



## Implementation of Colorado Secure Savings Program

The future of Colorado's economic well-being relies on our aging population having sufficient income in retirement to live independently and have quality healthcare. The cost of insufficient retirement savings to the state is estimated to be close to ten billion dollars over the next fifteen years.

Families with average income have savings of only about \$5,000 in retirement accounts. About six out of ten African-American families and three out of four Latinx families have no retirement savings. Over 900,000 working Coloradans, or about 40% of the Colorado Workforce, do **not** have access to a retirement savings account or program **at work**.

[SB20-200 Implementation Of Colorado Secure Savings Program](#) aims to establish a retirement fund in the state treasury intended to encourage **private** sector workers to contribute via their paychecks. All employees would **automatically** be enrolled, but could choose to opt out. Workers are 15 times more likely to save for retirement when they have access to an **automatic** enrollment savings program **at work**. The plan is expected to be cost-neutral to the state within five years.

This bill is the result of SB19-173, passed in 2019, that created the Colorado Secure Savings Board in the office of the state treasurer to **study** the costs to the state of insufficient retirement savings and approaches to increasing retirement savings, after previous bills in 2016, 2017 and 2018 to establish the savings program failed. League support for the bill is based on the LWWUS goal of self-sufficiency for individuals and families. This bill also promotes equal access and inclusion.

By Debby Vink