



[SB24-050 - Colorado Workforce Demonstration Grants Pilot Program](#) | Sen. Tony Exum (D)

**Summary:** The bill creates the Colorado workforce demonstration grants pilot program in the office of economic development to provide grants to eligible workforce training providers in order to facilitate workforce training for eligible participants.

**Date:** Thursday, February 1, 2024 @ 9:30AM

**Location:** Senate Business, Labor & Technology Committee, Old Supreme Court

**Chair:** Jessie Danielson

**Position:** Support

**Testimony:**

Thank you, Madam Chair.

- Drea Modugno, Senior Manager of Government Affairs for the Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce.
- The Denver Chamber is comprised of more than 1,000 members in Colorado – we have a diverse membership, over 80% of Chamber members are small businesses.
- Today, we would like to extend our appreciation to Senator Exum for putting forth this bill, and the Denver Chamber would like to share our support for the Colorado Workforce Demonstration Grants Program.
- The Denver Chamber supports investing in our workforce development and training programs. We encourage proven, evidence-informed workforce programs that result in stronger opportunities for future apprentices and trainees.
- It is our understanding that the current process to apply for workforce training is cumbersome. Applicants must navigate a burdensome 10-step qualification process and often providers and individuals are unable to access the resources due to timing issues or unavailability of information needed.
- One of the Chamber's main priorities is to ensure there are good job opportunities for Coloradans that provide an effective pathway for individuals to increase their economic standard.
- We are excited about the pilot's evidence-based program that will contribute to providing better, more skill-based opportunities for individuals helping drive Colorado's economy forward.

The Denver Metro Chamber encourages the panel this morning to support SB50. Thank you for the opportunity to share our position.