

## HOUSE COMMITTEE OF REFERENCE AMENDMENT

## Committee on Energy & Environment.

HB21-1149 be amended as follows:

1 Amend printed bill, strike everything below the enacting clause and  
2 substitute:

3           **"SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-46.3-104, add  
4 (5.5) as follows:

## 24-46.3-104. Career pathways - design - legislative declaration

6 - **definitions.** (5.5) (a) AS USED IN THIS SUBSECTION (5.5), "ENERGY  
7 SECTOR" MEANS CURRENT AND EMERGING ESTABLISHMENTS AND  
8 PARTNERSHIPS ENGAGED IN ELECTROMECHANICAL GENERATION AND  
9 MAINTENANCE, ELECTRICAL ENERGY TRANSMISSION AND DISTRIBUTION,  
10 ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND ENVIRONMENTAL TECHNOLOGY, AND  
11 RENEWABLE ENERGY PRODUCTION. THE ENERGY SECTOR INCLUDES BUT IS  
12 NOT LIMITED TO OCCUPATIONS AND ACTIVITIES RELATING TO THE  
13 DEVELOPMENT, INSTALLATION, AND MAINTENANCE OF PRODUCTS OR  
14 TECHNOLOGIES IN THE AREAS OF CARBON CAPTURE, ENERGY STORAGE,  
15 BUILDING ELECTRIFICATION, ELECTRIC VEHICLES, CHARGING  
16 INFRASTRUCTURE, HYDROGEN FUEL CELL TECHNOLOGY, AND RENEWABLE  
17 NATURAL GAS.

18 (b) THE STATE COUNCIL AND PARTNERS, INCLUDING THE  
19 DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES, SHALL CREATE AN  
20 INDUSTRY-DRIVEN ENERGY SECTOR CAREER PATHWAY FOR  
21 IMPLEMENTATION BY OR BEFORE THE 2022-23 ACADEMIC YEAR. THE  
22 STATE COUNCIL SHALL COMPLY WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION,  
23 INCLUDING CAREER PATHWAY DESIGN, COMPONENTS, IMPLEMENTATION,  
24 INDUSTRY REVIEW, AND PROMOTION OF THE ENERGY SECTOR CAREER  
25 PATHWAY

26 (c) THE STRENGTHENING PHOTOVOLTAIC AND RENEWABLE  
27 CAREERS (SPARC) WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM, CREATED IN  
28 PART 5 OF THIS ARTICLE 46.3, SHALL PROVIDE MONEY AND OTHER  
29 SUPPORTS FOR IN-DEMAND AND GROWING OCCUPATIONS IN THE ENERGY  
30 SECTOR CAREER PATHWAY CREATED PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION (5.5).

31                   **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** part 5 of article  
32 46.3 of title 24 as follows:

## PART 5

## STRENGTHENING PHOTOVOLTAIC AND

## RENEWABLE CAREERS (SPARC)

## WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

37                   **24-46.3-501. Legislative declaration.** (1) THE GENERAL  
38 ASSEMBLY FINDS AND DECLARIES THAT:

39 (a) THE STATE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL SELECTED

1 ENERGY AS A TARGET INDUSTRY FOR CAREER PATHWAY SYSTEMS  
2 DEVELOPMENT;

3 (b) THE SELECTION OF ENERGY AS A TARGET INDUSTRY FOR  
4 CAREER PATHWAY SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT IS IN ALIGNMENT WITH THE  
5 STATEWIDE GOAL TO POSITION COLORADO AS A LEADER IN THE CLEAN  
6 ENERGY ECONOMY BY SETTING A PATH TO REACH ONE HUNDRED PERCENT  
7 RENEWABLE ENERGY FOR THE ELECTRIC GRID BY 2040;

8 (c) THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT HAS INDICATED ITS INTENT TO  
9 TAKE AGGRESSIVE ACTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE BY REJOINING THE PARIS  
10 CLIMATE AGREEMENT, ACHIEVING A CARBON-POLLUTION-FREE POWER  
11 SECTOR BY 2035, AND ENSURING THE UNITED STATES IS ON A PATH TO A  
12 NET-ZERO ECONOMY BY 2050;

13 (d) IN PASSING HOUSE BILL 19-1261, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
14 ESTABLISHED STATEWIDE, SCIENCE-BASED GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS  
15 REDUCTIONS GOALS OF AT LEAST TWENTY-SIX PERCENT BY 2025, FIFTY  
16 PERCENT BY 2030, AND NINETY PERCENT BY 2050, OF EMISSIONS LEVELS  
17 FROM 2005;

18 (e) THE COLORADO ENERGY OFFICE, COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF  
19 PUBLIC HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT, COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF  
20 TRANSPORTATION, COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES,  
21 AND COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE RELEASED THE  
22 "GREENHOUSE GAS POLLUTION REDUCTION ROADMAP" IN JANUARY OF  
23 2021 TO ESTABLISH A STATEWIDE STRATEGY FOR EACH SECTOR TO MEET  
24 THE GREENHOUSE GAS REDUCTION TARGETS SPECIFIED IN HOUSE BILL  
25 19-1261;

26 (f) THE COLORADO ENERGY OFFICE RELEASED THE "COLORADO  
27 ELECTRIC VEHICLE PLAN 2020" TO GUIDE A LARGE-SCALE TRANSITION OF  
28 THE STATE'S TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM TO ZERO-EMISSION VEHICLES,  
29 INCLUDING A GOAL OF NINE HUNDRED FORTY THOUSAND ELECTRIC  
30 VEHICLES ON OUR ROADS BY 2030 AND NEARLY ONE HUNDRED PERCENT  
31 OF ALL VEHICLES BY 2050;

32 (g) THE COLORADO AIR QUALITY CONTROL COMMISSION ADOPTED  
33 THE ZERO-EMISSION VEHICLE RULE, ESTABLISHING THE COLORADO  
34 ZERO-EMISSION VEHICLE PROGRAM TO INCREASE THE AVAILABILITY OF  
35 ELECTRIC VEHICLES IN THE STATE, WHICH WILL REQUIRE ADDITIONAL  
36 INVESTMENT IN ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING SYSTEMS;

37 (h) ADDITIONALLY, MORE THAN FIFTY LOCAL JURISDICTIONS  
38 THROUGHOUT THE STATE HAVE ADOPTED THE 2018 INTERNATIONAL  
39 ENERGY CONSERVATION CODE TO HELP EXISTING BUILDINGS ADAPT TO  
40 NEW TECHNOLOGIES AND IMPROVE ENERGY EFFICIENCIES IN NEW  
41 CONSTRUCTION;

42 (i) THESE FEDERAL AND STATE COMMITMENTS TO ADDRESS THE  
43 CLIMATE CRISIS WILL LEAD TO SIGNIFICANT INVESTMENTS IN THE ENERGY

1 SECTOR, WHICH WILL REQUIRE A DIVERSE AND WELL-TRAINED  
2 WORKFORCE;

3 (j) FURTHER, LAUNCHING REGIONAL ENERGY PARTNERSHIPS WILL  
4 CREATE A FOUNDATION OF STRONG INDUSTRY LEADERSHIP,  
5 COLLABORATION, AND INVESTMENT TO SUPPORT AN INDUSTRY-DRIVEN  
6 ENERGY SECTOR CAREER PATHWAY;

7 (k) IN 2019, THERE WERE SIXTY-TWO THOUSAND FOUR HUNDRED  
8 TWENTY FULL-TIME CLEAN ENERGY EMPLOYEES IN COLORADO. BETWEEN  
9 2014 AND 2019 THERE WAS A FIFTEEN PERCENT GROWTH IN ALL ENERGY  
10 JOBS IN COLORADO, AND THESE JOBS ARE PROJECTED TO GROW ANOTHER  
11 NINE PERCENT FROM 2019 TO 2024.

12 (l) THE STATE MEDIAN HOURLY EARNINGS FOR CLEAN ENERGY  
13 OCCUPATIONS IN COLORADO PROVIDES AN ABOVE-AVERAGE LIVING WAGE;

14 (m) MONEY TO PROVIDE TRAINING UNDER THE SPARC PROGRAM  
15 SHOULD PRIORITIZE INDIVIDUALS DIRECTLY IMPACTED BY JOB LOSS DUE TO  
16 THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC OR DUE TO AN INDUSTRY DECLINE SINCE  
17 JANUARY 1, 2019;

18 (n) FURTHER, BLACK COMMUNITIES, INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES,  
19 COMMUNITIES OF COLOR, AND LOW-INCOME COMMUNITIES HAVE ENDURED  
20 THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS OF POLLUTING INDUSTRIES WITHIN THEIR  
21 COMMUNITIES FOR MANY YEARS; AND

22 (o) THEREFORE, WHILE COLORADO BEGINS TO WORK TOWARD  
23 EQUITY AND ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE, THESE POPULATIONS AND  
24 COMMUNITIES SHOULD BE PRIORITIZED FOR TRAINING WITHIN THE ENERGY  
25 SECTOR CAREER PATHWAY.

26 (2) THEREFORE, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY DECLares THAT THE  
27 CREATION OF AN INDUSTRY-DRIVEN ENERGY SECTOR CAREER PATHWAY  
28 PURSUANT TO SECTION 24-46.3-104, IMPLEMENTED AND SUPPORTED  
29 THROUGH THE SPARC PROGRAM CREATED IN THIS PART 5, IS A  
30 SIGNIFICANT STEP TOWARD ESTABLISHING COLORADO AS A LEADER IN THE  
31 CLEAN ENERGY ECONOMY, PROVIDING HIGH-QUALITY EDUCATION AND  
32 TRAINING, CREATING HIGH-PAYING JOBS, AND PROTECTING COLORADO'S  
33 ENVIRONMENT.

34 **24-46.3-502. Definitions.** AS USED IN THIS PART 5, UNLESS THE  
35 CONTEXT OTHERWISE REQUIRES:

36 (1) "DEPARTMENT" MEANS THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND  
37 EMPLOYMENT CREATED IN SECTION 24-1-121.

38 (2) "DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION" MEANS THE  
39 DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION CREATED IN SECTION 24-1-114.

40 (3) "ENERGY SECTOR" HAS THE SAME MEANING AS DEFINED IN  
41 SECTION 24-46.3-104 (5.5).

42 (4) "ENERGY SECTOR CAREER PATHWAY" MEANS THE ENERGY  
43 SECTOR CAREER PATHWAY CREATED PURSUANT TO SECTION 24-46.3-104

1 (5.5).

2 (5) "SPARC PROGRAM" MEANS THE STRENGTHENING  
3 PHOTOVOLTAIC AND RENEWABLE CAREERS (SPARC) WORKFORCE  
4 DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM CREATED IN SECTION 24-46.3-503.

5 (6) "SPARC PROGRAM FUND" MEANS THE SPARC PROGRAM FUND  
6 CREATED IN SECTION 24-46.3-505.

7 (7) "STATE BOARD FOR COMMUNITY COLLEGES AND  
8 OCCUPATIONAL EDUCATION" MEANS THE STATE BOARD FOR COMMUNITY  
9 COLLEGES AND OCCUPATIONAL EDUCATION CREATED IN SECTION  
10 23-60-104.

11 (8) "STATE COUNCIL" MEANS THE STATE WORK FORCE  
12 DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL CREATED IN SECTION 24-46.3-101.

13 **24-46.3-503. Strengthening photovoltaic and renewable**  
14 **careers (SPARC) workforce development program - creation - use of**  
15 **funds.** (1) THERE IS CREATED IN THE DEPARTMENT THE STRENGTHENING  
16 PHOTOVOLTAIC AND RENEWABLE CAREERS (SPARC) WORKFORCE  
17 DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM AS AN INITIATIVE OF THE DEPARTMENT, THE  
18 STATE COUNCIL, THE STATE BOARD FOR COMMUNITY COLLEGES AND  
19 OCCUPATIONAL EDUCATION, AND THE DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER  
20 EDUCATION.

21 (2) THE PURPOSE OF THE SPARC PROGRAM IS TO CREATE  
22 CAPACITY FOR AND BOLSTER TRAINING, APPRENTICESHIP, AND EDUCATION  
23 PROGRAMS IN THE ENERGY SECTOR CAREER PATHWAY TO INCREASE  
24 EMPLOYMENT IN THE ENERGY SECTOR, PRIORITIZING IN-DEMAND AND  
25 GROWING OCCUPATIONS IN THE ENERGY SECTOR, WHERE INSUFFICIENT  
26 TRAINING, EDUCATION, AND APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAMS EXIST TO MEET  
27 GROWING DEMAND. THE SPARC PROGRAM WILL CAPITALIZE ON THE  
28 COMPONENTS OF THE ENERGY SECTOR CAREER PATHWAY, INCLUDING  
29 COMPETENCY-BASED EDUCATION AND ASSESSMENT, MODULARIZED  
30 CURRICULA, INTEGRATED CREDIT AND NONCREDIT PROGRAMS, STACKED  
31 AND LATTICED CREDENTIALS, APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAMS, AND  
32 COMPREHENSIVE, PERSONALIZED STUDENT SUPPORT AND CAREER  
33 GUIDANCE.

34 (3) IN ANY STATE FISCAL YEAR IN WHICH THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
35 APPROPRIATES MONEY FOR THE SPARC PROGRAM, THE DEPARTMENT, THE  
36 STATE COUNCIL, THE STATE BOARD FOR COMMUNITY COLLEGES AND  
37 OCCUPATIONAL EDUCATION, AND THE DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER  
38 EDUCATION SHALL USE THE MONEY APPROPRIATED TO EXPAND THE  
39 CAPACITY OF TRAINING PROGRAMS AND FOR THE FOLLOWING PURPOSES,  
40 AS APPLICABLE, TO SUPPORT APPRENTICESHIPS, TRAINING, AND  
41 EDUCATION IN THE ENERGY SECTOR CAREER PATHWAY:

42 (a) CAREER AND TRAINING COUNSELING;

43 (b) CAREER AND ACADEMIC EXPLORATION AND PLANNING;

- (c) SCHOLARSHIPS;
- (d) EMPLOYER-PROVIDED TRAINING;
- (e) APPRENTICESHIPS;
- (f) CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION;
- (g) WORK-BASED TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES;
- (h) NEED-BASED SERVICES;
- (i) TRANSPORTATION;
- (j) EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES;
- (k) RETENTION SERVICES;
- (l) TRAINING PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION;
- (m) SPARC PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION AND ADMINISTRATION,

12 INCLUDING REPORTING ACTIVITIES; AND  
13 (n) OTHER PURPOSES AS DETERMINED BY THE DEPARTMENT, THE  
14 STATE COUNCIL, THE STATE BOARD FOR COMMUNITY COLLEGES AND  
15 OCCUPATIONAL EDUCATION, AND THE DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER  
16 EDUCATION THAT ACHIEVE THE PURPOSES OF THIS PART 5.

31 (5) (a) SPARC PROGRAM ACTIVITIES OR EXPENDITURES  
32 AUTHORIZED PURSUANT TO THIS PART 5 MUST NOT:

1 COUNCIL RECOGNIZED BY THAT OFFICE.

2 (b) TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE, THE SPARC PROGRAM MUST  
3 SUPPORT ACTIVITIES THAT SUPPORT PARTICIPATION IN COLORADO  
4 APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAMS REGISTERED THROUGH THE UNITED STATES  
5 DEPARTMENT OF LABOR OFFICE OF APPRENTICESHIP TRAINING OR A STATE  
6 APPRENTICESHIP COUNCIL RECOGNIZED BY THAT OFFICE AND PRIORITIZE  
7 PROGRAMS THAT SEEK TO HELP WORKERS ATTAIN A PROFESSIONAL  
8 CREDENTIAL, AN INDUSTRY STANDARD CERTIFICATION, OR A  
9 PROFESSIONAL LICENSE.

10 **24-46.3-504. Reporting requirements.** (1) ON OR BEFORE  
11 NOVEMBER 1, 2022, AND ON OR BEFORE NOVEMBER 1 EACH YEAR  
12 THEREAFTER UNTIL THE REPEAL OF THE SPARC PROGRAM, THE STATE  
13 COUNCIL SHALL SUBMIT A REPORT TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
14 BUSINESS AFFAIRS AND LABOR COMMITTEE, THE HOUSE OF  
15 REPRESENTATIVES ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE, THE HOUSE  
16 OF REPRESENTATIVES EDUCATION COMMITTEE, THE SENATE BUSINESS,  
17 LABOR, AND TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE, THE SENATE TRANSPORTATION  
18 AND ENERGY COMMITTEE, AND THE SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE, OR  
19 THEIR SUCCESSOR COMMITTEES. AT A MINIMUM, THE REPORT MUST  
20 INCLUDE A SUMMARY OF THE ENERGY SECTOR CAREER PATHWAY AND ITS  
21 IMPLEMENTATION AND THE SPARC PROGRAM, INCLUDING AN  
22 ACCOUNTING OF HOW MONEY WAS USED PURSUANT TO THIS PART 5 TO  
23 EXPAND OR SUPPORT TRAINING, APPRENTICESHIP, AND EDUCATION  
24 PROGRAMS IN THE ENERGY SECTOR CAREER PATHWAY TO INCREASE  
25 EMPLOYMENT IN THE ENERGY SECTOR.

26 (2) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ALSO PRESENT AN EXECUTIVE  
27 SUMMARY OF THE ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SPARC PROGRAM AT THE  
28 DEPARTMENT'S ANNUAL PRESENTATION TO THE LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE  
29 OF REFERENCE PURSUANT TO THE "STATE MEASUREMENT FOR  
30 ACCOUNTABLE, RESPONSIVE, AND TRANSPARENT (SMART)  
31 GOVERNMENT ACT", CREATED IN PART 2 OF ARTICLE 7 OF TITLE 2.

32 (3) FOR PURPOSES OF THE REPORTING REQUIREMENT SET FORTH IN  
33 THIS SECTION, THE DEPARTMENT MAY REQUEST DATA AND INFORMATION  
34 FROM ENTITIES RECEIVING OR USING MONEY APPROPRIATED FOR PURPOSES  
35 OF THIS PART 5.

36 (4) NOTWITHSTANDING SECTION 24-1-136 (11)(a)(I), THE  
37 REPORTING REQUIREMENT SET FORTH IN THIS SECTION CONTINUES UNTIL  
38 THE SPARC PROGRAM REPEALS PURSUANT TO SECTION 24-46.3-506.

39 **24-46.3-505. SPARC program fund - creation - appropriations  
40 from the fund.** (1) THE SPARC PROGRAM FUND, REFERRED TO IN THIS  
41 SECTION AS THE "FUND", IS CREATED IN THE STATE TREASURY. THE FUND  
42 CONSISTS OF MONEY TRANSFERRED TO THE FUND PURSUANT TO  
43 SUBSECTION (2) OF THIS SECTION AND ANY OTHER MONEY THAT THE

1 GENERAL ASSEMBLY MAY APPROPRIATE OR TRANSFER TO THE FUND. IN  
2 ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 24-36-114(1), THE STATE TREASURER SHALL  
3 CREDIT ALL INTEREST AND INCOME DERIVED FROM THE DEPOSIT AND  
4 INVESTMENT OF MONEY IN THE FUND TO THE GENERAL FUND.

5 (2) ON JULY 1, 2021, THE STATE TREASURER SHALL TRANSFER FIVE  
6 MILLION DOLLARS FROM THE GENERAL FUND TO THE FUND.

7 (3) (a) SUBJECT TO ANNUAL APPROPRIATION BY THE GENERAL  
8 ASSEMBLY FOR THE 2021-22, 2022-23, 2023-24, AND 2024-25 STATE  
9 FISCAL YEARS, THE DEPARTMENT, THE STATE COUNCIL, THE STATE BOARD  
10 FOR COMMUNITY COLLEGES AND OCCUPATIONAL EDUCATION, AND THE  
11 DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION MAY EXPEND MONEY FROM THE FUND  
12 FOR PURPOSES OF THIS PART 5.

13 (b) ANY MONEY APPROPRIATED PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION IN A  
14 STATE FISCAL YEAR THAT IS NOT ENCUMBERED OR EXPENDED AT THE END  
15 OF THAT STATE FISCAL YEAR REMAINS AVAILABLE FOR EXPENDITURE IN  
16 THE NEXT FISCAL YEAR FOR THE SAME PURPOSES WITHOUT FURTHER  
17 APPROPRIATION.

18 (c) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY MAY APPROPRIATE MONEY FROM THE  
19 FUND TO PAY THE DIRECT AND INDIRECT COSTS INCURRED TO ADMINISTER  
20 THE SPARC PROGRAM.

21 (4) THE STATE TREASURER SHALL TRANSFER ALL UNEXPENDED  
22 AND UNENCUMBERED MONEY IN THE FUND ON JUNE 30, 2026, TO THE  
23 GENERAL FUND.

24 **24-46.3-506. Repeal of part.** THIS PART 5 IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE  
25 JULY 1, 2026.

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

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