

Shorts

City asks for volunteers to assemble playground

MONTE VISTA — The restoration of Sanchez Park is set to take place the week of Oct. 18, and the City is seeking volunteers to help assemble the new playground. Sanchez Park is located on Pennsylvania Avenue in Monte Vista.

A total of approximately 80-100 volunteers can be utilized for the rebuild project. Youth under the legal working age for the state are welcome to participate in youth-related activities but will not be able to participate in the construction areas.

Lunch and water will be provided, and gloves and safety materials will be provided for projects that require them.

Assembly will take place Monday, Oct. 18, through Wednesday, Oct. 20, from 8:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. and 1 to 4:30 p.m. each day. Residents are encouraged to sign up on the City of Monte Vista Recreations Facebook page. For more information, contact the City at 719-852-8281.

Monte Vista gun show set

MONTE VISTA — The Monte Vista Rotary Outdoor and Gun Show will be held on Oct. 22-24 at Ski Hi in Monte Vista. Times are Friday, 4-8 p.m.; Saturday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. and Sunday 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

If you're a gun owner or enthusiast, there is something for everyone at this gun show.

There will be guns: handguns, rifles and even some collectible guns.

There will be gun accessories: sites, ammo, concealed carry pouches and purses and maybe even jewelry and shirts.

All federal, state and local firearm ordinances and laws must be obeyed.

One hundred percent of the profits will go back to the community. For more information, see MonteVistaGunShow.com.

Bahai Faith invites public to Zoom meeting

Curious about who believes in one god, one humanity? Reach out to BahaiFaithFriends@gmail.com for a link to a Wednesday at 7 p.m. Zoom meet-greet-discussion. All welcome.

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Gov. Polis talks schools, housing, water on SLV visit

BY PRISCILLA WAGGONER

SANLUISVALLEY — Colorado Governor Jared Polis stopped in Alamosa last week on his way to an event in Santa Fe. While in Alamosa, he attended a back porch gathering at the Purple Pig Pizzeria and Pub on Main Street where he took questions from members of the Alamosa County Democratic Party related to agriculture, mitigation in the pandemic, and housing. The question-and-answer session was followed by a longer conversation with the Valley Courier in its offices on State Avenue.

Polis opened the conversation with discussion of "an exciting innovation in education" centered

in the San Luis Valley. He was specifically referring to Adams State University being awarded a Governor's Response, Innovation and Student Equity (RISE) grant.

"We're investing one of the biggest state grants — \$2.5 million — in a collaboration between Adams State, the Boys and Girls Club and all 14 school districts in the Valley," he said. "We've invested in about 20 programs throughout the state, but this award is, by far, the largest."

Funding, in the amount of \$2,581,747, was awarded to ASU which, in partnership with SLVBGC and Valley school districts, will

Please see **POLIS** on Page 2A



Colorado Gov. Jared Polis sat down last week with Valley Courier reporter Priscilla Waggoner.

One killed, two injured in wrecks

SAGUACHE — An intersection collision between two potato trucks early Friday morning sent both drivers to Rio Grande Hospital with serious and minor injuries respectively.

The Colorado State Patrol reported that an empty 2003 Peterbilt potato truck was southbound on County Road 52 and failed to yield right of way to a loaded 1983 Ford potato truck that was westbound on Highway 112 when the accident occurred. The driver of the Peterbilt suffered serious injuries while the other driver had minor injuries.

Both trucks traveled off the southside of Highway 112 into the ditch with the Peterbilt rolling onto its passenger side and the Ford remaining on its wheels. A 2005 Jeep Liberty was eastbound on Highway 112 and was struck



Photo courtesy of Diantha Nipple

Two potato trucks collided at the intersection of Highway 112 and County Road 52 in Saguache County about 7:45 a.m. Friday, sending both drivers to the hospital.

by the Peterbilt as it was traveling not injured. off the roadway. The driver was Please see **WRECKS** on Page 6A



Jacque Jones

Garcia has preliminary hearing in the death of Jacque Jones

BY PRISCILLA WAGGONER
RIO GRANDE COUNTY — A preliminary hearing was scheduled Please see **GARCIA** on Page 6A

San Luis Valley rural businesses are focus for new funding opportunities



Photo by Mechel Meek

Funding opportunities for small businesses were the focus of a virtual event hosted by 1st SouthWest Community Fund and the Rural Community Assistance Corporation.

BY MECHEL MEEK
SAGUACHE COUNTY — In a virtual event, hosted by 1st SouthWest Community Fund and the Rural Community Assistance Corporation (RCAC), small business owners were presented some of the non-traditional methods of securing funding for their business.

Also discussed was how to secure financing for start-ups and several resources were given for people wanting to open a business in the San Luis Valley.

According to its website, "RCAC is a non-profit organization that provides training, technical and financial resources, and advocacy so rural communities can achieve their goals and visions."

RCAC small business loans help Please see **BUSINESS** on Page 2A

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OBITUARY

Greg Allen Peterson

Greg Allen Peterson was born Feb. 3, 1963, and died Oct. 2, 2021, from complications with COVID-19 Pneumonia. Greg was a farmer North of Monte Vista, Colo. He grew up in the Sargent area and graduated in the Sargent High class of 1981.

He went on to earn a degree in Diesel Mechanics from Wyoming Tech. His love in life was farming, riding snowmobiles, hunting, and collecting toy tractors. He was often found at the Campus Café, Sunflour Café and the Gunbarrel Station surrounded by his friends.

Greg is survived by his parents Ronald and Judy Peterson of Monte Vista, Colo., sister Lisa (Rick) Robirds of Monte Vista, Colo., brother Mark (Michele) Peterson, of Monte Vista, Colo., and sister Tricia (Rodney) Clemens of Phoenix, Ariz.; his nieces Kayla (Jerett) Lazor, Bethany (Shea Williams) Robirds, Megan Peterson, and Samantha Clemens; his nephews Jacob Robirds, Micheal Peterson, Mitchell Peterson and Steven Clemens; great nephews Blake and Oliver Lazor; special family friends, Bill Torgler and Tammy Torgler.

Greg was preceded in death by his grandparents, Melvin and Goldie Peterson and Reed and Bertha



Whittier. He will be missed by many friends and family.

A visitation was held from 5 to 8 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 10, 2021, at the Rogers Family Mortuary in Monte Vista. Cremation followed with the visitation and a memorial service being held at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 13, 2021, at the Sargent Community Church with interment of ashes following in the Monte Vista Cemetery. Family and Friends will be gathering after services back at the Church.

Contributions are suggested to the UC Health Transplant Center-Anschutz Medical Campus and may be made in care of the funeral home office. To express condolences or words of comfort, please visit www.rogersfunerals.com.

Rogers Family Mortuary in Monte Vista is in care of the arrangements.

POLIS

Continued from Page 1A

“create a dynamic and robust program providing secondary students with the skills needed for success.” Via both paid internships and apprenticeships, the program he described as “enormous” will create a skilled workforce and include an afterschool component.

“It’s always great when the state can be directly involved in creating programs to meet rapidly change industry demands that fuel the region’s economic growth and vitality,” Polis said.

Gov. Polis then cited the recent expansion of Friday Health Plan as just one example of the impact a skilled workforce program can have on the local economy.

Funding in the amount of \$851,369 was also awarded to Centennial School District R-1 which, in partnership with History Colorado, will integrate San Luis Valley history into curricula in social studies, civics, and history.

The governor has long held education as a special priority, a passion that predates even assuming the governor’s office when he created two charter schools and served a term on the State Board of Education.

Against that backdrop, he mentioned his excitement with his administration’s ongoing work toward the implementation of state-funded universal preschool for every child in Colorado after

voters overwhelming approved funding in 2020, allowing Polis to fulfill one of the top priorities in his campaign for office. Universal preschool is expected to kick off in 2023 and promises to deliver much-needed education during formative years and much-needed support to families that, prior to passage, were unable to provide that opportunity to their kids.

In another nod to rural communities, Gov. Polis mentioned signing SB21-229 which will provide an additional \$3 million in funding for the Rural Jump-start Zone Grant Program, created to attract businesses and incentivize job creation in rural Colorado.

Of key interest in the SLV, Polis discussed the 2021 session of the state legislature’s focused attention on addressing factors related to water and drought, including allocation of \$50 million to support the implementation of the Colorado State Water Plan and fund Colorado Water Conservation Board grants supporting local projects. Proposals for these projects were the topic of several meetings of the Rio Grande Basin Roundtable in recent months, demonstrating the need for state funding of locally generated priorities.

Predictably, the topic of housing came up in the conversation, which was anything but a surprise to Polis. “When we sat down with Republican and Democratic leaders,

we asked how should we use the one-time American Rescue Plan resources we’ve been given,” Polis said. “We’re given two years to spend the resources, but they are one-time resources. So, we held regional listening sessions all around the state, including the San Luis Valley, and overwhelmingly, in every part of our state, we heard about housing.

“Working with legislators, we decided to devote \$500 million to housing — which is a huge amount. But we’re also going to leverage that with private developers, with cities and counties to unlock several billion dollars worth of investment in housing.

“There’s a bipartisan interim process where we’ll be finalizing over the next year to see how that will be done,” Polis said. “It will be locally directed, innovative projects working with a wide variety of partners from both the local and private sector to maximize housing. It will be investing in houses and apartments and multi-family housing that people can enjoy and, in some cases, own. We prefer wealth creation, ownership, and families being able to access that with maybe some down payment help if they have good credit. A small part of it may be what we call ‘affordable’ housing or seasonal housing, but much of it will be other types of housing, as well.”

YOUR NIGHT SKY

BY DARLENE DANKO

Pegasus, the Flying Horse

A good constellation to view now is Pegasus, the Flying Horse. It’s one of the largest constellations in our sky, and the best time to observe it is September and October.

It’s just east and slightly below Cassiopeia with the Andromeda galaxy between them. The story is that Pegasus rode this flying horse to save Andromeda from Cetus the Sea Monster. To find it, look in the NE for the Milky Way, then look to the right toward the east.

Imagine Pegasus flying upside down from our view, because that’s how it appears. Look for the big square shape of semi-bright stars as a diagonal with stars on the top, bottom, right and left. This is his body. His front legs are to the right of the top star, and his head comes off the right star. His legs come off the left star that actually forms the Andromeda constellation with the galaxy just above the middle of it.

The four stars that make up the Great Square of Pegasus are interesting to look at. The star on the left is Alpheratz which is Andromeda’s head. The top

middle star is Scheat, the right star is Markab, and the lower center star is Algenib. These names are Arabic to illustrate different parts of the horse. Scheat means shoulder or upper arm, Markab means saddle, and Algenib means the side or the wing.

These stars are different colors and distances from us. Alpheratz is blue-white and is 97 light years from us, Scheat is red and 196 light years, Markab is bluish-white and 133 light years, and Algerib is deep light years away. It’s always amazing how stars so far apart can form a constellation, but when they’re so bright it can easily happen. This is an easy constellation for find in the ENE.

There are very few naked-eye stars in the center of this large constellation, making it very easy for us to identify. It contains a total of 15 stars making the upper and right body parts that I told you about. He’s one of the largest constellations in our sky. When you look at him, remember that he’s upside down and his back legs on the left are the Andromeda constellation.



BUSINESS

Continued from Page 1A

businesses retain or create jobs in our area by providing working capital, equipment loans, expansion loans, construction loans, capital improvements, and help with cash flow issues. The 1st SouthWest Community Fund is a non-profit organization that is connected to 1st SouthWest Bank.

Cass Walker of 1st SouthWest Community Fund said, “We help businesses access affordable capital, primarily done through loans, which range from \$5,000 to \$50,000.”

General funding is available including working capital, and funding is also available for specific areas of interest including woman-owned, minority-owned, or veteran-owned businesses. The non-profit partners with the bank to help these businesses gain access to capital, a process that can be confusing or even intimidating to small business owners. There are lots of different loan programs available for small businesses across all types of industries.

Currently, they have a reemerging loan program, as a direct response to COVID-19 shutdowns which is called the Relief Loan. This loan is for currently operating businesses, for up to \$25,000 at 3% interest and for 6 months the

payments are deferred. After the deferment period, the business will be evaluated to see if they are able to repay, have the payments deferred again, or have the loan forgiven.

An opportunity for start-up businesses to get access to funding is the KIVA loan which is a 0%, no-fee loan that is crowd-funded. To gain access to this type of non-traditional funding, the start-up is community funded with each person in the community needing to contribute \$25 each, with a minimum of at least 40 people.

After this initial community investment, the start-up idea is then offered to international and domestic investors. Any money the businesses are able to raise through this crowd-funding is matched. RCAC helps the start-ups manage this process.

Non-traditional funding sources are often the most common funding for small businesses as many people do not have access to traditional loans such as startups, those who do not have enough collateral or those who have credit issues. Many of their small business loans do not have a minimum credit score, and they also offer credit counseling to help raise an individual’s credit score since business loans are often

denied by traditional lenders due to poor credit.

They also offer business coaching to help businesses look at their finances in order to help them be successful. They also noted that small business centers are now offering most of their services free of charge including help with business plans and logistics.

People with current small businesses or wanting to start a business in the SLV are encouraged to go to the RCAC website and the 1st SouthWest Community Fund website to obtain more information.

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OPINION & EDITORIAL

Cheaper than dirt

O' Dutch being some kind of Scottish persuasion, has always had a penchant toward the cheaper way of doing things. It can be said that I can squeeze a dime out of a nickel and even though some people might find that to be a dig at their image, I find it to be quite the compliment thereby proving some Scottish heritage is latently hidden.

Now I thought that I knew about everything there is to know about finagling a lower price on everything imaginable until the day I met Miss Trixie's mother. This woman, although claiming no Scotch blood at least most recently, was so good at getting good deals that she must have been a descendant of the Scottish King at the least.

I knew she was good at wheeling and dealing but it became crystal clear the day Miss Trixie and I got her some eggs that were supposed to be on sale. As luck would have it, they were out of the dozen eggs, so we got the 18 count, which was a few cents more. Arriving back at the RV park and presenting the eggs to her we were scolded for spending a whopping \$0.007 cents an egg more for the 18 box. Now, this is not 7 cents but less than a penny an egg.

She just would not let that go so O' Dutch thought he would make her see how ridiculous this was and offered her \$2 to just shut up. And, true to form Miss Billie took my \$2 thereby pocketing a cool profit of \$1.92 to boot.

Well, Miss Billie has gone on to her reward in Heaven and we sure miss her and her shopping finesse but let me tell you, Miss Trixie has taken over where she left off and although it does drive O' Dutch to distraction when she tries to save a dime by driving 20 miles, her skills save us thousands of dollars a year on things we normally buy anyway.

My son Bubs always asks his wife "how much did you save me today" when she shops as he has given up on asking how much she spent. And it seems no matter what is spent by our "others" we are always presented with the savings and not the actual bill.

Why just this past week Miss Trixie came home from town with a new shower curtain. And presenting it like she had won the Lottery, informed me that she got it for \$2 thereby saving \$3 over the one she found, but refused



Trout Republic
by Kevin Kirkpatrick

to buy, in Colorado.

I used to make fun of her constant search for savings on things we need but it suddenly dawned on me that by doing this O' Dutch is able to spend more on hunting and fishing supplies. Now that is smart business right there.

And this got me to thinking — a dangerous pursuit according to Miss Trixie — that maybe she needs to start giving lessons on how she does this. What could be needed more in this time of hyperinflation than a way to cut your expenses in half or even more?

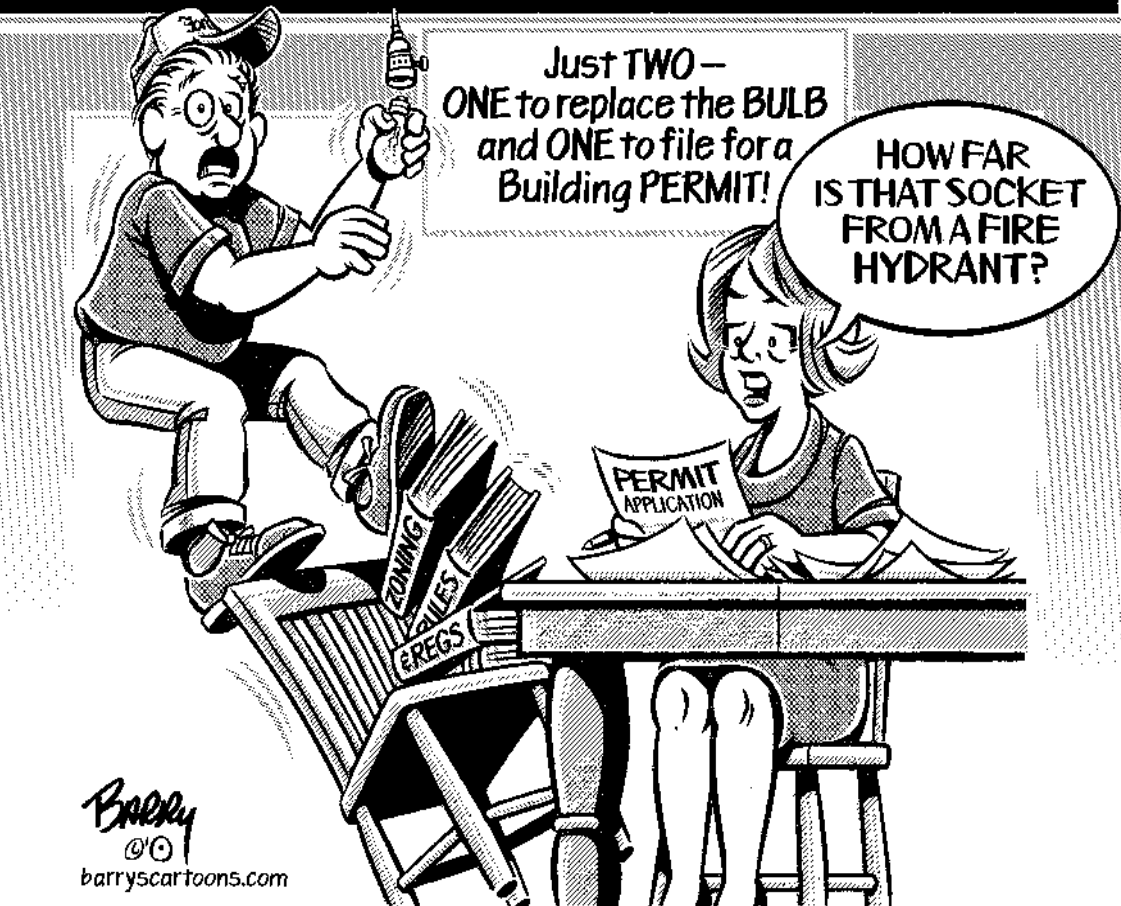
I am reminded of the time we went to a local store named Cheaper Than Dirt. Miss Trixie did her usual perusing the aisles and finally found just what she needed. They actually had a shopping cart full to overflowing and shrink-wrapped up for the whopping sum of \$10. Careful observation from every angle convinced her that this was the buy of the century and two years later we are still using items from that cart.

And the reason I know that is she proudly announces each time she gets to use something from that time like she has won the World Series of shopping. And you know, maybe she has.

So, if you need to find a way to double your spending power, I suggest you schedule a day with Miss Trixie. Your man will thank you when he gets that new shotgun, too.

Kevin Kirkpatrick and his Yorkie, Cooper, fish, hunt, ATV or hike daily. His email is Kevin@TroutRepublic.com. Additional news can be found at www.troutrepublic.com.

HOW MANY FOLKS DOES IT TAKE TO CHANGE A LIGHT BULB?



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Local control, accept it or make a difference

We talk a lot about local control, and we believe that government works best when it's closer to the people. It sounds good and seems to work well unless you disagree with your local government or school board.

Recently, focus has been on Federal government issues, but local government and specifically school board issues have also risen in the eyes of the public. I've received calls from constituents that express strong opinions about mask-wearing, vaccinations, Critical Race Theory, Sex Education, and Pandemic-Induced Trauma, to name a few. These are genuine concerns, especially when constituents feel strongly enough to pick up the telephone or email, hoping that I can help them. Whether I agree with them or not is not the issue. Concerned citizens seek any direction or possible solution. Unfortunately, deferral to "local control" doesn't always provide a solution to their liking.

Many parents and taxpayers are beginning to understand precisely what local control in their community is and what they can do to influence change. For example, people are showing up at local school board meetings. It's happening across the congressional district that I represent and across all of Colorado. School boards are listening to their

communities more than ever, and it's not always comfortable. Learning about and understanding the duties and responsibilities of a local Board has been enlightening for community members and sometimes provides clarity for those already serving. As long as things are going well, we seldom pay attention. When we disagree and discuss resolutions, change can happen.

I've spent five years on the State Board and one of the most turbulent eras is currently playing out. During the pandemic, some students were learning online at home. Parents took an interest and became educated about the curriculum, textbooks, and what was being taught. Community groups formed, attended local school board meetings, and voiced their concerns during public comment. As a result, new candidates have come forward to run for local school board elections in November.

This month I've be traveling around the district informing constituents about the "Science of Reading."

Reading proficiency in the early elementary grades needs to improve. The legislature (Senate Bill 19-199) has provided free teacher training, an evidence-based approved curriculum, and a timeline for both to be implemented by the fall of 2022. Some teachers and schools have embraced the Science of Reading,



Across the Street
By JOYCE RANKIN
State Board of Education

and students in those classrooms are improving. Have your teachers been trained?

If you're interested in what is happening in your local school district, get involved, attend school board meetings, and talk to your neighbors. Find out who your local candidates are and their platforms. To those who have decided to become candidates, thank you and good luck in November.

Joyce Rankin sits on the State Board of Education representing the Third Congressional District. She writes columns to share with constituents in the 29 counties she represents. You can reach Joyce at: joycesrankin@gmail.com.



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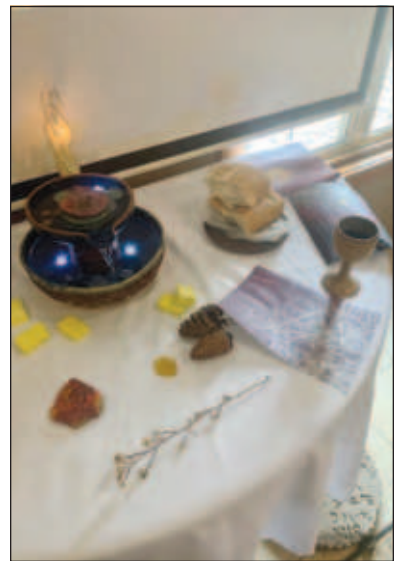
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Center United Methodist Church holds community events

BY MECHEL MEEK
CENTER — The Center United Methodist Church has several events for the community this Fall. Every Monday through Friday from 2 to 5 p.m., Drummond Hall is open for their Soulful Sweets and Sips Coffeeshop. The Rev. Debria Upton said, "It has been a treat to have folks wander in and have a spot of tea or coffee and a muffin and have good conversation." The church is hosting a Teen Night every Friday from 7 to 10 p.m. which will feature games, food and activities for teens in the community. Upcoming events at the Center United Methodist Church include Coffee with the Chief on Saturday, Oct. 16 at 12 p.m., Center Movie Night on Oct. 21 at 6 p.m. will be showing "Addams Family 2" with free snacks and a family-friendly

atmosphere, traditional Oyster Stew, Chili and Soup Dinner will be held on Sunday, Oct. 24 at 5 p.m., a fundraiser for the Beaver Creek Youth Camp will be held on Sunday, Nov. 7 with food, an auction, a pie auction, and other activities. On Saturday, Oct. 9, there was an open house at the Beaver Creek Youth Camp. Upton said, "A special thanks to those who attended and especially to the amazing Beaver Creek Youth Camp manager Gene Haning for his hospitality and for Rev. Nancy Mead for being our spiritual director and to Charleen Schaeffer for her teaching leadership and to Jeff Wahl for sharing his amazing musical talent on the guitar." All members of the community are invited to the upcoming events, people do not need to be a member of the church to participate.



Photos courtesy of Center United Methodist Church. Jeff Wahl playing guitar at Center United Methodist Church. Beaver Creek Youth Camp Open House was on Oct. 9 at the church.

Mineral County SAR gives tips on winter preparedness

BY LYNSIE FERRELL
MINERAL COUNTY — Mineral County Search and Rescue Director Terry Wetherill looks out his window as he considers the coming winter and what it may mean for the team. "As I am thinking about this article the first snowstorm of the season looms with an anticipated foot of snow possible on Wolf Creek Pass which leads me to wonder how many of us are ready for winter travel and winter recreation," Wetherill said. "I learned some time ago a person who is properly prepared for an emergency can end up just having a difficult camping experience instead of a life-or-death situation." Wetherill is a seasoned Colorado local who deals with the repercussions of non-preparedness in the wintertime and for that matter, throughout the year. Colorado, unlike other states, can be difficult to navigate in the

wintertime and those who are new to the area should consider some of his tips and tricks to stay safe either just while out on icy roads or heading to the backcountry to recreate in the snow. "The cold weather makes small issues become big problems. To verify your vehicles are ready for winter, inspect the battery and inspect and clean connections, if necessary," Wetherill said. "Have the anti-freeze tested. A 50/50 mix of antifreeze and distilled water should equate to about minus-35 F° before it starts to freeze which is adequate for Mineral County. Keep your fuel tank above ½ full. This will be very important to you if you slide off the road and need to wait an extended amount of time for help to arrive. You will only need to crack a window and ensure your exhaust is clear of snow while running your vehicle to stay warm."

In times of emergency, especially during winter, it is important to carry extra supplies such as blankets, water and warm clothes. Snowstorms can come on suddenly at high altitudes and mountain passes. Being prepared before heading out on the road can save a life or those of others. "Equipment to always keep in your vehicle should consist of a snow shovel, chains, ice scraper, jumper cables, coat, gloves, blanket, flashlight, water, food and multiple ways to start a fire," explained Wetherill. When considering traveling into the backcountry to recreate in the winter Wetherill suggests these tips before heading out. "Before traveling and getting into the backcountry, check the weather and avalanche forecast," he said. "Let a responsible party know your expected travel plans and the best

method to get ahold of you. Ensure your phone is fully charged and you know how to determine your GPS coordinates on your phone." There are many beautiful places to see around the San Luis Valley and Mineral County during the winter but always remember to be prepared when leaving a vehicle and heading out for an extended period of time. "Anytime you depart your vehicle to explore in the backcountry it's vital to have a hat, coat, gloves, emergency blanket, flashlight, water, food and multiple ways to start a fire and a fully charged phone," Wetherill said.

"Hypothermia and dehydration can set in quick if you are not prepared. Of course, this is not an all-inclusive list but it's certainly representing the minimum preparations you will want to do, to have a safe and enjoyable outdoor experience this winter in Mineral County." Below are some helpful links with good information on winter preparedness provided by Wetherill:

- www.cotrip.org/home#notifications
- <https://avalanche.state.co.us/>
- <https://mineralcounty.colorado.gov/departments/office-of-emergency-management>

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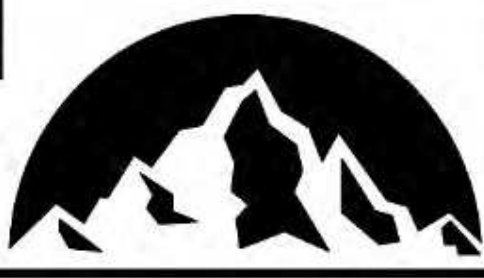
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URGED welcomes new executive director, receives community updates

By LYNSIE FERRELL

DEL NORTE — Tom Monaco was elected to be the new executive director of the Upper Rio Grande Economic Development group by its membership on Tuesday, Oct. 12. He plans to continue his service through the Office of Economic Development and International Trade (OEDIT) and the SLV Small Business Development Center in his spare time.

Monaco has been a member with URGED for several years and is pleased to step into his new position to help increase economic development in the western end of the San Luis Valley.

According to his bio through OEDIT, "Thomas Monaco comes to OEDIT from the San Luis Valley Small Business Development Center

where he served as the director. Prior to that, he was the Production Manager and an Assistant Professor at the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque, NM. Monaco's primary areas of expertise are in design/fabrication, manufacturing and facility logistics. As an entrepreneur, he ran his own custom design and fabrication company in central Florida for 11 years and served as a consultant to numerous businesses, arts organizations and universities. Monaco also taught in higher education for 14 years at Ohio Northern University and the University of Florida. He holds a BFA in Technical Theatre Production from the University of Arizona and an MFA in Design & Technology from the University of Missouri/Kansas City."

Monaco said he was going to miss previous executive directors Marty and Bonnie Asplin and he was eager to continue the forward progress of URGED and economic growth in the San Luis Valley.

After a presentation on forest management and HR 4302, URGED members gave brief updates on current happenings throughout the San Luis Valley. Rio Grande County Administrator Craig Barraclough said that the county is working on the 2022 budget and is meeting with department heads to finalize the document for the coming year.

Del Norte Town Administrator Bernadette Martinez stated that the town was also working on its budget and that they would possibly be looking at a sales tax increase that would be for the roads in town.

Martinez said that the town is also working with Element Engineering to complete a water study and will be looking at a youth entrepreneurship program through the Department of Local Affairs.

South Fork Town Attorney Gene Farish updated the group on the town's water project, stating that construction and installation is going well and that it is taking up most of the town's time and effort but that it was moving along smoothly.

Kathy Woods gave a brief update on the Ski Hi building in Monte Vista,

stating that the project was held back slightly due to COVID-19 but that it was back on track. Woods stated that Friends of Ski Hi was looking at funding options to purchase furniture and equipment for the building but that they hoped to have it finished by February next year.

Rio Grande County Commissioner Gene Glover finished the updates by stating that the new school crossing bridge in Center was completed and that the project was a success in getting school students to and from school safely.



Photo by Lyndsie Ferrell

Tom Monaco was elected to be the new Executive Director for the Upper Rio Grande Economic group on Tuesday, Oct. 12.

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GARCIA

Continued from Page 1A

this week for Jimmy "Cricket" Garcia, arrested in late 2020 on charges related to the death of 23-year-old Jacqu Jones.

Garcia was charged with suspicion of first-degree murder, second-degree murder and tampering with physical evidence. The charges carry a domestic violence enhancer, which increases the range of sentencing in convictions.

At this point, the story can only be told from the perspective of the victim's family. Since Garcia's arrest, all court documents were sealed. Even charging documents were sealed until several months ago. Law enforcement and the 12th Judicial District Attorney's Office were also unable to comment.

The preliminary hearing is the culmination of seven years of the Jones family waiting for action to be taken in the prosecution of, what they believe was, Jones' murder. It is also the result of several years and hundreds of hours of investigation by the Monte Vista Police Department (MVPD), specifically Officer Michael Martinez, with assistance from the Colorado Bureau of Investigation. It is also the result of a decision by Robert Willett, former DA for the 12th Judicial District.

"The case was under two district attorneys before me," Willett says. "What prompted me was a phone call from [MV Police Chief] George Dingfelder and Michael Martinez who wanted to staff the case with cold case prosecutors, homicide detectives and forensic pathologists. So, we did, with about 30 of them in the room. The [process] is a real crucible, with them asking Martinez and me a lot of questions about the case. Based on the evidence, they agreed that it was definitely chargeable." Willett added, "And I wanted to give the victim's family some closure."

Even after seven years, Jennifer Jones-Kelleher still relives the morning of March 26, 2014, when she got the news that her daughter was dead. She got a 7 a.m. phone call from Jacqu's uncle who had shown up at the house in Monte Vista where Jacqu was staying only to be met by police cars and an ambulance.

"He told me Jacqu was gone," Jones-Kelleher recalls. "I remember thinking, gone? Gone where? And then he repeated it and said she was dead."

Four agonizing hours followed, as Jones-Kelleher tried to get someone to drive her to Monte Vista to see her daughter herself, but people were

afraid of how that would impact her. And, finally, the phone call came that confirmed Jacqu's death. Jones-Kelleher says she remembers screaming and the ground fading away.

Despite the emotional chaos, Jones-Kelleher says she knew "in her heart" what had happened. "Garcia had killed her. She was leaving him, and we knew — Jacqu knew — he wouldn't be happy about it."

Garcia, with whom Jacqu Jones had been in a relationship, was older than Jones. After being introduced by a mutual friend, they became involved in a relationship that Jones' family alleges turned abusive.

"We all knew right away he wasn't good for her," Jenn, a lifelong family friend, says. "He was 37 years old — 14 years older than her. And we knew he'd been in trouble with the police. Jimmy dominated her. He controlled every part of her life. What she did. Who she talked to. He limited contact with her family. She said he wouldn't even let her take a shower with the door closed and that, if she ever tried to leave him, he'd said he'd kill her."

"It broke our hearts," says Becky Blevins, Jacqu's aunt. "Even when she was a little girl, Jacqu was always happy and loving. She always saw the good in people and was very trusting."

"Too trusting," Jenn says.

In the months before she died, Jones was in a rehabilitation facility where, her family says, she decided to end the relationship. After completing rehab, she rented an apartment in Alamosa and started moving in. According to her mother, a few days before she died, Jones told her she was going to Garcia's house to get her car.

"I begged her to let me go with her," Jones-Kelleher says. "But she said no. She said if she didn't go by herself, he'd think she was scared of him."

The night of March 25, Jacqu spoke to her grandmother, reminding her to pick her up the next morning for an appointment. That was the last time anyone in Jacqu Jones' family spoke with her.

At approximately 6:45 a.m. on March 26, officers with the MVPD were dispatched to Garcia's residence where they found Jones, unconscious and non-responsive. An emergency room physician told them to stop resuscitation and pronounced her deceased. Jones' body was transported to the El Paso County Medical Examiner's Office on March 27, and CBI was called in to assist the MVPD

with the investigation. Initially, the cause of death was listed as unknown but was subsequently changed to "suicide."

Jennifer Jones-Kelleher and her family were outraged when they learned the news, even after the cause of death was later changed back to unknown.

"Jacqu would never have committed suicide," Jones-Kelleher says. "She was moving into an apartment she'd rented in Alamosa. She was planning to spend Easter with her young son and family. She wanted to go back to college. She had a lot to live for — a child, a loving family, many friends, support and encouragement. After her father's death when she was thirteen, her younger brothers meant everything to her. She would never have put them through another loss. She would never have left her son who was the light of her life. Never."

Both Blevins and Jenn agree. "She'd started a new life, clean and sober. She had so many plans for the future. She even told her grandmother to make sure and be on time to pick her up the next morning — who does that if they're going to commit suicide?" Jenn says.

Over the following months, Jones' family grew increasingly frustrated as they read of further encounters between Garcia and MVPD, including his arrest and conviction for robbery in 2016. At that time, Garcia was sentenced to 10 years in prison.

Nonetheless, as an investigation into her murder was ongoing, they remained hopeful. And they still are.

"We have to put our faith in the district attorney and his staff that they will work diligently for justice for our daughter. We are hopeful that they will bring on an additional prosecutor with cold case prosecution experience."

In the meantime, the family is back to waiting.

"If the last seven years has taught us anything, it's that there's nothing we can do but wait," Jones-Kelleher says.

SAGUACHE COUNTY SHERIFF'S REPORT

SAGUACHE COUNTY — The following information was provided by the Saguache County Sheriff's Office for the period between Oct. 4 and Oct. 10, 2021.

The Sheriff's Department's activity on the road included three crashes with property damage, one traffic complaint, one abandoned vehicle, one injury crash, and six traffic stops. They also assisted ambulances four times, assisted a motorist once, patrolled the Town of Saguache two times, and conducted one VIN inspection.

In addition, there were two civil dispute reports, three reports of

suspicious activity, one report of fraud, three animal problem reports, one report of trespassing, one report of theft, two alarm reports, one report of animal cruelty, two harassment reports, one sex offense report, one utility problem report (gas leak), one property damage report, and one suicidal subject report.

They also monitored five controlled burns, one fire (structure), one fire (brush, grass, forest), one fire (other), provided information six times, conducted three welfare checks, assisted neighboring agencies twice, and assisted two citizens.

WRECKS

Continued from Page 1A

The crash remains under investigation. The highway was closed for several hours while the scene was cleared.

In a separate incident later that morning, an 82-year-old female driver was killed in a one-car rollover on U.S. 285 near County Road AA in Saguache County.

The CSP investigation found that the 2008 Subaru Outback was southbound on Hwy. 285 when the vehicle initially traveled off

the right side of the road and after overcorrecting twice, the vehicle became broadside and rolled four times.

The driver was wearing a seatbelt but was pronounced dead on scene. The crash is still under investigation and the identity of the driver was not given pending notification of next of kin.

The highway was closed for approximately two hours, according to CSP.

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NOTICE OF ELECTION RIO GRANDE COUNTY

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2021

TO THE ELECTORS OF RIO GRANDE COUNTY

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Coordinated Election will be held by Mail Ballot on Tuesday, the 2nd of November, 2021 between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. If you are a registered voter, you will receive a ballot at your mailing address beginning October 11th. Mail Ballots may be dropped off at the Rio Grande County Clerk's Office, 965 Sixth Street, Del Norte, Colorado, Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Ballots may also be dropped off on Saturday, October 30th from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Election Day, November 2nd. A 24-Hour Drop Box is available on the west side of the building at 965 Sixth Street, Del Norte. Ballots can also be mailed using the envelope enclosed with the ballot. Ballots must be received at the County Clerk's Office by 7:00 P.M. on November 2nd. The Postmark does not count as being received.

Your ballot will contain only the Races or Issues on which you are eligible to vote.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal of the office of the County Clerk and Recorder this 21st day of September 2021.



Cindy Hill

Cindy Hill
Rio Grande County Clerk and Recorder

San Luis Valley Scoreboard 2021-2022

Football

Bayfield 28	Alamosa 0
Center 32	Ignacio 13
Sanford 58	Elbert 12
Sargent 46	South Park 6
Centauri 0	Del Norte 0
Sierra Grande 0	Cripple Creek 0

COLLEGE

Colo. Mesa 49	Adams State 14
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Open for Business awards \$6.7M to stimulate investment

Center and San Luis receive money from the program

STAFF REPORT

DENVER — The Colorado Department of Local Affairs (DOLA) is supporting efforts by local governments to engage in small business relief through the Main Street: Open for Business (MSOB) program. Two San Luis Valley communities — Center and San Luis — received funding from MSOB. “This once-in-a-generation opportunity to keep Colorado’s main streets open for business provides transformational funding now and into the future,” said DOLA Executive Director Rick M. Garcia. “Along with our partners, we are in a unique position to collectively champion community vision and build steppingstones to business and community recovery.”

MSOB supports façade improvements and energy efficiency projects for businesses in the state’s traditional downtowns with funding set aside by Senate Bill 21-252 for the Colorado Main Street program. The initiative is designed to increase sales and revenue for rehabilitated buildings, reduce energy consumption and lower utility bills, and create jobs while retaining existing ones.

A general grant round open to all municipalities, counties and councils of government across Colorado prioritized communities with multiple projects to improve visual appeal and provide a catalytic ripple-effect of investment in their downtown districts:

- The Town of Center was awarded \$114,588 to improve five buildings, four of which house traditionally disadvantaged business enterprises (DBEs). Projects range from a new sign at the carniceria to lighting upgrades at the grocery store.
- The Town of San Luis was awarded \$560,722 to invest in five key businesses all owned by minorities and women including the R&R Market, the state’s oldest family-run business dating back to 1857. Fresh paint, new signs, windows, doors, exterior lighting and energy efficiency improvements will provide the oldest downtown in Colorado with a facelift.
- Central City was awarded \$327,727 to support new businesses in three buildings, including the second-oldest property in this historic town, with energy-efficiency upgrades and

façade improvements. The city is heavily reliant on the gaming industry, which experienced severe losses during closures in 2020.

- The Town of Flagler was awarded \$146,135 for façade and energy improvements on three buildings, including the historic Flagler Theatre. Located on the Eastern Plains, Flagler has a population of just 700 with an average income of \$27,500.

- The Town of Granby was awarded \$757,140 for energy-efficiency upgrades, façade improvements and ADA accessibility on 11 buildings, after suffering the impacts of regional wildfires in 2020 in addition to the COVID-19 pandemic.

- The Town of Grand Lake was awarded \$958,782 for projects ranging from adding energy efficient HVAC units to paint and stain on 23 buildings including 15 DBEs, in an area also ravaged by wildfires in addition to COVID-19.

- The Town of Hugo was awarded \$602,169 for a complete renewal of their small downtown, with 11 buildings containing 11 DBEs. Improvements include Increased energy-efficiency with new storefront windows and doors, new decorative awnings, and new signage that will make businesses more visible from State Highway 287.

- The City of La Junta was awarded \$391,566 to improve six buildings, which includes doubling the retail space of one business by reclaiming an attractive storefront, and the restoration of the iconic Fox Theatre.

- The Town of Mancos was awarded \$457,333 for six buildings, five of which are home to woman-owned businesses. Others include a historic opera house, and full rehabilitation of commercial storefronts to serve as a performance venue and event retail space.

- The Town of Rangely was awarded \$53,126 for improvement to the aesthetic of the downtown automotive care center and better signage to attract more business on the western edge of the state.

- The Town of Silverton was awarded \$612,849 to help preserve eight buildings through façade improvements, while looking toward the future of this National Historic District with a number of energy efficiency upgrades including windows and solar panels.

- The Town of Wellington was awarded \$569,626 for painting, awnings, windows, brick repair, roof replacements, new signage and

energy efficiency upgrades to 11 buildings in hopes to attract more of its growing population to downtown.

- Town of Windsor was awarded \$392,660 to improve the aesthetics of four buildings downtown including the removal of false fronts, seeking to increase foot traffic in the historic downtown Main Street.

In addition to the general MSOB grant awards outlined above, \$750,000 was set aside for an even split between three Heritage Energy Pilot Projects, competitively selected by an interagency team in January 2021. The goals of this initiative align with those provided by MSOB, including historic preservation and upgraded energy efficiency. Those awardees are:

- City of Leadville: Herald Democrat Building
- Town of Ridgway: Bank Building
- City of Trinidad: Fox West Theatre

These larger-scale holistic projects seek to integrate existing resources such as historic tax credits, History Colorado State Historical Fund grants, Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy (C-PACE) financing, and Energy Performance Contracting through an interagency partnership of the Colorado Energy Office and History Colorado’s State Historic Preservation Office. MSOB funding was an unexpected and welcome addition to these projects’ incentive mix, helping demonstrate the power of reinvestment for more vibrant Main Street districts, greater economic resilience, healthier living and better working environments in Colorado.

“We anticipate increased sales of 20 percent for those businesses getting facade improvements, and decreased utility costs and carbon footprint for those completing energy-efficiency upgrades,” added DOLA Local Government Director Chantal Unfug.

Center Kiwanis Club installs new officers, starts Christmas fundraiser

BY MECHEL MEEK

CENTER — On Monday, Oct. 11, the Kiwanis Club of Center held its installation of new officers.

Installing the new officers was a special guest, Rocky Mountain District 5 Lt. Gov. Mike Lee. The event was catered by the Moffat Kiwanis Club.

The new officers are President Ross Rierson, President-Elect Joey Lucero, Secretary Richard Ramstetter, Treasurer Skip McClure, and Past President Debria Upton; and directors are Dave Lewis (2021-2022), Debria

Upton (2022-2023), Dick Eagles (2022-2023), Christa Davis (2022-2023), and Don Carpenter (2022-2023).

The Rev. Debria Upton said, “It was a beautiful evening and tribute to 2020-2021 outgoing officers and directors and challenge to our new officers and directors. The club’s Christmas wreath fundraiser was launched as well. Details of the fundraiser are on Kiwanis Club of Center, Colorado’s Facebook page. There is a short window of the sale with the items arriving the first Monday of November.”

HVCC invites parents, guardians to join fun

SUBMITTED ARTICLE

Hello, community members! Happy October! Girls’ basketball officially began on Oct. 5. Due to the low number of 3rd-4th grade participants, we have moved the younger girls up to the 5th-6th grade level. We have evenly divided the girls up into two teams — Orange and Black. Practices are currently every Tuesday and Thursday from 6:30-7:30 p.m. HVCC will provide transportation from HVCC to the HVCC gym at 6:30 p.m., but please be advised that parents and guardians are responsible for picking their child up from the gym after practice. We are currently working on a game schedule and will provide it soon! Keep an eye on your Procure App for updates.

This week the kids learned about “Responsibility” during their after-school activities.

The kids have been doing a great job participating in our nightly Brain Time sessions and we have seen much improvement. The goal of Brain Time is to help the kids with homework and to promote problem-solving skills.

Interested in seeing what goes on during our after-school program? Parents and guardians are welcome to join in on the fun any time! For those of you who are interested in helping with activities, we happily accept volunteers as well. Please reach out to us at 719-657-2172, for more information.

Enjoy your week, everyone!

The Board of County Commissioners will hold a 2nd Public Hearing at the Saguache County Road and Bridge Meeting Room located at 305 – 3rd Street, Saguache, Colorado, on the following date:

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 23RD, 2021 FROM 1:00PM TO 2:00PM

to consider proposed changes to the Saguache County Land Development Code changes. To view the proposed changes, you may contact the Saguache County Land Use Department – PO Box 326, Saguache, CO 81149 or atorrez@saguachecounty-co.gov, or by calling 719-655-2321 or you may view the changes on our website at www.saguachecounty.colorado.gov. Written comments will be accepted until Friday, November 19th, 2021 at 3pm, and may be sent to Saguache County Land Use Department at PO Box 326, Saguache, CO 81149 or email to atorrez@saguachecounty-co.gov.

By: Tim Lovato,
Chairman, Saguache County Board of Commissioners

No. 1609 published in the Center Post Dispatch, Thursday, October 14, 21 and 28 and November 4 and 11, 2021.

Set Your Mind in the Right Direction



In Colossians 3:1-2, the apostle Paul has specific and vitally important instructions for every believer in Christ who has accepted Him as their Lord and Savior. I have taught about these verses from the Amplified Bible, Classic Edition, which says, “If then you have been raised with Christ [to a new life, thus sharing His resurrection from the dead], aim at and seek the [rich, eternal treasures] that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. And set your minds and keep them set on what is above (the higher things), not on the things that are on the earth.”

Notice in verse 1 that those who have new life in Christ are to “aim at and seek” things that are above. I like the use of the word *seek*, because the original term in the Greek language means “to crave, to pursue, and to go after with all your might.” This is what it means to really *seek* God.

Paul continues his instructions by saying “and set your minds on things above.” The Amplified Bible, Classic Edition reads, “And set your minds and keep them set on what is above” (emphasis mine). Setting our minds on the right thing once or twice won’t do us much good, but if we set them in the right direction and keep them set, we will be victorious.

When Paul urges us to set our minds and keep them set “on things above,” he is not simply telling us to prepare for the day we will go to heaven or to envision the pearly gates. He means that if we want to live a life that honors God, we cannot think about things that are low, base, common, or ungodly.

We need to put our minds where we want our lives to be, because our lives will follow where our thoughts lead. According to Proverbs 23:7, however we think in our hearts, that’s how we will turn out. I always say, “Where the mind goes, the man follows.”

To help us understand what it means on a practical level for us to think about “things above,” meaning right and excellent things, let me start by listing some low things people often think about. Thinking about what you don’t have, instead of what you do have, is a low thing. Thinking about people who have things you would like and saying they don’t deserve them is low. Thoughts of jealousy, pride, anger, comparison, and judgment are low, as is holding grudges against people instead of forgiving them. Focusing on your faults instead of your strengths is low, and so is wallowing in self-pity and feeling condemned about your past mistakes.

Of course, high thinking is the opposite of low thinking. When your thoughts are set on things above, you thank God for every blessing you do have instead of complaining about what you don’t have. You rejoice with others over their successes instead of being envious. You encourage people who are pursuing what you would like to do or what you would like to have instead of secretly hoping they don’t get it. You choose peace over anger, humility over pride, mercy over judgment, and forgiveness over unforgiveness. You pray instead of worrying; you trust God in every situation instead of taking matters into your own hands; you stand firm in faith that God has a bright future for you instead of feeling guilty over your past. There are many other ways to think high thoughts, and I believe these examples will help you know how to do that.

I hope you will always remember how powerful your thoughts are. A made-up mind is very powerful. What you think about will determine the quality of your life. When you think happy thoughts, you live a happy life. Don’t let the devil control your thinking; do your own thinking. Think according to God’s Word and believe the best of everyone.

Once you have set your mind on something, it’s important to keep it set and to not doubt yourself or become double-minded. The apostle James says, “The one who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind... Such a person is double-minded and unstable in all they do” (James 1:6, 8 NIV).

Once you have explored your options, prayed, sought God’s will, and made a decision in a matter, you can set your mind firmly on that course of action. You have to reach the point where you know that what you plan to do is the right thing and say, “My mind is made up. With God’s help, this is what I’m going to do, and it will produce good results in my life.”

Today, make a determined decision to seek God more and to set your mind on the promises in His Word. If you do, you’ll find there is nothing you cannot do through Christ!

For more on this topic, order Joyce’s teaching resource *A Bible Study of Colossians Action Plan*. You can also contact us to receive our free magazine, *Enjoying Everyday Life*, by calling (800) 727-9673 or visiting www.joycemeyer.org.

Joyce Meyer is a New York Times bestselling author and founder of Joyce Meyer Ministries, Inc. She has authored 130 books, including *BATTLEFIELD OF THE MIND* and *HOW TO AGE WITHOUT GETTING OLD* (FaithWords). She hosts the *Enjoying Everyday Life* radio and TV programs, which air on hundreds of stations worldwide. For more information, visit www.joycemeyer.org.

Please note: The views and opinions expressed throughout this publication and/or website are those of the respective authors and do not necessarily reflect those of Joyce Meyer Ministries.

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Colorado AG urges Congress to regulate social media giants

(The Center Square) – Colorado Attorney General Phil Weiser and Pennsylvania Attorney General Josh Shapiro sent a joint letter to congressional leadership on Wednesday urging lawmakers to enact tougher regulations against social media companies.

In the letter, both Weiser and Shapiro outline several steps to establish “responsible oversight” of social media platforms, such as creating a social media regulatory agency, writing laws that require transparency from the companies, and developing a better understanding of how the algorithms on each platform work.

“It is clear – from your hearings, academic research, and recent investigative reporting – that social media companies and their platforms have a unique ability to harm both the mental health of youth and the stability of our democratic institutions,” the letter reads in part. “Protecting our children, our democracy, our privacy, and competition are critical priorities and are worthy of congressional action.”

The letter was to Sens. Richard Blumenthal, D-Conn., and Marsha Blackburn, R-Tenn., who serve as chairman and ranking member of the Subcommittee on Consumer Protection, Product Safety, and Data Security, respectively.

The letter comes on the heels of U.S. Senate hearings about Facebook’s tactics to attract young users and its practice of allowing its top profiles to skirt Facebook’s rules.

Last week, senators accused Facebook of concealing data about how its app impacts the mental health of young people who use it during a hearing on Capitol Hill following a series of investigative reports by the Wall Street Journal that found Facebook was aware of these issues and failed to stop them. Frances Haugen, a Facebook whistleblower, told a Senate committee this week that Facebook should declare “moral bankruptcy” for failing to address the platform’s many ills, according to ABC News.

In the letter, Weiser and Shapiro argue that one way to break the cycle is to treat social media content in a similar fashion as political advertisements on television, which are subject to both regulatory oversight and transparency requirements.

“The importance of overseeing the actions of social media companies is not limited to the impact on kids and our democracy,” the letter reads. “The protection of consumer privacy and competition in the online world also would benefit from a regulatory agency with the necessary authority to take appropriate action, as well as strengthening tools to limit disinformation and combat online hate speech that is fueling an increase in hate crimes nationwide.”



Center Vikings

Homecoming 2021!

October 18-23

Monday, Oct. 18

- Sports Day
- Powder Puff Football at 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Oct. 19

- Costume Day
- Ruff 'n Tuff Volleyball at 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Oct. 20

- Decades Day
- Parade at 12 p.m.

Thursday, Oct. 21

- Pink Out for Breast Cancer/Blue Out for Colon Cancer
- Pep Rally for MS/HS during ICAP

Friday, Oct. 22

- Cross Country at Regionals (Rocky Ford) at 10 a.m.
- Football vs. Monte Vista at 7 p.m., Homecoming Royalty Coronation/Parent Night at halftime

Saturday, Oct. 23

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- Homecoming Dance from 7-11 p.m.



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2021 Statewide Ballot Issues

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The Colorado Constitution (Article V, Section 1(7.3)) requires the Colorado Legislative Council to publish the ballot title and legal text of each statewide ballot measure.

A “YES/FOR” vote on any ballot issue is a vote in favor of changing current law or existing circumstances, and a “NO/AGAINST” vote on any ballot issue is a vote against changing current law or existing circumstances.

Amendment 78

Legislative Authority for Spending State Money

The ballot title below is a summary drafted by the professional staff of the offices of the secretary of state, the attorney general, and the legal staff for the general assembly for ballot purposes only. The ballot title will not appear in the Colorado Constitution or Colorado Revised Statutes. The text of the measure that will appear in the Colorado Constitution and Colorado Revised Statutes below was drafted by the proponents of the initiative. The initiated measure is included on the ballot as a proposed change to current law because the proponents gathered the required amount of petition signatures.

Ballot Title:

Shall there be an amendment to the Colorado Constitution and a change to the Colorado Revised Statutes concerning money that the state receives, and, in connection therewith, requiring all money received by the state, including money provided to the state for a particular purpose, known as custodial money, to be subject to appropriation by the general assembly after a public hearing; repealing the authority to disburse money from the state treasury by any other means; requiring all custodial money to be deposited into the newly created custodial funds transparency fund and the earnings on those deposits to be transferred to the general fund; and allowing the state to retain and spend all custodial money and earnings and revenue on that custodial money as a voter-approved revenue change?

Text of Measure:

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Colorado:

SECTION 1. In the constitution of the state of Colorado, section 33 of article V, **amend** section 33 as follows:

No moneys in the state treasury, NOR CUSTODIAL MONEYS, shall be disbursed ~~therefrom~~ by the treasurer except upon appropriations made by law, ~~or otherwise authorized by law~~, and any amount disbursed shall be substantiated by vouchers signed and approved in the manner prescribed by law.

SECTION 2. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-31-108, **amend** (5) as follows:

(5) If all or a portion of any money received by the attorney general and paid to the department of the treasury pursuant to subsection (2) of this section is custodial money, the attorney general shall direct the state treasurer in writing to place such custodial money in a separate account. ~~Any custodial money placed in a separate account pursuant to this subsection (5) is not subject to annual appropriation by the general assembly. A copy of the written direction to the state treasurer must be delivered to the joint budget committee. Such written direction must set forth the basis for the attorney general's determination that the money is custodial money and must specify the manner in which the money will be expended. Such written direction must be given to the state treasurer within thirty days after the date the money is paid to the department of the treasury. Any custodial money placed in a separate account pursuant to this subsection (5) must be expended only for the purposes for which the money has been provided. The department shall provide with its annual budget request an accounting of how custodial money has been or will be expended. For informational purposes, the expenditure of such money may be indicated in the annual general appropriation act.~~

SECTION 3. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-75-201, **add 3(d)(e)(f) and (g)** as follows:

(3)(D) AS USED IN THIS SECTION, UNLESS THE CONTEXT OTHERWISE REQUIRES, “CUSTODIAL MONEY” OR “CUSTODIAL FUNDS” MEANS MONEY RECEIVED BY THE STATE:

(I) THAT ORIGINATED FROM A SOURCE OTHER THAN THE

STATE OF COLORADO;

(II) THAT IS AWARDED OR OTHERWISE PROVIDED TO THE STATE FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE;

(III) FOR WHICH THE STATE IS ACTING AS A CUSTODIAN OR TRUSTEE TO CARRY OUT THE PARTICULAR PURPOSE FOR WHICH THE MONEY HAS BEEN PROVIDED.

(E) CUSTODIAL FUND TRANSPARENCY FUND CREATED.

(I) THERE IS HEREBY CREATED IN THE DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY A CUSTODIAL FUNDS TRANSPARENCY FUND. THE CUSTODIAL FUNDS TRANSPARENCY FUND SHALL RECEIVE ALL REVENUE COLLECTED BY THE STATE AS CUSTODIAL MONEYS. EARNINGS AND REVENUE FROM THE CUSTODIAL FUNDS TRANSPARENCY FUND SHALL REVERT TO THE GENERAL FUND. ALL OTHER MONEY REMAINING IN THE CUSTODIAL FUNDS TRANSPARENCY FUND AT THE END OF THE FISCAL YEAR SHALL REMAIN IN THE FUND AND SHALL NOT REVERT TO THE GENERAL FUND.

(II) IN STATE FISCAL YEAR 2022-2023, AND EACH FISCAL YEAR THEREAFTER, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SHALL ANNUALLY APPROPRIATE THE CUSTODIAL FUNDS TRANSPARENCY FUND FOR SUCH PURPOSES AS SPECIFIED BY LAW.

(III) MONEYS FROM THE CUSTODIAL FUNDS TRANSPARENCY FUND SHALL BE APPROPRIATED IN A PUBLIC HEARING WITH OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT.

(F) REVENUE COLLECTED AS CUSTODIAL FUNDS, AS AUTHORIZED BY THE VOTERS AT THE STATEWIDE ELECTION IN THE NOVEMBER 2021, TOGETHER WITH EARNINGS AND REVENUE, SHALL BE RETAINED AND SPENT BY THE STATE AS A VOTER-APPROVED REVENUE CHANGE AND SHALL BE EXEMPT FROM ALL REVENUE, SPENDING, AND OTHER LIMITATIONS UNDER SECTION 20 OF ARTICLE X OF THE STATE CONSTITUTION OR ANY OTHER LAW.

SECTION 4. EFFECTIVE DATE. All provisions of all sections shall take effect on July 1, 2022.

Proposition 119 Learning Enrichment and Academic Progress Program

The ballot title below is a summary drafted by the professional staff of the offices of the secretary of state, the attorney general, and the legal staff for the general assembly for ballot purposes only. The ballot title will not appear in the Colorado Revised Statutes. The text of the measure that will appear in the Colorado Revised Statutes below was drafted by the proponents of the initiative. The initiated measure is included on the ballot as a proposed change to current law because the proponents gathered the required amount of petition signatures.

Ballot Title:

SHALL STATE TAXES BE INCREASED \$137,600,000 ANNUALLY ON RETAIL MARIJUANA SALES BY A CHANGE TO THE COLORADO REVISED STATUTES CONCERNING THE CREATION OF A PROGRAM TO PROVIDE OUT-OF-SCHOOL LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES FOR COLORADO CHILDREN AGED 5 TO 17, AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, CREATING AN INDEPENDENT STATE AGENCY TO ADMINISTER THE PROGRAM FOR OUT-OF-SCHOOL LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES CHOSEN BY PARENTS; FUNDING THE PROGRAM BY INCREASING THE RETAIL MARIJUANA SALES TAX BY 5% BY 2024 AND REALLOCATING A PORTION OF THE PUBLIC SCHOOL LANDS INCOME; AUTHORIZING TRANSFERS AND REVENUE FOR PROGRAM FUNDING AS A VOTER-APPROVED REVENUE CHANGE; SPECIFYING THAT LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES INCLUDE TUTORING AND EXTRA INSTRUCTION IN SUBJECTS INCLUDING READING, MATH, SCIENCE, WRITING, MUSIC, AND ART, TARGETED SUPPORT FOR CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS AND LEARNING DISABILITIES, CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION TRAINING, AND OTHER ACADEMIC OR ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES; AND PRIORITIZING PROGRAM FINANCIAL AID FOR LOW-INCOME STUDENTS?

Text of Measure:

Be it Enacted by the People of the State of Colorado:

SECTION 1. In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** article 86.1 to title 22 as follows:

ARTICLE 86.1 LEARNING ENRICHMENT AND ACADEMIC PROGRESS (LEAP) PROGRAM

22-86.1-101. Legislative declaration. THE VOTERS OF THE STATE OF COLORADO FIND AND DECLARE THAT:

(1) OUT-OF-SCHOOL LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES ARE CRITICAL FOR ALL COLORADO CHILDREN AND YOUTH. THESE LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES, DURING PERIODS AND TIMEFRAMES OUTSIDE OF THEIR REGULAR SCHOOL SCHEDULES, PROVIDE ESSENTIAL ACADEMIC AND LIFE SKILLS FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH TO THRIVE IN SCHOOL AND LIFE. THESE LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES ARE CRITICAL TO MAINTAINING AND ENHANCING ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE AND MENTAL, PHYSICAL, AND EMOTIONAL HEALTH FOR ALL CHILDREN.

(2) THE INTENT OF THE VOTERS IN ENACTING THIS ARTICLE 86.1 IS TO CREATE A STATEWIDE LEARNING PROGRAM THAT WILL PROVIDE CONSISTENT AND RELIABLE ACCESS TO LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL OF COLORADO'S CHILDREN AND YOUTH OUTSIDE OF THEIR REGULAR SCHOOL SCHEDULES. IT IS FURTHER INTENDED THAT SUCH PROGRAM WILL ALLOW FOR: TUTORING AND SUPPLEMENTAL ACADEMIC INSTRUCTION IN CORE SUBJECT AREAS, INCLUDING READING, MATHEMATICS, SCIENCE, AND WRITING; TARGETED SUPPORT FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH WITH SPECIAL NEEDS AND LEARNING DISABILITIES; ACCESS TO MENTAL, PHYSICAL, AND EMOTIONAL HEALTH COUNSELING AND SERVICES; ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND FOREIGN LANGUAGE ACQUISITION; ACCESS TO ADDITIONAL LEARNING SUPPLIES AND MATERIALS, ESPECIALLY FOR RURAL STUDENTS; AND OTHER PROGRAMS THAT PROVIDE ACADEMIC OR ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES NO LONGER OFFERED IN MANY SCHOOLS, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO: MUSIC, DANCE, ARTS, AND CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION TRAINING.

(3) CREATING THE LEARNING ENRICHMENT AND ACADEMIC PROGRESS PROGRAM WILL ENSURE THAT THESE LEARNING EXPERIENCES ARE EQUALLY AVAILABLE TO ALL COLORADO CHILDREN AND YOUTH AND THAT FAMILIES WILL HAVE THE AUTHORITY AND RESPONSIBILITY TO CHOOSE PROGRAMS, EXPERIENCES, AND ACTIVITIES THAT THEY BELIEVE TO BE THE BEST FIT FOR THEIR CHILD OR YOUTH.

(4) ALL CHILDREN HAVE UNIQUE STRENGTHS, NEEDS, AND LEARNING STYLES. ENCOURAGING INNOVATION IN THE CREATION AND PROVISION OF NEW AND EXPANDED LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES STATEWIDE WILL BENEFIT COLORADO'S CHILDREN AND YOUTH AND REINFORCE THE LEARNING THAT TAKES PLACE IN MANY SCHOOL ENVIRONMENTS.

(5) IMPLEMENTATION OF THE LEARNING ENRICHMENT AND ACADEMIC PROGRESS PROGRAM WILL PROVIDE BENEFITS TO COLORADO COMMUNITIES BY PROVIDING: SUPPLEMENTAL SUPPORT TO STUDENTS THAT WILL ACCRUE TO THE BENEFIT OF STUDENTS, THEIR FAMILIES, AND THEIR IN-SCHOOL EDUCATORS; ADDITIONAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR INDIVIDUAL EDUCATORS AND PROVIDERS; AND INCREASED ECONOMIC STABILITY FOR STUDENTS AND FAMILIES.

(6) PROVIDING ADDITIONAL MONEY TO THE STATE PUBLIC SCHOOL FUND ENSURES THAT THE ONGOING FINANCIAL COSTS OF THE LEARNING ENRICHMENT AND ACADEMIC PROGRESS PROGRAM HAS MINIMAL FINANCIAL IMPACT ON THE STATE GENERAL FUND.

(7) BY APPLYING A STATE SALES TAX TO RETAIL MARIJUANA AND TRANSFERRING A PORTION OF REVENUES EARNED ON COLORADO'S SCHOOL TRUST LANDS TO THE STATE PUBLIC SCHOOL FUND, THE STATE WILL BE ABLE TO FUND THE LEARNING ENRICHMENT AND ACADEMIC PROGRESS PROGRAM FOR COLORADO CHILDREN AND YOUTH.

22-86.1-102. Definitions. AS USED IN THIS ARTICLE 86.1, UNLESS THE CONTEXT OTHERWISE REQUIRES:

(1) “AUTHORITY” MEANS THE COLORADO LEARNING AUTHORITY CREATED BY SECTION 22-86.1-103.

(2) “BOARD” MEANS THE COLORADO LEARNING AUTHORITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS CREATED BY SECTION 22-86.1-105.

(3) “ELIGIBLE CHILD OR YOUTH” MEANS A CHILD OR YOUTH WHO IS FIVE YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER IN A QUALIFYING YEAR BUT WHO IS UNDER EIGHTEEN YEARS OF AGE AND WHO RESIDES IN COLORADO AND IS, OR WILL BE, ELIGIBLE FOR ADMISSION TO PUBLIC SCHOOL WITHIN THE STATE.



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(4) "LEARNING ENRICHMENT AND ACADEMIC PROGRESS PROGRAM" OR "LEAP PROGRAM" OR "PROGRAM" MEANS THE LEARNING PROGRAM CREATED IN THIS ARTICLE 86.1.

(5) "LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES FUND" OR "FUND" MEANS THE LEARNING ENRICHMENT AND ACADEMIC PROGRESS FUND CREATED BY SECTION 22-86.1-106.

(6) "LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER" MEANS A SCHOOL DISTRICT, A BOARD OF COOPERATIVE SERVICES, A DISTRICT CHARTER SCHOOL, OR AN INSTITUTE CHARTER SCHOOL.

(7)(a) "OUT-OF-SCHOOL LEARNING OPPORTUNITY" OR "LEARNING OPPORTUNITY" MEANS A PROGRAM, SERVICE, SYSTEM, ACTIVITY, MATERIALS, OR OTHER PURSUIT OR PURCHASE THAT PROVIDES SUPPLEMENTAL EDUCATIONAL OR DEVELOPMENTAL SUPPORT TO ELIGIBLE CHILDREN OR YOUTH OUTSIDE OF NORMAL SCHOOL OPERATIONS.

(b) "LEARNING OPPORTUNITY" INCLUDES, BUT IS NOT LIMITED TO: TUTORING AND SUPPLEMENTAL ACADEMIC INSTRUCTION IN CORE SUBJECT AREAS, INCLUDING READING, MATHEMATICS, SCIENCE, AND WRITING; TARGETED SUPPORT FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH WITH SPECIAL NEEDS AND LEARNING DISABILITIES; ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND FOREIGN LANGUAGE ACQUISITION; CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION TRAINING; OTHER PROGRAMS THAT PROVIDE ACADEMIC OR ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES; AND REASONABLE AND NECESSARY MATERIALS AND SUPPLIES TO COMPLETE OR PARTICIPATE IN A LEARNING OPPORTUNITY.

(c) "LEARNING OPPORTUNITY" ALSO INCLUDES EMOTIONAL AND PHYSICAL THERAPY, MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES, SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING, MENTORING, AND OTHER SERVICES THAT SUPPORT STUDENTS IN THEIR PURSUIT OF A HOLISTIC AND MEANINGFUL EDUCATION.

(d) "LEARNING OPPORTUNITY" DOES NOT INCLUDE IN-SCHOOL INSTRUCTION, SERVICES, MATERIALS, CURRICULA, OR PROGRAMS PROVIDED AS PART OF A NORMAL COURSE OF STUDY CONDUCTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH A STUDENT'S COMPULSORY ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS UNDER SECTION 22-33-104. "LEARNING OPPORTUNITY" DOES NOT INCLUDE CREDIT RECOVERY PROGRAMS REGARDLESS OF THE TIME OF DAY OR DAY OF THE WEEK THEY ARE OFFERED. "LEARNING OPPORTUNITY" DOES NOT INCLUDE PAYMENT OF SCHOOL TUITION.

(8) "PARENT" MEANS A PARENT OR LEGAL GUARDIAN OF AN ELIGIBLE CHILD OR YOUTH OR AN INDIVIDUAL WHO STANDS IN LOCO PARENTIS OF AN ELIGIBLE CHILD OR YOUTH.

22-86.1-103. The learning enrichment and academic progress program and authority - establishment - purposes - powers. (1) THERE IS HEREBY ESTABLISHED AN INDEPENDENT AGENCY WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, THE COLORADO LEARNING AUTHORITY. THE AUTHORITY SHALL EXERCISE ITS POWERS AND PERFORM ITS DUTIES AND FUNCTIONS AS IF IT WERE TRANSFERRED TO THE DEPARTMENT BY A **TYPE 1** TRANSFER UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE "ADMINISTRATIVE ORGANIZATION ACT OF 1968," ARTICLE 1 OF TITLE 24. IN ADDITION TO ANY OTHER STATUTORY POWERS, DUTIES, AND FUNCTIONS OF THE AUTHORITY, THE AUTHORITY MAY PERFORM ALL BUDGETING, PURCHASING, PLANNING, AND RELATED MANAGEMENT FUNCTIONS INDEPENDENTLY OF THE DEPARTMENT, THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION, AND THE COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION.

(2) THERE IS HEREBY CREATED THE LEARNING ENRICHMENT AND ACADEMIC PROGRESS PROGRAM FOR THE DISTRIBUTION OF FINANCIAL AID ON BEHALF OF ELIGIBLE CHILDREN OR YOUTH IN COLORADO TO BE USED FOR LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES.

(3) THE AUTHORITY SHALL:

(a) SEEK TO INCREASE ACCESS TO LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES FOR EVERY ELIGIBLE CHILD OR YOUTH, ENSURE A BROAD DIVERSITY OF LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES AND PROVIDERS, AND HELP PARENTS CHOOSE RESOURCES FOR THEIR CHILD OR YOUTH.

(b) CREATE AND DEVELOP CRITERIA FOR THE PROVISION AND SELECTION OF LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES FOR DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS, CONSISTENT WITH AND IN FURTHERANCE OF THE GOALS AND PURPOSES STATED IN SECTION 22-86.1-101, TO BE PROVIDED WITHIN THE STATE OF COLORADO FOR ELIGIBLE CHILDREN OR YOUTH. AN ALLOWABLE USE OF FINANCIAL AID INCLUDES

REASONABLE EXPENSES FOR TRANSPORTATION OF AN ELIGIBLE CHILD OR YOUTH TO AND FROM LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES. IT IS THE INTENT OF THE PEOPLE THAT THE FINANCIAL AID DISTRIBUTED WILL BE NEW DOLLARS TO SPEND ON NEW SERVICES AND MUST NOT SUPPLANT EXISTING PUBLIC OR CHARITABLE FUNDING FOR PROGRAMS AVAILABLE TO ELIGIBLE CHILDREN OR YOUTH.

(c) CREATE AND DEVELOP CRITERIA FOR PUBLICATION, SOLICITATION, RECEIPT, AND EVALUATION OF APPLICATIONS FROM POTENTIAL PROVIDERS OF LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES UNDER THE PROGRAM. SUCH CRITERIA MUST MAXIMIZE THE NUMBER AND DIVERSITY OF PROVIDERS THAT PARENTS AND ELIGIBLE CHILDREN OR YOUTH CAN CHOOSE, MUST ENABLE PARENTS TO EVALUATE THE PROVIDER ONCE SERVICES HAVE BEEN RECEIVED, AND MUST ALSO ENSURE THAT SMALL COMMUNITY-BASED PROVIDERS ARE ELIGIBLE AND ABLE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PROGRAM.

(d) CREATE AND DEVELOP CRITERIA TO CERTIFY PROVIDERS OF LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES UNDER THE PROGRAM. IN THE INTEREST OF FACILITATING ACADEMIC INTERVENTIONS FOR STUDENTS WHO ARE BEHIND THEIR GRADE LEVEL, THE AUTHORITY SHALL PRE-CERTIFY LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICTS, BOARDS OF COOPERATIVE SERVICES, AND OTHER LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDERS AND CREATE A PROCESS TO ENSURE PRIORITY APPROVAL OF EDUCATORS AS QUALIFIED PROVIDERS. THE AUTHORITY IS NOT ELIGIBLE FOR CERTIFICATION AS A PROVIDER. MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS TO BE AN ELIGIBLE PROVIDER MUST INCLUDE BEING AUTHORIZED TO DO BUSINESS IN COLORADO AND CARRYING SUFFICIENT LIABILITY INSURANCE AS DETERMINED BY THE AUTHORITY. THE AUTHORITY MAY PROVIDE REASONABLE SUPPORT TO PROVIDERS TO ENSURE A BROAD REPRESENTATION OF PROVIDERS CAN MEET THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SUBSECTION (3). IMMEDIATE FAMILY MEMBERS ARE NOT ELIGIBLE TO BE QUALIFIED PROVIDERS IN THE PROVISION OF SERVICES TO THEIR CHILD OR YOUTH. THE AUTHORITY SHALL DETERMINE UNDER WHAT CIRCUMSTANCES A QUALIFIED PROVIDER LOSES THEIR CERTIFICATION AND MAY BAN PROVIDERS WHO HAVE ENGAGED IN FRAUD OR OTHER SPECIOUS FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES, WITHIN THE SCOPE OF THIS PROGRAM, FROM PROVIDING SERVICES TO ELIGIBLE CHILDREN OR YOUTH.

(e) CREATE AND DEVELOP CRITERIA TO ESTABLISH PROCEDURES TO ENSURE CHILD OR YOUTH SAFETY, INCLUDING THE PROVISION OF RECENT BACKGROUND CHECKS PROVIDED THROUGH THE COLORADO BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION OR SIMILAR FEDERAL AGENCY FOR PROVIDERS WHO COME IN CONTACT WITH CHILDREN OR YOUTH.

(f) CREATE AND DEVELOP CRITERIA TO ESTABLISH AND MANAGE FINANCIAL AID ON BEHALF OF PARENTS AND TO COMPENSATE APPROVED PROVIDERS OF LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES FOR ELIGIBLE USES SPECIFICALLY AND INDEPENDENTLY CHOSEN BY PARENTS AND PROVIDED TO AN ELIGIBLE CHILD OR YOUTH. THE FINANCIAL AID FUNDS MUST BE PROVIDED AND ADMINISTERED WITH THE METHOD OF DISTRIBUTION TO BE DETERMINED BY THE AUTHORITY AND SUBJECT TO THE MAXIMUM FINANCIAL AID AMOUNT PER ELIGIBLE CHILD OR YOUTH AS DETERMINED BY THE AUTHORITY AS FOLLOWS:

(I) IN DETERMINING THE METHOD OF DISTRIBUTION, THE AUTHORITY SHALL PRIORITIZE LOW-INCOME FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN OR YOUTH WHO COULD NOT OTHERWISE AFFORD LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES. WITHIN THE PRIORITIZED INCOME CATEGORY OF CHILDREN AND YOUTH, THE AUTHORITY MAY PLACE AN ADDITIONAL PRIORITY ON THOSE ELIGIBLE CHILDREN OR YOUTH WHO ARE NOT PROFICIENT AT GRADE LEVEL IN READING, MATH, OR OTHER CORE ACADEMIC AREAS, OR WHO HAVE SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL, PHYSICAL, OR EMOTIONAL NEEDS OR DISABILITIES.

(II) IN CALENDAR YEAR 2022, THE AUTHORITY SHALL, TO THE MAXIMUM EXTENT PRACTICABLE, DISTRIBUTE FINANCIAL AID FOR ELIGIBLE CHILDREN OR YOUTH.

(III) IN CALENDAR YEAR 2023, THE AUTHORITY SHALL ENSURE THAT THE TOTAL ANNUAL FINANCIAL AID DISTRIBUTION FOR EACH PRIORITIZED ELIGIBLE CHILD OR YOUTH PARTICIPATING IN THE PROGRAM IS AT LEAST ONE THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS, AND MAY PROVIDE FINANCIAL AID AWARDS TO NON-PRIORITIZED ELIGIBLE CHILDREN OR YOUTH IN AMOUNTS LESS THAN ONE THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS AS DETERMINED BY THE AUTHORITY. THE AUTHORITY MAY CHOOSE TO HAVE ONE APPLICATION AND FINANCIAL AID DISBURSAL PERIOD OR MORE THAN ONE. FOR EACH DISBURSAL PERIOD, THE AUTHORITY SHALL AWARD

FINANCIAL AID AS FOLLOWS:

(A) FINANCIAL AID MUST BE DISTRIBUTED FIRST TO ELIGIBLE CHILDREN OR YOUTH WHO RESIDE IN HOUSEHOLDS THAT ARE AT OR BELOW ONE HUNDRED PERCENT OF THE FEDERAL POVERTY LEVEL.

(B) AFTER ALL ELIGIBLE CHILDREN OR YOUTH RESIDING IN HOUSEHOLDS AT OR BELOW ONE HUNDRED PERCENT OF THE FEDERAL POVERTY LEVEL WHO HAVE CHOSEN TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PROGRAM HAVE RECEIVED FINANCIAL AID, THE AUTHORITY SHALL DISTRIBUTE FINANCIAL AID TO ELIGIBLE CHILDREN OR YOUTH WHO RESIDE IN HOUSEHOLDS THAT ARE GREATER THAN ONE HUNDRED AND LESS THAN TWO HUNDRED PERCENT OF THE FEDERAL POVERTY LEVEL.

(C) AFTER ALL ELIGIBLE CHILDREN OR YOUTH RESIDING IN HOUSEHOLDS THAT ARE GREATER THAN ONE HUNDRED AND LESS THAN TWO HUNDRED PERCENT OF THE FEDERAL POVERTY LEVEL WHO HAVE CHOSEN TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PROGRAM HAVE RECEIVED FINANCIAL AID, THE AUTHORITY SHALL DISTRIBUTE FINANCIAL AID TO ELIGIBLE CHILDREN OR YOUTH WHO RESIDE IN HOUSEHOLDS THAT ARE AT OR ABOVE TWO HUNDRED PERCENT OF THE FEDERAL POVERTY LEVEL.

(IV) IN CALENDAR YEAR 2024 AND IN SUBSEQUENT CALENDAR YEARS, THE AUTHORITY SHALL DETERMINE THE FINANCIAL AID AWARD AMOUNTS TO BE PROVIDED TO ELIGIBLE CHILDREN OR YOUTH AND THE METHOD AND TIMING OF DISTRIBUTION.

(V) IN DETERMINING THE MANNER IN WHICH FAMILIES QUALIFY FOR THE PROGRAM, THE AUTHORITY SHOULD ENSURE SIMPLE AND EASILY UNDERSTANDABLE APPLICATION FORMS AND PROCESSES. THE AUTHORITY HAS CONTROL OVER WHEN AND HOW FINANCIAL AID IS DISTRIBUTED TO APPROVED PROVIDERS THAT THE PARENTS CHOOSE, SUBJECT TO ADMINISTRATIVE RULES ADOPTED BY THE BOARD. SUCH FINANCIAL AID MUST FURTHER BE PROVIDED AND ADMINISTERED IN A MANNER THAT DOES NOT DISCRIMINATE AGAINST ANY ELIGIBLE CHILD OR YOUTH, ELIGIBLE CHILD OR YOUTH'S FAMILY, PROVIDER, OR LEARNING OPPORTUNITY ON THE BASIS OF RACE, ETHNICITY, COLOR, NATIVE LANGUAGE, RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION, NATIONAL ORIGIN, GENDER, MILITARY STATUS, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, GENDER VARIANCE, MARITAL STATUS, OR PHYSICAL OR MENTAL DISABILITY.

(g) CREATE MULTIPLE-YEAR FINANCIAL AID AS PRACTICABLE FOR LOW-INCOME ELIGIBLE CHILDREN OR YOUTH RESIDING IN HOUSEHOLDS THAT ARE LESS THAN TWO HUNDRED PERCENT OF THE FEDERAL POVERTY LEVEL TO ENSURE THOSE ELIGIBLE CHILDREN OR YOUTH HAVE THE ASSURANCE OF FUNDING FOR A MINIMUM OF A THREE-YEAR PERIOD REGARDLESS OF CHANGES TO THE FAMILY'S INCOME LEVEL AND TO PROVIDE STABILITY FOR THOSE CHILDREN OR YOUTH.

(h) CREATE AND DEVELOP CRITERIA AND PROTOCOLS FOR ROLLOVER OF UNUSED FUNDS FOR EACH FINANCIAL AID RECIPIENT, FOR USE BY THE RECIPIENT IN ADDITIONAL LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES UNDER THE PROGRAM. ANY FINANCIAL AID OF A CHILD OR YOUTH WHO NO LONGER QUALIFIES AS AN ELIGIBLE CHILD OR YOUTH MUST REVERT BACK TO THE LEARNING ENRICHMENT AND ACADEMIC PROGRESS FUND. FINANCIAL AID FUNDS MAY ACCUMULATE FOR THREE YEARS, BUT UPON THE START OF THE FOURTH YEAR OF FUNDING, THE ENTIRETY OF THE FUNDS, EXCEPTING THE NEWLY AWARDED FOURTH-YEAR FUNDS, REVERT BACK TO THE LEARNING ENRICHMENT AND ACADEMIC PROGRESS FUND. AT THE TIME AN ELIGIBLE CHILD OR YOUTH REACHES THE AGE OF EIGHTEEN, ANY REMAINING FINANCIAL AID FOR THAT CHILD OR YOUTH MUST REVERT BACK TO THE LEARNING ENRICHMENT AND ACADEMIC PROGRESS FUND.

(i) CAUSE TO BE CONDUCTED, AND MAKE PUBLICLY AVAILABLE, ANNUAL INDEPENDENT FINANCIAL AUDITS OF THE AUTHORITY. SUCH AUDITS MUST BE CONDUCTED BY CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS AND MUST BE FILED WITH THE BOARD NO LATER THAN JULY 1 OF EACH YEAR FOR THE PREVIOUS CALENDAR YEAR. AS A COMPONENT OF THE AUDITS, THE AUDITOR SHALL SELECT A REPRESENTATIVE SAMPLE OF PROVIDERS AND EVALUATE WHETHER THE FUNDS WERE USED FOR THE PURPOSES OUTLINED IN THIS SECTION. ADDITIONALLY, THE AUTHORITY MAY CONTRACT WITH A THIRD-PARTY EVALUATOR TO EVALUATE THE EFFICACY OF PROVIDERS. THE AUTHORITY SHALL REDACT ALL NAMES OF TAXPAYERS AND SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBERS OR TAX IDENTIFICATION NUMBERS BEFORE PUBLICLY RELEASING ANY AUDIT OR OTHER FINANCIAL REPORT.

(j) TO THE MAXIMUM EXTENT PRACTICABLE, CREATE AND IMPLEMENT AN EVALUATION SYSTEM BY JANUARY



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1, 2024, TO MEASURE THE IMPACTS OF LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES PROVIDED TO ELIGIBLE STUDENTS AND TO ENSURE THAT LEARNING PROVIDERS ARE RATED BY QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE RESULTS. THIS SYSTEM MUST ALSO INCORPORATE PARENT AND YOUTH FEEDBACK AND RATINGS AND MUST BE PUBLICLY AND EASILY AVAILABLE FOR USE BY ELIGIBLE CHILDREN OR YOUTH AND THEIR FAMILIES. AT A MINIMUM, THESE METRICS AND DATA MUST BE COLLECTED, ANALYZED, AND MADE PUBLICLY AVAILABLE ANNUALLY. IN DESIGNING THE EVALUATION SYSTEM, THE AUTHORITY SHALL PRIORITIZE:

(I) THE DEVELOPMENT OF A RANGE OF IMPACT METRICS THAT MAY ENCOMPASS QUALITATIVE, QUANTITATIVE, SHORT-TERM, AND LONGITUDINAL DATA;

(II) THE INTEGRATION OF AUTHORITY-DEVELOPED DATA SYSTEMS WITH DATA SYSTEMS IN SCHOOL DISTRICTS OR OTHER PUBLIC ENTITIES TO ASSESS FOR SHORT-TERM ACADEMIC IMPACT AND LONG-TERM LIFE OUTCOMES; AND

(III) THE PROTECTION OF STUDENT AND FAMILY PERSONAL IDENTIFYING INFORMATION.

(4) IN ADDITION TO THE DUTIES SPECIFIED IN SUBSECTION (3) OF THIS SECTION, THE COLORADO LEARNING AUTHORITY HAS THE FOLLOWING DUTIES, SOME OR ALL OF WHICH MAY BE DELEGATED BY CONTRACT:

(a) ADMINISTER, IN ACCORDANCE WITH CRITERIA ESTABLISHED UNDER SUBSECTION (3)(c) OF THIS SECTION, THE PUBLICATION, SOLICITATION, RECEIPT, EVALUATION, AND SELECTION OF APPLICATIONS FROM POTENTIAL PROVIDERS OF LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES UNDER THE PROGRAM TO WHICH PARENTS MAY DIRECT FINANCIAL AID;

(b) ENTER INTO AGREEMENTS AND CONTRACTS AS NECESSARY WITH APPROVED PROVIDERS OF LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES UNDER THE PROGRAM;

(c) DEVELOP, ESTABLISH, AND MANAGE A SYSTEM FOR RECEIPT, PROCESSING, AND EVALUATION OF APPLICATIONS FROM ELIGIBLE CHILDREN OR YOUTH;

(d) ASSIST ELIGIBLE CHILDREN OR YOUTH, PARENTS, AND THEIR FAMILIES IN NAVIGATING AND SELECTING AMONG AVAILABLE LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES;

(e) PROVIDE TECHNICAL, PROGRAMMATIC, AND CAPACITY BUILDING EXPERTISE AND FUNDING TO INCREASE THE NUMBER AND QUALITY OF PROVIDERS;

(f) ESTABLISH, MANAGE, AND DISTRIBUTE FINANCIAL AID FOR ELIGIBLE CHILDREN OR YOUTH FUNDED BY THE LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES FUND TO PAY APPROVED PROVIDERS OF APPROVED LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES; AND

(g) PROVIDE TECHNOLOGY SERVICES, SUBJECT TO CRITERIA ESTABLISHED AND DETERMINED BY THE AUTHORITY, FOR PURPOSES OF MONITORING AND TRACKING THE USE OF FINANCIAL AID BY ELIGIBLE CHILDREN OR YOUTH AND APPROVED PROVIDER PERFORMANCE AND PAYMENTS.

(5) NO MORE THAN TEN PERCENT OF MONEY FROM THE LEARNING ENRICHMENT AND ACADEMIC PROGRESS FUND MAY BE SPENT ON ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES IN ANY FISCAL YEAR AFTER THE END OF FISCAL YEAR 2025. THE AUTHORITY SHALL ANNUALLY REVIEW THE PERCENTAGE OF MONEY FROM THE LEARNING ENRICHMENT AND ACADEMIC PROGRESS FUND THAT CAN BE SPENT ON ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES AND REDUCE THE PERCENTAGE AS POSSIBLE.

(6) THE AUTHORITY IS SUBJECT TO ALL THE APPLICABLE REQUIREMENTS OF THE "COLORADO OPEN RECORDS ACT", PART 2 OF ARTICLE 72 OF TITLE 24, C.R.S., AND THE "COLORADO OPEN MEETINGS LAW", PART 4 OF ARTICLE 6 OF TITLE 24, C.R.S.

(7)(a) THE AUTHORITY SHALL ENSURE THAT THE LEARNING PROGRAM IS ADMINISTERED IN A MANNER THAT:

(I) PROVIDES ASSISTANCE TO BENEFIT ELIGIBLE CHILDREN OR YOUTH ON BEHALF OF PARENTS WHO HAVE SPECIFICALLY AND INDEPENDENTLY CHOSEN A LEARNING OPPORTUNITY, NOT ANY PARTICULAR QUALIFIED PROVIDER;

(II) DOES NOT DISCRIMINATE AGAINST ANY ELIGIBLE CHILD OR YOUTH, ELIGIBLE CHILD OR YOUTH'S FAMILY, OR PROVIDER'S RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION;

(III) ENSURES THAT THE PROGRAM DOES NOT REQUIRE ANY COURSES IN RELIGION OR THEOLOGY; AND

(IV) DOES NOT DENY ANY ELIGIBLE CHILD OR YOUTH THE PROGRAM'S BENEFITS BASED ON THE RELIGIOUS CHARACTER OF THE PROVIDER.

(b) NOTHING IN THIS SUBSECTION (7) GIVES ANY PERSON A PRIVATE CAUSE OF ACTION.

22-86.1-104. Additional powers of the Colorado learning authority. (1) IN ADDITION TO ANY OTHER POWERS GRANTED TO THE AUTHORITY IN THIS ARTICLE 86.1, THE AUTHORITY HAS THE FOLLOWING POWERS:

(a) TO ADOPT, HAVE, AND USE A SEAL AND TO ALTER THE SAME AT ITS PLEASURE;

(b) TO ENTER INTO ANY CONTRACT OR AGREEMENT NOT INCONSISTENT WITH THIS ARTICLE 86.1 OR THE LAWS OF THIS STATE AND TO AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO ENTER INTO CONTRACTS, EXECUTE ALL INSTRUMENTS, AND DO ALL THINGS NECESSARY OR CONVENIENT IN THE EXERCISE OF THE POWERS GRANTED IN THIS ARTICLE 86.1;

(c) TO PURCHASE, LEASE, TRADE, EXCHANGE, OR OTHERWISE ACQUIRE, MAINTAIN, HOLD, IMPROVE, MORTGAGE, LEASE, SELL, AND DISPOSE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY, WHETHER TANGIBLE OR INTANGIBLE, OR ANY INTEREST THEREIN; AND TO PURCHASE, LEASE, TRADE, EXCHANGE, OR OTHERWISE ACQUIRE REAL PROPERTY OR ANY INTEREST THEREIN AND TO MAINTAIN, HOLD, IMPROVE, MORTGAGE, LEASE, OR OTHERWISE TRANSFER SUCH REAL PROPERTY, SO LONG AS SUCH TRANSACTIONS DO NOT INTERFERE WITH THE MISSION OF THE AUTHORITY AS SPECIFIED IN SECTION 22-86.1-103;

(d) TO ACQUIRE SPACE, EQUIPMENT, SERVICES, SUPPLIES, AND INSURANCE NECESSARY TO CARRY OUT THE PURPOSES OF THIS ARTICLE 86.1;

(e) TO CONTRACT FOR AND TO ACCEPT ANY GIFTS, GRANTS, OR LOANS OF FUNDS, PROPERTY, OR ANY OTHER AID IN ANY FORM FROM THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, THE STATE, ANY STATE AGENCY, OR ANY OTHER SOURCE, OR ANY COMBINATION THEREOF, AND TO COMPLY, SUBJECT TO THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ARTICLE 86.1, WITH THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS THEREOF;

(f) TO FIX THE TIME AND PLACE OR PLACES AT WHICH ITS REGULAR AND SPECIAL MEETINGS ARE TO BE HELD;

(g) TO ADOPT AND FROM TIME TO TIME AMEND OR REPEAL BYLAWS AND RULES AND REGULATIONS CONSISTENT WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ARTICLE 86.1;

(h) TO APPOINT A TREASURER OF THE BOARD AND SUCH OTHER OFFICERS AS THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MAY DETERMINE AND PROVIDE FOR THEIR DUTIES AND TERMS OF OFFICE;

(i) TO APPOINT AN EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND SUCH AGENTS, EMPLOYEES, AND PROFESSIONAL AND BUSINESS ADVISERS AS MAY FROM TIME TO TIME BE NECESSARY IN ITS JUDGMENT TO ACCOMPLISH THE PURPOSES OF THIS ARTICLE 86.1, TO FIX THE COMPENSATION OF SUCH EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, EMPLOYEES, AGENTS, AND ADVISERS, AND TO ESTABLISH THE POWERS AND DUTIES OF ALL SUCH AGENTS, EMPLOYEES, AND OTHER PERSONS CONTRACTING WITH THE AUTHORITY;

(j) TO MAKE AND EXECUTE AGREEMENTS, CONTRACTS, OR OTHER INSTRUMENTS NECESSARY OR CONVENIENT TO THE EXERCISE OF THE POWERS AND FUNCTIONS OF THE AUTHORITY UNDER THIS ARTICLE 86.1, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO, CONTRACTS WITH ANY PERSON, FIRM, CORPORATION, STATE AGENCY, LOCAL GOVERNMENT, OR OTHER ENTITY; AND

(k) TO HAVE AND EXERCISE ALL RIGHTS AND POWERS NECESSARY OR INCIDENTAL TO OR IMPLIED FROM THE SPECIFIC POWERS GRANTED IN THIS ARTICLE 86.1, WHICH SPECIFIC POWERS MUST NOT BE CONSIDERED AS A LIMITATION UPON ANY POWER NECESSARY OR APPROPRIATE TO CARRY OUT THE PURPOSES AND INTENT OF THIS ARTICLE 86.1.

22-86.1-105. Colorado learning authority - board of directors - powers and duties. (1) THE AUTHORITY CONSISTS OF A BOARD OF DIRECTORS, APPOINTED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (2) OF THIS SECTION, AND ANY STAFF OR CONTRACT EMPLOYEES HIRED BY THE AUTHORITY AS AUTHORIZED BY LAW. ANY STAFF HIRED BY THE AUTHORITY ARE EMPLOYEES SUBJECT TO THE STATE PERSONNEL SYSTEM OF THIS STATE AS

DEFINED IN SECTION 13 OF ARTICLE XII OF THE STATE CONSTITUTION AND ARTICLE 50 OF TITLE 24; EXCEPT THAT, ALL POSITIONS CLASSIFIED BY THE AUTHORITY AS PROFESSIONAL OFFICERS AND PROFESSIONAL STAFF OF THE AUTHORITY ARE DECLARED TO BE EDUCATIONAL IN NATURE AND EXEMPT FROM THE STATE PERSONNEL SYSTEM.

(2) THE BOARD CONSISTS OF NINE MEMBERS, NO MORE THAN FIVE OF WHOM ARE MEMBERS OF THE SAME POLITICAL PARTY. MEMBERS MUST BE APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR, WITH THE CONSENT OF THE SENATE.

(a) MEMBERS OF THE INITIAL BOARD MUST BE APPOINTED BY JANUARY 15, 2022. IN MAKING THE APPOINTMENTS, THE GOVERNOR SHALL SEEK BOARD MEMBERS WHO HAVE SIGNIFICANT EXPERIENCE IN START-UP ENTERPRISES AND DELIVERING EDUCATIONAL SERVICES TO LOW-INCOME CHILDREN, INCLUDING, FOR EXAMPLE, EXPERTISE IN:

(I) E-COMMERCE OR PAYMENT SYSTEMS;

(II) CYBERSECURITY;

(III) ORGANIZATIONAL START-UP AND STRUCTURE;

(IV) NONPROFIT EXPERIENCE WITH SERVICES FOR LOW-INCOME FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES;

(V) EXPERIENCE IN KINDERGARTEN THROUGH 12TH GRADE EDUCATION, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED, TO EDUCATORS AND ADMINISTRATORS;

(VI) CONSUMER TECHNOLOGY THAT CONNECTS PROVIDERS WITH CONSUMERS;

(VII) OVERSEEING USER-DIRECTED ACCOUNTS; AND

(VIII) DATABASE CREATION OR MANAGEMENT.

(b) AT LEAST ONE MEMBER OF THE INITIAL BOARD MUST BE A PARENT OF A CHILD WHO WOULD QUALIFY AS A PRIORITIZED ELIGIBLE CHILD OR YOUTH FOR THE PROGRAM.

(c) MEMBERS OF THE INITIAL BOARD SHALL SERVE A SINGLE TERM OF THREE YEARS.

(d) THE TERM OF ANY MEMBER APPOINTED PRIOR TO JANUARY 1, 2025 EXPIRES ON DECEMBER 31, 2024. THE GOVERNOR SHALL MAKE NEW APPOINTMENTS TO THE BOARD FOR TERMS BEGINNING ON OR AFTER JANUARY 1, 2025 BY SELECTING NEW BOARD MEMBERS FROM A LIST OF RECOMMENDED CANDIDATES GENERATED BY THE INITIAL BOARD THROUGH A PROCESS OPEN TO APPLICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC. THE GOVERNOR SHALL APPOINT ALL SUBSEQUENT NEW BOARD MEMBERS FROM A LIST OF RECOMMENDED CANDIDATES GENERATED BY THE THEN-EXISTING BOARD THROUGH A PROCESS OPEN TO APPLICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC. EACH LIST MUST PROVIDE A MINIMUM OF THREE RECOMMENDED CANDIDATES FOR EACH POSITION TO BE APPOINTED, OR SUCH LESSER NUMBER AS THERE ARE APPLICATIONS. AFTER JANUARY 1, 2025, THE BOARD SHALL CONSIST OF ONE RESIDENT OF EACH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OF THE STATE AND ONE OR TWO AT-LARGE MEMBERS, DEPENDING ON THE NUMBER OF CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS IN THE STATE AT THE TIME OF APPOINTMENT TO ENSURE AN ODD NUMBER OF BOARD MEMBERS. AFTER JANUARY 1, 2025, MEMBERS OF THE BOARD SHALL BE AS FOLLOWS:

(I) AT LEAST FOUR MEMBERS WHO ARE A PARENT OR LEGAL GUARDIAN OF A CHILD WHO IS FIVE YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER BUT WHO IS UNDER SEVENTEEN YEARS OF AGE;

(II) TWO REPRESENTATIVES OF A NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION THAT HAS A FOCUS ON SERVICES FOR LOW-INCOME FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES; AND

(III) AT LEAST THREE MEMBERS WHO HAVE EXPERIENCE WORKING WITH CHILDREN WHO ARE FIVE YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER BUT WHO ARE UNDER EIGHTEEN YEARS OF AGE, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO, EDUCATORS AND ADMINISTRATORS.

(e) MEMBERS OF THE BOARD APPOINTED ON OR AFTER JANUARY 1, 2025 SERVE FOR THREE-YEAR TERMS; EXCEPT THAT, MEMBERS APPOINTED FROM AN ODD-NUMBERED CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT SERVE AN INITIAL TERM OF TWO YEARS. AFTER JANUARY 1, 2025, MEMBERS OF THE BOARD MAY SERVE UP TO THREE CONSECUTIVE TERMS, AND MEMBERS ARE SUBJECT TO REMOVAL AS PROVIDED IN ARTICLE IV, SECTION 6 OF THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION.

(3) AS SOON AS REASONABLY PRACTICABLE, THE



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INITIAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS SHALL ESTABLISH A LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL AND A LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES PROVIDER ADVISORY COUNCIL TO:

(a) PROVIDE INPUT TO THE BOARD CONCERNING THE PROGRAM, ELIGIBILITY OF CHILDREN AND YOUTH, CRITERIA FOR QUALIFICATIONS OF LEARNING PROVIDERS, FINANCIAL AID DISTRIBUTION, AND ALL OTHER MATTERS OF IMPLEMENTING THE LEARNING PROGRAM; AND

(b) PROVIDE RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE APPOINTING AUTHORITY FOR PARENT REPRESENTATION ON THE BOARD.

(4) MEMBERS OF THE ONGOING BOARD MAY NOT DURING THEIR TERMS OF SERVICE BE EMPLOYED BY OR CONTRACT WITH PERSONS THAT PROVIDE OR OFFER TO PROVIDE LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES UNDER THE PROGRAM.

(5) MEMBERS OF THE INITIAL AND ONGOING BOARDS MAY RECEIVE A PER DIEM OF UP TO TWO HUNDRED DOLLARS FOR ATTENDANCE AT REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETINGS OF THE BOARD AT THE DISCRETION OF THE CHAIR BASED ON FINANCIAL HARDSHIP AND ARE REIMBURSED FOR ACTUAL AND NECESSARY EXPENSES INCURRED WHILE PERFORMING OFFICIAL DUTIES, TOGETHER WITH MILEAGE AT THE RATE AT WHICH MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY ARE REIMBURSED PURSUANT TO SECTION 2-2-317. A MEMBER OF THE BOARD WHO IS A STATE OFFICER OR EMPLOYEE SHALL NOT CLAIM PER DIEM COMPENSATION, BUT MUST BE REIMBURSED FOR ACTUAL AND NECESSARY EXPENSES INCURRED WHILE PERFORMING OFFICIAL DUTIES, TOGETHER WITH MILEAGE AT THE RATE AT WHICH MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY ARE REIMBURSED PURSUANT TO SECTION 2-2-317.

(6)(a) THE INITIAL AND ONGOING BOARDS MUST ALSO CONSIST OF FOUR NONVOTING MEMBERS, THREE OF WHOM ARE APPOINTED BY THE BOARD CHAIR AND ONE BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE COLORADO COMMISSION OF INDIAN AFFAIRS.

(b) THE NONVOTING MEMBERS MUST:

(I) BE FOURTEEN YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER BUT UNDER NINETEEN YEARS OF AGE; AND

(II) BE ENROLLED IN AND ATTENDING A TRIBAL OR COLORADO JUNIOR HIGH, MIDDLE, OR HIGH SCHOOL, INCLUDING AN ONLINE OR CHARTER SCHOOL OR APPROVED FACILITY SCHOOL AS DEFINED IN SECTION 22-2-402; BE PARTICIPATING IN A NONPUBLIC, HOME-BASED EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM; BE PARTICIPATING IN A HIGH SCHOOL EQUIVALENCY EXAMINATION PROGRAM; OR HAVE OBTAINED A HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA THROUGH SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF A HIGH SCHOOL EQUIVALENCY EXAMINATION, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 22-33-102 (8.5).

(c) THE INITIAL APPOINTMENTS FOR NONVOTING MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MUST BE COMPLETED BY JUNE 1, 2022. NONVOTING MEMBERS SERVE FOR TWO-YEAR TERMS, EXCEPT THAT, AS DETERMINED BY THE BOARD CHAIR, TWO NONVOTING MEMBERS INITIALLY APPOINTED TO THE BOARD WILL SERVE FOR ONE YEAR. NONVOTING MEMBERS OF THE BOARD MAY SERVE UP TO TWO CONSECUTIVE TERMS. NONVOTING MEMBERS OF THE BOARD MAY RECEIVE A PER DIEM OF UP TO TWO HUNDRED DOLLARS FOR ATTENDANCE AT REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETINGS OF THE BOARD AT THE DISCRETION OF THE CHAIR BASED ON FINANCIAL HARDSHIP AND ARE REIMBURSED FOR ACTUAL AND NECESSARY EXPENSES INCURRED WHILE PERFORMING OFFICIAL DUTIES, TOGETHER WITH MILEAGE AT THE RATE AT WHICH MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY ARE REIMBURSED PURSUANT TO SECTION 2-2-317.

(7) THE BOARD HAS THE FOLLOWING POWERS AND DUTIES:

(a) TO HIRE AN EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR;

(b) TO ESTABLISH AND OVERSEE THE PROGRAM CREATED BY THIS ARTICLE 86.1, ASSURING THAT AS MUCH FUNDING AS PRACTICABLE IS DEDICATED TO THE PROVISION OF FINANCIAL AID AND ASSISTANCE TO ELIGIBLE CHILDREN OR YOUTH AND THEIR FAMILIES IN FINDING AND SELECTING AVAILABLE LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES;

(c) TO OBTAIN THE SERVICES OF EXPERT CONSULTANTS AS NECESSARY AND APPROPRIATE FOR THE PERFORMANCE OF ITS DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES;

(d) TO ELECT ONE DIRECTOR AS CHAIR OF THE BOARD AND ANOTHER DIRECTOR AS CHAIRMAN PRO TEM OF THE BOARD; AND

(e) TO PERFORM ALL SUCH ACTIONS AS MAY BE NECESSARY AND APPROPRIATE TO CARRY OUT THE DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES SPECIFIED IN THIS ARTICLE 86.1.

22-86.1-106. Learning enrichment and academic progress fund - creation - crediting of money to fund - use of fund. (1) THE LEARNING ENRICHMENT AND ACADEMIC PROGRESS FUND IS HEREBY CREATED IN THE STATE TREASURY. THE FUND IS ADMINISTERED BY THE AUTHORITY AND CONSISTS OF ALL MONEY TRANSFERRED OR CREDITED TO THE FUND PURSUANT TO SUBSECTIONS (2), (3), AND (4) OF THIS SECTION AND SECTION 39-28.8-203(1)(c). ALL INTEREST AND INCOME EARNED ON THE DEPOSIT AND INVESTMENT OF MONEY IN THE FUND MUST BE CREDITED TO THE FUND AND MUST NOT BE TRANSFERRED TO THE GENERAL FUND OR ANY OTHER STATE FUND AT THE END OF ANY STATE FISCAL YEAR.

(2) THE AUTHORITY MAY SEEK, ACCEPT, AND EXPEND ANY GIFTS, GRANTS, DONATIONS, LOANS OF FUNDS, PROPERTY, OR ANY OTHER REVENUE OR AID IN ANY FORM FROM THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, THE STATE, ANY STATE AGENCY, ANY OTHER PUBLIC SOURCE, ANY PRIVATE SOURCE, OR ANY COMBINATION THEREOF, AND ANY SUCH MONETARY RECEIPTS MUST BE CREDITED TO THE FUND AND ANY SUCH IN-KIND RECEIPTS MUST BE APPLIED FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE FUND.

(3) AT THE END OF THE THIRD AND FOURTH QUARTERS OF STATE FISCAL YEAR 2021-22, THE STATE TREASURER SHALL TRANSFER FROM THE GENERAL FUND TO THE LEARNING ENRICHMENT AND ACADEMIC PROGRESS FUND THE SAME AMOUNT OF MONEY TRANSFERRED TO THE STATE PUBLIC SCHOOL FUND PURSUANT TO SECTION 36-1-116(1)(d). FOR THAT STATE FISCAL YEAR, AN AMOUNT OF STATE GENERAL FUND REVENUE EQUAL TO THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF SUCH TRANSFERS SHALL BE EXEMPT FROM ALL REVENUE, SPENDING, AND OTHER LIMITATIONS UNDER SECTION 20 OF ARTICLE X OF THE STATE CONSTITUTION AND ANY OTHER LAW.

(4) AT THE END OF EACH STATE FISCAL YEAR, BEGINNING WITH THE FISCAL YEAR COMMENCING JULY 1, 2022, THE STATE TREASURER SHALL TRANSFER FROM THE GENERAL FUND TO THE LEARNING ENRICHMENT AND ACADEMIC PROGRESS FUND THE SAME AMOUNT OF MONEY TRANSFERRED TO THE STATE PUBLIC SCHOOL FUND PURSUANT TO SECTION 36-1-116(1)(d). FOR EACH STATE FISCAL YEAR AN AMOUNT OF STATE GENERAL FUND REVENUE EQUAL TO THE AMOUNT OF SUCH TRANSFER SHALL BE EXEMPT FROM ALL REVENUE, SPENDING, AND OTHER LIMITATIONS UNDER SECTION 20 OF ARTICLE X OF THE STATE CONSTITUTION AND ANY OTHER LAW.

(5) THE MONEY TRANSFERRED OR CREDITED TO THE FUND, INCLUDING ANY INCOME AND INTEREST DERIVED FROM THE DEPOSIT AND INVESTMENT OF SUCH MONEY, IS EXEMPT FROM ANY RESTRICTION ON SPENDING, REVENUE, OR APPROPRIATIONS, INCLUDING THE RESTRICTIONS OF SECTION 20 OF ARTICLE X OF THE STATE CONSTITUTION OR ANY OTHER LAW.

(6) THE MONEY IN THE FUND IS CONTINUOUSLY APPROPRIATED TO THE AUTHORITY FOR THE DIRECT AND INDIRECT COSTS OF CARRYING OUT THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ARTICLE 86.1.

SECTION 2. In Colorado Revised Statutes, section 36-1-116, **amend** (1)(a)(II)(A) and (1)(b)(I); and **add** (1)(d) as follows:

36-1-116. Disposition of rentals, royalties, and timber sale proceeds. (1)(a)(II)(A) Except as provided in subsections (1)(a)(II)(B), and (1)(a)(II)(C), AND (1)(d), for the 2010-11 state fiscal year and each state fiscal year thereafter, the proceeds received by the state for the sale of timber on public school lands, lease payments and rental payments for said lands, rental payments for the use and occupation of the surface of said lands, and rentals or lease payments for sand, gravel, clay, stone, coal, oil, gas, geothermal resources, gold, silver, or other minerals on said lands other than proceeds, rentals, and payments allocated to the state land board trust administration fund pursuant to section 36-1-145(3) or credited to the public school capital construction assistance fund created in section 22-43.7-104(1), C.R.S., pursuant to section 22-43.7-104(2)(b)(I), C.R.S., shall be credited to the permanent school fund and shall become part of the principal of the permanent school fund.

(b)(I) Except for royalties and other payments allocated to the state land board trust administration fund pursuant to section 36-1-145(3) or credited to the public school capital construction assistance fund created in section 22-43.7-104(1), C.R.S., pursuant to section 22-43.7-104(2)(b)(I), C.R.S., except as provided in subparagraph (II) of this paragraph (b), and except as provided in paragraph PARAGRAPHS (c) AND (d) of this subsection (1), royalties and other payments for the depletion or extraction of a natural resource on said lands shall be credited to the permanent school fund.

(d) (I) FOR THE THIRD AND FOURTH QUARTERS OF STATE FISCAL YEAR 2021-22, ANY AMOUNTS TO BE CREDITED OR TRANSFERRED TO THE PERMANENT SCHOOL FUND PURSUANT TO SUBSECTIONS (1)(a)(II)(A) AND (1)(b)(I) OF THIS SECTION SHALL INSTEAD BE TRANSFERRED TO THE STATE PUBLIC SCHOOL FUND CREATED IN SECTION 22-54-114.

(II) BEGINNING WITH THE STATE FISCAL YEAR COMMENCING JULY 1, 2022, ANY AMOUNTS TO BE CREDITED OR TRANSFERRED TO THE PERMANENT SCHOOL FUND PURSUANT TO SUBSECTIONS (1)(a)(II)(A) AND (1)(b)(I) OF THIS SECTION IN EXCESS OF TWENTY MILLION DOLLARS SHALL INSTEAD BE TRANSFERRED TO THE STATE PUBLIC SCHOOL FUND CREATED IN SECTION 22-54-114.

SECTION 3. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 39-28.8-202, **amend** (1)(a)(I) and (1)(b) as follows:

39-28.8-202. Retail marijuana sales tax. (1)(a)(I)(A) In addition to the tax imposed pursuant to part 1 of article 26 of this title 39 and the sales tax imposed by a local government pursuant to title 29, 30, 31, or 32, but except as otherwise set forth in subsections (1)(a)(II) and (1)(a)(III) of this section, THERE IS IMPOSED UPON ALL SALES OF RETAIL MARIJUANA AND RETAIL MARIJUANA PRODUCTS BY A RETAILER A TAX AT RATES SPECIFIED IN THIS SUBSECTION (1)(a)(I).

(B) Beginning January 1, 2014, and through June 30, 2017, there is imposed upon all sales of retail marijuana and retail marijuana products by a retailer a tax at the rate of ten percent of the amount of the sale.

(C) Beginning July 1, 2017, there is imposed upon all sales of retail marijuana and retail marijuana products by a retailer a tax at the rate of fifteen percent of the amount of the sale.

(D) BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2022, THERE IS IMPOSED UPON ALL SALES OF RETAIL MARIJUANA AND RETAIL MARIJUANA PRODUCTS BY A RETAILER, IN ADDITION TO THE FIFTEEN PERCENT TAX IMPOSED BY SUBSECTION (1)(a)(I)(C) OF THIS SECTION, A TAX OF THREE PERCENT OF THE AMOUNT OF THE SALE THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2022, A TAX OF FOUR PERCENT OF THE AMOUNT OF THE SALE BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2023 AND THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2023, AND A TAX OF FIVE PERCENT OF THE AMOUNT OF THE SALE BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2024.

(E) The tax imposed by this section is computed in accordance with schedules or forms prescribed by the executive director of the department; except that a retail marijuana store is not allowed to retain any portion of the retail marijuana sales tax collected pursuant to this part 2 to cover the expenses of collecting and remitting the tax. The executive director may promulgate rules to implement this section.

(b) The maximum tax rate that may be imposed pursuant to this section is fifteen percent PLUS THE APPLICABLE TAX RATE SPECIFIED IN SUBSECTION (1)(a)(I)(D) OF THIS SECTION. At any time on or after January 4, 2044 JANUARY 1, 2022, the general assembly may, by a bill enacted by the general assembly and that becomes law:

(I) Establish a tax rate to be imposed pursuant to this subsection (1) that is lower than ~~fifteen percent of the sale of retail marijuana or retail marijuana products~~ SUCH MAXIMUM TAX RATE; or

(II) After ~~establishing a tax rate that is lower than fifteen percent pursuant to subparagraph (I) of this paragraph (b)~~ LOWERING THE TAX RATE PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (1)(b)(I) OF THIS SECTION, increase the tax rate to be imposed pursuant to this subsection (1); except that, in no event shall the general assembly increase the tax rate above ~~fifteen percent of the sale of retail marijuana or retail marijuana products~~ THE MAXIMUM TAX RATE SPECIFIED IN THIS SUBSECTION (1)(b). Notwithstanding any other provision of law, an increase in the tax rate pursuant to this subparagraph



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(ll) shall not require voter approval subsequent to the voter approval required pursuant to part 4 of this article.

SECTION 4. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 39-28.8-203, **amend** (1)(a)(l) and (1)(b)(l.5) introductory portion and **add** (1)(c) as follows:

39-28.8-203. Disposition of collections – definitions. (1) The proceeds of all money collected from the retail marijuana sales tax are initially credited to the old age pension fund created in section 1 of article XXIV of the state constitution in accordance with paragraphs (a) and (f) of section 2 of article XXIV of the state constitution and thereafter are transferred to the general fund in accordance with section 7 of article XXIV of the state constitution. For each fiscal year in which a tax is collected pursuant to this part 2, an amount shall be appropriated or distributed from the general fund as follows:

(a)(l) Before July 1, 2017, an amount equal to fifteen percent of the gross retail marijuana sales tax revenue collected by the department is apportioned to local governments. On and after July 1, 2017, an amount equal to ten percent of the gross retail marijuana sales tax revenue collected by the department, EXCLUDING REVENUE ATTRIBUTABLE TO THE ADDITIONAL TAX IMPOSED BY SECTION 39-28.8-202(1)(a)(l)(D), is apportioned to local governments. The city or town share is apportioned according to the percentage that retail marijuana sales tax revenue collected by the department within the boundaries of the city or town bear to the total retail marijuana sales tax revenue collected by the department. The county share is apportioned according to the percentage that retail marijuana sales tax revenue collected by the department in the unincorporated area of the county bear to total retail marijuana sales tax revenue collected by the department.

(b)(l.5) On and after July 1, 2018, of the ninety percent of the gross retail marijuana sales tax revenue in the general fund remaining after the allocation to local governments required by subsection (1)(a)(l) of this section is made, AND EXCLUDING REVENUE ATTRIBUTABLE TO THE ADDITIONAL TAX IMPOSED BY SECTION 39-28.8-202(1)(a)(l)(D), the state treasurer shall retain fifteen and fifty-six one-hundredths percent in the general fund for use for any lawful purpose and shall transfer from the general fund:

(c) ON AND AFTER JANUARY 1, 2022, THE STATE TREASURER SHALL TRANSFER MONTHLY FROM THE GENERAL FUND TO THE LEARNING ENRICHMENT AND ACADEMIC PROGRESS FUND CREATED BY SECTION 22-86.1-106 ALL REVENUE COLLECTED BY THE DEPARTMENT ATTRIBUTABLE TO THE ADDITIONAL TAX IMPOSED BY SECTION 39-28.8-202(1)(a)(l)(D).

SECTION 5. In Colorado Revised Statutes, **amend** 39-28.8-204 as follows:

39-28.8-204. Revenue and spending limitations. (1) Notwithstanding any limitations on revenue, spending, or appropriations contained in section 20 of article X of the state constitution or any other provision of law, any revenues generated by the retail marijuana sales tax imposed pursuant to this part 2 as approved by the voters at the statewide election in November 2013, may be collected and spent as voter-approved revenue changes and shall not require voter approval subsequent to the voter approval required pursuant to part 4 of this article.

(2) NOTWITHSTANDING ANY LIMITATIONS ON REVENUE, SPENDING, OR APPROPRIATIONS CONTAINED IN SECTION 20 OF ARTICLE X OF THE STATE CONSTITUTION OR ANY OTHER PROVISION OF LAW, ANY REVENUES GENERATED BY THE ADDITIONAL RETAIL MARIJUANA SALES TAX IMPOSED BY SECTION 39-28.8-202(1)(a)(l)(D), AS APPROVED BY THE VOTERS AT THE STATEWIDE ELECTION IN NOVEMBER 2021, MAY BE COLLECTED AND SPENT AS A VOTER-APPROVED REVENUE CHANGE.

Proposition 120 Property Tax Assessment Rate Reduction

The ballot title below is a summary drafted by the professional staff of the offices of the secretary of state, the attorney general, and the legal staff for the general assembly for ballot purposes only. The ballot title will not appear in the Colorado Revised Statutes. The text of the measure that will appear in the Colorado Revised Statutes below was drafted by the proponents of the initiative. The initiated measure is included on the ballot as a proposed change to current law because the proponents gathered the required amount of petition signatures.

Ballot Title:

Shall there be a change to the Colorado Revised Statutes concerning property tax reductions, and, in connection therewith, reducing property tax revenue by an estimated \$1.03 billion in 2023 and by comparable amounts thereafter by reducing the residential property tax assessment rate from 7.15% to 6.5% and reducing the property tax assessment rate for all other property, excluding producing mines and lands or leaseholds producing oil or gas, from 29% to 26.4% and allowing the state to annually retain and spend up to \$25 million of excess state revenue, if any, for state fiscal years 2022-23 through 2026-27 as a voter-approved revenue change to offset lost revenue resulting from the property tax rate reductions and to reimburse local governments for revenue lost due to the homestead exemptions for qualifying seniors and

disabled veterans?

Text of Measure:

Be it Enacted by the People of the State of Colorado:

SECTION 1. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 39-1-104 **amend** (1) as follows:

(1) THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2021 the valuation for assessment of all taxable property in the state shall be twenty-nine percent, AND BEGINNING ON JANUARY 1, 2022 THE VALUATION FOR ASSESSMENT OF ALL TAXABLE PROPERTY IN THE STATE SHALL BE TWENTY-SIX AND FOUR-TENTHS PERCENT of the actual value thereof as determined by the assessor and the administrator in the manner prescribed by law, and such percentage shall be uniformly applied, without exception, to the actual value, so determined, of the various classes and subclasses of real and personal property located within the territorial limits of the authority levying a property tax, and all property taxes shall be levied against the aggregate valuation for assessment resulting from the application of such percentage. This subsection (1) shall not apply to residential real property, producing mines, and lands or leaseholds producing oil or gas.

SECTION 2. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 39-1-104.2 **amend** (3)(q) as follows:

39-1-104.2. Adjustment of residential rate - legislative declaration - definitions.

(3) (q) The ratio of valuation for assessment for residential real property is 7.15 percent of actual value for property tax years commencing on or after January 1, 2019 and 6.5 PERCENT OF THE ACTUAL VALUE FOR PROPERTY TAX COMMENCING JANUARY 1, 2022, until the next property tax year that the general assembly adjusts the ratio of valuation for assessment for residential real property.

SECTION 3. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 39-3-207 **add** (6) as follows:

39-3-207. Reporting of exemptions— reimbursement to local governmental entities.

(6) FOR THE PURPOSE OF OFF-SETTING LOST REVENUE RESULTING FROM A REDUCTION IN PROPERTY TAX AND TO FUND STATE REIMBURSEMENTS TO LOCAL GOVERNMENT ENTITIES FOR THE APPLICATION OF THE HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION, IN FISCAL YEAR COMMENCING ON JULY 1, 2022 THROUGH FISCAL YEAR ENDING JULY 1, 2027, THE STATE SHALL BE AUTHORIZED TO RETAIN AND SPEND UP TO 25 MILLION PER YEAR IN REVENUE FOR WARRANTS OTHERWISE AUTHORIZED UNDER THIS SECTION.

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La Constitución de Colorado (Artículo V, Sección 1(7.3)) exige que el Consejo Legislativo de Colorado publique el título y el texto legal de la boleta de cada medida de boleta a nivel estatal.

Un voto de “**SÍ/PRO**” sobre cualquier asunto de boleta es un voto **a favor** de cambiar las leyes actuales o circunstancias existentes, y un voto de “**NO/CONTRA**” sobre cualquier asunto de boleta es un voto **en contra** de cambiar las leyes actuales o circunstancias existentes.

Enmienda 78

Autoridad legislativa para gastar dinero estatal

El título de la boleta indicado a continuación es un resumen redactado por el personal profesional de las oficinas del secretario de estado, el procurador general y el personal jurídico de la asamblea general solo para los fines de la votación. No aparecerá el título de la boleta en la Constitución de Colorado ni en los Estatutos Revisados de Colorado. El texto de la medida que aparecerá en la Constitución de Colorado y en los Estatutos Revisados de Colorado a continuación fue redactado por quienes proponen la iniciativa. Se incluye la medida iniciada en la boleta como cambio propuesto a la ley actual porque quienes la proponen reunieron la cantidad requerida de firmas para la petición.

Título de la boleta:

¿Debe haber una enmienda a la Constitución de Colorado y un cambio a los Estatutos Revisados de Colorado acerca del dinero que recibe el estado, y, en relación con ello, exigiendo que todo el dinero recibido por el estado, incluido el dinero provisto al estado para un fin en particular, llamado dinero en custodia, sea sujeto a asignación mediante la asamblea general después de una audiencia pública; derogar la autoridad de desembolsar dinero de la tesorería estatal por cualquier otro medio; exigir que todo dinero en custodia sea depositado en el fondo de transparencia de fondos en custodia recién creado y que las ganancias de dichos depósitos sean transferidas al fondo general; y permitir que el estado retenga y gaste todo dinero en custodia y ganancias e ingresos recaudados derivados de dicho dinero en custodia como cambio en los ingresos aprobado por los votantes?

Texto de la medida:

Promúlguese por el Pueblo del Estado de Colorado:

SECCIÓN 1. En la constitución del estado de Colorado, sección 33 del artículo V, **enmendar** la sección 33 de la siguiente manera:

Ningún dinero dentro de la tesorería estatal, NI DINEROS EN CUSTODIA, serán desembolsados de allí por el tesorero excepto en caso de asignaciones efectuadas por ley, o autorizadas de otro modo por ley; y cualquier cantidad desembolsada será justificada mediante comprobantes firmados y aprobados del modo que estipule la ley.

SECCIÓN 2. En los Estatutos Revisados de Colorado, 24-31-108, **enmendar** (5) de la siguiente manera:

(5) Si la totalidad o parte de cualquier dinero recibido por el procurador general y pagado al departamento de tesorería conforme al inciso (2) de esta sección es dinero en custodia, el procurador general indicará al tesorero estatal por escrito que ponga dicho dinero en custodia dentro de una cuenta separada. Ningún dinero en custodia puesto en una cuenta separada conforme a este inciso (5) está sujeto a asignación anual efectuada por la asamblea general. Debe entregarse al comité presupuestario conjuntamente una copia de la instrucción por escrito al tesorero estatal. Dicha instrucción por escrito debe establecer la base para la determinación del procurador general de que se trata de dinero en custodia y debe especificar la manera en que se gastará el dinero. Dicha instrucción por escrito debe entregarse al tesorero estatal dentro de un plazo de treinta días después de la fecha en que se pague el dinero al departamento de tesorería. Todo dinero en custodia puesto en una cuenta separada conforme a este inciso (5) debe gastarse solo para los fines que se proporcionó el dinero. El departamento entregará junto con su solicitud de presupuesto anual una indicación acerca de la manera en que se ha gastado o se gastará el dinero en custodia. Para fines informativos, el gasto de dicho dinero puede indicarse en la ley de asignación general anual.

SECCIÓN 3. En los Estatutos Revisados de Colorado, 24-75-201, **agregar 3(d)(e)(f) y (g)** de la siguiente manera:

(3)(d) TAL COMO SE USA EN ESTA SECCIÓN, A MENOS QUE EL CONTEXTO EXIJA OTRA COSA, “DINERO EN CUSTODIA” O “FONDOS EN CUSTODIA” SIGNIFICA DINERO RECIBIDO POR EL ESTADO:

(I) QUE SE ORIGINÓ DE UNA FUENTE APARTE DEL ESTADO DE COLORADO;

(II) QUE SE ADJUDICA O PROPORCIONA DE OTRO MODO AL ESTADO PARA UN FIN EN PARTICULAR;

(III) POR EL CUAL EL ESTADO ESTÁ ACTUANDO COMO CUSTODIO O FIDEICOMISARIO A FIN DE LLEVAR A CABO EL PROPÓSITO PARTICULAR PARA EL CUAL SE HA PROVISTO EL DINERO.

(E) CREACIÓN DEL FONDO DE TRANSPARENCIA DE FONDO EN CUSTODIA.

(I) SE CREA POR ESTE INTERMEDIO EN EL DEPARTAMENTO DE TESORERÍA UN FONDO DE TRANSPARENCIA DE FONDOS EN CUSTODIA. EL FONDO DE TRANSPARENCIA DE FONDOS EN CUSTODIA RECIBIRÁ TODO INGRESO RECAUDADO POR EL ESTADO COMO DINEROS EN CUSTODIA. LAS GANANCIAS Y LOS INGRESOS DERIVADOS DEL FONDO DE TRANSPARENCIA DE FONDOS EN CUSTODIA REVERTIRÁ AL FONDO GENERAL. TODO OTRO DINERO RESTANTE EN EL FONDO DE TRANSPARENCIA DE FONDOS EN CUSTODIA AL TERMINAR EL AÑO FISCAL PERMANECERÁ EN EL FONDO Y NO REVERTIRÁ AL FONDO GENERAL.

(II) EN EL AÑO FISCAL ESTATAL 2022-2023, Y CADA AÑO FISCAL SUCESIVO, LA ASAMBLEA GENERAL ASIGNARÁ ANUALMENTE EL FONDO DE TRANSPARENCIA DE FONDOS EN CUSTODIA PARA LOS FINES QUE ESPECIFIQUE LA LEY.

(III) LOS DINEROS DEL FONDO DE TRANSPARENCIA DE FONDOS EN CUSTODIA SERÁN ASIGNADOS EN UNA AUDIENCIA PÚBLICA CON LA OPORTUNIDAD DE RECIBIR COMENTARIOS DEL PÚBLICO.

(F) EL INGRESO RECAUDADO COMO FONDOS EN CUSTODIA, SEGÚN LO AUTORICEN LOS VOTANTES EN LA ELECCIÓN ESTATAL DE NOVIEMBRE DE 2021, JUNTO CON GANANCIAS Y RECAUDACIONES, SERÁ RETENIDO Y GASTADO POR EL ESTADO COMO CAMBIO EN EL INGRESO APROBADO POR LOS VOTANTES Y ESTARÁ EXENTO DE TODA LIMITACIÓN DE INGRESO, GASTO Y OTRAS LIMITACIONES SEGÚN LA SECCIÓN 20 DEL ARTÍCULO X DE LA CONSTITUCIÓN DEL ESTADO O CUALQUIER OTRA LEY.

SECCIÓN 4. FECHA DE VIGENCIA. Todas las disposiciones de todas las secciones entrarán en vigencia el 1 de julio de 2022.

Propuesta 119 Programa de enriquecimiento del aprendizaje y progreso académico

El título de la boleta indicado a continuación es un resumen redactado por el personal profesional de las oficinas del secretario de estado, el procurador general y el personal jurídico de la asamblea general solo para los fines de la votación. No aparecerá el título de la boleta en los Estatutos Revisados de Colorado. El texto de la medida que aparecerá en los Estatutos Revisados de Colorado a continuación fue redactado por quienes proponen la iniciativa. Se incluye la medida iniciada en la boleta como cambio propuesto a la ley actual porque quienes la proponen reunieron la cantidad requerida de firmas para la petición.

Título de la boleta:

¿DEBEN AUMENTAR LOS IMPUESTOS ESTATALES \$137,600,000 AL AÑO EN LAS VENTAS AL POR MENOR DE MARIHUANA MEDIANTE UN CAMBIO A LOS ESTATUTOS REVISADOS DE COLORADO RESPECTO A LA CREACIÓN DE UN PROGRAMA PARA OFRECER OPORTUNIDADES DE APRENDIZAJE FUERA DE LA ESCUELA A LOS NIÑOS DE COLORADO DE 5 A 17 AÑOS DE EDAD, Y, EN RELACIÓN CON ELLO, CREAR UNA ENTIDAD ESTATAL INDEPENDIENTE A FIN DE ADMINISTRAR EL PROGRAMA PARA OPORTUNIDADES DE APRENDIZAJE FUERA DE LA ESCUELA ELEGIDO POR LOS PADRES; FINANCIANDO EL PROGRAMA AL AUMENTAR EL IMPUESTO SOBRE LAS VENTAS AL POR MENOR DE MARIHUANA EN UN 5% PARA 2024 Y REASIGNANDO UNA PARTE DEL INGRESO DE TERRENOS DE LAS ESCUELAS PÚBLICAS; AUTORIZANDO TRANSFERENCIAS Y RECAUDACIONES PARA FINANCIAR EL PROGRAMA COMO CAMBIO EN EL INGRESO APROBADO POR LOS VOTANTES; ESPECIFICANDO QUE LAS OPORTUNIDADES DE APRENDIZAJE INCLUYEN TUTORÍAS E INSTRUCCIÓN ADICIONAL EN MATERIAS COMO LECTURA, MATEMÁTICAS, CIENCIA, REDACCIÓN, MÚSICA Y ARTE, APOYO ORIENTADO A NIÑOS CON NECESIDADES ESPECIALES Y DISCAPACIDADES DEL APRENDIZAJE, CAPACITACIÓN PROFESIONAL Y TÉCNICA, ADEMÁS DE OTRAS OPORTUNIDADES ACADÉMICAS O DE ENRIQUECIMIENTO; Y DANDO PRIORIDAD A LA AYUDA FINANCIERA PARA ESTUDIANTES DE BAJOS INGRESOS?

Texto de la medida:

Promúlguese por el Pueblo del Estado de Colorado:

SECCIÓN 1. En los Estatutos Revisados de Colorado, **agregar** el artículo 86.1 al título 22 de la siguiente manera:

ARTÍCULO 86.1
PROGRAMA DE ENRIQUECIMIENTO DEL APRENDIZAJE Y PROGRESO ACADÉMICO (LEAP)

22-86.1-101. Declaración legislativa. Los VOTANTES DEL ESTADO DE COLORADO ENCUENTRAN Y DECLARAN QUE:

(1) LAS OPORTUNIDADES DE APRENDIZAJE FUERA DE LA ESCUELA SON CRUCIALES PARA TODOS LOS NIÑOS Y JÓVENES DE COLORADO. ESTAS OPORTUNIDADES DE APRENDIZAJE, DURANTE PERIODOS Y PLAZOS FUERA DE SUS HORARIOS ESCOLARES REGULARES, APORTAN HABILIDADES ACADÉMICAS

Y DE VIDA QUE SON ESENCIALES PARA QUE LOS NIÑOS Y JÓVENES PROSPEREN EN LA ESCUELA Y EN LA VIDA. ESTAS OPORTUNIDADES DE APRENDIZAJE SON CRUCIALES PARA MANTENER Y MEJORAR EL RENDIMIENTO ACADÉMICO Y LA SALUD MENTAL, FÍSICA Y EMOCIONAL DE TODOS LOS NIÑOS.

(2) LA INTENCIÓN DE LOS VOTANTES AL PROMULGAR ESTE ARTÍCULO 86.1 ES CREAR UN PROGRAMA DE APRENDIZAJE EN TODO EL ESTADO QUE APORTE ACCESO CONSTANTE Y CONFIABLE A LAS OPORTUNIDADES DE APRENDIZAJE PARA TODOS LOS NIÑOS Y JÓVENES DE COLORADO, FUERA DE SUS HORARIOS ESCOLARES REGULARES; ADEMÁS SE TIENE LA INTENCIÓN DE QUE DICHO PROGRAMA PERMITA: TUTORÍAS E INSTRUCCIÓN ACADÉMICA SUPLEMENTARIA EN ÁREAS CENTRALES, COMO LECTURA, MATEMÁTICAS, CIENCIA Y REDACCIÓN; APOYO ORIENTADO A LOS NIÑOS Y JÓVENES CON NECESIDADES ESPECIALES Y DISCAPACIDADES DEL APRENDIZAJE; ACCESO A ASESORÍA Y SERVICIOS DE SALUD MENTALES, FÍSICOS Y EMOCIONALES; ADQUISICIÓN DE IDIOMA INGLÉS E IDIOMAS EXTRANJEROS; ACCESO A IMPLEMENTOS Y MATERIALES ADICIONALES DE APRENDIZAJE, ESPECIALMENTE PARA ESTUDIANTES RURALES; ADEMÁS DE OTROS PROGRAMAS QUE APORTAN OPORTUNIDADES ACADÉMICAS O DE ENRIQUECIMIENTO QUE YA NO OFRECEN MUCHAS ESCUELAS, ENTRE OTROS: MÚSICA, DANZA, ARTES Y CAPACITACIÓN E INSTRUCCIÓN PROFESIONAL Y TÉCNICA.

(3) CREAR EL PROGRAMA DE ENRIQUECIMIENTO DEL APRENDIZAJE Y PROGRESO ACADÉMICO ASEGURARÁ QUE ESTAS EXPERIENCIAS DE APRENDIZAJE ESTÉN IGUALMENTE DISPONIBLES PARA TODOS LOS NIÑOS Y JÓVENES DE COLORADO Y QUE LAS FAMILIAS TENGAN LA AUTORIDAD Y RESPONSABILIDAD DE ELEGIR PROGRAMAS, EXPERIENCIAS Y ACTIVIDADES QUE CONSIDEREN COMO LO QUE MÁS CONVIENE AL NIÑO O ADOLESCENTE.

(4) TODOS LOS NIÑOS TIENEN SUS PROPIAS FORTALEZAS, NECESIDADES Y ESTILOS DE APRENDIZAJE. INCENTIVAR LA INNOVACIÓN EN LA CREACIÓN Y OFRECER OPORTUNIDADES DE APRENDIZAJE NUEVAS Y AMPLIADAS EN TODO EL ESTADO FAVORECERÁ A LOS NIÑOS Y JÓVENES DE COLORADO Y REFORZARÁ EL APRENDIZAJE QUE BRINDAN MUCHOS ENTORNOS ESCOLARES.

(5) IMPLEMENTAR EL PROGRAMA DE ENRIQUECIMIENTO DEL APRENDIZAJE Y PROGRESO ACADÉMICO OFRECERÁ BENEFICIOS A LAS COMUNIDADES DE COLORADO AL DAR: APOYO SUPLEMENTARIO PARA ESTUDIANTES QUE DEVENGARÁ EN BENEFICIO DE LOS ESTUDIANTES, SUS FAMILIAS Y SUS EDUCADORES EN LAS ESCUELAS; OPORTUNIDADES ADICIONALES DE EMPLEO PARA EDUCADORES Y PROVEEDORES INDIVIDUALES; ADEMÁS MAYOR ESTABILIDAD ECONÓMICA PARA LOS ESTUDIANTES Y SUS FAMILIAS.

(6) PROPORCIONAR DINERO ADICIONAL AL FONDO DE ESCUELAS PÚBLICAS ESTATALES ASEGURA QUE LOS COSTOS FINANCIEROS DEL PROGRAMA DE ENRIQUECIMIENTO DEL APRENDIZAJE Y PROGRESO ACADÉMICO TENGA UN IMPACTO MÍNIMO EN EL FONDO GENERAL DEL ESTADO.

(7) AL APLICAR UN IMPUESTO ESTATAL DE VENTA AL POR MENOR SOBRE LA MARIHUANA Y TRANSFERIR UNA PARTE DE LOS INGRESOS RECAUDADOS POR LOS TERRENOS ESCOLARES EN FIDEICOMISO DE COLORADO AL FONDO DE ESCUELAS PÚBLICAS DEL ESTADO, EL ESTADO PODRÁ FINANCIAR EL PROGRAMA DE ENRIQUECIMIENTO DEL APRENDIZAJE Y PROGRESO ACADÉMICO PARA LOS NIÑOS Y JÓVENES DE COLORADO.

22-86.1-102. Definiciones. TAL COMO SE UTILIZA EN ESTE ARTÍCULO 86.1, A MENOS QUE EL CONTEXTO LO EXIJA DE OTRO MODO:

(1) “AUTORIDAD” SIGNIFICA LA AUTORIDAD DE APRENDIZAJE DE COLORADO CREADA MEDIANTE LA SECCIÓN 22-86.1-103.

(2) “JUNTA” SIGNIFICA LA JUNTA DE DIRECTORES DE LA AUTORIDAD DE APRENDIZAJE DE COLORADO CREADA MEDIANTE LA SECCIÓN 22-86.1-105.

(3) “NIÑO O JOVEN ELEGIBLE” SIGNIFICA UN NIÑO O JOVEN DE CINCO AÑOS DE EDAD O MAYOR EN UN AÑO CALIFICADO PERO DE MENOS DE DIECIOCHO AÑOS Y RESIDENTE EN COLORADO Y QUE SEA, O VAYA A SER, ELEGIBLE PARA LA ADMISIÓN EN UNA ESCUELA PÚBLICA DENTRO DEL ESTADO.

(4) “PROGRAMA DE ENRIQUECIMIENTO DEL APRENDIZAJE Y PROGRESO ACADÉMICO” O “PROGRAMA LEAP” O “PROGRAMA” SE REFIERE AL PROGRAMA DE APRENDIZAJE CREADO EN ESTE ARTÍCULO 86.1.

(5) “FONDO DE OPORTUNIDADES DE APRENDIZAJE” O “FONDO” SIGNIFICA EL FONDO DE ENRIQUECIMIENTO DEL APRENDIZAJE Y PROGRESO ACADÉMICO CREADO MEDIANTE LA SECCIÓN 22-86.1-106.

(6) “PROVEEDOR LOCAL DE EDUCACIÓN” SIGNIFICA UN DISTRITO ESCOLAR, UNA JUNTA DE SERVICIOS COOPERATIVOS, UNA ESCUELA CHÁRTER DEL DISTRITO O UN INSTITUTO CHÁRTER.

(7)(a) “OPORTUNIDAD DE APRENDIZAJE FUERA DE LA ESCUELA” U “OPORTUNIDAD DE APRENDIZAJE” SIGNIFICA UN PROGRAMA, SERVICIO, SISTEMA, ACTIVIDAD, MATERIALES U OTRA ACTIVIDAD O COMPRA QUE APORTE APOYO SUPLEMENTARIO DE EDUCACIÓN O DESARROLLO A NIÑOS O JÓVENES ELEGIBLES FUERA DE LAS OPERACIONES ESCOLARES NORMALES.



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(b) "OPORTUNIDAD DE APRENDIZAJE" INCLUYE, ENTRE OTRAS COSAS: TUTORÍAS E INSTRUCCIÓN ACADÉMICA SUPLEMENTARIA EN ÁREAS CENTRALES, COMO LECTURA, MATEMÁTICAS, CIENCIA Y REDACCIÓN; APOYO ORIENTADO A LOS NIÑOS Y JÓVENES CON NECESIDADES ESPECIALES Y DISCAPACIDADES DEL APRENDIZAJE; ACCESO A ASESORÍA Y SERVICIOS MENTALES, FÍSICOS Y EMOCIONALES; ADQUISICIÓN DE IDIOMA INGLÉS E IDIOMAS EXTRANJEROS; CAPACITACIÓN E INSTRUCCIÓN PROFESIONAL Y TÉCNICA; OTROS PROGRAMAS QUE APORTAN OPORTUNIDADES ACADÉMICAS O DE ENRIQUECIMIENTO; Y MATERIALES Y SUMINISTROS RAZONABLES Y NECESARIOS PARA COMPLETAR O PARTICIPAR EN UNA OPORTUNIDAD DE APRENDIZAJE.

(c) "OPORTUNIDAD DE APRENDIZAJE" TAMBIÉN INCLUYE TERAPIA EMOCIONAL Y FÍSICA, SERVICIOS DE SALUD MENTAL, APRENDIZAJE SOCIAL EMOCIONAL, MENTORÍA Y OTROS SERVICIOS QUE APOYAN A LOS ESTUDIANTES EN EL PROCESO DE LOGRAR UNA EDUCACIÓN HOLÍSTICA Y SIGNIFICATIVA.

(d) "OPORTUNIDAD DE APRENDIZAJE" NO INCLUYE INSTRUCCIÓN DENTRO DE LA ESCUELA, SERVICIOS, MATERIALES, CURRÍCULUM ACADÉMICO O PROGRAMAS PROVISTOS COMO PARTE DE UN CURSO NORMAL DE ESTUDIO CONFORME A LOS REQUISITOS DE ASISTENCIA OBLIGATORIA DE UN ESTUDIANTE SEGÚN LA SECCIÓN 22-33-104. "OPORTUNIDAD DE APRENDIZAJE" NO INCLUYE PROGRAMAS DE RECUPERACIÓN DE CRÉDITOS INDEPENDIENTEMENTE DE LA HORA DEL DÍA O EL DÍA DE LA SEMANA EN QUE SE OFREZCAN. "OPORTUNIDAD DE APRENDIZAJE" NO INCLUYE EL PAGO DE LA MATRÍCULA ESCOLAR.

(8) "PADRE/MADRE" SIGNIFICA PADRE O MADRE O TUTOR LEGAL DE UN NIÑO O JOVEN ELEGIBLE O UN INDIVIDUO QUE ACTÚA EN LUGAR DE LOS PADRES DE UN NIÑO O JOVEN ELEGIBLE.

22-86.1-103. El programa de enriquecimiento del aprendizaje y progreso académico y autoridad - establecimiento - propósito - poderes. (1) SE ESTABLECE POR LA PRESENTE UNA ENTIDAD INDEPENDIENTE DENTRO DEL DEPARTAMENTO DE EDUCACIÓN, LA AUTORIDAD DE APRENDIZAJE DE COLORADO. LA AUTORIDAD EJERCERÁ SUS PODERES Y REALIZARÁ SUS DEBERES Y FUNCIONES COMO SI FUESE TRANSFERIDA AL DEPARTAMENTO POR UNA TRANSFERENCIA **TIPO 1** SEGÚN LAS DISPOSICIONES DEL ARTÍCULO 1 DEL TÍTULO 24 DE LA "LEY DE ORGANIZACIÓN ADMINISTRATIVA DE 1968". ADEMÁS DE CUALQUIER OTRO PODER, DEBERES Y FUNCIONES DE LA AUTORIDAD OTORGADOS POR LEY, LA AUTORIDAD PUEDE REALIZAR TODO PRESUPUESTO, COMPRA, PLANIFICACIÓN Y FUNCIONES ADMINISTRATIVAS RELACIONADAS INDEPENDIENTEMENTE DEL DEPARTAMENTO, LA JUNTA DE EDUCACIÓN ESTATAL Y EL COMISIONADO DE EDUCACIÓN.

(2) SE CREA POR ESTE INTERMEDIO EL PROGRAMA DE ENRIQUECIMIENTO DEL APRENDIZAJE Y PROGRESO ACADÉMICO PARA DISTRIBUIR AYUDA FINANCIERA EN NOMBRE DE NIÑOS Y JÓVENES ELEGIBLES EN COLORADO A FIN DE UTILIZARSE PARA OPORTUNIDADES DE APRENDIZAJE.

(3) LA AUTORIDAD:

(a) PROCURARÁ AUMENTAR EL ACCESO A LAS OPORTUNIDADES DE APRENDIZAJE PARA TODO NIÑO O JOVEN ELEGIBLE, ASEGURARÁ UNA AMPLIA DIVERSIDAD DE OPORTUNIDADES DE APRENDIZAJE Y PROVEEDORES, ADEMÁS AYUDARÁ A LOS PADRES A ELEGIR RECURSOS PARA SUS NIÑOS O JÓVENES.

(b) CREARÁ Y DESARROLLARÁ CRITERIOS PARA PROPORCIONAR Y SELECCIONAR OPORTUNIDADES DE APRENDIZAJE PARA DISTRIBUIR FONDOS, DE MANERA CONGRUENTE QUE PROMUEVA LAS METAS Y PROPÓSITOS SEÑALADOS EN LA SECCIÓN 22-86.1-101, QUE SE OFRECERÁN DENTRO DEL ESTADO DE COLORADO A LOS NIÑOS O JÓVENES ELEGIBLES. UN USO PERMISIBLE DE LA AYUDA FINANCIERA INCLUYE GASTOS RAZONABLES PARA TRANSPORTAR A UN NIÑO O JOVEN ELEGIBLE HACIA Y DESDE LAS OPORTUNIDADES DE APRENDIZAJE. ES LA INTENCIÓN DEL PUEBLO QUE LA AYUDA FINANCIERA DISTRIBUIDA CONSISTA EN NUEVOS DÓLARES A GASTAR EN NUEVOS SERVICIOS Y NO DEBE SUPLANTAR FONDOS PÚBLICOS O DE CARIDAD EXISTENTES PARA PROGRAMAS A DISPOSICIÓN DE NIÑOS O JÓVENES ELEGIBLES.

(c) CREARÁ Y DESARROLLARÁ CRITERIOS PARA PUBLICAR, OFRECER, RECIBIR Y EVALUAR SOLICITUDES DE PROVEEDORES POTENCIALES DE OPORTUNIDADES DE APRENDIZAJE SEGÚN EL PROGRAMA. DICHS CRITERIOS DEBEN MAXIMIZAR EL NÚMERO Y LA DIVERSIDAD DE PROVEEDORES QUE PUEDEN ELEGIR LOS PADRES Y LOS NIÑOS O JÓVENES ELEGIBLES, DEBEN PERMITIR QUE LOS PADRES EVALÚEN AL PROVEEDOR UNA VEZ QUE SE RECIBAN LOS SERVICIOS, Y DEBEN TAMBIÉN ASEGURAR QUE LOS PEQUEÑOS PROVEEDORES CON SEDE EN LA COMUNIDAD SEAN ELEGIBLES Y PUEDAN PARTICIPAR EN EL PROGRAMA.

(d) CREARÁ Y DESARROLLARÁ CRITERIOS PARA CERTIFICAR PROVEEDORES DE OPORTUNIDADES DE APRENDIZAJE SEGÚN EL PROGRAMA. A FIN DE FACILITAR INTERVENCIONES ACADÉMICAS PARA ESTUDIANTES QUE ESTÉN RETRASADOS EN SU NIVEL DE GRADO, LA AUTORIDAD CERTIFICARÁ PREVIAMENTE A LOS DISTRITOS ESCOLARES, JUNTAS DE SERVICIOS COOPERATIVOS LOCALES Y OTROS PROVEEDORES EDUCATIVOS LOCALES Y CREARÁ UN PROCESO PARA ASEGURAR LA APROBACIÓN PRIORITARIA DE EDUCADORES COMO PROVEEDORES CALIFICADOS. LA AUTORIDAD NO ES ELEGIBLE PARA LA CERTIFICACIÓN COMO PROVEEDOR. LOS

REQUISITOS MÍNIMOS PARA SER UN PROVEEDOR ELEGIBLE DEBEN INCLUIR ESTAR AUTORIZADO PARA OPERAR EN COLORADO Y CONTAR CON UN SEGURO DE RESPONSABILIDAD CIVIL ADECUADO SEGÚN LO DETERMINE LA AUTORIDAD. LA AUTORIDAD PUEDE BRINDAR APOYO RAZONABLE A LOS PROVEEDORES PARA ASEGURAR QUE UNA REPRESENTACIÓN AMPLIA DE PROVEEDORES PUEDAN CUMPLIR CON LOS REQUISITOS EN ESTE INCISO (3). LOS FAMILIARES INMEDIATOS NO SON ELEGIBLES PARA SER PROVEEDORES CALIFICADOS EN LA PRESTACIÓN DE SERVICIOS A SUS NIÑOS O JÓVENES. LA AUTORIDAD DETERMINARÁ BAJO QUÉ CIRCUNSTANCIAS UN PROVEEDOR CALIFICADO PIERDE SU CERTIFICACIÓN Y PUEDE PROHIBIR A LOS PROVEEDORES QUE HAYAN PARTICIPADO EN FRAUDE U OTRAS ACTIVIDADES FINANCIERAS ENGAÑOSAS, DENTRO DEL ALCANCE DE ESTE PROGRAMA, PRESTAR SERVICIOS A LOS NIÑOS O JÓVENES ELEGIBLES.

(e) CREARÁ Y DESARROLLARÁ CRITERIOS PARA ESTABLECER PROCEDIMIENTOS PARA GARANTIZAR LA SEGURIDAD DE LOS NIÑOS Y JÓVENES, INCLUYENDO LA VERIFICACIÓN RECIENTE DE ANTECEDENTES PENALES A TRAVÉS DE LA OFICINA DE INVESTIGACIÓN DE COLORADO O UNA ENTIDAD FEDERAL SIMILAR PARA LOS PROVEEDORES QUE ENTREN EN CONTACTO CON NIÑOS O JÓVENES.

(f) CREARÁ Y DESARROLLARÁ CRITERIOS PARA ESTABLECER Y GESTIONAR LA AYUDA FINANCIERA EN NOMBRE DE LOS PADRES Y PARA REMUNERAR A LOS PROVEEDORES APROBADOS DE OPORTUNIDADES DE APRENDIZAJE POR USOS ELEGIBLES ESPECÍFICA E INDEPENDIENTEMENTE ELEGIDOS POR LOS PADRES Y PROPORCIONADOS A UN NIÑO O JOVEN ELEGIBLE. LOS FONDOS DE AYUDA FINANCIERA DEBEN PROPORCIONARSE Y ADMINISTRARSE CON EL MÉTODO DE DISTRIBUCIÓN QUE DETERMINARÁ LA AUTORIDAD Y SUJETO A LA CANTIDAD MÁXIMA DE AYUDA FINANCIERA POR NIÑO O JOVEN ELEGIBLE SEGÚN LO DETERMINE LA AUTORIDAD DE LA SIGUIENTE MANERA:

(I) AL DETERMINAR EL MÉTODO DE DISTRIBUCIÓN LA AUTORIDAD PRIORIZARÁ A LAS FAMILIAS DE BAJOS INGRESOS CON NIÑOS O JÓVENES QUE DE OTRO MODO NO PODRÍAN SOLVENTAR OPORTUNIDADES DE APRENDIZAJE. DENTRO DE LA CATEGORÍA PRIORITARIA DE INGRESO PARA NIÑOS Y JÓVENES, LA AUTORIDAD PUEDE ASIGNAR UNA PRIORIDAD ADICIONAL A AQUELLOS NIÑOS O JÓVENES ELEGIBLES RETRASADOS CON RESPECTO A SU NIVEL DE GRADO EN LECTURA, MATEMÁTICAS U OTRAS ÁREAS ACADÉMICAS CENTRALES, O QUE TENGAN NECESIDADES ESPECIALES EDUCATIVAS, FÍSICAS O EMOCIONALES O DISCAPACIDADES.

(II) EN EL AÑO CALENDARIO 2022, LA AUTORIDAD, EN LA MÁXIMA MEDIDA QUE RESULTE PRACTICABLE, DISTRIBUIRÁ AYUDA FINANCIERA PARA NIÑOS O JÓVENES ELEGIBLES.

(III) EN EL AÑO CALENDARIO 2023, LA AUTORIDAD ASEGURARÁ QUE LA DISTRIBUCIÓN TOTAL ANUAL DE AYUDA FINANCIERA POR CADA NIÑO O JOVEN ELEGIBLE PRIORITARIO QUE PARTICIPE EN EL PROGRAMA SEA AL MENOS DE MIL QUINIENTOS DÓLARES, Y PUEDE APORTAR ADJUDICACIONES DE AYUDA FINANCIERA A NIÑOS O JÓVENES ELEGIBLES NO PRIORITARIOS EN CANTIDADES MENORES DE MIL QUINIENTOS DÓLARES SEGÚN LO DETERMINE LA AUTORIDAD. LA AUTORIDAD PUEDE ELEGIR TENER UN PERIODO DE SOLICITUD Y DESEMBOLSO DE AYUDA FINANCIERA O MÁS DE UNO. EN CADA PERIODO DE DESEMBOLSO, LA AUTORIDAD ADJUDICARÁ LA AYUDA FINANCIERA DE LA SIGUIENTE MANERA:

(A) LA AYUDA FINANCIERA DEBE DISTRIBUIRSE PRIMERO A LOS NIÑOS O JÓVENES ELEGIBLES QUE RESIDEN EN HOGARES QUE SE HALLAN CIENTOS POR CIENTO DENTRO DEL NIVEL FEDERAL DE POBREZA O POR DEBAJO DEL MISMO.

(B) DESPUÉS DE QUE TODOS LOS NIÑOS O JÓVENES ELEGIBLES QUE RESIDAN EN HOGARES QUE SE HALLAN CIENTOS POR CIENTO DENTRO DEL NIVEL FEDERAL DE POBREZA O POR DEBAJO DEL MISMO QUE HAN DECIDIDO PARTICIPAR EN EL PROGRAMA HAYAN RECIBIDO AYUDA FINANCIERA, LA AUTORIDAD DISTRIBUIRÁ AYUDA FINANCIERA A LOS NIÑOS O JÓVENES ELEGIBLES QUE RESIDEN EN HOGARES QUE SE HALLAN SOBRE EL CIENTO POR CIENTO DEL NIVEL FEDERAL DE POBREZA Y DEBAJO DEL DOSCIENTOS POR CIENTO DEL MISMO.

(C) DESPUÉS DE QUE TODOS LOS NIÑOS O JÓVENES ELEGIBLES QUE RESIDAN EN HOGARES QUE SE HALLAN SOBRE EL CIENTO POR CIENTO DEL NIVEL FEDERAL DE POBREZA Y POR DEBAJO DEL DOSCIENTOS POR CIENTO DEL MISMO QUE HAN DECIDIDO PARTICIPAR EN EL PROGRAMA HAYAN RECIBIDO AYUDA FINANCIERA, LA AUTORIDAD DISTRIBUIRÁ AYUDA FINANCIERA A LOS NIÑOS O JÓVENES ELEGIBLES QUE RESIDEN EN HOGARES QUE SE HALLAN DENTRO DEL DOSCIENTOS POR CIENTO DEL NIVEL FEDERAL DE POBREZA O POR SOBRE EL MISMO.

(IV) EN EL AÑO CALENDARIO 2024 Y EN AÑOS CALENDARIO SUBSIGUIENTES, LA AUTORIDAD DETERMINARÁ LAS CANTIDADES ADJUDICADAS DE AYUDA FINANCIERA A ENTREGAR A NIÑOS O JÓVENES ELEGIBLES Y EL MÉTODO Y LA FECHA DE DISTRIBUCIÓN.

(V) AL DETERMINAR LA MANERA EN QUE LAS FAMILIAS CALIFICAN PARA EL PROGRAMA, LA AUTORIDAD DEBE ASEGURAR QUE SE USEN FORMULARIOS Y PROCESOS SIMPLES Y FÁCILMENTE COMPENSIBLES. LA AUTORIDAD TIENE CONTROL SOBRE CUÁNDO Y CÓMO SE DISTRIBUYA LA AYUDA FINANCIERA A LOS PROVEEDORES APROBADOS QUE ELIJAN LOS PADRES, SUJETO A REGLAS ADMINISTRATIVAS ADOPTADAS POR LA JUNTA. DICHA AYUDA FINANCIERA DEBE ADEMÁS ENTREGARSE Y ADMINISTRARSE DE TAL

MODO QUE NO DISCRIMINE CONTRA NINGÚN NIÑO O JOVEN ELEGIBLE, FAMILIA DE NIÑO O JOVEN ELEGIBLE, PROVEEDOR, U OPORTUNIDAD DE APRENDIZAJE POR MOTIVOS DE RAZA, ETNICIDAD, COLOR, IDIOMA MATERNO, AFILIACIÓN RELIGIOSA, ORIGEN NACIONAL, GÉNERO, SITUACIÓN MILITAR, ORIENTACIÓN SEXUAL, VARIABILIDAD DE GÉNERO, ESTADO CIVIL O DISCAPACIDAD FÍSICA O MENTAL.

(g) CREARÁ AYUDA FINANCIERA EN MÚLTIPLES AÑOS SEGÚN SEA PRACTICABLE PARA NIÑOS O JÓVENES ELEGIBLES DE BAJOS INGRESOS QUE RESIDAN EN HOGARES QUE SE HALLAN A MENOS DE DOSCIENTOS POR CIENTO DEL NIVEL FEDERAL DE POBREZA PARA ASEGURAR QUE AQUELLOS NIÑOS O JÓVENES ELEGIBLES TENGAN LA SEGURIDAD DE CONTAR CON FONDOS PARA UN PERIODO MÍNIMO DE TRES AÑOS INDEPENDIENTEMENTE DE LOS CAMBIOS QUE HAYA EN EL NIVEL DE INGRESO FAMILIAR Y PARA OFRECER ESTABILIDAD A AQUELLOS NIÑOS O JÓVENES.

(h) CREARÁ Y DESARROLLARÁ CRITERIOS Y PROTOCOLOS PARA QUE LOS FONDOS SIN USAR DE CADA BENEFICIARIO DE AYUDA FINANCIERA PUEDAN SER UTILIZADOS POR EL BENEFICIARIO EN OPORTUNIDADES ADICIONALES DE APRENDIZAJE SEGÚN EL PROGRAMA. TODA AYUDA FINANCIERA DE UN NIÑO O JOVEN QUE YA NO CALIFIQUE COMO NIÑO O JOVEN ELEGIBLE DEBE REVERTIRSE AL FONDO DE ENRIQUECIMIENTO DEL APRENDIZAJE Y PROGRESO ACADÉMICO. LOS FONDOS FINANCIEROS PUEDEN ACUMULARSE DURANTE TRES AÑOS, PERO AL COMENZAR EL CUARTO AÑO DE FINANCIAMIENTO, LA TOTALIDAD DE LOS FONDOS, SALVO LOS FONDOS ADJUDICADOS RECIENTEMENTE DEL CUARTO AÑO, REVIERTEN AL FONDO DE ENRIQUECIMIENTO DEL APRENDIZAJE Y PROGRESO ACADÉMICO. EN EL MOMENTO EN QUE UN NIÑO O JOVEN ELEGIBLE CUMPLA DIECIOCHO AÑOS DE EDAD, TODA AYUDA FINANCIERA RESTANTE DEL NIÑO O JOVEN DEBE REVERTIRSE AL FONDO DE ENRIQUECIMIENTO DEL APRENDIZAJE Y PROGRESO ACADÉMICO.

(i) HARÁ QUE SE REALICEN AUDITORÍAS FINANCIERAS ANUALES INDEPENDIENTES DE LA AUTORIDAD, Y LAS PONDRÁ A DISPOSICIÓN DEL PÚBLICO. CONTADORES PÚBLICOS CERTIFICADOS DEBEN REALIZAR DICHAS AUDITORÍAS Y DEBEN PRESENTARSE A LA JUNTA A MÁS TARDAR EL 1 DE JULIO DE CADA AÑO, CORRESPONDIENDO AL AÑO CALENDARIO ANTERIOR. COMO COMPONENTE DE LAS AUDITORÍAS, EL AUDITOR SELECCIONARÁ UNA MUESTRA REPRESENTATIVA DE PROVEEDORES Y EVALUARÁ SI LOS FONDOS SE UTILIZARON PARA LOS FINES DESCRITOS EN ESTA SECCIÓN. ADEMÁS, LA AUTORIDAD PUEDE CONTRATAR A UN TERCERO EVALUADOR A FIN DE QUE ANALICE LA EFICACIA DE LOS PROVEEDORES. LA AUTORIDAD TACHARÁ TODOS LOS NOMBRES DE CONTRIBUYENTES Y NÚMEROS DE SEGURO SOCIAL O NÚMEROS DE IDENTIFICACIÓN TRIBUTARIA ANTES DE EMITIR PÚBLICAMENTE CUALQUIER AUDITORÍA U OTRO INFORME FINANCIERO.

(j) EN LA MÁXIMA MEDIDA QUE SEA PRACTICABLE, CREARÁ E IMPLEMENTARÁ UN SISTEMA DE EVALUACIÓN PARA EL 1 DE ENERO DE 2024, A FIN DE MEDIR LOS EFECTOS DE LAS OPORTUNIDADES DE APRENDIZAJE BRINDADAS A LOS ESTUDIANTES Y ASEGURAR QUE LOS PROVEEDORES DE APRENDIZAJE SEAN CALIFICADOS MEDIANTE RESULTADOS CUANTITATIVOS Y CUALITATIVOS. ESTE SISTEMA TAMBIÉN DEBE INCORPORAR COMENTARIOS Y CALIFICACIONES DE LOS PADRES Y JÓVENES Y DEBEN ESTAR PÚBLICA Y FÁCILMENTE DISPONIBLES PARA EL USO DE LOS NIÑOS O JÓVENES Y SUS FAMILIAS. COMO MÍNIMO, ESTAS MEDICIONES Y DATOS DEBEN REUNIRSE, ANALIZARSE Y PONERSE A DISPOSICIÓN DEL PÚBLICO ANUALMENTE. AL DISEÑAR EL SISTEMA DE EVALUACIÓN, LA AUTORIDAD PRIORIZARÁ:

(I) EL DESARROLLO DE UNA GAMA DE MEDICIONES DEL IMPACTO QUE PUEDEN ABARCAR DATOS CUALITATIVOS, CUANTITATIVOS, A CORTO PLAZO Y LONGITUDINALES;

(II) LA INTEGRACIÓN DE SISTEMAS DE DATOS DESARROLLADOS POR LA AUTORIDAD CON SISTEMAS DE DATOS EN LOS DISTRITOS ESCOLARES U OTRAS ENTIDADES PÚBLICAS PARA EVALUAR EL IMPACTO ACADÉMICO A CORTO PLAZO Y RESULTADOS DE VIDA A LARGO PLAZO; ADEMÁS

(III) LA PROTECCIÓN DE LA INFORMACIÓN DE LA IDENTIDAD PERSONAL DEL ESTUDIANTE Y SU FAMILIA.

(4) ADEMÁS DE LAS OBLIGACIONES ESPECIFICADAS EN EL INCISO (3) DE ESTA SECCIÓN, LA AUTORIDAD DE APRENDIZAJE DE COLORADO TIENE LOS SIGUIENTES DEBERES, PUDIENDO DELEGAR MEDIANTE CONTRATO LA TOTALIDAD O ALGUNOS DE ELLOS:

(a) ADMINISTRAR, CONFORME A LOS CRITERIOS ESTABLECIDOS EN EL INCISO (3)(c) DE ESTA SECCIÓN, LA PUBLICACIÓN, OFERTA, RECEPCIÓN, EVALUACIÓN Y SELECCIÓN DE SOLICITUDES DE PROVEEDORES POTENCIALES DE OPORTUNIDADES DE APRENDIZAJE SEGÚN EL PROGRAMA A LOS CUALES LOS PADRES PUEDEN DIRIGIR AYUDA FINANCIERA;

(b) CELEBRAR ACUERDOS Y CONTRATOS SEGÚN SEA NECESARIO CON LOS PROVEEDORES APROBADOS DE OPORTUNIDADES DE APRENDIZAJE CONFORME AL PROGRAMA;

(c) DESARROLLAR, ESTABLECER Y GESTIONAR UN SISTEMA PARA RECIBIR, PROCESAR Y EVALUAR SOLICITUDES DE NIÑOS O JÓVENES ELEGIBLES;

(d) APOYAR A LOS NIÑOS O JÓVENES ELEGIBLES, SUS PADRES Y FAMILIAS AL NAVEGAR Y SELECCIONAR ENTRE LAS



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OPORTUNIDADES DE APRENDIZAJE DISPONIBLES;

(e) PROPORCIONAR PERICIA TÉCNICA, PROGRAMÁTICA Y FORMADORA DE CAPACIDADES ADEMÁS DE FONDOS PARA AUMENTAR EL NÚMERO Y LA CALIDAD DE LOS PROVEEDORES;

(f) ESTABLECER, GESTIONAR Y DISTRIBUIR AYUDA FINANCIERA PARA NIÑOS O JÓVENES ELEGIBLES FINANCIADA POR EL FONDO DE OPORTUNIDADES FINANCIERAS A FIN DE PAGAR A LOS PROVEEDORES APROBADOS DE OPORTUNIDADES DE APRENDIZAJE; Y

(g) PRESTAR SERVICIOS TECNOLÓGICOS, SUJETOS A LOS CRITERIOS ESTABLECIDOS Y DETERMINADOS POR LA AUTORIDAD, PARA FINES DE MONITOREO Y SEGUIMIENTO DEL USO DE LA AYUDA FINANCIERA POR PARTE DE LOS NIÑOS O JÓVENES ELEGIBLES Y DESEMPEÑO Y PAGOS DE LOS PROVEEDORES APROBADOS.

(5) NO MÁS DEL DIEZ POR CIENTO DEL DINERO DEL FONDO DE ENRIQUECIMIENTO DEL APRENDIZAJE Y PROGRESO ACADÉMICO PUEDE DESTINARSE A GASTOS ADMINISTRATIVOS EN CUALQUIER AÑO FISCAL DESPUÉS DE TERMINAR EL AÑO FISCAL 2025. LA AUTORIDAD ANALIZARÁ ANUALMENTE EL PORCENTAJE DE DINERO DEL FONDO DE ENRIQUECIMIENTO DEL APRENDIZAJE Y PROGRESO ACADÉMICO QUE PUEDE DESTINARSE A GASTOS ADMINISTRATIVOS Y REDUCIRÁ EL PORCENTAJE EN LO POSIBLE.

(6) LA AUTORIDAD ESTÁ SUJETA A TODOS LOS REQUISITOS APLICABLES DE LA "LEY DE REGISTROS ABIERTOS DE COLORADO", PARTE 2 DEL ARTÍCULO 72 DEL TÍTULO 24, C.R.S., Y LA "LEY DE REUNIONES ABIERTAS DE COLORADO", PARTE 4 DEL ARTÍCULO 6 DEL TÍTULO 24, C.R.S.

(7)(a) LA AUTORIDAD ASEGURARÁ QUE EL PROGRAMA DE APRENDIZAJE SEA ADMINISTRADO DE TAL MODO QUE:

(I) PRESTE ASISTENCIA A BENEFICIO DE LOS NIÑOS O JÓVENES ELEGIBLES EN REPRESENTACIÓN DE LOS PADRES QUE HAN ELEGIDO ESPECÍFICA E INDEPENDIENTEMENTE UNA OPORTUNIDAD DE APRENDIZAJE, NO UN PROVEEDOR CALIFICADO EN PARTICULAR;

(II) NO DISCRIMINE CONTRA NINGÚN NIÑO O JOVEN ELEGIBLE, LA FAMILIA DE NINGÚN NIÑO O JOVEN ELEGIBLE NI LA AFILIACIÓN RELIGIOSA DEL PROVEEDOR;

(III) ASEGURE QUE EL PROGRAMA NO EXIJA NINGÚN CURSO DE RELIGIÓN O TEOLOGÍA; Y

(IV) NO NIEGUE A NINGÚN NIÑO O JOVEN ELEGIBLE LOS BENEFICIOS DEL PROGRAMA POR MOTIVOS DE CARÁCTER RELIGIOSO DEL PROVEEDOR.

(b) NINGUNA PARTE DE ESTE INCISO (7) DA A NINGUNA PERSONA UN MOTIVO PRIVADO PARA ACCIÓN JUDICIAL.

22-86.1-104. Poderes adicionales de la autoridad de aprendizaje de Colorado. (1) ADEMÁS DE CUALQUIER OTRO PODER OTORGADO A LA AUTORIDAD EN ESTE ARTÍCULO 86.1, LA AUTORIDAD POSEE LOS SIGUIENTES:

(a) ADOPTAR, TENER Y UTILIZAR UN SELLO Y ALTERAR EL MISMO A SU DISCRECIÓN;

(b) CELEBRAR CUALQUIER CONTRATO O ACUERDO SIN CONTRAVENIR ESTE ARTÍCULO 86.1 NI LAS LEYES DE ESTE ESTADO Y AUTORIZAR AL DIRECTOR EJECUTIVO A CELEBRAR CONTRATOS, FIRMAR TODO INSTRUMENTO Y REALIZAR TODO LO NECESARIO O CONVENIENTE AL EJERCER LOS PODERES OTORGADOS EN ESTE ARTÍCULO 86.1;

(c) COMPRAR, ARRENDAR, COMERCIAR, NEGOCIAR O DE OTRO MODO ADQUIRIR, MANTENER, POSEER, MEJORAR, HIPOTECAR, ARRENDAR, VENDER Y DISPONER DE BIENES PERSONALES, YA SEAN TANGIBLES O INTANGIBLES, O CUALQUIER INTERÉS EN LOS MISMOS; Y COMPRAR, ARRENDAR, COMERCIAR, NEGOCIAR O DE OTRO MODO ADQUIRIR BIENES INMUEBLES O CUALQUIER INTERÉS EN LOS MISMOS Y MANTENER, POSEER, MEJORAR, ARRENDAR O DE OTRO MODO TRANSFERIR DICHOS BIENES INMUEBLES, SIEMPRE Y CUANDO DICHAS TRANSACCIONES NO INTERFIERAN CON LA MISIÓN DE LA AUTORIDAD COMO SE ESPECIFICA EN LA SECCIÓN 22-86.1-103;

(d) ADQUIRIR ESPACIO, EQUIPO, SERVICIOS, SUMINISTROS Y SEGUROS NECESARIOS PARA LLEVAR A CABO LOS FINES DE ESTE ARTÍCULO 86.1;

(e) CONTRATAR Y ACEPTAR CUALQUIER OBSEQUIO, BECAS O PRÉSTAMOS DE FONDOS, BIENES O CUALQUIER OTRA AYUDA EN CUALQUIER FORMA DEL GOBIERNO FEDERAL, EL ESTADO, CUALQUIER ENTIDAD ESTATAL, O CUALQUIER OTRA FUENTE, O CUALQUIER COMBINACIÓN DE LOS MISMOS, Y CUMPLIR, SUJETO A LAS DISPOSICIONES DE ESTE ARTÍCULO 86.1, CON LOS TÉRMINOS Y CONDICIONES CORRESPONDIENTES;

(f) FIJAR LA HORA Y EL LUGAR O LOS LUGARES DONDE SE EFECTUARÁN SUS REUNIONES REGulares Y ESPECIALES;

(g) ADOPTAR Y OCASIONALMENTE ENMENDAR O DEROGAR ESTATUTOS Y REGLAS Y REGULACIONES CONFORME A LAS DISPOSICIONES DE ESTE ARTÍCULO 86.1;

(h) NOMBRAR UN TESORERO DE LA JUNTA Y DEMÁS FUNCIONARIOS SEGÚN LA JUNTA DE DIRECTORES LO PUEDA DETERMINAR Y DISPONER SUS DEBERES Y PERIODOS DE SERVICIO EN SU CARGO;

(i) NOMBRAR A UN DIRECTOR EJECUTIVO Y AGENTES, EMPLEADOS Y ASESORES PROFESIONALES Y COMERCIALES QUE SEAN NECESARIOS OCASIONALMENTE A SU JUICIO PARA LLEVAR A CABO LOS FINES DE ESTE ARTÍCULO 86.1, FIJAR LA REMUNERACIÓN DEL DIRECTOR EJECUTIVO, DE LOS EMPLEADOS, AGENTES Y ASESORES, ADEMÁS DE ESTABLECER LOS PODERES Y DEBERES DE TODOS ESTOS AGENTES, EMPLEADOS Y DEMÁS PERSONAS QUE CONTRATE LA AUTORIDAD;

(j) EFECTUAR Y FIRMAR ACUERDOS, CONTRATOS, U OTROS INSTRUMENTOS NECESARIOS O CONVENIENTES PARA EJERCER LOS PODERES Y LAS FUNCIONES DE LA AUTORIDAD SEGÚN ESTE ARTÍCULO 86.1, INCLUYENDO ENTRE OTROS, CONTRATOS CON CUALQUIER PERSONA, FIRMA, EMPRESA, ENTIDAD ESTATAL, GOBIERNO LOCAL U OTRO ORGANISMO; Y

(k) TENER Y EJERCER TODO DERECHO Y PODER NECESARIO O INCIDENTAL O IMPLÍCITO DE LOS PODERES ESPECÍFICOS OTORGADOS EN ESTE ARTÍCULO 86.1, SIN DEBER CONSIDERAR ESTOS PODERES ESPECÍFICOS COMO UNA LIMITACIÓN DE NINGÚN PODER NECESARIO O APROPIADO PARA LLEVAR A CABO LOS FINES Y LA INTENCIÓN DE ESTE ARTÍCULO 86.1.

22-86.1-105. Autoridad de aprendizaje de Colorado - junta de directores - poderes y deberes. (1) LA AUTORIDAD CONSISTE EN UNA JUNTA DE DIRECTORES, NOMBRADA CONFORME AL INCISO (2) DE ESTA SECCIÓN, Y TODO PERSONAL O EMPLEADOS QUE CONTRATE LA AUTORIDAD CONFORME LO AUTORIZA LA LEY. TODO PERSONAL CONTRATADO POR LA AUTORIDAD CONSTITUYE EMPLEADOS SUJETOS AL SISTEMA ESTATAL DE PERSONAL DE ESTE ESTADO SEGÚN SE DEFINE EN LA SECCIÓN 13 DEL ARTÍCULO XII DE LA CONSTITUCIÓN ESTATAL Y EL ARTÍCULO 50 DEL TÍTULO 24; SALVO QUE TODOS LOS CARGOS CLASIFICADOS POR LA AUTORIDAD COMO FUNCIONARIOS PROFESIONALES Y PERSONAL PROFESIONAL DE LA AUTORIDAD SE DECLARA SER DE NATURALEZA EDUCACIONAL Y EXENTO DEL SISTEMA ESTATAL DE PERSONAL.

(2) LA JUNTA CONSTA DE NUEVE MIEMBROS, NO MÁS DE CINCO DE LOS CUALES SON MIEMBROS DEL MISMO PARTIDO POLÍTICO. LOS MIEMBROS DEBEN SER NOMBRADOS POR EL GOBERNADOR, CON EL CONSENTIMIENTO DEL SENADO.

(a) LOS MIEMBROS DE LA JUNTA INICIAL DEBEN SER NOMBRADOS DENTRO DE UN PLAZO HASTA EL 15 DE ENERO DE 2022. AL EFECTUAR LOS NOMBRAMIENTOS, EL GOBERNADOR BUSCARÁ MIEMBROS DE LA JUNTA QUE TENGAN EXPERIENCIA CONSIDERABLE EN EMPRENDIMIENTOS INICIALES Y PRESTACIÓN DE SERVICIOS EDUCACIONALES A NIÑOS DE BAJOS INGRESOS COMO, POR EJEMPLO, PERICIA EN:

(I) COMERCIO ELECTRÓNICO O SISTEMAS DE PAGO;

(II) CIBERSEGURIDAD;

(III) ESTRUCTURA INICIAL Y ORGANIZATIVA;

(IV) EXPERIENCIA DE ORGANIZACIONES SIN FINES DE LUCRO CON SERVICIOS PARA FAMILIAS Y COMUNIDADES DE BAJOS INGRESOS;

(V) EXPERIENCIA EN EDUCACIÓN DESDE KINDERGARTEN HASTA EL 12VO GRADO, INCLUIDOS ENTRE OTROS, EDUCADORES Y ADMINISTRADORES;

(VI) TECNOLOGÍA DEL CONSUMIDOR QUE CONECTA PROVEEDORES CON CONSUMIDORES;

(VII) SUPERVISAR CUENTAS DIRIGIDAS POR EL USUARIO; Y

(VIII) CREACIÓN O GESTIÓN DE BASES DE DATOS.

(b) AL MENOS UN MIEMBRO DE LA JUNTA INICIAL DEBE SER PADRE DE UN NIÑO QUE CALIFICARÍA COMO NIÑO O JOVEN PRIORITARIO PARA EL PROGRAMA.

(c) LOS MIEMBROS DE LA JUNTA INICIAL DESEMPEÑARÁN UN SOLO PERIODO DE TRES AÑOS.

(d) EL PERIODO DE CUALQUIER MIEMBRO NOMBRADO ANTES DEL 1 DE ENERO DE 2025 VENCE EL 31 DE DICIEMBRE DE 2024. EL GOBERNADOR EFECTUARÁ LOS NOMBRAMIENTOS PARA LA JUNTA A PARTIR DEL 1 DE ENERO DE 2025 O DESPUÉS DE DICHA FECHA, SELECCIONANDO NUEVOS MIEMBROS DE LA JUNTA DE UNA LISTA DE CANDIDATOS RECOMENDADOS GENERADA POR LA JUNTA INICIAL A TRAVÉS DE UN PROCESO ABIERTO A RECIBIR SOLICITUDES DEL PÚBLICO. EL GOBERNADOR NOMBRARÁ A TODOS LOS MIEMBROS NUEVOS SUCESIVOS DE LA JUNTA A PARTIR DE UNA LISTA DE CANDIDATOS RECOMENDADOS GENERADA POR LA JUNTA EXISTENTE EN EL MOMENTO A TRAVÉS DE UN PROCESO ABIERTO A RECIBIR SOLICITUDES DEL PÚBLICO. CADA LISTA DEBE INDICAR UN MÍNIMO DE TRES CANDIDATOS RECOMENDADOS PARA CADA CARGO QUE SE VA A NOMBRAR, O UN MENOR NÚMERO DEPENDIENDO DE LAS SOLICITUDES RECIBIDAS. DESPUÉS DEL 1 DE ENERO DE 2025, LA JUNTA CONSTARÁ DE UN RESIDENTE DE CADA DISTRITO DEL CONGRESO DEL ESTADO Y UNO O DOS MIEMBROS GENERALES, DEPENDIENDO DEL NÚMERO DE DISTRITOS DEL CONGRESO EN EL ESTADO EN EL MOMENTO DE NOMBRARLOS PARA ASEGURAR UN NÚMERO IMPAR DE MIEMBROS DE LA JUNTA. DESPUÉS DEL 1 DE ENERO DE 2025, LOS MIEMBROS DE LA JUNTA SE DISTRIBUIRÁN DE LA SIGUIENTE MANERA:

(I) AL MENOS CUATRO MIEMBROS QUE SEAN PADRES O TUTORES LEGALES DE UN NIÑO QUE TENGA CINCO AÑOS O

SEA MAYOR PERO MENOR DE DIECISIETE AÑOS DE EDAD;

(II) DOS REPRESENTANTES DE UNA ORGANIZACIÓN SIN FINES DE LUCRO QUE SE ENFOQUE EN SERVICIOS PARA FAMILIAS Y COMUNIDADES DE BAJOS INGRESOS; Y

(III) AL MENOS TRES MIEMBROS QUE TENGAN EXPERIENCIA TRABAJANDO CON NIÑOS DE CINCO AÑOS O MAYORES PERO MENORES DE DIECIOCHO AÑOS DE EDAD, INCLUIDOS ENTRE OTROS, EDUCADORES Y ADMINISTRADORES.

(e) LOS MIEMBROS DE LA JUNTA NOMBRADOS EL 1 DE ENERO DE 2025 O DESPUÉS DE DICHA FECHA DESEMPEÑAN POR PERIODOS DE TRES AÑOS; SALVO QUE, LOS MIEMBROS NOMBRADOS DE UN DISTRITO DEL CONGRESO EN NÚMERO IMPAR DESEMPEÑAN UN PERIODO INICIAL DE DOS AÑOS. DESPUÉS DEL 1 DE ENERO DE 2025, LOS MIEMBROS DE LA JUNTA PUEDEN DESEMPEÑAR HASTA TRES PERIODOS CONSECUTIVOS, Y LOS MIEMBROS ESTÁN SUJETOS A DESTITUCIÓN SEGÚN SE ESTIPULA EN LA SECCIÓN 6 DEL ARTÍCULO IV DE LA CONSTITUCIÓN DE COLORADO.

(3) TAN PRONTO SEA RAZONABLEMENTE PRACTICABLE, LA JUNTA INICIAL DE DIRECTORES ESTABLECERÁ UN CONSEJO ASESOR PARA LOS PADRES SOBRE OPORTUNIDADES DE APRENDIZAJE Y UN CONSEJO ASESOR PARA LOS PROVEEDORES SOBRE OPORTUNIDADES DE APRENDIZAJE A FIN DE:

(a) APORTAR RETROALIMENTACIÓN A LA JUNTA ACERCA DEL PROGRAMA, ELEGIBILIDAD DE LOS NIÑOS Y JÓVENES, CRITERIOS PARA LAS CALIFICACIONES DE LOS PROVEEDORES DE APRENDIZAJE, DISTRIBUCIÓN DE LA AYUDA FINANCIERA Y TODOS LOS OTROS ASPECTOS DE IMPLEMENTAR EL PROGRAMA DE APRENDIZAJE; Y

(b) PROPORCIONAR RECOMENDACIONES A LA AUTORIDAD ENCARGADA DE NOMBRAMIENTOS PARA REPRESENTAR A LOS PADRES EN LA JUNTA.

(4) DURANTE SUS PERIODOS DE SERVICIO, LOS MIEMBROS DE LA JUNTA EXISTENTE NO PUEDEN SER EMPLEADOS NI TENER CONTRATO CON PERSONAS QUE BRINDAN U OFRECEN BRINDAR OPORTUNIDADES SEGÚN EL PROGRAMA.

(5) LOS MIEMBROS DE LAS JUNTAS INICIAL Y EXISTENTE PUEDEN RECIBIR UN VIÁTICO DE HASTA DOSCIENTOS DÓLARES POR ASISTIR A REUNIONES PROGRAMADAS REGULARMENTE DE LA JUNTA A DISCRECIÓN DEL PRESIDENTE DEPENDIENDO DE LAS DIFICULTADES FINANCIERAS Y SER REEMBOLSADOS POR GASTOS REALES Y NECESARIOS INCURRIDOS AL CUMPLIR CON SUS DEBERES OFICIALES, JUNTO CON MILLAS SEGÚN UNA TARIFA DE REEMBOLSO APLICABLE A LOS MIEMBROS DE LA ASAMBLEA GENERAL CONFORME A LA SECCIÓN 2-2-317. UN MIEMBRO DE LA JUNTA QUE SEA FUNCIONARIO O EMPLEADO ESTATAL NO RECLAMARÁ REMUNERACIÓN POR VIÁTICO, SINO QUE DEBE SER REEMBOLSADO POR GASTOS REALES Y NECESARIOS INCURRIDOS AL CUMPLIR CON SUS DEBERES OFICIALES, JUNTO CON MILLAS SEGÚN UNA TARIFA DE REEMBOLSO APLICABLE A LOS MIEMBROS DE LA ASAMBLEA GENERAL CONFORME A LA SECCIÓN 2-2-317.

(6)(a) LAS JUNTAS INICIAL Y EXISTENTE TAMBIÉN DEBEN CONSTAR DE CUATRO MIEMBROS SIN DERECHO A VOTO, TRES DE LOS CUALES SON NOMBRADOS POR EL PRESIDENTE DE LA JUNTA Y UNO POR EL DIRECTOR EJECUTIVO DE LA COMISIÓN DE ASUNTOS INDÍGENAS DE COLORADO.

(b) LOS MIEMBROS SIN DERECHO A VOTO DEBEN:

(I) TENER CATORCE AÑOS O SER MAYORES PERO MENORES DE DIECINUEVE AÑOS DE EDAD; Y

(II) ESTAR INSCRITOS EN UNA ESCUELA TRIBAL O ESCUELA PRIMARIA, SECUNDARIA O PREPARATORIA DE COLORADO Y ESTAR ASISTIENDO A ELLA, INCLUSO UNA ESCUELA EN LÍNEA O CHÁRTER O UNA ESCUELA APROBADA SEGÚN SE DEFINE EN LA SECCIÓN 22-2-402; ESTAR PARTICIPANDO EN UN PROGRAMA EDUCATIVO NO PÚBLICO EN CASA; ESTAR PARTICIPANDO EN UN PROGRAMA DE EXAMEN DE EQUIVALENCIA PREPARATORIA; O HABER OBTENIDO UN DIPLOMA DE PREPARATORIA AL CUMPLIR SATISFACTORIAMENTE UN EXAMEN DE EQUIVALENCIA PREPARATORIA, SEGÚN SE DEFINE EN LA SECCIÓN 22-33-102 (8.5).

(c) LOS NOMBRAMIENTOS INICIALES DE MIEMBROS SIN DERECHO A VOTO DE LA JUNTA DE DIRECTORES DEBEN FINALIZARSE A MÁS TARDAR EL 1 DE JUNIO DE 2022. LOS MIEMBROS SIN DERECHO A VOTO DESEMPEÑAN PERIODOS DE DOS AÑOS, SALVO QUE, SEGÚN LO DETERMINE EL PRESIDENTE DE LA JUNTA, DOS MIEMBROS SIN DERECHO A VOTO NOMBRADOS INICIALMENTE EN LA JUNTA DESEMPEÑARÁN UN PERIODO DE UN AÑO. LOS MIEMBROS SIN DERECHO A VOTO DE LA JUNTA PUEDEN DESEMPEÑAR DOS PERIODOS CONSECUTIVOS. LOS MIEMBROS SIN DERECHO A VOTO DE LA JUNTA PUEDEN RECIBIR UN VIÁTICO DE HASTA DOSCIENTOS DÓLARES POR ASISTIR A REUNIONES PROGRAMADAS REGULARMENTE DE LA JUNTA A DISCRECIÓN DEL PRESIDENTE DEPENDIENDO DE LAS DIFICULTADES FINANCIERAS Y SER REEMBOLSADOS POR GASTOS REALES Y NECESARIOS INCURRIDOS AL CUMPLIR CON SUS DEBERES OFICIALES, JUNTO CON MILLAS SEGÚN UNA TARIFA DE REEMBOLSO APLICABLE A LOS MIEMBROS DE LA ASAMBLEA GENERAL CONFORME A LA SECCIÓN 2-2-317.

(7) LA JUNTA TIENE LOS SIGUIENTES PODERES Y DEBERES:

(a) CONTRATAR A UN DIRECTOR EJECUTIVO;



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(b) ESTABLECER Y SUPERVISAR EL PROGRAMA CREADO MEDIANTE ESTE ARTÍCULO 86.1, ASEGURANDO QUE SE DEDIQUE TODO EL FINANCIAMIENTO QUE SEA PRACTICABLE A BRINDAR AYUDA Y ASISTENCIA FINANCIERA A NIÑOS O JÓVENES ELEGIBLES Y SUS FAMILIAS PARA HALLAR Y SELECCIONAR OPORTUNIDADES DE APRENDIZAJE DISPONIBLES;

(c) OBTENER LOS SERVICIOS DE CONSULTORES EXPERTOS SEGÚN SEA NECESARIO Y APROPIADO PARA CUMPLIR CON SUS DEBERES Y RESPONSABILIDADES;

(d) ELEGIR A UN DIRECTOR COMO PRESIDENTE DE LA JUNTA Y A OTRO DIRECTOR COMO PRESIDENTE INTERINO DE LA JUNTA; Y

(e) REALIZAR TODA ACTIVIDAD QUE PUEDA SER NECESARIA Y APROPIADA PARA EFECTUAR LOS DEBERES Y LAS RESPONSABILIDADES ESPECIFICADAS EN ESTE ARTÍCULO 86.1.

22-86.1-106. Fondo de enriquecimiento del aprendizaje y progreso académico - creación - acreditar dinero al fondo - uso del fondo. (1) SE CREA EL FONDO DE ENRIQUECIMIENTO DEL APRENDIZAJE Y PROGRESO ACADÉMICO EN LA TESORERÍA DEL ESTADO. EL FONDO ES ADMINISTRADO POR LA AUTORIDAD Y CONSTA DE TODO DINERO TRANSFERIDO O ACREDITADO AL FONDO CONFORME A LOS INCISOS (2), (3) Y (4) DE ESTA SECCIÓN Y LA SECCIÓN 39-28.8-203(1)(c). TODO INTERÉS E INGRESO GANADO AL DEPOSITAR E INVERTIR DINERO EN EL FONDO DEBE SER ACREDITADO AL FONDO Y NO DEBE SER TRANSFERIDO AL FONDO GENERAL NI A NINGÚN OTRO FONDO ESTATAL AL TERMINAR UN AÑO FISCAL ESTATAL.

(2) LA AUTORIDAD PUEDE BUSCAR, ACEPTAR Y DESTINAR TODO OBSEQUIO, SUBVENCIÓN, DONACIÓN, PRÉSTAMO DE FONDOS, BIENES O CUALQUIER OTRO INGRESO O AYUDA EN ALGUNA FORMA DEL GOBIERNO FEDERAL, EL ESTADO, CUALQUIER ENTIDAD ESTATAL, CUALQUIER OTRA FUENTE PÚBLICA, CUALQUIER FUENTE PRIVADA, O CUALQUIER COMBINACIÓN DE ELLAS, Y LA TOTALIDAD DE ESTOS RECIBOS MONETARIOS DEBE SER ACREDITADO AL FONDO Y TALES RECIBOS EN ESPECIE DEBEN APLICARSE A FAVOR DEL FONDO.

(3) AL TERMINAR EL TERCER Y EL CUARTO TRIMESTRES DEL AÑO FISCAL ESTATAL 2021-22, EL TESORERO ESTATAL TRANSFERIRÁ DEL FONDO GENERAL AL FONDO DE ENRIQUECIMIENTO DEL APRENDIZAJE Y PROGRESO ACADÉMICO LA MISMA CANTIDAD DE DINERO TRANSFERIDA AL FONDO ESTATAL DE ESCUELAS PÚBLICAS CONFORME A LA SECCIÓN 36-1-116(1)(d). EN ESE AÑO FISCAL ESTATAL, UNA CANTIDAD DEL INGRESO DEL FONDO GENERAL ESTATAL EQUIVALENTE A LA SUMA TOTAL DE DICHAS TRANSFERENCIAS ESTARÁ EXENTA DE TODA LIMITACIÓN DE INGRESO, GASTO Y OTROS TIPOS DE LIMITACIONES SEGÚN LA SECCIÓN 20 DEL ARTÍCULO X DE LA CONSTITUCIÓN DEL ESTADO Y CUALQUIER OTRA LEY.

(4) AL TERMINAR CADA AÑO FISCAL ESTATAL, A PARTIR DEL AÑO FISCAL QUE COMIENZA EL 1 DE JULIO DE 2022, EL TESORERO ESTATAL TRANSFERIRÁ DEL FONDO GENERAL AL FONDO DE ENRIQUECIMIENTO DEL APRENDIZAJE Y PROGRESO ACADÉMICO LA MISMA CANTIDAD DE DINERO TRANSFERIDA AL FONDO ESTATAL DE ESCUELAS PÚBLICAS CONFORME A LA SECCIÓN 36-1-116(1)(d). POR CADA AÑO FISCAL ESTATAL UNA CANTIDAD DEL INGRESO DEL FONDO GENERAL ESTATAL EQUIVALENTE A LA SUMA DE DICHA TRANSFERENCIA ESTARÁ EXENTA DE TODA LIMITACIÓN DE INGRESO, GASTO Y OTROS TIPOS DE LIMITACIONES SEGÚN LA SECCIÓN 20 DEL ARTÍCULO X DE LA CONSTITUCIÓN DEL ESTADO Y CUALQUIER OTRA LEY.

(5) EL DINERO TRANSFERIDO O ACREDITADO AL FONDO, INCLUIDO TODO INGRESO E INTERESES DERIVADOS DE DEPÓSITOS E INVERSIONES DE DICHO DINERO QUEDA EXENTO DE TODA RESTRICCIÓN DE GASTO, INGRESO O ASIGNACIONES, INCLUIDAS LAS RESTRICCIONES DE LA SECCIÓN 20 DEL ARTÍCULO X DE LA CONSTITUCIÓN DEL ESTADO O CUALQUIER OTRA LEY.

(6) EL DINERO EN EL FONDO SE ASIGNA CONTINUAMENTE A LA AUTORIDAD PARA COSTOS DIRECTOS E INDIRECTOS DE LLEVAR A CABO LAS DISPOSICIONES DE ESTE ARTÍCULO 86.1.

SECCIÓN 2. En los Estatutos Revisados de Colorado, sección 36-1-116, **enmendar** (1)(a)(II)(A) y (1)(b)(I); y **agregar** (1)(d) de la siguiente manera:

36-1-116. Disposición de ganancias de rentas, regalías y ventas de madera. (1)(a)(II)(A) Excepto según se estipula en los incisos (1)(a)(II)(B), y (1)(a)(II)(C) Y (1)(d), para el año fiscal estatal 2010-11 y cada año fiscal estatal en lo sucesivo, las ganancias recibidas por el estado derivadas de la venta de madera en terrenos de escuelas públicas, pagos de arrendamientos y pagos de renta por dichos terrenos, los pagos de renta por el uso y ocupación de la superficie de dichos terrenos, y pagos de renta o arrendamiento por arena, grava, arcilla, piedra, carbón, petróleo, gas, recursos geotérmicos, oro, plata u otros minerales en dichos terrenos aparte de ganancias, renta y pagos asignados al fondo de administración en fideicomiso de la junta de tierras estatal según la sección 36-1-145(3) o acreditadas al fondo de asistencia de construcción de capital de escuelas públicas creado en la sección 22-43.7-104(1), C.R.S., conforme a la sección 22-43.7-104(2)(b)(I), C.R.S., será acreditado al fondo escolar permanente y pasará a formar parte del capital del fondo escolar permanente.

(b)(I) Exceptuando regalías y otros pagos asignados al fondo de administración en fideicomiso de la junta de tierras estatal conforme a la sección 36-1-145(3) o acreditados al fondo de asistencia de construcción de capital de escuelas públicas creado en la sección 22-43.7-104(1), C.R.S., según la sección 22-43.7-104(2)(b)(I), C.R.S., salvo conforme a lo estipulado en el apartado (II) de este párrafo (b), y salvo conforme a lo estipulado en el párrafo LOS PÁRRAFOS (c) Y (d) de este inciso (1), las regalías y otros pagos por la explotación o extracción de un recurso natural en dichos terrenos se acreditarán al fondo escolar permanente.

(d) (I) EN CUANTO AL TERCER Y AL CUARTO TRIMESTRES DEL AÑO FISCAL ESTATAL 2021-22, TODA CANTIDAD A SER ACREDITADA O TRANSFERIDA AL FONDO ESCOLAR PERMANENTE CONFORME A LOS INCISOS (1)(a)(II)(A) Y (1)(b)(I) DE ESTA SECCIÓN SE TRANSFERIRÁ EN CAMBIO AL FONDO DE ESCUELAS PÚBLICAS ESTATAL CREADO EN LA SECCIÓN 22-54-114.

(II) A PARTIR DEL AÑO FISCAL ESTATAL QUE COMIENZA EL 1 DE JULIO DE 2022, TODA CANTIDAD A SER ACREDITADA O TRANSFERIDA AL FONDO ESCOLAR PERMANENTE CONFORME A LOS INCISOS (1)(a)(II)(A) Y (1)(b)(I) DE ESTA SECCIÓN QUE SUPERE VEINTE MILLONES DE DÓLARES SE TRANSFERIRÁ EN CAMBIO AL FONDO DE ESCUELAS PÚBLICAS ESTATAL CREADO EN LA SECCIÓN 22-54-114.

SECCIÓN 3. En los Estatutos Revisados de Colorado, 39-28.8-202, **enmendar** (1)(a)(I) y (1)(b) de la siguiente manera:

39-28.8-202. Impuesto de venta al por menor sobre la marihuana. (1)(a)(I)(A) Además del impuesto gravado según la parte 1 del artículo 26 de este título 39 y el impuesto de venta gravado por un gobierno local según el título 29, 30, 31 o 32, pero exceptuando conforme se estipule de otro modo en los incisos (1)(a)(II) y (1)(a)(III) de esta sección, SE GRAVAN TODAS LAS VENTAS AL POR MENOR DE MARIHUANA Y PRODUCTOS AL POR MENOR DE MARIHUANA QUE EXPENDA UN COMERCIANTE MEDIANTE UN IMPUESTO CON LAS TASAS ESPECIFICADAS EN ESTE INCISO (1)(a)(I).

(B) A partir del 1 de enero de 2014, y hasta el 30 de junio de 2017, se grava sobre todas las ventas al por menor de marihuana y productos al por menor de marihuana que expenda un comerciante mediante un impuesto con la tasa del diez por ciento de la cantidad de la venta.

(C) A partir del 1 de enero de 2017, se grava sobre todas las ventas al por menor de marihuana y productos al por menor de marihuana que expenda un comerciante mediante un impuesto con la tasa del quince por ciento de la cantidad de la venta.

(D) A PARTIR DEL 1 DE ENERO DE 2022, SE GRAVA SOBRE TODAS LAS VENTAS AL POR MENOR DE MARIHUANA Y PRODUCTOS AL POR MENOR DE MARIHUANA QUE EXPENDA UN COMERCIANTE ADEMÁS DEL IMPUESTO DEL QUINCE POR CIENTO ESTABLECIDO EN EL INCISO (1)(a)(I)(C) DE ESTA SECCIÓN, UN IMPUESTO DEL TRES POR CIENTO DE LA CANTIDAD DE LA VENTA HASTA EL 31 DE DICIEMBRE DE 2022, UN IMPUESTO DEL CUATRO POR CIENTO DE LA CANTIDAD DE LA VENTA A PARTIR DEL 1 DE ENERO DE 2023 Y HASTA EL 31 DE DICIEMBRE DE 2023, Y UN IMPUESTO DEL CINCO POR CIENTO DE LA CANTIDAD DE LA VENTA A PARTIR DEL 1 DE ENERO DE 2024.

(E) El impuesto gravado por esta sección se calcula conforme a planes o formularios prescritos por el director ejecutivo del departamento; salvo que a una tienda de marihuana al por menor no se le permite retener ninguna parte del impuesto sobre ventas de marihuana al por menor según esta parte 2 para cubrir los gastos de cobrar y remitir el impuesto. El director ejecutivo puede promulgar reglas para implementar esta sección.

(b) La tasa tributaria máxima que puede gravarse según esta sección es de quince por ciento MÁS LA TASA TRIBUTARIA APLICABLE ESPECIFICADA EN EL INCISO (1)(a)(I)(D) DE ESTA SECCIÓN. En cualquier momento el ~~el 1 de enero de 2014~~ 1 DE ENERO DE 2022, o después, la asamblea general, mediante un proyecto de ley promulgado por la asamblea general y que se convierta en ley, puede:

(I) Establecer una tasa tributaria a gravar conforme a este inciso (1) menor del ~~quince por ciento de la venta al por menor de marihuana o productos al por menor de marihuana~~ DICHA TASA TRIBUTARIA MÁXIMA; o

(II) Después de ~~establecer una tasa tributaria menor del quince por ciento según el apartado (I) de este párrafo~~ (b) REDUCIR LA TASA TRIBUTARIA CONFORME AL INCISO (1)(b)(I) DE ESTA SECCIÓN, aumentar la tasa tributaria a gravar según este inciso (1); salvo que, en ningún caso la asamblea general aumentará la tasa tributaria sobre ~~quince por ciento de la venta al por menor de marihuana o productos al por menor de marihuana~~ LA TASA TRIBUTARIA MÁXIMA ESPECIFICADA EN ESTE INCISO (1)(b). No obstante, cualquier otra disposición de la ley, un aumento en la tasa tributaria conforme a este inciso (II) no exigirá aprobación de los votantes después de la aprobación de los votantes requerida conforme a la parte 4 de este artículo.

SECCIÓN 4. En los Estatutos Revisados de Colorado, 39-28.8-203, **enmendar** (1)(a)(I) y (1)(b)(I.5) en la parte de introducción y **agregar** (1)(c) de la siguiente manera:

39-28.8-203. Disposición de recaudaciones – definiciones. (1) Las ganancias de todo dinero recaudado del impuesto sobre la venta al por menor de marihuana se acreditan inicialmente al fondo de pensiones de edad avanzada creado en la sección 1 del artículo XXIV de la constitución del estado conforme a los párrafos (a) y (f) de la sección 2 del artículo XXIV de la constitución del estado y en lo sucesivo se transfieren al fondo general conforme a la sección 7 del artículo XXIV de la constitución del estado. Por cada año fiscal en que se recaude un impuesto según esta parte 2, se asignará o distribuirá una cantidad del fondo general de la siguiente manera:

(a)(I) Antes del 1 de julio de 2017, se asigna a los gobiernos locales una cantidad equivalente al quince por ciento del ingreso bruto de impuestos sobre las ventas al por menor de marihuana recaudado por el departamento. El 1 de julio de 2017 o después de dicha fecha, se asigna a los gobiernos locales una cantidad equivalente al diez por ciento del ingreso bruto recaudado por el departamento en cuanto al impuesto sobre las ventas al por menor de marihuana, EXCLUYENDO INGRESO ATRIBUIBLE AL IMPUESTO ADICIONAL GRAVADO POR LA SECCIÓN 39-28.8-202(1)(a)(I)(D). La parte correspondiente al municipio o ciudad se asigna conforme al porcentaje que represente el ingreso del impuesto sobre la venta al por menor de marihuana recaudado por el departamento dentro de los límites del municipio o de la ciudad con respecto al ingreso total del impuesto sobre la venta al por menor de marihuana recaudado por el departamento. La parte correspondiente al condado se asigna conforme al porcentaje que represente el ingreso del impuesto sobre la venta al por menor de marihuana recaudado por el departamento en el área no incorporada del condado con respecto al ingreso total del impuesto sobre la venta al por menor de marihuana recaudado por el departamento.

(b)(I.5) El 1 de julio de 2018 y después de dicha fecha, el noventa por ciento del ingreso bruto del impuesto sobre la venta al por menor de marihuana restante en el fondo general tras efectuar la asignación a los gobiernos locales requerida por el inciso (1)(a)(I) de esta sección, Y EXCLUYENDO INGRESO ATRIBUIBLE AL IMPUESTO ADICIONAL GRAVADO POR LA SECCIÓN 39-28.8-202(1)(a)(I)(D), el tesorero estatal retendrá quince punto cincuenta y seis por ciento en el fondo general a fin de usarlo para cualquier fin legal y transferirá del fondo general:

(c) EL 1 DE ENERO DE 2022 Y DESPUÉS DE DICHA FECHA, EL TESORERO ESTATAL TRANSFERIRÁ MENSUALMENTE DESDE EL FONDO GENERAL AL FONDO DE ENRIQUECIMIENTO DEL APRENDIZAJE Y PROGRESO ACADÉMICO CREADO POR LA SECCIÓN 22-86.1-106 TODO INGRESO RECAUDADO POR EL DEPARTAMENTO ATRIBUIBLE AL IMPUESTO ADICIONAL GRAVADO POR LA SECCIÓN 39-28.8-202(1)(a)(I)(D).

SECCIÓN 5. En los Estatutos Revisados de Colorado, **enmendar** 39-28.8-204 de la siguiente manera:

39-28.8-204. Limitaciones de ingresos y gastos. (1) No obstante cualquier limitación al ingreso, gasto o asignaciones contenida en la sección 20 del artículo X de la constitución del estado o cualquier otra disposición de la ley, todo ingreso generado por el impuesto sobre la venta al por menor de marihuana gravado según esta parte 2 tal como es aprobado por los votantes en la elección estatal de noviembre de 2013, puede recaudarse y gastarse como cambios en el ingreso aprobados por los votantes y no requerirá la aprobación subsiguiente de los votantes tras la aprobación de los votantes requerida según la parte 4 de este artículo.

(2) NO OBSTANTE CUALQUIER LIMITACIÓN AL INGRESO, GASTO O ASIGNACIONES CONTENIDA EN LA SECCIÓN 20 DEL ARTÍCULO X DE LA CONSTITUCIÓN DEL ESTADO O CUALQUIER OTRA DISPOSICIÓN DE LA LEY, TODO INGRESO GENERADO POR EL IMPUESTO ADICIONAL SOBRE LA VENTA AL POR MENOR DE MARIHUANA GRAVADO POR LA SECCIÓN 39-28.8-202(1)(a)(I)(D), SEGÚN LO APROBADO POR LOS VOTANTES EN LA ELECCIÓN ESTATAL DE NOVIEMBRE DE 2021, PUEDE RECAUDARSE Y GASTARSE COMO CAMBIO EN EL INGRESO APROBADO POR LOS VOTANTES.

Propuesta 120 Reducción de la tasa tributaria del impuesto sobre la propiedad

El título de la boleta indicado a continuación es un resumen redactado por el personal profesional de las oficinas del secretario de estado, el procurador general y el personal jurídico de la asamblea general solo para los fines de la votación. No aparecerá el título de la boleta en los Estatutos Revisados de Colorado. El texto de la medida que aparecerá en los Estatutos Revisados de Colorado a continuación fue redactado por quienes proponen la iniciativa. Se incluye la medida iniciada en la boleta como cambio propuesto a la ley actual porque quienes la proponen reunieron la cantidad requerida de firmas para la petición.

Título de la boleta:

¿Debe haber un cambio en los Estatutos Revisados de Colorado en cuanto a las reducciones tributarias del impuesto sobre la propiedad, y, en relación con ello, reducir la recaudación del impuesto sobre la propiedad en aproximadamente \$1.03 mil millones en 2023 y en cantidades comparables en lo sucesivo reduciendo la tasa



Asuntos de la Balota Estatal de 2021

Pg 5

tributaria del impuesto a la propiedad residencial de 7.15% a 6.5% y reducir la tasa tributaria del impuesto sobre la propiedad para todas las otras propiedades, excluidas las minas en producción y terrenos o arrendamientos que producen petróleo o gas, de 29% a 26.4% y permitiendo que el estado retenga anualmente y gaste hasta \$25 millones de la recaudación estatal excedente, si la hubiera, para los años fiscales estatales 2022-23 hasta 2026-27 como cambio en la recaudación tributaria aprobado por los votantes para compensar por ingresos perdidos resultantes de las reducciones en la tasa tributaria del impuesto sobre la propiedad y para reembolsar a los gobiernos locales por ingresos perdidos debido a las exenciones de patrimonio para adultos mayores y veteranos de guerra que califican?

Texto de la medida:

Promúlguese por el Pueblo del Estado de Colorado:

SECCIÓN 1. En los Estatutos Revisados de Colorado, 39-1-104 **enmendar** (1) de la siguiente manera:

(1) HASTA EL 31 DE DICIEMBRE DE 2021 la valoración para tasar todo bien tributable en el estado será de veintinueve por ciento, Y A PARTIR DEL 1 DE ENERO DE 2022 LA

VALORACIÓN PARA TASAR TODO BIEN TRIBUTABLE EN EL ESTADO SERÁ DE VEINTISÉIS PUNTO CUATRO POR CIENTO del valor real del mismo según lo determine el tasador y el administrador del modo indicado por ley, y dicho porcentaje se aplicará uniformemente, sin excepción, al valor real, determinado así, de las diversas clases y subclases de propiedad inmobiliaria y bienes personales situados dentro de los límites territoriales de la autoridad que grava un impuesto sobre la propiedad, y todos los impuestos sobre la propiedad serán gravados contra la valoración global para la tasación resultante al aplicar dicho porcentaje. Este inciso (1) no será aplicable a propiedades inmobiliarias residenciales, minas en producción ni terrenos o arrendamientos que producen petróleo o gas.

SECCIÓN 2. En los Estatutos Revisados de Colorado, 39-1-104.2 **enmendar** (3)(q) de la siguiente manera:

39-1-104.2. Ajuste de la tasa residencial - declaración legislativa - definiciones.

(3) (q) La relación de valoración para la tasación de propiedades inmobiliarias residenciales es 7.15 por ciento del valor real en los años del impuesto sobre la propiedad a partir del 1 de enero de 2019 o después y 6.5 POR CIENTO

DEL VALOR REAL CORRESPONDIENTE AL IMPUESTO SOBRE LA PROPIEDAD A PARTIR DEL 1 DE ENERO DE 2022, hasta el próximo año del impuesto sobre la propiedad en que la asamblea general ajuste la relación de valoración para tasar propiedades inmobiliarias residenciales.

SECCIÓN 3. En los Estatutos Revisados de Colorado, 39-3-207 **agregar** (6) de la siguiente manera:

39-3-207. Reportar exenciones—reembolso a entidades gubernamentales locales.

(6) PARA PROPÓSITOS DE COMPENSAR POR INGRESOS PERDIDOS RESULTANTES DE UNA REDUCCIÓN EN EL IMPUESTO SOBRE LA PROPIEDAD Y FINANCIAR REEMBOLSOS ESTATALES A ENTIDADES GUBERNAMENTALES LOCALES PARA APLICAR LA EXENCIÓN DE VIVIENDAS, EN EL AÑO FISCAL QUE COMIENZA EL 1 JULIO DE 2022 HASTA EL AÑO FISCAL QUE TERMINA EL 1 DE JULIO DE 2027, EL ESTADO ESTARÁ AUTORIZADO PARA RETENER Y GASTAR HASTA 25 MILLONES AL AÑO EN INGRESOS POR LIBRAMIENTOS AUTORIZADOS DE OTRO MODO SEGÚN ESTA SECCIÓN.

Adams State partnership with CSU will help students earn mechanical engineering degrees

BY ANDY BROWN
ALAMOSA — Adams State University (ASU) will receive \$4,860,516 in funding over five years to support an increase in the number of Hispanic and low-income students who earn science, technology, engineering and math degrees (STEM).

The centerpiece of the Department of Education Hispanic-Serving Institution Science, Technology Engineering, and Mathematics (HSI STEM) grant is a partnership between ASU and Colorado State University-Fort Collins (CSU) that allows students to earn an A.S. degree in mechanical engineering from ASU, then transfer seamlessly into CSU to earn a B.S. degree. Uniquely, both degrees are delivered in their entirety on ASU's campus.

While ASU provides all lower-division coursework for the first two years, CSU faculty based in Alamosa will deliver all upper-division coursework for the last two years. The new program's first cohort of students will begin in Fall 2022,

with services based in El Centro Sierra Blanca — ASU's new STEM Center.

"This innovative model provides students in the San Luis Valley access to a professional degree with excellent employment and earning potential," says Matt Nehring, Ph.D., interim director of Adams State's School of STEM. "Partnerships like these create opportunities that are vital for our low-income and under-resourced region."

Moreover, the project is explicit in developing an equity model as its foundation. Consequently, the grant calls for faculty development in cultural responsiveness, to center awareness on inequities in education and bias in the classroom, and to develop assessment and self-reflection skills that lead to better engagement with underrepresented students.

Grant funds will also ensure that underrepresented students have the support systems necessary to complete their degrees. For example, students will take advantage of an engineering orientation, required STEM first-



Photo courtesy of ASU

Adams State students will soon have the option of declaring a mechanical engineering degree through a partnership between Adams State and Colorado State University, and made possible through a DOE grant. Pictured, Matt Nehring, Ph.D., assists students during a physics lab.

year seminars, peer-mentoring, and corequisite instruction across STEM gateway courses. The partnership will also implement structured internships through CSU's vast industry internship network as another way to promote

diversity in STEM careers.

"As the premier Hispanic-Serving Institution in Colorado, Adams State is uniquely positioned to promote diversity in STEM fields," says Kent Buchanan, Ph.D., vice

president of academic affairs. "In addition to access, we offer culturally responsive support systems that low-income, first-generation and other underrepresented students need to thrive in higher education."

Food prices reach highest level in a decade



Photo courtesy of delaware.gov

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) recipients in Delaware will be receiving emergency benefits at the end of the month.

(The Center Square) — Food prices hit a 10-year high worldwide, according to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)'s food price index. U.S. companies are feeling the pinch, resorting to increasing prices to offset their costs to purchase goods and deal with labor and transportation problems.

The FAO index measures the monthly change of international prices of five food commodity prices, including cereals, vegetable oil, dairy, meat and sugar.

Overall, FAO index prices have increased by 32.8% over the past 12 months, the highest they've been since 2011.

The commodity with the highest increase was vegetable oil, followed by sugar, cereal, meat and dairy, FAO found.

The FAO vegetable oil price index was up 60% this September from last September, followed by sugar, which saw a 53.5% increase over the same time period.

Cereal prices increased 27.3%, followed by a 26.3% increase in meat prices, and a 15.2% increase in dairy prices.

Contributing factors to increased prices range from labor shortages to weather conditions to public policy decisions in Europe that reduced supply while demand increased, the report notes.

Likewise, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics Consumer Price Index continues to report increases in the cost of food. The largest food increase in August was the price index for meats, poultry, fish and eggs. The index for beef increased 12.2% from

the previous year, and bacon increased by 17% during the same period.

Multiple U.S. companies have announced they're increasing prices, including Campbell Soup, Kraft Heinz, Unilever PLC, Conagra Brands, Inc., General Mills and J.M. Smucker. They say the higher prices will offset higher costs to purchase vegetable oils, sugar and cereals needed to make their products, as well as dealing with labor and transportation shortages.

"Makers of goods from french fries to meat snacks are working to secure trucks and staff processing lines, executives said, as costs for products as diverse as packaging and cooking oil rise," the Wall Street Journal reports. "Supply-chain problems are growing for U.S. food makers at a time consumers are spending heavily on food, in supermarkets and restaurants."

General Mills announced last month that it's dealing with hundreds of operational disruptions including a shortage of truck drivers.

While they increase prices, companies are also reporting their quarterly profits have fallen. Chicago-based Conagra, for example, reported a 4.9% drop in sales of groceries and snacks in the first quarter, with its frozen food sales dropping by 2.5%, Reuters reported.

While some companies like Conagra are actively recruiting workers to address shortfalls, Mondelez International Inc., and Kellogg Co., have been dealing with workers going on strike, further impacting the supply chain and restricting supply of some foods.

October is here and it's Breast Cancer Awareness Month

San Luis Valley Health offers state-of-the-art imaging services

BY AMY BRENNEMAN AND DR. JASON ALLEN

ALAMOSA — At SLVH's Stephanie L. Miner Women's Imaging Center, patients are able to be screened for breast cancer using Tomosynthesis (commonly referred to as 3D Mammography). Tomosynthesis can increase the ability to detect breast cancer by up to 40% AND can also help reduce unnecessary callbacks (extra pictures) by up to 40% compared to standard 2D digital mammography.

The addition of Tomosynthesis to SLVH's breast imaging services has also made it possible for our breast radiologists to perform stereotactic (mammography guided) biopsies. This means women in the San Luis Valley and surrounding communities that need this procedure no longer have to travel to Pueblo or Colorado Springs. They can now have this procedure performed by

a highly trained and experienced breast imaging radiologist right here in the valley!

Breast cancer can affect any woman, not just those who have a relative that was diagnosed with breast cancer during their lifetime. In fact, about 75% of women diagnosed with breast cancer every year have no family history of the disease! It's also important to understand that if you have one or more relatives who have been diagnosed with other types of cancer like ovarian or pancreatic cancer, this could mean that you have an elevated risk of developing breast cancer.

The American College of Radiology (ACR), Society of Breast Imaging (SBI) and many other women's health organizations recommend that ALL women begin yearly screening mammograms at age 40. The ACR and SBI also recommend that all women have a formal lifetime breast cancer risk assessment performed by the age of 30. This can help determine if you may benefit from beginning breast cancer screening before age 40 or if you may benefit from additional forms of breast cancer screening in addition to annual mammograms

such as MRI or ultrasound of the breasts.

If you would like to discuss your breast cancer risk with your doctor, you can get started by filling out the information in this widely used breast cancer risk calculator that will generate your

personalized risk score: <https://ibis.ikonopedia.com>.

To make an appointment in radiology, you can contact these facilities:

- Regional Medical Center — 719-587-1231
- Conejos County Hospital —

719-274-6029.
• Stuart Avenue Clinic — 719-589-8024.

To further discuss breast cancer risk and awareness, contact your primary care provider or make an appointment with the SLVH Women's Health Clinic.



Photo courtesy of San Luis Valley Health

Janet McGinnis, Director of Imaging; Dr. Matt Lowery, Radiologist; and Barbara Carlsen, Mammography Technologist.

Adams State waives admission application fees Oct. 19-21

STAFF REPORT

ALAMOSA — Adams State University will participate in the fourth annual Colorado Free Application Days. This year the state extended the free application to three days, Oct. 19, 20 and 21, rather than just one. Visit adams.edu/apply to apply for admission for free.

Colorado Free Application Days caps off Colorado Applies Month, a statewide campaign that encourages high school juniors and seniors to explore, chart and execute a post-high school path. Once students select a goal — such as applying to a college or university — they are connected to resources and tools that will help them achieve their major goals and action steps they should take along the way.

The statewide push is designed to increase Colorado's college-going and FAFSA completion rates. Despite

being one of the most educated states in the country, Colorado sends just over 56 percent of high school graduates to a college, university or certificate program, and just 43 percent of students submit a FAFSA application — a key indicator of students' likelihood to continue their education.

"Colorado Free Application Days sends the message that every student matters," said Gov. Jared Polis. "There are hundreds of higher education programs across the state — from short-term certificates to master's degrees in everything from aerospace engineering to early childhood education — and we encourage all Colorado residents to find an opportunity that harnesses their unique talents and interests."

For more information on Colorado Free Application Days, visit highered.colorado.gov/cofreeappdays.

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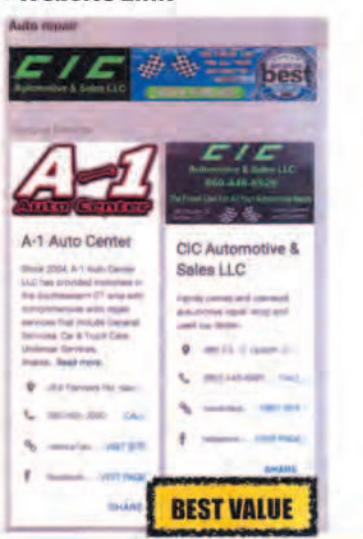
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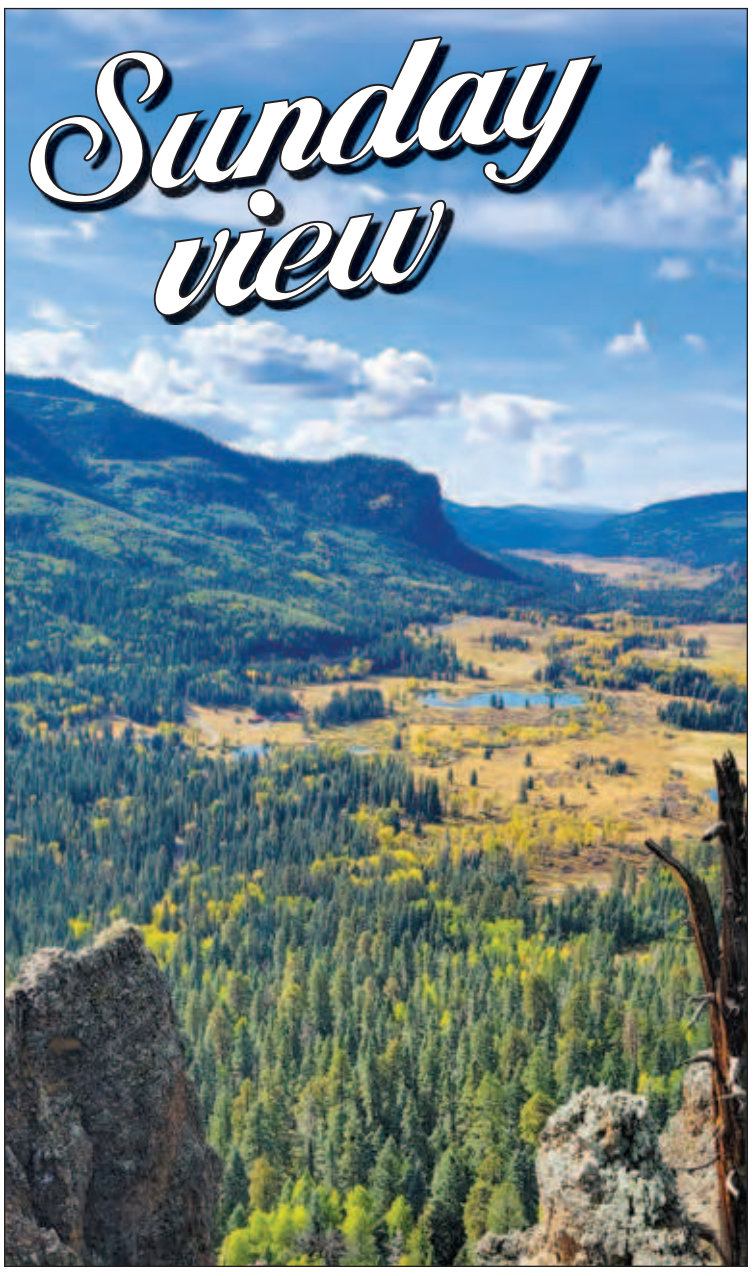
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Lifestyles

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Sunday view

Photo by Lyndsie Ferrell

The lookout on Wolf Creek Pass was open Sunday, Oct. 3 and offered travelers a gorgeous view of the Valley below which was adorned in fall colors.



Courtesy photos

Each year Jared Myers of Allied Potato Company and Cecilia Rodriguez have a pumpkin patch that is open to the public.

Pumpkin patch tradition continues

By MARIE MCCOLM

MONTE VISTA — Cecilia Rodriguez and Jared Myers are excited for another year of sharing their pumpkins with the San Luis Valley.

Seven years ago, Jared Myers of Allied Potato Company was curious to see if pumpkins would grow in the Valley.

Pumpkins did well, so well that Myers needed something to do with all the pumpkins. He decided to open a pumpkin patch for people to come and pick fresh pumpkins.

First, they open it up to schools
Please see PATCH on Page 2



Deer hunting cow lick

I've got a mule deer hangin' on my wall from northern New Mexico so I could relate to Rafael's story.

He had joined two of his cousins for a deer hunting trip near Cuba, NM where his uncle had a cabin. They arrived late and missed the first day because cousin Dee Dee was going through changes in her life. To be fair, Dee Dee was a good hunter so her ditsy behavior was unexpected.

Rafael had agreed to guide, cook and pack. He was up at 5 am getting the cook stove ready, the firewood gathered and making a racket. By 5:30 he could hear Dee Dee getting ready. A waft of something floral floated from her room. A sugary sweet lilac scent filled the cabin and made his coffee taste funny!

"What the heck are you doing?" he asked.

"Putting on lotion," she answered. "Women of a certain age need to protect their skin."

He knew she was recently divorced and maybe she was trying to be more desirable. That could explain her mood swings. He tried



BAXTER BLACK
ON THE EDGE OF COMMON SENSE

to be understanding. They left the cabin at 6:30 am. Rafael knew the better hunting areas, so he led. In his backpack he stuck in a bottle of water, a skinning knife, twine and trail mix for himself. The rest of his backpack carried her essentials; Sugarless Gatorade, cookies, sardines, crack-

ers, smoked oysters, aspirin, Alka-Seltzer, toothpaste, toothbrush, energy bars, peanut butter, hair brush, half a cantaloupe, matches, Steno, clean T-shirt and socks, binoculars, extra ammo, GPS, 2-way radio and TP. All this in spite of the fact that he had casually reminded her that they planned to be back to the cabin by Beer:30.

By 10 am they had picked a blind along a well-traveled trail. In a short time they heard a small herd of cows coming their way. They had been handled and were not spooked by the humans. Bringin' up drag was a big red-brown Beef Master bull. He sniffed the air and cautiously walked toward our hunters. Dee Dee got itchy.

"Just don't move," whispered Rafael, "Don't be aggressive and he won't hurt you."

They stood like Easter Island statues as Big Red walked up to Rafael and took a mighty whiff! Then he stepped to Dee Dee. "Hold still," she heard Rafael say. She froze in fear, her eyeballs about to pop out. Big Red

stretched out his huge neck, ran out his big ol' slobbery tongue and licked Dee Dee across the mouth!

Epilogue: The bull ran over Rafael trying to escape Dee Dee's screaming! Rafael went down, smashing the cantaloupe in his backpack trying to escape! And Dee Dee hung her pant leg upside down on a barb wire fence trying to get away! Finally they managed to evade a swarm of bees by dousing Dee Dee with toothpaste and the sugarless Gatorade mix. It came off like stucco.

Baxter Black, former large animal veterinarian and irregular commentator on National Public Radio, is America's best-selling cowboy poet. He is a frequent performer at national stock shows and rodeos as well as in many smaller local events. He is author of several books, including Cactus Tracks, Croutons on a Cow Pie, Hey, Cowboy, Wanna Get Lucky? and Dunny and the Duck. Baxter Black can be contacted via e-mail at: vikki@baxterblack.com

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Fall prescribed burns planned on Rio Grande National Forest

STAFF REPORT
MONTE VISTA — The San Luis Valley Interagency Fire Management Unit announced recently plans to conduct several prescribed fires this fall on the Rio Grande National Forest. Ignitions will take place only if conditions are favorable and will meet burn plan parameters.

These beneficial burns include:
 • **English Valley:** This 1200-acre prescribed fire will take place on the Divide Ranger District, approximately five miles north of Del Norte. The purpose of this burn is to rejuvenate grass and shrub cover to improve pronghorn habitat.

• **Bighorn/Stateline Unit 5:**

Located 10 miles southwest of Antonito, this 565-acre project on the Conejos Peak District has been previously hand-thinned with chainsaws. Project objectives are to target the slash areas to improve deer and elk winter range.

• **Buffalo Pass:** Located approximately 20 miles west of Saguache, this 250-acre burn is adjacent to the Buffalo Pass Campground on the Saguache Ranger District. The purpose of the burn is to improve elk habitat and recreational hunting opportunities.

Residents and visitors will likely see smoke coming from these areas for several hours each day during burn operations. After ignitions, the areas will continue to smolder

and burn, typically with lower intensity. Burn area maps will be posted on the roads leading into the project areas. Residents will be contacted prior to initiation of the prescribed burns.

Fire crews may also be assisting the Bureau of Land Management, National Park Service and US Fish and Wildlife Service with planned San Luis Valley prescribed burns that will be announced separately.

Prescribed fire smoke may affect your health. For more information, see www.colorado.gov/pacific/cdphe/wood-smoke-and-health. For more information on the prescribed fires, contact Kent Smith at 719-850-1064.

Sendoff for new Marine recruit is set for Oct. 23

MONTE VISTA — Proud Military Parents and Supports are having a sendoff ceremony for local Marine recruit — Chris Arthur of Creede — at 11 a.m. on Oct. 23 at the Faith Hinkley Memorial in Monte Vista.

The ceremony is open to the public. The local group organizes sendoff ceremonies and sends card and care packages to people serving in the military.

Donations can be made to any

committee member — Cory and Kelly Avila at 719-580-6280, Jennifer and Eric Ortega at 719-588-7668, Paula Martinez at 719-850-1894 and

Rhonda Hanson at 719-480-1740.

MV Historical Society Meeting is Oct. 22

MONTE VISTA — The 2021 annual meeting and Dutch Lunch of the Monte Vista Historical Society

will be held Oct. 22 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the back room at Nino's Mexican Family Restaurant. Board

positions will be filled, and the annual report will be given. All are welcome to attend.

PATCH

Continued from Page 1

from all over the San Luis Valley. Students visit the pumpkin patch every year, including Monte Vista, Crede, Crestone, Del Norte, and Alamosa schools.

Rodriguez was happy to report, “even Centennial School came this year.”

After the schools visit, the pumpkin patch is opened to the public.

Myers along with Allied Potato Company are proud of the patch and how it has grown over the years. Myers and Rodriguez both said, “It makes us happy to know that we are a part of families’ traditions and look forward to another year.”

Mary Sanchez of Monte Vista recently attended the pumpkin patch.

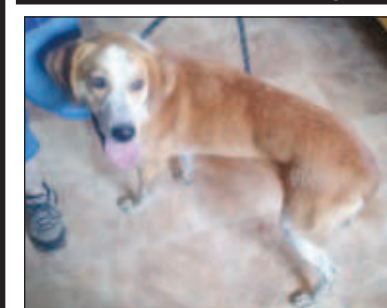
“My grandkids love to do this, every year we come and every year we go home and decorate pumpkins together,” Sanchez said. “We have been coming so many years, that I have lost track of how many years we have come, but the patch is so nice.”

For more information on the pumpkin patch, visit Allied Potatoes Facebook page.

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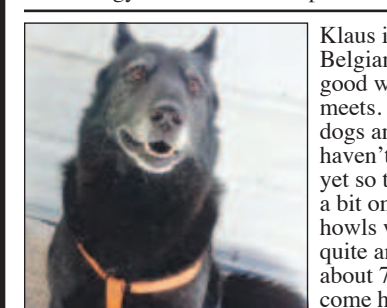
Lulu is about 2 years old and is a Red Hound mix. She's a very high energy dog, very vocal, and has some great escape skills. She seems to do well with other dogs, and just needs someone to give her plenty of space to burn her energy. She's at least 50 pounds.



Spud is about 8 months old and is a Border collie/Lab/Catahoula mix. Very intelligent and energetic young boy looking for the family that's going to take him home. He's a very under your feet kind of guy, who loves attention. Are you the family for him? He is about 35 pounds.



Doug is about 3 years old, and is a Border Collie. He seems like he's used to being a working dog. Does well with other dogs, and is one of the calmest dogs that we have here. Also does well with kids, does great on the leash and listens quite well. He's about 65 pounds



Klaus is a 6 year old Belgian Shepherd. He's good with everyone he meets, does well with other dogs and kids as well. We haven't tested him with cats yet so that's unknown. He's a bit on the vocal side, he howls when he's sad. Still quite and active guy and is about 75 pounds. Can he come home with you?



Puppy found on 4th and sisneros in Center

Please note we are on a first come first serve basis.
 All breeds & ages of animals are a “best guess” and are not guaranteed to be accurate. Adoption fee includes: neuter/spay, vaccinations, de-worming and micro-chipping.
 This ad space donated by Valley Publishing Inc.

Brush Up on Dental Hygiene

October is National Dental Hygiene Month



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Valley-Wide Health Systems, Inc.



VVHS.ORG



Preparing for

Flu Season



Prevent the Flu From Flooring You This Season

• Wash your hands with soap and hot water. Perhaps the best preventative measure you can take on a daily basis is to regularly wash your hands with soap and hot water, especially after you cough or sneeze. Germs can easily spread from someone else's hands to yours, and you never know if a coworker you've shaken hands with has the flu virus or germs that could make you susceptible.

• Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth. Germs on your hands can easily spread to your eyes, nose or mouth when you frequently touch these parts of your body. Avoid doing so at all times, even if you have thoroughly cleansed your hands.

• Routinely clean any shared surfaces. Viral germs can live on the surfaces of counter tops, doorknobs, computer keyboards, and telephones for up to an hour. To combat the spread of these germs, routinely clean surfaces that are shared with others, and use antibacterial soaps and cleaners that prevent the spread of germs.

• Avoid those who currently have the flu. The flu is easily spread from one person to another, and the viral germs can be air borne. Whenever you're exposed to a person with the flu, be sure to wash your hands frequently and do your best to minimize your exposure to them.

• Parents, teach your kids. For parents, the chances of catching the flu are often heightened because it's hard to know who your children are coming into contact with at school every day. Because schools have so many children, it's almost impossible for children to avoid being exposed to the flu virus at one point or another. To decrease the likelihood of getting the flu through your children or their classmates, teach the kids the same flu prevention tips as well. Tell them to be sure to wash their hands regularly, and avoid sharing food or beverages with their friends as well.

• Eat healthy and get your sleep. A poor diet and a lack of sleep, whether together or simply on their own, can weaken the immune system. A weaker immune system makes us more susceptible to the flu, as well as other ailments. Be sure to eat a healthy, balanced diet, and make sure you make time to get the proper amount of rest.

To learn more about flu prevention, visit the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Web site at www.cdc.gov.

GET YOUR FLU SHOT!

Rio Grande Public Health (RGPH) will be offering flu shot clinics in Del Norte at the Del Norte Annex on the two consecutive days listed below.

Del Norte Annex is located at 965 6th St in Del Norte. These clinics will provide both regular and high dose flu shots. RGPH can bill several insurances including Medicare. These clinics are providing increased social distancing and disinfection measures to help reduce COVID exposure. Masks are required.

NO APPOINTMENT NEEDED

Days and times include:

Wednesday 10-20-21 9 to 4

Thursday 10-21-21 1-6



For information call

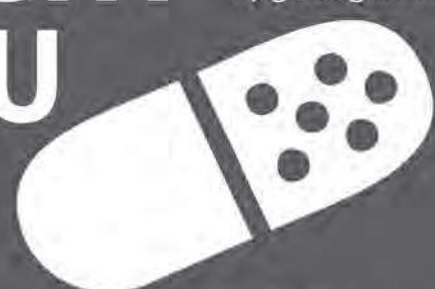
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Public Health

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Colorado set to raise statewide minimum wage to \$12⁵⁶

(The Center Square) — Colorado's statewide minimum wage could increase from \$12.32 to \$12.56 beginning Jan. 1, 2022, the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment (CDLE) said Monday, Sept. 27.

CDLE's proposed increase is mandated by the Colorado Constitution, which requires the state's minimum wage to be adjusted for inflation.

Gov. Jared Polis touted the proposal as an investment in the state's workers.

"As we build back better, it's great to see Colorado workers get a decent raise on the minimum wage to \$12.56 per-hour as our state builds an economy that works for everybody," Polis said in a statement Monday. "Investing in upskilling to help workers have the skills needed to earn much more than minimum

wage is one of our top priorities, so Colorado can continue to be a place where everyone can thrive."

A draft of the rule will be published on Sept. 30 and the public will be able to comment on it until Nov. 3, the department said.

The proposal comes as many businesses are still trying to rebound from the COVID-19 pandemic and its economic impacts.

Sonia Riggs, president and CEO of the Colorado Restaurant Association, told The Center Square in an emailed statement that business owners knew the increase was coming, but "that does not necessarily alleviate concerns about increasing the cost of labor when the industry is still digging out from the effects of capacity restrictions and mounting debt."

The minimum wage would rise to \$9.54 "for those receiving enough in

tips for total pay to meet or exceed the full minimum wage," according to the governor's office.

"Our primary concern is for small, independent restaurants that barely made it through the pandemic; even though they know what to expect, this increase will be coming at an incredibly challenging time," Riggs said. "Moreover, the bigger issue is that, because of the way the tip credit works in Colorado, every minimum wage increase forces restaurateurs to give a raise to the highest-paid workers in the restaurant — those who earn tips — at the expense of the lowest paid."

CDLE is also moving ahead with another rule to increase the minimum wage for direct care workers to \$15 per hour by the end of the year.

Last week, members of Colorado's Joint Budget Committee, a bipartisan group of lawmakers tasked with



COLORADO
Department of
Labor and Employment

writing the state's budget, approved a plan for the increase.

According to CDLE, 47% of direct care workers — such as personal care, home health, or person care aides — required public assistance to meet their financial needs.

Colorado's minimum wage increased by an average annual growth rate of 2.3% between 2011 and 2016 because of the state

constitution requiring it to increase with inflation, CDLE data shows.

In 2017, voters also approved Amendment 70, which increased the state minimum wage to \$9.30 from \$8.31 and required it to increase by \$0.90 per year through 2020.

Last year, Colorado reverted to its constitutional requirement in order to raise the minimum wage to \$12.32 because of inflation.

Medicare open enrollment available

Limited timeslots are available. For an appointment, call 719-589-4511. Bring any current insurance cards and all medications in the bottle or package; there may be initials after the names of each medication that we need, as well as dosages and strength. Service provided by SHIP/SMP Counselors at South-Central Colorado Seniors Inc., Area Agency on Aging.

Oct. 15 — Costilla County
9 a.m.-4 p.m. Costilla County Senior Citizens Center, 1101

Salazar St., San Luis

Oct. 19 — Alamosa County
9 a.m.-3 p.m. Alamosa Senior Center, 92 Colorado Ave., Alamosa

Oct. 26 — Saguache County
10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saguache County Department of Social Services, 605 Christy Ave., Saguache

Oct. 29 — Mineral County
10 a.m.-4 p.m. Mineral County Public Health, 802 Rio Grande Ln., Creede

Nov. 5 — Saguache-Alamosa

County
9 a.m.-4 p.m. Crestone Mercantile Grocery, 191 E. Galena, Crestone

Nov. 9 — Rio Grande County
9 a.m.-4 p.m. Annex Building, Rio Grande County, 965 6th St., Del Norte

Nov. 18 — Conejos County
9 a.m.-3 p.m. Northerners Senior Center, 413 Main St., La Jara

Nov. 30 — Saguache County
9 a.m.-4 p.m. Center Housing Authority, 138 Worth, Center

SLV Transit Plan seeks public input

STAFF REPORT
SALIDA — In 2021, the Chaffee Shuttle was awarded funding from the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) to conduct a transit planning study for the San Luis Valley.

This study will identify existing transit challenges and opportunities in the Region, seek input from community members and stakeholders about how mobility could be improved, and develop a plan to meet the needs of community members, employers, and employees in the San Luis Valley.

The Chaffee Shuttle is now seeking community input on locations with

the greatest need for transit, existing challenges in reaching essential and recreational destinations, and any other transit-related issues and opportunities in the San Luis Valley. It is vital to gather as much community feedback and local knowledge as possible to ensure proposed strategies and recommendations accurately reflect the values and needs of those that live, work, visit, and recreate in the Region.

Community members can provide feedback, learn more about the project, and subscribe to be a part of the project email list at slvtransitplan.

com. Input can also be provided on the project website through Oct. 22.

SANGRE DE CRISTO NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA
sangreheritage.org

The Sangre de Cristo National Heritage Area (SdCNHA) is seeking to fill three volunteer board member positions from residents in Alamosa, Costilla, and Conejos County. If you enjoy cultural preservation, heritage tourism, and historical work, then come and thrive in our friendly and collaborative environment.

The Sangre de Cristo National Heritage Area (SdCNHA) Board of Directors provides the opportunity for local residents to become engaged in a leadership role. Volunteers in these positions represent the voice of citizens in support of local heritage, preservation efforts, and the community-oriented mission of the Heritage Area. Must be willing to commit to one meeting per month and participation on sub-committees.

Applications can be found on the website: <https://www.sangreheritage.org/board-member-application/>

Completed application, a letter of interest, and a resume should be mailed or hand delivered to SdCNHA at the address noted below:

Mail to: Sangre de Cristo National Heritage Area
Attention: "Board Application"
P.O. Box 844
Alamosa, CO 81101

You can also hand deliver to: 231 State Avenue in Alamosa, or email to info@sdcnha.org

Deadline for applications is November 15, 2021.

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05 Notices

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07 Help Wanted

Full-time Custodian/Maintenance position open at the Upper Rio Grande School District. This is a 4-10 hour day (Monday-Thursday) position with a salary range of \$25,000-32,000, based on experience. Applicant must pass a background check and be able to work independently, be a forward-thinking individual with an overall team approach to all tasks at hand. Applicant must also be able to work in all weather conditions (snow removal/general landscaping). If interested, please contact Demo Trujillo, 719-657-4040 x4007, dtrujillo@urtigers.co. Applications can be retrieved online at: www.urtigers.co.

Substitutes Teachers needed at the Upper Rio Grande School District in Del Norte! Call or email: Terri at 719-657-4040, x4000 (tdudley@urtigers.co) for more information, go on-line: urtigers.co, or stop by the district office at: 950 French Street, Del Norte, CO to pick up an application. You do not have to hold a college degree or be a certified teacher to substitute; however, you must be a high school graduate and have a substitute license from CDE (Colorado Department of Education).

Cafeteria workers needed at Upper Rio Grande School District C7. Must have high school diploma and some knowledge of working in a kitchen or willing to be trained. Pay is dependent on prior experience. Please contact Leslie Martinez at 719-657-4040, x1100 or email her at lmartinez@urtigers.co.

Del Norte Jr./Sr. High School is seeking an energetic, caring individual to serve as a **Special Education ParaEducator**. Applicants must have a high school diploma and

prior experience working with students with special needs is preferred. Please submit your application to David Grabowski, DNHS Principal at 950 French Street, Del Norte, CO 81132; dgrabowski@urtigers.co; or contact David at 719-657-4020. The position will be open until filled. You can pick up an application at the District Office or on-line at urtigers.co.

Ranch foreman needed. Willow Park Ranch in South Fork. Duties include road grading, snow plowing, mowing, typical ranch maintenance

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and repairs, some managerial duties. Non-employee position requires a one-year contract. (10/27)

Del Norte Bank is seeking a candidate for **IT Helpdesk/Staff Accountant**. The successful applicant should possess the following skills: Proficient Microsoft Excel, Word, Outlook, general problem solving, excellent customer service, oral and written communication skills, ability to multi-task and maintain confidentiality, detail oriented, organized, team player with a friendly personality as well as an eagerness to learn. Training or experience in Network administration or accounting a plus. At a minimum a High School Diploma or equivalent is required. **The position is permanent, full-time, M-F, 8am – 5pm with a robust benefits package.** Salary commensurate with experience. Qualified candidates please send your resume or application to postmaster@truelocalbank.com by Oct 15, 2021. Application available at TrueLocalBank.com/careers. EOE. (10/20)

Hinsdale County Clerk & Recorder/Treasurer's Office is accepting applications for a full-time employee. This position will assist in both the Clerk's and Treasurer's offices. Minimum qualifications required for this position include: high school diploma or GED, one to two years of related office experience, knowledge of a variety of office machines, ability to use or learn a variety of computer application software programs, interface with the public in a professional manner, ability to work under minimal supervision and to exercise initiative. For an application

and complete job description please see Joan Roberts, Hinsdale County Clerk & Recorder or Lori Lawrence, Hinsdale County Treasurer. We will be accepting applications until the position is filled. (10/27)

Position Description: Youth Development will be 85-90% of your focus from Life Skills; Leadership Skills; Physical, Emotional, and Social Well Being; Inclusion and engagement of diverse, underrepresented and underserved youth. You will coordinate and assist the Agent with all aspects of the enrollment process, 4-H project material delivery, club organization, and volunteer trainings. You will coordinate, in conjunction with the Agent, at least one program specifically addressing youth mental health, diversity, inclusion, and resocialization. Family, Business, Community Development and Health education will be 10-15% of your focus. Every child and parent you are working with in your youth development role knows a family with needs, and that family may have a business with needs, and they live in a community with needs. Because of your unique relationship with these families and your community, you will play a key role in helping Agents identify the specific physical, emotional, and social needs of your constituents as they emerge from the pandemic and re-socialize, and in selecting the most appropriate, impactful Extension programming to serve these needs. Compensation & Hours: \$16.00 - \$18.00 per hour for a maximum of 30 hours per week. Minimum educational requirement is High School Diploma or GED.

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Interactive Services: ADT Command Interactive Solutions Services ("ADT Command") helps you manage your home environment and family lifestyle. Requires purchase of an ADT alarm system with 36-month monitoring contract ranging from \$45.99-\$59.99/mo with QSP (24-month monitoring contract in California, total fees ranging \$1,103.76-\$1,439.76), enrollment in ADT Easy Pay, and a compatible device with Internet and email access. These interactive services do not cover the operation or maintenance of any household equipment/systems that are connected to the ADT Command equipment. All ADT Command services are not available with all interactive service levels. All ADT Command services may not be available in all geographic areas. You may be required to pay additional charges to purchase equipment required to utilize the interactive service features you desire.

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Applicants please read the full job description and apply at: <https://jobs.colostate.edu/postings/92824> For full consideration, all materials must be received directly at <https://jobs.colostate.edu/postings/92824> no later than **11:59 PM Mountain Time on Sunday, October 3, 2021.** For questions regarding the program, the position, qualifications, or job duties please contact Larry Brown, Area Extension Director of the San Luis Valley Area, at (719) 852-7381, 719-850-2139 or L.Brown@colostate.edu. (10/20)

Long standing South Fork Real Estate firm seeks experienced and efficient secretary/office manager. Excellent pay, flexible hours if needed, fantastic work environment in a beautiful location with beautiful people. Our ideal candidate is self-motivated, creative, at least one-year experience as a secretary or administrative assistant and proficient in Microsoft Office. Call 719-873-1700 for an appointment today. (10/13)

Rio Grande County, Road and Bridge is accepting applications for full time Equipment Operators I and III. Class B CDL at the minimum, Class A preferred. Certification assistance is available. Applicants must be able to pass a pre-employment drug screen, including marijuana. These positions offer a full benefit package including life insurance and retirement. Applications are available online at www.riograndecounty.org or at the Road and Bridge Department at 168 N Washington Street, Monte Vista, CO 81144 between the

hours of 6 am and 4:30 pm Monday-Thursday. Applications must be submitted, in person, to the same address. (10/20)

Warehouse-Ranch hand: Need hardy individual for ranch chores and warehouse duties west of Del Norte. Must work at least 8 to 10-hour, 4-5 day/week flexible schedule, sometimes including weekends. We train. Computer skills a plus. Wage range: +\$13/hr, as per work and wage history. Send to: antler333@gmail.com or drop at 19612 US-160, Del Norte, CO 81132. (10/20)

Wolf Creek Ski Area is accepting applications for all departments: retail, ski school, lifts, ski patrol, base operations, ticket office, food and beverage, rental, vehicle maintenance and snow reporting. Please see details of job descriptions on Wolf Creek's employment page. Applications can be downloaded from WolfCreekSki.com employment page. Send resumes and applications to wolfcreekski@wolfcreekski.com or P.O. Box 2800, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147. All jobs are winter seasonal (November - April) with competitive wages. (10/27)

10 Apartments
Del Norte: Very nice, furnished 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Single occupant, non-smoker, no pets. Utilities and Dish included. \$650.00 mo./650.00 deposit. 719-850-2738 (10/20)

12 Houses for Rent
Del Norte 2-bedroom/Office partially furnished NO PETS \$750.00

Per Month, \$750.00 Deposit Call 719-580-5400. (10/27)

23 Lawn and Garden
Sprinkler installation, and winterization Done at reasonable rates. Quick Service. Call anytime, weekdays, weekends, evenings. 719-376-2593 or 719-580-0033. (10/30) TFN

31 Health
Proform 390 E Elliptical in South Fork, \$150.00. 719-873-1049. (10/20)

Used Pro-Form XP 420 Razor Elliptical Trainer for Sale \$250.00 Call 719-850-2018. (10/27)

32 Fuel & Heating
Firewood for sale \$180.00 per cord. Delivery Available. Call Atlee Jay Hoshstetler. 719-850-4012. (3/22) TFN

36 Miscellaneous
Two beautiful leather sofas with accent pillows excellent condition \$375.00 each. Queen size bed - modern wood frame and new mattress \$175.00 Located off Route 17 near Antonito. Call 505-660-6639 (11/3)

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SUDOKU

			8				7	
	4			7	6	8	1	
			9		1			
		2			7	3		1
				2		7		
		5						
		7	4		5		2	
	3						5	
	8					9		

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Level: Intermediate

Here's How It Works:
Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

Solution to last week's puzzle

R	U	S	T		S	A	R	T	R	E						
E	P	H	A		E	C	O	L	O	G	I	S	T			
E	R	I	S		M	O	N	A	T	E	D					
C	O	N	T	A	M	I	N	A	T	E	D					
H	O	T	E	L	S		J	M	A	M		B	D	L		
O	T	O	S			S	T	A	B		F	E	E	L		
					F	A	D	E	S		M	A	N	S	I	
B	A	L	L	A	D		H	A	B	I	T	S				
A	L	U	L	A		B	L	A	B	S						
L	A	M	B		H	E	I	R		C	L	A	D			
A	D	P		C	A	E	N		H	A	L	I	D	E		
N	D		P	R	O	F	E	S	S	I	O	N	A	L		
C	I	L	I	A		M	U			T	E	G	U			
E	N	V	E	N	O	M	E	D		H	A	I	G			
						R	E	S	I	N	S		S	L	O	E

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Valley Wide

Retirement/Liquidation Sale Mountain Lighthouse EVERYTHING MUST GO 0023 Buck St, South Fork 719-849-3415 Monday-Saturday 10AM-5PM (11/03)

FOR SALE - Computer station armoire \$200, Ashley Wood Stove \$200, Diamond plate pickup tool box \$100, Toyota pickup bed mat \$75. 719-221-9339 (10/13)

Propane Refrigerators Sold Here. Call For Options and Prices. We Also Stock Solar Powered Refrigerators and Freezers. Bontrager's Variety Store, 9726 S. County Road 3E, Monte Vista. (719)852-0500 (10/27)

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42 Feed & Seed
For Sale: All Types of Hay Big and Small Squares Located at HVFM 10475 US Hwy 285 Antonito (570) 395-0184. (11/10)

46 Pasture for Rent
WINTER HORSE PASTURE: 160 acres, Supervised, alfalfa and grass pasture, heated water, wind shelter, \$55/head per month, November thru early-May. Also, Alfalfa-grass horse hay 720# bales, \$80 each. West of Del Norte 719-657-0942 (5/22TFN)

48 Pets & Supplies
4 baby canaries for sale. 1 males at \$60 each. 3 females at \$50 each. They're in South Fork. Just call me if you want some. Darlene Danko 873-9847. (10/20)

Puppy for Sale: (Phone Number has been Corrected if you could not get through.) Female Puppy-Father Siberian Husky, Mother Boxer. Was \$200.00, now \$150 with distemper Shot. Will

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59 Vehicles Wanted
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We pickup, no title ok. 719-937-7935. 719-849-8491(TFN11-21)

64 Autos for Sale
2005 Subaru Outback \$3,000, Kawasaki KLR 650 Low Miles \$3,000. May consider ATV in trade. 719-580-4028. (10/13)

65 Professional Services
RELIABLE CARPENTRY - 46 years-experience in carpentry, paint-

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LICENSED PLUMBER does all types of plumbing repairs and plumbing remodels at reasonable rates. Quick service. Call anytime, available weekends and evenings. 719-580-0033 or 719-376-2593. (10/27)TFN)

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News for all paid papers...Monday, noon

Classified ads...Thursday, 5 p.m. for the next week

Legal advertising...Thursday, 5 p.m. for the next week

Display advertising...Thursday, 5 p.m. for the next week

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LOOK IMPROVED PRICE! \$66,900 Seller Motivated!
This Parcel is located in the mountain town of South Fork, Colorado. Located in the majestic San Juan Mountains. You will find a variety of historic motels, hotels, medical clinic, grocery store, repair shops restaurants, shopping for the active sportsman, RV and ATV dealers. The avid golfer will enjoy the play at Rio Grande Golf Club and Resort. The winter sport opportunities are boundless as well. Wolf Creek Ski Area is famous for the most snow in the country and only 20 minutes away. South Fork, Co is a popular destination for skiing and those who love snowmobiling, four wheeling, hiking and camping. Come enjoy this majestic place. MLS #781184
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SOLD

Your Stunning Colorado Mountain Oasis!
Beautiful 3,140 SQ. FT. 3 bedroom 3 bath home located on 9.59 Acres in Beautiful South Fork Ranches Bear Creek. The large master suite/bath is on the main floor. Open dining room, kitchen and living room with propane fireplace and windows from floor to ceiling with amazing mountain and Rio Grande river views. The beautiful kitchen includes an eat in island with custom countertop and large soft close storage drawers. Convenient large inside laundry room and foyer is right off the kitchen and the 4 car attached garage/workshop. The upstairs has two bedrooms, full bath with jet tub and office loft area. Start your Colorado Adventure and schedule your showing today! \$639,900 MLS#781345
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LOOK IMPROVED PRICE! \$69,900 Beautiful 8.01 Acre parcel located in Crow's Nest subdivision in South Fork, CO. Paved roads, city water and sewer with water tap that is currently paid. Wonderful mountain views over looking the Rio Grande River and the town of South Fork. Your perfect location to build your dream home. Moments away from Gold medal fly fishing, hiking, camping, skiing, 4 wheeling, hunting and everything outdoors. Call and schedule your showing today! MLS #775764
0 Escondida Drive • South Fork
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FOR SALE

BACK ON THE MARKET

Custom built, impeccable quality, full log home located just minutes from the town of South Fork, Colorado. The 4443 sq. ft. home and 1015 sq. ft. bunkhouse provides a total sq. ft. of 5458. Features in the home include a massive rock fireplace, 3 bedrooms, 3-1/2 bathrooms, loft that boasts a futon plus two-window beds, office, playroom, and a large living room for you to enjoy with family and friends. The wrap around deck will allow you to experience world-class high mountain views. Above the garage is a custom log guest quarters with a spectacular kitchen, bath, large living room, and bedroom combined into one unit. Bear Creek subdivision offers controlled access through a gated entrance. MLS #738155
107 Marmot Lane • South Fork
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LOOK IMPROVED PRICE!
• 2 bedroom • 2 bathroom • \$335,000
Charming 1,518 SQ FT Home with attached 672 SQ FT Cement Floor Garage with Workshop and additional 2 storage units. Bright and cheery with large living area with fire place and large windows with beautiful views of Beaver Mountain and plenty of sun shine. This home is complete with 4 heat sources! 2 ETS systems, Base board heating (all rooms), Solar heat and Fireplace. Complete with water and sewer system on paved roads. MLS#777866
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SOLD


FOR SALE

Look Improved Price! \$54,000
Beautiful parcels, Lot 11 and 12 with scenic views of the surrounding mountains in Deer Park. Paved roads with water / city water and sewer and utilities in place and ready to build. Minutes from the Rio Grande River. Enjoy the mule deer and wild turkeys that visit Deer Park often.
Moments from skiing, fly fishing, hiking, hunting and everything outdoors. Start your adventure and schedule your showing today!
MLS #766836
431 and 443 Deer Run • South Fork
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IMPROVED PRICE \$649,900
THIS HOME YOU HAVE TO SEE TO BELIEVE!

• 3 bedroom • 2 bathroom
This could be your new home. Amazing Custom - Built Full log Home - Entry room, living room, large kitchen with island, lots of cabinet space, laundry. This home has beautiful wrap around porches that offer great views of the mountains and cliffs. The attached double garage is 576 Sq. Ft. with concrete floor. The home is fully fenced. Additional 2,000 sq. ft. workshop. MLS#772697
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Beautiful Unique Custom Built Home in Ponderosa Country Estates
This 4 bedroom 4 bath 2,800 SQ FT home with large 4 car heated attached garage and an additional 2 car heated detached garage, workshop and studio apartment is located in this wonderful neighborhood with no HOA. This is your home-a-way from home, vacation rental or permanent home. Complete with well and sewer system on paved roads.
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Level building spot on the 10th Fairway at the Rio Grande Club and Resort with stunning views. Just minutes away from World Class skiing and the Rio Grande River known for Gold Medal fishing- This is a perfect spot for your dream home on a Championship Golf Course. Don't let this one slip away! \$47,000 MLS#781025

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Kazie Deacon, Associate Broker 810 First Ave. • Monte Vista
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This home has been remodeled inside and outside in 2020 and looks great. Home has two bedrooms and one bathroom. Gas Log fireplace and a Wood stove. With the 16" thick outside walls staying warm as toast is not a problem. Almost new appliances in kitchen and laundry room. Nice attached two car garage and a very nice large backyard with Apple, Plum, Apricot trees. Check this home out today. Owner requests 24 Hour advance notice for showing. \$269,000 MLS#787179

Legends Premier Properties
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Prime Commercial Property! Awesome building on Highway 285 that would work great for any type of business. This building is insulated, heated, and has a beautiful office space with huge hanging doors on both ends of the building. The building is located on a 0.75 acre commercial lot! \$179,000 MLS#787380

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This charming home has been recently updated with new paint and carpet. With 2 bedrooms and 1 bathroom this home also has a sun-room, and an extra lot that is service ready! Value at a great Price! Call for more details! \$115,000 MLS#785391

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Nice area to build with beautiful views! 1+ acres in Alpine Vista. \$31,500 MLS#786764

Legends Premier Properties
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Own part of your own little mountain and enjoy the views almost 360 degrees including Del Norte peak. This 11 acre parcel includes electric installed to a very buildable site with driveway cut in. One needs to install own well and septic. Come look and bring your plans for ready to go build. \$430,000 MLS#785669

Legends Premier Properties
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This sweet little home is located in the heart of Alamosa that is within walking distance to downtown, Cole Park and Adams State University! With 2 bedrooms and 1 bathroom this home offers a porch/sunroom with nice windows that you can enjoy while having your morning coffee. Inside the house you have a natural gas fireplace and a Wood Stove to keep you warm on those cold winter evenings. The good sized yard has beautiful mature trees and a sprinkler system. The back deck offers privacy so you can enjoy the hot tub. It also offers a garage to store all your toys and a vehicle. Don't miss out on this great opportunity. Call for more details. \$175,000 MLS#785146

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