

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

REVISED

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

LLS NO. 26-0425.01 Chelsea Princell x4335

HOUSE BILL 26-1429

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Brown and Sirota, Taggart, Bacon, Boesenecker, Duran, Gilchrist, Lindsay, McCluskie, Nguyen, Rutinel

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Bridges and Kirkmeyer, Amabile

House Committees
Appropriations

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Appropriations

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 **CONCERNING THE CONSOLIDATED ADMINISTRATION OF PUBLIC**
102 **ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS, AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH,**
103 **MAKING AND REDUCING AN APPROPRIATION.**

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>.)

Joint Budget Committee. The bill requires the department of health care policy and financing, in coordination with the department of human services and the department of early childhood (state departments), to contract with a single county department of human or social services (county department) to administer a centralized member

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.*

SENATE
2nd Reading Unamended
May 12, 2026

HOUSE
Amended 3rd Reading
May 9, 2026

HOUSE
Amended 2nd Reading
May 7, 2026

integrity service to conduct fraud investigations concerning eligibility for medicaid, the supplemental nutrition assistance program, the Colorado child care assistance program, temporary assistance for needy families, and adult financial programs (public assistance programs), and benefit overpayments. The bill creates the centralized member integrity service cash fund consisting of money recouped from member fraud investigations.

On or before September 1, 2026, the bill requires the state departments to establish aligned requirements for county departments to comply with through a performance-based contract established between the state departments and each county department. On or before January 1, 2027, the state departments shall enter into a performance-based contract with each county department. The performance-based contract must establish requirements for the state departments and county departments to comply with in administering public assistance programs and establish corrective action protocols that are consistently utilized by the state departments.

Beginning September 1, 2026, the bill requires the state departments to work together to establish a continuous quality improvement process to review data reported to the state departments by the county departments. Beginning January 1, 2027, the department of human services (department), in collaboration with the state departments, must annually submit a report to the joint budget committee that includes an update on the continuous quality improvement process and data on the impact of the continuous quality improvement process.

Beginning January 1, 2027, the department, in collaboration with the department of health care policy and financing and the department of early childhood, must publish county-level and statewide performance data for the public assistance programs on a monthly basis on the department's website.

Beginning July 1, 2028, the state departments must oversee a streamlined public benefits delivery model to coordinate and distribute eligibility and case processing work to county departments. In supervising the work of the public benefits delivery model, the state departments must designate up to 12 cohorts in the state that will work together to administer public assistance benefits. The state departments shall enter into performance-based contracts with each cohort, identifying the roles and responsibilities of the state departments and the cohorts for administering a new public benefits delivery model to ensure public assistance programs are administered consistently and uniformly across the public assistance programs in the state.

On or before July 1, 2026, the state departments must contract with a third-party contractor to help the state departments and county departments develop and implement a transition plan that must be followed when transitioning to the new public benefits delivery model.

The bill establishes the implementation work group to work with the third-party contractor to develop and implement the transition plan.

The bill establishes the state cross-departmental policy alignment team to align the policies of the public assistance programs to improve service delivery and outcomes for recipients of public assistance benefits.

The bill makes a household eligible for fuel assistance payments if the household has not received low-income energy assistance program assistance in the previous 12 months and if it is eligible for the standard utility allowance under federal law.

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



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

5 (a) Access to public benefits is fundamental to the health,
6 stability, and economic security of Colorado residents; the systems used
7 to administer those benefits must be accessible, efficient, and reliable;

8 (b) Modern, integrated technology systems are necessary to
9 support efficient program administration, improve client experience, and
10 ensure timely and effective delivery of benefits and services;

11 (c) The state's current benefits technology infrastructure is
12 fragmented, difficult to navigate, and imposes administrative burdens on
13 applicants, recipients, and staff who determine applicant eligibility, which
14 may limit access to services for eligible individuals and families;

15 (d) Colorado has the opportunity to redesign its benefits
16 infrastructure through modular technology built on published, open
17 standards—preserving state control of technology direction; ensuring
18 ongoing development of a comprehensive, long-term plan to redesign the
19 state's public benefits system to support cost mitigation; and increasing
20 administrative efficiency and the delivery of high-quality services for

1 individuals and families; and

2 (e) To ensure effective change management and minimize
3 disruption to services for individuals and families, the approach to
4 redesigning the safety net must occur within established timelines and
5 include structured planning processes, intentional stakeholder
6 engagement, and regular progress updates to the general assembly.

7 (2) The general assembly further declares that:

8 (a) The department of human services, the department of early
9 childhood, and the department of health care policy and financing, in
10 partnership with counties, front line workers, and other interested
11 stakeholders, shall conduct a structured, facilitated process to ensure that
12 Colorado operates a redesigned public benefits delivery model consisting
13 of no more than twelve cohorts of counties working together to
14 administer public assistance programs no later than July 1, 2028;

15 (b) The public benefits delivery system redesign:

16 (I) Replaces existing benefits technology with modular solutions
17 built on published, open standards to ensure adaptability, preserve state
18 control of technology direction, and enable continuous improvement in
19 service delivery;

20 (II) Ensures state-directed product management so the state retains
21 authority over strategy, roadmap, and measurement of user outcomes and
22 experience;

23 (III) Streamlines access through unified systems that are
24 integrated across programs to improve coordination and reduce
25 administrative burden on residents, applicants, and eligibility technicians;

26 (IV) Designs eligibility, enrollment, and redetermination
27 processes around the whole person using plain language and simple

1 processes so that seeking help is straightforward, dignified, and accessible
2 regardless of language or ability; and

3 (V) Adopts published, open standards and interoperability
4 requirements to ensure ongoing vendor competition and competitive
5 procurement that drives the best outcomes for residents; and

6 (c) The redesign of the state's benefits technology infrastructure
7 is a priority necessary to support improved program administration and
8 resident service delivery. State agencies responsible for benefits
9 administration should coordinate across programs, prioritize
10 implementation of redesign efforts, and report annually to the general
11 assembly, including working demonstrations of deployed service
12 improvements and measurable outcomes for residents.

13 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 25.5-1-209 as
14 follows:

15 **25.5-1-209. Centralized member integrity service - transition**
16 **plan - member integrity service fund.**

17 (1) THE STATE DEPARTMENT, IN COORDINATION WITH THE
18 DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES AND THE DEPARTMENT OF EARLY
19 CHILDHOOD, SHALL CONTRACT WITH A SINGLE COUNTY DEPARTMENT TO
20 ADMINISTER THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE. PURSUANT
21 TO THE TERMS OF THE CONTRACT, THE COUNTY ADMINISTERING THE
22 CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE MAY SUBCONTRACT WITH
23 OTHER COUNTIES TO FULFILL ITS OBLIGATIONS. THE CENTRALIZED
24 MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE MUST BE OPERATIONAL AND UTILIZED ON
25 JULY 1, 2027.

26 (2) THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE IS
27 RESPONSIBLE FOR CONDUCTING FRAUD INVESTIGATIONS FOR FRAUD

1 CLAIMS, FRAUD RECOVERY, FRAUD DISPUTE RESOLUTION CONFERENCES,
2 AND STATE-LEVEL FRAUD HEARINGS, INTENTIONAL PROGRAM VIOLATION
3 WAIVERS, AND CRIMINAL COURT PROCEEDINGS, CONCERNING PROGRAM
4 ELIGIBILITY OR FRAUD AFFECTING ELECTRONIC BENEFITS TRANSFER CARDS
5 OR SIMILAR CREDIT-CARD-TYPE DEVICES THROUGH WHICH FOOD STAMP OR
6 CASH ASSISTANCE BENEFITS MAY BE DELIVERED.

7 (3) THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE MUST BE
8 UTILIZED FOR THE FOLLOWING PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS:

9 (a) THE MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM ESTABLISHED PURSUANT
10 TO ARTICLES 4 TO 6 OF THIS TITLE 25.5;

11 (b) THE CHILDREN'S BASIC HEALTH PLAN ESTABLISHED PURSUANT
12 TO ARTICLE 8 OF TITLE 25.5;

13 (c) THE SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
14 ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO PART 3 OF ARTICLE 2 OF TITLE 26;

15 (d) THE COLORADO CHILD CARE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
16 ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO PART 1 OF ARTICLE 4 OF TITLE 26.5;

17 (e) THE TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES PROGRAM,
18 AS DEFINED IN SECTION 26-2-703; AND

19 (f) ADULT FINANCIAL PROGRAMS ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO PART
20 1 OF ARTICLE 2 OF TITLE 26, WHICH INCLUDES THE OLD AGE PENSION, AID
21 TO THE NEEDY DISABLED, AND HOME CARE ALLOWANCE.

22 (4) (a) BY JANUARY 1, 2027, THE STATE DEPARTMENTS SHALL
23 COLLABORATE WITH THE COUNTY DEPARTMENTS TO CREATE A TRANSITION
24 PLAN THAT MUST BE USED TO TRANSITION COUNTIES TO THE CENTRALIZED
25 MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE.

26 (b) THE TRANSITION PLAN MUST OUTLINE THE PARAMETERS FOR
27 COUNTY DEPARTMENT FRAUD AND PROGRAM INTEGRITY FUNCTIONS,

1 INCLUDING FRAUD CLAIMS, FRAUD RECOVERY, FRAUD DISPUTE
2 RESOLUTION CONFERENCES, AND STATE-LEVEL FRAUD HEARINGS,
3 RELATED TO THE PROGRAMS DETAILED IN SUBSECTION (3) OF THIS
4 SECTION.

5 (c) THE TRANSITION PLAN MUST INCLUDE A PHASED TRANSITION
6 PROCESS, WHICH BEGINS JULY 1, 2027, AND CONCLUDES WITH ALL FRAUD
7 AND PROGRAM INTEGRITY FUNCTIONS BEING CONDUCTED THROUGH THE
8 CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE BY JULY 1, 2028.

9 (d) A COUNTY DEPARTMENT SHALL CONTINUE TO CONDUCT AND
10 COMPLETE FRAUD PROGRAM INTEGRITY FUNCTIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH
11 ALL APPLICABLE STATE AND FEDERAL LAWS AND REGULATIONS UNTIL THE
12 COUNTY DEPARTMENT HAS TRANSITIONED TO THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER
13 INTEGRITY SERVICE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TRANSITION PLAN. ALL
14 FRAUD AND PROGRAM INTEGRITY FUNCTIONS, INCLUDING OPEN
15 INVESTIGATIONS, UNWORKED REFERRALS, RECOVERIES, FRAUD DISPUTE
16 RESOLUTION CONFERENCES, STATE-LEVEL FRAUD HEARINGS, INTENTIONAL
17 PROGRAM VIOLATION WAIVERS, AND CRIMINAL COURT PROCEEDINGS,
18 MUST BE TRANSFERRED TO THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE
19 BY JULY 1, 2028.

20 (5)(a) THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE CASH FUND
21 IS CREATED IN THE STATE TREASURY. THE FUND CONSISTS OF RECOUPED
22 MONEY BY THE STATE DEPARTMENT THAT RESULTS FROM MEMBER FRAUD
23 INVESTIGATIONS AND ANY OTHER MONEY THAT THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
24 MAY APPROPRIATE OR TRANSFER TO THE FUND. SUBJECT TO ANNUAL
25 APPROPRIATION BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, MONEY IN THE FUND MAY BE
26 USED FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OF CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY
27 SERVICE FUNCTIONS AS REQUIRED BY THIS SECTION, INCLUDING

1 CONTRACTOR EXPENSES.

2 (b) THE STATE TREASURER SHALL CREDIT ALL INTEREST AND
3 INCOME DERIVED FROM THE DEPOSIT AND INVESTMENT OF MONEY IN THE
4 CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE CASH FUND TO THE FUND.

5 **SECTION 3.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 26-1-119.5 as
6 follows:

7 **26-1-119.5. State and county departments - minimum**
8 **requirements - state supervision - corrective action protocols -**
9 **definitions - legislative declaration.**

10 (1) (a) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FINDS AND DECLARES THAT:

11 (I) COLORADO CURRENTLY OPERATES A STATE-SUPERVISED,
12 COUNTY-ADMINISTERED HUMAN SERVICES SYSTEM IN WHICH COUNTIES
13 DELIVER SERVICES DIRECTLY TO RESIDENTS;

14 (II) CONSISTENT STATEWIDE PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENTS,
15 INCLUDING OVERSIGHT AND PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENT PROCESSES,
16 ARE NECESSARY TO ENSURE THAT INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES RECEIVE
17 SERVICES IN ACCORDANCE WITH STATE LAW, FEDERAL REQUIREMENTS,
18 AND PROGRAM STANDARDS;

19 (III) PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENTS, INCLUDING OVERSIGHT AND
20 CORRECTIVE ACTION PROCESSES, CURRENTLY VARY ACROSS PUBLIC
21 ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS ADMINISTERED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN
22 SERVICES, THE DEPARTMENT OF EARLY CHILDHOOD, AND THE
23 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE POLICY AND FINANCING, RESULTING IN
24 INCONSISTENCIES IN ACCOUNTABILITY, TRANSPARENCY, AND SUPPORT;
25 AND

26 (IV) ESTABLISHING A STANDARDIZED FRAMEWORK FOR
27 PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENTS, MONITORING, AND CORRECTIVE ACTION

1 THROUGH STREAMLINED CONTRACTS BETWEEN THE STATE AND COUNTIES
2 PROMOTES TRANSPARENCY, ACCOUNTABILITY, AND EFFECTIVE
3 PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN THE STATE AND COUNTIES TO DELIVER SERVICES
4 TO INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES.

5 (b) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FURTHER FINDS AND DECLARES THAT
6 A CONSISTENT CORRECTIVE ACTION FRAMEWORK MUST ENSURE:

- 7 (I) EARLY IDENTIFICATION OF PERFORMANCE CONCERNS;
- 8 (II) TIMELY TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND SUPPORT;
- 9 (III) CLEAR EXPECTATIONS FOR CORRECTIVE ACTIONS; AND
- 10 (IV) APPROPRIATE REMEDIAL MEASURES WHEN SYSTEMIC ISSUES
11 REMAIN UNRESOLVED.

12 (2) AS USED IN THIS SECTION, UNLESS THE CONTEXT OTHERWISE
13 REQUIRES:

14 (a) "ADULT FINANCIAL PROGRAMS" MEANS A STATE-RUN BENEFIT
15 ADMINISTERED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES THAT INCLUDES
16 THE OLD AGE PENSION, AID TO THE NEEDY DISABLED, AND HOME CARE
17 ALLOWANCE, AS DETAILED IN PART 1 OF ARTICLE 2 OF THIS TITLE 26.

18 (b) "CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN" MEANS A FORMAL PLAN FOR WHEN
19 A COUNTY DEPARTMENT FAILS TO MEET THE REQUIREMENTS OF A
20 PERFORMANCE-BASED CONTRACT IN WHICH THE COUNTY IS A PARTY,
21 PERFORMANCE METRICS, OR APPLICABLE STATE OR FEDERAL LAW OR
22 REGULATION.

23 (c) "PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS" MEANS THE MEDICAL
24 ASSISTANCE PROGRAM ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO ARTICLES 4 TO 6 OF
25 TITLE 25.5; THE CHILDREN'S BASIC HEALTH PLAN ESTABLISHED PURSUANT
26 TO ARTICLE 8 OF TITLE 25.5; THE SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE
27 PROGRAM ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO PART 3 OF ARTICLE 2 OF THIS TITLE

1 26; THE COLORADO CHILD CARE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM ESTABLISHED
2 PURSUANT TO PART 1 OF ARTICLE 4 OF THIS TITLE 26.5; THE TEMPORARY
3 ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES PROGRAM, AS DEFINED IN SECTION
4 26-2-703; THE OLD AGE PENSION PROGRAM ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO
5 ARTICLE XXIV OF THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION; AND ADULT FINANCIAL
6 PROGRAMS.

7 (d) "STATE DEPARTMENTS" MEANS THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN
8 SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE POLICY AND FINANCING, AND
9 THE DEPARTMENT OF EARLY CHILDHOOD.

10 (3) ON OR BEFORE FEBRUARY 1, 2027, THE STATE DEPARTMENTS
11 SHALL COLLABORATE TO ESTABLISH ALIGNED MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS
12 FOR COUNTY DEPARTMENTS THROUGH PERFORMANCE-BASED CONTRACTS,
13 TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE SPECIFIC STATE AND FEDERAL REQUIREMENTS
14 APPLICABLE TO EACH PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAM. PRIOR TO FEBRUARY
15 1, 2027, THE STATE DEPARTMENTS SHALL SHARE DRAFT TEMPLATES OF
16 THE PERFORMANCE-BASED CONTRACT WITH THE COUNTY DEPARTMENTS
17 FOR REVIEW AND COMMENT.

18 (4) (a) ON OR BEFORE JULY 1, 2027, THE STATE DEPARTMENTS
19 SHALL ENTER INTO A PERFORMANCE-BASED CONTRACT WITH EACH
20 COUNTY DEPARTMENT FOR THE PURPOSES OF:

21 (I) ESTABLISHING REQUIREMENTS FOR THE STATE AND COUNTY
22 DEPARTMENTS FOR ADMINISTERING PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS;

23 (II) ESTABLISHING CORRECTIVE ACTION PROTOCOLS APPLICABLE
24 TO BOTH THE STATE DEPARTMENTS AND COUNTY DEPARTMENTS; AND

25 (III) CONSOLIDATING EXISTING CONTRACTS, MEMORANDA OF
26 UNDERSTANDING, AND OTHER AGREEMENTS RELATED TO THE
27 ADMINISTRATION OF PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS.

1 (b) EACH PERFORMANCE-BASED CONTRACT MUST INCLUDE, AT A
2 MINIMUM:

3 (I) MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR THE STATE DEPARTMENTS AND
4 COUNTY DEPARTMENTS;

5 (II) MEASURABLE OUTCOMES AND PERFORMANCE METRICS;

6 (III) CORRECTIVE ACTION PROTOCOLS AND CONSEQUENCES FOR A
7 COUNTY DEPARTMENT THAT FAILS TO MEET THE PERFORMANCE-BASED
8 CONTRACT REQUIREMENTS;

9 (IV) FOR COUNTY DEPARTMENTS, REQUIREMENTS TO MEET
10 PERFORMANCE THRESHOLDS IDENTIFIED IN THE PERFORMANCE-BASED
11 CONTRACT, INCLUDING:

12 [REDACTED]
13 (A) THRESHOLDS FOR METRICS INCLUDED IN MANAGEMENT
14 EVALUATIONS;

15 (B) THRESHOLDS FOR METRICS INCLUDED IN QUALITY ASSURANCE
16 REVIEWS;

17 (C) TRACKING AND REPORTING DATA FOR CONTINUOUS QUALITY
18 IMPROVEMENT AND PUBLIC REPORTING;

19 (D) REQUIREMENTS CURRENTLY INCLUDED IN CONTRACTS,
20 MEMORANDA OF UNDERSTANDING, AND OTHER AGREEMENTS BETWEEN
21 THE STATE DEPARTMENTS AND COUNTY DEPARTMENTS;

22 (E) REQUIRED PARTICIPATION IN STATE-PROVIDED TRAINING AND
23 TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE;

24 (F) COMPLYING WITH CORRECTIVE ACTION PROTOCOLS; AND

25 (G) THRESHOLDS FOR METRICS REQUIRED BY FEDERAL AGENCIES
26 OVERSEEING PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS; AND

27 (V) FOR THE STATE DEPARTMENTS, REQUIREMENTS TO MEET

1 PERFORMANCE THRESHOLDS IDENTIFIED IN THE PERFORMANCE-BASED
2 CONTRACT, INCLUDING:

3 (A) PROVIDING FUNDING, TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, AND TRAINING
4 TO ENABLE COUNTY DEPARTMENTS TO PROCESS CASES AND SERVE
5 RECIPIENTS;

6 (B) MAINTAINING PRIMARY ACCOUNTABILITY TO THE FEDERAL
7 GOVERNMENT AND ENSURING COMPLIANCE WITH STATE AND FEDERAL
8 LAW;

9 (C) REQUIREMENTS CURRENTLY INCLUDED IN CONTRACTS,
10 MEMORANDA OF UNDERSTANDING, AND OTHER AGREEMENTS BETWEEN
11 THE STATE DEPARTMENTS AND COUNTY DEPARTMENTS;

12 (D) REQUIREMENTS FOR CARRYING OUT MANAGEMENT
13 EVALUATIONS AND QUALITY ASSURANCE REVIEWS;

14 (E) REQUIREMENTS FOR LEADING STATEWIDE CONTINUOUS
15 QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PROCESSES IN CONSULTATION WITH COUNTY
16 DEPARTMENTS; AND

17 (F) REQUIREMENTS TO PUBLISH PUBLIC-FACING PERFORMANCE
18 DATA IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 26-1-144.

19 (5)(a) THE STATE DEPARTMENTS RETAIN ULTIMATE SUPERVISORY
20 AUTHORITY OVER EACH COUNTY DEPARTMENT AND SHALL MONITOR EACH
21 COUNTY DEPARTMENT'S COMPLIANCE WITH PERFORMANCE-BASED
22 CONTRACTS, STATE LAW, AND FEDERAL LAW. MONITORING MUST INCLUDE,
23 AT A MINIMUM:

24 (I) DETERMINING THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT'S COMPLIANCE WITH
25 PROGRAM PERFORMANCE METRICS;

26 (II) QUALITY ASSURANCE REVIEWS;

27 (III) CASE OR REPORT REVIEWS;

1 (IV) AUDIT FINDINGS; AND
2 (V) COMPLIANCE MONITORING REQUIRED BY STATE OR FEDERAL
3 LAW.

4 (b) MONITORING MUST OCCUR AT LEAST MONTHLY, OR MORE
5 FREQUENTLY WHEN PROGRAM PERFORMANCE METRICS PERMIT.

6 (c) THE STATE DEPARTMENTS SHALL NOTIFY A COUNTY
7 DEPARTMENT OF PERFORMANCE CONCERNS WHEN:

8 (I) A COUNTY DEPARTMENT'S PERFORMANCE FAILS TO MEET
9 REQUIREMENTS OUTLINED IN THE PERFORMANCE-BASED CONTRACTS OR
10 THIS SECTION 26-1-119.5 FOR THREE CONSECUTIVE MONTHS; OR

11 (II) MONITORING █████ SYSTEMIC PRACTICE OR COMPLIANCE
12 CONCERNS.

13 (d) UPON IDENTIFICATION OF A PERFORMANCE CONCERN, THE
14 DEPARTMENT SHALL PROVIDE WRITTEN NOTICE TO THE COUNTY
15 DEPARTMENT THAT INCLUDES:

16 (I) A DESCRIPTION OF THE CONCERN;

17 (II) APPLICABLE PERFORMANCE METRICS OR STANDARDS NOT
18 BEING MET;

19 (III) SUPPORTING DATA OR FINDINGS; AND

20 (IV) NOTICE OF WHETHER OR NOT A CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN IS
21 NECESSARY.

22 (e) A COUNTY DEPARTMENT HAS TEN BUSINESS DAYS AFTER
23 RECEIVING THE NOTICE REQUIRED BY SUBSECTION (5)(d) OF THIS SECTION
24 TO SUBMIT A WRITTEN DISPUTE OF THE FINDINGS OF A STATE
25 DEPARTMENT'S PERFORMANCE CONCERNS. THE STATE DEPARTMENTS
26 MUST RESPOND TO A COUNTY DEPARTMENT'S DISPUTE WITHIN TEN
27 BUSINESS DAYS AFTER RECEIVING NOTICE OF THE DISPUTE.

1 (f) THE STATE DEPARTMENTS SHALL PROVIDE TECHNICAL
2 ASSISTANCE, TRAINING, AND PROGRAM SUPPORT THROUGHOUT ALL
3 PHASES OF PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENT AND CORRECTIVE ACTION.

4 (6) (a) IF A CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN IS REQUIRED, THE COUNTY
5 DEPARTMENT SHALL SUBMIT THE CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN WITHIN TEN
6 BUSINESS DAYS, UNLESS AN EXTENSION IS GRANTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH
7 RULE, AFTER RECEIVING NOTICE OF THE STATE DEPARTMENT'S
8 PERFORMANCE CONCERNS AS REQUIRED BY SUBSECTION (5)(d) OF THIS
9 SECTION.

10 (b) THE CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN MUST INCLUDE, AT A MINIMUM:

11 (I) A DESCRIPTION OF THE AREAS OF NONCOMPLIANCE OR
12 UNDERPERFORMANCE;

13 (II) REQUIRED CORRECTIVE ACTIONS;

14 (III) IMPLEMENTATION TIMELINES FOR THE CORRECTIVE ACTIONS;

15 (IV) MEASURABLE INDICATORS OF PROGRESS TOWARD
16 COMPLIANCE;

17 (V) REPORTING SCHEDULES;

18 (VI) A TARGET DATE FOR ACHIEVING COMPLIANCE, AS
19 DETERMINED BY THE STATE DEPARTMENTS; AND

20 (VII) A CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN MONITORING PERIOD THAT
21 COMPLIES WITH SUBSECTION (6)(d) OF THIS SECTION.

22 (c) WITHIN TEN BUSINESS DAYS AFTER THE COUNTY
23 DEPARTMENT'S SUBMISSION OF A CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN, AS REQUIRED
24 BY SUBSECTION (6)(a) OF THIS SECTION, THE STATE DEPARTMENT SHALL
25 APPROVE THE CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN OR REQUEST MODIFICATIONS TO
26 THE CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN.

27 (d) THE CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN MONITORING PERIOD MUST BE

1 NO MORE THAN SIX MONTHS AND MAY INCLUDE CASE REVIEWS, SITE
2 VISITS, STAFF INTERVIEWS, DATA ANALYSIS, OR OTHER APPROPRIATE
3 MEASURES.

4 (e) THE STATE DEPARTMENTS MAY EXTEND THE CORRECTIVE
5 ACTION PLAN MONITORING PERIOD ONLY WHEN NECESSARY TO ACCOUNT
6 FOR DATA AVAILABILITY OR A REPORTING DELAY. AN EXTENSION MUST BE
7 BASED ON OBJECTIVE CRITERIA, APPLIED CONSISTENTLY ACROSS COUNTY
8 DEPARTMENTS, AND DOCUMENTED IN WRITING.

9 (f) CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN REQUIREMENTS MUST BE ALIGNED
10 ACROSS STATE DEPARTMENTS TO ENSURE UNIFORMITY, TAKING INTO
11 ACCOUNT DIFFERENCES IN STATE AND FEDERAL REQUIREMENTS FOR THE
12 INDIVIDUAL PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS.

13 (7) (a) IF A COUNTY DEPARTMENT FAILS TO COMPLY WITH A
14 PERFORMANCE-BASED CONTRACT OR AN APPROVED CORRECTIVE ACTION
15 PLAN, THE STATE DEPARTMENT MAY IMPOSE SANCTIONS.

16 (b) SANCTIONS MAY INCLUDE:

17 (I) DISALLOWANCE OF STATE FUNDS;

18 (II) ASSIGNMENT OF PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION TO ANOTHER
19 COUNTY DEPARTMENT; OR

20 (III) ASSUMPTION OF PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION BY A STATE
21 DEPARTMENT.

22 (c) IF NONCOMPLIANCE PRESENTS AN IMMINENT RISK TO THE
23 HEALTH OR SAFETY OF RECIPIENTS, THE STATE DEPARTMENTS MAY TAKE
24 IMMEDIATE ACTION AS AUTHORIZED BY LAW.

25 (8) THIS SECTION DOES NOT RESTRICT OR AFFECT THE POWERS,
26 DUTIES, OR FUNCTIONS OF A STATE DEPARTMENT AS AUTHORIZED OR
27 REQUIRED PURSUANT TO ANY OTHER PROVISION OF STATE LAW.

1 **SECTION 4.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 26-1-143 as
2 follows:

3 **26-1-143. Continuous quality improvement.**

4 (1) ON OR BEFORE SEPTEMBER 1, 2026, THE DEPARTMENT OF
5 HUMAN SERVICES, IN COLLABORATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
6 CARE POLICY AND FINANCING AND DEPARTMENT OF EARLY CHILDHOOD,
7 AND IN CONSULTATION WITH THE COUNTY DEPARTMENTS, SHALL
8 ESTABLISH A CONTINUOUS QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PROCESS TO REVIEW
9 THE METRICS REPORTED THROUGH COUNTY-LEVEL AND STATEWIDE
10 PERFORMANCE DATA, ERROR RATES, AND OTHER ERRORS AND
11 INCONSISTENCIES TO IDENTIFY ROOT CAUSES AND IMPLEMENT STRATEGIES
12 TO IMPROVE ACCURACY AND CONSISTENCY IN ELIGIBILITY
13 DETERMINATIONS.

14 (2) ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 1, 2027, AND ON OR BEFORE EVERY
15 JANUARY 1 THEREAFTER, THE DEPARTMENT, IN COLLABORATION WITH THE
16 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE POLICY AND FINANCING AND DEPARTMENT
17 OF EARLY CHILDHOOD, SHALL SUBMIT A REPORT TO THE JOINT BUDGET
18 COMMITTEE PROVIDING AN UPDATE ON THE CONTINUOUS QUALITY
19 IMPROVEMENT PROCESS AND DATA ON THE IMPACT OF THE CONTINUOUS
20 QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PROCESS ON THE METRICS INCLUDED IN THE
21 PROCESS.

22 **SECTION 5.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 25.5-1-137 as
23 follows:

24 **25.5-1-137. Data transparency and public reporting -**
25 **definitions.**

26 (1) AS USED IN THIS SECTION, UNLESS THE CONTEXT OTHERWISE
27 REQUIRES:

1 (a) "ADULT FINANCIAL PROGRAMS" MEANS A STATE-RUN BENEFIT
2 ADMINISTERED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES AND INCLUDES
3 THE OLD AGE PENSION, AID TO THE NEEDY DISABLED, AND HOME CARE
4 ALLOWANCE.

5 (b) "DEPARTMENTS" MEANS THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE
6 POLICY AND FINANCING, DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES, AND THE
7 DEPARTMENT OF EARLY CHILDHOOD.

8 (c) "PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS" MEANS THE MEDICAL
9 ASSISTANCE PROGRAM ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO ARTICLES 4 TO 6 OF
10 TITLE 25.5; THE CHILDREN'S BASIC HEALTH PLAN ESTABLISHED PURSUANT
11 TO ARTICLE 8 OF TITLE 25.5; THE SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE
12 PROGRAM ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO PART 3 OF ARTICLE 2 OF THIS TITLE
13 26; THE COLORADO CHILD CARE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM ESTABLISHED
14 PURSUANT TO PART 1 OF ARTICLE 4 OF TITLE 26.5; THE TEMPORARY
15 ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES PROGRAM, AS DEFINED IN SECTION
16 26-2-703; THE OLD AGE PENSION PROGRAM ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO
17 ARTICLE XXIV OF THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION; AND ADULT FINANCIAL
18 PROGRAMS.

19 (2) BEGINNING JANUARY 2027, AND MONTHLY THEREAFTER, THE
20 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE POLICY AND FINANCING, IN
21 COLLABORATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES AND THE
22 DEPARTMENT OF EARLY CHILDHOOD, SHALL ESTABLISH A SINGLE, SHARED
23 ONLINE DASHBOARD USED TO PUBLISH COUNTY-LEVEL AND STATEWIDE
24 PERFORMANCE ON THE METRICS FOR EACH OF THE PUBLIC ASSISTANCE
25 PROGRAMS:

26 (a) FOR THE MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM, ESTABLISHED
27 PURSUANT TO ARTICLES 4 TO 6 OF TITLE 25.5 AND THE CHILDREN'S BASIC

1 HEALTH PLAN ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 8 OF TITLE 25.5:

2 (I) THE NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS AND RENEWAL APPLICATIONS
3 APPROVED WITHIN THE TIMELINES REQUIRED IN FEDERAL LAW AND
4 REGULATION FOR ALL APPLICATIONS, INCLUDING APPLICATIONS BASED ON
5 DISABILITY;

6 (II) THE NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS AND RENEWAL APPLICATIONS
7 DENIED WITHIN THE TIMELINES REQUIRED IN FEDERAL LAW AND
8 REGULATION FOR ALL APPLICATIONS, INCLUDING APPLICATIONS BASED ON
9 DISABILITY;


10 (III) THE TOTAL NUMBER OF RENEWAL APPLICATIONS PROCESSED
11 EACH MONTH, INCLUDING:

12 (A) THE NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS RENEWED USING EXISTING
13 DATA SOURCES AND THE NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS RENEWED USING
14 ADDITIONAL COMPLETED DOCUMENTATION SUBMITTED BY THE
15 RECIPIENTS;

16 (B) THE NUMBER OF INITIAL APPLICATIONS AND RENEWAL
17 APPLICATIONS PROCESSED AND DETERMINED INELIGIBLE;

18 (C) THE NUMBER OF INITIAL APPLICATIONS AND RENEWAL
19 APPLICATIONS DENIED FOR PROCEDURAL REASONS; AND

20 (D) THE NUMBER OF INITIAL APPLICATIONS AND RENEWAL
21 APPLICATIONS PENDING REVIEW;

22 
23 (IV) THE NUMBER OF FORMAL COMPLAINTS OR APPEALS
24 REGARDING ELIGIBILITY, BENEFITS, OR SERVICES FILED WITH THE
25 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE POLICY AND FINANCING; AND

26 (V) THE TOTAL NUMBER OF INITIAL APPLICATIONS AND RENEWAL
27 APPLICATIONS THAT ARE PENDING DETERMINATION AND THE TOTAL

1 NUMBER DEEMED UNTIMELY BASED ON THE TIMELINES REQUIRED BY
2 FEDERAL LAW AND REGULATION FOR APPLICATIONS BASED ON DISABILITY,
3 AND FOR ALL OTHER APPLICATIONS;

4 (b) FOR THE SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM,
5 ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO PART 3 OF ARTICLE 2 OF THIS TITLE 26:

6 (I) THE RATE OF APPLICATION PROCESSING TIMELINESS FOR
7 STANDARD APPLICATIONS;

8 (II) THE RATE OF APPLICATION PROCESSING TIMELINESS FOR
9 EXPEDITED APPLICATIONS; AND


10 (III) THE RATE OF RECERTIFICATION PROCESSING TIMELINESS;

11 (c) FOR THE CHILD CARE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM, ESTABLISHED
12 PURSUANT TO PART 1 OF ARTICLE 4 OF TITLE 26.5:

13 (I) THE PERCENTAGE OF INITIAL APPLICATIONS AND APPLICATIONS
14 FOR REDETERMINATION APPROVED WITHIN THE TIMELINES REQUIRED BY
15 RULES ADOPTED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF EARLY CHILDHOOD; AND

16 (II) ENROLLMENT IN EACH OF THE FOLLOWING INCOME ELIGIBILITY
17 TIERS:

18 (A) ONE HUNDRED THIRTY PERCENT OF THE FEDERAL POVERTY
19 LINE AND BELOW; AND

20 
21 (B) ABOVE ONE HUNDRED THIRTY PERCENT OF THE FEDERAL
22 POVERTY LINE;

23 (d) FOR THE TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES
24 PROGRAM, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 26-2-703, THE PERCENTAGE OF
25 APPLICATIONS AND REDETERMINATIONS APPROVED WITHIN THE TIMELINES
26 REQUIRED BY RULES ADOPTED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES;

27 (e) FOR ADULT FINANCIAL PROGRAMS, THE PERCENTAGE OF

1 APPLICATIONS AND REDETERMINATIONS APPROVED WITHIN THE TIMELINES
2 REQUIRED BY RULES ADOPTED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES;
3 AND

4 (f) FOR EACH OF THE PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS:

5 (I) THE MONTHLY CASELOAD;

6 (II) THE PERCENTAGE OF APPLICATIONS, ENROLLMENTS, AND
7 RENEWALS PROCESSED THROUGH THE STATE'S ONLINE SYSTEM FOR
8 APPLICATION AND MANAGEMENT OF PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS, AND
9 THE PERCENTAGE OF APPLICATIONS, ENROLLMENTS, AND RENEWALS
10 PROCESSED BY OTHER METHODS; AND

11 [REDACTED]
12 (III) ON A QUARTERLY BASIS, THE NUMBER OF APPEALS FILED WITH
13 THE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE COURTS THAT NAME A COUNTY AS A
14 PARTY.

15 (3) (a) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (2)(f)(III) OF THIS
16 SECTION, THE DATA REPORTED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (2) OF THIS
17 SECTION MUST:

18 (b) BE PUBLISHED ON EACH OF THE DEPARTMENT'S WEBSITE'S IN A
19 PUBLICLY ACCESSIBLE FORMAT;

20 (c) BE UPDATED MONTHLY AND PUBLISHED IN ACCORDANCE WITH
21 DATA PRIVACY AND CONFIDENTIALITY LAWS OF THE STATE; AND

22 (d) BE MAINTAINED FROM PREVIOUS MONTHS IN A PUBLICLY
23 ACCESSIBLE MANNER.

24 (4) BEGINNING IN SEPTEMBER 2026, AND MONTHLY THEREAFTER,
25 EACH COUNTY DEPARTMENT SHALL PROVIDE THE INFORMATION DETAILED
26 IN SUBSECTION (2) OF THIS SECTION, OTHER THAN THE INFORMATION
27 DETAILED IN SUBSECTION (2)(a)(V) OF THIS SECTION, TO EACH RESPECTIVE

1 DEPARTMENT.

2 (5) THE STATE DEPARTMENT, IN COLLABORATION WITH THE
3 DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES AND THE DEPARTMENT OF EARLY
4 CHILDHOOD, SHALL PROVIDE TECHNICAL SUPPORT, TECHNOLOGY
5 ASSISTANCE, AND TRAINING TO THE COUNTY DEPARTMENTS, AS
6 REASONABLY NECESSARY, ON HOW TO PROVIDE THE INFORMATION
7 REQUIRED BY SUBSECTION (2) OF THIS SECTION TO THE RESPECTIVE
8 DEPARTMENTS.

9 SECTION 6. In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** part 8 to article
10 1 of title 26 as follows:

11 PART 8

12 DELIVERY OF PUBLIC BENEFITS

13

14 **26-1-801. Legislative declaration.**

15 (1) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FINDS AND DECLARES THAT:

16 (a) IN ADDITION TO NEAR-TERM POLICY CHANGES NEEDED TO
17 STABILIZE THE SAFETY NET, COLORADO SHOULD DEVELOP A
18 COMPREHENSIVE, LONG-TERM PLAN TO REDESIGN THE STATE'S PUBLIC
19 BENEFITS SYSTEM TO SUPPORT COST MITIGATION, INCREASED
20 ADMINISTRATIVE EFFICIENCY, AND THE DELIVERY OF HIGHER-QUALITY
21 SERVICES FOR INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES;

22 (b) TO ENSURE EFFECTIVE CHANGE MANAGEMENT AND TO
23 MINIMIZE DISRUPTION TO SERVICES FOR INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES, THE
24 APPROACH TO REDESIGNING THE SAFETY NET MUST OCCUR WITHIN
25 ESTABLISHED TIMELINES AND INCLUDE STRUCTURED PLANNING
26 PROCESSES, INTENTIONAL STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT, AND REGULAR
27 PROGRESS REPORTS TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY;

1 (c) IT IS NECESSARY FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES,
2 THE DEPARTMENT OF EARLY CHILDHOOD, AND THE DEPARTMENT OF
3 HEALTH CARE POLICY AND FINANCING, IN PARTNERSHIP WITH COUNTIES,
4 FRONT LINE WORKERS, AND OTHER INTERESTED STAKEHOLDERS, TO
5 CONDUCT A STRUCTURED, FACILITATED PROCESS IN ORDER TO ENSURE
6 THAT ON OR BEFORE JULY 1, 2028, COLORADO WILL OPERATE A
7 REDESIGNED PUBLIC BENEFITS DELIVERY MODEL CONSISTING OF NO MORE
8 THAN TWELVE COHORTS OF COUNTIES WORKING TOGETHER TO
9 ADMINISTER PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS; AND

10 (d) BECAUSE ACCESS TO PUBLIC BENEFITS IS FUNDAMENTAL TO
11 THE HEALTH, STABILITY, AND ECONOMIC SECURITY OF COLORADO
12 RESIDENTS, THE SYSTEMS USED TO ADMINISTER THOSE BENEFITS MUST BE
13 ACCESSIBLE, EFFICIENT, AND RELIABLE.

14 (2) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FURTHER FINDS AND DECLARES THAT:

15 (a) THE STATE'S CURRENT BENEFITS TECHNOLOGY
16 INFRASTRUCTURE IS FRAGMENTED, DIFFICULT TO NAVIGATE, AND IMPOSES
17 ADMINISTRATIVE BURDENS ON APPLICANTS, RECIPIENTS, AND STAFF WHO
18 DETERMINE APPLICANT ELIGIBILITY, WHICH MAY LIMIT ACCESS TO
19 SERVICES FOR ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES;

20 (b) MODERN, INTEGRATED TECHNOLOGY SYSTEMS ARE NECESSARY
21 TO SUPPORT EFFICIENT PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION, IMPROVE RECIPIENT
22 EXPERIENCE, AND ENSURE TIMELY AND EFFECTIVE DELIVERY OF BENEFITS
23 AND SERVICES;

24 (c) COLORADO HAS THE OPPORTUNITY TO REDESIGN ITS BENEFITS
25 TECHNOLOGY INFRASTRUCTURE THROUGH THE DEVELOPMENT OF A
26 STATE-OWNED, MODULAR, AND INTEROPERABLE PLATFORM TO IMPROVE
27 COORDINATION ACROSS PROGRAMS AND ENHANCE SERVICE DELIVERY;

1 AND

2 (d) REDESIGNING THE STATE'S BENEFITS TECHNOLOGY
3 INFRASTRUCTURE IS NECESSARY TO SUPPORT EFFECTIVE PROGRAM
4 ADMINISTRATION AND SERVICE DELIVERY UNDER THE REDESIGNED PUBLIC
5 BENEFITS DELIVERY MODEL. THE REDESIGN OF THE PUBLIC BENEFITS
6 DELIVERY MODEL WILL BE MOST EFFECTIVE WHEN THE STATE AGENCIES
7 RESPONSIBLE FOR BENEFITS ADMINISTRATION COORDINATE ACROSS
8 PROGRAMS, PRIORITIZE IMPLEMENTATION OF REDESIGN EFFORTS, AND
9 PROVIDE REPORTS TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY REGARDING PROGRESS
10 TOWARD THESE GOALS.

11 (3) THEREFORE, IT IS THE INTENT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
12 THAT THE FOLLOWING PRINCIPLES GUIDE BENEFITS TECHNOLOGY
13 REDESIGN:

14 (a) THE STATE SHOULD DEVELOP AND MAINTAIN A STATE-OWNED
15 BENEFITS PLATFORM THAT SUPPORTS MODULAR DESIGN,
16 INTEROPERABILITY, AND LONG-TERM ADAPTABILITY THAT ENABLE THE
17 MEASUREMENT OF PROGRAM OUTCOMES AND USER EXPERIENCE;

18 (b) THE STATE SHOULD DEVELOP AND MAINTAIN A CENTRALIZED
19 SYSTEM THROUGH WHICH RESIDENTS MAY ACCESS, APPLY FOR, AND
20 MANAGE BENEFITS ACROSS MULTIPLE PROGRAMS IN A MANNER THAT IS
21 ACCESSIBLE TO INDIVIDUALS OF ALL ABILITIES, LANGUAGES, AND LEVELS
22 OF DIGITAL ACCESS;

23 (c) THE STATE SHOULD IMPLEMENT A WHOLE-PERSON APPROACH
24 TO BENEFITS ADMINISTRATION BY STREAMLINING AND INTEGRATING
25 INTAKE, ELIGIBILITY, AND ENROLLMENT PROCESSES TO IMPROVE
26 COORDINATION AND REDUCE ADMINISTRATIVE BURDEN ON APPLICANTS,
27 RECIPIENTS, AND STAFF WHO DETERMINE APPLICANT ELIGIBILITY; AND

1 (d) THE STATE SHOULD ENSURE CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT AND
2 RESPONSIVENESS BY ADOPTING MODERN PRODUCT MANAGEMENT
3 PRACTICES IN ITS APPROACH TO BENEFITS TECHNOLOGY REDESIGN,
4 INCLUDING ONGOING USER RESEARCH, STATE-LED PRIORITIZATION OF
5 SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS AND ENHANCEMENTS, AND ITERATIVE, AGILE
6 DEVELOPMENT INFORMED BY PERFORMANCE METRICS AND USER
7 EXPERIENCE DATA.

8 **26-1-802. Definitions.**

9 AS USED IN THIS SECTION, UNLESS THE CONTEXT OTHERWISE
10 REQUIRES:

11 (1) "COHORT" MEANS A GROUP OF COUNTIES THAT ARE REQUIRED
12 TO WORK TOGETHER TO ADMINISTER PUBLIC ASSISTANCE BENEFITS
13 THROUGH SHARED WORK AND POOLED RESOURCES. A COHORT'S WORK IS
14 INFORMED BY THE TRANSITION PLAN, REPORT, AND RECOMMENDATIONS
15 REQUIRED BY THIS PART 8.

16 (2) "CROSS-DEPARTMENTAL POLICY ALIGNMENT TEAM" OR "TEAM"
17 MEANS THE CROSS-DEPARTMENTAL POLICY ALIGNMENT TEAM CREATED IN
18 SECTION 26-1-808.

19 (3) "IMPLEMENTATION WORK GROUP" MEANS THE
20 IMPLEMENTATION WORK GROUP CREATED IN SECTION 26-1-806.

21 (4) "PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS" MEANS THE MEDICAL
22 ASSISTANCE PROGRAM ESTABLISHED IN ARTICLES 4 TO 6 OF TITLE 25.5;
23 CHILDREN'S BASIC HEALTH PLAN ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 8 OF
24 TITLE 25.5, THE SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
25 ESTABLISHED IN PART 3 OF ARTICLE 2 OF THIS TITLE 26, THE COLORADO
26 CHILD CARE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM ESTABLISHED IN PART 1 OF ARTICLE 4
27 OF TITLE 26.5; THE TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES

1 PROGRAM DESCRIBED IN PART 7 OF ARTICLE 2 OF THIS TITLE 26; THE OLD
2 AGE PENSION PROGRAM ESTABLISHED IN ARTICLE XXIV OF THE STATE
3 CONSTITUTION; AND THE ADULT FINANCIAL PROGRAMS DESCRIBED IN PART
4 1 OF ARTICLE 2 OF THIS TITLE 26, WHICH INCLUDE THE OLD AGE PENSION,
5 AID TO THE NEEDY DISABLED, AND HOME CARE ALLOWANCE.

6 (5) "PUBLIC BENEFITS DELIVERY MODEL" MEANS A SYSTEM IN
7 WHICH THE ADMINISTRATION, PROCESSING, AND DELIVERY OF PUBLIC
8 ASSISTANCE BENEFITS AND SERVICES ARE CONSOLIDATED INTO A SINGLE
9 CENTRALIZED AND UNIFORM DELIVERY MODEL.

10 (6) "SHARED SERVICES" MEANS AN ADMINISTRATIVE OR
11 OPERATIONAL FUNCTION PERFORMED BY A COUNTY DEPARTMENT ON
12 BEHALF OF COUNTY DEPARTMENTS IN A COHORT AND DEVELOPED IN
13 CONSULTATION AND COLLABORATION WITH THE STATE DEPARTMENTS AND
14 ALL COUNTY DEPARTMENTS. SHARED SERVICES INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

15 (a) A CALL CENTER TO HANDLE ALL CALLS RELATED TO PROGRAM
16 ELIGIBILITY ON BEHALF OF ALL COUNTY DEPARTMENTS;

17 (b) QUALITY ASSURANCE TO HANDLE ALL RESPONSIBILITIES
18 RELATED TO THE QUALITY OF ELIGIBILITY DETERMINATION FOR THE PUBLIC
19 ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS; AND

20 (c) SECURITY ADMINISTRATION SERVICES TO MANAGE THE
21 PROVISION AND REVOCATION OF ACCESS BY COUNTY PERSONNEL TO
22 STATE-PROVIDED TECHNOLOGY PRODUCTS AND SYSTEMS.

23 (7) "STATE DEPARTMENTS" MEANS THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN
24 SERVICES, THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE POLICY AND FINANCING,
25 AND THE DEPARTMENT OF EARLY CHILDHOOD.

26 (8) "THIRD-PARTY CONTRACTOR" MEANS THE ENTITY
27 CONTRACTED BY THE STATE DEPARTMENTS TO ASSIST THE

1 IMPLEMENTATION WORK GROUP PURSUANT TO SECTION 26-1-805.

2 (9) "TRANSITION PLAN" MEANS THE TRANSITION PLAN DESCRIBED
3 IN SECTION 26-1-807.

4 **26-1-803. Public benefits delivery model - state departments**
5 **responsibilities.**

6 (1) BEGINNING JULY 1, 2028, THE STATE DEPARTMENTS SHALL
7 OVERSEE A STREAMLINED PUBLIC BENEFITS DELIVERY MODEL MADE UP OF
8 NO MORE THAN TWELVE COHORTS. EACH COHORT SHALL COORDINATE AND
9 DISTRIBUTE PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY AND CASE
10 PROCESSING WORK ACCORDING TO A SHARED WORKFLOW, AS DETERMINED
11 BY THE TRANSITION PLAN.

12 (2) THE STATE DEPARTMENTS SHALL ENSURE THAT THE PUBLIC
13 BENEFITS DELIVERY MODEL IS IMPLEMENTED WITH CONSISTENCY ACROSS
14 THE STATE DEPARTMENTS AND COHORTS, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE
15 DIFFERENCES AND REQUIREMENTS OF EACH STATE DEPARTMENT IN
16 ADMINISTERING THE STATE DEPARTMENT'S PUBLIC ASSISTANCE
17 PROGRAMS.

18 (3) THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES SHALL EMPLOY UP TO
19 TWELVE HUMAN SERVICES AND MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM REGIONAL
20 MANAGERS WHO ARE GEOGRAPHICALLY DISPERSED THROUGHOUT THE
21 STATE TO SUPPORT THE COHORTS AND PROVIDE GUIDANCE, DIRECTION,
22 AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO THE COHORTS TO ENSURE CONSISTENT,
23 EFFECTIVE, COMPLIANT, AND ACCOUNTABLE DELIVERY OF PUBLIC
24 ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS.

25 (4) THE STATE DEPARTMENTS, THROUGH REGULAR MONITORING
26 AND SUPERVISION, SHALL ENSURE COHORTS COMPLY WITH THE
27 REQUIREMENTS OF THIS PART 8 AND WITH RULES ADOPTED BY THE STATE

1 DEPARTMENTS.

2 (5) THE STATE DEPARTMENTS RETAIN SUPERVISORY AUTHORITY
3 OVER THE COHORTS AND COUNTIES WITHIN THE COHORTS UNDER THE
4 PUBLIC BENEFITS DELIVERY MODEL. THE STATE DEPARTMENTS SHALL
5 MONITOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAM COMPLIANCE AND INSTITUTE
6 CORRECTIVE ACTION PROTOCOLS, WHICH MUST BE ALIGNED ACROSS THE
7 STATE DEPARTMENTS AND INCLUDED IN ALL PERFORMANCE-BASED
8 CONTRACTS REQUIRED BY SECTION 26-1-804. THE STATE DEPARTMENTS
9 SHALL COMMUNICATE WITH COHORTS AS NEEDED REGARDING
10 COMPLIANCE, CORRECTIVE ACTION PROTOCOLS, AND PROGRAM-SPECIFIC
11 PERFORMANCE ISSUES.

12 (6) FULL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PUBLIC BENEFITS DELIVERY
13 MODEL IS CONTINGENT ON AVAILABLE AND OPERATIONAL READINESS OF
14 SYSTEM ENHANCEMENTS NECESSARY TO SUPPORT CROSS-COUNTY WORK
15 SHARING. THE STATE DEPARTMENTS MUST ENSURE THAT COHORTS AND
16 COUNTIES ARE PROVIDED ADEQUATE TIME, TRAINING, AND SUPPORT TO
17 IMPLEMENT THE PUBLIC BENEFITS DELIVERY MODEL, INCLUDING NEW
18 WORKFORCE PROCESSES, UPDATED TECHNOLOGY, AND OPERATIONAL
19 MODELS NECESSARY TO SUPPORT CROSS-COUNTY WORK SHARING.

20 (7) A COUNTY DEPARTMENT IN A COHORT IS NOT FINANCIALLY OR
21 LEGALLY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE PERFORMANCE OF ANOTHER COUNTY
22 DEPARTMENT IN THE COHORT, SUBJECT TO THE TERMS OF A
23 PERFORMANCE-BASED CONTRACT WITH THE STATE DEPARTMENTS OR
24 INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENTS BETWEEN COUNTIES, TO THE EXTENT
25 ALLOWABLE UNDER FEDERAL LAW.

26 **26-1-804. Performance-based contracts.**

27 (1) THE STATE DEPARTMENTS AND COHORTS, OR COUNTY

1 DEPARTMENTS WITHIN A COHORT, SHALL ENTER INTO A PERIODICALLY
2 NEGOTIATED PERFORMANCE-BASED CONTRACT THAT IDENTIFIES THE
3 DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF EACH PARTY UNDER THE PUBLIC
4 BENEFITS DELIVERY MODEL.

5 (2) STATE DEPARTMENTS SHALL DEVELOP PERFORMANCE-BASED
6 CONTRACTS IN CONSULTATION WITH THE COHORTS, AND
7 PERFORMANCE-BASED CONTRACTS MUST COMPLY WITH STATE AND
8 FEDERAL LAW.

9 (3) AT A MINIMUM, A PERFORMANCE-BASED CONTRACT MUST
10 INCLUDE:

11 (a) MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS ESTABLISHED FOR THE STATE
12 DEPARTMENTS AND COHORTS, OR COUNTY DEPARTMENTS WITHIN A
13 COHORT, IN THE TRANSITION PLAN, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION
14 26-1-807;

15 (b) MEASURABLE OUTCOME- AND PERFORMANCE-BASED METRICS
16 AND ANY ASSOCIATED INCENTIVE PAYMENT STRUCTURES;

17 (c) CORRECTIVE ACTION PROTOCOLS WHEN A COHORT OR COUNTY
18 DEPARTMENT WITHIN A COHORT FAILS TO MEET THE REQUIREMENTS OF
19 THE PERFORMANCE-BASED CONTRACT; AND

20 (d) OPERATIONAL PLANS FOR SHARED WORK AND SHARED
21 RESOURCES.

22 **26-1-805. Third-party contractor.**

23 (1) ON OR BEFORE JULY 1, 2026, THE STATE DEPARTMENTS, IN
24 CONSULTATION WITH THE COUNTY DEPARTMENTS, SHALL CONTRACT WITH
25 AT LEAST ONE THIRD-PARTY CONTRACTOR TO ASSIST THE
26 IMPLEMENTATION WORK GROUP IN DEVELOPING AND IMPLEMENTING THE
27 TRANSITION PLAN AND CORRESPONDING REPORT AND DEVELOPING

1 RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFITS DELIVERY MODEL.

2 (2) AT A MINIMUM, THE SELECTED THIRD-PARTY CONTRACTOR IS
3 RESPONSIBLE FOR:

4 (a) PRESENTING MULTIPLE COHORT-BASED MODEL OPTIONS TO THE
5 STATE DEPARTMENTS FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OF PUBLIC ASSISTANCE
6 PROGRAMS. THE COHORT-BASED MODEL OPTIONS MUST:

7 (I) VARY IN SIZE AND STRUCTURE;

8 (II) IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF SERVICES RENDERED TO PUBLIC
9 ASSISTANCE PROGRAM RECIPIENTS; AND

10 (III) INCLUDE FISCAL, OPERATIONAL, AND SHARED SERVICES
11 CONSIDERATIONS, THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE
12 ESTABLISHED IN SECTION 25.5-1-209, SHARED SERVICES, AND STRATEGIES
13 THAT SUPPORT COMPLIANCE, COST CONTAINMENT, MAXIMIZATION OF
14 EXISTING CAPACITY AND STRENGTHS, AND INCREASED EFFICACY. THE
15 CONSIDERATIONS AND STRATEGIES MUST DRAW UPON AVAILABLE DATA,
16 RESEARCH, EXISTING STRUCTURES, AND EXAMPLES FROM OTHER STATES.

17 (b) CONVENING AND FACILITATING DISCUSSIONS AMONG THE
18 STATE DEPARTMENTS, COUNTY DEPARTMENTS, FRONT LINE WORKERS, AND
19 OTHER RELEVANT STAKEHOLDERS THROUGH THE IMPLEMENTATION WORK
20 GROUP TO SUPPORT THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE TRANSITION PLAN AND
21 CORRESPONDING REPORT FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFITS DELIVERY MODEL;

22 (c) FACILITATING THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE TRANSITION PLAN
23 AND CORRESPONDING REPORT IN ALIGNMENT WITH THE REQUIREMENTS
24 FOR THE TRANSITION PLAN;

25 (d) ENSURING INTENTIONAL OUTREACH TO AND ENGAGEMENT
26 WITH COUNTIES OF VARYING SIZES AND GEOGRAPHIES, INCLUDING SMALL
27 AND RURAL COUNTIES; ADVOCATES; FRONTLINE WORKERS EMPLOYED BY

1 THE COUNTY DEPARTMENTS; COMMUNITY PARTNERS; AND PUBLIC
2 ASSISTANCE PROGRAM RECIPIENT REPRESENTATIVES, TO SUPPORT THE
3 DEVELOPMENT OF THE TRANSITION PLAN AND CORRESPONDING REPORT;

4 (e) RESEARCHING AND PRESENTING OPTIONS FOR PUBLIC
5 ASSISTANCE PROGRAM RECIPIENT CASE MANAGEMENT MODELS AND FOR
6 TRACKING PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAM RECIPIENTS' EXPERIENCES AND
7 ENGAGEMENT THROUGHOUT THE APPLICATION PROCESS, ENROLLMENT
8 PROCESS, AND UTILIZATION OF PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS, TO
9 IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF CUSTOMER SERVICE AND OUTCOMES; AND

10 (f) FACILITATING DISCUSSIONS AND STRATEGY DEVELOPMENT
11 RELATED TO THE IMPACT OF CHANGES IN THE AVAILABILITY OF STATE AND
12 FEDERAL FUNDING ON PUBLIC BENEFIT PROGRAMS, TAKING INTO
13 CONSIDERATION THE IMPACTS OF H.R. 1, 119TH CONGRESS (2025-2026),
14 PUB.L. 119-21, AND THE FINANCIAL IMPACTS ON ERROR RATES,
15 REDUCTIONS IN RESOURCES, AND INCREASED WORKLOAD.

16 (3) THE THIRD-PARTY CONTRACTOR SHALL BE SELECTED THROUGH
17 A PROCESS THAT INCLUDES COMMUNITY ADVOCATES, FRONT LINE
18 WORKERS, AND REPRESENTATIVES FROM COUNTIES, INCLUDING COUNTIES
19 WITH RURAL, URBAN, SUBURBAN, AND RESORT COMMUNITIES AND
20 COUNTIES WITH VARYING PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAM CASELOADS. THE
21 THIRD-PARTY CONTRACTOR MUST HAVE A DEMONSTRATED RECORD OF
22 EXPERTISE IN PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION, FISCAL
23 MODELING, FACILITATION OF MULTIPLE WORKING AND ADVISORY GROUP
24 STRUCTURES; IN STRUCTURED STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT; AND A
25 DEMONSTRATED ABILITY TO EFFECTIVELY OPERATE AND ENGAGE
26 STAKEHOLDERS ACROSS THE STATE TO ARRIVE AT RECOMMENDATIONS
27 THAT REFLECT A CONSENSUS, WHEN POSSIBLE.

1 (4) UPON APPROVAL BY THE STATE DEPARTMENTS, THE
2 THIRD-PARTY CONTRACTOR MAY SUBCONTRACT WITH OTHER
3 INDEPENDENT ENTITIES WITH RELEVANT EXPERIENCE TO CARRY OUT ONE
4 OR MORE OF THE REQUIREMENTS LISTED IN SUBSECTION (2) OF THIS
5 SECTION.

6 (5) COUNTY DEPARTMENTS AND STATE DEPARTMENTS SHALL
7 COOPERATE WITH REASONABLE REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION RECEIVED
8 FROM THE THIRD-PARTY CONTRACTOR OR A THIRD-PARTY CONTRACTOR'S
9 SUBCONTRACTOR.

10 (6) THE SELECTION OF THE THIRD-PARTY CONTRACTOR IS EXEMPT
11 FROM THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE "PROCUREMENT CODE", ARTICLES 101
12 TO 112 OF TITLE 24.

13 **26-1-806. Implementation work group - subgroups - reports.**

14 (1) ON OR BEFORE JULY 1, 2026, THE STATE DEPARTMENTS, IN
15 COLLABORATION WITH COUNTY DEPARTMENTS, SHALL ESTABLISH AN
16 IMPLEMENTATION WORK GROUP TO WORK WITH THE THIRD-PARTY
17 CONTRACTOR AND SUBGROUP DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (3) OF THIS
18 SECTION TO DEVELOP THE TRANSITION PLAN AND CORRESPONDING REPORT
19 AND TO DEVELOP RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFITS DELIVERY
20 MODEL.

21 (2) THE IMPLEMENTATION WORK GROUP IS COMPOSED OF THE
22 FOLLOWING SEVENTEEN MEMBERS:

23 (a) SIX MEMBERS REPRESENTING COUNTIES, APPOINTED BY A
24 COLORADO ORGANIZATION THAT ASSISTS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS,
25 MAYORS, AND COUNCIL MEMBERS AND ENCOURAGES COUNTIES TO WORK
26 TOGETHER, WHO MUST BE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE STATE OF COLORADO
27 AND INCLUDE:

1 (I) AT LEAST ONE MEMBER WHO MUST BE A COUNTY
2 COMMISSIONER, HUMAN SERVICES DIRECTOR, OR A DESIGNEE OF A COUNTY
3 COMMISSIONER OR HUMAN SERVICES DIRECTOR, WHO HAS RELEVANT
4 SUBJECT MATTER EXPERTISE IN HUMAN SERVICES;

5 (II) AT LEAST ONE MEMBER WHO MUST REPRESENT A RURAL
6 COUNTY; AND

7 (III) AT LEAST TWO MEMBERS WHO MUST BE COUNTY
8 REPRESENTATIVES REPRESENTING COUNTIES WITH HIGH HUMAN SERVICES
9 CASELOADS;

10 (b) THREE REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE,
11 APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR;

12 (c) A REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE
13 POLICY AND FINANCING, APPOINTED BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE
14 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE POLICY AND FINANCING;

15 (d) A REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN
16 SERVICES, APPOINTED BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT
17 OF HUMAN SERVICES;

18 (e) A REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF EARLY
19 CHILDHOOD, APPOINTED BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE
20 DEPARTMENT OF EARLY CHILDHOOD; AND

21 (f) FOUR REPRESENTATIVES FROM PHILANTHROPIC
22 ORGANIZATIONS, COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS, OR MEMBER EXPERIENCE
23 COUNCILS WHO ARE NOT STATE OR COUNTY GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES
24 AND HAVE RELEVANT SUBJECT MATTER EXPERTISE:

25 (I) ONE APPOINTED BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE
26 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE POLICY AND FINANCING;

27 (II) ONE APPOINTED BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE

1 DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES; [REDACTED]
2 (III) ONE APPOINTED BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE
3 DEPARTMENT OF EARLY CHILDHOOD; AND
4 (IV) ONE APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR; AND
5 (g) ONE MEMBER WHO IS A NONSUPERVISORY EMPLOYEE WHO
6 DETERMINES ELIGIBILITY OR PROCESSES CASES FROM A COUNTY
7 DEPARTMENT, APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR.

8 (3) (a) THE IMPLEMENTATION WORK GROUP SHALL CONVENE A
9 SUBGROUP TO ADVISE THE IMPLEMENTATION WORK GROUP ON THE
10 DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE TRANSITION PLAN AND
11 CORRESPONDING REPORT.

12 (b) THE SUBGROUP MUST INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS
13 AND REPRESENTATIVES:

14 (I) BENEFIT RECIPIENTS OR THE PARENTS OF CHILD BENEFIT
15 RECIPIENTS;

16 (II) HUMAN SERVICES PROVIDERS AND PROVIDERS ENROLLED IN
17 THE STATE MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM;

18 (III) COUNTY PUBLIC ASSISTANCE BENEFIT ELIGIBILITY EMPLOYEES
19 AND CASE WORKERS;

20 (IV) REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE SOUTHERN UTE INDIAN TRIBE
21 AND THE UTE MOUNTAIN UTE TRIBE;

22 (V) DISABILITY ADVOCATES;

23 (VI) REPRESENTATIVES OF ADVOCACY ORGANIZATIONS THAT
24 REPRESENT SENIOR CITIZENS AND CHILDREN AND ADVOCATE FOR POVERTY
25 REFORM;

26 (VII) REPRESENTATIVES OF BUSINESSES AND EMPLOYERS THAT
27 PARTICIPATE IN WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES FOR PUBLIC

1 ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS; AND

2 (VIII) REPRESENTATIVES OF MANAGED CARE ENTITIES.

3 (c) MEMBERS OF THE SUBGROUP MUST NOT BE MEMBERS WHO
4 SERVE ON THE IMPLEMENTATION WORK GROUP.

5 (d) THE SUBGROUP FUNCTIONS IN AN ADVISORY ROLE TO THE
6 IMPLEMENTATION WORK GROUP.

7 (e) THE IMPLEMENTATION WORK GROUP SHALL SOLICIT INPUT ON
8 THE DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE TRANSITION PLAN AND
9 CORRESPONDING REPORT FROM THE SUBGROUP AND INCLUDE THE
10 SUBGROUP'S INPUT IN THE FINAL REPORT.

11 (4) THE IMPLEMENTATION WORK GROUP MAY CONVENE
12 ADDITIONAL SUBGROUPS TO ASSIST THE IMPLEMENTATION WORK GROUP
13 ON TOPICS THAT MAY INCLUDE:

14 (a) TECHNOLOGY MODERNIZATION;

15 (b) PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAM RECIPIENT ENGAGEMENT, CASE
16 MANAGEMENT, AND PROGRAM DELIVERY PROCESS IMPROVEMENT;

17 (c) FISCAL, ALLOCATION, AND GOVERNANCE REFORM;

18 (d) WORKFORCE TRANSITION AND LABOR PROTECTIONS;

19 (e) PERFORMANCE-BASED CONTRACTS AND OUTCOME MEASURES;

20 OR

21 (f) ANY OTHER TOPIC THE IMPLEMENTATION WORK GROUP DEEMS
22 APPROPRIATE.

23 (5) (a) IN DEVELOPING THE TRANSITION PLAN AND
24 CORRESPONDING REPORT, THE IMPLEMENTATION WORK GROUP AND
25 SUBGROUPS SHALL ENGAGE WITH, TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE, INTERESTED
26 AND IMPACTED INDIVIDUALS FROM ALL AREAS OF THE STATE, INCLUDING
27 URBAN, SUBURBAN, AND RURAL AREAS, AND ACROSS PUBLIC ASSISTANCE

1 PROGRAMS, AND SHALL ACTIVELY SEEK THE INPUT AND GUIDANCE OF
2 PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAM RECIPIENTS, HUMAN SERVICES PROVIDERS,
3 MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROVIDERS, COUNTY ELIGIBILITY EMPLOYEES AND
4 CASEWORKERS, THE SOUTHERN UTE INDIAN TRIBE AND UTE MOUNTAIN
5 UTE TRIBE, ADVOCACY GROUPS, AND OTHER INTERESTED AND IMPACTED
6 COMMUNITY MEMBERS. THE IMPLEMENTATION WORK GROUP MAY
7 INCLUDE DIFFERENT APPROACHES AND MULTIPLE OPTIONS FOR THE PUBLIC
8 BENEFITS DELIVERY MODEL IN ITS REPORTS OR RECOMMENDATIONS. A
9 MEMBER OF THE IMPLEMENTATION WORK GROUP MAY SUBMIT A MINORITY
10 REPORT WITH AN ALTERNATIVE APPROACH OR RECOMMENDATIONS AS
11 PART OF THE IMPLEMENTATION WORK GROUP'S FINAL REPORT.

12 (b) TO FACILITATE THE ENGAGEMENT DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION
13 (5)(a) OF THIS SECTION, THE IMPLEMENTATION WORK GROUP MUST
14 ENGAGE WITH STAKEHOLDERS THROUGH PUBLIC MEETINGS, WORKING
15 SESSIONS, WRITTEN COMMENTS, AND PUBLIC REPORTING OF
16 RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE TRANSITION PLAN.

17 (c) TO INCREASE EFFICIENCY AND MEET WITH AS MANY
18 STAKEHOLDERS AS POSSIBLE, THE IMPLEMENTATION WORK GROUP MAY
19 MEET WITH STAKEHOLDERS USING ELECTRONIC OR DIGITAL PLATFORMS
20 AND FORMATS.

21 (6) (a) FROM JULY 1, 2026, THROUGH JANUARY 1, 2027, THE
22 STATE DEPARTMENTS, IN COLLABORATION WITH COUNTY DEPARTMENTS,
23 SHALL PROVIDE MONTHLY PROGRESS REPORTS ON THE WORK OF THE
24 IMPLEMENTATION WORK GROUP TO THE JOINT BUDGET COMMITTEE, THE
25 JOINT TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
26 HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE, AND THE SENATE HEALTH AND
27 HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE, OR THEIR SUCCESSOR COMMITTEES.

1 (b) FROM JANUARY 1, 2027, THROUGH JULY 1, 2028, THE STATE
2 DEPARTMENTS, IN COLLABORATION WITH COUNTY DEPARTMENTS, SHALL
3 PROVIDE QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORTS ON THE WORK OF THE
4 IMPLEMENTATION WORK GROUP AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE TRANSITION
5 PLAN AND CORRESPONDING REPORT TO THE JOINT BUDGET COMMITTEE,
6 THE JOINT TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
7 HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE, AND THE SENATE HEALTH AND
8 HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE, OR THEIR SUCCESSOR COMMITTEES.

9 **26-1-807. Transition plan.**

10 (1) THE IMPLEMENTATION WORK GROUP SHALL WORK WITH THE
11 THIRD-PARTY CONTRACTOR TO DESIGN A TRANSITION PLAN FOR THE
12 ADMINISTRATION OF PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS UNDER THE PUBLIC
13 BENEFITS DELIVERY MODEL. THE TRANSITION PLAN MUST BE DELIVERED
14 TO THE JOINT BUDGET COMMITTEE BY JANUARY 1, 2027.

15 (2) THE TRANSITION PLAN MUST TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE STATE
16 DEPARTMENTS' AND COUNTY DEPARTMENTS' EXISTING WORK,
17 STRUCTURES, AGREEMENTS, AND UPDATES TO ENSURE THE NEW PUBLIC
18 BENEFITS DELIVERY MODEL BUILDS ON EXISTING PROCESSES AND
19 PROCEDURES. THE TRANSITION PLAN MUST ALSO CONSIDER PUBLIC
20 BENEFITS DELIVERY MODELS USED BY OTHER STATES THAT OPERATE A
21 COUNTY-ADMINISTERED PUBLIC BENEFITS SYSTEM.

22 (3) AT A MINIMUM, THE TRANSITION PLAN MUST ADDRESS THE
23 FOLLOWING:

24 (a) FOR THE STATE DEPARTMENTS:

25 (I) FUNDING, TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, AND TRAINING FOR THE
26 PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS THE INDIVIDUAL STATE DEPARTMENTS
27 OVERSEE;

1 (II) STANDARDS FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY,
2 SERVICE DELIVERY, EFFICIENCY, AND PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION AND
3 HOW THOSE STANDARDS ARE ALIGNED ACROSS PUBLIC ASSISTANCE
4 PROGRAMS;

5 (III) PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAM COMPLIANCE WITH FEDERAL
6 AND STATE LAW;

7 (IV) POLICY ANALYSIS AND GUIDANCE FOR THE ADMINISTRATION
8 OF PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS THROUGH SHARED WORK AND POOLED
9 RESOURCES IN CONSULTATION WITH THE CROSS-DEPARTMENTAL POLICY
10 ALIGNMENT TEAM;

11 (V) TECHNOLOGY INFRASTRUCTURE AND IMPROVEMENTS
12 NECESSARY TO ENABLE THE RECOMMENDED PUBLIC BENEFITS DELIVERY
13 MODEL AND SUPPORT COHORTS OR INDIVIDUAL COUNTIES WITHIN COHORTS
14 IN MEETING THE PERFORMANCE AND OUTCOME MEASURES ESTABLISHED
15 IN THE PERFORMANCE-BASED CONTRACTS REQUIRED IN SECTION 26-1-804;

16 (VI) CONTINUOUS QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PROCESSES;

17 (VII) MANAGEMENT EVALUATION AND QUALITY ASSURANCE
18 PROCESSES;

19 (VIII) ACHIEVEMENT OF METRICS ESTABLISHED IN THE
20 PERFORMANCE-BASED CONTRACTS;

21 (IX) INITIATION OF CORRECTIVE ACTION PROTOCOLS;

22 (X) PUBLICATION OF PUBLIC-FACING PERFORMANCE DATA ON A
23 MONTHLY BASIS REQUIRED PURSUANT TO SECTION 26-1-144;

24 (XI) ESTABLISHMENT AND MONITORING OF THE CENTRALIZED
25 MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE DESCRIBED IN SECTION 25.5-1-209 AND ANY
26 OTHER CENTRALIZED SERVICES AND PROCESSES; AND

27 (XII) DEVELOPMENT OF PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAM RECIPIENT

1 EXPERIENCE MEASUREMENT TOOLS, INCLUDING SURVEYS THAT CAPTURE
2 EXPERIENCES ACROSS PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS.

3 (b) FOR THE COHORTS:

4 (I) STANDARDIZED AND CONSISTENT ADMINISTRATION OF PUBLIC
5 ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS;

6 (II) STANDARDIZED AND CONSISTENT GOVERNANCE AND
7 COORDINATION STRUCTURE;

8 (III) ACHIEVEMENT OF METRICS ESTABLISHED IN
9 PERFORMANCE-BASED CONTRACTS;

10 (IV) DATA TRACKING AND REPORTING FOR CONTINUOUS QUALITY
11 IMPROVEMENT PROCESSES AND PERFORMANCE REPORTING;

12 (V) REQUIRED PARTICIPATION IN THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER
13 INTEGRITY SERVICE DESCRIBED IN SECTION 25.5-1-209 AND ANY OTHER
14 SHARED SERVICE MODELS;

15 (VI) REQUIRED PARTICIPATION IN CONTINUOUS QUALITY
16 IMPROVEMENT PROCESSES ESTABLISHED IN SECTION 26-1-143;

17 (VII) REQUIRED PARTICIPATION IN STATE-PROVIDED TRAINING
18 AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE;

19 (VIII) REQUIRED IMPLEMENTATION OF STATE-PROVIDED
20 TECHNOLOGY TO MEET FEDERAL OR STATE REQUIREMENTS;

21 (IX) COMPLIANCE WITH CORRECTIVE ACTION PROTOCOLS;

22 (X) STANDARDIZED AND CONSISTENT PUBLIC ASSISTANCE
23 PROGRAM RECIPIENT ELIGIBILITY, ENROLLMENT, AND ENGAGEMENT
24 PROTOCOLS;

25 (XI) CONSISTENT USE OF PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAM RECIPIENT
26 EXPERIENCE MEASUREMENT TOOLS, INCLUDING SURVEYS THAT CAPTURE
27 EXPERIENCE ACROSS THE PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS; AND

1 (XII) RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE OPERATION OF SHARED
2 SERVICES.

3 (4) THE TRANSITION PLAN MUST:

4 (a) ESTABLISH RECOMMENDATIONS, OPTIONS, AND MODELS FOR A
5 COHORT-BASED PUBLIC BENEFITS DELIVERY MODEL THAT INCLUDES NO
6 MORE THAN TWELVE COHORTS AND COMPONENTS THAT ALIGN WITH THE
7 REQUIREMENTS OF THIS PART 8;

8 (b) ENSURE THAT THE TECHNOLOGY SYSTEMS AND
9 INFRASTRUCTURE NEEDED TO SUPPORT THE PUBLIC BENEFITS DELIVERY
10 MODEL ARE IDENTIFIED AND ENSURE THAT TECHNOLOGY MODERNIZATION
11 PROCEEDS INDEPENDENTLY AS AN ESSENTIAL ENABLER OF PUBLIC
12 BENEFITS DELIVERY, DESIGNED TO BE FLEXIBLE TO SUPPORT A RANGE OF
13 STRUCTURES, PROMOTE INTEROPERABILITY, DATA SECURITY, AND
14 EQUITABLE ACCESS FOR RECIPIENTS AND STAFF. TECHNOLOGY
15 MODERNIZATION MUST NOT BE DELAYED OR CONSTRAINED BY OTHER
16 ASPECTS OF THE TRANSITION PLAN.

17 (c) INCLUDE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ESTABLISHING A COHORT OR
18 STATEWIDE SHARED SERVICES MODEL FOR KEY ADMINISTRATIVE
19 FUNCTIONS IN THE PUBLIC BENEFITS DELIVERY MODEL, INCLUDING A CALL
20 CENTER, QUALITY ASSURANCE, AND SECURITY ADMINISTRATION SERVICES,
21 AND IDENTIFY ADDITIONAL FUNCTIONS THAT ARE SUITABLE FOR SHARED
22 DELIVERY AND ARE NECESSARY TO IMPROVE CONSISTENCY, REDUCE
23 DUPLICATION, AND ENSURE COMPLIANCE;

24 (d) INCLUDE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE ROLE, STRUCTURE,
25 AUTHORITY, AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE REGIONAL MANAGERS
26 DESCRIBED IN SECTION 26-1-803, INCLUDING THE GEOGRAPHICAL
27 DISTRIBUTION OF THE REGIONAL MANAGERS THROUGHOUT THE STATE, TO

1 SUPPORT PERFORMANCE, ACCOUNTABILITY, AND COMMUNICATION OF
2 COUNTY DEPARTMENTS AND COHORTS;

3 (e) INCLUDE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ESTABLISHING A PHASED
4 OUTCOME MEASUREMENT FRAMEWORK FOR PERFORMANCE-BASED
5 CONTRACTS THAT INCLUDES BASELINE DATA DEVELOPMENT,
6 ADMINISTRATIVE PERFORMANCE METRICS, AND CLIENT-CENTERED
7 OUTCOME MEASURES THAT ALIGN METRICS ACROSS THE STATE
8 DEPARTMENTS AND SUPPORT A TRANSITION TOWARD HOLISTIC,
9 FAMILY-CENTERED OUTCOMES RELATED TO STABILITY, ACCESS, AND
10 WELL-BEING;

11 (f) INCLUDE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE DESIGN AND
12 IMPLEMENTATION OF A PUBLIC REPORTING FRAMEWORK, INCLUDING
13 TIMELY PUBLICATION OF COHORT AND STATEWIDE PERFORMANCE DATA,
14 AND ANNUAL REPORTS OF THE DATA TO THE JOINT BUDGET COMMITTEE,
15 THE JOINT TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
16 HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE, THE SENATE HEALTH AND
17 HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE, OR THEIR SUCCESSOR COMMITTEES. THE
18 TRANSITION PLAN MUST ALSO INCLUDE PERFORMANCE DATA REPORTED
19 PURSUANT TO SECTION 25.5-1-138 AND THE FOLLOWING METRICS:

20 (I) FOR THE MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM ESTABLISHED
21 PURSUANT TO ARTICLES 4 TO 6 OF TITLE 25.5:

22 (A) THE PERCENTAGE OF INITIAL APPLICATIONS AND RENEWAL
23 APPLICATIONS DETERMINED ELIGIBLE DURING THE NINETY DAY
24 RECONSIDERATION PERIOD, IN ACCORDANCE WITH 42 CFR 435.916

25 (b)(2)(III); AND

26 (B) THE PERCENTAGE OF PERSONAL INFORMATION CHANGE
27 REQUESTS FOR MEDICAL ASSISTANCE ENROLLMENT APPROVED WITHIN THE

1 FEDERALLY REQUIRED TIMELINES AND THE PERCENTAGE DENIED WITHIN
2 THE FEDERALLY REQUIRED TIMELINES; AND

3 (II) FOR EACH PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAM, THE AVERAGE CALL
4 TIME, INCLUDING THE CALL TIME AND EXPERIENCE RATING FOR CALLS
5 THAT OCCUR AT A COHORT CALL CENTER.

6 (g) INCLUDE RECOMMENDATIONS BASED ON FISCAL MODELING,
7 TAKING INTO ACCOUNT REQUIREMENTS OF FEDERAL LAW, FOR AN
8 INTEGRATED ALLOCATION COMMITTEE THAT INCLUDES:

9 (I) A BALANCED MEMBERSHIP OF REPRESENTATIVES FROM STATE
10 AGENCIES, THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE, COUNTY DEPARTMENTS, THE FAMILY
11 VOICE COUNCIL WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES, FRONT
12 LINE WORKERS, AND OTHER STAKEHOLDERS WITH RELEVANT EXPERIENCE;

13 (II) ALIGNMENT AND INTEGRATION OF EXISTING ALLOCATION
14 COMMITTEES AND CURRENT STRUCTURES FOR ALLOCATING AVAILABLE
15 FUNDING IN EACH PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAM TO A SINGLE INTEGRATED
16 ALLOCATION COMMITTEE;

17 (III) A GOVERNANCE AND VOTING STRUCTURE FOR
18 DECISION-MAKING; AND

19 (IV) DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE INTEGRATED
20 ALLOCATION COMMITTEE, INCLUDING ALLOCATION OF AVAILABLE
21 FUNDING BASED UPON:

22 (A) DATA METRICS RELATED TO COMMUNITY NEED; AND

23 (B) SPENDING PRIORITIES BASED ON AVAILABLE ALLOCATIONS AND
24 THE RECOMMENDATIONS DEVELOPED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (4)(e) OF
25 THIS SECTION; AND

26 (h) INCLUDE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR INTEGRATION OF CURRENT
27 RULE-MAKING STRUCTURES AND PROCESSES ACROSS STATE DEPARTMENTS,

1 TAKING INTO ACCOUNT REQUIREMENTS OF FEDERAL LAW.

2 **26-1-808. State cross-departmental policy alignment team.**

3 (1) THERE IS CREATED IN THE STATE DEPARTMENT THE STATE
4 CROSS-DEPARTMENTAL POLICY ALIGNMENT TEAM.

5 (2) THE TEAM CONSISTS OF STAFF DESIGNATED BY THE EXECUTIVE
6 DIRECTORS OF THE STATE DEPARTMENTS. THE STAFF DESIGNATED
7 PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION (2) MUST HAVE SUBJECT MATTER
8 EXPERTISE ON THE PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS AND DECISION-MAKING
9 AUTHORITY RELATED TO POLICY AND PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION.

10 (3) THE TEAM SHALL:

11 (a) FOCUS ON ALIGNMENT OF PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
12 POLICIES TO IMPROVE SERVICE DELIVERY AND OUTCOMES FOR
13 COLORADANS, WITH AN EMPHASIS ON INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES
14 ACCESSING MULTIPLE PROGRAMS AND SERVICES;

15 (b) ANALYZE FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL POLICIES CONCERNING
16 THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS, INCLUDING
17 THE IMPACTS OF THOSE POLICIES ON OTHER PROGRAMS AND ON
18 ALLOCATIONS OF AVAILABLE FUNDING FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE
19 PROGRAMS;

20 (c) CREATE EVIDENCE-BASED ALIGNED AND STANDARDIZED
21 POLICY GUIDANCE FOR ADMINISTERING THE PUBLIC ASSISTANCE
22 PROGRAMS THAT ENABLES ADMINISTRATIVE UNIFORMITY AND
23 CONSISTENCY TO THE EXTENT ALLOWABLE UNDER FEDERAL LAW;

24 (d) ANNUALLY REVIEW THE INTERNAL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES
25 UTILIZED BY THE PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS, AS WELL AS PROGRESS
26 TOWARD ESTABLISHED GOALS AND OUTCOMES, INCLUDING, BUT NOT
27 LIMITED TO:

- 1 (I) REDUCING ADMINISTRATIVE BURDEN;
- 2 (II) IMPROVING COST EFFICIENCY;
- 3 (III) DECREASING THE NUMBER OF ELIGIBLE BUT NOT ENROLLED
- 4 INDIVIDUALS;
- 5 (IV) EVALUATING BENEFIT AMOUNTS;
- 6 (V) ASSESSING PARTICIPANT DIRECT SERVICES; AND
- 7 (VI) MEASURING COUNTY AND PROGRAM PARTNER PERFORMANCE
- 8 OUTCOMES IN ORDER TO IDENTIFY AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT;
- 9 (e) ANALYZE THE IMPACT OF AND OVERSEE THE ALIGNMENT OF
- 10 SIGNIFICANT POLICY OR PROGRAMMATIC CHANGES TO THE
- 11 ADMINISTRATION OF PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS;
- 12 (f) CREATE A PROCESS FOR THE STATE DEPARTMENTS TO
- 13 COORDINATE ALIGNED IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAM GUIDANCE AND
- 14 OVERSIGHT ACTIVITIES FOR COUNTIES, AS WELL AS COORDINATE BUDGET
- 15 REQUESTS ACROSS STATE DEPARTMENTS PRIOR TO SUBMISSION; AND
- 16 (g) SUBMIT QUARTERLY REPORTS TO RELEVANT STATE BOARDS
- 17 AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS OF STATE DEPARTMENTS THAT INCLUDE A
- 18 SUMMARY OF POLICY ITEMS DISCUSSED AND EVIDENCE-BASED DECISIONS
- 19 MADE TO DATE.

20 (4) THE TEAM SHALL MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE STATE
21 DEPARTMENTS CONCERNING ITS FINDINGS REGARDING THE ITEMS LISTED
22 IN SUBSECTION (3) OF THIS SECTION.

23 (5) NOTHING IN THIS SECTION DIMINISHES EXISTING RULE-MAKING
24 AUTHORITY OR ROLE OF BOARDS OR THE STATE DEPARTMENTS.

25 **SECTION 7.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 26-2-307, **amend**
26 (1)(b)(I) and (1)(b)(V) introductory portion as follows:

27 **26-2-307. Fuel assistance payments - eligibility for federal**

1 **standard utility allowance - supplemental utility assistance fund**
2 **established - definitions - repeal.**

3 (1) (b) (I) The state department shall make the fuel assistance
4 payments to ~~eligible~~ households that receive SNAP benefits ~~but that do~~
5 ~~not receive assistance under LEAP in order to qualify those households~~
6 ~~for the standard utility allowance to maximize their SNAP benefits~~ THAT
7 HAVE NOT RECEIVED LEAP ASSISTANCE IN THE PRECEDING TWELVE
8 MONTHS AND THAT ARE ELIGIBLE FOR THE STANDARD UTILITY
9 ALLOWANCE PURSUANT 7 U.S.C. SEC. 2014 (e)(6)(C)(iv).

10 (V) ~~On or before April 1, 2024, and on or before April 1 of each~~
11 ~~year, thereafter,~~ the state department shall submit a budget to the
12 organization and the commission to include the state department's
13 administrative costs to implement the program, including the cost to issue
14 payments to ELIGIBLE recipients' electronic benefits transfer cards for
15 payments made pursuant to subsection (1)(a) of this section, and the
16 projected number of eligible households, ~~that the state department~~
17 ~~identifies as receiving SNAP benefits but that are not receiving assistance~~
18 ~~under LEAP,~~ including an estimated number of new SNAP cases THAT
19 ARE ELIGIBLE FOR THE BENEFIT, that the state department will approve
20 during the upcoming federal fiscal year. Based on the budget that the state
21 department submits, the organization shall:

22 **SECTION 8.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **amend 25.5-1-115**
23 as follows:

24 **25.5-1-115. Locating violators - recoveries - repeal.**

25 (1) The executive director of the state department, AND A COUNTY
26 CONTRACTED TO ADMINISTER THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY
27 SERVICE PURSUANT TO SECTION 25.5-1-209, or district attorneys may

1 request and ~~shall~~ MUST receive from departments, boards, bureaus, or
2 other agencies of the state or any of its political subdivisions, and the
3 same are authorized to provide, ~~such~~ THE assistance and data as will
4 enable the state department, ~~and~~ county departments, AND A COUNTY
5 CONTRACTED TO ADMINISTER THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY
6 SERVICE PURSUANT TO SECTION 25.5-1-209 TO properly ~~to~~ carry out their
7 powers and duties to locate and prosecute A person who has fraudulently
8 obtained medical assistance under this ~~title~~. ~~Any~~ TITLE 25.5. Records
9 established pursuant to the provisions of this section ~~shall be~~ ARE
10 available only to the state department, the department of human services,
11 the county departments, A COUNTY CONTRACTED TO ADMINISTER THE
12 CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE PURSUANT TO SECTION
13 25.5-1-209, the attorney general, and the district attorneys, county
14 attorneys, and courts having jurisdiction in fraud or recovery proceedings
15 or actions.

16 (2) (a) All departments and agencies of the state and local
17 governments shall cooperate in the location and prosecution of ~~any~~ A
18 person who has fraudulently obtained medical assistance under this ~~title~~
19 TITLE 25.5, and, on request of the county board, the county director, the
20 state department, or the district attorney of any judicial district in this
21 state, shall supply all information on hand relative to the location,
22 employment, income, and property of ~~such~~ THE persons, notwithstanding
23 any other provision of law making such information confidential, except
24 the laws pertaining to confidentiality of any tax returns filed pursuant to
25 law with the department of revenue. The department of revenue shall
26 furnish at no cost to inquiring departments and agencies ~~such~~ information
27 ~~as may be~~ necessary to effectuate the purposes of this ~~article~~ ARTICLE 1.

1 The procedures ~~whereby this information will be requested and provided~~
2 ~~shall~~ USED TO REQUEST AND PROVIDE THIS INFORMATION MUST be
3 established by rule of the state department. The state department or
4 county departments shall use ~~such~~ THE information only for the purposes
5 of administering medical assistance under this ~~title~~ TITLE 1, and the
6 district attorney shall use it only for the prosecution of persons who have
7 fraudulently obtained medical assistance under this title, and shall not use
8 the information, or disclose it, for any other purpose. THE STATE
9 DEPARTMENT SHALL UTILIZE THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY
10 SERVICE, ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO SECTION 25.5-1-209, TO CONDUCT
11 FRAUD INVESTIGATIONS, FRAUD CLAIMS, FRAUD RECOVERY, FRAUD
12 DISPUTE RESOLUTION CONFERENCES, STATE-LEVEL HEARINGS,
13 INTENTIONAL PROGRAM VIOLATION WAIVERS, AND CRIMINAL COURT
14 PROCEEDINGS CONCERNING MEMBER ELIGIBILITY IN THE MEDICAL
15 ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.

16 (b) (I) Whenever the state department, A COUNTY DEPARTMENT
17 CONTRACTED TO ADMINISTER THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY
18 SERVICE PURSUANT TO SECTION 25.5-1-209, or a district attorney for the
19 state department, or the state department on behalf of a county
20 department, recovers any amount of fraudulently obtained medical
21 assistance funds, the federal government ~~shall be~~ IS entitled to a share
22 proportionate to the amount of federal funds paid unless a different
23 amount is otherwise provided by federal law, the state ~~shall be~~ IS entitled
24 to a share proportionate to the amount of state funds paid and ~~such~~
25 additional amounts of federal funds recovered as provided by federal law,
26 and the county department ~~shall be~~ IS entitled to a share proportionate to
27 the amount of county funds paid unless a different amount is provided

1 pursuant to federal law or this section.

2 (II) (A) Whenever a county department, a county board, a district
3 attorney, A COUNTY CONTRACTED TO ADMINISTER THE CENTRALIZED
4 MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE PURSUANT TO SECTION 25.5-1-209, or a state
5 department on behalf of a county department recovers any amount of
6 fraudulently obtained public assistance funds in the form of assistance
7 payments, ~~it shall~~ THE RECOVERED FUNDS MUST be deposited in the county
8 social services fund ~~and the~~ UNTIL THE COUNTY HAS FULLY TRANSITIONED
9 TO UTILIZING THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE PURSUANT
10 TO SECTION 25.5-1-209. WHEN THE COUNTY HAS FULLY TRANSITIONED TO
11 UTILIZING THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE, THE COUNTY
12 SHALL NOTIFY THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF THE FULL TRANSITION AND THE
13 COUNTY SHALL TRANSFER THE MONEY IN THE COUNTY SOCIAL SERVICES
14 FUND TO THE STATE TREASURER, WHO SHALL CREDIT THE MONEY TO THE
15 CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE CASH FUND CREATED IN
16 SECTION 25.5-1-209. AFTER THE COUNTY HAS FULLY TRANSITIONED TO
17 UTILIZING THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE, AN ENTITY
18 THAT RECOVERS, ON BEHALF OF A COUNTY, AN AMOUNT OF
19 FRAUDULENTLY OBTAINED PUBLIC ASSISTANCE FUNDS SHALL TRANSFER
20 THE RECOVERED FUNDS TO THE STATE TREASURER, WHO SHALL CREDIT
21 THE MONEY TO THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE CASH
22 FUND. THE federal government is entitled to a share proportionate to the
23 amount of federal funds paid, unless a different amount is provided for
24 by federal law, the state is entitled to a share proportionate to one-half the
25 amount of state funds paid, and the county is entitled to a share
26 proportionate to the amount of county funds paid and, in addition, a share
27 proportionate to one-half the amount of state funds paid.

1 (B) Whenever a county department, a county board, a district
2 attorney, A COUNTY CONTRACTED TO ADMINISTER THE CENTRALIZED
3 MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE PURSUANT TO SECTION 25.5-1-209, or a state
4 department on behalf of a county department recovers any amount of
5 fraudulently obtained medical assistance, ~~it shall~~ THE RECOVERED FUNDS
6 MUST be deposited in the county social services fund ~~and the~~ UNTIL THE
7 COUNTY HAS FULLY TRANSITIONED TO UTILIZING THE CENTRALIZED
8 MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE PURSUANT TO SECTION 25.5-1-209. WHEN
9 THE COUNTY HAS FULLY TRANSITIONED TO UTILIZING THE CENTRALIZED
10 MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE, THE COUNTY SHALL NOTIFY THE STATE
11 DEPARTMENT OF THE FULL TRANSITION AND THE COUNTY SHALL TRANSFER
12 THE MONEY IN THE COUNTY SOCIAL SERVICES FUND TO THE STATE
13 TREASURER, WHO SHALL CREDIT THE MONEY TO THE CENTRALIZED
14 MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE CASH FUND CREATED IN SECTION 25.5-1-209.
15 AFTER THE COUNTY HAS FULLY TRANSITIONED TO UTILIZING THE
16 CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE, AN ENTITY THAT RECOVERS,
17 ON BEHALF OF A COUNTY, AN AMOUNT OF FRAUDULENTLY OBTAINED
18 MEDICAL ASSISTANCE FUNDS SHALL TRANSFER THE RECOVERED FUNDS TO
19 THE STATE TREASURER, WHO SHALL CREDIT THE MONEY TO THE
20 CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE CASH FUND. THE federal
21 government is entitled to a share proportionate to the amount of federal
22 funds paid, unless a different amount is provided for by federal law, and
23 the county is entitled to the remaining funds.

24 (C) THIS SUBSECTION (2)(b)(II) IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE JULY 1,
25 2028.

26 (III) (A) BEGINNING JULY 1, 2028, WHENEVER A COUNTY
27 DEPARTMENT, A COUNTY BOARD, A DISTRICT ATTORNEY, A COUNTY

1 CONTRACTED TO ADMINISTER THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY
2 SERVICE PURSUANT TO SECTION 25.5-1-209, OR A STATE DEPARTMENT ON
3 BEHALF OF A COUNTY DEPARTMENT RECOVERS ANY AMOUNT OF
4 FRAUDULENTLY OBTAINED PUBLIC ASSISTANCE FUNDS IN THE FORM OF
5 ASSISTANCE PAYMENTS, THE FRAUDULENT FUNDS SHALL BE TRANSFERRED
6 TO THE STATE TREASURER, WHO SHALL CREDIT THE MONEY TO THE
7 CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE CASH FUND CREATED IN
8 SECTION 25.5-1-209. THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT IS ENTITLED TO A SHARE
9 PROPORTIONATE TO THE AMOUNT OF FEDERAL FUNDS PAID, UNLESS A
10 DIFFERENT AMOUNT IS PROVIDED FOR BY FEDERAL LAW, THE STATE IS
11 ENTITLED TO A SHARE PROPORTIONATE TO ONE-HALF THE AMOUNT OF
12 STATE FUNDS PAID, AND THE COUNTY IS ENTITLED TO A SHARE
13 PROPORTIONATE TO THE AMOUNT OF COUNTY FUNDS PAID AND, IN
14 ADDITION, A SHARE PROPORTIONATE TO ONE-HALF THE AMOUNT OF STATE
15 FUNDS PAID.

16 (B) BEGINNING JULY 1, 2028, WHENEVER A COUNTY DEPARTMENT,
17 A COUNTY BOARD, A DISTRICT ATTORNEY, A COUNTY CONTRACTED TO
18 ADMINISTER THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE PURSUANT TO
19 SECTION 25.5-1-209, OR A STATE DEPARTMENT ON BEHALF OF A COUNTY
20 DEPARTMENT RECOVERS ANY AMOUNT OF FRAUDULENTLY OBTAINED
21 MEDICAL ASSISTANCE, AN AMOUNT FROM AN INDIVIDUAL FOR THE VALUE
22 OF THE MEDICAL ASSISTANCE BENEFITS THE INDIVIDUAL FRAUDULENTLY
23 OBTAINED SHALL BE TRANSFERRED TO THE STATE TREASURER, WHO SHALL
24 CREDIT THE MONEY TO THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE
25 CASH FUND CREATED IN SECTION 25.5-1-209. THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT
26 IS ENTITLED TO A SHARE PROPORTIONATE TO THE AMOUNT OF FEDERAL
27 FUNDS PAID, UNLESS A DIFFERENT AMOUNT IS PROVIDED FOR BY FEDERAL

1 LAW, AND THE COUNTY IS ENTITLED TO THE REMAINING FUNDS.

2 (3) ~~Whenever a county department, a county board, a district~~
3 ~~attorney, or the state department on behalf of the county recovers any~~
4 ~~amount of medical assistance payments that were obtained through~~
5 ~~unintentional member error, the federal government is entitled to a share~~
6 ~~proportionate to the amount of federal funds paid, unless a different~~
7 ~~amount is provided for by federal law; the state is entitled to a share~~
8 ~~proportionate to seventy-five percent of the amount of state funds paid;~~
9 ~~and the county is entitled to a share proportionate to the amount of county~~
10 ~~funds paid, if any, and, in addition, a share proportionate to twenty-five~~
11 ~~percent of the amount of state funds paid.~~

12 (4) ~~Actual costs and expenses incurred by the district attorney's~~
13 ~~office in carrying out the provisions of subsection (2) of this section shall~~
14 ~~be billed to counties or a county within the judicial district in the~~
15 ~~proportions specified in section 20-1-302, C.R.S. Each county shall make~~
16 ~~an annual accounting to the state department on all amounts recovered.~~

17 (5) THE STATE PORTION OF THE MONEY RECOUPED BY THE STATE
18 DEPARTMENT PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION MUST BE DEPOSITED INTO THE
19 CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE CASH FUND CREATED IN
20 SECTION 25.5-1-209.

21 **SECTION 9.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 25.5-1-118, **amend**
22 **(1); and repeal (3) as follows:**

23 **25.5-1-118. Duties of county departments.**

24 (1) The county departments or other state designated agencies,
25 where applicable, ~~shall~~ serve as agents of the state department and NO
26 LATER THAN JULY 1, 2028, shall ~~be charged with the~~ UTILIZE THE
27 CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE, ESTABLISHED IN SECTION

1 25.5-1-209, FOR THE administration of medical assistance and related
2 activities in the respective counties in accordance with the rules of the
3 state department.

4 (3) ~~The county department or other state designated agencies,~~
5 ~~where applicable, in each county shall submit quarterly and annually to~~
6 ~~the board of county commissioners a budget containing an estimate and~~
7 ~~supporting data setting forth the amount of money needed to carry out the~~
8 ~~provisions of this title.~~

9 **SECTION 10.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 25.5-1-121, **amend**
10 (2); and **add** (4) as follows:

11 **25.5-1-121. County expenditures - advancements - procedures.**

12 (2) Notwithstanding any other provision of this ~~article~~ ARTICLE 1,
13 the county department may spend in excess of twenty percent of actual
14 costs for the purpose of matching federal funds for the administration of
15 the child support enforcement program or for the administrative costs of
16 activities involving food stamp OR public assistance. ~~or medical~~
17 ~~assistance fraud investigations or prosecutions.~~

18 (4) ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS DO NOT INCLUDE EXPENDITURES THAT
19 ARE DUPLICATIVE OF COSTS COVERED BY THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER
20 INTEGRITY SERVICE, ESTABLISHED IN SECTION 25.5-1-209, OR SHARED
21 SERVICES, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 26-1-802.

22 **SECTION 11.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 25.5-1-137 as
23 follows:

24 **25.5-1-137. State income tax refund offset - rules.**

25 (1) (a) AT ANY TIME PRESCRIBED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF
26 REVENUE, BUT NOT LESS FREQUENTLY THAN ANNUALLY, THE STATE
27 DEPARTMENT SHALL CERTIFY TO THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE

1 INFORMATION REGARDING PERSONS WHO ARE OBLIGATED TO THE STATE
2 FOR OVERPAYMENT OF BENEFITS RECEIVED PURSUANT TO ARTICLES 4 TO
3 6 OF THIS TITLE 25.5. THE INFORMATION MUST INCLUDE CERTIFICATION OF
4 THE AMOUNT OF OVERPAYMENT THAT HAS BEEN DETERMINED BY FINAL
5 AGENCY ACTION, HAS BEEN ORDERED BY A COURT AS RESTITUTION, OR
6 HAS BEEN REDUCED TO JUDGMENT.

7 (b) THE INFORMATION REGARDING OVERPAYMENT OF BENEFITS
8 MUST ALSO INCLUDE THE NAME AND THE SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER OF
9 THE PERSON OBLIGATED TO THE STATE FOR THE OVERPAYMENT, THE
10 AMOUNT OF THE OVERPAYMENT, AND ANY OTHER IDENTIFYING
11 INFORMATION REQUIRED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE.

12 (2) AS A CONDITION OF CERTIFYING AN OVERPAYMENT TO THE
13 DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (1) OF THIS
14 SECTION, THE STATE DEPARTMENT MUST ENSURE THAT THE OBLIGATED
15 PERSON HAS BEEN AFFORDED THE OPPORTUNITY FOR A CONFERENCE AT
16 THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT LEVEL AND AFFORDED THE OPPORTUNITY FOR
17 AN APPEAL TO THE STATE DEPARTMENT PURSUANT TO SECTION
18 25.5-4-207. IN ADDITION, THE STATE DEPARTMENT, PRIOR TO FINAL
19 CERTIFICATION OF THE INFORMATION SPECIFIED IN SUBSECTION (1) OF THIS
20 SECTION TO THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE, MUST NOTIFY THE OBLIGATED
21 PERSON, IN WRITING, AT THE OBLIGATED PERSON'S LAST-KNOWN ADDRESS,
22 THAT THE STATE INTENDS TO REFER THE PERSON'S NAME TO THE
23 DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN AN ATTEMPT TO OFFSET THE OBLIGATION
24 AGAINST THE PERSON'S STATE INCOME TAX REFUND. THE NOTIFICATION
25 MUST INFORM THE OBLIGATED PERSON OF THE OPPORTUNITY FOR A
26 CONFERENCE WITH THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT, AS DESCRIBED IN SECTION
27 25.5-4-207, OR THE COUNTY CONTRACTED TO ADMINISTER A CENTRALIZED

1 MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE PURSUANT TO SECTION 25.5-1-209, AND OF
2 THE OPPORTUNITY FOR AN APPEAL TO THE STATE DEPARTMENT PURSUANT
3 TO SECTION 25.5-4-207. IN ADDITION, THE NOTICE MUST SPECIFY ISSUES
4 THAT MAY BE RAISED AT AN EVIDENTIARY CONFERENCE OR ON APPEAL, AS
5 PROVIDED BY THIS SUBSECTION (2), BY THE OBLIGATED PERSON IN
6 OBJECTING TO THE OFFSET. THE NOTICE MUST SPECIFY THAT THE
7 OBLIGATED PERSON MAY NOT OBJECT TO THE FACT THAT AN
8 OVERPAYMENT OCCURRED. A PERSON WHO HAS RECEIVED A NOTICE
9 PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION (2) MAY REQUEST, WITHIN THIRTY DAYS
10 AFTER THE DATE THE NOTICE WAS MAILED, AN ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW
11 OR EVIDENTIARY CONFERENCE, AS PROVIDED IN THIS SUBSECTION (2).

12 (3) UPON NOTIFICATION BY THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE OF
13 AMOUNTS DEPOSITED TO THE STATE TREASURER PURSUANT TO SECTION
14 39-21-108, THE STATE DEPARTMENT SHALL DETERMINE WHETHER THE
15 AMOUNT DEPOSITED IS RELATED TO THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY
16 SERVICE, ESTABLISHED IN SECTION 25.5-1-209. IF THE AMOUNT IS NOT
17 RELATED TO THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE, THE STATE
18 DEPARTMENT SHALL DISBURSE THE AMOUNTS TO THE APPROPRIATE
19 COUNTY FOR PROCESSING FOR DISTRIBUTION TO THE FEDERAL, STATE, OR
20 LOCAL AGENCY TO WHICH THE PERSON IS OBLIGATED. IF THE AMOUNT IS
21 RELATED TO THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE, THE COUNTY
22 CONTRACTED TO ADMINISTER THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY
23 SERVICE, AS DESCRIBED IN SECTION 25.5-1-209, SHALL DETERMINE THE
24 FEDERAL, STATE, OR LOCAL AGENCY TO WHICH THE PERSON IS OBLIGATED,
25 AND THE STATE DEPARTMENT SHALL DISTRIBUTE THE MONEY TO THE
26 FEDERAL, STATE, OR LOCAL AGENCY TO WHICH THE PERSON IS OBLIGATED.

27 (4) THE STATE DEPARTMENT SHALL ADOPT RULES PURSUANT TO

1 ARTICLE 4 OF TITLE 24 ESTABLISHING PROCEDURES TO IMPLEMENT THIS
2 SECTION.

3 (5) FOR A PROGRAM THAT IS NOT SUBJECT TO THE CENTRALIZED
4 MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE DESCRIBED IN SECTION 25.5-1-209, THE
5 HOME ADDRESSES AND SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBERS OF PERSONS SUBJECT
6 TO THE INCOME TAX REFUND OFFSET, PROVIDED TO THE STATE
7 DEPARTMENT BY THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE, MUST BE SENT TO THE
8 RESPECTIVE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN OR SOCIAL SERVICES. FOR
9 A PROGRAM THAT IS SUBJECT TO THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY
10 SERVICE DESCRIBED IN SECTION 25.5-1-209, THE HOME ADDRESSES AND
11 SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBERS OF PERSONS SUBJECT TO THE INCOME TAX
12 REFUND OFFSET, PROVIDED TO THE STATE DEPARTMENT BY THE
13 DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE, MUST BE SENT TO THE COUNTY CONTRACTED
14 TO ADMINISTER THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE PURSUANT
15 TO SECTION 25.5-1-209.

16 **SECTION 12.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 25.5-4-204, **add** (4)
17 as follows:

18 **25.5-4-204. Automated medical assistance administration.**

19 (4) COUNTY-LEVEL FRAUD FUNCTIONS MUST BE ADMINISTERED
20 USING THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE, ESTABLISHED IN
21 SECTION 25.5-1-209, OR SHARED SERVICES, AS DEFINED IN SECTION
22 26-1-802.

23 **SECTION 13.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 26-1-112, **amend**
24 (2)(b)(II); and **add** (2)(b)(III) as follows:

25 **26-1-112. Locating violators - recoveries - repeal.**

26 (2) (b) (II) (A) Whenever a county department, a county board, A
27 COUNTY DEPARTMENT CONTRACTED TO ADMINISTER THE CENTRALIZED

1 MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE PURSUANT TO SECTION 25.5-1-209, a district
2 attorney, or a state department on behalf of a county department recovers
3 any amount of fraudulently obtained public assistance funds in the form
4 of assistance payments, it shall be deposited in the county general fund
5 ~~and the~~ UNTIL THE COUNTY HAS FULLY TRANSITIONED TO UTILIZING THE
6 CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE PURSUANT TO SECTION
7 25.5-1-209. WHEN THE COUNTY HAS FULLY TRANSITIONED TO UTILIZING
8 THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE, THE COUNTY SHALL
9 NOTIFY THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE POLICY AND FINANCING OF THE
10 FULL TRANSITION AND THE COUNTY SHALL TRANSFER THE MONEY IN THE
11 COUNTY SOCIAL SERVICES FUND TO THE STATE TREASURER, WHO SHALL
12 CREDIT THE MONEY TO THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE
13 CASH FUND CREATED IN SECTION 25.5-1-209. AFTER THE COUNTY HAS
14 FULLY TRANSITIONED TO UTILIZING THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY
15 SERVICE, AN ENTITY THAT RECOVERS, ON BEHALF OF A COUNTY, AN
16 AMOUNT OF FRAUDULENTLY OBTAINED PUBLIC ASSISTANCE FUNDS SHALL
17 TRANSFER THE RECOVERED FUNDS TO THE STATE TREASURER, WHO SHALL
18 CREDIT THE MONEY TO THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE
19 CASH FUND. THE federal government ~~shall be~~ IS entitled to a share
20 proportionate to the amount of federal funds paid unless a different
21 amount is provided for by federal law, the state ~~shall be~~ IS entitled to a
22 share proportionate to one-half the amount of state funds paid, and the
23 county ~~shall be~~ CONTRACTED TO ADMINISTER THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER
24 INTEGRITY SERVICE PURSUANT TO SECTION 25.5-1-209 IS entitled to a
25 share proportionate to the amount of county funds paid and, in addition,
26 a share proportionate to one-half the amount of state funds paid. In the
27 case of funds recovered from fraudulently obtained food stamp coupons

1 by ~~the~~ A county department, A COUNTY CONTRACTED TO ADMINISTER THE
2 CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE PURSUANT TO SECTION
3 25.5-1-209, the county board, the district attorney, the state department,
4 ~~on behalf of a county department~~, OR the county ~~shall be~~ IS entitled to the
5 share of the recovered funds provided by the federal "Food Stamp Act"
6 UNTIL THE COUNTY HAS FULLY TRANSITIONED TO UTILIZING THE
7 CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE PURSUANT TO SECTION
8 25.5-1-209. WHEN THE COUNTY HAS FULLY TRANSITIONED TO UTILIZING
9 THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE, THE COUNTY MUST
10 NOTIFY THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE POLICY AND FINANCING OF THE
11 FULL TRANSITION AND THE COUNTY SHALL TRANSFER THE FUNDS TO THE
12 STATE TREASURER, WHO SHALL CREDIT THE MONEY TO THE CENTRALIZED
13 MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE CASH FUND CREATED IN SECTION 25.5-1-209.

14 (B) THIS SUBSECTION (1)(b)(II) IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE JULY 1,
15 2028.

16 (III) BEGINNING JULY 1, 2028, WHENEVER A COUNTY
17 DEPARTMENT, A COUNTY BOARD, A COUNTY DEPARTMENT CONTRACTED
18 TO ADMINISTER THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE PURSUANT
19 TO SECTION 25.5-1-209, A DISTRICT ATTORNEY, OR A STATE DEPARTMENT
20 ON BEHALF OF A COUNTY DEPARTMENT RECOVERS ANY AMOUNT OF
21 FRAUDULENTLY OBTAINED PUBLIC ASSISTANCE FUNDS IN THE FORM OF
22 ASSISTANCE PAYMENTS, THE FUNDS SHALL BE TRANSFERRED TO THE STATE
23 TREASURER, WHO SHALL CREDIT THE MONEY TO THE CENTRALIZED
24 MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE CASH FUND CREATED IN SECTION 25.5-1-209.
25 THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT IS ENTITLED TO A SHARE PROPORTIONATE TO
26 THE AMOUNT OF FEDERAL FUNDS PAID UNLESS A DIFFERENT AMOUNT IS
27 PROVIDED FOR BY FEDERAL LAW, THE STATE IS ENTITLED TO A SHARE

1 PROPORTIONATE TO ONE-HALF THE AMOUNT OF STATE FUNDS PAID, AND
2 THE COUNTY CONTRACTED TO ADMINISTER THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER
3 INTEGRITY SERVICE PURSUANT TO SECTION 25.5-1-209 IS ENTITLED TO A
4 SHARE PROPORTIONATE TO THE AMOUNT OF COUNTY FUNDS PAID AND, IN
5 ADDITION, A SHARE PROPORTIONATE TO ONE-HALF THE AMOUNT OF STATE
6 FUNDS PAID. IN THE CASE OF FUNDS RECOVERED FROM FRAUDULENTLY
7 OBTAINED FOOD STAMP COUPONS BY THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OR A
8 COUNTY CONTRACTED TO ADMINISTER THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER
9 INTEGRITY SERVICE PURSUANT TO SECTION 25.5-1-209, THE ENTITY THAT
10 RECOVERED THE FUNDS SHALL TRANSFER THE FUNDS TO THE STATE
11 TREASURER, WHO SHALL CREDIT THE MONEY TO THE CENTRALIZED
12 MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE CASH FUND CREATED IN SECTION 25.5-1-209.

13 **SECTION 14.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 26-1-118, **amend**
14 (1)(a), (6) introductory portion, and (7) as follows:

15 **26-1-118. Duties of county departments, county directors, and**
16 **district attorneys.**

17 (1) (a) The county departments or other state designated agencies,
18 where applicable, ~~shall~~ serve as agents of the state department and are
19 charged with the administration of public assistance, and welfare and
20 related activities in the respective counties in accordance with the rules
21 of the state department. ON OR BEFORE JULY 1, 2028, THE COUNTY
22 DEPARTMENTS SHALL PARTICIPATE IN THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER
23 INTEGRITY SERVICE, ESTABLISHED IN SECTION 25.5-1-209, AND SHARED
24 SERVICES, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 26-1-802, TO ENSURE EFFICIENT AND
25 CONSISTENT ADMINISTRATION OF PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS AND
26 RELATED ACTIVITIES THROUGHOUT THE STATE.

27 (6) The county department, OR A COUNTY CONTRACTED TO

1 ADMINISTER THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE PURSUANT TO
2 SECTION 25.5-1-209, shall report, to the district attorney monthly, data
3 relating to fraudulent activities covering, as a minimum, the activities
4 specified in ~~paragraphs (a), (b), and (d) of this subsection (6);~~
5 SUBSECTIONS (6)(a), (6)(b), AND (6)(d) OF THIS SECTION, and the district
6 attorney shall likewise report, monthly, to the county department, OR TO
7 A COUNTY CONTRACTED TO ADMINISTER THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER
8 INTEGRITY SERVICE PURSUANT TO SECTION 25.5-1-209, the data specified
9 in ~~paragraph (c) of this subsection (6)~~ SUBSECTION (6)(c) OF THIS
10 SECTION, as follows when applicable:

11 (7) The counties may prepare and issue to all payees, excluding
12 heads of households in nonpublic assistance food stamp cases, at the time
13 of delivery of any public assistance, a hermetically sealed photo
14 identification card ~~which~~ THAT is manufactured in ~~such~~ a secure manner
15 as to resist duplication or intrusion and containing the full name, a card
16 identification number, and any other data ~~which~~ THAT would ensure
17 proper identification. A county department, OR A COUNTY CONTRACTED
18 TO ADMINISTER THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE PURSUANT
19 TO SECTION 25.5-1-209, shall refer to the appropriate law enforcement
20 agency for investigation, within ten working days after discovery, any
21 information it may have concerning the improper use of a photo
22 identification card by a person not eligible to possess ~~such~~ THE card.

23 **SECTION 15.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 26-1-122, **amend**
24 (3)(c), (4)(i), and (6)(c) as follows:

25 **26-1-122. County appropriations and expenditures -**
26 **advancements - procedures.**

27 (3) (c) For purposes of this ~~article~~ ARTICLE 1, and except as

1 otherwise provided in subsection (6) of this section, under rules of the
2 state department, administrative costs shall include: Salaries of the county
3 director and employees of the county department staff engaged in the
4 performance of assistance payments, food stamps, and social services
5 activities; the county's payments on behalf of such employees for old age
6 and survivors' insurance or pursuant to a county officers' and employees'
7 retirement plan and for any health insurance plan, if approved by the state
8 department; the necessary travel expenses of the county board and the
9 administrative staff of the county department in the performance of their
10 duties; necessary telephone and telegraph COSTS; necessary equipment
11 and supplies; necessary payments for postage and printing, including the
12 printing and preparation of county warrants required for the
13 administration of the county department; and such other administrative
14 costs as may be approved by the state department; but advancements for
15 office space, utilities, and fixtures may be made from state funds only if
16 federal matching funds are available. ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS DO NOT
17 INCLUDE EXPENDITURES THAT ARE DUPLICATIVE OF COSTS COVERED BY
18 THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE, ESTABLISHED IN SECTION
19 25.5-1-209, AND SHARED SERVICES, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 26-1-802.

20 (4) (i) Notwithstanding any other provision of this ~~article~~ ARTICLE
21 1, the county department may receive and spend federal funds to which
22 it is entitled by reason of the county's expenditures in excess of the twenty
23 percent required by subsection (1) of this section for ~~any~~ A social services
24 activity that has been approved by the STATE department as an activity
25 that is eligible for reimbursement under any federal program. Acceptance
26 and expenditure of such federal funds shall in no way ~~affect~~ AFFECTS the
27 state's share of and contribution to such THE payments, and the county

1 ~~shall be~~ IS solely responsible for the provision of the nonfederal share that
2 is in excess of the twenty percent. EXPENDITURES THAT ARE DUPLICATIVE
3 OF COSTS COVERED BY THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE,
4 ESTABLISHED IN SECTION 25.5-1-209, AND SHARED SERVICES, AS DEFINED
5 IN SECTION 26-1-802, ARE NOT ELIGIBLE FOR FEDERAL OR STATE
6 REIMBURSEMENT.

7 (6) (c) The state department shall establish rules concerning what
8 constitutes administrative costs and program costs for the Colorado works
9 program. The executive director of the department of early childhood, in
10 coordination with county departments, shall establish rules concerning
11 what constitutes administrative costs and program costs for the Colorado
12 child care assistance program. The state treasurer shall make
13 advancements to county departments for the costs of administering the
14 Colorado works program and the Colorado child care assistance program
15 from funds appropriated or made available for ~~such~~ THAT purpose, upon
16 authorization of the department of early childhood or the state
17 department, as applicable; except that ~~in no event shall~~ the department of
18 early childhood or the state department SHALL NOT authorize expenditures
19 greater than the annual appropriation by the general assembly for ~~such~~
20 THE administrative costs of the county departments. As funds are
21 advanced, adjustment ~~shall~~ MUST be made from subsequent monthly
22 payments for those purposes. ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS DO NOT INCLUDE
23 EXPENDITURES THAT ARE DUPLICATIVE OF COSTS COVERED BY THE
24 CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE, ESTABLISHED IN SECTION
25 25.5-1-209, AND SHARED SERVICES, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 26-1-802, AND
26 ARE NOT ELIGIBLE FOR FEDERAL OR STATE REIMBURSEMENT.

27 **SECTION 16.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 26-2-107, **amend**

1 (1)(c) and (2) as follows:

2 **26-2-107. Verification - record.**

3 (1) (c) Within ten working days after a discrepancy relating to a
4 fraudulent or suspected fraudulent act affecting eligibility is discovered,
5 ~~it~~ THE DISCREPANCY shall be referred to the appropriate investigatory
6 agency for investigation. The investigatory agency shall take action
7 within thirty days ~~following~~ AFTER receipt of the information from the
8 county department OR A COUNTY CONTRACTED TO ADMINISTER THE
9 CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE PURSUANT TO SECTION
10 25.5-1-209.

11 (2) The county department, A COUNTY CONTRACTED TO
12 ADMINISTER THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE PURSUANT TO
13 SECTION 25.5-1-209, the state department, and the officers and authorized
14 employees of each ENTITY may conduct visits to the home of the applicant
15 at reasonable times, make investigations and require the attendance and
16 testimony of witnesses and the production of books, records, and papers
17 by subpoena, and make application to the district court to compel and
18 enforce ~~such~~ attendance and testimony of witnesses and the production
19 of ~~such~~ books, records, and papers. Officers and employees designated by
20 the county department, A COUNTY CONTRACTED TO ADMINISTER THE
21 CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE PURSUANT TO SECTION
22 25.5-1-209, or the state department may administer oaths and
23 affirmations.

24 **SECTION 17.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 26-2-133, **amend**
25 (3) and (5) as follows:

26 **26-2-133. State income tax refund offset - rules.**

27 (3) Upon notification by the department of revenue of amounts

1 deposited with the state treasurer pursuant to section 39-21-108, ~~C.R.S.~~,
2 THE STATE DEPARTMENT SHALL DETERMINE WHETHER THE AMOUNT
3 DEPOSITED IS RELATED TO THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE,
4 ESTABLISHED IN SECTION 25.5-1-209. IF THE AMOUNT IS NOT RELATED TO
5 THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE, the state department shall
6 disburse ~~such amounts~~ THE AMOUNT to the appropriate county for
7 processing for distribution to the federal, state, or local agency to ~~whom~~
8 WHICH the person is obligated. IF THE AMOUNT IS RELATED TO THE
9 CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE, A COUNTY CONTRACTED TO
10 ADMINISTER THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE PURSUANT TO
11 SECTION 25.5-1-209 SHALL DETERMINE THE FEDERAL, STATE, OR LOCAL
12 AGENCY TO WHICH THE PERSON IS OBLIGATED AND INFORM THE
13 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE POLICY AND FINANCING OF THE AGENCY,
14 AND THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE POLICY AND FINANCING SHALL
15 DISTRIBUTE THE MONEY TO THE FEDERAL, STATE, OR LOCAL AGENCY TO
16 WHICH THE PERSON IS OBLIGATED.

17 (5) FOR A PROGRAM THAT IS NOT THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER
18 INTEGRITY SERVICE, ESTABLISHED IN SECTION 25.5-1-209, the home
19 addresses and social security numbers of persons subject to the income
20 tax refund offset, provided to the state department by the department of
21 revenue, must be sent to the respective county department. ~~of human or~~
22 ~~social services.~~ FOR A PROGRAM THAT IS THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER
23 INTEGRITY SERVICE, ESTABLISHED IN SECTION 25.5-1-209, THE HOME
24 ADDRESSES AND SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBERS OF PERSONS SUBJECT TO THE
25 INCOME TAX REFUND OFFSET, PROVIDED TO THE STATE DEPARTMENT BY
26 THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE, MUST BE SENT TO THE COUNTY
27 CONTRACTED TO ADMINISTER THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY

1 SERVICE PURSUANT TO SECTION 25.5-1-209.

2 **SECTION 18.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 26.5-4-103, **amend**
3 (3) as follows:

4 **26.5-4-103. Definitions.**

5 As used in this part 1, unless the context otherwise requires:

6 (3) "County department" means the county or district department
7 of human or social services, OR, FOR FUNCTIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES
8 ADMINISTERED PURSUANT TO THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY
9 SERVICE, ESTABLISHED IN SECTION 25.5-1-209, A COUNTY CONTRACTED
10 TO ADMINISTER THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE PURSUANT
11 TO SECTION 25.5-1-209.

12 **SECTION 19.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 26.5-4-106, **amend**
13 (2)(d) and (2)(e) as follows:

14 **26.5-4-106. Applications for child care assistance -**
15 **applications for child care employees - verification - award - not**
16 **assignable - limitation - rules.**

17 (2) (d) Within ten working days after the county department
18 discovers a discrepancy relating to a fraudulent or suspected fraudulent
19 act affecting eligibility, the county department shall refer the matter to the
20 appropriate investigatory agency, INCLUDING A COUNTY OR A COUNTY
21 CONTRACTED TO ADMINISTER THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY
22 SERVICE PURSUANT TO SECTION 25.5-1-209 for investigation. The
23 investigatory agency, WHICH MAY BE A COUNTY CONTRACTED TO
24 ADMINISTER THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE PURSUANT TO
25 SECTION 25.5-1-209, shall take action within thirty days ~~following~~ AFTER
26 receipt of the information from the county department.

27 (e) The county department, the department, A COUNTY

1 CONTRACTED TO ADMINISTER THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY
2 SERVICE PURSUANT TO SECTION 25.5-1-209, and the officers and
3 authorized employees of each ENTITY may conduct visits to the home of
4 the applicant at reasonable times, make investigations and require the
5 attendance and testimony of witnesses and the production of books,
6 records, and papers by subpoena, and make application to the district
7 court to compel and enforce ~~such~~ attendance and testimony of witnesses
8 and the production of ~~such~~ books, records, and papers. Officers and
9 employees designated by the ~~county department~~ or the department OR A
10 COUNTY CONTRACTED TO ADMINISTER THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER
11 INTEGRITY SERVICE PURSUANT TO SECTION 25.5-1-209 may administer
12 oaths and affirmations.

13 **SECTION 20.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **amend** 26.5-4-116
14 as follows:

15 **26.5-4-116. Recovery from recipient - estate.**

16 (1) (a) If, at any time during the continuance of child care
17 assistance, the recipient becomes possessed of property having a value in
18 excess of that amount set pursuant to ~~the provisions of~~ section 26.5-4-106
19 (4) and department rules or receives ~~any~~ AN increase in income, the
20 recipient shall notify the county department of the possession of the
21 property or receipt of the income, and the county department may either
22 terminate the child care assistance or alter the amount of child care
23 assistance in accordance with the circumstances and department rules.

24 (b) To the extent not otherwise prohibited by state or federal law,
25 if the recipient is found to have committed an intentional program
26 violation, the recipient is disqualified from participation in CCCAP for
27 twelve months for the first incident, twenty-four months for a second

1 incident, and permanently for a third or subsequent incident. This
2 disqualification is mandatory and is in addition to any other penalty
3 imposed by law.

4 (c) Except as provided in subsections (3) and (4) of this section,
5 any previously provided excess child care assistance to which the
6 recipient was not entitled is recoverable by the county, ~~as a debt due~~ OR
7 BY A COUNTY CONTRACTED TO ADMINISTER THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER
8 INTEGRITY SERVICE PURSUANT TO SECTION 25.5-1-209, AS A DEBT OWED.
9 IF THE DEBT OWED IS DUE TO FRAUDULENTLY OBTAINED CHILD CARE
10 ASSISTANCE OR FRAUDULENTLY OBTAINED OVERPAYMENTS OF CHILD
11 CARE ASSISTANCE, THE RECOVERY OF THE DEBT MUST BE DISTRIBUTED TO
12 THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE CASH FUND CREATED IN
13 SECTION 25.5-1-209 AND THE COUNTY IN A PROPORTION DETERMINED BY
14 DEPARTMENT RULE. IF THE DEBT OWED IS DUE TO EXCESS CHILD CARE
15 ASSISTANCE PAID FOR WHICH THE RECIPIENT WAS INELIGIBLE BUT THAT
16 WAS NOT FRAUDULENTLY OBTAINED, THE RECOVERY OF THAT DEBT MUST
17 BE DISTRIBUTED to the state and the county in proportion to the amount
18 of child care assistance paid by each respectively. ~~except that~~ ON AN
19 AMOUNT OF CHILD CARE ASSISTANCE FRAUDULENTLY OBTAINED, interest
20 ~~is~~ MUST BE charged and paid to the county department, ~~on any sum~~
21 ~~fraudulently obtained~~, OR A COUNTY CONTRACTED TO ADMINISTER THE
22 CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE PURSUANT TO SECTION
23 25.5-1-209, calculated at the legal rate and calculated from the date the
24 sum was paid to a provider on behalf of the recipient to the date the sum
25 is recovered.

26 (d) If the debt for fraudulently obtained child care assistance,
27 fraudulently obtained overpayments of child care assistance, or excess

1 child care assistance paid for which the recipient was ineligible has been
2 reduced to a judgment in a court of record in this state, the county
3 department, OR A COUNTY CONTRACTED TO ADMINISTER THE
4 CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE PURSUANT TO SECTION
5 25.5-1-209, may seek a continuing garnishment to collect the debt ~~under~~
6 PURSUANT TO article 54.5 of title 13.

7 (2) If, upon the death or mental incompetency of ~~any~~ A recipient,
8 the inventory of the recipient's estate shows assets in excess of the amount
9 that the recipient was allowed to have in order to receive child care
10 assistance, or if it ~~be~~ IS shown that the recipient was otherwise ineligible
11 for child care assistance, then the claim of the county, OR OF A COUNTY
12 CONTRACTED TO ADMINISTER THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY
13 SERVICE PURSUANT TO SECTION 25.5-1-209, and state for the excess child
14 care assistance paid for which the recipient was ineligible, if filed as
15 required by section 15-12-804, has priority as a debt given preference
16 ~~under~~ PURSUANT TO section 15-12-805 (1)(f.7).

17 (3) When a recipient was ineligible for child care assistance solely
18 because of property in excess of that permitted by department rules
19 pursuant to section 26.5-4-106 (4), the amount for which the recipient is
20 liable is the amount by which the property exceeded the amount allowable
21 under ~~said~~ THE rules or the total amount of child care assistance received,
22 whichever is the lesser amount. Except as provided in subsection (4) of
23 this section, actions for the recovery of these sums must be prosecuted by
24 the county department, A COUNTY CONTRACTED TO ADMINISTER THE
25 CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE PURSUANT TO SECTION
26 25.5-1-209, or the department in a court of record that has jurisdiction.

27 (4) The department and a county department, OR A COUNTY

1 CONTRACTED TO ADMINISTER THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY
2 SERVICE PURSUANT TO SECTION 25.5-1-209, may elect not to attempt
3 recovery of an overpayment of child care assistance from an individual
4 who is no longer receiving public assistance or child care assistance if the
5 overpayment amount is less than thirty-five dollars. If the overpayment
6 amount owed by an individual who is no longer receiving public
7 assistance or child care assistance is thirty-five dollars or more, the
8 department and the county department, OR A COUNTY CONTRACTED TO
9 ADMINISTER THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE PURSUANT TO
10 SECTION 25.5-1-209, may determine, consistent with the six-year time
11 limitation for the execution on judgments involving state debt, that it is
12 no longer cost-effective to continue to pursue recovery of the
13 overpayment.

14 **SECTION 21.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **amend** 26.5-4-117
15 as follows:

16 **26.5-4-117. Locating violators - recoveries.**

17 (1) The executive director or district attorneys may request and
18 receive from departments, boards, bureaus, or other agencies of the state
19 or any of its political subdivisions, and ~~the same~~ THE DEPARTMENTS,
20 BOARDS, BUREAUS, OR OTHER AGENCIES OF THE STATE OR ANY OF ITS
21 POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS are required to provide ~~such~~ assistance and data
22 as will enable the department and county departments, ~~properly to~~ OR A
23 COUNTY CONTRACTED TO ADMINISTER THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER
24 INTEGRITY SERVICE PURSUANT TO SECTION 25.5-1-209, TO PROPERLY carry
25 out their powers and duties to locate and prosecute ~~any~~ A person who
26 fraudulently obtains child care assistance pursuant to this part 1. ~~Any~~
27 Records established pursuant to ~~the provisions of~~ this section are

1 available only to the department, the county departments OR A COUNTY
2 CONTRACTED TO ADMINISTER THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY
3 SERVICE PURSUANT TO SECTION 25.5-1-209, the attorney general, and the
4 district attorneys, county attorneys, and courts having jurisdiction in fraud
5 or recovery proceedings or actions.

6 (2) All departments and agencies of the state and local
7 governments shall cooperate in the location and prosecution of a person
8 who fraudulently obtains child care assistance pursuant to this part 1, and,
9 on request of the county or district board of human or social services, the
10 county director, the department, or the district attorney of ~~any~~ A judicial
11 district in this state shall supply all information on hand relative to the
12 location, employment, income, and property of ~~said persons~~ THE PERSON,
13 notwithstanding any other provision of law making the information
14 confidential, except the laws pertaining to confidentiality of tax returns
15 filed pursuant to law with the department of revenue. The department of
16 revenue shall furnish at no cost to inquiring departments and agencies
17 ~~such~~ information ~~as may be~~ necessary to effectuate the purposes of this
18 part 1. The executive director shall, by rule, establish the procedures
19 whereby this information is requested and provided. The department or
20 county departments, OR A COUNTY CONTRACTED TO ADMINISTER THE
21 CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE PURSUANT TO SECTION
22 25.5-1-209, shall use ~~such~~ THE information only for the purposes of
23 administering the Colorado child care assistance program pursuant to this
24 part 1, and a district attorney shall use it only for the prosecution of
25 persons who fraudulently obtain child care assistance pursuant to this part
26 1, and shall not use the information, or disclose it, for any other purpose.

27 (3) A district attorney shall bill the actual costs and expenses

1 incurred by the district attorney's office in carrying out ~~the provisions of~~
2 subsection (2) of this section to counties or a county within the judicial
3 district, OR A COUNTY CONTRACTED TO ADMINISTER THE CENTRALIZED
4 MEMBER INTEGRITY SERVICE PURSUANT TO SECTION 25.5-1-209, in the
5 proportions specified in section 20-1-302. Each county, OR A COUNTY
6 CONTRACTED TO ADMINISTER THE CENTRALIZED MEMBER INTEGRITY
7 SERVICE PURSUANT TO SECTION 25.5-1-209, shall make an annual
8 accounting to the department on all amounts recovered.

9 **SECTION 22.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 39-21-108, **amend**
10 (3)(a)(VII) as follows:

11 **39-21-108. Refunds.**

12 (3) (a) (VII) (A) ~~Any moneys~~ MONEY withheld for payment of
13 obligations owed the department of human services for overpayment of
14 public assistance benefits pursuant to this subsection (3) ~~shall~~ MUST be
15 deposited with the state treasurer for disbursement by the department of
16 human services. For all names and associated amounts certified by the
17 department of human services pursuant to section 26-2-133, ~~C.R.S.~~, the
18 executive director of the department of revenue shall provide to the
19 department of human services the names of taxpayers and the associated
20 amounts deposited with the state treasurer and any other identifying
21 information as required by the department of human services.

22 (B) MONEY WITHHELD FOR PAYMENT OF OBLIGATIONS OWED THE
23 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE POLICY AND FINANCING FOR
24 OVERPAYMENT OF PUBLIC ASSISTANCE BENEFITS PAID PURSUANT TO THIS
25 SUBSECTION (3) MUST BE DEPOSITED WITH THE STATE TREASURER FOR
26 DISBURSEMENT BY THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE POLICY AND
27 FINANCING. FOR ALL NAMES AND ASSOCIATED AMOUNTS CERTIFIED BY THE

1 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE POLICY AND FINANCING PURSUANT TO
2 SECTION 25.5-1-137, THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF
3 REVENUE SHALL PROVIDE TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE POLICY
4 AND FINANCING THE NAMES OF TAXPAYERS AND THE ASSOCIATED
5 AMOUNTS DEPOSITED WITH THE STATE TREASURER AND ANY OTHER
6 IDENTIFYING INFORMATION REQUIRED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
7 CARE POLICY AND FINANCING.

8 **SECTION 23. Appropriation.** (1) For the 2026-27 state fiscal
9 year, \$2,438,656 is appropriated to the department of health care policy
10 and financing for use by the executive director's office. This appropriation
11 consists of \$1,628,568 from the general fund and \$810,088 from the
12 healthcare affordability and sustainability hospital provider fee cash fund
13 created in section 25.5-4-402.4 (5)(a), C.R.S. To implement this act, the
14 office may use this appropriation as follows:

15 (a) \$447,737, which consists of \$297,166 from general fund and
16 \$150,571 from the healthcare affordability and sustainability hospital
17 provider fee cash fund, for personal services, which amount is based on
18 an assumption that the office will require an additional 8.5 FTE;

19 (b) \$35,173, which consists of \$23,527 from general fund and
20 \$11,646 from the healthcare affordability and sustainability hospital
21 provider fee cash fund, for operating expenses;

22 (c) \$907,419, which consists of \$606,718 from general fund and
23 \$300,701 from the healthcare affordability and sustainability hospital
24 provider fee cash fund, for general professional services and special
25 projects;

26 (d) \$868,590, which consists of \$580,997 from general fund and
27 \$287,593 from the healthcare affordability and sustainability hospital

1 provider fee cash fund, for member case integrity centralized service
2 related to eligibility determinations and client services;

3 (e) \$60,649, which consists of \$40,502 from general fund and
4 \$20,147 from the healthcare affordability and sustainability hospital
5 provider fee cash fund, for the purchase of information technology
6 services; and

7 (f) \$119,088, which consists of \$79,658 from general fund and
8 \$39,430 from the healthcare affordability and sustainability hospital
9 provider fee cash fund, for the purchase of legal services.

10 (2) For the 2026-27 state fiscal year, the general assembly
11 anticipates that the department of health care policy and financing will
12 receive \$3,051,099 in federal funds for use by the executive director's
13 office to implement this act, which amount is subject to the "(I)" notation
14 as defined in the annual general appropriation act for the same fiscal year.
15 The appropriation in subsection (1) of this section is based on the
16 assumption that the office will receive this amount of federal funds to be
17 used as follows:

18 (a) \$460,423 for personal services;

19 (b) \$35,613 for operating expenses;

20 (c) \$1,375,231 for general professional services and special
21 projects;

22 (d) \$879,420 for member case integrity centralized service related
23 to eligibility determinations and client services;

24 (e) \$179,840 for the purchase of information technology services;
25 and

26 (f) \$120,572 for the purchase of legal services.

27 (3) For the 2026-27 state fiscal year, \$212,593 is appropriated to

1 the department of health care policy and financing. This appropriation
2 consists of \$141,280 from the general fund, which is subject to the "(M)"
3 notation as defined in the annual general appropriation act for the same
4 fiscal year, and \$71,313 from the healthcare affordability and
5 sustainability hospital provider fee cash fund created in section
6 25.5-4-402.4 (5)(a), C.R.S. To implement this act, the department may
7 use this appropriation for Colorado benefits management systems,
8 operating and contract expenses.

9 (4) For the 2026-27 state fiscal year, the general assembly
10 anticipates that the department of health care policy and financing will
11 receive \$1,805,948 in federal funds for Colorado benefits management
12 systems, operating and contract expenses to implement this act. The
13 appropriation in subsection (3) of this section is based on the assumption
14 that the department will receive this amount of federal funds.

15 (5) For the 2026-27 state fiscal year, \$240,489 is appropriated to
16 the office of the governor for use by the office of information technology.
17 This appropriation is from reappropriated funds received from the
18 department of health care policy and financing under subsections (1)(e)
19 and (2)(e) of this section. To implement this act, the office may use this
20 appropriation to provide information technology services for the
21 department of health care policy and financing.

22 (6) For the 2026-27 state fiscal year, \$239,660 is appropriated to
23 the department of law. This appropriation is from reappropriated funds
24 received from the department of health care policy and financing under
25 subsection (1)(f) and 2(f) of this section and is based on an assumption
26 that the department of law will require an additional 1.3 FTE. To
27 implement this act, the department of law may use this appropriation to

1 provide legal services for the department of health care policy and
2 financing.

3 **SECTION 24. Appropriation.** (1) For the 2026-27 state fiscal
4 year, \$968,791 is appropriated to the department of human services for
5 use by the office of economic security. This appropriation is from the
6 general fund. To implement this act, the office may use this appropriation
7 as follows:

8	Administration	
9	Administration	\$401,997
10	Colorado benefits management system; ongoing expenses	
11	Operating and contract expenses	\$146,694
12	Food and energy assistance	
13	Electronic benefits transfer services	\$59,850
14	County administration	
15	Member case integrity centralized service	\$360,250

16 (2) For the 2026-27 state fiscal year, \$320,291 is appropriated to
17 the department of human services for use by the office of economic
18 security. This appropriation is from the healthy school meals for all
19 program fund created in section 22-82.9-211 (2)(a), C.R.S. To implement
20 this act, the office may use this appropriation as follows:

21	Administration	
22	Administration	\$143,287
23	Colorado benefits management system; ongoing expenses	
24	Operating and contract expenses	\$36,092
25	Food and energy assistance	
26	Electronic benefits transfer services	\$18,450
27	County administration	

1 Member case integrity centralized service \$122,462

2 (3) For the 2026-27 state fiscal year, the general assembly
3 anticipates that the department of human services will receive \$139,003
4 for use by the office of economic security. This appropriation is from the
5 old age pension fund created in section 1 of article XXIV of the state
6 constitution, which is subject to the "(I)" notation as defined in the annual
7 general appropriation act for the same fiscal year. To implement this act,
8 the office may use this appropriation as follows:

9 **Administration**

10 Administration \$36,833

11 **Colorado benefits management system; ongoing expenses**

12 Operating and contract expenses \$9,278

13 **Food and energy assistance**

14 Electronic benefits transfer services \$23,250

15 **County administration**

16 Member case integrity centralized service \$69,642

17 (4) For the 2026-27 state fiscal year, \$189,149 is appropriated to
18 the department of human services for the office of economic security.
19 This appropriation is from federal temporary assistance for needy families
20 block grant funds. To implement this act, the office may use this
21 appropriation as follows:

22 **Administration**

23 Administration \$37,680

24 **Colorado benefits management system; ongoing expenses**

25 Operating and contract expenses \$75,531

26 **Food and energy assistance**

27 Electronic benefits transfer services \$17,550

1	Legal services	\$60,966
2	Payments to OIT	\$61,180
3	General professional services	
4	and special projects	\$580,681
5	Information technology contracts and projects	
6	Colorado benefits management systems,	
7	operating and contract expenses	\$348,353
8	Eligibility determinations and client services	
9	Member case integrity centralized service	\$753,974

10 (7) For the 2026-27 state fiscal year, \$61,180 is appropriated to
11 the office of the governor for use by the office of information technology.
12 This appropriation is from reappropriated funds received from the
13 department of health care policy and financing under subsection (6) of
14 this section for payments to OIT. To implement this act, the office may
15 use this appropriation to provide information technology services for the
16 department of health care policy and financing.

17 (8) For the 2026-27 state fiscal year, \$60,966 is appropriated to
18 the department of law. This appropriation is from reappropriated funds
19 received from the department of health care policy and financing under
20 subsection (6) of this section for legal services. To implement this act, the
21 department of law may use this appropriation to provide legal services for
22 the department of health care policy and financing.

23 **SECTION 25. Appropriation.** (1) For the 2026-27 state fiscal
24 year, \$445,196 is appropriated to the department of early childhood. This
25 appropriation consists of \$222,598 from the general fund and \$222,598
26 from federal child care development funds. To implement this act, the
27 department may use this appropriation as follows:

1 (a) \$59,283, which consists of \$29,641 from general fund and
2 \$29,642 from federal child care development funds, for information
3 technology systems managed by other departments; and

4 (b) \$385,913, which consists of \$192,957 from general fund and
5 \$192,956 from federal child care development funds, for use by early
6 learning access and quality for county shared services.

7 (2) For the 2026-27 state fiscal year, \$432,913 is appropriated to
8 the department of health care policy and financing for use by the
9 executive director's office. This appropriation is from reappropriated
10 funds received from the department of early childhood under subsection
11 (1) of this section. To implement this act, the office may use this
12 appropriation as follows:

13	General administration	
14	Personal services	\$61,273
15	Operating expenses	\$4,936
16	Legal services	\$16,712
17	Payments to OIT	\$16,770
18	General professional services	
19	and special projects	\$159,174
20	Information technology contracts and projects	
21	Colorado benefits management systems,	
22	operating and contract expenses	\$59,283
23	Eligibility determinations and client services	
24	Member case integrity centralized service	\$121,892

25 (3) For the 2026-27 state fiscal year, \$16,770 is appropriated to
26 the office of the governor for use by the office of information technology.
27 This appropriation is from reappropriated funds received from the

1 department of health care policy and financing under subsection (2) of
2 this section for payments to OIT. To implement this act, the office may
3 use this appropriation to provide information technology services for the
4 department of health care policy and financing.

5 (4) For the 2026-27 state fiscal year, \$16,712 is appropriated to
6 the department of law. This appropriation is from reappropriated funds
7 received from the department of health care policy and financing under
8 subsection (6) of this section for legal services. To implement this act, the
9 department of law may use this appropriation to provide legal services for
10 the department of health care policy and financing.

11 **SECTION 26. Appropriation - adjustments to 2026 long bill.**

12 (1) Except as provided in subsection (2) of this section, to implement this
13 act, the appropriation from federal child care development funds made in
14 the annual general appropriation act for the 2026-27 state fiscal year to
15 the department of early childhood for intrastate child care assistance
16 program redistribution is decreased by \$222,598.

17 (2) Subsection (1) of this section does not require a reduction of
18 an appropriation in the annual general appropriation act for the 2026-27
19 state fiscal year if:

20 (a) The amount of the federal child care development funds
21 appropriation made in the annual general appropriation act for the
22 2026-27 state fiscal year to the department of early childhood for
23 intrastate child care assistance program redistribution is less than the
24 amount of the adjustment required in subsection (1) of this section; or

25 (b) The annual general appropriation act for the 2026-27 state
26 fiscal year does not include an appropriation to the department of early
27 childhood for intrastate child care assistance program redistribution.

1 **SECTION 27. Effective date.** This act takes effect upon passage;
2 except that section 26 of this act takes effect only if the annual general
3 appropriation act for the 2026-27 state fiscal year becomes law, in which
4 case section 26 takes effect upon the effective date of this act or of the
5 annual general appropriation act for state fiscal year 2026-27, whichever
6 is later.

7 **SECTION 28. Safety clause.** The general assembly finds,
8 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate
9 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety or for appropriations for
10 the support and maintenance of the departments of the state and state
11 institutions.