

HOUSE COMMITTEE OF REFERENCE AMENDMENT

Committee on Appropriations.

SB21-027 be amended as follows:

1 Amend reengrossed bill, page 3, after line 8 insert:

2 "(3) (a) In addition, the general assembly further finds and
3 declares that:

4 (I) The federal government enacted the "American Rescue Plan
5 Act of 2021" to provide support to state, local, and tribal governments in
6 responding to the impact of COVID-19 and to assist their efforts to
7 contain the effects of COVID-19 on their communities, residents, and
8 businesses. Under the federal act, the state of Colorado received over
9 three billion dollars to be used for the purposes identified in the federal
10 act;

11 (II) Regulations construing the federal act promulgated by the
12 United States treasury identify a nonexclusive list of uses that address a
13 broad range of public health needs exacerbated by the pandemic. Under
14 these regulations, funds may be used for addressing the negative
15 economic impacts caused by the public health emergency, including food
16 assistance for households facing food insecurity; and

17 (III) The COVID-19 public health emergency has created an
18 exponential need for emergency food resources for all emergency food
19 providers and has upended many Colorado families' economic security
20 and resulted in hunger insecurity.

21 (b) Therefore, the general assembly declares that the food pantry
22 assistance program funded by transfers in this bill are appropriate uses of
23 the money transferred to Colorado under the federal act. This money will
24 be put to expeditious and efficient use in expanding access to food
25 assistance across the state."

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