COLORADO LEAGUE of CHARTER SCHOOLS

Leaders & Advocates
A guide for supporters of charter schools

A Charter School Leader’s Guide to the 2018 Colorado Legislative Session

https://coloradoleague.org/legislativeupdates
# A Charter School Leader’s Guide to the 2018 Colorado Legislative Session

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Acknowledgements/Disclaimers

A Charter School Leader’s Guide to the 2018 Legislative Session was written by Maggie Mehlman, Policy and Advocacy Fellow at the Colorado League of Charter Schools.

This Guide is provided as a resource to Colorado charter schools and is intended to help charter school leaders learn about the education-related bills passed in 2018 and understand how these changes directly impact Colorado charter school operations.

This Guide is in no way intended to provide or act as a replacement for advice from legal counsel. Should you have questions about the bills referenced in this Guide, contact the Colorado League of Charter Schools or your school’s legal counsel for proper interpretation and guidance.
Introduction

Dear Colorado Charter School Leader,

The Colorado League of Charter Schools is pleased to present this report entitled *A Charter School Leader’s Guide to the 2018 Colorado Legislative Session* for your review and information. This Guide is intended to provide a simple-to-read, one-stop document to help you 1) learn about the education-related bills passed in 2018 and 2) understand how these changes directly impact Colorado charter school operations.

The 2018 legislative session was a very successful one for Colorado’s charter schools. Not only did we see the largest increase in per-pupil funding in recent memory, we also secured two large pots of dollars ($5.5 million toward CSI equalization and an additional $4.25 million toward Charter School Capital Construction) specifically earmarked for charter school needs. Additionally, we successfully staved off all attempted encroachments on charter school autonomy, and ensured the long-term independence of charter school induction and alternative licensure programs.

As always, the League is here to help you make sense of all these state policy changes. Please contact me at the information provided below for more information on how legislative changes will affect your school, or with any questions that may arise heading into the 2019 Colorado General Assembly.

Thank you for all your hard work serving Colorado’s children. None of these positive changes for charter schools would be possible without your continued success providing high-quality, public education options for students. *Be sure to encourage your school’s parents, teachers, board members, etc. to sign up for the Colorado Charter Advocacy Network (COCAN) to receive emails and action alerts when policy changes are being considered that could affect charter schools. Visit [www.coloradoleague.org](http://www.coloradoleague.org) and click “Advocacy/Take Action” to sign up today.*

Sincerely,

Dan Schaller
Vice President of State and Local Policy
303-989-5356, ext. 105
dschaller@coloradoleague.org
## I. Bills Affecting Charter School Operations

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a. **HB18-1005: Notice to Students of Postsecondary Courses**

**PRIMARY SPONSORS:**

Brittany Pettersen (D), House District 28 | Jon Becker (R), House District 65

Kevin Priola (R), Senate District 25

**OVERVIEW:**

Current law requires that each local education provider annually notifies their enrolled students and the parents or legal guardians of their students of concurrent enrollment opportunities. This bill requires that these notifications include the timeline affecting students’ eligibility for concurrent enrollment, as well as information about the opportunities to reduce college expenses, finish college, and earn marketable workforce skills. At least six weeks prior to the start of the postsecondary concurrent enrollment period, the local education provider shall send each student and their parents or legal guardians written notice of all postsecondary course enrollment opportunities as well as the costs of these courses.

**KEY STATUTORY SECTIONS:**

SECTION 1. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-35-104, amend (1)(b) as follows: 22-35-104. Enrollment in an institution of higher education - cooperative agreement. (1) (b) (I) Each local education provider shall annually notify all students and parents or legal guardians of students enrolled in the local education provider of the opportunity for concurrent enrollment by qualified students in postsecondary courses, including academic courses and career and technical education courses, **which may include INCLUDING** course work related to apprenticeship programs and internship programs. THE NOTICE PROVIDED PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION (1)(b)(I) MUST INCLUDE THE LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER’S TIMELINES AFFECTING STUDENT ELIGIBILITY FOR CONCURRENT ENROLLMENT COURSES AND A STATEMENT INFORMING STUDENTS THAT THEY MAY SIGNIFICANTLY REDUCE THEIR COLLEGE EXPENSES, INCREASE THE LIKELIHOOD THAT THEY WILL COMPLETE COLLEGE, AND EARN MARKETABLE WORKFORCE SKILLS BY TAKING CONCURRENT ENROLLMENT COURSES.

(II) AT LEAST SIX WEEKS PRIOR TO THE BEGINNING OF THE ENROLLMENT PERIOD FOR POSTSECONDARY CONCURRENT ENROLLMENT COURSES, THE LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER SHALL PROVIDE TO EACH STUDENT AND THE PARENTS OR LEGAL GUARDIAN OF THE STUDENT WRITTEN NOTICE, WHICH NOTICE MAY BE SENT ELECTRONICALLY, OF ALL POSTSECONDARY COURSES OFFERED AT A LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER’S FACILITY AND THE COST TO THE STUDENT OF EACH COURSE, AS WELL AS OPTIONS FOR ENROLLING IN COURSES AT AN INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION’S FACILITY AND THE COST TO THE STUDENT OF THOSE COURSES. THIS SUBSECTION (1)(b)(II) APPLIES TO ALL POSTSECONDARY COURSES AVAILABLE TO THE STUDENT REGARDLESS OF WHETHER THE COURSES MEET THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SECTION.
LINK TO FULL BILL TEXT:


EFFECTIVE DATE:

August 8, 2018
b. **HB18-1019: Kindergarten Through Twelfth Grade Accreditation Weighted Factors**

**PRIMARY SPONSORS:**

Mike Foote (D), House District 12  
Kevin Priola (R), Senate District 25

**OVERVIEW:**

This bill requires the Department of Education to calculate the following measurements on the school, district, and state level as part of the postsecondary and workforce readiness indicator:

- The percentage of students who successfully complete an AP course in a subject other than English Language Arts or Math and earn a score of three or higher on the AP Exam.
- The percentage of students who successfully complete a concurrent enrollment course in a subject other than English Language Arts or Math and earn a “B” or higher.
- The percentage of students who successfully complete an International Baccalaureate course in a subject other than English Language Arts or Math and earn a score of four or higher.

**KEY STATUTORY SECTIONS:**

SECTION 1. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-11-204, add (4)(a)(VI), (4)(b)(VI), and (4)(c)(VI) as follows:

22-11-204. Performance indicators - measures. (4) The department shall determine the level of attainment of each public high school, each school district, the institute, and the state as a whole on the postsecondary and workforce readiness indicator by using, at a minimum, the following measures:

(a) For each public high school, the department shall calculate:

(VI) **BEGINNING IN THE 2020-21 SCHOOL YEAR, THE PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS ENROLLED IN THE PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL WHO SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETE AN ADVANCED PLACEMENT COURSE IN A SUBJECT OTHER THAN ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS OR MATH AND EARN A SCORE OF THREE OR HIGHER ON THE END-OF-COURSE ADVANCED PLACEMENT EXAM, THE PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS WHO SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETE A CONCURRENT ENROLLMENT COURSE IN A SUBJECT OTHER THAN ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS OR MATH AND EARN A GRADE OF "B" OR HIGHER IN THE COURSE, AND THE PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS WHO SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETE AN INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE COURSE IN A SUBJECT OTHER THAN ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS OR MATH AND EARN A SCORE OF FOUR OR HIGHER.**

(b) For each school district and the institute, the department shall calculate:

(VI) **BEGINNING IN THE 2020-21 SCHOOL YEAR, THE OVERALL PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS ENROLLED IN THE DISTRICT PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOLS OR INSTITUTE CHARTER HIGH SCHOOLS WHO SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETE AN ADVANCED PLACEMENT COURSE IN A SUBJECT OTHER THAN ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS OR MATH AND EARN A SCORE OF THREE OR HIGHER ON THE END-OF-COURSE ADVANCED PLACEMENT EXAM, THE PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS WHO SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETE A CONCURRENT ENROLLMENT COURSE IN A SUBJECT OTHER THAN ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS OR MATH AND EARN A GRADE OF "B" OR HIGHER IN THE COURSE, AND THE PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS WHO SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETE AN INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE COURSE IN A SUBJECT OTHER THAN ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS OR MATH AND EARN A SCORE OF FOUR OR HIGHER.**
BACCALAUREATE COURSE IN A SUBJECT OTHER THAN ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS OR MATH AND EARN A SCORE OF FOUR OR HIGHER.

(c) For the state, the department shall calculate:
   (VI) BEGINNING IN THE 2020-21 SCHOOL YEAR, THE OVERALL PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS ENROLLED IN THE PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOLS OF THE STATE WHO SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETE AN ADVANCED PLACEMENT COURSE IN A SUBJECT OTHER THAN ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS OR MATH AND EARN A SCORE OF THREE OR HIGHER ON THE END-OF-COURSE ADVANCED PLACEMENT EXAM, THE PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS WHO SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETE A CONCURRENT ENROLLMENT COURSE IN A SUBJECT OTHER THAN ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS OR MATH AND EARN A GRADE OF "B" OR HIGHER IN THE COURSE, AND THE PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS WHO SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETE AN INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE COURSE IN A SUBJECT OTHER THAN ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS OR MATH AND EARN A SCORE OF FOUR OR HIGHER.

**LINK TO FULL BILL TEXT:**


**EFFECTIVE DATE:**

August 8, 2018
c. **HB18-1052: Exception to 2-year Higher Education Service Areas**

**PRIME SPONSORS:**

Paul Lundeen (R), House District 19 | Jeff Bridges (D), House District 3
Nancy Todd (D), Senate District 28

**OVERVIEW:**

Current law states that a 2-year institution of higher education may provide concurrent enrollment courses to local education providers that are within the institution’s college service area. This bill requires the Colorado Commission on Higher Education to establish a policy that allows a local education provider to participate in a concurrent enrollment program with a 2-year institution of higher education that is outside of the commission-approved college service area if the designated institution refuses to provide the requested program or course. The concurrent enrollment program or course shall be funded as though it is offered on-campus within the commission-approved service area.

**KEY STATUTORY SECTIONS:**

SECTION 1. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 23-1-109, add (6) as follows:

(b) THE COMMISSION SHALL ESTABLISH A POLICY THAT FACILITATES LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER PARTICIPATION IN A CONCURRENT ENROLLMENT PROGRAM OR COURSE, PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 35 OF TITLE 22, WITH A TWO-YEAR INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION THAT IS OUTSIDE OF THE GEOGRAPHIC BOUNDARIES OF THE COMMISSION-APPROVED COLLEGE SERVICE AREA IN WHICH THE LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER IS LOCATED. THE COMMISSION’S POLICY SHALL APPLY WHEN A LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER HAS REQUESTED IN WRITING, AFTER THE ADOPTION OF THE COMMISSION POLICY PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION (6)(b), A CONCURRENT ENROLLMENT PROGRAM OR COURSE FROM THE COMMISSION-APPROVED TWO-YEAR INSTITUTION AND THE COMMISSION-APPROVED TWO-YEAR INSTITUTION DECLINES IN WRITING TO PROVIDE THE REQUESTED CONCURRENT ENROLLMENT PROGRAM OR COURSE. A TWO-YEAR INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION THAT FAILS TO AGREE OR DECLINE IN WRITING TO PROVIDE A CONCURRENT ENROLLMENT PROGRAM OR COURSE IN RESPONSE TO A WRITTEN REQUEST WITHIN FORTY-FIVE DAYS OF RECEIVING THE REQUEST SHALL BE DEEMED TO HAVE DECLINED TO PROVIDE THE PROGRAM OR COURSE.

(d) WHEN A TWO-YEAR INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION PROVIDES A CONCURRENT ENROLLMENT PROGRAM OR COURSE OUTSIDE OF ITS COMMISSION-APPROVED COLLEGE SERVICE AREA IN ACCORDANCE WITH COMMISSION POLICIES ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (6)(b) OF THIS SECTION OR PURSUANT TO A VOLUNTARY SERVICE AREA WAIVER AGREEMENT WITH ANOTHER TWO-YEAR INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION, THE CONCURRENT ENROLLMENT PROGRAM OR COURSE SHALL BE FUNDED AS THOUGH OFFERED AS ON-CAMPUS INSTRUCTION WITHIN THE COMMISSION-
APPROVED COLLEGE SERVICE AREA OF THE TWO-YEAR INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION PROVIDING THE CONCURRENT ENROLLMENT PROGRAM OR COURSE.

**LINK TO FULL BILL TEXT:**


**EFFECTIVE DATE:**

August 8, 2018
d. **HB18-1128: Protection for Consumer Data Privacy**

**PRIME SPONSORS:**

Cole Wist (R), House District 37 | Jeff Bridges (D), House District 3
Kent Lambert (R), Senate District 9 | Lois Court (D), Senate District 31

**OVERVIEW:**

This bill requires a covered or governmental entity, including those that use a third-party service provider, that owns, maintains, or licenses an individual’s personal identifying information to have reasonable security procedures and practices appropriate to the nature of the information. Under the bill, public and private entities must create a written policy detailing their procedures for the destruction and appropriate disposal of electronic and paper personal information documents, unless otherwise required by state or federal law. Additionally, the bill specifies requirements for notifying individuals that their information has been breached and the broader resident community that a breach has occurred.

**KEY STATUTORY SECTIONS:**

SECTION 4. In Colorado Revised Statutes, add article 73 to title 24 as follows:

24-73-101. Governmental entity - disposal of personal identifying information - policy - definitions. (1) EACH GOVERNMENTAL ENTITY IN THE STATE THAT MAINTAINS PAPER OR ELECTRONIC DOCUMENTS DURING THE COURSE OF BUSINESS THAT CONTAIN PERSONAL IDENTIFYING INFORMATION SHALL DEVELOP A WRITTEN POLICY FOR THE DESTRUCTION OR PROPER DISPOSAL OF THOSE PAPER AND ELECTRONIC DOCUMENTS CONTAINING PERSONAL IDENTIFYING INFORMATION. UNLESS OTHERWISE REQUIRED BY STATE OR FEDERAL LAW OR REGULATION, THE WRITTEN POLICY MUST REQUIRE THAT, WHEN SUCH PAPER OR ELECTRONIC DOCUMENTS ARE NO LONGER NEEDED, THE GOVERNMENTAL ENTITY DESTROY OR ARRANGE FOR THE DESTRUCTION OF SUCH PAPER AND ELECTRONIC DOCUMENTS WITHIN ITS CUSTODY OR CONTROL THAT CONTAIN PERSONAL IDENTIFYING INFORMATION BY SHREDDING, ERASING, OR OTHERWISE MODIFYING THE PERSONAL IDENTIFYING INFORMATION IN THE PAPER OR ELECTRONIC DOCUMENTS TO MAKE THE PERSONAL IDENTIFYING INFORMATION UNREADABLE OR INDECIPHERABLE THROUGH ANY MEANS.

(2) Disclosure of breach. (a) A GOVERNMENTAL ENTITY THAT MAINTAINS, OWNS, OR LICENSES COMPUTERIZED DATA THAT INCLUDES PERSONAL INFORMATION ABOUT A RESIDENT OF COLORADO SHALL, WHEN IT BECOMES AWARE THAT A SECURITY BREACH MAY HAVE OCCURRED, CONDUCT IN GOOD FAITH A PROMPT INVESTIGATION TO DETERMINE THE LIKELIHOOD THAT PERSONAL INFORMATION HAS BEEN OR WILL BE MISUSED. THE GOVERNMENTAL ENTITY SHALL GIVE NOTICE TO THE AFFECTED COLORADO RESIDENTS UNLESS THE INVESTIGATION DETERMINES THAT THE MISUSE OF INFORMATION ABOUT A COLORADO RESIDENT HAS NOT OCCURRED AND IS NOT REASONABLY LIKELY TO OCCUR. NOTICE MUST BE MADE IN THE MOST EXPEDIENT TIME POSSIBLE AND WITHOUT
UNREASONABLE DELAY, BUT NOT LATER THAN THIRTY DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF DETERMINATION THAT A SECURITY BREACH OCCURRED, CONSISTENT WITH THE LEGITIMATE NEEDS OF LAW ENFORCEMENT AND CONSISTENT WITH ANY MEASURES NECESSARY TO DETERMINE THE SCOPE OF THE BREACH AND TO RESTORE THE REASONABLE INTEGRITY OF THE COMPUTERIZED DATA SYSTEM.

**LINK TO FULL BILL TEXT:**


**EFFECTIVE DATE:**

May 29, 2018
e. **HB18-1134: Use of Colorado Preschool Program Positions**

**PRIME SPONSORS:**

Brittany Pettersen (D), House District 28 | James Wilson (R), House District 60  
Michael Merrifield (D), Senate District 11 | Beth Martinez Humenik (R), Senate District 24

**OVERVIEW:**

This bill is a continuation of Colorado Revised Statutes 22-28-106, and it states that if a district uses a preschool program position to enroll a student in a full day of the district’s existing full-day kindergarten, then the child must satisfy at least one of the following eligibility requirements (from Section 22-28-106 (1)(a)(II) to (1)(a)(IV)):

a) The child lacks overall learning readiness due to family risk factors (homelessness, abuse, etc.), need for language development, assistance from the department of human services, or other reasons.

b) One or both of the child’s parents agree to assume all parental responsibilities established by the school district in relation to the program.

c) Any child qualifying for similar district services under other programs would continue to be eligible for only those services and would be funded under such programs.

**KEY STATUTORY SECTIONS:**

SECTION 1. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-28-104.3, add (5) as follows:


**LINK TO FULL BILL TEXT:**


**EFFECTIVE DATE:**

August 8, 2018
f. **HB18-1193: Extend Advanced Placement Incentives Program**

**PRIME SPONSORS:**

James Wilson (R), House District 60 | Barbara McLachlan (D), House District 59
Ray Scott (R), Senate District 7 | Rachel Zenzinger (D), Senate District 19

**OVERVIEW:**

This bill adds to the statutes 22-95-102 regarding Advanced Placement Incentives Pilot Program and requires that on or before August 15 of each year beginning in 2018, the department:

a) Report the number of students enrolled in Advanced Placement Courses during the prior year within each participating district.

b) Collect disaggregated data from the AP Exam Vendor on the number of students in the pilot program who took End-of-Course AP Exams in each district, by course, and the number of students who scored a three or above on those exams (by course).

Additionally, the bill requires that on or before November 15, 2019, and November 15, 2020, the department shall submit a report to the joint budget committee, the education committee members of the House and Senate, and any other relevant people that details the data above as well as information on financial incentives.

Sections 2 and 3 of this bill amend the former dates regarding notification of the pilot program’s repeal and the program’s effective repeal from 2017 to 2020 and 2018 to 2021. Section 4 details that $260,937 shall be appropriated to the department of education for the 2018-19 state fiscal year.

**KEY STATUTORY SECTIONS:**

SECTION 1. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-95-102, amend (4); and add (5) as follows:

22-95-102. Advanced placement incentives pilot program - creation - administration - teacher incentives - reporting. (4) On or before December 1, 2014; The department shall develop and make available guidelines for participation in the pilot program.

(5) (a) ON OR BEFORE AUGUST 15, 2018, AND ON OR BEFORE AUGUST 15 EACH YEAR THEREAFTER, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL:

(i) REPORT THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS IN THE PILOT PROGRAM WHO ENROLLED IN AN ADVANCED PLACEMENT COURSE DURING THE PRIOR SCHOOL YEAR IN EACH PARTICIPATING SCHOOL DISTRICT, BY COURSE;

(ii) COLLECT THE FOLLOWING DISAGGREGATED DATA FROM THE ADVANCED PLACEMENT EXAM VENDOR TO CAPTURE THE PERFORMANCE OF STUDENTS ON END-OF-COURSE ADVANCED PLACEMENT EXAMS DURING THE PRIOR SCHOOL YEAR:
(A) THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS IN THE PILOT PROGRAM WHO TOOK END-OF-COURSE ADVANCED PLACEMENT EXAMS IN EACH PARTICIPATING SCHOOL DISTRICT, BY COURSE; AND

(B) THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS IN THE PILOT PROGRAM WHO SCORED THREE OR ABOVE ON END-OF-COURSE ADVANCED PLACEMENT EXAMS IN EACH PARTICIPATING SCHOOL DISTRICT, BY COURSE.

(b) ON OR BEFORE NOVEMBER 15, 2019, AND ON OR BEFORE NOVEMBER 15, 2020, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL PREPARE AND SUBMIT TO THE JOINT BUDGET COMMITTEE AND TO THE MEMBERS OF THE EDUCATION COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND THE SENATE, OR ANY SUCCESSOR COMMITTEES, A REPORT CONCERNING THE PILOT PROGRAM. THE REPORT MUST INCLUDE THE INFORMATION COLLECTED BY THE DEPARTMENT PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (5)(a) OF THIS SECTION, AS WELL AS DATA ON THE NUMBER AND AMOUNT OF FINANCIAL INCENTIVES DISTRIBUTED TO EACH PARTICIPATING SCHOOL DISTRICT THROUGH THE PILOT PROGRAM.

LINK TO FULL BILL TEXT:


EFFECTIVE DATE:

May 3, 2018
HB18-1269: Parent Notice for Student Safety and Protection

PRIME SPONSORS:

Paul Lundeen (R), House District 19 | Brittany Pettersen (D), House District 28
Owen Hill (R), Senate District 10 | Rhonda Fields (D), Senate District 29

OVERVIEW:

This bill requires public schools to notify parents of students when a school employee or former employee is charged with certain crimes that may put the students at risk. The notice to parents should be provided in the same manner as other important school business and shall be delivered within two school days of confirmation of the charge. Similarly, when the local education provider confirms disposition of the charge, parents should be notified in the same manner. If requested by the appropriate law enforcement agency, the local education provider shall delay notification to parents until the request is withdrawn. If the local education provider is alerted of an employee’s arrest, they should monitor the proceedings to determine whether the employee is charged and then provide proper notification. Additionally, the bill prohibits the state board of education from waiving any requirements regarding parent notification by school districts.

KEY STATUTORY SECTIONS:

SECTION 1. In Colorado Revised Statutes, add 22-1-130 as follows:

(b) THEREFORE, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY DECLARES THAT IT IS APPROPRIATE TO REQUIRE A PUBLIC SCHOOL TO NOTIFY PARENTS OF SCHOOL CHILDREN WHEN A SCHOOL EMPLOYEE IS CHARGED WITH CERTAIN CRIMES THAT MAY PUT CHILDREN AT RISK.

(3) (a) PURSUANT TO SECTION 22-2-119 (4)(b), LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDERS ROUTINELY RECEIVE REPORTS FROM THE COLORADO BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION RELATING TO EMPLOYEES WHO HAVE PREVIOUSLY BEEN SUBJECT TO A BACKGROUND CHECK. IF A LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER RECEIVES A REPORT FROM THE COLORADO BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION THAT INCLUDES INFORMATION THAT AN EMPLOYEE HAS BEEN ARRESTED FOR AN OFFENSE DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (3)(b) OF THIS SECTION, THE LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER SHALL MONITOR THE CRIMINAL PROCEEDINGS TO DETERMINE WHETHER THE EMPLOYEE IS CHARGED WITH AN OFFENSE DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (3)(b) OF THIS SECTION AND WHETHER A PRELIMINARY HEARING HAS BEEN HELD IF THE CHARGE IS ELIGIBLE FOR A PRELIMINARY HEARING.

(b) THE LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER SHALL NOTIFY PARENTS, AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (4) OF THIS SECTION, IF AN EMPLOYEE IS CHARGED, AS THAT TERM IS DEFINED IN SECTION 16-1-104 (6), WITH:

(I) FELONY CHILD ABUSE, AS SPECIFIED IN SECTION 18-6-401; (II) A CRIME OF VIOLENCE, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 18-1.3-406, NOT INCLUDING ASSAULT IN THE SECOND DEGREE UNLESS THE VICTIM IS A CHILD; (III) A FELONY OFFENSE INVOLVING UNLAWFUL SEXUAL BEHAVIOR, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 16-22-102
(9); (IV) A FELONY, WHERE IT IS ALLEGED THAT THE UNDERLYING FACTUAL BASIS OF WHICH INCLUDES AN ACT OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 18-6-800.3; PAGE 3-HOUSE BILL 18-1269 (V) FELONY INDECENT EXPOSURE, AS DESCRIBED IN SECTION 18-7-302; OR (VI) A FELONY DRUG OFFENSE DESCRIBED IN PART 4 OF ARTICLE 18 OF TITLE 18, THAT IS A LEVEL 1 OR LEVEL 2 DRUG FELONY.

(4) (a) WITHIN TWO SCHOOL DAYS AFTER THE PRELIMINARY HEARING IS HELD OR IS WAIVED OR DEEMED WAIVED BY THE EMPLOYEE, OR WITHIN TWO SCHOOL DAYS AFTER THE DATE ON WHICH THE EMPLOYEE IS CHARGED, IF THE CHARGED OFFENSE IS NOT ELIGIBLE FOR A PRELIMINARY HEARING, THE LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER SHALL PROVIDE NOTICE TO PARENTS PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (5) OF THIS SECTION.

(c) THE LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER MUST PROVIDE NOTICE TO THE PARENTS OF A STUDENT:

(I) ENROLLED IN THE PUBLIC SCHOOL IN WHICH THE EMPLOYEE IS EMPLOYED OR WAS EMPLOYED AT THE TIME OF THE ALLEGED OFFENSE; OR (II) WITH WHOM THE LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER HAS REASON TO BELIEVE THE EMPLOYEE MAY HAVE HAD CONTACT AS PART OF HIS OR HER EMPLOYMENT WITH THE LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER. (d) THE LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER SHALL PROVIDE THE REQUIRED NOTICE TO PARENTS IN THE SAME MANNER BY WHICH THE LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER NOTIFIES PARENTS OF IMPORTANT SCHOOL BUSINESS, WHICH MAY INCLUDE E-MAIL NOTIFICATION OR OTHER ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION SENT DIRECTLY TO PARENTS OR BY FIRST-CLASS MAIL. WITHIN TWO SCHOOL DAYS AFTER THE LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER CONFIRMS THE DISPOSITION OF THE CHARGE, THE LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER SHALL PROVIDE NOTICE TO PARENTS OF THE DISPOSITION OF THE CHARGE USING THE SAME NOTIFICATION METHOD USED IN THE ORIGINAL NOTICE TO PARENTS.

LINK TO FULL BILL TEXT:


EFFECTIVE DATE:

August 15, 2018
h. **HB18-1286: School Personnel Give Medical Marijuana at School**

**PRIME SPONSORS:**

Dylan Roberts (D), House District 26  
Irene Aguilar (D), Senate District 32 | Vicki Marble (R), Senate District 23

**OVERVIEW:**

Current law allows a student’s parent or legal guardian to give them nonsmokeable medical marijuana while on school grounds. This bill allows school personnel to administer nonsmokeable medical marijuana to a student if an agreement is signed by the principal or his/her designee and a parent or legal guardian. The student’s parent or legal guardian must submit a set of specific documentation to the school before the nonsmokeable medical marijuana can be administered, and the administration of the marijuana must not disrupt the educational environment for other students. This bill protects the school personnel from criminal prosecution if they adhere to the administration procedures specified.

**KEY STATUTORY SECTIONS:**

SECTION 1. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-1-119.3, add (3)(d.5) as follows:

22-1-119.3. Policy for student possession and administration of prescription medication - rules - definition.

(3) (d.5) (I) MEDICAL MARIJUANA IN A NONSMOKEABLE FORM SHALL NOT BE ADMINISTERED AT A SCHOOL PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION (3)(d.5) UNLESS A WRITTEN PLAN FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICAL MARIJUANA IN A NONSMOKEABLE FORM IS AGREED TO AND SIGNED BY THE SCHOOL PRINCIPAL OR HIS OR HER DESIGNEE AND A PARENT OR LEGAL GUARDIAN.

(II) PRIOR TO THE ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICAL MARIJUANA IN A NONSMOKEABLE FORM AT SCHOOL, THE STUDENT’S PARENT OR LEGAL GUARDIAN SHALL COMPLETE AND SUBMIT TO THE SCHOOL THE DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED BY RULE OF THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO:

(A) A WRITTEN MEDICAL MARIJUANA RECOMMENDATION THAT INCLUDES THE SIGNATURE OF ONE OF THE RECOMMENDING PHYSICIANS AND THE PURPOSE, RECOMMENDED DOSAGE, FREQUENCY, AND LENGTH OF TIME BETWEEN DOSAGES OF THE MEDICAL MARIJUANA IN A NONSMOKEABLE FORM TO BE ADMINISTERED; AND

(B) A WRITTEN STATEMENT FROM THE STUDENT’S PARENT OR LEGAL GUARDIAN RELEASING THE SCHOOL, AND EMPLOYEES AND VOLUNTEERS OF THE SCHOOL, FROM LIABILITY, EXCEPT IN CASES OF WILLFUL OR WANTON CONDUCT OR DISREGARD OF THE CRITERIA OF THE TREATMENT PLAN.

(II) PRIOR TO THE ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICAL MARIJUANA IN A NONSMOKEABLE FORM AT SCHOOL, THE STUDENT’S PARENT OR LEGAL GUARDIAN SHALL COMPLETE AND SUBMIT TO THE SCHOOL THE DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED BY RULE OF THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO:
(A) A WRITTEN MEDICAL MARIJUANA RECOMMENDATION THAT INCLUDES THE SIGNATURE OF ONE OF THE RECOMMENDING PHYSICIANS AND THE PURPOSE, RECOMMENDED DOSAGE, FREQUENCY, AND LENGTH OF TIME BETWEEN DOSAGES OF THE MEDICAL MARIJUANA IN A NONSMOKEABLE FORM TO BE ADMINISTERED; AND

(B) A WRITTEN STATEMENT FROM THE STUDENT'S PARENT OR LEGAL GUARDIAN RELEASING THE SCHOOL, AND EMPLOYEES AND VOLUNTEERS OF THE SCHOOL, FROM LIABILITY, EXCEPT IN CASES OF WILLFUL OR WANTON CONDUCT OR DISREGARD OF THE CRITERIA OF THE TREATMENT PLAN.

(III) (A) SUBJECT TO THE REQUIREMENTS SPECIFIED IN SUBSECTIONS (3)(d.5)(I) AND (3)(d.5)(II) OF THIS SECTION, SCHOOL PERSONNEL MAY POSSESS, AND ADMINISTER TO A STUDENT WHO HOLDS A VALID RECOMMENDATION FOR MEDICAL MARIJUANA, MEDICAL MARIJUANA IN A NONSMOKEABLE FORM UPON THE GROUNDS OF THE PRESCHOOL OR PRIMARY OR SECONDARY SCHOOL IN WHICH THE STUDENT IS ENROLLED, OR UPON A SCHOOL BUS OR AT A SCHOOL-SPONSORED EVENT. THE SCHOOL PERSONNEL SHALL NOT ADMINISTER THE NONSMOKEABLE MEDICAL MARIJUANA IN A MANNER THAT CREATES DISRUPTION TO THE EDUCATIONAL ENVIRONMENT OR CAUSES EXPOSURE TO OTHER STUDENTS. IF A STUDENT WHO IS SUBJECT TO THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SUBSECTION (3)(d.5) TAKES A SCHOOL TRIP OUTSIDE OF THE STATE OF COLORADO OR PARTICIPATES IN A SCHOOL ACTIVITY OUTSIDE OF THE STATE OF COLORADO, THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SUBSECTION (3)(d.5) DO NOT APPLY FOR THE TIME DURING WHICH THE STUDENT IS ENGAGED IN THE TRIP OR ACTIVITY OUTSIDE OF THE STATE OF COLORADO.

(B) NOTHING IN THIS SUBSECTION (3)(d.5) REQUIRES ANY SCHOOL PERSONNEL TO ADMINISTER MEDICAL MARIJUANA. ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICAL MARIJUANA IN A NONSMOKEABLE FORM IS AT THE DISCRETION OF THE PARENT OR LEGAL GUARDIAN, THE SCHOOL PRINCIPAL OR HIS OR HER DESIGNEE, OR THE DESIGNATED SCHOOL PERSONNEL.

(C) IT IS AN EXCEPTION FROM THE STATE'S CRIMINAL LAWS FOR SCHOOL PERSONNEL TO POSSESS AND ADMINISTER MEDICAL MARIJUANA IN A NONSMOKEABLE FORM IN COMPLIANCE WITH THIS SUBSECTION (3)(d.5) TO A STUDENT WHO HOLDS A VALID RECOMMENDATION FOR MEDICAL MARIJUANA, EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED IN SECTION 18-18-406.3.

LINK TO FULL BILL TEXT:


EFFECTIVE DATE:

June 4, 2018
i. **HB18-1306: Improving Education Stability for Foster Youth**

**PRIME SPONSORS:**

Dafna Michaelson Jenet (D), House District 30  
Don Coram (R), Senate District 6  
Dominick Moreno (D), Senate District 21

**OVERVIEW:**

This bill requires education providers to allow foster students to remain in their school-of-origin unless it is determined that remaining in the school-of-origin is not in the student’s best interest. Dependent on available appropriations, the department of education shall hire a full-time foster care education coordinator whose responsibilities are outlined in the bill. If deemed the best decision for the child to move schools, the student should be enrolled in the new school immediately with transition planning, and the student’s complete education and information records should be requested immediately by the new school. The sending education provider shall transfer the information in no more than five school days after receiving the request. School districts or the charter school institute and county departments shall work together to develop a transportation plan for these students. The bill allows schools to waive some course requirements or provide alternative means for achieving the requirements in order for a transferring student to graduate on time. The bill also outlines the role of an education provider’s child welfare liaison.

The bill establishes the Educational Stability Grant Program aimed to give academic and social-emotional support to highly mobile students. Applications for the grant program shall be submitted to the department of education, and annual awards are given.

Finally, the bill updates “school or school district” to “education provider” and updates the definition of a homeless child to include children and youth.

**KEY STATUTORY SECTIONS:**

SECTION 2. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-32-138, amend (2),(3)(a), (3)(b), (3)(d), (4)(a) introductory portion, (4)(a)(l), (4)(c), (5), and (7); repeal and reenact, with amendments, (1); and add (1.5), (9), and (10) as follows:

(1.5) Department of education foster care education coordinator- creation and duties.  
SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS, THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION SHALL HIRE A FULL-TIME FOSTER CARE EDUCATION COORDINATOR WHO HAS THE FOLLOWING DUTIES BEGINNING IN THE 2019-20 FISCAL YEAR:  
(a) PROVIDING TRAINING AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT TO ADDRESS NEEDS ASSOCIATED WITH IMPLEMENTATION OF STATE AND FEDERAL MANDATES RELATING TO FOSTER CARE EDUCATION;  
(b) COLLECTING AND DISSEMINATING CHILD WELFARE EDUCATION LIAISON CONTACT INFORMATION ON THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION'SWEBSITE;
(c) COORDINATING WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES AND OTHER AGENCIES AS NECESSARY; (d) PROVIDING TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO EDUCATION PROVIDERS FOR REMOVING BARRIERS TO GRADUATION PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (5) OF THIS SECTION; (e) SERVING AS A POINT OF CONTACT TO REVIEW COMPLIANCE OF EDUCATION PROVIDERS; AND (f) ACTING AS A LIAISON IN COORDINATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES TO REVIEW COMPLAINTS RELATED TO DISPUTES OVER TRANSPORTATION AGREEMENTS BETWEEN SCHOOL DISTRICTS AND THE PAGE 4-HOUSE BILL 18-1306 STATE CHARTER SCHOOL INSTITUTE AND COUNTY DEPARTMENTS.

(b) The child welfare education liaison shall be responsible for working with child placement agencies, county departments, and the state department OF HUMAN SERVICES to facilitate SERVICES TO MAINTAIN STUDENTS IN OUT-OF-HOME PLACEMENT IN THEIR SCHOOLS OF ORIGIN OR, IF THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT DETERMINES THAT IT IS NOT IN THE STUDENTS’ BEST INTERESTS TO REMAIN IN THE SCHOOL OF ORIGIN, OR FACILITATE the prompt and appropriate placement, transfer, and enrollment in school of students in out-of-home placement within the school district or who are enrolled or enrolling in institute charter schools.

(3)(a) If a student in out-of-home placement is enrolled in one school and transfers enrollment to another school either in the same school district EDUCATION PROVIDER or in another school district or to another type of school EDUCATION PROVIDER, the sending school district or school EDUCATION PROVIDER shall transfer the student’s education information and records to the receiving school within five school days AS SOON AS POSSIBLE BUT NOT TO EXCEED FIVE SCHOOL DAYS after receiving a transfer request. from the county department that has legal custody of the student.

(5)(b) WHEN A STUDENT EXPERIENCES OUT-OF-HOME PLACEMENT AT ANY POINT DURING HIGH SCHOOL, AN EDUCATION PROVIDER MAY WAIVE COURSE OR PROGRAM PREREQUISITES OR OTHER PRECONDITIONS FOR PLACEMENT IN COURSES OR PROGRAMS UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE EDUCATION PROVIDER.

(c) AN EDUCATION PROVIDER MAY WAIVE SPECIFIC COURSES REQUIRED FOR GRADUATION IF SIMILAR COURSE WORK HAS BEEN SATISFACTORILY COMPLETED IN ANOTHER JURISDICTION OR THE STUDENT HAS DEMONSTRATED COMPETENCY IN THE CONTENT AREA. IF THE RECEIVING SCHOOL DOES NOT GRANT A WAIVER TO A CHILD WHO WOULD QUALIFY TO GRADUATE FROM THE SENDING SCHOOL, THE EDUCATION PROVIDER IS ENCOURAGED TO PROVIDE AN ALTERNATIVE MEANS OF ACQUIRING THE REQUIRED COURSE WORK OR COMPETENCY REQUIREMENTS SO THAT TIMELY GRADUATION MAY OCCUR.

(10) SCHOOL DISTRICTS AND THE STATE CHARTER SCHOOL INSTITUTE SHALL COORDINATE WITH COUNTY DEPARTMENTS TO ESTABLISH SYSTEMS-LEVEL PLANS FOR HOW NECESSARY TRANSPORTATION TO THE SCHOOL OF ORIGIN IS PROVIDED, ARRANGED, AND FUNDED FOR THE DURATION OF A CHILD’S OR YOUTH’S TIME AS A STUDENT IN OUT-OF-HOME PLACEMENT, INCLUDING THE EQUITABLE ALLOCATION OF COSTS.

SECTION 3. In Colorado Revised Statutes, add 22-32-138.5 as follows:
22-32-138.5. Educational stability grant program – application - grants - fund created - rules - report. (1) THERE IS CREATED WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION THE EDUCATIONAL STABILITY GRANT PROGRAM, REFERRED TO IN THIS SECTION AS THE “GRANT PROGRAM,” TO PROVIDE GRANT MONEY TO EDUCATION PROVIDERS TO USE IN PROVIDING ACADEMIC AND SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL SERVICES AND SUPPORTS TO HIGHLY MOBILE STUDENTS. SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS, COMMENCING WITH THE 2019-20 FISCAL YEAR, THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION SHALL AWARD EDUCATIONAL STABILITY GRANTS TO PRESCHOOL, ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION PROVIDERS FROM MONEY APPROPRIATED FROM THE EDUCATION STABILITY GRANT PROGRAM FUND CREATED IN SUBSECTION (4) OF THIS SECTION.

SECTION 5. In Colorado Revised Statutes, amend 22-1-102.5 as follows:
(1) The general assembly hereby finds and declares that, because of the growing number of children and families who are homeless in Colorado, there is a need to ensure that all homeless children AND YOUTH receive a proper education. It is the intent of the general assembly that no child OR YOUTH shall be denied the benefits of a free education in the public schools because the child OR YOUTH is homeless.

LINK TO FULL BILL TEXT:

EFFECTIVE DATE:
August 8, 2018
j. **HB18-1355: Public Education Accountability System**

**PRIME SPONSORS:**

Brittany Pettersen (D), House District 28 | Lang Sias (R), House District 27
Dominick Moreno (D), Senate District 21 | Robert Gardner (R), Senate District 12

**OVERVIEW:**

This bill outlines a new process and criteria for assigning accreditation categories to school districts, the charter school institute, or the recommendation of a performance plan to a public school.

The bill allows a school district or the institute to request reconsideration based on their initial accreditation category or performance plan assignment. Under the bill, the department of education shall provide training in governance and turnaround for directors of the boards of school districts that have been accredited with an improvement plan or lower or have a public school under a priority improvement or turnaround plan. Additionally, the district should provide trainings for parents, school employees, school districts, and accountability committees.

The bill states that the district accountability committee shall meet at least quarterly to discuss the school’s performance level and specific variables that may be impeding implementation of their performance, improvement, priority improvement, or turnaround plan.

Under the bill, the commissioner of education may assign the state review panel to evaluate the turnaround plan of a district, the institute, or a public school and may require the state review panel to conduct an on-site visit. During its third year in a priority improvement plan or lower, the school district or the institute must hold a parent a community meeting with requirements and attendees specified in the bill.

Current law states that after five consecutive years of a school district or the institute being accredited with a priority improvement plan or lower, the department can recommend that the state board remove the accreditation. This bill states that beginning in the 2018-2019 school year, this time period will be changed such that if a district or the institute is accredited with priority improvement or lower for two consecutive years followed by 3 consecutive or nonconsecutive years, the state board may take action. During these five years, the district or the institute is on performance watch. Additionally, if a district or the institute is accredited with higher than the priority improvement plan for 2 consecutive years after the first 2 years, then the 5 year accumulation stops. These changes also apply to individual public schools. The state board may, at the request of a school district or the institute, encourage the district or the institute to take specified action before completing the 5 year performance watch.

The bill amends specific aspects of the implementation of performance indicators, including calculations by the state board, performance indicators that measure growth to standards, changes in terminology, and the disaggregation of performance by student groups.
Finally, the bill changes the current school turnaround leaders development program to the school transformation grant program and specifies its aim to support school districts, the institute, and charter schools in providing educator professional development and assistance in implementing rigorous redesign strategies.

**KEY STATUTORY SECTIONS:**

SECTION 1. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-11-207, amend (2) introductory portion, (2)(a), and (4)(a); repeal (2)(c), (2)(d), (2)(e), and (2)(f); and add (2.5), (5), and (6) as follows:

22-11-207. Accreditation categories - criteria - rules. (2) The state board shall promulgate rules establishing objective, measurable criteria that the department shall apply in determining the appropriate accreditation category for each school district and the institute, placing the greatest emphasis on attainment of the performance indicators.

(2.5) (a) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL NOTIFY EACH SCHOOL DISTRICT AND THE INSTITUTE OF ITS INITIAL ACCREDITATION ASSIGNMENT. IF A SCHOOL DISTRICT OR THE INSTITUTE DISAGREES WITH THE DEPARTMENT'S INITIAL ACCREDITATION ASSIGNMENT, THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OR INSTITUTE MAY SUBMIT TO THE DEPARTMENT A REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION. THE STATE BOARD SHALL PROMULGATE RULES SPECIFYING THE INFORMATION THE DEPARTMENT MUST TAKE INTO ACCOUNT IN DETERMINING THE SCHOOL DISTRICT'S OR INSTITUTE'S FINAL ACCREDITATION CATEGORY, WHICH MAY INCLUDE: (I) THE LENGTH OF TIME DURING WHICH THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OR INSTITUTE HAS BEEN UNABLE TO MEET THE STATEWIDE TARGETS; (II) THE IMPROVEMENTS, CHANGES, AND INTERVENTIONS THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OR INSTITUTE HAS IMPLEMENTED AND IS IMPLEMENTING PAGE 2-HOUSE BILL 18-1355 TO IMPROVE ITS PERFORMANCE IF IT IS NOT MEETING THE STATEWIDE TARGETS; (III) THE PROGRESS THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OR INSTITUTE IS MAKING IN IMPROVING ITS PERFORMANCE AND IN APPROACHING ACHIEVEMENT OF THE STATEWIDE TARGETS AND THE DEGREE TO WHICH THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OR INSTITUTE IS NOT ACHIEVING THE STATEWIDE TARGETS; (IV) THE PUPIL ENROLLMENT OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT AS IT MAY AFFECT THE RELIABILITY OF THE ASSESSMENT DATA; (V) THE PERCENTAGES OF STUDENTS ENROLLED IN HIGH SCHOOLS OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT, OR INSTITUTE CHARTER HIGH SCHOOLS FOR PURPOSES OF THE INSTITUTE, WHO, BASED ON ATTAINMENT OF COURSE CREDITS OR DEMONSTRATED COMPETENCIES, ARE ON SCHEDULE TO GRADUATE WITHIN FOUR, FIVE, SIX, OR SEVEN YEARS; AND (VI) ANY SUPPLEMENTAL DATA FOR GRADE LEVELS FOR WHICH THERE ARE NOT STATEWIDE ASSESSMENTS THAT INDICATE THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OR INSTITUTE IS MEETING THE STATEWIDE TARGETS ON THE PERFORMANCE INDICATORS, IF THE DEPARTMENT DETERMINES THE SUPPLEMENTAL DATA IS VALID AND RELIABLE AND DERIVED FROM ASSESSMENTS THAT ARE ALIGNED WITH THE STATE STANDARDS ADOPTED PURSUANT TO SECTION 22-7-1005. (b) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL NOTIFY EACH SCHOOL DISTRICT AND THE INSTITUTE OF ITS FINAL ACCREDITATION CATEGORY WITHIN THE TIME FRAMES ADOPTED BY RULE OF THE STATE BOARD.

(4) (a) The state board by rule shall specify how long a school district or the institute may remain in an accreditation category that is below accredited; except that the state board shall not allow a school district or the institute to remain at accredited with priority improvement plan or below for longer than
a total of five consecutive school years before removing the school district’s or the institute’s accreditation as provided in section 22-11-209 BEGINNING WITH THE 2018-19 SCHOOL YEAR, IF A SCHOOL DISTRICT OR THE INSTITUTE PERFORMS AT A LEVEL THAT RESULTS IN BEING ACCREDITED WITH PRIORITY IMPROVEMENT PLAN OR LOWER FOR TWO CONSECUTIVE YEARS FOLLOWED BY THREE CONSECUTIVE OR NONCONSECUTIVE YEARS, RESULTING IN A TOTAL OF FIVE YEARS OF PAGE 3-HOUSE BILL 18-1355 PERFORMANCE AT SUCH A LEVEL, THE STATE BOARD SHALL REQUIRE THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OR INSTITUTE TO TAKE SIGNIFICANT ACTION AS PROVIDED IN SECTION 22-11-209; EXCEPT THAT, BEFORE THE FIVE YEARS HAVE ACCUMULATED, IF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OR INSTITUTE PERFORMS FOR AT LEAST TWO CONSECUTIVE YEARS AT A LEVEL THAT RESULTS IN BEING ACCREDITED WITH IMPROVEMENT PLAN OR HIGHER, THE FIVE YEARS STOP ACCUMULATING UNLESS THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OR INSTITUTE AGAIN PERFORMS AT A LEVEL THAT RESULTS IN BEING ACCREDITED WITH PRIORITY IMPROVEMENT PLAN OR LOWER FOR TWO CONSECUTIVE YEARS, AT WHICH TIME THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OR INSTITUTE IS AGAIN IN THE FIRST TWO OF THE FIVE YEARS. FOR THE TIME DURING WHICH THE FIVE YEARS OF PERFORMANCE ARE ACCUMULATING, A SCHOOL DISTRICT OR THE INSTITUTE IS ON PERFORMANCE WATCH.

SECTION 2. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-11-208, amend (3) introductory portion; repeal (1.7); and add (2.5) as follows:

(2.5) IN ADDITION TO THE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND SUPPORT DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (2) OF THIS SECTION, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL MAKE AVAILABLE TO THE DIRECTORS OF THE LOCAL SCHOOL BOARD OF A SCHOOL DISTRICT THAT IS ACCREDITED WITH IMPROVEMENT PLAN OR LOWER, OR THAT INCLUDES A PUBLIC SCHOOL THAT IS REQUIRED TO ADOPT A PRIORITY IMPROVEMENT OR TURNAROUND PLAN, TRAINING IN SCHOOL DISTRICT AND PUBLIC SCHOOL GOVERNANCE AND TURNAROUND BEST PRACTICES. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ALSO MAKE AVAILABLE INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS AND TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES FOR PARENTS, SCHOOL PERSONNEL, AND MEMBERS OF THE AFFECTED DISTRICT ACCOUNTABILITY COMMITTEE AND SCHOOL ACCOUNTABILITY COMMITTEE.

(3) The commissioner may assign the state review panel to critically evaluate a school district’s priority improvement plan OR TURNAROUND PLAN or the institute’s priority improvement plan. The commissioner shall assign the state review panel to critically evaluate a school district’s turnaround plan or the institute’s turnaround plan OR TURNAROUND PLAN. THE COMMISSIONER MAY REQUIRE THE STATE REVIEW PANEL TO CONDUCT ONE OR MORE ON-SITE VISITS AS PART OF EVALUATING A SCHOOL DISTRICT’S OR THE INSTITUTE’S PRIORITY IMPROVEMENT OR TURNAROUND PLAN. Based on its evaluation, the state review panel shall report to the commissioner, and the state board, AND THE AFFECTED LOCAL SCHOOL BOARD OR INSTITUTE BOARD recommendations concerning:

SECTION 3. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-11-209, amend (2)(a) introductory portion, (2)(a)(I)(A), (2)(a)(I)(B), (2)(a)(II)(A), (3), and (4); repeal (1)(a) and (1)(b); and add (2)(a)(I)(A.5), (2)(a)(II)(A.5), and (3.5) as follows:

(3.5) (a) SO LONG AS A SCHOOL DISTRICT OR THE INSTITUTE PERFORMS AT A LEVEL THAT RESULTS IN BEING ACCREDITED WITH PRIORITY IMPROVEMENT PLAN OR LOWER, AFTER THE STATE BOARD
INITIALLY DIRECTS THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OR INSTITUTE TO TAKE ACTION AS DESCRIBED IN
SUBSECTIONS (2) AND (3) OF THIS SECTION, THE COMMISSIONER MAY IN ANY YEAR, BUT SHALL EVERY
TWO YEARS, ASSIGN THE STATE REVIEW PANEL TO CRITICALLY EVALUATE THE SCHOOL DISTRICT'S OR
THE INSTITUTE'S PERFORMANCE AND RECOMMEND ONE OR MORE OF THE ACTIONS DESCRIBED IN
SUBSECTION (2)(a) OF THIS SECTION. IN EVALUATING THE SCHOOL DISTRICT'S OR INSTITUTE'S
PERFORMANCE AND RECOMMENDING ACTIONS, THE STATE REVIEW PANEL SHALL CONSIDER THE
CRITERIA SPECIFIED IN SUBSECTION (2)(b) OF THIS SECTION. THE STATE BOARD SHALL CONSIDER THE
RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE STATE REVIEW PANEL, THE ACTIONS THAT THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OR
INSTITUTE WAS PREVIOUSLY DIRECTED TO TAKE, THE FIDELITY WITH WHICH THE DISTRICT OR INSTITUTE
HAS IMPLEMENTED THE DIRECTED ACTIONS, AND WHETHER THE AMOUNT OF TIME THAT THE SCHOOL
DISTRICT OR INSTITUTE HAS HAD TO IMPLEMENT THE ACTIONS IS REASONABLY SUFFICIENT TO ACHIEVE
RESULTS. THE STATE BOARD SHALL EITHER REQUIRE THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OR INSTITUTE TO CONTINUE
THE PAGE 7

- HOUSE BILL 18
- 1355 PREVIOUSLY DIRECTED ACTIONS OR DIRECT THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OR
INSTITUTE TO UNDERTAKE ADDITIONAL OR DIFFERENT ACTIONS AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTIONS (2) AND
(3) OF THIS SECTION.

SECTION 4. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-11-210, amend (1)(a), (1)(d)(l), (4) introductory portion,
(5)(a) introductory portion, and (5)(a)(l); repeal (2.7); and add (1)(a.5), (1)(a.6), (1)(d.5), (5)(d), (5)(e), and
(5.5) as follows:

(a.5) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL NOTIFY EACH SCHOOL DISTRICT AND THE INSTITUTE OF THE INITIAL
RECOMMENDATION OF THE TYPE OF PLAN THAT EACH DISTRICT PUBLIC SCHOOL OR INSTITUTE
CHARTER SCHOOL MUST ADOPT. IF A SCHOOL DISTRICT OR THE INSTITUTE DISAGREES WITH ONE OR
MORE OF THE DEPARTMENT’S INITIAL PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS, THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OR INSTITUTE
MAY SUBMIT TO THE DEPARTMENT A REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION.

(d) (l) BEGINNING WITH THE 2018-19 SCHOOL YEAR, IF A PUBLIC SCHOOL PERFORMS AT A LEVEL THAT
RESULTS IN BEING REQUIRED TO ADOPT A PRIORITY IMPROVEMENT OR TURNAROUND PLAN FOR TWO
CONSECUTIVE YEARS FOLLOWED BY THREE CONSECUTIVE OR NONCONSECUTIVE YEARS, RESULTING IN
A TOTAL OF FIVE YEARS OF PERFORMANCE AT SUCH A LEVEL, THE STATE BOARD SHALL REQUIRE THE
SCHOOL DISTRICT, FOR A PUBLIC SCHOOL OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT, OR THE INSTITUTE, FOR AN
INSTITUTE CHARTER SCHOOL, TO TAKE PAGE 10-HOUSE BILL 18-1355 ONE OF THE ACTIONS DESCRIBED
IN SUBSECTION (5)(a) OF THIS SECTION; EXCEPT THAT, IF, BEFORE THE FIVE YEARS HAVE
ACCUMULATED, THE PUBLIC SCHOOL PERFORMS FOR AT LEAST TWO CONSECUTIVE YEARS AT A LEVEL
THAT RESULTS IN THE PUBLIC SCHOOL BEING REQUIRED TO ADOPT AN IMPROVEMENT OR
PERFORMANCE PLAN, THE FIVE YEARS STOP ACCUMULATING UNLESS THE PUBLIC SCHOOL AGAIN
PERFORMS AT A LEVEL THAT RESULTS IN BEING REQUIRED TO ADOPT A PRIORITY IMPROVEMENT OR
TURNAROUND PLAN FOR TWO CONSECUTIVE YEARS, AT WHICH TIME THE PUBLIC SCHOOL IS AGAIN IN
THE FIRST TWO OF THE FIVE YEARS. FOR THE TIME DURING WHICH THE FIVE YEARS OF PERFORMANCE
ARE ACCUMULATING, A PUBLIC SCHOOL IS ON PERFORMANCE WATCH.

(4) THE COMMISSIONER MAY REQUIRE THE STATE REVIEW PANEL TO CONDUCT ONE OR MORE ON-SITE
VISITS AS PART OF EVALUATING A PUBLIC SCHOOL'S PLAN.
(5.5) (a) SO LONG AS A PUBLIC SCHOOL PERFORMS AT A LEVEL THAT RESULTS IN BEING REQUIRED TO IMPLEMENT A PRIORITY IMPROVEMENT OR TURNAROUND PLAN, AFTER THE STATE BOARD INITIALLY DIRECTS THE LOCAL SCHOOL BOARD OR INSTITUTE BOARD TO TAKE ACTION AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (5)(b) OF THIS SECTION, THE COMMISSIONER MAY IN ANY YEAR, BUT SHALL EVERY TWO YEARS, ASSIGN THE STATE REVIEW PANEL TO CRITICALLY EVALUATE THE PUBLIC SCHOOL’S PERFORMANCE AND RECOMMEND ONE OR MORE OF THE ACTIONS DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (5)(a) OF THIS SECTION. IN EVALUATING THE PUBLIC SCHOOL’S PERFORMANCE AND RECOMMENDING ACTIONS, THE STATE REVIEW PANEL SHALL CONSIDER THE CRITERIA SPECIFIED IN SUBSECTION (4) OF THIS SECTION. THE STATE BOARD SHALL CONSIDER THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE STATE REVIEW PANEL, THE ACTIONS THAT THE LOCAL SCHOOL BOARD OR INSTITUTE BOARD WAS PREVIOUSLY DIRECTED TO TAKE WITH REGARD TO THE PUBLIC SCHOOL, THE FIDELITY WITH WHICH THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OR INSTITUTE AND THE PUBLIC SCHOOL HAVE IMPLEMENTED THE DIRECTED ACTIONS, AND WHETHER THE AMOUNT OF TIME THAT THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OR INSTITUTE AND THE PUBLIC SCHOOL HAVE HAD TO IMPLEMENT THE ACTIONS IS REASONABLY SUFFICIENT TO ACHIEVE RESULTS. THE STATE BOARD SHALL EITHER REQUIRE THE LOCAL SCHOOL BOARD OR INSTITUTE BOARD TO CONTINUE THE PREVIOUSLY DIRECTED ACTIONS OR DIRECT THE LOCAL SCHOOL BOARD OR INSTITUTE BOARD TO UNDERTAKE ADDITIONAL OR DIFFERENT ACTIONS AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (5)(b) OF THIS SECTION.

SECTION 5. In Colorado Revised Statutes, add 22-11-211 as follows:

22-11-211. Performance watch - parent and community meeting - school districts - institute - public schools. (1) (a) IN THE THIRD YEAR IN WHICH A SCHOOL DISTRICT OR THE INSTITUTE IS ACCREDITED WITH PAGE 13-HOUSE BILL 18-1355 PRIORITY IMPROVEMENT PLAN OR LOWER WHILE ON PERFORMANCE WATCH, THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OR INSTITUTE, WHICHEVER IS APPLICABLE, SHALL HOST A PARENT AND COMMUNITY MEETING TO DISCUSS THE SCHOOL DISTRICT’S OR THE INSTITUTE’S ACCREDITATION LEVEL. THE APPROPRIATE DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL SHALL ATTEND THE MEETING.

SECTION 13. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-11-302, amend (1)(f); and add (1)(h) as follows:

(h) To MEET AT LEAST QUARTERLY TO DISCUSS WHETHER SCHOOL DISTRICT LEADERSHIP, PERSONNEL, AND INFRASTRUCTURE ARE ADVANCING OR IMPEDING IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT’S PERFORMANCE, IMPROVEMENT, PRIORITY IMPROVEMENT, OR TURNAROUND PLAN, WHICHEVER IS APPLICABLE, OR OTHER PROGRESS PERTINENT TO THE SCHOOL DISTRICT’S ACCREDITATION CONTRACT.

SECTION 21. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-13-103, amend (1), (2) introductory portion, (2)(d), (2)(e), and (2)(f); and repeal (2)(b) and (2)(c) as follows:

22-13-103. School transformation grant program - created - rules. (1) There is created in the department the school turnaround leaders development TRANSFORMATION GRANT program to provide funding to:

(b) SUPPORT SCHOOL DISTRICTS, THE INSTITUTE, AND CHARTER SCHOOLS IN PROVIDING EDUCATOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND TRANSFORMING INSTRUCTION IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS THAT ARE REQUIRED TO ADOPT PRIORITY IMPROVEMENT OR TURNAROUND PLANS FOR THE IMMEDIATE OR PRECEDING SCHOOL YEAR; AND (C) ASSIST SCHOOL DISTRICTS, THE INSTITUTE, AND CHARTER PAGE 26-
HOUSE BILL 18-1355 SCHOOLS THAT ARE IMPLEMENTING PRIORITY IMPROVEMENT OR TURNAROUND PLANS IN PLANNING FOR AND IMPLEMENTING ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING RIGOROUS SCHOOL REDESIGN STRATEGIES.

**FULL LINK TO BILL TEXT:**


**EFFECTIVE DATE:**

May 30, 2018
k. **HB18-1393: Effective Implementation of Colorado Reading to Ensure Academic Development Act**

**PRIME SPONSORS:**

Millie Hamner (D), House District 61 | Tony Exum Sr. (D), House District 17
Robert Gardner (R), Senate District 12

**OVERVIEW:**

Current law states that the state board of education shall describe and adopt a list of reading assessments for early elementary school students. The department of education shall then create advisory lists and programming in relation to the adopted assessments. Under this bill,

- It is clarified that the programs and assessments, targeted for kindergarten through third grade students, must be scientifically or evidence-based.
- The department shall work with the assessment publishers to ensure that the assessments are aligned with state academic standards.
- The list of assessments shall be reevaluated at least every four years, and the advisory lists at least every two years. The department is required to make this process inclusive and transparent, as further described in the bill.

The bill also details the distribution of money from the Early Literacy Fund. The bill outlines the appropriate uses for per-pupil intervention money from the fund and specifies particular uses for rural school districts and professional development programming. It states that charter schools and rural schools may also submit simplified grant applications. Additionally, this bill requires the commissioner of education to develop a working group to review the Reading to Ensure Academic Development plans and report back to the State Board, House, and Senate.

**KEY STATUTORY SECTIONS:**

SECTION 1. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-7-1209, amend (1) introductory portion, (1)(a), (1)(b), (1)(d), (2)(a)(I), (2)(a)(II)(A), (2)(b) introductory portion, (2)(b)(III), (2)(d), (3) introductory portion, (3)(a), and (3)(c); and add (2)(b)(II.5) and (3.5) as follows:

(a) The list of approved EVIDENCE-BASED OR SCIENTIFICALLY BASED reading assessments, based on the recommendations of the department, that local education providers may use to meet the requirements specified in section 22-7-1205. The state board shall adopt the list of approved reading assessments by March 31, 2013. THE STATE BOARD SHALL REVIEW THE LIST OF APPROVED READING ASSESSMENTS, ON OR BEFORE JULY 1, 2019, AND EVERY FOUR YEARS THEREAFTER AND UPDATE THE LIST AS NECESSARY.

(2) (a) (I) Using the procedure developed pursuant to subsection (3) of this section, the department shall review and recommend to the state board reading assessments, including interim, summative, and
diagnostic assessments, for kindergarten and first, second, and third grades that, at a minimum, meet the criteria specified in subparagraph (II) of this paragraph (a) SUBSECTION (1)(a)(II) OF THIS SECTION. Following action by the state board to approve reading assessments pursuant to paragraph (b) of subsection (1) SUBSECTION (1)(b) of this section, the department shall create a list of the approved reading assessments for kindergarten and first, second, and third grades for use by local education providers. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL UPDATE THE LIST OF APPROVED READING ASSESSMENTS, ON OR BEFORE JULY 1, 2019, AND EVERY FOUR YEARS THEREAFTER AS NECESSARY. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL WORK WITH THE APPROVED ASSESSMENT PUBLISHERS TO BETTER ALIGN, TO THE EXTENT PRACTICABLE, THE MINIMUM READING COMPETENCY LEVELS FOR THIRD GRADE, WHICH ARE BASED ON THE SCORES ATTAINED ON THE APPROVED ASSESSMENTS, WITH THE PRESCHOOL THROUGH ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION STANDARDS FOR THIRD-GRADE READING ADOPTED PURSUANT TO SECTION 22-7-1005.

(b) Using the procedure developed pursuant to subsection (3) of this section, the department shall create an advisory list of scientifically based or evidence-based OR SCIENTIFICALLY BASED instructional programming in reading that local education providers are encouraged to use, WHICH PROGRAMMING IS ALIGNED WITH THE RECOMMENDED READING ASSESSMENTS, INCLUDING THE ASSESSMENT REQUIRED IN SUBSECTION (2)(a)(II)(D) OF THIS SECTION.

(3.5) IN DESIGNING AND PERIODICALLY UPDATING THE PROCEDURE AND THE RUBRIC OF CRITERIA FOR REVIEWING ASSESSMENTS AND MATERIALS AND CREATING THE ADVISORY LISTS, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL CONSULT WITH LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDERS, INCLUDING THOSE WITH HIGH ENROLLMENTS OF STUDENTS WHO ARE ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS AS DEFINED IN SECTION 22-24-103, AND WITH THIRD-PARTY EXPERTS AS NECESSARY. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ENSURE THAT THE PROCEDURE FOR REVIEWING THE ASSESSMENTS AND MATERIALS AND CREATING THE ADVISORY LISTS IS INCLUSIVE AND TRANSPARENT.

SECTION 2. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-7-1210, amend (4) introductory portion, (4)(b), (5)(b), and (5)(c); and add (6) as follows:

(5) (b) A local education provider may use the per-pupil intervention money only as follows:

(V) FOR A LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER THAT IS A SMALL RURAL SCHOOL DISTRICT AS DEFINED IN SECTION 22-7-1211 (4)(a), TO PURCHASE FROM A BOARD OF COOPERATIVE SERVICES THE SERVICES OF A LITERACY SPECIALIST TO PROVIDE EDUCATOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT IN LITERACY AND OTHER SUPPORT IN IMPLEMENTING THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS PART 12; OR

(VI) TO PROVIDE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMING TO SUPPORT EDUCATORS IN TEACHING LITERACY, EXCEPT THAT A LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER MAY NOT USE MORE THAN FIFTEEN PERCENT OF THE PER-PUPIL INTERVENTION MONEY RECEIVED IN A BUDGET YEAR FOR THIS PURPOSE. PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMING AUTHORIZED IN THIS SUBSECTION (5)(b)(VI) MAY INCLUDE LITERACY COACHES WHO PROVIDE JOB-EMBEDDED, ONGOING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT TO SUPPORT KINDERGARTEN-THROUGH-THIRD-GRADE TEACHER COMPETENCE IN THE EVIDENCE-BASED
OR SCIENTIFICALLY BASED TEACHING OF PHONEMIC AWARENESS; PHONICS; VOCABULARY DEVELOPMENT; READING FLUENCY, INCLUDING ORAL SKILLS; AND READING COMPREHENSION.

SECTION 3. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-7-1211, amend (1), (3), and (4) as follows:

22-7-1211. Early literacy grant program - created - definitions. (1) ADOPTING HOUSE BILL 18-1393 RULES, THE STATE BOARD SHALL ENSURE THAT A LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER THAT IS A RURAL SCHOOL DISTRICT OR A SMALL RURAL SCHOOL DISTRICT, OR A DISTRICT CHARTER SCHOOL OR AN INSTITUTE CHARTER SCHOOL THAT IS LOCATED WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF A RURAL SCHOOL DISTRICT OR SMALL RURAL SCHOOL DISTRICT, MAY SUBMIT A SIMPLIFIED GRANT APPLICATION.

SECTION 5. In Colorado Revised Statutes, add 22-7-1214 as follows:


LINK TO FULL BILL TEXT:


EFFECTIVE DATE:

May 24, 2018
I. **SB18-011: Students Excused from Taking State Assessments**

**PRIME SPONSORS:**
Tracy Kraft-Tharp (D), House District 29 | Paul Lundeen (R), House District 19
Andy Kerr (D), Senate District 22 | Chris Holbert (R), Senate District 30

**OVERVIEW:**
Under this bill, the local education provider shall determine whether a not a parent must submit written notice when excusing their student from participation in a state assessment. The bill specifies that the local education provider may not prohibit the student from participating in activities or from receiving an award if they are excused from taking the state assessment. If the department of education or state board receives a complaint from a parent regarding a local education provider’s implementation of these policies, the department shall communicate with the education provider about the complaint.

**KEY STATUTORY SECTIONS:**
SECTION 1. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-7-1013, amend (8)(a) and (8)(b); and add (8)(d) as follows:

22-7-1013. Local education provider - preschool through elementary and secondary education standards - adoption - academic acceleration. (8) (a) Each local education provider shall adopt and implement a written policy and procedure by which a student's parent may excuse the student from participating in one or more of the state assessments administered pursuant to section 22-7-1006.3. THE LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER SHALL DETERMINE WHETHER THE PROCESS FOR EXCUSING A STUDENT REQUIRES A STUDENT'S PARENT TO SUBMIT WRITTEN NOTICE TO THE LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER.

(b) If a parent excuses his or her student from participating in a state assessment, a local education provider shall not impose negative consequences, including prohibiting school attendance, imposing an unexcused absence, or prohibiting participation in extracurricular activities, on the student or on the parent. IF A PARENT EXCUSES HIS OR HER STUDENT FROM PARTICIPATING IN A STATE ASSESSMENT, THE LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER SHALL NOT PROHIBIT THE STUDENT FROM PARTICIPATING IN AN ACTIVITY, OR RECEIVING ANY OTHER FORM OF REWARD, THAT THE LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER PROVIDES TO STUDENTS FOR PARTICIPATING IN THE STATE ASSESSMENT.

(d) IF THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION OR THE STATE BOARD RECEIVES A COMPLAINT FROM A PARENT CONCERNING A LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER'S IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS SUBSECTION (8), THE DEPARTMENT SHALL NOTIFY THE LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER OF THE NATURE OF THE COMPLAINT.

**LINK TO FULL BILL TEXT:**
EFFECTIVE DATE:

August 8, 2018
m. **SB18-012: Military Enlistment School Performance Indicator**

**PRIME SPONSORS:**

Brittany Pettersen (D), House District 28  
Owen Hill (R), Senate District 10

**OVERVIEW:**

Under this bill, the department of education must weight military enlistment by students during the year after graduation the same as other postsecondary enrollment options when calculating the level of attainment on the postsecondary and workforce readiness performance indicator of a school, district, the charter school institute, or the state.

**KEY STATUTORY SECTIONS:**

SECTION 1. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-11-204, add (4)(a)(IV.5), (4)(b)(IV.5), and (4)(c)(IV.5) as follows:

22-11-204. Performance indicators - measures. (4) The department shall determine the level of attainment of each public high school, each school district, the institute, and the state as a whole on the postsecondary and workforce readiness indicator by using, at a minimum, the following measures:

(a) For each public high school, the department shall calculate:
   
   (IV.5) BEGINNING IN THE 2018-2019 SCHOOL YEAR, OR IN THE FIRST SCHOOL YEAR FOR WHICH DATA IS AVAILABLE, THE PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS GRADUATING FROM THE PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL WHO, IN THE SCHOOL YEAR IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING GRADUATION FROM HIGH SCHOOL, ENLIST IN THE MILITARY. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL WEIGHT MILITARY ENLISTMENT EQUALLY WITH THE POSTSECONDARY ENROLLMENT OPTIONS DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (4)(a)(IV) OF THIS SECTION IN DETERMINING A PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL’S LEVEL OF ATTAINMENT ON THE POSTSECONDARY AND WORKFORCE READINESS INDICATOR.

(b) For each school district and the institute, the department shall calculate:
   

(c) For the state, the department shall calculate:
   
   (IV.5) BEGINNING IN THE 2018-2019 SCHOOL YEAR, OR IN THE FIRST SCHOOL YEAR FOR WHICH DATA IS AVAILABLE, THE PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS GRADUATING FROM PUBLIC HIGH
SCHOOLS STATEWIDE WHO, IN THE SCHOOL YEAR IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING GRADUATION FROM HIGH SCHOOL, ENLIST IN THE MILITARY. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL WEIGHT MILITARY ENLISTMENT EQUALLY WITH THE POSTSECONDARY ENROLLMENT OPTIONS DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (4)(c)(IV) OF THIS SECTION IN DETERMINING THE STATE’S LEVEL OF ATTAINMENT ON THE POSTSECONDARY AND WORKFORCE READINESS INDICATOR.

**LINK TO FULL BILL TEXT:**


**EFFECTIVE DATE:**

August 8, 2018
n. **SB18-099: Align Childhood Quality Improvement Programs**

**PRIME SPONSORS:**
Brittany Pettersen (D), House District 28 | James Wilson (R), House District 60
Michael Merrifield (D), Senate District 11 | Kevin Priola (R), Senate District 25

**OVERVIEW:**
This bill amends the current law to align the Early Childhood Quality Improvement Programs with the Colorado Shines Quality Rating and Improvement System. All references to “early childhood and education councils” are removed from the bill. The bill also specifies certain eligibility requirements and quality improvement strategies that more closely align with the Colorado Shines Program.

**KEY STATUTORY SECTIONS:**
SECTION 4. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 26-6.5-106, amend (3), (3.5), (4), (5) introductory portion, (5)(a) introductory portion, (5)(b), (5)(c), (5)(d), (5)(e), (6), (7), (8), and (9) as follows: 26-6.5-106. School-readiness quality improvement program - created - Colorado shines quality rating and improvement system. (3) On and after January 1, 2003 July 1, 2018, and continuing thereafter subject to sufficient and available federal funding, there is hereby created the school-readiness quality improvement program, referred to in this section as the "program", pursuant to which IS ADMINISTERED BY THE DEPARTMENT AS PART OF THE COLORADO SHINES QUALITY RATING AND IMPROVEMENT SYSTEM. The state department of human services shall award three years of school-readiness quality improvement funding to eligible early childhood care and education councils identified or established throughout the state pursuant to subsection (3.5) of this section. School-readiness quality improvement funding shall be awarded to improve the school readiness of children five years of age and younger who are enrolled in early childhood care and education facilities. (4) Application for funding. (a) An early childhood care and education council seeking school-readiness quality improvement funding from the state department pursuant to this section shall apply directly to the state department in the manner specified by rule of the state board of human services. An early childhood care and education council applying for school-readiness quality improvement funding pursuant to this section shall meet the following criteria: DEVELOP AND SUBMIT A SCHOOL-READINESS PLAN TO IMPROVE THE SCHOOL READINESS OF CHILDREN IN THE COMMUNITY AS
DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (6) OF THIS SECTION AND SHALL MEET ANY ADDITIONAL ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS SPECIFIED BY RULE OF THE STATE BOARD.

(II) An early childhood care and education council seeking school-readiness quality improvement funding pursuant to this section shall, in addition to the requirements set forth in subparagraph (I) of this paragraph (a) meet any additional eligibility requirements specified by rule of the state board: (b) Early childhood care and education councils that receive school-readiness quality improvement funding pursuant to this section shall distribute such moneys PRIORITIZE THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE MONEY to PARTICIPATION early care and CHILDHOOD education facilities identified in the school-readiness plan described in subsection (6) of this section PROGRAMS THAT SERVE CHILDREN FIVE YEARS OF AGE OR YOUNGER WITH RISK FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH NOT BEING SCHOOL READY, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO CHILDREN LIVING IN LOW-INCOME FAMILIES, AS SPECIFIED BY RULE OF THE STATE BOARD.

SECTION 7. In Colorado Revised Statutes, amend 26-6.7-104 as follows: 26-6.7-104. Eligibility for grants - applications - deadlines. (1) The state department shall develop an application process and issue a request for proposals for the grant program, including notification of available moneys MONEY to early childhood councils, and county departments, eligibility criteria, proposal requirements, and award criteria. (2) An applicant to the grant program is eligible for a grant award pursuant to this article ARTICLE 6.7 if: (a) The application is made jointly between BY an early childhood council AND INCLUDES STRATEGIES DEVELOPED JOINTLY WITH COMMUNITY PARTNERS, INCLUDING, AT A MINIMUM, COUNTY DEPARTMENTS OF HUMAN OR SOCIAL SERVICES, and a county department. If an early childhood council serves more than one county, it may submit a single application that combines multiple counties in its FOR THE COUNTIES THAT MAKE UP ITS DESIGNATED service area. (b) The early childhood EDUCATION programs to which the grant moneys MONEY will be distributed have contracts ACHIEVED A QUALITY RATING PURSUANT TO THE COLORADO SHINES SYSTEM OF AT LEAST A LEVEL TWO, OR ARE LICENSED PROGRAMS WITH A DEMONSTRATED HARDSHIP THAT ARE ACTIVELY WORKING TOWARD ACHIEVING A COLORADO SHINES SYSTEM LEVEL TWO RATING, AND HAVE FISCAL AGREEMENTS WITH CCAP; (c) The application EARLY CHILDHOOD COUNCIL demonstrates a need and provides a plan to improve quality and increase the capacity for early childhood EDUCATION programs THAT SERVE INFANTS AND TODDLERS THREE YEARS OF AGE OR YOUNGER in its DESIGNATED service area. The goal of the grant program is to increase the number of infants and toddlers served through high-quality early childhood programs. The early childhood EDUCATION programs may be home-based or center-based. (d) It provides a plan detailing how it will provide tiered reimbursement; and THE APPLICANT MEETS ANY OTHER CRITERIA SET FORTH IN THE APPLICATION PROCESS DEVELOPED PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION.

LINK TO FULL BILL TEXT:

EFFECTIVE DATE:
August 8, 2018
o. **SB18-151: Colorado Department of Education Bullying Policies Research**

**PRIME SPONSORS:**

Janet Buckner (D), House District 40 | James Wilson (R), House District 60  
Kevin Priola (R), Senate District 25 | Rhonda Fields (D), Senate District 29

**OVERVIEW:**

This bill requires the department of education to research policies and practices related to bullying prevention and education used in other states. The department, in consultation with the school safety resources center, shall then develop a bullying prevention and education policy by July 1, 2019, that is to be updated every three years and published on the department website.

**KEY STATUTORY SECTIONS:**

SECTION 1. In Colorado Revised Statutes, add 22-2-144 as follows: 22-2-144. Bullying prevention and education policies - short title - study. (1) THE SHORT TITLE OF THIS SECTION IS "ASHAWNTY'S LAW". (2) (a) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL RESEARCH APPROACHES, POLICIES, AND PRACTICES RELATED TO BULLYING PREVENTION AND EDUCATION USED BY EDUCATION PROVIDERS IN OTHER STATES. ON OR BEFORE JULY 1, 2019, AFTER CONSIDERATION OF THE RESEARCH CONDUCTED PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION (2)(a), THE DEPARTMENT, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE SCHOOL SAFETY RESOURCE CENTER CREATED IN SECTION 24-33.5-1803, SHALL DEVELOP A MODEL BULLYING PREVENTION AND EDUCATION POLICY. THE RESEARCH AND MODEL POLICY DESCRIBED IN THIS SUBSECTION (2)(a) MUST BE UPDATED EVERY THREE YEARS. (b) ON OR BEFORE JULY 1, 2019, AND EVERY THREE YEARS THEREAFTER, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL PUBLISH THE RESULTS OF THE RESEARCH AND MODEL POLICY REQUIRED BY SUBSECTION (2)(a) OF THIS SECTION ON ITS WEBSITE AS GUIDANCE FOR SCHOOL DISTRICTS, CHARTER SCHOOLS, AND THE CHARTER SCHOOL INSTITUTE TO CONSIDER WHEN DEVELOPING AND IMPLEMENTING BULLYING PREVENTION AND EDUCATION POLICIES.

**LINK TO FULL BILL TEXT:**


**EFFECTIVE DATE:**

August 8, 2018
SB18-160: Charter School Induction and Alternative Licensure Program

PRIMARY SPONSORS:

Millie Hamner (D), House District 61
Kent Lambert (R), Senate District 9

OVERVIEW:

Current law states that a school district may hold an induction program for school administrators, principals, teachers, and special service providers. Additionally, current law permits school districts to operate alternative licensure programs for teachers and principals who do not have professional licenses. Under this bill, charter schools and the charter school institute are given the same authority over these programs.

KEY STATUTORY SECTIONS:

SECTION 2. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-60.5-111, amend (14)(a), (14)(b), and (14)(e)(I) as follows:

22-60.5-111. Authorization - types - applicants' qualifications - rules. (14) Principal authorization. (a) The department may issue a principal authorization to a person who does not hold a principal license but who holds an earned baccalaureate or higher degree from an accepted institution of higher education and who will be employed pursuant to the provisions of section 22-60.5-305.5 by a school district OR CHARTER SCHOOL under an individualized alternative principal program, if the program is approved by the state board of education as provided in this subsection (14). A school district may employ a person who holds a 160 principal authorization to perform the duties of a principal or a vice-principal in a school, so long as the person who holds the authorization is under the supervision of a professional principal licensee. (b) To receive a principal authorization, a person, in collaboration with a school district, CHARTER SCHOOL, OR THE INSTITUTE, shall submit to the department of education documentation that includes: (I) The course work, practicums, and other educational requirements, identified by the person and the collaborating school district, CHARTER SCHOOL, OR THE INSTITUTE that will comprise the person's individualized alternative principal program and which THAT the person will complete while he or she is employed under the principal authorization; and (II) A letter from the collaborating school district OR CHARTER SCHOOL stating the school district's OR CHARTER SCHOOL'S intention to employ the applicant as a principal or a vice principal upon issuance of the principal authorization; and (III) Any additional documentation required by rule of the state board of education. (e) (I) A school district OR CHARTER SCHOOL that employs a person who holds a principal authorization may provide an induction program for the person, as described in section 22-60.5-304. If the person successfully completes the induction program while employed under the principal authorization, the person may apply completion of the induction program toward meeting the requirements for a professional principal license.
SECTION 5. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-60.5-201, amend (1)(a)(IV), (1)(a)(V), (1)(b)(III)(A), (1)(c)(I) introductory portion, and (1)(c)(I)(B) as follows:

22-60.5-201. Types of teacher licenses issued - term - rules. (1) The department is designated as the sole agency authorized to issue the following teacher licenses to persons of good moral character: (a) Alternative teacher license. (IV) An alternative teacher license is valid in any school district OR CHARTER SCHOOL and entitles the holder to work exclusively as an alternative teacher pursuant to the terms of an alternative teacher contract. A holder of an alternative teacher license is the teacher of record.

(b) Initial teacher license. (III)(A) An initial license shall be IS valid in any school districts that provide, OR CHARTER SCHOOLS THAT PROVIDE OR PARTICIPATE IN, an approved education program for teachers or have obtained a waiver of the approved induction program requirement pursuant to section 22-60.5-114 (2). Except as otherwise provided in sub-subparagraph (B) of this subparagraph (III) SUBSECTION (1)(b)(III)(B) OF THIS SECTION, any initial license issued pursuant to this paragraph (b) shall be SUBSECTION (1) (b) IS valid for a period of three years after the date of issuance and is renewable only once for an additional period of three years.

SECTION 15. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-60.5-309, amend (1) and (2) as follows:

22-60.5-309. Approved induction programs - initial administrator licensees. (1) Any approved induction program of a school district or districts, CHARTER SCHOOL, OR THE INSTITUTE for initial administrator licensees may include, but shall not be limited to, supervision by mentor administrators; ongoing professional development and training, including ethics; and performance evaluations. Such school district or districts, CHARTER SCHOOL, OR THE INSTITUTE may enter into agreements with accepted institutions of higher education in regard to the organization, management, and operation of an approved induction program, or any portion thereof THE SCHOOL DISTRICT'S OR DISTRICTS' performance evaluations shall MUST be conducted in accordance with section 22-9-106; however, the state board of education may provide by rule and regulation for performance evaluations by mentor administrators.

LINK TO FULL BILL TEXT:

EFFECTIVE DATE
August 8, 2018
q. **SB18-213: Transfer Academic Credits for Division of Youth Services Youths**

**PRIME SPONSORS:**

Leslie Herod (D), House District 8  
Beth Martinez Humenik (R), Senate District 24

**OVERVIEW:**

Under current law, when a student in out-of-home placement transfers schools, the sending school must certify the coursework that the student has fully or partially completed. The receiving school shall then apply all of that coursework toward the student’s graduation requirements. This bill applies all of the same requirements to cases where students transfer to a school from a “division of youth services placement.”

**KEY STATUTORY SECTIONS:**

SECTION 1. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-32-138, amend (5); and add (1)(b.5) as follows:

22-32-138. Out-of-home placement students - transfer procedures - absences - exemptions. (1) As used in this section, unless the context otherwise requires:

(b.5) "DIVISION OF YOUTH SERVICES PLACEMENT" MEANS A SECURE FACILITY OR CONTRACT COMMUNITY RESIDENTIAL PROGRAM OF THE DIVISION OF YOUTH SERVICES IN THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES.

(5) When a student in out-of-home placement transfers from one school to another school OR FROM A DIVISION OF YOUTH SERVICES PLACEMENT TO A SCHOOL, the sending school OR DIVISION OF YOUTH SERVICES PLACEMENT shall certify to the receiving school or school district the course work that the student has fully or partially completed while enrolled at the school. The receiving school or school district shall accept the student’s certified course work and the course work certified by previous schools AND DIVISION OF YOUTH SERVICES PLACEMENTS in which the student was enrolled, as reflected in the student's records, FOR COMPARABLE COURSE CREDIT, as if it had been completed at the receiving school. The receiving school or school district shall apply all of the student's certified course work toward completion of the student’s requirements for graduating from the grade level in which the student is enrolled at the receiving school or school district or for graduation from the receiving school or school district if the student is enrolled in twelfth grade. The receiving school or school district may award elective credit for any portion of the student's certified course work that is not aligned with the curriculum CORE ACADEMIC COURSE DESCRIPTIONS of the receiving school or school district.

**LINK TO FULL BILL TEXT:**

EFFECTIVE DATE:

August 8, 2018
r. **SB18-225: Definition of Early College High Schools**

**PRIME SPONSORS:**

Millie Hamner (D), House District 61  
Kent Lambert (R), Senate District 9

**OVERVIEW:**

This bill updates the definition of an “early college,” specifying that it must require students to be enrolled in both secondary and postsecondary courses during their four years of high school. After four years at the high school, the student should have completed the requirements for a high school diploma in addition to an associate’s degree, another postsecondary credential, or at least sixty credits toward the completion of a postsecondary credential. The state board shall review the schools currently classified as early colleges and determine whether they meet these new requirements and remove the designation accordingly. Schools that were designated as early colleges before passage of this bill may still receive funding for students enrolling in postsecondary courses after completing 4 years of high school for the 2018-19 and 2019-20 years.

**KEY STATUTORY SECTIONS:**

SECTION 1. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-35-103, amend the introductory portion and (10) as follows:

22-35-103. Definitions. As used in this article ARTICLE 35, unless the context otherwise requires:

(10) (a) “Early college” means a secondary school that provides only a curriculum that is designated in a manner that ensures that a REQUIRES EACH STUDENT TO ENROLL IN AND COMPLETE SECONDARY AND POSTSECONDARY COURSES WHILE ENROLLED IN THE FOUR YEARS OF HIGH SCHOOL SUCH THAT, UPON SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF THE CURRICULUM, THE student who successfully completes the curriculum will have completed either THE REQUIREMENTS OF A HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA AND an associate’s degree OR OTHER POSTSECONDARY CREDENTIAL or AT LEAST sixty credits toward the completion of a postsecondary credential. THE CURRICULUM MUST BE DESIGNED TO BE COMPLETED WITHIN FOUR YEARS.

(b) As SOON AS PRACTICABLE AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS SUBSECTION (10)(b), THE STATE BOARD SHALL REVIEW THE SECONDARY SCHOOLS DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (10)(a)(VI) OF THIS SECTION AND THE SECONDARY SCHOOLS DESIGNATED AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (10)(a)(VII) OF THIS SECTION AND CONFIRM WHETHER EACH SECONDARY SCHOOL MEETS THE CURRICULUM REQUIREMENTS SPECIFIED IN SUBSECTION (10)(a) OF THIS SECTION, AS AMENDED ON THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS SUBSECTION (10)(b). EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2018, A SECONDARY SCHOOL THAT THE STATE BOARD DETERMINES DOES NOT MEET THE CURRICULUM REQUIREMENTS SPECIFIED IN SUBSECTION (10)(a) OF THIS SECTION IS NO LONGER DESIGNATED AS AN EARLY COLLEGE. IN REVIEWING A SCHOOL’S DESIGNATION, THE STATE BOARD SHALL NOT REQUIRE THE SCHOOL TO SUBMIT DOCUMENTATION
BEYOND THE MINIMUM NECESSARY TO CONFIRM THAT THE SCHOOL’S CURRICULUM MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS SPECIFIED IN SUBSECTION (10)(a) OF THIS SECTION.

SECTION 2. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-54-103, amend the introductory portion; and add (10)(g) as follows:

(10) (g) FOR THE 2018-19 AND 2019-20 BUDGET YEARS, A DISTRICT MAY INCLUDE IN ITS PUPIL ENROLLMENT PUPILS WHO ARE ENROLLED IN A SCHOOL THAT WAS DESIGNATED PURSUANT TO SECTION 22-35-103 (10) AS AN EARLY COLLEGE BEFORE THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF SENATE BILL 18-225, ENACTED IN 2018, AND WHO, AFTER COMPLETING FOUR YEARS OF HIGH SCHOOL, ENROLL FOR THE 2018-19 OR 2019-20 BUDGET YEARS IN POSTSECONDARY COURSES.

LINK TO FULL BILL TEXT:


EFFECTIVE DATE:

June 6, 2018
## II. Bills Affecting Charter School Finance

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a. **HB18-1070: Additional Public School Capital Construction Funding**

**PRIME SPONSORS:**

Dave Young (D), House District 50 | Cole Wist (R), House District 37  
Ray Scott (R), Senate District 7 | Rachel Zenzinger (D), Senate District 19

**OVERVIEW:**

Under current law, the state treasurer shall credit the first 40 million dollars collected from the excise tax on retail marijuana to the Public School Capital Construction Assistance Fund. This bill amends the current law such that starting July 1, 2018, the state treasurer shall credit either the greater of 90% of the tax revenue collected annually or the first forty million dollars of collected revenue to the fund.

**KEY STATUTORY SECTIONS:**

SECTION 1. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-43.7-104, amend (2)(d) as follows:

22-43.7-104. Public school capital construction assistance fund - creation - crediting of moneys to fund - use of fund - emergency reserve - creation - reserve account - creation and use.

(2) (d) Beginning January 1, 2014, AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2018, the state treasurer, as provided in section 39-28.8-305 (1)(a), C.R.S., shall annually credit to the assistance fund the first forty million dollars received and collected from the excise tax on retail marijuana imposed pursuant to part 3 of article 28.8 of title 39.

C.R.S. ON AND AFTER JULY 1, 2018, THE STATE TREASURER, AS PROVIDED IN SECTION 39-28.8-305 (1)(a), SHALL ANNUALLY CREDIT TO THE ASSISTANCE FUND THE GREATER OF THE FIRST FORTY MILLION DOLLARS RECEIVED AND COLLECTED FROM THE EXCISE TAX ON RETAIL MARIJUANA IMPOSED PURSUANT TO PART 3 OF ARTICLE 28.8 OF TITLE 39 OR NINETY PERCENT OF THE MONEY RECEIVED AND COLLECTED FROM THE TAX. The state treasurer shall credit twelve and five-tenths percent of the amount annually credited pursuant to this paragraph (d) SUBSECTION (2)(d) to the charter school facilities assistance account, which account is created within the assistance fund.

22-43.7-104. Public school capital construction assistance fund - creation - crediting of moneys to fund - use of fund - emergency reserve - creation - reserve account - creation and use.

(2) (d) Beginning January 1, 2014, AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2018, the state treasurer, as provided in section 39-28.8-305 (1)(a), C.R.S., shall annually credit to the assistance fund the first forty million dollars received and collected from the excise tax on retail marijuana imposed pursuant to part 3 of article 28.8 of title 39. C.R.S. ON AND AFTER JULY 1, 2018, THE STATE TREASURER, AS PROVIDED IN SECTION 39-28.8-305 (1)(a), SHALL ANNUALLY CREDIT TO THE ASSISTANCE FUND THE GREATER OF THE FIRST FORTY MILLION DOLLARS RECEIVED AND COLLECTED FROM THE EXCISE TAX ON RETAIL MARIJUANA IMPOSED PURSUANT TO PART 3 OF ARTICLE 28.8 OF TITLE 39 OR NINETY PERCENT OF THE MONEY RECEIVED AND COLLECTED FROM THE TAX. The state treasurer shall credit twelve and five-tenths percent of the amount annually credited pursuant to this paragraph (d) SUBSECTION (2)(d) to the
charter school facilities assistance account, which account is created within the assistance fund.

SECTION 2. In Colorado Revised Statutes, amend 39-28.8-305, as follows: 39-28.8-305. Distribution of tax collected. (1) All money received and collected in payment of the tax imposed by file-provisions-of this part 3 shall be transmitted to the state treasurer, who shall distribute the money as follows:

(a) (I) UNTIL JUNE 30, 2018, the first forty million dollars received and collected annually shall be transferred to the public school capital construction assistance fund created by article 43.7 of title 22 C.R.S., or to any successor fund dedicated to a similar purpose; and (II) ON AND AFTER JULY 1, 2018, THE GREATER OF THE FIRST FORTY MILLION DOLLARS RECEIVED AND COLLECTED ANNUALLY OR NINETY PERCENT OF THE MONEY RECEIVED AND COLLECTED ANNUALLY SHALL BE TRANSFERRED TO THE PUBLIC SCHOOL CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION ASSISTANCE FUND CREATED BY ARTICLE 43.7 OF TITLE 22 OR TO ANY SUCCESSOR FUND DEDICATED TO A SIMILAR PURPOSE;

LINK TO FULL BILL TEXT:


EFFECTIVE DATE:

May 30, 2018
**b. HB18-1217: Income Tax Credit for Employer 529 Contributions**

**PRIME SPONSORS:**

Alec Garnett (D), House District 2 | Kevin Van Winkle (R), House District 43  
Robert Gardner (R), Senate District 12

**OVERVIEW:**

This bill establishes a credit against income taxes for employers who make a monetary contribution to a 529 qualified state tuition program account owned by an employee. The bill specifies that the credit may not exceed $500 for each employee per taxable year. Each quarter, CollegeInvest must provide a detailed report to the department of education with specific requirements outlined in the bill.

**KEY STATUTORY SECTIONS:**

SECTION 2. In Colorado Revised Statutes, add 39-22-539 as follows:

(3) FOR INCOME TAX YEARS COMMENCING ON OR AFTER JANUARY 1, 2019, BUT PRIOR TO JANUARY 1, 2022, IF AN EMPLOYER MAKES A CONTRIBUTION OF MONEY TO A 529 QUALIFIED STATE TUITION PROGRAM ACCOUNT OWNED BY AN EMPLOYEE DURING THE INCOME TAX YEAR, WITHOUT REGARD TO THE NAMED BENEFICIARY OF THE ACCOUNT, THEN THE EMPLOYER IS ALLOWED A CREDIT AGAINST THE INCOME TAXES IMPOSED BY THIS ARTICLE 22 IN AN AMOUNT EQUAL TO TWENTY PERCENT OF THE CONTRIBUTION. THE MAXIMUM TOTAL CREDIT AN EMPLOYER MAY CLAIM UNDER THIS SECTION FOR EACH EMPLOYEE IN A TAXABLE YEAR IS FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS.

(4) IF THE AMOUNT OF THE CREDIT ALLOWED IN THIS SECTION EXCEEDS THE AMOUNT OF INCOME TAXES OTHERWISE DUE ON THE EMPLOYER'S INCOME IN THE INCOME TAX YEAR FOR WHICH THE CREDIT IS BEING CLAIMED, THE AMOUNT OF THE CREDIT NOT USED AS AN OFFSET AGAINST INCOME TAXES IN THE CURRENT INCOME TAX YEAR MAY BE CARRIED FORWARD AND USED AS A CREDIT AGAINST SUBSEQUENT YEARS' INCOME TAX LIABILITY FOR A PERIOD NOT TO EXCEED THREE YEARS AND MUST BE APPLIED FIRST TO THE EASIEST INCOME TAX YEARS POSSIBLE. ANY CREDIT REMAINING AFTER THE PERIOD MAY NOT BE REFUNDED OR CREDITED TO THE EMPLOYER.

(5) No LATER THAN JANUARY 1, 2019, AND QUARTERLY THEREAFTER, COLLEGEINVEST SHALL PROVIDE THE DEPARTMENT WITH AN ELECTRONIC REPORT CONTAINING INFORMATION FOR 529 QUALIFIED STATE TUITION PROGRAM ACCOUNT HOLDERS, BENEFICIARIES, AND DONORS THAT THE DEPARTMENT DETERMINES IS NECESSARY FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE CREDIT ALLOWED IN THIS SECTION.

**LINK TO FULL BILL TEXT:**

EFFECTIVE DATE:

June 6, 2017
c. **HB18-1266: Career Development Success Program Expansion**

**PRIME SPONSORS:**

James Wilson (R), House District 60 | Daneya Esgar (D), House District 46
Nancy Todd (D), Senate District 28 | Owen Hill (R), Senate District 10

**OVERVIEW:**

Current law states that the department of education shall distribute to each district and the charter school institute $1000 per pupil who has successfully completed a qualified industry-credential program. Under this bill, a participating district or school shall not receive a distribution for more than 10% of the total completed industry certificates reported by districts and the institute. The bill requires all participating districts and charter schools to explain the program to students with the goal of increasing participation in the Career Development Success Program across all student subgroups. Annually, the department of education shall provide each nonparticipating district and charter school with detailed information about the Career Development Success Program.

Currently, the department is required to submit a report about the program, and this bill expands the information required in the report. The bill also moves the year of repeal from 2019 to 2024 and removes the title of a pilot program.

**KEY STATUTORY SECTIONS:**

SECTION 1. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-54-138, amend(1)(e), (1)(f), (1)(g), (2), (4)(a), (5)(a), (5)(b), (7), (8), and (9); and add(7.5) as follows:


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

(b) (I) For each budget year, the department of education shall first distribute to each district and to the institute an amount equal to one thousand dollars multiplied by the number of pupils reported by the district or the institute as successfully earning an industry certificate by completing a qualified industry-credential program; except that A PARTICIPATING DISTRICT OR PARTICIPATING CHARTER SCHOOL SHALL NOT RECEIVE A DISTRIBUTION FOR MORE THAN TEN PERCENT OF THE TOTAL NUMBER OF COMPLETED INDUSTRY CERTIFICATES REPORTED BY DISTRICTS AND THE INSTITUTE.

(7) Each participating district and each participating charter school is strongly encouraged to regularly communicate to all high school students the availability of qualified industry-credential programs, qualified internship, residency, or construction industry pre-apprenticeship or apprenticeship programs, and qualified advanced placement courses and the benefits a student receives as a result of successfully completing one of these programs or courses. THE PARTICIPATING DISTRICT AND PARTICIPATING CHARTER SCHOOL SHALL DESIGN THE COMMUNICATIONS WITH STUDENTS WITH THE GOAL OF INCREASING PARTICIPATION IN THESE PROGRAMS AND COURSES ACROSS ALL STUDENT SUBGROUPS.
(7.5) THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION SHALL AT LEAST ANNUALLY PROVIDE TO EACH DISTRICT AND CHARTER SCHOOL THAT DOES NOT PARTICIPATE IN THE CAREER DEVELOPMENT SUCCESS PROGRAM INFORMATION EXPLAINING THE PROGRAM, INCLUDING THE CREDENTIALS AND ADVANCED PLACEMENT COURSES FOR WHICH A PARTICIPATING DISTRICT OR PARTICIPATING CHARTER SCHOOL MAY RECEIVE A DISTRIBUTION, THE AMOUNTS OF THE DISTRIBUTIONS, AND THE REQUIREMENTS AND PROCEDURES FOR PARTICIPATING IN THE PROGRAM.

(9) This section is repealed, effective September 1, 2019 2024.

**LINK TO FULL BILL TEXT:**


**EFFECTIVE DATE:**

August 8, 2018
d. **HB18-1277: BEST Building Excellent Schools Today Financial Assistance Grant**

**PRIME SPONSORS:**

Jon Becker (R), House District 65 | Daneya Esgar (D), House District 46
John Kefalas (D), Senate District 14 | Randy Baumgardner (R), Senate District 8

**OVERVIEW:**

Starting with the 2019-2020 fiscal year, this bill states that applications submitted to the public school capital construction assistance board for money to construct a new school facility that will replace existing public school facilities or to reconstruct a current facility must include the applicant’s plan for the future use or disposition for any current public school facilities. The application must also include the implementation costs of this plan.

**KEY STATUTORY SECTIONS:**

SECTION 1. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-43.7-109, amend (4) introductory portion; and add (4)(e.5) as follows:

(e.5) IF THE APPLICATION IS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR STATE FISCAL YEAR 2019-20 OR FOR ANY SUBSEQUENT STATE FISCAL YEAR AND IS FOR EITHER THE CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITY THAT WILL REPLACE ONE OR MORE EXISTING PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITIES OR THE RECONSTRUCTION OR EXPANSION OF AN EXISTING PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITY AND IF THE APPLICANT WILL STOP USING AN EXISTING PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITY FOR ITS CURRENT USE IF IT RECEIVES THE GRANT, THE APPLICANT’S PLAN FOR THE FUTURE USE OR DISPOSITION OF THE EXISTING PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITY AND THE ESTIMATED COST OF IMPLEMENTING THE PLAN.

**LINK TO FULL BILL TEXT:**


**EFFECTIVE DATE:**

August 8, 2018
e. **HB18-1332: Collaborative Educator Preparation Program Grants**

**PRIME SPONSORS:**

Millie Hamner (D), House District 61 | Bob Rankin (R), House District 57  
Dominick Moreno (D), Senate District 21

**OVERVIEW:**

This bill creates the Collaborative Educator Grant Program to support partnerships and programs that target educator preparation initiatives. The Department of Education shall review the grant initiatives submitted by partnering educator preparation programs and local education providers and, depending on available appropriations, award one-time grants to the programs and local education providers. Each partnership receiving a grant shall submit a report to the department that details specific evaluation categories outlined in the bill. The department shall also submit a report to the joint budget committee evaluating the effectiveness of the grant program in relation to increasing educator quality and reducing the educator shortage in Colorado.

**KEY STATUTORY SECTIONS:**

SECTION 1. In Colorado Revised Statutes, repeal and reenact, with amendments, 23-1-120.9 as follows:

(3) THERE IS CREATED IN THE DEPARTMENT THE COLLABORATIVE EDUCATOR PREPARATION GRANT PROGRAM TO SUPPORT DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF TARGETED EDUCATOR PREPARATION INITIATIVES BY PARTNERSHIPS OF EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAMS AND LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDERS TO PREPARE EDUCATORS SPECIFICALLY FOR EMPLOYMENT BY THE PARTNERING LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDERS. SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL AWARD GRANTS TO PARTNERSHIPS OF LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDERS AND EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAMS TO FUND EDUCATOR PREPARATION INITIATIVES DEVELOPED AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (4) OF THIS SECTION.

(6) (a) EACH PARTNERSHIP THAT RECEIVES A GRANT SHALL SUBMIT A REPORT TO THE DEPARTMENT
CONCERNING IMPLEMENTATION OF THE GRANT INITIATIVE, WHICH MUST INCLUDE AT A MINIMUM: (I)
A DESCRIPTION OF THE STRATEGIES IMPLEMENTED USING THE GRANT MONEY; (II) THE NUMBER OF
EDUCATOR CANDIDATES AND NEWLY LICENSED EDUCATORS SERVED; AND (III) AN EVALUATION OF THE
SUCCESS OF THE STRATEGIES IN IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF PREPARATION, MEETING THE NEEDS OF
THE PARTNERING LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER, AND IMPROVING THE RETENTION OF EDUCATORS BY
THE PARTNERING LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER, TO THE EXTENT SUCH INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE.

(b) ON OR BEFORE NOVEMBER 1, 2020, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL PREPARE AND SUBMIT TO THE JOINT
BUDGET COMMITTEE AND THE EDUCATION COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND
THE SENATE, OR ANY SUCCESSOR COMMITTEES, A REPORT CONCERNING THE PAGE 4-HOUSE BILL 18-
1332 IMPLEMENTATION OF THE COLLABORATIVE EDUCATOR PREPARATION GRANT PROGRAM. THE
REPORT MUST INCLUDE A SUMMARY OF THE INFORMATION RECEIVED FROM GRANT RECIPIENTS
PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (6)(a) OF THIS SECTION AND AN EVALUATION OF THE EFFECT OF THE GRANT
PROGRAM IN INCREASING EDUCATOR QUALITY AND EDUCATOR RETENTION AND IN REDUCING THE
EDUCATOR SHORTAGE IN THE STATE.

LINK TO FULL BILL TEXT:


EFFECTIVE DATE:

April 30, 2018
f. **HB18-1379: Public School Finance**

**PRIME SPONSORS:**

Brittany Pettersen (D), House District 28 | James Wilson (R), House District 60
Owen Hill (R), Senate District 10

**OVERVIEW:**

This bill makes several adjustments to statewide public education funding:

- The bill raises the statewide base per pupil funding for the 2018-19 budget year to $6,768.77, adding $222.57 to account for inflation.
- For the 2018-19 budget year, the total program funding for all districts and the charter school institute shall be a minimum of $7,088,776,230. At mid-year, the legislative council will make necessary revisions to this amount based on actual enrollment, tax revenue, etc.
- $30 million shall be appropriated to the department of education as additional funding for rural districts and institute charter schools. 55% shall be distributed to large rural districts and the institute, and 45% shall be distributed to small rural districts.
- Starting in the 2018-19 budget year, an additional 1,000 children may participate in the Colorado Preschool Program.
- The distribution of money under the English Language Proficiency Act is revised such that the department of education shall distribute a portion of the appropriation to local education providers based on the percentage of certified English Language Learners.
- The meaning of “core course” is amended to include only middle and high school level courses, and core course level participation and performance reports shall be available until the 2012-21 year.

**KEY STATUTORY SECTIONS:**

SECTION 1. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-54-104, add (5)(a)(XXV) as follows:

(a) **(XXV) FOR THE 2018-19 BUDGET YEAR, THE STATEWIDE BASE PER PUPIL FUNDING IS $6,768.77, WHICH IS AN AMOUNT EQUAL TO $6,546.20, SUPPLEMENTED BY $222.57 TO ACCOUNT FOR INFLATION.**

SECTION 2. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-54-104, add (5)(g)(l)(l) as follows:

(l) **THAT, FOR THE 2018-19 BUDGET YEAR, THE SUM OF THE TOTAL PROGRAM FUNDING FOR ALL DISTRICTS, INCLUDING THE FUNDING FOR INSTITUTE CHARTER SCHOOLS, AFTER APPLICATION OF THE BUDGET STABILIZATION FACTOR, IS NOT LESS THAN SEVEN BILLION EIGHTY-EIGHT MILLION SEVEN HUNDRED SEVENTY-SIX THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED THIRTY DOLLARS ($7,088,776,230); EXCEPT THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND THE STAFF**

SECTION 3. In Colorado Revised Statutes, add 22-54-140 as follows:

(I) FOR A LARGE RURAL DISTRICT, AN AMOUNT EQUAL TO THIRTY MILLION DOLLARS MULTIPLIED BY THE PERCENTAGE SPECIFIED IN SUBSECTION (2)(a)(I) OF THIS SECTION AND THEN DIVIDED BY THE SUM OF THE TOTAL FUNDED PUPIL COUNT FOR THE 2017-18 BUDGET YEAR OF ALL LARGE RURAL DISTRICTS AND THE TOTAL STUDENT ENROLLMENT FOR THE 2017-18 BUDGET YEAR OF ALL ELIGIBLE INSTITUTE CHARTER SCHOOLS THAT HAVE A LARGE RURAL DISTRICT AS THE ACCOUNTING DISTRICT; OR

(II) FOR A SMALL RURAL DISTRICT, AN AMOUNT EQUAL TO THIRTY MILLION DOLLARS MULTIPLIED BY THE PERCENTAGE SPECIFIED IN SUBSECTION (2)(a)(II) OF THIS SECTION AND THEN DIVIDED BY THE SUM OF THE TOTAL FUNDED PUPIL COUNT FOR THE 2017-18 BUDGET YEAR OF ALL SMALL RURAL DISTRICTS AND THE TOTAL STUDENT ENROLLMENT FOR THE 2017-18 BUDGET YEAR OF ALL ELIGIBLE INSTITUTE CHARTER SCHOOLS THAT HAVE A SMALL RURAL DISTRICT AS THE ACCOUNTING DISTRICT.

(2) (a) FOR THE 2018-19 BUDGET YEAR, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SHALL APPROPRIATE THIRTY MILLION DOLLARS TO THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR LARGE RURAL DISTRICTS, SMALL RURAL DISTRICTS, AND INSTITUTE CHARTER SCHOOLS. THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION SHALL DISTRIBUTE: (I) FIFTY-FIVE PERCENT OF THE MONEY APPROPRIATED TO LARGE RURAL DISTRICTS AND TO ELIGIBLE INSTITUTE CHARTER SCHOOLS AS PROVIDED IN THIS SECTION; AND (II) FORTY-FIVE PERCENT OF THE MONEY APPROPRIATED TO SMALL RURAL DISTRICTS AND TO ELIGIBLE INSTITUTE CHARTER SCHOOLS AS PROVIDED IN THIS SECTION. (b) LARGE RURAL DISTRICTS, SMALL RURAL DISTRICTS, DISTRICT CHARTER SCHOOLS, AND ELIGIBLE INSTITUTE CHARTER SCHOOLS THAT RECEIVE MONEY PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION MAY USE THE MONEY ONLY FOR NONRECURRING EXPENSES FOR THE PURPOSE OF IMPROVING STUDENT LEARNING AND THE EDUCATIONAL ENVIRONMENT, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO INITIATIVES THAT HELP ATTRACT EDUCATOR EMPLOYEES, INITIATIVES TO IMPROVE EDUCATOR TRAINING, INITIATIVES TO RETAIN EDUCATORS, LOAN FORGIVENESS FOR EDUCATORS AND STAFF, AND TECHNOLOGY.

SECTION 4. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-28-104.3, add (1)(a)(III) as follows:
(III) FOR THE 2018-19 BUDGET YEAR, AND EACH BUDGET YEAR THEREAFTER, AN ADDITIONAL ONE THOUSAND CHILDREN MAY ANNUALLY PARTICIPATE IN THE COLORADO PRESCHOOL PROGRAM, FOR A TOTAL OF TWENTY-NINE THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED SIXTY CHILDREN WHO MAY ANNUALLY PARTICIPATE IN THE COLORADO PRESCHOOL PROGRAM.

SECTION 5. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-24-104, amend (3)(a), (3)(b)(I), and (3)(c)(I) as follows:

(b) (I) The department shall distribute the portion of the amount annually appropriated pursuant to this SUBSECTION (3)(a) OF THIS SECTION to local education providers to provide services to BASED ON THE PERCENTAGE OF CERTIFIED English language learners WHO ARE ELIGIBLE FOR FUNDING PURSUANT TO THE TIME LIMIT SPECIFIED IN SUBSECTION (2) OF THIS SECTION AND who comprehend and speak English and one or more other languages but whose English language development and comprehension is: (A) At or below the mean of students enrolled in the local education provider or below the mean or equivalent on a nationally standardized test; or (B) Below the acceptable proficiency level based on the assessments identified by the department pursuant to section 22-24-106 (1)(a).

SECTION 6. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-11-503.5, amend (2)(a) and (4) as follows:

(b) "Core course" means a course in English, mathematics, science, or social studies AT THE MIDDLE OR HIGH SCHOOL LEVEL.

LINK TO FULL BILL TEXT:


EFFECTIVE DATE:

May 24, 2018
g. **HB18-1396: Advanced Placement Exam Fee Grant Program**

**PRIME SPONSORS:**

Janet Buckner (D), House District 40  
Kevin Priola (R), Senate District 25 | Dominick Moreno (D), Senate District 21

**OVERVIEW:**

The bill creates the advanced placement exam fee grant program (grant program) in the department of education. The grant program provides funds to high schools to reduce or eliminate the advanced placement exam fee for low-income students.

**KEY STATUTORY SECTIONS:**

22-95.5-101. Definitions. AS USED IN THIS ARTICLE 95.5, UNLESS THE CONTEXT OTHERWISE REQUIRES:

(2) "ELIGIBLE STUDENT" MEANS A STUDENT ENROLLED IN A HIGH SCHOOL WHO IS A LOW-INCOME INDIVIDUAL, AS DEFINED IN 20 U.S.C. SEC. 6537, AND WHO IS PLANNING TO TAKE ONE OR MORE ADVANCED PLACEMENT EXAMS.

22-95.5-102. Advanced placement exam fee grant program -creation - rules.

(1) THERE IS CREATED IN THE DEPARTMENT THE ADVANCED PLACEMENT EXAM FEE GRANT PROGRAM TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF ELIGIBLE STUDENTS WHO TAKE ADVANCED PLACEMENT EXAMS AND RECEIVE SCORES FOR WHICH COLLEGE ACADEMIC CREDIT IS AWARDED BY PROVIDING FUNDS TO HIGH SCHOOLS TO PAY ALL OR A PORTION OF ADVANCED PLACEMENT EXAM FEES ON BEHALF OF ELIGIBLE STUDENTS.

(2) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ADMINISTER THE GRANT PROGRAM IN ACCORDANCE WITH STATE BOARD RULES. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL:

(a) ACCEPT AND REVIEW GRANT APPLICATIONS RECEIVED FROM HIGH SCHOOLS;

(b) DETERMINE THE AMOUNT, BASED ON AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS, THAT WILL BE AWARDED FOR EACH ADVANCED PLACEMENT EXAM THAT WILL BE ADMINISTERED TO AN ELIGIBLE STUDENT; AND

(c) AWARD GRANTS, AT THE AMOUNT SET FOR EACH EXAM THAT WILL BE ADMINISTERED TO AN ELIGIBLE STUDENT, DETERMINED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (2)(b) OF THIS SECTION, TO EACH HIGH SCHOOL THAT HAS SUBMITTED AN APPLICATION.

(3) THE AMOUNT SET BY THE DEPARTMENT FOR EACH ADVANCED PLACEMENT EXAM PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (2)(b) OF THIS SECTION MUST BE THE SAME FOR EACH EXAM, REGARDLESS OF THE SUBJECT OF THE EXAM.

(4) PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 4 OF TITLE 24, THE STATE BOARD SHALL PROMULGATE RULES TO IMPLEMENT THE GRANT PROGRAM, INCLUDING RULES RELATING TO:
(a) THE APPLICATION PROCESS, INCLUDING APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS AND DEADLINES;

(b) A PROCESS FOR VERIFYING STUDENT ELIGIBILITY; AND

(c) DEADLINES FOR THE DEPARTMENT TO AWARD GRANTS.

(5) A HIGH SCHOOL THAT RECEIVES AN AWARD PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION SHALL USE THE ENTIRE AMOUNT AWARDED TO PAY ALL OR A PORTION OF ADVANCED PLACEMENT EXAM FEES ON BEHALF OF ELIGIBLE STUDENTS WHO WILL TAKE AN ADVANCED PLACEMENT EXAM IN THE AMOUNT SET FOR EACH EXAM BY THE DEPARTMENT PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (2)(b) OF THIS SECTION.

**LINK TO FULL BILL TEXT:**


**EFFECTIVE DATE:**

August 8, 2018
h. **HB18-1412: Retaining Teachers Grant Program**

**PRIME SPONSORS:**

Janet Buckner (D), House District 40 | Paul Lundeen (R), House District 19
Owen Hill (R), Senate District 10

**OVERVIEW:**

Under this bill, the department of education shall create The Retaining Teachers Grant Program to assist local education providers in retaining teachers. The grant money must be applied to one or more of the programs specified in the bill, including job-sharing for teachers, robust teacher induction programs, and increased mentorship for teachers. A local application provider must submit a grant application to the department of education, and if awarded, the grant will continue for three budget years.

**KEY STATUTORY SECTIONS:**

SECTION 1. In Colorado Revised Statutes, add article 98 to title 22 as follows:

22-98-103. Retaining teachers grant program - created - applications - rules. (1) THERE IS CREATED IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION THE RETAINING TEACHERS GRANT PROGRAM TO ASSIST LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDERS IN RETAINING TEACHERS BY IMPLEMENTING ONE OR MORE OF THE INITIATIVES DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (2) OF THIS SECTION. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ADMINISTER THE GRANT PROGRAM BY REVIEWING GRANT APPLICATIONS AND RECOMMENDING GRANT RECIPIENTS AND THE AMOUNT OF EACH GRANT TO THE STATE BOARD. SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS, THE STATE BOARD, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE DEPARTMENT, SHALL AWARD THE GRANTS FROM MONEY APPROPRIATED TO THE FUND. EACH GRANT CONTINUES FOR UP TO THREE YEARS, SUBJECT TO REVIEW BY THE DEPARTMENT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (6) OF THIS SECTION.

(2) THE STATE BOARD SHALL AWARD GRANTS THROUGH THE GRANT PROGRAM TO IMPLEMENT ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING INITIATIVES THAT ARE DESIGNED TO IMPROVE THE ABILITY OF A LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER TO RETAIN TEACHERS: (a) JOB-SHARING FOR TEACHERS; (b) PROVIDING ON-SITE EARLY CHILDHOOD CARE SERVICES FOR FAMILY MEMBERS OF EDUCATORS; (c) ROBUST TEACHER INDUCTION PROGRAMS FOR NEW TEACHERS; (d) PEER REVIEW AND MENTORSHIP PROGRAMS AND OTHER CAREER DEVELOPMENT AND ADVANCEMENT STRATEGIES; (e) PROGRAMS TO PROVIDE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR THE CREATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF CAREER ADVANCEMENT PATHWAYS FOR MASTER TEACHER AND TEACHER LEADERSHIP POSITIONS FOR EFFECTIVE TEACHERS; (f) INCENTIVE PROGRAMS TO RECOGNIZE AND RETAIN HIGHLY EFFECTIVE TEACHERS; (g) REDUCED TEACHER-STUDENT CONTACT HOURS AND INCREASED PLANNING, MENTORING, AND COLLABORATION TIME FOR NEW TEACHERS AND MENTOR TEACHERS; AND (h) INCREASED USE OF TECHNOLOGY IN BLENDED LEARNING INITIATIVES TO CREATE OPPORTUNITIES AND FINANCIAL INCENTIVES FOR TEACHER DEVELOPMENT AND CAREER ADVANCEMENT AND COST SAVINGS TO SUPPORT SALARY INCREASES.
(6) (a) EACH GRANT AWARDED THROUGH THE GRANT PROGRAM CONTINUES FOR THREE BUDGET YEARS, SUBJECT TO ANNUAL REVIEW BY THE DEPARTMENT AND RENEWAL BY THE STATE BOARD. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ANNUALLY REVIEW THE PROGRESS ACHIEVED BY EACH GRANT RECIPIENT IN ATTAINING THE GOALS OF THE INITIATIVE FUNDED BY THE GRANT AND RECOMMEND TO THE STATE BOARD THAT THE GRANT BE EXTENDED OR REVOKED. TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE DEPARTMENT, THE STATE BOARD SHALL EXTEND THE GRANT ONLY IF THE STATE BOARD DETERMINES THAT THE GRANT RECIPIENT IS MAKING ADEQUATE PROGRESS TOWARD ACHIEVING THE GOALS OF THE INITIATIVE.

LINK TO FULL BILL TEXT:


EFFECTIVE DATE:

May 24, 2018
i. **HB18-1413: Create School Safety Grant Program**

**PRIME SPONSORS:**

Pete Lee (D), House District 18 | Patrick Neville (R), House District 45
Rachel Zenzinger (D), Senate District 19

**OVERVIEW:**

This bill creates the “Enhance School Safety Incident Response Grant Program.” This grant program is created to improve school safety incident response by providing funding for training programs, safety incident research, upgraded technology and infrastructure, among other things. Applications for the grant program are due by October 1, and they must include specific information outlined in the bill. All grant recipients must submit a report to the Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management detailing the use of their funding.

**KEY STATUTORY SECTIONS:**

SECTION 1. In Colorado Revised Statutes, add part 22 to article 33.5 of title 24 as follows:

24-33.5-2203. Enhance school safety incident response grant program - creation - guidelines. (1) THERE IS HEREBY CREATED IN THE DIVISION THE ENHANCE SCHOOL SAFETY INCIDENT RESPONSE GRANT PROGRAM TO PROVIDE FUNDING FOR RESEARCH, PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT, AND TRAINING TO IMPROVE SCHOOL SAFETY INCIDENT RESPONSE.

(2) GRANT RECIPIENTS MAY USE THE MONEY RECEIVED THROUGH THE GRANT PROGRAM FOR THE FOLLOWING PURPOSES:

(a) DEVELOPING AND PROVIDING TRAINING PROGRAMS, CURRICULUMS, AND SEMINARS RELATED TO SCHOOL SAFETY INCIDENT RESPONSE; (b) DEVELOPING BEST PRACTICES AND PROTOCOLS RELATED TO SCHOOL SAFETY INCIDENT RESPONSE; (c) CONDUCTING RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT RELATING TO SCHOOL SAFETY INCIDENT RESPONSE; AND (d) UPGRADING TECHNOLOGY AND INFRASTRUCTURE USED TO PROVIDE TRAINING AND EDUCATION RELATED TO SCHOOL SAFETY INCIDENT RESPONSE. (3) THE DIVISION SHALL ADMINISTER THE GRANT PROGRAM AND, SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS, SHALL AWARD GRANTS AS PROVIDED IN THIS PART 22. SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS, GRANTS SHALL BE PAID OUT OF MONEY APPROPRIATED FOR THE GRANT PROGRAM AS PROVIDED IN SECTION 24-33.5-2206. (4) THE DIVISION SHALL IMPLEMENT THE GRANT PROGRAM IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS PART 22 AND SHALL ESTABLISH GUIDELINES AS NECESSARY TO ACCOMPLISH THE PURPOSES OF THIS PART 22.

24-33.5-2204. Enhance school safety incident response grant program - application - criteria - awards.

(1) To RECEIVE A GRANT, AN APPLICANT MUST SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO THE DIVISION IN THE FORM PRESCRIBED BY THE DIVISION ON OR BEFORE OCTOBER 1 EACH YEAR OF THE GRANT PROGRAM.
24-33.5-2205. Reporting requirements. ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 1, 2019, AND ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 1 EACH YEAR THEREAFTER, EACH ORGANIZATION THAT RECEIVES A GRANT THROUGH THE GRANT PROGRAM SHALL SUBMIT A REPORT TO THE DIVISION. AT A MINIMUM, THE REPORT MUST DOCUMENT THE ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED, SERVICES OR TRAININGS PROVIDED, TOOLS OR PROTOCOLS DEVELOPED, AND SUCH OTHER INFORMATION AS THE DIVISION MAY REQUEST TO MONITOR THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE GRANT.

**LINK TO FULL BILL TEXT:**


**EFFECTIVE DATE:**

May 24, 2018
SB18-013: Expand Child Nutrition School Lunch Protection Act

PRIME SPONSORS:
Dafna Michaelson Jenet (D), House District 30
Rhonda Fields (D), Senate District 29 | Robert Gardner (R), Senate District 12

OVERVIEW:
Under this bill, the existing Child Nutrition School Lunch Protection Program is expanded to include 6th, 7th and 8th grade. The general assembly shall appropriate a separate line item of between $500,000 and $750,000 to the department of education annually for the Child Nutrition School Lunch Protection Program. This money shall allow for food authorities of participating schools to provide sixth-eighth grade students participating in the school lunch program with free lunch.

KEY STATUTORY SECTIONS:
SECTION 1. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-82.9-104, amend (4)(a) as follows:

COMMENCING IN FISCAL YEAR 2018-19 AND FOR EACH FISCAL YEAR THEREAFTER, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SHALL ANNUALLY APPROPRIATE TO THE SEPARATE LINE ITEM IN THE ANNUAL GENERAL APPROPRIATION ACT FOR THE PROGRAM AN AMOUNT OF NOT LESS THAN FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS AND NOT MORE THAN SEVEN HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS TO THE DEPARTMENT TO ALLOW SCHOOL FOOD AUTHORITIES TO PROVIDE LUNCHES AT NO CHARGE FOR CHILDREN IN SIXTH GRADE THROUGH EIGHTH GRADE WHO ARE PARTICIPATING IN THE SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM AND WHO WOULD OTHERWISE BE REQUIRED TO PAY A REDUCED PRICE FOR LUNCH. THIS SUBSECTION (1.5) ONLY APPLIES TO SCHOOL FOOD AUTHORITIES THAT ELECT TO ELIMINATE THE REDUCED PRICE PAID BY COLORADO STUDENTS IN SIXTH GRADE THROUGH EIGHTH GRADE. THE APPROPRIATION TO THE DEPARTMENT FOR THIS SUBSECTION (1.5) SHALL BE IN ADDITION TO ANY APPROPRIATION MADE BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY PURSUANT TO SECTION 22-54-123 OR 22-54-123.5 (1) AND PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (1) OF THIS SECTION. IN ADDITION TO THE AUTHORITY GRANTED THE DEPARTMENT TO EXPEND MONEY APPROPRIATED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (1) OF THIS SECTION TO OFFSET THE DIRECT AND INDIRECT COSTS INCURRED BY THE DEPARTMENT IN IMPLEMENTING THE PROGRAM, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY MAY AUTHORIZE THE DEPARTMENT TO EXPEND A PORTION OF THE MONEY APPROPRIATED PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION (1.5) TO OFFSET ANY INCREASE IN THE DEPARTMENT'S DIRECT AND INDIRECT COSTS INCURRED BY THE EXPANSION OF THE PROGRAM PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION (1.5).

LINK TO FULL BILL TEXT:
EFFECTIVE DATE:

May 29, 2018
k. **SB18-085: Financial Incentives for Education in Rural Areas**

**PRIME SPONSORS:**

Barbara McLachlan (D), House District 59  
Nancy Todd (D), Senate District 28

**OVERVIEW:**

This bill expands the current 20 financial annual stipends awarded to teachers in rural schools to 60 annual stipends. Additionally, the bill allows the stipend to be applied towards an alternative teacher licensure program if the program leads to initial licensure and full time employment in a Colorado rural school district. Upon receiving a stipend, the teacher or special service provider must become and remain employed in a Colorado rural school district for a minimum of three years.

**KEY STATUTORY SECTIONS:**

**SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, amend 23-76-101 as follows:

23-76-101. Legislative declaration. (1) The general assembly finds that:

(d) APPROVED ALTERNATIVE TEACHER PREPARATION PROGRAMS ARE CRITICAL FOR FILLING TEACHER SHORTAGES IN RURAL SCHOOLS AND SCHOOL DISTRICTS ACROSS COLORADO. RURAL SCHOOL LEADERS ARE ABLE TO PLACE QUALIFIED TEACHER CANDIDATES, INCLUDING MEMBERS OF THEIR OWN COMMUNITIES, IN CLASSROOMS THROUGH THESE ALTERNATIVE TEACHER PREPARATION PROGRAMS. SUCH PROGRAMS PROVIDE THE NECESSARY SUPPORT AND COACHING TO AN INDIVIDUAL DURING HIS OR HER YEAR-LONG TRAINING AND ALLOW ALTERNATIVE TEACHER CANDIDATES TO EARN INITIAL TEACHER LICENSURE WHILE SERVING IN CLASSROOMS. BY HELPING TO FILL IMMEDIATE NEEDS IN HARD-TO-STAFF RURAL SCHOOLS AND SCHOOL DISTRICTS, AND BY RECEIVING THE NECESSARY TRAINING, ALTERNATIVE TEACHER CANDIDATES ARE ABLE TO CREATE A POSITIVE, LONGITUDINAL IMPACT ON STUDENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES.

**SECTION 3.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, amend 23-76-106 as follows:

23-76-106. National board certified teacher stipends - concurrent enrollment stipends. (1) The department of higher education shall annually provide up to twenty-sixty financial stipends, not to exceed six thousand dollars each, to any:

(c) TEACHER COMPLETING AN ALTERNATIVE LICENSURE PROGRAM APPROVED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 60.5 OF TITLE 22 THAT LEADS TO INITIAL LICENSURE IN THE STATE OF COLORADO AND FULL-TIME EMPLOYMENT AS A TEACHER IN A RURAL SCHOOL OR SCHOOL DISTRICT THAT SERVES RURAL SCHOOLS; OR (d) INDIVIDUAL SEEKING TO COMPLETE THE REQUIRED COURSE WORK LEADING TO CERTIFICATION AS A SPECIAL SERVICES PROVIDER AND EMPLOYMENT IN A RURAL SCHOOL OR SCHOOL DISTRICT THAT IS PROVIDING SERVICES TO RURAL SCHOOLS.
(4) A teacher OR A SPECIAL SERVICES PROVIDER who receives a stipend pursuant to this section must commit to teach for a total BECOME OR REMAIN EMPLOYED IN A RURAL SCHOOL OR SCHOOL DISTRICT THAT SERVES RURAL SCHOOLS IN THE STATE OF COLORADO FOR A MINIMUM of three years in his or her rural school or school district.

**LINK TO FULL BILL TEXT:**


**EFFECTIVE DATE:**

August 8, 2018
I. **SB18-158: School Access to Interoperable Communication Technology**

**PRIME SPONSORS:**

Crisanta Duran (D), House District 5 | Marc Catlin (R), House District 58
Don Coram (R), Senate District 6 | Leroy Garcia (D), Senate District 3

**OVERVIEW:**

This bill creates the School Access for Emergency Response Grant Program to improve communication between schools and first responders using interoperable technology. The bill specifically outlines appropriate uses for the grant money including hardware, software, radio capacity expansion, and training in case of an emergency. To apply for a grant, a school must have a memorandum of understanding with its regional public safety 911 answering point or the local law enforcement agency. To receive a grant, a school must submit an application with specific requirements outlined in the bill. A grant selection committee shall be created to help determine whether a grant applicant satisfies the criteria to receive a grant. By December 31, 2018, and September 1st of each following year, the director or director’s designee shall award the grants to the recipients. By January 15th of each year, the grant recipients shall submit a report to the Division of Homeland Security with specific requirements outlined in the bill. The grant program cash fund shall be created in the state treasury and shall include a specified amount transferred from the state treasurer for the next six years.

**KEY STATUTORY SECTIONS:**

SECTION 1. In Colorado Revised Statutes, add part 21 to article 33.5 of title 24 as follows:

(2) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FURTHER FINDS THAT THE PURPOSE OF THIS PART 21 IS TO CREATE THE SCHOOL ACCESS FOR EMERGENCY RESPONSE GRANT PROGRAM TO PROVIDE SCHOOLS AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNICATIONS NETWORKS WITH MONEY FOR NEEDED HARDWARE, SOFTWARE, AND TRAINING SO THAT WHEN AN EMERGENCY HAPPENS, DISPATCHERS CAN ACTIVATE THE TECHNOLOGY OVER BOTH THE RADIO SYSTEM AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS NETWORKS, TRAINED SCHOOL-SAFETY TEAMS CAN CONNECT ON THE RADIO AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS DEVICES ACROSS THE DISTRICT, AND FIRST RESPONDERS CAN ARRIVE ON THE SCENE INFORMED WITH THE MOST UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION.

(1) THERE IS HEREBY CREATED IN THE DEPARTMENT IN THE DIVISION OF HOMELAND SECURITY AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT THE SCHOOL ACCESS FOR EMERGENCY RESPONSE GRANT PROGRAM TO PROVIDE GRANTS TO SCHOOLS AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM OWNERS TO PROVIDE FUNDING FOR NEEDED INTEROPERABLE COMMUNICATION HARDWARE, SOFTWARE, EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE, AND TRAINING TO ALLOW FOR SEAMLESS COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN NEW OR EXISTING SCHOOL COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS AND FIRST RESPONDER COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS.

(2) GRANT RECIPIENTS MAY USE THE MONEY RECEIVED THROUGH THE GRANT PROGRAM FOR THE FOLLOWING PURPOSES: (a) To deliver training programs to teach district-based security
PERSONNEL AND APPROPRIATE SCHOOL PERSONNEL BASIC PROCEDURES FOR EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATIONS WITH FIRST RESPONDERS IN AN EMERGENCY; (b) To IMPLEMENT AN INTEROPERABLE TECHNOLOGY SOLUTION TO PROVIDE OR TO UPGRADE THE FOLLOWING: (I) A SYSTEM OR TECHNOLOGY THAT CAN BE ACTIVATED AND DEACTIVATED BY THE PUBLIC SAFETY 911 ANSWERING POINT, THE NETWORK ADMINISTRATOR, AND THE SCHOOL OVER BOTH THE RADIO SYSTEM AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS NETWORKS; (II) RADIO AND OTHER TECHNOLOGY BRIDGE ABILITY THAT IS NONRADIO VENDOR SPECIFIC FOR CONNECTING INDEPENDENT SCHOOL NETWORKS ACROSS THE SCHOOL DISTRICT AND PUBLIC SAFETY NETWORKS IN THE REGION; AND (III) AN INTEROPERABILITY SOLUTION THAT OPERATES OVER RADIO NETWORKS AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS NETWORKS; PAGE 5-SENATE BILL 18-158 (c) To MAINTAIN OR IMPROVE A SCHOOL'S EXISTING INTEROPERABLE COMMUNICATION HARDWARE OR SOFTWARE OR TO PROVIDE INTEROPERABLE COMMUNICATION HARDWARE AND SOFTWARE TO A SCHOOL THAT DOES NOT YET HAVE IT; AND (d) FOR ANY NECESSARY RADIO SYSTEM CAPACITY EXPANSIONS WHERE SCHOOL LOADING HAS BEEN DETERMINED TO HAVE A SIGNIFICANT IMPACT ON PUBLIC SAFETY SYSTEM LOADING.

(5) THERE IS HEREBY CREATED THE GRANT SELECTION COMMITTEE TO WORK WITH THE DIRECTOR OR THE DIRECTOR'S DESIGNEE TO DETERMINE WHETHER A GRANT APPLICANT SATISFIES THE CRITERIA TO RECEIVE A GRANT. THE COMMITTEE SHALL BE COMPOSED OF SEVEN MEMBERS APPOINTED AS SPECIFIED IN THIS SUBSECTION (5). THE MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE SHALL SERVE WITHOUT COMPENSATION; EXCEPT THAT COMMITTEE MEMBERS SHALL NOT SUFFER ANY LOSS OF SALARY WHILE PARTICIPATING IN THE ACTIVITIES OF THE COMMITTEE. MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE SHALL MEET AS OFTEN AS DEEMED NECESSARY BY THE DIRECTOR OR THE DIRECTOR'S DESIGNEE TO ACCOMPLISH THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE. MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE SHALL BE APPOINTED ON OR BEFORE JUNE 1, 2018, AS FOLLOWS:

(1) A SCHOOL IS REQUIRED TO HAVE A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH ITS REGIONAL PUBLIC SAFETY 911 ANSWERING POINT OR THE LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY OR AGENCIES THAT SERVE THE SCHOOL FOR COMMUNICATIONS INTEROPERABILITY TO BE ELIGIBLE TO APPLY FOR A GRANT. TO RECEIVE A GRANT, A SCHOOL MUST SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO THE DIVISION OF HOMELAND SECURITY AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT IN ACCORDANCE WITH RULES PROMULGATED BY THE DIRECTOR.

(3) SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS, ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 31, 2018, AND ON OR BEFORE SEPTEMBER 1 EACH YEAR THEREAFTER FOR THE DURATION OF THE GRANT PROGRAM, THE DIRECTOR OR THE DIRECTOR'S DESIGNEE SHALL AWARD GRANTS AS PROVIDED IN THIS PART 21. THE DIRECTOR OR THE DIRECTOR'S DESIGNEE SHALL DISTRIBUTE THE GRANT MONEY WITHIN THIRTY DAYS AFTER THE GRANTS ARE AWARDED.

24-33.5-2106. Reporting requirements. (1) ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 15, 2020, AND ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 15 EACH YEAR THEREAFTER FOR THE DURATION OF THE GRANT PROGRAM, EACH SCHOOL THAT RECEIVES A GRANT THROUGH THE GRANT PROGRAM SHALL SUBMIT A REPORT TO THE DIVISION OF HOMELAND SECURITY AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT.
24-33.5-2107. School access for emergency response grant program cash fund. (1) (a) THE SCHOOL ACCESS FOR EMERGENCY RESPONSE GRANT PROGRAM CASH FUND IS HEREBY CREATED IN THE STATE TREASURY. THE FUND CONSISTS OF MONEY TRANSFERRED TO THE FUND PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (1)(b) OF THIS SECTION AND ANY OTHER MONEY THAT THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY MAY APPROPRIATE TO THE FUND.

**LINK TO FULL BILL TEXT:**


**EFFECTIVE DATE:**

May 16, 2018
**m. SB18-269: School Security Disbursement Program**

**PRIME SPONSORS:**

Patrick Neville (R), House District 45 | Jeff Bridges (D), House District 3
Tim Neville (R), Senate District 16 | Dominick Moreno (D), Senate District 21

**OVERVIEW:**

This bill requires the department of education to create a school security disbursement program to provide local education providers with money for security improvement within public schools. The disbursement must be used for one of the following:

1. Capital construction to improve the safety of a public school facility or vehicle.
2. Training in student threat assessment.
3. Training for on-site school resource officers.
4. School emergency response training for staff.

The local education provider must submit an application for the disbursement to the department with specific requirements outlined in the bill. On or before August 1 of each year beginning in 2019, the education provider must submit a report to the department summarizing the use of the money received.

**KEY STATUTORY SECTIONS:**

SECTION 1. In Colorado Revised Statutes, add 24-33.5-1810 as follows:

(2) THERE IS CREATED IN THE DEPARTMENT THE SCHOOL SECURITY DISBURSEMENT PROGRAM TO PROVIDE DISBURSEMENTS TO LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDERS TO USE FOR THE PURPOSES DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (3) OF THIS SECTION TO IMPROVE SECURITY WITHIN PUBLIC SCHOOLS. SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL DISBURSE MONEY TO APPLICANTS AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (5) OF THIS SECTION FROM MONEY CREDITED TO THE SCHOOL SECURITY DISBURSEMENT PROGRAM ACCOUNT WITHIN THE SCHOOL SAFETY RESOURCE CENTER CASHFUND CREATED IN SECTION 24-33.5-1807. IT IS THE INTENT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY THAT THE DEPARTMENT DISTRIBUTE THE MONEY CREDITED TO THE SCHOOL SECURITY DISBURSEMENT PROGRAM ACCOUNT FOR THE DISBURSEMENT PROGRAM AS QUICKLY AS PRACTICABLE BASED ON THE RECEIPT OF QUALIFYING APPLICATIONS.

(3) A LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER THAT RECEIVES A DISBURSEMENT FROM THE DISBURSEMENT PROGRAM MAY USE THE DISBURSED MONEY ONLY FOR THE FOLLOWING PURPOSES:

(a) CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION THAT IMPROVES THE SECURITY OF A PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITY OR PUBLIC SCHOOL VEHICLE, INCLUDING ANY STRUCTURE OR INSTALLED HARDWARE, DEVICE, OR EQUIPMENT THAT PROTECTS A PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITY OR PUBLIC SCHOOL VEHICLE AND THE STUDENTS, EDUCATORS, AND OTHER INDIVIDUALS WHO ATTEND, WORK IN, OR VISIT A PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITY OR ARE TRANSPORTED IN A PUBLIC SCHOOL VEHICLE FROM THREATS OF PHYSICAL HARM INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO ANY STRUCTURE OR INSTALLED HARDWARE, DEVICE, OR EQUIPMENT THAT...
(b) TRAINING IN STUDENT THREAT ASSESSMENT, WHICH TRAINING IS PROVIDED TO ALL SCHOOL
BUILDING STAFF WHO HAVE CONTACT WITH STUDENTS;
(c) TRAINING FOR ON-SITE SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS EMPLOYED BY THE LOCAL EDUCATION
PROVIDER;
(d) SCHOOL EMERGENCY RESPONSE TRAINING FOR ALL SCHOOL BUILDING STAFF.

(4) A LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER, INCLUDING ANY COMBINATION OF LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDERS
WHO WISH TO APPLY TOGETHER AS A SINGLE, REGIONAL APPLICANT, MAY APPLY FOR A
DISBURSEMENT BY SUBMITTING AN APPLICATION TO THE DEPARTMENT THAT INCLUDES THE
FOLLOWING INFORMATION...

(5) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL REVIEW EACH APPLICATION RECEIVED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (4) OF
THIS SECTION AND, SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS, SHALL DISBURSE MONEY TO THE
APPLICANT IF THE DEPARTMENT DETERMINES THAT THE APPLICATION MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS
SPECIFIED IN SUBSECTION (4) OF THIS SECTION AND THE PURPOSE OR PURPOSES FOR WHICH THE
APPLICANT INTENDS TO USE THE DISBURSED MONEY IS LIKELY TO IMPROVE SECURITY IN PUBLIC
SCHOOL FACILITIES OR VEHICLES. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL GIVE PRIORITY TO APPLICANTS THAT
COMMIT TO PROVIDING FINANCIAL RESOURCES TO MATCH THE AMOUNT OF THE DISBURSEMENT. THE
DEPARTMENT SHALL DETERMINE THE DISBURSEMENT AMOUNT TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE AMOUNT
IDENTIFIED IN THE APPLICATION.

(6)(a) ON OR BEFORE AUGUST 1, 2019, AND ON OR BEFORE AUGUST 1 EACH YEAR THEREAFTER, EACH
LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER THAT RECEIVED A DISBURSEMENT IN THE PRECEDING SCHOOL YEAR
SHALL SUBMIT A REPORT TO THE DEPARTMENT SPECIFYING THE AMOUNT RECEIVED; THE SOURCE AND
AMOUNT OF MATCHING MONEY PROVIDED, IF APPLICABLE; AND THE PURPOSE OR PURPOSES FOR
WHICH THE LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER USED THE DISBURSED MONEY, INCLUDING AN ITEMIZED
ACCOUNTING OF HOW THE MONEY WAS EXPENDED.

LINK TO FULL BILL TEXT:


EFFECTIVE DATE:

June 6, 2018
### III. Bills Affecting Charter School Employment

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a. **HB18-1002: Rural School District Teaching Fellowship Programs**

**PRIME SPONSORS:**

Millie Hamner (D), House District 61  |  Bob Rankin (R), House District 57  
Nancy Todd (D), Senate District 28  |  Don Coram (R), Senate District 6

**OVERVIEW**

This bill requires the department of education to identify geographic regions of the state and grade levels and subject areas for which there are critical shortages of qualified elementary and secondary school teachers. A rural local education provider in one of the identified areas may enter into an agreement with an institution of higher education to create a teaching fellowship program if it demonstrates serious difficulty in hiring or retaining teachers. The agreement must contain several details that are specified in the bill. The one-year program is designed for students in their fourth year of an approved educator preparation program. Up to 100 students per year who are enrolled in the teaching fellowship program shall be selected to receive a teaching fellowship stipend of $10,000, and teaching fellowship stipends shall be paid fifty percent by department of higher education and fifty percent by the participating institution. If the fellow does not accept an offer of employment with the partnering local education provider after completing the program, they must pay back the stipend. The local education provider and institution of higher education involved in the agreement shall submit an annual report to the department of education, and the department shall submit an annual report to the commission on higher education.

**KEY STATUTORY SECTIONS:**

SECTION 1. In Colorado Revised Statutes, add part 2 to article 3.9 of title 23 as follows: (d) A PROGRAM THROUGH WHICH A RURAL LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER AND AN INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT TO PROVIDE A TEACHING FELLOWSHIP IN THE RURAL LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER FOR SELECTED TEACHER CANDIDATES IN THEIR FINAL YEAR OF AN APPROVED EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAM, WHICH LEADS TO EMPLOYMENT BY THE RURAL LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER UPON GRADUATION, WILL HELP TO ENSURE THAT TEACHERS ARE WELL PREPARED TO MEET THE RURAL LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER’S NEEDS AND EXPECTATIONS, HAVE MET SPECIFIC COMPETENCIES THE RURAL LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER IDENTIFIED AS BEING NECESSARY, AND ARE ACCLIMATED INTO THE RURAL LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER UPON HIRING. A TEACHER WHO RECEIVES THIS LEVEL OF SPECIFIC PREPARATION FOR EMPLOYMENT WITH A SPECIFIC EMPLOYER IS MORE LIKELY TO REMAIN IN THE PROFESSION AND THEREBY HELP TO REDUCE THE TEACHER SHORTAGE.

23-3.9-204. Department of education - eligible rural local education provider - identified. WITHIN THIRTY DAYS AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS SECTION, THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION SHALL IDENTIFY GEOGRAPHIC AREAS OF THE STATE AND SPECIFIC SUBJECT AREAS AND GRADE LEVELS FOR WHICH THERE ARE CRITICAL SHORTAGES OF QUALIFIED TEACHERS TO FILL ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY TEACHING POSITIONS IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL POST A MAP SHOWING THE
IDENTIFIED GEOGRAPHIC AREAS AND A LIST OF THE IDENTIFIED SUBJECTS ON THE DEPARTMENT WEBSITE. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ANNUALLY REVIEW THE PERTINENT DATA AND UPDATE THE
IDENTIFIED GEOGRAPHIC AREAS AND SUBJECTS AS APPROPRIATE.

(5) (a) THE RURAL LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER AND INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION THAT ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT SHALL ANNUALLY PREPARE A REPORT CONCERNING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AGREEMENT.


**LINK TO FULL BILL TEXT:**


**EFFECTIVE DATE:**

May 25, 2018
b. **HB18-1095: Educator License Requirements Military Spouses**

**PRIME SPONSORS:**

Terri Carver (R), House District 20 | Jennifer Arndt (D), House District 53
Cory Gardner (R), Senate District 4 | Nancy Todd (D), Senate District 28

**OVERVIEW**

Current law states that the department of education may issue a professional teacher license to any applicant from another state if the applicant has had at least three years of continuous, evaluated and documented experience teaching in an elementary or secondary school. This bill amends this current law such that if the applicant is a military spouse, the teaching experience of the applicant need not be continuous, but must have occurred in the past seven years. The same conditions apply for the issuing of a special services license to an applicant from another state.

**KEY STATUTORY SECTIONS:**

SECTION 1. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-60.5-201, amend (3)(b)(I)(B); and add (3)(b)(III) as follows:

22-60.5-201. Types of teacher licenses issued - term - definition - rules. (3) (b) (I) The department of education may issue a professional teacher license to any applicant from another state if:

(B) EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (3)(b)(III) OF THIS SECTION, the applicant has had at least three years of continuous, successful, evaluated experience as a teacher in an established elementary or secondary school and can provide documentation of such experience on forms provided by the department.

(III) (A) IF THE APPLICANT IS A MILITARY SPOUSE, THE TEACHING EXPERIENCE REQUIRED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (3)(b)(I)(B) OF THIS SECTION NEED NOT BE CONTINUOUS, BUT MUST HAVE OCCURRED WITHIN THE PREVIOUS SEVEN YEARS.

SECTION 2. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-60.5-210, amend (3)(b)(I)(B); and add (3)(b)(III) as follows:

Types of special services licenses issued - term - definition. (3) (b) (I) The department of education may issue a professional special services license to any applicant from another state if:

(B) EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (3)(b)(III) OF THIS SECTION, the applicant has had at least three years of continuous, successful, evaluated experience as a special services provider in an established elementary or secondary school and can provide documentation of such experience on forms provided by the department.

(III) (A) IF THE APPLICANT IS A MILITARY SPOUSE, THE SPECIAL SERVICES PROVIDER EXPERIENCE REQUIRED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (3)(b)(I)(B) OF THIS SECTION NEED NOT BE CONTINUOUS, BUT MUST HAVE OCCURRED WITHIN THE PREVIOUS SEVEN YEARS.

**LINK TO FULL BILL TEXT:**

**EFFECTIVE DATE:**

August 8, 2018
c. **HB18-1130: School District- Authorized Instructors**

**PRIME SPONSORS:**

Dave Williams (R), House District 15 | Jennifer Arndt (D), House District 53
Cory Gardner (R), Senate District 4

**OVERVIEW:**

Current law requires that in order for the department of education to issue a professional teacher license to an applicant from another state, the applicant must have had at least three years of continuous, evaluated experience teaching in an elementary or secondary school (with documentation provided). This bill amends this law to state that the applicant must have at least three years of prior experience, but the years of experience need not be continuous as long as they have occurred in the past seven years. This also applies to issuing a special services license.

**KEY STATUTORY SECTIONS:**

SECTION 1. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-60.5-201, amend (3)(b)(I)(B) as follows:

22-60.5-201. Types of teacher licenses issued - term - definition - rules. (3) (b) (I) The department of education may issue a professional teacher license to any applicant from another state if:
(B) The applicant has had at least three years of continuous, successful, evaluated experience WITHIN THE PREVIOUS SEVEN YEARS as a teacher in an established elementary or secondary school and can provide documentation of such experience on forms provided by the department.

SECTION 2. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-60.5-210, amend (3)(b)(I)(B) as follows:

22-60.5-210. Types of special services licenses issued - term - definition. (3) (b) (I) The department of education may issue a professional special services license to any applicant from another state if:
(B) The applicant has had at least three years of continuous, successful, evaluated experience WITHIN THE PREVIOUS SEVEN YEARS as a special services provider in an established elementary or secondary school and can provide documentation of such experience on forms provided by the department.

**LINK TO FULL BILL TEXT:**


**EFFECTIVE DATE:**

August 8, 2018
d. **HB18-1189: Expanding Effective Teacher Residency Programs**

**PRIME SPONSORS:**

Brittany Pettersen (D), House District 28 | Lang Sias (R), House District 27
Nancy Todd (D), Senate District 28 | Owen Hill (R), Senate District 10

**OVERVIEW**

Under this bill, the department of education shall create the Teacher Residency Expansion Program aimed to communicate effective teacher residency program practices to school districts, charter schools, and school boards. Beginning during the 2018-2019 year, the department will contract with up to three institutions of higher education and up to three alternative teacher programs that have proven success to operate the pilot program. These institutions and alternative teacher programs shall expand their teacher residency programs to other local education providers as part of the pilot program. After one year, the department of education shall review the pilot programs to determine their effectiveness in increasing teacher retention. The Teacher Residency Expansion Program Fund shall be created in the state treasury, and based on available appropriations, the department shall distribute money to the contracting institutions and alternative teacher programs to offset costs of implementing the pilot program.

**KEY STATUTORY SECTIONS:**

SECTION 1. In Colorado Revised Statutes, add article 60.3 to title 22 as follows:

22-60.3-103. Teacher residency expansion program - created - rules.

(1) THERE IS CREATED IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION THE TEACHER RESIDENCY EXPANSION PROGRAM TO IDENTIFY THE BEST PRACTICES, EFFECTIVE STRATEGIES, AND CRITICAL COMPONENTS OF EFFECTIVE TEACHER RESIDENCY PROGRAMS, WHICH PRACTICES, STRATEGIES, AND COMPONENTS MAY BE USED BY INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION, ALTERNATIVE TEACHER PROGRAMS, AND LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDERS ACROSS THE STATE TO ASSIST LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDERS IN HIRING AND RETAINING WELL-TRAINED, EFFECTIVE TEACHERS. A LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER MAY ALSO CONSIDER THE IDENTIFIED PRACTICES, STRATEGIES, AND COMPONENTS IN DESIGNING AND IMPLEMENTING AN EFFECTIVE

(2) THE PROGRAM IS DESIGNED TO ACCOMPLISH THE FOLLOWING GOALS: (a) DEVELOPING TEACHER CANDIDATES WHO ARE PREPARED TO BE SUCCESSFUL IN THE CLASSROOM WHEN THEY BEGIN TEACHING, INCLUDING BEING PREPARED TO IMPROVE ACADEMIC OUTCOMES FOR ALL STUDENTS IN THEIR CLASSROOMS; (b) SUPPORTING LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDERS, ALTERNATIVE TEACHER PROGRAMS, AND INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN COLLABORATING TO CREATE A SEAMLESS, HIGH-FUNCTIONING, HIGHLY EFFECTIVE SYSTEM OF TEACHER PREPARATION; (C) ADDRESSING BARRIERS TO EFFECTIVE TEACHER PREPARATION, WHICH INCLUDE INSUFFICIENT SUPPORT FOR EFFECTIVE FIELD
EXPERIENCES FOR TEACHING CANDIDATES AND INSUFFICIENT SUPPORT FOR NEW TEACHERS WHEN THEY TRANSITION TO THE CLASSROOM, DUE TO A LACK OF COMMUNICATION, SHARING OF RESOURCES, AND COLLABORATION AMONG LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDERS, ALTERNATIVE TEACHER PROGRAMS, INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION, AND OTHER TEACHER PREPARATION PROGRAM PROVIDERS; AND (d) IDENTIFYING THE BEST PRACTICES, EFFECTIVE STRATEGIES, AND CRITICAL COMPONENTS OF EFFECTIVE TEACHER RESIDENCY PROGRAM MODELS THAT CAN BE USED BY LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDERS ACROSS THE STATE AND THAT MAY INFORM STATE POLICY CHANGES.


22-60.3-104. Teacher residency pilot expansion programs - funding. (1) BEGINNING IN THE 2018-19 SCHOOL YEAR, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL CONTRACT WITH UP TO THREE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND UP TO THREE ALTERNATIVE TEACHER PROGRAMS, EACH OF WHICH OPERATES A PROVEN AND SUCCESSFUL TEACHER RESIDENCY PROGRAM IN COLORADO, TO OPERATE THE PILOT TEACHER RESIDENCY PROGRAMS FOR THE TEACHER RESIDENCY EXPANSION PROGRAM. IN SELECTING THE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND THE ALTERNATIVE TEACHER PROGRAMS, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ENSURE THAT THE TEACHER RESIDENCY PROGRAMS THAT THEY OPERATE HAVE DEMONSTRATED SUCCESS IN TRAINING AND RETAINING EFFECTIVE TEACHERS AND RESPONSIVENESS TO STATEWIDE NEEDS IN GEOGRAPHICALLY DIVERSE COMMUNITIES AND ARE OPERATING IN PARTNERSHIP WITH A SCHOOL DISTRICT, CHARTER SCHOOL, OR BOARD OF COOPERATIVE SERVICES THAT OPERATES A PUBLIC SCHOOL. THE SELECTED INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND ALTERNATIVE TEACHER PROGRAMS SHALL EXPAND THEIR TEACHER RESIDENCY PROGRAMS ON A PILOT BASIS WITH LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDERS, ALTERNATIVE TEACHER PROGRAMS, AND INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION, WHICH EXPANSION MUST, AT A MINIMUM, INCLUDE DOCUMENTATION OF THE TUITION MODEL, COURSE SCOPE, MENTORING SUPPORTS, MODELS FOR PARAPROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT, AND MULTIPLE STAFFING MODELS. THE PILOT PROGRAMS SHALL ALSO SHARE THESE COMPONENTS WITH THE DEPARTMENT, WHICH SHALL SHARE THEM WITH OTHER LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDERS, ALTERNATIVE TEACHER PROGRAMS, AND INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION THAT ARE NOT PARTICIPATING IN THE PILOT PROGRAMS.

(2) (a) SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS, BASED ON THE TERMS OF THE CONTRACTS TO PROVIDE PILOT PROGRAMS PURSUANT SUBSECTION (1) OF THIS SECTION, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL DISTRIBUTE TO THE CONTRACTING INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND ALTERNATIVE TEACHER
PROGRAMS MONEY TO OFFSET A PORTION OF THE DIRECT COSTS INCURRED IN IMPLEMENTING THE PILOT PROGRAMS.

(3) AFTER THE PILOT PROGRAMS DESCRIBED IN THIS SECTION HAVE OPERATED FOR ONE SCHOOL YEAR, AND ANNUALLY THEREAFTER, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL REVIEW THE INFORMATION COLLECTED FROM THE PILOT PROGRAMS TO DETERMINE WHETHER THE PILOT PROGRAMS ARE EFFECTIVE IN INCREASING RETENTION OF THE TEACHERS EMPLOYED BY THE PARTICIPATING LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDERS AND RAISING THE CULTURAL COMPETENCE OF THE TEACHER RESIDENTS WHO PARTICIPATE IN THE PILOT PROGRAMS.

LINK TO FULL BILL TEXT:


EFFECTIVE DATE:

May 30, 2018
e. **HB18-1309: Programs Addressing Educator Shortages**

**PRIME SPONSORS:**

James Wilson (R), House District 60 | James Coleman (D), House District 7  
Owen Hill (R), Senate District 10

**OVERVIEW**

This bill states that the Colorado Department of Education and the Colorado Department of Higher Education create a “Grow Your Own Educator Program.” The program must include at minimum:

- Enrollment in institution of higher education participating in the program, taking no less than the final 36 required credit hours.
- Employment under a teacher of record license with an appropriate district or charter school in a position for which no other qualified applicants have applied. This license is valid for two years.
- Payment by the district or charter school of the educator’s in-state tuition for a maximum of the student’s final 36 hours.
- Educator must work in the same district or charter school for 3 years after the program unless waived by the district or charter school.
- The institution of higher education must provide high quality support and mentoring during the program.

A school district or charter school shall form agreements with both institutions of higher education and teachers of record that include a specific set of requirements to participate in the program.

The bill also creates a second program in which a local education provider is authorized to implement a one or two year teacher of record program and employ the teachers of record if an educator shortage is identified.

The bill allows the department of education to renew an intern authorization for one academic year if the intern is employed by a school district or board of cooperative services and has not completed the approved program of preparation for a special services provider due to unforeseen circumstances or hardship. Finally, the bill identifies a rural education preparation program at the University of Colorado and outlines the specifics of this program.

**KEY STATUTORY SECTIONS:**

SECTION 1. In Colorado Revised Statutes, add 22-60.5-208.5 as follows:

b) **THEREFORE, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY DECLARES THAT IT IS IMPORTANT THAT THE COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND THE COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION CREATE A GROW YOUR OWN EDUCATOR PROGRAM TO:**
(I) DEVELOP A PIPELINE FOR CONSISTENT RECRUITMENT AND PLACEMENT OF EDUCATORS IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS ACROSS THE STATE; (II) MAKE THE TRAINING AND PREPARATION OPTIONS THAT ARE AVAILABLE TO FUTURE EDUCATORS RELEVANT, ACCESSIBLE, AND AFFORDABLE STATEWIDE; (III) DEVELOP "HOMEGROWN" SOLUTIONS TO INCENTIVIZE FUTURE EDUCATORS TO STAY IN THE COMMUNITIES WHERE THEY WERE RAISED; (IV) WORK WITH PUBLIC SCHOOLS TO DEVELOP LOCAL SOLUTIONS CUSTOMIZED TO THE NEEDS OF INDIVIDUAL COMMUNITIES; (V) FACILITATE PARTNERSHIPS THAT COMBINE TRADITIONAL EDUCATOR PREPARATION CURRICULA WITH EXPERIENTIAL EDUCATION TO GIVE FUTURE EDUCATORS OPPORTUNITIES TO LEARN AS TEACHERS OF RECORD WORKING DIRECTLY IN SCHOOLS; AND (VI) CREATE A SYSTEMATIC APPROACH TO ORGANIZING AND FACILITATING EDUCATOR PREPARATION AND TRAINING THAT PROVIDES FOR THE LICENSURE OF EDUCATORS, THEREBY ALLEVIATING COLORADO'S EDUCATOR SHORTAGE AND ENHANCING THE QUALITY OF EDUCATION DELIVERED IN COLORADO'S PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

(3) THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND THE DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION SHALL CREATE THE FRAMEWORK FOR A GROW YOUR OWN EDUCATOR PROGRAM THAT, AT A MINIMUM, MUST INCLUDE:

(a) ENROLLMENT IN AN INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION THAT PARTICIPATES IN THE PROGRAM AND COMPLETION OF NOT LESS THAN THE FINAL THIRTY-SIX CREDIT HOURS REQUIRED BY THE PARTICIPATING INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION TO COMPLETE THE PROGRAM;

(b) EMPLOYMENT UNDER A TEACHER OF RECORD LICENSE FOR A POSITION FOR WHICH NO OTHER QUALIFIED, LICENSED TEACHER HAS APPLIED WITH A SCHOOL DISTRICT OR CHARTER SCHOOL THAT DETERMINES THAT THERE IS A CRITICAL TEACHER SHORTAGE;

(c) PAYMENT BY THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OR CHARTER SCHOOL OF THE EDUCATOR'S IN-STATE TUITION FOR NO MORE THAN THE FINAL THIRTY-SIX CREDIT HOURS REQUIRED BY THE INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION TO COMPLETE THE PROGRAM, WITH THE GRANT PROGRAM LIMITED TO UP TO FIFTY NEW STUDENTS PARTICIPATING ANNUALLY;

(d) THE REQUIREMENT THAT THE EDUCATOR WORK IN THE SAME SCHOOL DISTRICT OR CHARTER SCHOOL FOR THREE ACADEMIC YEARS AFTER COMPLETION OF THE PROGRAM, UNLESS WAIVED IN WHOLE OR IN PART BY THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OR CHARTER SCHOOL, AS A CONDITION OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT'S OR CHARTER SCHOOL'S PAYMENT OF A PORTION OF THE EDUCATOR'S TUITION FOR THE PROGRAM PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (3)(c) PAGE 3-HOUSE BILL 18-1309 OF THIS SECTION; AND

(e) THE REQUIREMENT THAT THE INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION ATTENDED BY THE TEACHER OF RECORD PROVIDE HIGH-QUALITY SUPPORT AND MENTORING THROUGHOUT THE PROGRAM, WHICH SUPPORT AND MENTORING MAY INCLUDE, BUT IS NOT LIMITED TO, SUPPORT FROM PREPARATION PROGRAM FACULTY, QUARTERLY CLASSROOM OBSERVATIONS AND FEEDBACK, PERIODIC ANALYSIS OF STUDENT DATA, AND FORMAL EVALUATIONS OF TEACHER PROGRESS.

(4) A SCHOOL DISTRICT OR CHARTER SCHOOL IS AUTHORIZED TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH ONE OR MORE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PROGRAM PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION. AT A MINIMUM, THE AGREEMENT MUST INCLUDE THE COURSES AND NUMBER OF CREDIT HOURS THAT A STUDENT MUST COMPLETE BEFORE AND WHILE THE STUDENT IS A TEACHER OF RECORD WITH THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OR CHARTER SCHOOL, INCLUDING THE TIME AND SUPPORT THE
SCHOOL DISTRICT OR CHARTER SCHOOL WILL PROVIDE THE TEACHER OF RECORD TO COMPLETE THE COURSE WORK, AND ANY TEACHER PREPARATION PROGRAM OR TEACHER SUPPORT SERVICES PROVIDED TO THE STUDENT WHILE THE STUDENT IS A TEACHER OF RECORD.

(5) A SCHOOL DISTRICT OR CHARTER SCHOOL SHALL ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH A STUDENT WHO PARTICIPATES AS A TEACHER OF RECORD WITH THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OR CHARTER SCHOOL PURSUANT TO THE PROGRAM THAT INCLUDES, BUT IS NOT LIMITED TO, THE FOLLOWING PROVISIONS:

(a) A REQUIREMENT THAT THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OR CHARTER SCHOOL INCLUDE THE TEACHER OF RECORD IN PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT, TEACHER MENTORSHIP, THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OR CHARTER SCHOOL'S INDUCTION PROGRAM, AND OTHER SUPPORTS PROVIDED BY THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OR CHARTER SCHOOL WHILE THE TEACHER OF RECORD COMPLETES THE PROGRAM AND DURING THE REQUIRED THREE ACADEMIC YEARS OF EMPLOYMENT WITH THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OR CHARTER SCHOOL AFTER COMPLETION OF THE BACCALAUREATE DEGREE; (b) A REQUIREMENT THAT THE STUDENT APPLY FOR AND RECEIVE A COLLEGE OPPORTUNITY FUND STIPEND PURSUANT TO PART 2 OF ARTICLE 18 OF TITLE 23, IF ELIGIBLE, AND ANY FEDERAL OR STATE NEED-BASED OR PAGE 4-HOUSE BILL 18-1309 MERIT-BASED FINANCIAL AID FOR WHICH THE STUDENT IS ELIGIBLE PRIOR TO THE AWARD OF THE BACCALAUREATE DEGREE; AND

(c) A REQUIREMENT THAT THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OR CHARTER SCHOOL PAY THE STUDENT'S IN-STATE TUITION AT THE PARTICIPATING INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION TO COMPLETE THE PROGRAM, NOT TO EXCEED THIRTY-SIX CREDIT HOURS. THE TUITION PAYMENT MUST BE REPAID BY THE STUDENT TO THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OR CHARTER SCHOOL, UNLESS WAIVED IN WHOLE OR IN PART BY THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OR CHARTER SCHOOL, IF THE STUDENT DOES NOT COMPLETE THE PROGRAM, DOES NOT COMPLETE THE REQUIRED THREE ACADEMIC YEARS OF EMPLOYMENT WITH THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OR CHARTER SCHOOL AFTER COMPLETION OF THE PROGRAM, OR BECOMES INELIGIBLE FOR CONTINUED EMPLOYMENT IN THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OR CHARTER SCHOOL PURSUANT TO STATE OR FEDERAL LAW. FOR EACH ACADEMIC YEAR OF EMPLOYMENT AFTER THE STUDENT COMPLETES THE PROGRAM, THE STUDENT IS CREDITED WITH REPAYMENT OF TWELVE CREDIT HOURS OF THE TUITION PAID BY THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OR CHARTER SCHOOL ON BEHALF OF THE STUDENT, REGARDLESS OF WHETHER THE STUDENT COMPLETES THE REQUIRED THREE ACADEMIC YEARS OF EMPLOYMENT. THE AGREEMENT MUST INCLUDE THE TERMS FOR REPAYMENT OF THE TUITION PAYMENT, IF APPLICABLE.

(6) (a) (I) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SHALL APPROPRIATE ONE MILLION DOLLARS TO THE DEPARTMENT FOR GRANTS THAT THE DEPARTMENT SHALL DISTRIBUTE DIRECTLY TO A SCHOOL DISTRICT OR CHARTER SCHOOL THAT EMPLOYS A STUDENT AS A TEACHER OF RECORD DURING THE PROGRAM. SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS, GRANT FUNDING IS LIMITED TO UP TO FIFTY NEW STUDENTS PARTICIPATING IN THE PROGRAM ANNUALLY. ANY UNEXPENDED AND UNENCUMBERED MONEY FROM AN APPROPRIATION MADE TO THE DEPARTMENT FOR GRANTS PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION REMAINS AVAILABLE FOR EXPENDITURE BY THE DEPARTMENT FOR GRANTS IN THE NEXT FISCAL YEAR WITHOUT FURTHER APPROPRIATION. THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OR CHARTER SCHOOL SHALL USE THE GRANT TO PAY FOR THE COST OF UP TO THIRTY-SIX CREDIT HOURS OF THE STUDENT'S SHARE OF IN-STATE TUITION, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 23-18-102, LESS ANY AMOUNT RECEIVED BY THE STUDENT IN FEDERAL AND STATE
FINANCIAL AID AND COLLEGE OPPORTUNITY FUND STIPENDS, TO THE INSTITUTION OF HIGHER
EDUCATION IN WHICH THE STUDENT IS ENROLLED.

(II) EACH SCHOOL DISTRICT OR CHARTER SCHOOL THAT EMPLOYS A PAGE 5-HOUSE BILL 18-1309
STUDENT AS A TEACHER OF RECORD IN THE PROGRAM SHALL ANNUALLY PROVIDE TO THE
DEPARTMENT A LIST OF PARTICIPANTS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR AND THE NUMBER OF CREDIT HOURS
GRANTED TO EACH PARTICIPANT. EACH SCHOOL DISTRICT IN THE STATE MAY HIRE NO MORE THAN
TWO STUDENTS PER YEAR AS TEACHERS OF RECORD PURSUANT TO THE PROGRAM. FOR PURPOSES OF
THIS LIMIT, DISTRICT-AUTHORIZED CHARTER SCHOOLS ARE CONSIDERED PART OF THE SCHOOL
DISTRICT, AND THE STATE CHARTER SCHOOL INSTITUTE AND ITS AUTHORIZED INSTITUTE CHARTER
SCHOOLS ARE CONSIDERED A SINGLE DISTRICT.

(b) IN DISTRIBUTING GRANTS, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL FIRST PRIORITIZE GRANTS TO SCHOOL
DISTRICTS OR CHARTER SCHOOLS THAT EMPLOY A STUDENT WHO GRADUATED FROM A COLORADO
HIGH SCHOOL AND WHO COMMITS TO TEACHING IN A COMMUNITY THAT IS EXPERIENCING A TEACHER
SHORTAGE IN A GRADE LEVEL OR CONTENT AREA, AS DETERMINED BY THE DEPARTMENT. THE
DEPARTMENT SHALL THEN PRIORITIZE GRANTS TO SCHOOL DISTRICTS OR CHARTER SCHOOLS THAT
EMPLOY A STUDENT WHO COMMITS TO TEACHING IN A RURAL SCHOOL WITH A TEACHER SHORTAGE IN
A GRADE LEVEL OR CONTENT AREA, AS DETERMINED BY THE DEPARTMENT. (7) (a) NO LATER THAN
SEPTEMBER 30 IN ANY YEAR IN WHICH A GRANT IS AWARDED PURSUANT TO THE PROGRAM, THE
DEPARTMENT SHALL REPORT TO THE EDUCATION COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
AND THE SENATE, OR ANY SUCCESSOR COMMITTEES, INFORMATION RELATING TO THE PROGRAM,
WHICH INFORMATION MUST INCLUDE, AT A MINIMUM: (I) THE NUMBER OF GRANT APPLICATIONS
RECEIVED AND THE NUMBER OF GRANTS AWARDED, INCLUDING THE SCHOOL DISTRICTS OR CHARTER
SCHOOLS WITH WHOM THE STUDENTS ARE EMPLOYED; (II) THE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION
ATTENDED BY THE STUDENTS;

(III) THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS WHO FULFILL THE PROGRAM’S THREE-YEAR TEACHING COMMITMENT,
UNLESS WAIVED IN WHOLE OR IN PART BY THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OR CHARTER SCHOOL, AND THE
PERCENTAGE RETAINED BY THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OR CHARTER SCHOOL BEYOND THE THREE-YEAR
PERIOD; AND PAGE 6-HOUSE BILL 18-1309 (IV) DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION RELATING TO STUDENTS
WHO PARTICIPATE IN THE PROGRAM TO GAUGE THE SUCCESS AT RECRUITING DEMOGRAPHICALLY
UNDERREPRESENTED GROUPS TO THE EDUCATION PROFESSION.

SECTION 3. In Colorado Revised Statutes, add 22-60.5-208.7 as follows:

(2) A LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER IS AUTHORIZED TO IMPLEMENT A ONE- OR TWO-YEAR TEACHER OF
RECORD PROGRAM AND MAY ONLY EMPLOY A TEACHER OF RECORD IF THE LOCAL EDUCATION
PROVIDER HAS DETERMINED THAT THERE IS A CRITICAL TEACHER SHORTAGE AND IF THERE ARE NO
OTHER QUALIFIED, LICENSED APPLICANTS FOR A VACANT POSITION. THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
SHALL ESTABLISH RULES AND POLICIES GOVERNING A TEACHER OF RECORD PROGRAM ESTABLISHED
PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION.
(3) A student employed in a teacher of record program established pursuant to this section shall hold a teacher of record license issued pursuant to section 22-60.5-201(1)(a.5).

(4) To assist the teacher of record in meeting the performance-based teacher licensure standards adopted by the state board of education pursuant to section 22-2-109 (3), a teacher of record program must include, at a minimum: (a) direct and regular supervision by mentor teachers; (b) performance evaluations; and (c) the teacher preparation program or teacher support services to be provided to teachers of record as agreed upon by the local education provider and the institution of higher education.

(5) A local education provider must include the teacher of record in the local education provider’s induction program and other supports provided by the local education provider. If the teacher of record successfully completes an induction program, the teacher of record may apply completion of the induction program toward meeting the requirements for a professional teacher license.

(6) A local education provider shall treat a teacher of record as a first-year teacher for purposes of compensation and placement on a teacher salary schedule.

(7) (a) No later than September 30 each year, the page 8-house bill 18-1309 department shall report to the education committees of the house of representatives and the senate, or any successor committees, information relating to teacher of record programs, which information must include, at a minimum: (I) the number of students participating in a teacher of record program, including the local education providers with whom the students are employed; (II) the institutions of higher education attended by the students; (III) the percentage of students who complete a bachelor’s degree within the two-year teacher of record license period; and (IV) demographic information relating to students who participate in a teacher of record program to gauge the success at recruiting demographically underrepresented groups to the education profession.

(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (3)(a) of this section to the contrary, the department of education may renew an intern authorization for one academic year if the special services intern is employed by a school district or board of cooperative services and the intern has not completed the approved program of preparation for a special services provider due to unforeseen circumstances or hardship.

SECTION 9. In Colorado Revised Statutes, add 23-20-140 as follows:

(2) There is created the partnership for rural education preparation on the Denver campus of the University of Colorado, referred to in this section as the "partnership", to collaborate with other institutions of higher education to bring customized solutions
TO LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDERS TO ADDRESS TEACHER SHORTAGES. SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS, AND IN COLLABORATION WITH LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDERS, THE PARTNERSHIP SHALL WORK WITH IDENTIFIED LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDERS TO:

(a) REGULARLY COLLECT AND REPORT DATA ON THE CURRENT AND PROJECTED HIRING NEEDS FOR THE LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER, INCLUDING TURNOVER TRENDS, FOR TEACHERS BY GEOGRAPHIC AND CONTENT AREA;
(b) DETERMINE THE CAUSES OF TEACHER SHORTAGES;
(c) IDENTIFY AVAILABLE AND POTENTIALLY AVAILABLE RESOURCES THAT ALIGN SUPPLY AND DEMAND WHEN ADDRESSING THE TEACHER SHORTAGES;
(d) CONNECT THESE RESOURCES TO THE LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER THROUGH CUSTOMIZED SOLUTIONS TARGETED TO THE SPECIFIC CAUSES OF THE TEACHER SHORTAGE FOR THE LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER;
(e) TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE, IDENTIFY METHODS FOR IMPROVING DIVERSITY OF TEACHERS; AND (f) PROVIDE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE IN IMPLEMENTING THE LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER’S CUSTOMIZED SOLUTION.


**LINK TO FULL BILL TEXT:**


**EFFECTIVE DATE:**

August 8, 2018
f. **SB18-229: Colorado Department of Education Student Teacher Criminal History Record Checks**

**PRIME SPONSORS:**

Kim Ransom (R), House District 44 | Barbara McLachlan (D), House District 59  
Cory Gardner (R), Senate District 4 | Nancy Todd (D), Senate District 28

**OVERVIEW**

This bill requires the department of education to perform a criminal history record check if a student in an educator preparation program requests one. The student must submit an approved, complete set of his or her fingerprints to the Colorado Bureau of Investigation, and the student shall pay any required fee established by the Bureau for conduction of the record check. The student may permit the department to send the results to the educator program in which they are enrolled or to any school that the student has been placed in for field experience. Additionally, any school that requires educator preparation program students applying for field experience to complete a criminal history record check must accept the record check performed by the department. This bill also permits the department to establish a fee for any administrative costs.

**KEY STATUTORY SECTIONS:**

SECTION 1. In Colorado Revised Statutes, add 22-2-119.3 as follows:


(4) (a) WITHIN SEVEN DAYS OF RECEIVING THE RESULTS OF A CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORD CHECK CONDUCTED PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL PROVIDE THE RESULTS OF SUCH CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORD CHECK, TO THE EXTENT PERMITTED BY STATE OR FEDERAL LAW OR
REGULATION, TO THE EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAM IN WHICH THE STUDENT IS ENROLLED AND TO ANY SCHOOL DISTRICT OR CHARTER SCHOOL THAT HAS MADE AN INQUIRY TO THE DEPARTMENT CONCERNING THE RESULTS OF A CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORD CHECK OF A STUDENT WHO HAS BEEN PLACED IN THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OR CHARTER SCHOOL FOR FIELD EXPERIENCES.

(5) THE DEPARTMENT MAY ESTABLISH AND COLLECT A FEE THAT IS BASED ON THE DEPARTMENT’S ACTUAL COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH ADMINISTRATION OF THIS SECTION.

SECTION 5. In Colorado Revised Statutes, add 22-62-103.5 as follows:

22-62-103.5. Criminal history record checks - definition. (1) A SCHOOL DISTRICT OR CHARTER SCHOOL THAT REQUIRES A FINGERPRINT-BASED CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORD CHECK OR A NAME-BASED CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORD CHECK FOR A STUDENT ENROLLED IN AN EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAM WHO APPLIES FOR FIELD EXPERIENCES WITHIN THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OR CHARTER SCHOOL MUST ACCEPT THE RESULTS OF A FINGERPRINT-BASED CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORD CHECK OR A NAME-BASED CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORD CHECK PERFORMED PURSUANT TO SECTION 22-2-119.3 AS SATISFACTION OF THE REQUIREMENT.

LINK TO FULL BILL TEXT:


EFFECTIVE DATE:

August 8, 2018