

**RECOMMENDATIONS FOR 2002**

**WELFARE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE**

**Report to the  
Colorado General Assembly**

**Research Publication No. 492  
December 2001**

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December 2001

To Members of the Sixty-third General Assembly:

Submitted herewith is the final report of the Welfare Oversight Committee. This committee was created pursuant to Section 26-2-722, Colorado Revised Statutes. The purpose of the committee is to oversee the Colorado Works Program and its implementation by the counties.

At its meeting on November 15, 2001, the Legislative Council reviewed the report of this committee. A motion to forward this report and the bills therein for consideration in the 2002 session was approved.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Senator Stan Matsunaka  
Chairman  
Legislative Council

SM/JC/jh

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*[http://www.state.co.us/gov\\_dir/leg\\_dir/lcsstaff/2001/01interim.htm](http://www.state.co.us/gov_dir/leg_dir/lcsstaff/2001/01interim.htm)*

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# WELFARE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

## Members of the Committee

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Senator Jim Dyer  
Senator Mary Ellen Epps  
Senator John Evans  
Senator Bob Hagedorn  
Senator Deanna Hanna  
Senator Doug Linkhart

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# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

## **Committee Charge**

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Pursuant to Section 26-2-722, Colorado Revised Statutes, the Legislative Welfare Oversight Committee (consisting of all members of the Senate Health, Environment, Children, and Families Committee and all members of the House Health, Environment, Welfare, and Institutions Committee) has the responsibility of overseeing the Colorado Works Program and its implementation by the counties. The report summarizes the aspects of the Works Program that have been considered during the 2001 interim and any legislation recommended by the committee.

## **Committee Activities**

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The committee held three meetings during the 2001 interim. Because of a large number of new committee members, these meetings focused on the history of welfare reform in Colorado as well as the current status of the Colorado Works Program and the federal re-authorization process of the Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) program currently underway in Congress. The committee also heard from representatives of the Department of Human Services and counties about the progress of the Colorado Benefits Management System (CBMS). Colorado Works participant information is among the components of CBMS that will be included in the integrated database once CBMS is fully functional.

## **Committee Recommendations**

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As a result of committee discussion and deliberation, the committee recommends eight bills for consideration in the 2002 legislative session. Five of the recommended bills were approved by Legislative Council.

***Bill A — Extensions Under the Colorado Works Program for Persons Who Have Reached the Sixty-Month Lifetime Limit for Receipt of TANF Assistance.*** The bill would allow county departments of social services to grant hardship extensions and domestic violence extensions for participants who have reached their 60-month lifetime limit for the Colorado Works Program. Hardship would be defined by rule of the State Board of Human Services, and counties will be allowed to define additional reasons for granting extensions.

**Bill B — The State Earned Income Tax Credit, and, in Connection Therewith, Allowing the Credit for Any Income Tax Year Commencing on or After January 1, 2002.** The bill allows the state earned income tax credit that presently exists only as a TABOR refund mechanism to be claimed for any income tax year commencing on or after January 1, 2002.

**Bill C — Community Planning Grants to Support Work Force Development Programs for Low-Income Persons.** The bill creates a work force development community grant program in the Department of Local Affairs. The grants would provide up to \$10,000 for counties to create workforce development programs, in collaboration with community partners, for Colorado Works Program participants or youth transitioning from foster care or from child-only Colorado Works services.

**Bill D — Incentives to Encourage Colorado Works Participants to Pursue a Living Wage.** The bill authorizes a county department of social services to implement a Colorado Works living wage program. Participants who maintain consistent employment for six consecutive months may receive incentive payments or other incentives from the county department as agreed upon in the individual responsibility contract.

**Bill E — The Creation of the "Responsible Fatherhood Act", and Making an Appropriation in Connection Therewith.** The bill creates a commission on responsible fatherhood in the Department of Human Services. The commission will promote positive involvement and interaction between fathers and their children with an emphasis on children eligible or formerly eligible for services funded by the Colorado Works Program.

**Bill F — Grants to Public Schools for the Cost of Providing Extended Public Learning Programs to Children Receiving Public Assistance, and Making an Appropriation Therefor.** The bill creates the Extended Learning Grant Program, administered by the State Board of Education, for public elementary schools that provide before- or after-school programs that are intended to enhance a student's ability to meet academic standards. Preference for the grants will be given to applicants whose programs will serve a larger numbers of students who are eligible for free lunch or who receive assistance under the Colorado Works Program.

**Bill G — Segregated Funding Under the Colorado Works Program.** The bill requires the Department of Human Services to segregate all county block grant funds allocated for the Colorado Works Program. Counties may use any segregated state or local moneys allocated under the Colorado Works Program in accordance with federal law. Segregated moneys may not be used for capital construction.

**Bill H — Methods to Address Barriers to Self-Sufficiency in Colorado Works Participants, and Making an Appropriation Therefor.** The bill authorizes the creation of the Colorado Works Substance Abuse and Mental Health Pilot Program. The program would assess the success and cost-effectiveness of using TANF moneys for grants to counties to improve the screening and assessment of Colorado Works participants for substance abuse

problems or mental illness. In addition, the counties would be able to identify effective education methods to reduce the stigma associated with seeking treatment of substance abuse problems or mental illness.

# STATUTORY AUTHORITY AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The passage of federal and state welfare reform legislation in 1996 and 1997 provided three significant changes: 1) it changed cash assistance for poor families with dependent children from an "entitlement" to a "block grant" subject to an annual appropriation process; 2) it created a "work-first" model of welfare reform in contrast to the previous Family Support Act model that emphasized education and training; and 3) it created definitive time limits, 24 cumulative months in which to find a job or be judged job-ready; and a 60-month lifetime limit in which assistance can be received.

The Colorado Works Program, effective July 1, 1997, replaced the former Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) and the JOBS Program. The Colorado Works Program provides the state the authority it needs to meet federal welfare reform requirements. The program also creates a work-first approach to reform that delegates most of the decision-making responsibility and authority for designing welfare reform in Colorado to the county level.

Pursuant to Section 26-2-722, C.R.S., the Legislative Welfare Oversight Committee has the responsibility to oversee the Colorado Works Program and its implementation by the counties.

The committee consists of the members of the House Health, Environment, Welfare, and Institutions Committee and the Senate Health, Environment, Children, and Families Committee. The statute directs the oversight committee to:

- submit an annual report;
- summarize the aspects of the Colorado Works Program that have been considered and propose any recommended legislative changes; and
- make recommendations concerning how to allocate any funds that the state receives as an illegitimacy bonus reward from the federal government. In making its recommendations on this issue, the committee shall consider how to make allocations based upon individual counties' success in reducing illegitimacy.

# COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES

During the 2001 interim, the Welfare Oversight Committee received testimony regarding the background of welfare reform in Colorado, the federal re-authorization of the Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) program, and the Colorado Benefits Management System (CBMS). Eight bills were proposed to address individuals who have reached their 60-month lifetime limit for TANF benefits; barriers to participants' self-sufficiency; workforce development programs; after-school programs; and a responsible fatherhood program.

## **Background**

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The Colorado Works Program started July 1, 1997, as required by federal and state statute. The Welfare Oversight Committee has since met 11 times. When the committee first met, the focus was on county implementation of welfare plans and any problems that counties were encountering. In its second and third years, the committee continued to receive updates on the status of the Colorado Works program from the state and counties, as well as clients and advocates. This year, because of the many new committee members, three meetings were focused on the history of welfare reform in Colorado as well as the current status of the Colorado Works Program and the federal re-authorization process. The committee also heard from representatives of the Department of Human Services (DHS) and counties about the progress of the Colorado Benefits Management System (CBMS). Colorado Works participant information is among the components of CBMS that will be included in the integrated database once CBMS is fully functional.

## **60-Month Lifetime Limit**

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The Department of Human Services anticipates only a handful of individuals to hit the 60-month lifetime limit in October of 2001, the first date for which such a limit would be applied. The Department has an ongoing program to maintain close contact with those individuals and encourage contact with local county departments of human services if participants want to apply for an extension. Testimony from DHS indicated that the Department has set criteria for hardship extensions including mental or physical disability, drug abuse, and parents over 50 years of age.

Representatives from Colorado counties and advocates described some of the issues counties face in assisting difficult-to-serve clients, such as the disabled. They also described difficulties coping with families who have hit their lifetime limit and who have multiple issues that present barriers to their self-sufficiency. Families who are still receiving TANF benefits typically face three levels of barriers, often in combination. These are systemic barriers, skill and educational barriers, and personal barriers. Most long-term participants are not high school

graduates, have a learning disability as well as mental health problems, and have limited job experience and physical health problems. Many struggle to maintain a job or find a job that provides benefits and opportunities for advancement. Individuals such as these, providers maintained, would benefit from a safety net to ensure TANF benefits beyond the 60 months and that would help providers and clients to more thoroughly address some of these barriers.

**Recommendation.** Bill A allows county departments of social services to grant hardship extensions and domestic violence extensions for participants who have reached their 60-month limit. The State Board of Human Services would define hardship and counties would be allowed to define additional reasons for granting extensions. Bill C creates a work force development community grant program for counties to create work force development programs. Bill D authorizes a county to implement a living wage program that would provide incentive payments or other incentives for individuals who keep a job for six months or more. Bill H creates a pilot program to assess the success and cost-effectiveness of using TANF moneys for grants to counties to improve the screening and assessment of Colorado Works participants for substance abuse or mental illness. In addition the committee proposed Bill B that would make permanent the earned income tax credit.

The committee also proposed several bills to address some of the concerns raised regarding barriers to finding and maintaining employment including child care and supporting families. Bill E would create a commission to promote the role of the father in families who are participating the Colorado Works program. Bill F would provide grants to public schools that provide before- or after-school programs to help students meet academic standards. Preference would be given to schools that serve substantial populations of students eligible for Colorado Works programs.

### **Federal Re-authorization of TANF**

The six-year implementation period for welfare reform expired in October of 2001. The debate concerning TANF re-authorization is underway at the federal level. The committee heard testimony about some of the issues that advocates and county representatives are addressing as the deadline approaches, most significant among these is the possibility of changes to or loss of current federal funding. Counties and advocates support the National Governors' Association and others who believe the TANF block grant should be preserved at its present level and increased annually for inflation. In addition, the flexibility of the block grants should be maintained to encourage state and local innovations, to achieve program outcomes, and to leverage resources. Advocates would also like to see changes to the current restrictions on how "work" is defined that would allow for greater flexibility in getting families off welfare.

**Recommendation.** Bill G requires the Department of Human Services to segregate all county block grant funds allocated for the Colorado Works Program. Segregating state and local

maintenance of effort funds from federal TANF money would provide greater flexibility to counties in how they spend their Colorado Works funds.

## **SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS**

As a result of the committee's activities, eight bills were recommended to the Colorado General Assembly. The Legislative Council committee reviews each interim committee's recommendations and determines whether the bills fall within the charge of the interim committee. In the 2001 interim, Legislative Council approved five of the Welfare Oversight committee's recommended bills. Bills B, E, and F were not approved.

### **Bill A — Concerning Extensions Under the Colorado Works Program for Persons Who Have Reached the Sixty-Month Lifetime Limit for Receipt of TANF Assistance.**

The bill would allow county departments of social services to grant hardship extensions and domestic violence extensions for participants who have reached their 60-month lifetime limit for the Colorado Works Program. Hardship will be defined by rule of the State Board of Human Services, and counties will be allowed to define additional reasons for granting extensions.

### **Bill C — Concerning Community Planning Grants to Support Work Force Development Programs for Low-Income Persons.**

The bill creates a work force development community grant program in the Department of Local Affairs. The grants would provide up to \$10,000 for counties to create workforce development programs, in collaboration with community partners, for Colorado Works Program participants or youth transitioning from foster care or from child-only Colorado Works services.

### **Bill D — Concerning Incentives to Encourage Colorado Works Participants to Pursue a Living Wage.**

The bill authorizes a county department of social services to implement a Colorado Works living wage program. Participants who maintain consistent employment for six consecutive months may receive incentive payments or other incentives from the county department as agreed upon in the individual responsibility contract.

### **Bill G — Concerning Segregated Funding Under the Colorado Works Program.**

The bill requires the Department of Human Services to segregate state and local maintenance of effort funds from federal TANF dollars to provide counties with greater spending flexibility. Counties may use any segregated state or local moneys allocated under the Colorado Works Program in accordance with federal law. Segregated moneys may not be used for capital construction.

**Bill H — Concerning Methods to Address Barriers to Self-Sufficiency in Colorado Works Participants, and Making an Appropriation Therefor.**

The bill authorizes the creation of the Colorado Works Substance Abuse and Mental Health Pilot Program. The program would assess the success and cost-effectiveness of using TANF moneys for grants to counties to improve the screening and assessment of Colorado Works participants for substance abuse problems or mental illness. In addition, the counties would be able to identify effective education methods to reduce the stigma associated with seeking treatment of substance abuse problems or mental illness.

# RESOURCE MATERIALS

The resource materials listed below were provided to the committee or developed by Legislative Council Staff during the course of the meetings. The summaries of meetings and attachments are available at the Division of Archives, 1313 Sherman Street, Denver (303) 866-2055. For a limited time, the meeting summaries and materials developed by Legislative Council Staff are available on our web site at:

[www.state.co.us/gov\\_dir/leg\\_dir/lcsstaff/2001/01interim](http://www.state.co.us/gov_dir/leg_dir/lcsstaff/2001/01interim).

## **Meeting Summaries**

## **Topics Discussed**

July 24, 2001

History of Welfare Reform and TANF

September 6, 2001

60-Month Limit and the Colorado Benefits Management System

October 10, 2001

Discussion of Proposed Legislation

## **Memoranda and Reports**

"Welfare Reform in Colorado," Colorado Department of Human Services, Office of Self-Sufficiency, Colorado Works Division, 2001.

"Evaluation of the Colorado Works Program," Berkeley Policy Associates, 2000.

"County Communications Initiative," Colorado Department of Human Services, 1998.

Second Regular Session  
Sixty-third General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO

DRAFT

LLS NO. 02-0119.01 Debbie Haskins

HOUSE BILL

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**HOUSE SPONSORSHIP**

**Romanoff**, Boyd, Stafford, and Tochtrop

**SENATE SPONSORSHIP**

**Hagedorn**, Hanna, Hernandez, and Linkhart

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House Committees

Senate Committees

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**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

101 **CONCERNING METHODS TO ADDRESS BARRIERS TO SELF-SUFFICIENCY IN**  
102 **COLORADO WORKS PARTICIPANTS, AND MAKING AN**  
103 **APPROPRIATION THEREFOR.**

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**Bill Summary**

*(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not necessarily reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted.)*

**Welfare Oversight Committee.** Authorizes the creation of the Colorado works substance abuse and mental health pilot program ("program") to assess the success and the cost-effectiveness of using temporary assistance for needy families (TANF) moneys to provide grants to counties to:

**Shading denotes HOUSE amendment.** Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.  
*Capital letters indicate new material to be added to existing statute.*  
*Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.*

- ! Improve the screening and assessment of Colorado works participants to identify substance abuse problems or potential mental illness; and
- ! Identify effective education methods to reduce the stigma associated with seeking treatment of substance abuse problems or mental illness.

Creates an advisory committee to provide input to the department of human services in implementing the program and in awarding grants to counties that voluntarily apply to participate in the program. Specifies the requirements for selection to participate in the program. Requires the department of human services to report the results and the findings of the program to the house of representatives and the senate.

Repeals the program effective July 1, 2006.

Makes an appropriation to implement the act.

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

2 **SECTION 1.** Part 7 of article 2 of title 26, Colorado Revised Statutes, is  
3 amended BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW SECTION to read:

4 **26-2-724. Colorado works substance abuse and mental health**  
5 **pilot program - criteria - evaluation - advisory committee - repeal.**

6 (1) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY HEREBY FINDS THAT A SIGNIFICANT  
7 PERCENTAGE OF COLORADO WORKS PARTICIPANTS HAVE BARRIERS TO  
8 ACHIEVING SELF-SUFFICIENCY DUE TO SUBSTANCE ABUSE PROBLEMS OR  
9 MENTAL ILLNESS. THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY ALSO FINDS THAT THE  
10 IDENTIFICATION OF THOSE PERSONS WHO HAVE SUBSTANCE ABUSE  
11 PROBLEMS OR MENTAL ILLNESS DOES NOT ALWAYS OCCUR IN A TIMELY  
12 FASHION AND THAT, EVEN WHEN THE BARRIERS ARE IDENTIFIED, THOSE  
13 PERSONS DO NOT ALWAYS RECEIVE TREATMENT. THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
14 HEREBY DECLARES THAT THE PURPOSE OF ENACTING THE PILOT PROGRAM  
15 OUTLINED IN THIS SECTION IS TO EXAMINE WHETHER TANF FUNDS CAN BE  
16 MAXIMIZED TO ADDRESS THESE BARRIERS THAT PREVENT COLORADO  
17 WORKS PARTICIPANTS FROM EFFECTIVELY ACHIEVING SELF-SUFFICIENCY.

1           (2) THE STATE DEPARTMENT SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE  
2 DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE COLORADO WORKS  
3 SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND MENTAL HEALTH PILOT PROGRAM, REFERRED TO IN  
4 THIS SECTION AS THE "PROGRAM". SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE  
5 APPROPRIATIONS, THE PROGRAM SHALL OPERATE ON A VOLUNTARY PILOT  
6 BASIS WITHIN TWO OR MORE COUNTIES SELECTED AS OUTLINED IN  
7 SUBSECTION (4) OF THIS SECTION. THE PURPOSE OF THE PROGRAM SHALL  
8 BE TO PROVIDE GRANTS TO FUND PILOT PROJECTS, REFERRED TO IN THIS  
9 SECTION AS "DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS", THAT:

10           (a) IMPROVE THE SCREENING AND ASSESSMENT OF COLORADO  
11 WORKS PARTICIPANTS TO IDENTIFY SUBSTANCE ABUSE PROBLEMS AND  
12 MENTAL ILLNESS; AND

13           (b) IDENTIFY EFFECTIVE EDUCATION METHODS TO REDUCE THE  
14 STIGMA ASSOCIATED WITH AND ADDRESS THE FEARS THAT PARTICIPANTS  
15 MAY HAVE IN SEEKING TREATMENT TO ADDRESS SUBSTANCE ABUSE ISSUES  
16 OR MENTAL ILLNESS.

17           (3) (a) IN ORDER FOR THE STATE DEPARTMENT TO DEVELOP AND  
18 IMPLEMENT THE PROGRAM WITH SUFFICIENT INPUT FROM PERSONS  
19 FAMILIAR WITH THE ISSUES AFFECTING TANF RECIPIENTS AND FAMILIAR  
20 WITH HOW MENTAL ILLNESS AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE AFFECTS A  
21 PARTICIPANT'S ABILITY TO BECOME SELF-SUFFICIENT, THERE IS HEREBY  
22 CREATED THE COLORADO WORKS SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND MENTAL HEALTH  
23 PILOT PROGRAM ADVISORY COMMITTEE, REFERRED TO IN THIS SECTION AS  
24 THE "ADVISORY COMMITTEE", TO BE APPOINTED BY THE EXECUTIVE  
25 DIRECTOR. THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE SHALL CONSIST OF ELEVEN  
26 MEMBERS AS FOLLOWS:

27           (I) PROFESSIONALS WHO ARE EXPERTS IN THE FIELD OF SUBSTANCE

1 ABUSE TREATMENT, ESPECIALLY WITH PUBLICLY FUNDED CLIENTS;  
2 (II) PROFESSIONALS WHO ARE EXPERTS IN THE FIELD OF MENTAL  
3 HEALTH TREATMENT, ESPECIALLY WITH PUBLICLY FUNDED CLIENTS;  
4 (III) A REPRESENTATIVE OF A COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH  
5 CENTER;  
6 (IV) A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE  
7 POLICY AND FINANCING WHO IS FAMILIAR WITH MEDICAID FUNDING FOR  
8 TANF-ELIGIBLE POPULATIONS;  
9 (V) COLORADO WORKS PARTICIPANTS OR ADVOCATES FOR  
10 PERSONS WHO ARE COLORADO WORKS PARTICIPANTS;  
11 (VI) A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE DIVISION OF ALCOHOL AND DRUG  
12 ABUSE;  
13 (VII) A REPRESENTATIVE OF AN ORGANIZATION REPRESENTING  
14 COUNTY GOVERNMENTS.  
15 (b) IN THE DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE  
16 PROGRAM, THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE STATE DEPARTMENT SHALL  
17 CONSULT ON A REGULAR BASIS WITH THE MEMBERS OF THE ADVISORY  
18 COMMITTEE CREATED IN PARAGRAPH (a) OF THIS SUBSECTION (3).  
19 (c) (I) THIS SUBSECTION (3) IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2006.  
20 (II) PRIOR TO SAID REPEAL, THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE SHALL BE  
21 REVIEWED, AS PROVIDED IN SECTION 2-3-1203 (3), C.R.S.  
22 (4) ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 1, 2003, THE STATE DEPARTMENT,  
23 AFTER CONSULTATION WITH THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE, SHALL ESTABLISH  
24 THE CRITERIA FOR DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS, THE PROCESS FOR  
25 SELECTING COUNTIES TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PROGRAM, AND THE  
26 OUTCOME AND PERFORMANCE MEASURES THAT SHALL BE USED TO  
27 EVALUATE THE SUCCESS AND COST-EFFECTIVENESS OF THE

1 DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS FUNDED BY THE PROGRAM PURSUANT TO THIS  
2 SECTION. THE STATE DEPARTMENT SHALL ALSO ESTABLISH A TIME FRAME  
3 FOR PARTICIPATING COUNTIES TO PERIODICALLY REPORT ON  
4 IMPLEMENTATION AND RESULTS OF THE DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS.  
5 COUNTIES WISHING TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PROGRAM SHALL APPLY TO  
6 THE STATE DEPARTMENT NO LATER THAN FEBRUARY 1, 2003. ON OR  
7 BEFORE MARCH 1, 2003, THE STATE DEPARTMENT, WITH INPUT FROM THE  
8 ADVISORY COMMITTEE, SHALL SELECT TWO OR MORE PARTICIPATING  
9 COUNTIES. IN SELECTING FROM AMONG THE COUNTIES APPLYING TO  
10 PARTICIPATE IN THE PROGRAM, THE STATE DEPARTMENT SHALL CONSIDER  
11 SELECTING COUNTIES THAT REPRESENT DIVERSITY IN GEOGRAPHY, SIZE,  
12 AND OTHER DEMOGRAPHIC FACTORS.

13 (5) A COUNTY APPLYING TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PROGRAM SHALL  
14 OUTLINE IN ITS APPLICATION A PROPOSAL FOR A DEMONSTRATION  
15 PROJECT THAT ADDRESSES THE PURPOSES OUTLINED IN SUBSECTION (2) OF  
16 THIS SECTION. TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR CONSIDERATION FOR THE PROGRAM,  
17 A COUNTY SHALL, AT A MINIMUM, DEMONSTRATE THE FOLLOWING:

18 (a) THAT ANY PROGRAM FUNDS SHALL ALWAYS BE USED TO SERVE  
19 TANF-ELIGIBLE PERSONS AND SHALL SUPPORT THE PURPOSES OF THE  
20 FEDERAL "PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY AND WORK OPPORTUNITY  
21 RECONCILIATION ACT OF 1996", PUBLIC LAW 104-193;

22 (b) THAT THE DEMONSTRATION PROJECT DEVELOPED BY THE  
23 PARTICIPATING COUNTY IS COST-EFFECTIVE;

24 (c) THAT THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT HAS EXPERIENCED  
25 DIFFICULTIES IDENTIFYING COLORADO WORKS PARTICIPANTS WHO HAVE  
26 SUBSTANCE ABUSE PROBLEMS OR UNDIAGNOSED MENTAL ILLNESS OR WHO  
27 EXPERIENCE BOTH TYPES OF BARRIERS TO SELF-SUFFICIENCY;

1 (d) THAT THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT HAS A DEMONSTRATED NEED  
2 TO IMPROVE ITS PROCESSES FOR SCREENING COLORADO WORKS  
3 PARTICIPANTS FOR SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND MENTAL ILLNESS AND  
4 REFERRING PARTICIPANTS FOR TREATMENT OF SUCH PROBLEMS;

5 (e) THAT THE DEMONSTRATION PROJECT DEVELOPED BY THE  
6 PARTICIPATING COUNTY IS EXPECTED TO INCREASE THE FREQUENCY OF  
7 SCREENING AND REFERRAL OF COLORADO WORKS PARTICIPANTS TO  
8 MENTAL HEALTH CENTERS OR DRUG AND ALCOHOL TREATMENT PROVIDERS  
9 FOR IDENTIFICATION, ASSESSMENT, AND TREATMENT OF MENTAL ILLNESS  
10 AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE PROBLEMS;

11 (f) THAT THE DEMONSTRATION PROJECT INCLUDES AN EDUCATION  
12 COMPONENT AIMED AT ALLEVIATING THE FEARS OF PARTICIPANTS OR THE  
13 FEELINGS OF STIGMA ASSOCIATED WITH SEEKING TREATMENT FOR  
14 MENTAL ILLNESS AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE PROBLEMS;

15 (g) THAT THE PARTICIPATING COUNTY HAS DEVELOPED A SCHEDULE  
16 FOR PERIODIC REPORTING ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE  
17 DEMONSTRATION PROJECT, THE OUTCOMES TO BE MEASURED BY THE  
18 DEMONSTRATION PROJECT, AND THE EVALUATION AND ANALYSIS OF THE  
19 RESULTS OF THE DEMONSTRATION PROJECT.

20 (6) THE STATE DEPARTMENT SHALL REPORT TO THE HOUSE HEALTH,  
21 ENVIRONMENT, WELFARE AND INSTITUTIONS COMMITTEE AND TO THE  
22 SENATE HEALTH, ENVIRONMENT, CHILDREN AND FAMILIES COMMITTEE ON  
23 OR BEFORE JULY 1, 2005, CONCERNING THE RESULTS AND FINDINGS OF THE  
24 PROGRAM, INCLUDING ANY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FUTURE LEGISLATION.

25 (7) THIS SECTION IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2006.

26 **SECTION 2.** 2-3-1203 (3) (s), Colorado Revised Statutes, is amended  
27 to read:

1           **2-3-1203. Sunset review of advisory committees.** (3) The  
2 following dates are the dates for which the statutory authorization for the designated  
3 advisory committees is scheduled for repeal:

4           (s) July 1, 2006:

5           (I) The dental advisory committee, appointed pursuant to section  
6 25-21.5-106, C.R.S.;

7           (II) THE COLORADO WORKS SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND MENTAL  
8 HEALTH PILOT PROGRAM ADVISORY COMMITTEE, APPOINTED PURSUANT TO  
9 SECTION 26-2-724, C.R.S.

10           **SECTION 3. Appropriation.** In addition to any other appropriation,  
11 there is hereby appropriated to the department of human services, office of  
12 self-sufficiency, for allocation to the Colorado works program, for the fiscal year  
13 beginning July 1, 2002, the sum of \_\_\_\_\_ (\$ ), or so much thereof as may be  
14 necessary, for the implementation of the Colorado works substance abuse and  
15 mental health pilot program, created in section 26-2-724, Colorado Revised  
16 Statutes. Said sum shall be from federal temporary assistance for needy families  
17 block grant funds.

18           **SECTION 4. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds,  
19 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate preservation of  
20 the public peace, health, and safety.