

CHAPTER 221

HUMAN SERVICES - SOCIAL SERVICES

HOUSE BILL 96-1098

BY REPRESENTATIVES Kreutz, Lawrence, Clarke, Dean, George, Saliman, and Morrison;
also SENATORS Hopper, Feeley, Alexander, Bishop, Blickensderfer, Hernandez, Martinez, Rupert, Tanner, and Wham.

AN ACT

**CONCERNING A NEIGHBOR-TO-NEIGHBOR CHILD CARE TRAINING AND EDUCATION PILOT PROGRAM,
AND MAKING AN APPROPRIATION THEREFOR.**

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

SECTION 1. Article 2 of title 26, Colorado Revised Statutes, 1989 Repl. Vol., as amended, is amended BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW PART to read:

**PART 6
CHILD CARE TRAINING AND EDUCATION PILOT PROGRAM**

26-2-601. Legislative declaration. (1) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY HEREBY FINDS AND DECLARES THAT THE STATE LACKS AN ADEQUATE NUMBER OF AFFORDABLE, SAFE, AND RELIABLE CHILD CARE FACILITIES, PARTICULARLY IN LOW-INCOME NEIGHBORHOODS, AND NEEDS MORE TRAINED CHILD CARE WORKERS. THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FURTHER FINDS THAT WELFARE RECIPIENTS COULD BECOME EMPLOYED AS CHILD CARE WORKERS OR BECOME LICENSED FAMILY CHILD CARE PROVIDERS IF THEY HAD THE PROPER TRAINING AND EDUCATION.

(2) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY DECLARES THAT IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NEIGHBOR-TO-NEIGHBOR CHILD CARE TRAINING AND EDUCATION PILOT PROGRAM WILL HELP WELFARE RECIPIENTS BEGIN TO ATTAIN SELF-SUFFICIENCY WHILE INCREASING THE SUPPLY OF TRAINED CHILD CARE WORKERS.

26-2-602. Definitions. AS USED IN THIS PART 6, UNLESS THE CONTEXT OTHERWISE REQUIRES:

(1) "NEIGHBORS PROGRAM" MEANS THE NEIGHBOR-TO-NEIGHBOR CHILD CARE

Capital letters indicate new material added to existing statutes; dashes through words indicate deletions from existing statutes and such material not part of act.

TRAINING AND EDUCATION PILOT PROGRAM AUTHORIZED PURSUANT TO THIS PART 6.

(2) "PARTICIPANT" MEANS A PERSON WHO IS PARTICIPATING IN ONE OF THE TRAINING AND EDUCATION PROGRAMS AS PART OF THE NEIGHBORS PROGRAM PURSUANT TO A GRANT AWARDED UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF SECTION 26-2-603.

(3) "PILOT SITE AGENCY" MEANS A LOCAL PUBLIC OR PRIVATE COMMUNITY-BASED AGENCY THAT IS AWARDED A GRANT TO IMPLEMENT A TRAINING AND EDUCATION PROGRAM UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF SECTION 26-2-603.

(4) "TRAINING AND EDUCATION PROGRAM" MEANS A PROGRAM THAT A PILOT SITE AGENCY OPERATES UNDER A GRANT AWARDED PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF SECTION 26-2-603 TO TRAIN PARTICIPANTS IN THE AREA OF CHILD CARE.

26-2-603. Neighbors program - pilot established - awards. (1) (a) ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 1, 1997, THE STATE DEPARTMENT SHALL ISSUE A REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS STATEWIDE FOR TRAINING AND EDUCATION PROGRAMS THAT HAVE THE FEATURES DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (2) OF THIS SECTION. THE REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS SHALL INCLUDE, BUT NOT BE LIMITED TO, THE FOLLOWING COMPONENTS:

(I) A DESCRIPTION OF THE DESIGN AND PURPOSE OF THE TRAINING AND EDUCATION PROGRAM;

(II) A DESCRIPTION OF HOW THE PILOT SITE AGENCY SHALL RECRUIT AND ASSESS PARTICIPANTS PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS IN PARAGRAPH (c) OF SUBSECTION (2) OF THIS SECTION;

(III) THE TYPE OF TRAINING PROGRAMS, INCLUDING ON-THE-JOB TRAINING PROGRAMS, THAT THE PILOT SITE AGENCY WILL PROVIDE;

(IV) METHODS FOR ENCOURAGING THE USE OF OTHER COMMUNITY RESOURCES FOR TRAINING;

(V) METHODS FOR ENSURING SUPPORT FOR PARTICIPANTS WHO SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETE THE TRAINING AND EDUCATION PROGRAM TO BE ABLE TO SEEK INDEPENDENT EMPLOYMENT IN CHILD CARE; AND

(VI) METHODS FOR PROVIDING FOR THE CHILD CARE NEEDS OF THE PARTICIPANT.

(b) A LOCAL PUBLIC OR PRIVATE COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATION THAT IS INTERESTED IN BECOMING A PILOT SITE AGENCY SHALL RESPOND TO THE REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS NO LATER THAN APRIL 1, 1997.

(c) THE STATE DEPARTMENT SHALL AWARD GRANTS OF NO MORE THAN TWENTY-FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS EACH TO NO MORE THAN TEN PILOT SITE AGENCIES THROUGHOUT THE STATE SELECTED NO LATER THAN SEPTEMBER 1, 1997.

(d) PILOT SITE AGENCIES SHALL BEGIN THE TRAINING AND EDUCATION PROGRAMS NO LATER THAN THIRTY DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF THE GRANT AWARD OR OCTOBER 1, 1997, WHICHEVER IS LATER.

(2) TRAINING AND EDUCATION PROGRAMS THAT MAY BE QUALIFIED TO RECEIVE A GRANT PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION SHALL DEMONSTRATE THE FOLLOWING FEATURES:

(a) **Term - budget.** THE TRAINING AND EDUCATION PROGRAM SHALL BE DESIGNED AS A ONE-YEAR PROGRAM, AND A BUDGET FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAM SHALL BE PREPARED. ALLOWABLE BUDGET EXPENDITURES SHALL BE LIMITED TO THE COSTS OF IMPLEMENTING THE TRAINING AND EDUCATION PROGRAM THAT MAY INCLUDE BUT SHALL NOT BE LIMITED TO THE COSTS OF TRAINERS, TRAINING MATERIALS, AND EQUIPMENT NEEDED TO START A FAMILY CHILD CARE HOME.

(b) **Program design.** THE TRAINING AND EDUCATION PROGRAM SHALL BE DESIGNED TO TRAIN AND EDUCATE PARTICIPANTS FOR JOBS IN CHILD CARE OR ASSIST THEM IN SECURING APPROPRIATE STATE AND LOCAL LICENSES AND PERMITS TO OPERATE A CHILD CARE CENTER OR FAMILY CHILD CARE HOME, INCLUDING THE PROCESS FOR SEEKING ANY LOCAL VARIANCES OR STATE WAIVERS THAT MAY BE NEEDED TO OPERATE A CHILD CARE CENTER OR A FAMILY CARE HOME. THE TRAINING AND EDUCATION PROGRAM SHALL, TO THE EXTENT PRACTICABLE, UTILIZE COMMUNITY RESOURCES, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO LOCAL AGENCIES, COUNTY DEPARTMENTS OF SOCIAL SERVICES, OR OTHER APPROPRIATE COMMUNITY GROUPS IN THE RECRUITMENT OF PARTICIPANTS AND THE MARKETING OF THE TRAINING AND EDUCATION PROGRAM.

(c) **Participant recruitment.** THE TRAINING AND EDUCATION PROGRAM SHALL RECRUIT PERSONS WHO ARE EIGHTEEN YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER AND WHO ARE RECIPIENTS OF ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING FORMS OF PUBLIC ASSISTANCE:

(I) AID TO FAMILIES WITH DEPENDENT CHILDREN, AS DESCRIBED IN PART 1 OF ARTICLE 2 OF THIS TITLE;

(II) MEDICAID, AS DESCRIBED IN ARTICLE 4 OF THIS TITLE; OR

(III) FOOD STAMPS, AS DESCRIBED IN PART 3 OF ARTICLE 2 OF THIS TITLE.

(3) IN NO CASE SHALL ANY GRANT AWARD OR PORTION THEREOF BE USED TO PROVIDE DIRECT CASH ASSISTANCE TO A PARTICIPANT.

(4) NOTHING IN THIS PART 6 SHALL BE CONSTRUED TO WAIVE THE REQUIREMENTS OF ANY OTHER MANDATORY EMPLOYMENT OR TRAINING PROGRAM.

26-2-604. State department duties. (1) THE STATE DEPARTMENT SHALL:

(a) OVERSEE THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE NEIGHBORS PROGRAM;

(b) PROVIDE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO THE PILOT SITE AGENCIES;

(c) PREPARE A FINAL REPORT THAT EVALUATES THE NEIGHBORS PROGRAM FOR SUBMISSION TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY NO LATER THAN JANUARY 1, 1999.

26-2-605. Pilot site agency duties. (1) A PILOT SITE AGENCY SHALL HAVE THE FOLLOWING DUTIES:

(a) TO TRAIN THE PARTICIPANTS AND MONITOR THEIR PROGRESS THROUGHOUT THE COURSE OF THE TRAINING AND EDUCATION PROGRAM;

(b) TO REPORT TO THE STATE DEPARTMENT MONTHLY ON THE PROGRESS OF THE PARTICIPANTS AND THE TRAINING AND EDUCATION PROGRAM'S ADHERENCE TO ITS BUDGET;

(c) TO IDENTIFY ANY BARRIERS TO SELF-SUFFICIENCY AND SUCCESSFUL CAREERS IN CHILD CARE FOR THE PARTICIPANTS; AND

(d) TO PREPARE A FINAL REPORT FOR THE STATE DEPARTMENT NO LATER THAN NOVEMBER 1, 1998.

26-2-606. Public or private sources of funding - child care and education pilot program fund. (1) THE STATE DEPARTMENT IS AUTHORIZED TO RECEIVE CONTRIBUTIONS, GRANTS, SERVICES, AND IN-KIND DONATIONS FROM ANY PUBLIC OR PRIVATE ENTITY FOR THE DIRECT OR INDIRECT COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NEIGHBORS PROGRAM SET FORTH IN THIS PART 6.

(2) ALL CONTRIBUTIONS AND GRANTS RECEIVED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (1) OF THIS SECTION SHALL BE TRANSMITTED TO THE STATE TREASURER, WHO SHALL CREDIT THE SAME TO THE CHILD CARE AND EDUCATION PILOT PROGRAM FUND, WHICH FUND IS HEREBY CREATED. THE MONEYS IN THE FUND SHALL BE SUBJECT TO ANNUAL APPROPRIATION BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FOR THE DIRECT AND INDIRECT COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NEIGHBORS PROGRAM SET FORTH IN THIS PART 6. ANY INTEREST DERIVED FROM THE DEPOSIT AND INVESTMENT OF MONEYS IN THE FUND SHALL BE CREDITED TO THE FUND. AT THE END OF THE FISCAL YEAR, ALL UNEXPENDED AND UNENCUMBERED MONEYS IN THE FUND SHALL REMAIN THEREIN AND SHALL NOT BE CREDITED OR TRANSFERRED TO THE GENERAL FUND OR ANY OTHER FUND.

(3) IT IS THE INTENT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY THAT NO GENERAL FUND DOLLARS BE APPROPRIATED FOR THE PURPOSE OF IMPLEMENTING THE NEIGHBORS PROGRAM SET FORTH IN THIS PART 6.

26-2-607. Repeal of part. THIS PART 6 IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 1999.

SECTION 2. Future appropriation. Although no appropriation is included in this act for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1996, it appears that this act will require appropriations from the cash fund for subsequent fiscal years, and the amount required to be appropriated for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1997, is estimated to be two hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000), or so much thereof as may be necessary, for the implementation of this act.

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

Approved: May 30, 1996