



HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 01-1040

BY REPRESENTATIVES Stafford, Borodkin, Clapp, Crane, Hodge, Mace, Veiga, Alexander, Bacon, Berry, Boyd, Cadman, Chavez, Cloer, Coleman, Daniel, Dean, Decker, Fairbank, Fritz, Garcia, Groff, Grossman, Hefley, Hoppe, Jahn, Jameson, Johnson, Kester, King, Larson, Lawrence, Lee, Madden, Marshall, Miller, Mitchell, Nunez, Paschall, Plant, Ragsdale, Rhodes, Rippy, Romanoff, Saliman, Sanchez, Schultheis, Scott, Sinclair, Smith, Snook, Spence, Spradley, Stengel, Swenson, Tapia, Tochtrop, Vigil, Webster, Weddig, White, Williams S., Williams T., Witwer, and Young; **also SENATORS** Epps, Linkhart, Hernandez, Anderson, Andrews, Arnold, Cairns, Chlouber, Dyer (Arapahoe), Dyer (Durango), Entz, Evans, Fitzgerald, Gordon, Hagedorn, Hanna, Hillman, Lamborn, Matsunaka, May, McElhany, Musgrave, Nichol, Owen, Pascoe, Perlmutter, Phillips, Reeves, Takis, Tate, Taylor, Teck, Thiebaut, Tupa, and Windels.

CONCERNING THE ENCOURAGEMENT OF EMPLOYMENT TRAINING AND JOB PLACEMENT IN NURSING HOMES, ASSISTED LIVING CENTERS, AND HOME- AND COMMUNITY-BASED SERVICES PROGRAMS FOR COLORADO WORKS PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS.

WHEREAS, The federal "Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996" gave the state a unique opportunity to develop a public assistance program emphasizing the employment of participants in meaningful work environments while supporting them in sustained employment; and

WHEREAS, Colorado implemented the federal act through the enactment of the Colorado Works Program; and

WHEREAS, The General Assembly's intent in implementing the Colorado Works Program was to assist participants in transitioning off of their dependence on government assistance by promoting job preparation, work readiness, and substantial employment; and

WHEREAS, In addition, the General Assembly has made it a priority to develop strategies and policies that focus on ensuring that Colorado Works participants are in work activities as soon as possible so that the state is able to meet or exceed work participation rates specified in federal law; and

WHEREAS, Colorado is experiencing a shortage of nursing home and assisted living program professionals and professional home- and community-based services providers, specifically certified nursing assistants; and

WHEREAS, Colorado would benefit from a program that would encourage Colorado Works participants to receive employment training and education leading to employment as certified nursing assistants in nursing homes, assisted living centers, and home- and community-based services programs; and

WHEREAS, An effective program for the training and education of Colorado Works participants to become certified nursing assistants would utilize community resources, including but not limited to local agencies, county departments of social services, and appropriate community organizations in the recruitment of participants and the marketing of the training and education program; and

WHEREAS, Partnerships between counties and private businesses have the potential to create opportunities for employment training and job placement in Colorado nursing homes, assisted living programs, and home- and community-based services programs; now, therefore,

Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the Sixty-third General Assembly of the State of Colorado, the Senate concurring herein:

That the General Assembly encourages counties, private businesses, and nursing home, assisted living, and home- and community-based services providers to develop partnerships that will provide opportunities for Colorado Works participants to receive employment training and job placement in Colorado nursing homes, assisted living programs, and home- and community-based services programs.

Be It Further Resolved, That a copy of this Joint Resolution be sent to the Department of Human Services for distribution to each of the counties receiving county block grants from the Colorado Works Program and to representatives of providers.

Doug Dean
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE
OF REPRESENTATIVES

Stan Matsunaka
PRESIDENT OF
THE SENATE

Judith Rodrigue
CHIEF CLERK OF THE HOUSE
OF REPRESENTATIVES

Karen Goldman
SECRETARY OF
THE SENATE