

CHAPTER 241

CHILDREN AND DOMESTIC MATTERS

HOUSE BILL 02-1262

BY REPRESENTATIVE(S) Mace, Borodkin, Boyd, Chavez, Cloer, Coleman, Decker, Groff, Harvey, Jahn, Jameson, Kester, King, Lee, Rhodes, Romanoff, Sanchez, Schultheis, Stafford, Stengel, Tapia, Tochtrop, Veiga, Vigil, Weddig, and Williams S.; also SENATOR(S) Hernandez, Epps, Hanna, and Linkhart.

AN ACT**CONCERNING ASSISTANCE FOR THE BENEFIT OF GRANDCHILDREN WHO EXIT FOSTER CARE INTO THE LEGAL CARE OF A GRANDPARENT.**

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

SECTION 1. 26-2-709 (1), Colorado Revised Statutes, is amended BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW PARAGRAPH to read:

26-2-709. Benefits - cash assistance - programs. (1) **Basic assistance grant.** (a.5) SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS, A COUNTY DEPARTMENT MAY PROVIDE TO A GRANDCHILD WHO WAS IN FOSTER CARE, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 19-1-103 (51.3), C.R.S., AND WHO EXITED FOSTER CARE INTO THE LEGAL CUSTODY OR LEGAL GUARDIANSHIP OF A GRANDPARENT, A BASIC ASSISTANCE GRANT, ELIGIBILITY FOR WHICH IS BASED ON EITHER OF THE FOLLOWING:

(I) THE ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA THAT WERE IN EFFECT ON JULY 16, 1996; OR

(II) THE FINANCIAL ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR THE AVERAGE FOSTER CARE HOME MAINTENANCE PAYMENT, AS DEFINED PURSUANT TO RULES PROMULGATED BY THE STATE BOARD.

SECTION 2. 26-2-706 (1) (a), Colorado Revised Statutes, is amended to read:

26-2-706. Target populations. (1) (a) Subject to the provisions of this section and restrictions in the federal law, AND EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SECTION 26-2-709 (1) (a.5), any person or family eligible to receive AFDC in Colorado based upon eligibility criteria in effect on July 16, 1996, may receive assistance under the Colorado works program.

Capital letters indicate new material added to existing statutes; dashes through words indicate deletions from existing statutes and such material not part of 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 31, 2002