

HOUSE COMMITTEE OF REFERENCE AMENDMENT

Committee on Agriculture, Water & Natural Resources.

HB26-1310 be amended as follows:

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

3 **"SECTION 1. Legislative declaration.** (1) The general
4 assembly finds that:

5 (a) The most important factor in determining if a structure
6 survives a wildfire is the actions taken before the wildfire to harden the
7 home and manage the home ignition zone;

8 (b) The national cohesive wildland fire management strategy is
9 based on 3 equally important tenets:

10 (I) Increasing fire suppression capability through safe and
11 effective response;

12 (II) Maintaining resilient landscapes by restoring lands to their
13 natural conditions through measures such as prescribed fire and forest
14 thinning; and

15 (III) Supporting fire-adapted communities through measures such
16 as home hardening and the creation of defensible space;

17 (c) Colorado has made significant investments in increasing the
18 state's fire suppression capability and maintaining resilient landscapes;

19 (d) The 2025 Colorado fire commission annual report, dated
20 August 2025, includes 2 recommendations that address the need to harden
21 homes and manage the home ignition zone through the use of a system of
22 scientifically developed, verifiable actions, as established by the
23 Insurance Institute for Business and Home Safety and the institute's
24 "Wildfire Prepared Home" standard;

25 (e) The implementation of scientifically developed, verifiable
26 actions to harden homes and manage the home ignition zone increases the
27 availability of insurance for Colorado homeowners and protects homes
28 against wildfires;

29 (f) As of March 2026, there has been little investment by the state
30 in grant programs that support home hardening efforts;

31 (g) Wildfires in Colorado and around the nation have
32 demonstrated that homes distant from natural vegetation can be destroyed
33 by embers if the homes are not hardened; and

34 (h) Home hardening is a critical path to preventing future
35 wildfire-initiated community conflagrations.

36 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-33.5-1239,
37 **amend** (2)(c); and **add** (1)(b.5) and (1)(d) as follows:

38 **24-33.5-1239. Wildfire resilient homes grant program - fund**
39 **- rules - report - definitions - repeal.**

40 (1) As used in this section, unless the context otherwise requires:

1 (b.5) "INCOME QUALIFIED" MEANS A HOUSEHOLD INCOME AT OR
2 BELOW SEVENTY PERCENT OF THE AREA MEDIAN INCOME, AS DETERMINED
3 BY THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN
4 DEVELOPMENT.

5 (d) "PROPERTY-SPECIFIC MITIGATION ACTION" HAS THE MEANING
6 SET FORTH IN SECTION 10-4-124 (1)(c).

7 (2)(c)(I) In awarding grants pursuant to the program, the division
8 shall consider the location of the homeowner's property, whether the
9 property is a primary residence of the homeowner, the income or assets
10 from all sources of the homeowner, the type of improvement proposed by
11 the homeowner, and any other criteria established by the division
12 pursuant to subsection (3) of this section. The division may require
13 applicants to provide information on the applicant's income, and the
14 division may prioritize income levels of applicants in awarding grants.

15 (II) NOTWITHSTANDING ANY PROVISION OF THIS SECTION TO THE
16 CONTRARY, IN AWARDING GRANTS PURSUANT TO THE PROGRAM, THE
17 DIVISION SHALL PRIORITIZE:

18 (A) HOMEOWNERS WHO ARE INCOME QUALIFIED OR WHO LACK THE
19 ABILITY TO PERFORM THE STRUCTURE HARDENING WORK BECAUSE OF AGE,
20 DISABILITY, OR ILLNESS; AND

21 (B) HOMEOWNERS WHO WILL UNDERTAKE PROPERTY-SPECIFIC
22 MITIGATION ACTIONS IN PERFORMING THE STRUCTURE HARDENING WORK.

23 **SECTION 3.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-33-117, **add** (6.4)
24 as follows:

25 **24-33-117. Wildfire mitigation capacity development fund -**
26 **established - financing - legislative intent - repeal.**

27 (6.4) (a) ON JULY 1, 2027, THE STATE TREASURER SHALL
28 TRANSFER SIX HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS FROM THE WILDFIRE
29 MITIGATION CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT FUND TO THE WILDFIRE RESILIENT
30 HOMES GRANT PROGRAM CASH FUND CREATED IN SECTION 24-33.5-1239
31 (4)(a).

32 (b) ON JULY 1, 2028, THE STATE TREASURER SHALL TRANSFER TWO
33 MILLION DOLLARS FROM THE WILDFIRE MITIGATION CAPACITY
34 DEVELOPMENT FUND TO THE WILDFIRE RESILIENT HOMES GRANT PROGRAM
35 CASH FUND CREATED IN SECTION 24-33.5-1239 (4)(a).

36 (c) THIS SUBSECTION (6.4) IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2029.

37 **SECTION 4. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act
38 takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the
39 ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly (August
40 12, 2026, if adjournment sine die is on May 13, 2026); except that, if a
41 referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V of the
42 state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this act
43 within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take effect

1 unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in
2 November 2026 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the
3 official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.".

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