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STATE OF COLORADO

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BILL 4

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LLS NO. 16-0343.01 Brita Darling x2241

INTERIM COMMITTEE BILL

Early Childhood and School Readiness Legislative Commission

BILL TOPIC: "Child Care Assistance Cliff Effect Pilot Program"

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 **CONCERNING REMOVING CERTAIN LIMITATIONS ON THE PILOT**
102 **PROGRAM TO MITIGATE CLIFF EFFECT FOR LOW-INCOME**
103 **FAMILIES THAT ARE WORKING AND RECEIVING CHILD CARE**
104 **ASSISTANCE.**

Bill Summary

(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <http://www.leg.state.co.us/billsummaries>.)

Early Childhood and School Readiness Legislative Commission. Currently, participation in the pilot program to mitigate the

*Capital letters indicate new material to be added to existing statute.
Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.*

cliff effect for low-income families who are working and receiving child care assistance is limited to up to 10 counties. The bill removes that restriction and allows the executive director of the department of human services (executive director), subject to available appropriations, to select additional counties to participate in the program.

In addition, the bill removes the deadline for applications to participate in the pilot program and allows the executive director to approve pilot programs of less than 2 years if a shorter program will contribute relevant data.

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

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 26-2-808, **amend** (2)
3 and (6) as follows:

4 **26-2-808. Pilot program to mitigate cliff effect for low-income**
5 **families that are working and receiving child care assistance -**
6 **legislative declaration - county participation - fund - grant program**
7 **- report - repeal.** (2) Beginning on April 13, 2012, the state department
8 is authorized to develop and oversee a pilot program in which the
9 Colorado child care assistance program as outlined in section 26-2-805
10 is modified to mitigate the cliff effect for low-income families that are
11 working and receiving child care assistance, referred to in this section as
12 the "pilot program". County departments of social services may apply to
13 the executive director or his or her designee to participate in the pilot
14 program. Counties are highly encouraged to collaborate with early
15 childhood councils and other community partners as necessary in the
16 development of the application. SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE MONEYS IN THE
17 FUND, the executive director or his or her designee may select ~~up to ten~~
18 THE counties that will participate in the pilot program as described in this
19 section. In selecting the counties, the executive director or his or her
20 designee shall seek diversity in the size of population, regional location,

1 and demographic composition and shall consider whether there will be
2 enough participants in each pilot program to enable researchers to
3 evaluate whether the strategies used in the pilot program have addressed
4 the cliff effect. The executive director or his or her designee shall enter
5 into a memorandum of understanding with each county department
6 selected to participate in the pilot program. The memorandum of
7 understanding governs the implementation of the pilot program in that
8 county, including but not limited to how the county decides which and
9 how many families can participate in the pilot program.

10 (6) A county may participate in the pilot program on and after July
11 1, 2012, and through June 30, 2019. A county shall operate the pilot
12 program for at least two years; EXCEPT THAT THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
13 OR HIS OR HER DESIGNEE MAY APPROVE A SHORTER PILOT PROGRAM IF THE
14 PILOT PROGRAM WILL CONTRIBUTE RELEVANT DATA. ~~A county may apply
15 to participate in the pilot program on or before January 1, 2017.~~ Each
16 participating county shall identify the families participating in the pilot
17 program in that county. The state department shall collect all data on the
18 pilot program. The state department shall evaluate and report on the pilot
19 program using measurable outcomes.

20 **SECTION 2. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds,
21 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate
22 preservation of the public peace, health, and safety.