

Renewing the Emergency Employment and Job Retention Support Services Program

Updated December 1, 2021

Sponsored by Representative Tony Exum

The Issue

- To sustain the availability of supportive services for employment goals – such as emergency childcare, transportation and utility assistance, work equipment or legal resources as a way of reducing and removing barriers for individuals pursuing or retaining a training or employment opportunity. A 2017 report authored by the Institute for Women’s Policy Research found that each supportive service provided increased a participant’s probability of completing a job training activity by 11 percentage points.
- A needs assessment encompassing 63 of Colorado’s 64 counties revealed the need for emergency supportive service funds to support job-seekers’ employment goals.
- This supportive services program was created under HB19-1107 since there was no large scale program for this purpose exists in Colorado, leaving many Coloradans without the resources they need to acquire new skills and/or pursue positive employment goals after the extensive impacts of COVID 19.

What would this renewal bill do?

- Sustain the Emergency Employment Support Services Bill in the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment’s Division of Employment and Training for an emergency supportive services fund that community-based organizations (CBOs) and public agencies (PAs) can draw from to serve their participants with barriers to employment.
- Target those who are working on an employment goal (training, job preparation and search, job retention) with an income under 100% of federal poverty level
- Sustain the reimbursement mechanism for eligible PAs and CBOs to provide funds up front to their participants for employment and training related supportive services. Participant benefits are capped at \$400 per annum, per eligible jobseeker on a per need basis. Member organizations will be reimbursed within 7 business days
- Prioritize community engagement to rural and underserved communities through outreach to non-traditional services organizations including community organizations, faith-based organizations, places of worship and libraries that offer employment, training and educational services.

Previous Endorsers of this bill: 2018

9to5 Colorado

All Families Deserve a Chance Coalition (AFDC)

Association of Centers for Independent Living (ACCIL)

Bayaud Enterprises

Burnes Center on Poverty and Homelessness at University of Denver
Bell Policy Center
Catholic Charities, Diocese of Pueblo
Center for Employment Opportunities (CEO)
Colorado Center on Law and Policy (CCLP)
Colorado Coalition for the Homeless
Colorado Cross Disability Coalition (CCDC)
CommunityWorks
Cross Purpose
The Curtis Hotel
CWEE
Del Norte Neighborhood Development Center
Denver Marriott Tech Center
Embassy Suites Denver Downtown
Emergency Family Assistance Association
Emily Griffith Foundation Emily Griffith Technical College
Good Business Colorado
KJM Consulting LLC
L&R Pallet Service
Mental Health Center of Denver
Mental Health Partners
Mi Casa Resource Center
National Skills Coalition
People's Advocacy Council
Remerg
Sage Hospitality
Second Chance Center
Servicios de la Raza
Sheraton Denver Tech Center
Skills2Compete-Colorado
Southern Colorado Community Action Agency, Inc. (SoCoCAA)
Southwest Regional Council of Carpenters
Spring Institute for Intercultural Learning
The Empowerment Program United for a New Economy
Volunteers of America Colorado Branch
Women's Foundation of Colorado
Women's Lobby of Colorado
Young Invincibles

New Groups to Approach

Mile High Works	Jewish Family Services
Crawford Hotel	Denver Voice
Oxford Hotel	Justice Reskill
Grand Hyatt	Urban Peak

Loveland Public Library
Denver Public Library
Mile High United Way
Colorado Refugee Center
AARP
EOC
Chapman Center
Senior Support Services

Catholic Charities – Colorado Springs
Catholic Charities – Pueblo
Catholic Charities - Denver
MDHI
EFAA
Back on My Feet
Other?

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