THE THIRD-PARTY ENTITY SHALL DELIVER THE
12 RESULTS OF ITS ANALYSIS TO THE COMMISSION.

13 **2-2-2307. Black Coloradan racial equity study - report -**
14 **presentation to legislative committees. (1) NO LATER THAN THREE**
15 **YEARS AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS SECTION, THE COMMISSION**
16 **SHALL SUBMIT A REPORT TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND THE GOVERNOR**
17 **ABOUT THE STUDY. THE COMMISSION SHALL PROVIDE THE REPORT TO THE**
18 **STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION, THE COLORADO COMMISSION ON HIGHER**
19 **EDUCATION, THE COLORADO ATTORNEY GENERAL, AND THE HEALTH**
20 **EQUITY COMMISSION CREATED IN SECTION 25-4-2206, AND MAKE THE**
21 **REPORT AVAILABLE ON A PUBLICLY ACCESSIBLE WEBPAGE OF THE**
22 **GENERAL ASSEMBLY'S WEBSITE. THE REPORT MUST INCLUDE:**

23 (a) A DESCRIPTION OF THE STUDY'S GOALS;

24 (b) THE RESULTS OF THE HISTORICAL RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC
25 ANALYSIS;

26 (c) RECOMMENDATIONS THAT ARE CONSISTENT WITH THE
27 CONSTITUTION TO ADDRESS ANY PAST HARM POTENTIALLY CAUSED BY

1 GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES, POLICIES, SYSTEMS, AND PRACTICES THAT ARE
2 DISCOVERED THROUGH THE STUDY;

3 (d) RECOMMENDATIONS ABOUT HOW OUTCOMES OF THE
4 HISTORICAL RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC ASSESSMENTS OF PAST HARM
5 POTENTIALLY CAUSED TO BLACK COLORADANS BY THE PRACTICES,
6 SYSTEMS, AND POLICIES OF THE STATE CAN BE INCORPORATED INTO THE
7 STATE HISTORY STANDARDS FOR K-12 STUDENTS; AND

8 (e) RECOMMENDATIONS ABOUT HOW TO INCREASE PUBLIC
9 AWARENESS ABOUT RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC ASSESSMENTS OF PAST
10 HARM POTENTIALLY CAUSED TO HISTORICALLY IMPACTED BLACK
11 COLORADANS BY GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES, POLICIES, SYSTEMS, AND
12 PRACTICES.

13 (2) THE COMMISSION SHALL PRESENT THE REPORT DESCRIBED IN
14 THIS SECTION TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STATE, CIVIC,
15 MILITARY, AND VETERANS AFFAIRS COMMITTEE AND THE SENATE STATE,
16 VETERANS, AND MILITARY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE, OR THEIR SUCCESSOR
17 COMMITTEES, DURING THE NEXT REGULAR LEGISLATIVE SESSION THAT
18 BEGINS AFTER THE REPORT IS SUBMITTED TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND
19 GOVERNOR OR, IF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY IS IN REGULAR SESSION WHEN
20 THE REPORT IS SUBMITTED AND UPON REQUEST OF THE CHAIR OF THE
21 COMMITTEE, DURING THAT ONGOING REGULAR LEGISLATIVE SESSION.

22 **2-2-2308. Gifts, grants, and donations - cash fund.** (1) THE
23 COMMISSION MAY SEEK, ACCEPT, AND EXPEND GIFTS, GRANTS, OR
24 DONATIONS FROM PRIVATE OR PUBLIC SOURCES FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS
25 SECTION. THE COMMISSION SHALL TRANSMIT ALL MONEY RECEIVED
26 THROUGH GIFTS, GRANTS, OR DONATIONS TO THE STATE TREASURER, WHO
27 SHALL CREDIT THE MONEY TO THE BLACK COLORADAN RACIAL EQUITY

1 STUDY CASH FUND CREATED IN THIS SECTION.

2 (2) THE COMMISSION MAY ACCEPT DONATIONS OF IN-KIND
3 SERVICES FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION, INCLUDING FOR TECHNICAL
4 ASSISTANCE.

5 (3)(a) THE BLACK COLORADAN RACIAL EQUITY STUDY CASH FUND
6 IS CREATED IN THE STATE TREASURY. THE FUND CONSISTS OF GIFTS,
7 GRANTS, AND DONATIONS CREDITED TO THE FUND PURSUANT TO
8 SUBSECTION (1) OF THIS SECTION AND ANY OTHER MONEY THAT THE
9 GENERAL ASSEMBLY MAY APPROPRIATE OR TRANSFER TO THE FUND. THE
10 STATE TREASURER SHALL CREDIT ALL INTEREST AND INCOME DERIVED
11 FROM THE DEPOSIT AND INVESTMENT OF MONEY IN THE FUND TO THE
12 FUND.

13 (b) MONEY IN THE FUND IS CONTINUOUSLY APPROPRIATED AS
14 FOLLOWS:

15 (I) TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL FOR THE COMMISSION TO CARRY
16 OUT THIS PART 23; AND

17 (II) TO THE SOCIETY FOR CONDUCTING HISTORICAL RESEARCH
18 PURSUANT TO SECTION 2-2-2305.

19 (c) (I) IF BY JUNE 30, 2025, THE MONEY IN THE FUND HAS NEVER
20 REACHED OR EXCEEDED SEVEN HUNDRED EIGHTY-FIVE THOUSAND
21 DOLLARS, THE STATE TREASURER SHALL RETURN FROM THE FUND TO THE
22 GRANTOR OR DONOR THE AMOUNT OF THE GRANTOR'S OR DONOR'S GIFTS,
23 GRANTS, OR DONATIONS.

24 (II) IF SECTIONS 2-2-2304, 2-2-2305, 2-2-2306, AND 2-2-2307
25 TAKE EFFECT PURSUANT TO SECTION 2-2-2309 (1), ON THE DAY PRIOR TO
26 THE REPEAL OF THE FUND FOUR YEARS LATER PURSUANT TO SECTION
27 2-2-2309 (2), THE STATE TREASURER SHALL RETURN FROM THE FUND TO

1 EACH GRANTOR OR DONOR THE MONEY REMAINING IN THE FUND IN AN
2 AMOUNT THAT IS PROPORTIONAL TO THE GRANTOR'S OR DONOR'S SHARE
3 OF THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF GIFTS, GRANTS, OR DONATIONS DEPOSITED TO
4 THE FUND.

5 (III) IF ANY MONEY REMAINS IN THE FUND AFTER THE STATE
6 TREASURER RETURNS MONEY TO DONORS OR GRANTORS PURSUANT TO
7 SUBSECTION (3)(c)(I) OR (3)(c)(II) OF THIS SECTION, AS APPLICABLE, THE
8 STATE TREASURER SHALL, PRIOR TO THE REPEAL OF THE FUND, TRANSFER
9 ALL UNEXPENDED AND UNENCUMBERED MONEY IN THE FUND TO THE
10 GENERAL FUND.

11 **2-2-2309. Effective dates - repeal of part. (1)** SECTIONS
12 2-2-2304, 2-2-2305, 2-2-2306, AND 2-2-2307 WILL TAKE EFFECT IF THE
13 COMMISSION RECEIVES SEVEN HUNDRED EIGHTY-FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS
14 OF GIFTS, GRANTS, OR DONATIONS FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS PART 23.
15 THE DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL SHALL NOTIFY
16 THE REVISOR OF STATUTES IN WRITING OF THE DATE ON WHICH THE
17 CONDITION SPECIFIED IN THIS SUBSECTION (1) HAS OCCURRED BY
18 E-MAILING THE NOTICE TO REVISOROFSTATUTES.GA@COLEG.GOV.
19 SECTIONS 2-2-2304, 2-2-2305, 2-2-2306, AND 2-2-2307 TAKE EFFECT
20 UPON THE DATE IDENTIFIED IN THE NOTICE THAT THE COMMISSION HAS
21 RECEIVED SEVEN HUNDRED EIGHTY-FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS OF GIFTS,
22 GRANTS, OR DONATIONS FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION OR, IF THE
23 NOTICE DOES NOT SPECIFY THAT DATE, UPON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE TO
24 THE REVISOR OF STATUTES.

25 (2) THIS PART 23 IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025; EXCEPT
26 THAT, IF THE REVISOR OF STATUTES RECEIVES NOTICE PURSUANT TO THIS
27 SECTION, THEN THIS PART 23 IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE FOUR YEARS AFTER

1 SECTIONS 2-2-2304, 2-2-2305, 2-2-2306, AND 2-2-2307 TAKE EFFECT.

2 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-80-211, **add** (2)
3 as follows:

4 **24-80-211. Society and division - duties - repeal.** (2) (a)
5 SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE MONEY, THE STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY SHALL
6 CONDUCT HISTORICAL RESEARCH AS DESCRIBED IN PART 23 OF ARTICLE 2
7 OF TITLE 2.

8 (b) THIS SUBSECTION (2) IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025;
9 EXCEPT THAT, IF THE REVISOR OF STATUTES RECEIVES NOTICE PURSUANT
10 TO SECTION 2-2-2309 (1), THEN THIS SUBSECTION (2) IS REPEALED,
11 EFFECTIVE FOUR YEARS AFTER THE DATE OF THE NOTICE TO THE REVISOR
12 OF STATUTES.

13 **SECTION 3. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act
14 takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the
15 ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly; except
16 that, if a referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V
17 of the state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this
18 act within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take
19 effect unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in
20 November 2024 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the
21 official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.

22 _____