

SENATE COMMITTEE OF REFERENCE AMENDMENT

Committee on Appropriations.

SB20-212 be amended as follows:

1 Amend printed bill, page 2, after line 1, insert:

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

4           (a) On March 27, 2020, the federal government enacted the  
5 "Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act" ("CARES Act"),  
6 Pub.L. 116-136, Stat. 281 (2020), pursuant to which Colorado received  
7 approximately \$1,674,000,000 from the federal coronavirus relief fund  
8 to use for necessary expenditures incurred due to the current COVID-19  
9 public health emergency;

10           (b) On May 18, 2020, the Colorado governor issued Executive  
11 Order 2020 D 070, transferring \$70,000,000 from the state "CARES Act"  
12 fund to the state general fund for eligible expenditures;

13           (c) The expenditures in this bill are considered an allowable use  
14 under the federal "CARES Act" and are necessary to respond to the  
15 COVID-19 public health emergency; and

16           (d) The expenditures in this bill were not accounted for in the  
17 Colorado state budget most recently approved as of March 27, 2020, and  
18 all of the expenses will be incurred on or before December 30, 2020.

19           (2) The general assembly further finds and declares that:

20           (a) The expenditures in this bill will be used to protect the health  
21 and safety of both caregivers and patients by ensuring that access to  
22 telehealth services are available to all Coloradans;

23           (b) Due to the unanticipated effects of COVID-19, many patients  
24 have been unable or unwilling to seek out care through in-person settings;

25           (c) The need to access health care services is compounded by the  
26 challenges associated with COVID-19, as Coloradans are experiencing  
27 the negative effects the pandemic has on physical, mental, and emotional  
28 health that will extend into future years; and

29           (d) Access to telehealth is vital to ensuring the continuity of  
30 physical, mental, and behavioral health care for Coloradans during the  
31 COVID-19 pandemic and responding to any future outbreaks of the  
32 virus."

33 Renumber succeeding sections accordingly.

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