NOTE: This bill has been prepared for the signature of the appropriate legislative officers and the Governor. To determine whether the Governor has signed the bill or taken other action on it, please consult the legislative status sheet, the legislative history, or the Session Laws.

HOUSE BILL 02-1010

BY REPRESENTATIVE(S) Stafford, Clapp, Mace, Boyd, Cloer, Fairbank, Fritz, Garcia, Groff, Harvey, Jahn, Larson, Lawrence, Romanoff, Sanchez, Snook, Weddig, Williams S., and Young;
also SENATOR(S) Hernandez, Hanna, Musgrave, Entz, Epps, Fitz-Gerald, Hagedorn, Nichol, and Taylor.

CONCERNING THE EFFICIENT DELIVERY OF QUALITY CARE TO SENIORS.

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

SECTION 1. Legislative declaration. The general assembly hereby finds that the significant increase in the number of seniors in this state will result in an ever-increasing demand for quality health care for this population group. The general assembly further finds that, in order to respond to this increased demand, government-sponsored programs must focus their resources in innovative ways to meet the quality care needs of seniors with greater efficiency and effectiveness. Establishes an employer-based gift and scholarship fund to pay for the increase in tuition.

SECTION 2. Article 1 of title 23, Colorado Revised Statutes, is amended BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW SECTION to read:

23-1-113.7. Commission directive - nursing programs -

Capital letters indicate new material added to existing statutes; dashes through words indicate deletions from existing statutes and such material not part of act.

employer-based gift and scholarship fund - legislative declaration. (1) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY RECOGNIZES THE NEED TO PROVIDE A HIGH QUALITY TRAINED WORKFORCE NECESSARY FOR THE DELIVERY OF QUALITY CARE TO SENIORS AND OTHER INDIVIDUALS. THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FURTHER RECOGNIZES THAT LIMITING THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS PARTICIPATING IN NURSING PROGRAMS IN THE STATE-SUPPORTED INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION FRUSTRATES THE GOAL OF DELIVERING QUALITY CARE TO THE NUMBER OF THOSE IN NEED.

(2) THE COMMISSION SHALL DEVELOP ADMISSIONS POLICIES FOR NURSING PROGRAMS AT STATE-SUPPORTED INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION THAT, SUBJECT TO THE AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS THROUGH THE MORE NURSES FOR COLORADO FUND CREATED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (4) OF THIS SECTION, ALLOW FOR A GREATER NUMBER OF STUDENTS TO BE ADMITTED TO NURSING EDUCATION PROGRAMS ON OR AFTER JULY 1, 2002, WHO WOULD OTHERWISE NOT BE ADMITTED BECAUSE OF THE LIMIT ON THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS THAT THE INSTITUTION ACCEPTED IN ITS NURSING PROGRAM PRIOR TO JULY 1, 2002.

(3) THE COMMISSION SHALL DIRECT THE GOVERNING BOARDS OF STATE SUPPORTED INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION WITH NURSING PROGRAMS TO ALLOW ADDITIONAL STUDENTS OF NURSING TO BE ADMITTED WHEN THERE ARE SUFFICIENT FUNDS AVAILABLE THROUGH THE MORE NURSES FOR COLORADO FUND CREATED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (4) OF THIS SECTION TO SUPPORT THE INCREASED COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH SUCH STUDENTS.

(4) THERE IS HEREBY CREATED IN THE OFFICE OF THE STATE TREASURER THE MORE NURSES FOR COLORADO FUND. SUCH FUND SHALL CONSIST OF GIFTS, GRANTS, AND DONATIONS FROM PRIVATE ENTITIES AND SHALL BE CONTINUOUSLY APPROPRIATED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY. SUCH MONEYS SHALL BE USED BY THE COMMISSION SOLELY TO SUPPORT THE DEVELOPMENT OF ADDITIONAL CAPACITY TO ALLOW A GREATER NUMBER OF STUDENTS TO BE ADMITTED TO THE NURSING PROGRAMS IN THE STATE-SUPPORTED INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION. SUCH MONEYS SHALL CONSTITUTE GIFTS FOR THE PURPOSES OF CALCULATING FISCAL YEAR SPENDING PURSUANT TO SECTION 20 OF ARTICLE X OF THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION.

(5) IT IS THE INTENT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY THAT NO GENERAL FUND DOLLARS BE APPROPRIATED FOR THE PURPOSES OF IMPLEMENTING THE

REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SECTION.

SECTION 3. Safety clause. The general assembly hereby finds, determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, and safety.

Doug Dean	Stan Matsunaka
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE	PRESIDENT OF
OF REPRESENTATIVES	THE SENATE

Judith Rodrigue	Karen Goldman
CHIEF CLERK OF THE HOUSE	SECRETARY OF
OF REPRESENTATIVES	THE SENATE

APPROVED_____

Bill Owens
GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF COLORADO