

SENATE COMMITTEE OF REFERENCE REPORT

Chair of Committee

Date

February 20, 2020

Committee on Finance.

After consideration on the merits, the Committee recommends the following:

SB20-052 be amended as follows, and as so amended, be referred to the Committee on Appropriations with favorable recommendation:

1 Strike the Education Committee Report, dated January 29, 2020, and
2 substitute:

3 "Amend printed bill, strike everything below the enacting clause and
4 substitute:

5 "SECTION 1. In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** part 25 to
6 article 33.5 of title 24 as follows:

7 PART 25

8 SMART SCHOOL BUS SAFETY

9 PILOT PROGRAM

10 **24-33.5-2501. Short title.** THE SHORT TITLE OF THIS PART 25 IS
11 THE "SMART SCHOOL BUS SAFETY PILOT PROGRAM ACT".

12 **24-33.5-2502. Definitions.** AS USED IN THIS PART 25, UNLESS THE
13 CONTEXT OTHERWISE REQUIRES:

14 (1) "CHARITABLE PURPOSE" HAS THE SAME MEANING AS SET FORTH
15 IN SECTION 6-16-103 (2).

16 (2) "CONSULTANT" MEANS THE ORGANIZATION SELECTED BY THE
17 DEPARTMENT PURSUANT TO SECTION 24-33.5-2505 TO CONSULT WITH AND
18 SUPPORT GRANT RECIPIENTS.

19 (3) "GRANT PROGRAM" MEANS THE PROGRAM TO AWARD GRANTS
20 PURSUANT TO SECTION 24-33.5-2504.

21 (4) "PILOT PROGRAM" MEANS THE SMART SCHOOL BUS SAFETY
22 PILOT PROGRAM CREATED IN SECTION 24-33.5-2503.

23 (5) "RURAL SCHOOL DISTRICT" MEANS A SCHOOL DISTRICT IN

1 COLORADO THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION DETERMINES IS RURAL
2 BASED ON THE GEOGRAPHIC SIZE OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT AND THE
3 DISTANCE OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT FROM THE NEAREST LARGE,
4 URBANIZED AREA.

5 (6) "SCHOOL DISTRICT" MEANS ANY SCHOOL DISTRICT ORGANIZED
6 AND EXISTING PURSUANT TO LAW. "SCHOOL DISTRICT" INCLUDES A
7 CHARTER SCHOOL AUTHORIZED BY A SCHOOL DISTRICT PURSUANT TO PART
8 1 OF ARTICLE 30.5 OF TITLE 22 OR A CHARTER SCHOOL AUTHORIZED BY
9 THE STATE CHARTER SCHOOL INSTITUTE PURSUANT TO PART 5 OF ARTICLE
10 30.5 OF TITLE 22 THAT IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE TRANSPORTATION OF
11 STUDENTS ENROLLED IN THE CHARTER SCHOOL.

12 (7) "SILENT DURESS ALARM" MEANS A SILENT ALARM THAT SENDS
13 A DISTRESS CALL AND THE LAST-KNOWN GLOBAL POSITIONING SYSTEM
14 COORDINATES OF THE SCHOOL BUS TO SCHOOL OFFICIALS AND EMERGENCY
15 RESPONSE PERSONNEL.

16 **24-33.5-2503. Smart school bus safety pilot program - creation**
17 **- department duties - rules.** (1) THERE IS CREATED IN THE DEPARTMENT
18 THE SMART SCHOOL BUS SAFETY PILOT PROGRAM TO:

19 (a) INCREASE THE SAFETY OF STUDENTS AND THE SECURITY OF
20 SCHOOL BUSES;

21 (b) PROVIDE SCHOOL DISTRICTS WITH GRANTS PURSUANT TO
22 SECTION 24-33.5-2504 TO EQUIP THEIR SCHOOL BUSES WITH HARDWARE
23 AND SOFTWARE THAT ENABLE THE BUSES TO COMMUNICATE DIRECTLY
24 WITH FIRST RESPONDERS BY CELLULAR, SATELLITE, OR ANY OTHER
25 AVAILABLE MEANS OF VOICE COMMUNICATION AND BY USING A SILENT
26 DURESS ALARM;

27 (c) PROVIDE NOTIFICATIONS TO PARENTS ABOUT SCHOOL BUS
28 STATUS AND STUDENT SAFETY;

29 (d) INFORM AND EDUCATE THE PUBLIC ABOUT SCHOOL
30 TRANSPORTATION SAFETY; AND

31 (e) IMPROVE SCHOOL BUS DRIVER TRAINING, INCLUDING TRAINING
32 RELATED TO TRANSPORTATION FOR STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS.

33 (2) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL:

34 (a) AWARD PILOT PROGRAM GRANTS, AS DESCRIBED IN SECTION
35 24-33.5-2504; AND

36 (b) SELECT AN ORGANIZATION TO SERVE AS A CONSULTANT, AS
37 DESCRIBED IN SECTION 24-33.5-2505.

38 (3) PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 4 OF THIS TITLE 24, THE EXECUTIVE
39 DIRECTOR SHALL PROMULGATE RULES NECESSARY FOR THE
40 ADMINISTRATION OF THIS PART 25. AT A MINIMUM, THE RULES MUST
41 INCLUDE:

1 (a) PROCEDURES TO IMPLEMENT THE GRANT PROGRAM,
2 INCLUDING:
3 (I) AN APPLICATION PROCESS, INCLUDING DEADLINES;
4 (II) THE CRITERIA FOR AWARDING A GRANT TO A SCHOOL DISTRICT
5 AND DETERMINING THE AMOUNT OF THE AWARD; AND
6 (III) A PROCESS FOR ACHIEVING A BALANCED DISTRIBUTION OF
7 GRANT MONEY TO RURAL, URBAN, AND SUBURBAN SCHOOL DISTRICTS;
8 AND
9 (b) PROCEDURES FOR SELECTING A CONSULTANT, INCLUDING:
10 (I) AN APPLICATION PROCESS, INCLUDING DEADLINES;
11 (II) A PROCESS FOR DISTRIBUTING PILOT PROGRAM MONEY TO THE
12 CONSULTANT; AND
13 (III) PROCEDURES FOR VERIFYING THE CONSULTANT'S CONTINUED
14 ELIGIBILITY TO SERVE AS THE CONSULTANT.
15 (4) THE DEPARTMENT MAY SEEK, ACCEPT, AND EXPEND GIFTS,
16 GRANTS, OR DONATIONS FROM PRIVATE OR PUBLIC SOURCES FOR THE
17 PURPOSES OF THIS PART 25.

18 **24-33.5-2504. Pilot program grants - report.** (1) (a) SUBJECT
19 TO AVAILABLE MONEY, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL AWARD GRANTS TO
20 SCHOOL DISTRICTS TO ACHIEVE THE GOALS OF THE PILOT PROGRAM BY
21 PROVIDING THOSE DISTRICTS WITH FUNDING NECESSARY TO EQUIP SCHOOL
22 BUSES WITH HARDWARE AND SOFTWARE, FOR EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE,
23 AND FOR ANY RELEVANT TRAINING TO INCREASE THE SAFETY OF STUDENTS
24 AND THE SECURITY OF SCHOOL BUSES.
25 (b) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL NOTIFY SCHOOL DISTRICTS OF THE
26 PILOT PROGRAM AND ANY GRANT PROGRAM APPLICATION DEADLINES. THE
27 DEPARTMENT MAY COORDINATE WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
28 CONCERNING SCHOOL DISTRICT NOTIFICATION.
29 (2) IN ORDER TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR A GRANT PURSUANT TO THIS
30 SECTION, A SCHOOL DISTRICT MUST SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO THE
31 DEPARTMENT. THE APPLICATION MUST INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING
32 INFORMATION:
33 (a) A SUMMARY OF THE SCHOOL BUS TRANSPORTATION PROVIDED
34 BY THE SCHOOL DISTRICT TO ITS STUDENTS;
35 (b) A DESCRIPTION OF ANY SCHOOL BUS SAFETY AND SECURITY
36 CHALLENGES FACED BY THE SCHOOL DISTRICT;
37 (c) HOW THE SCHOOL DISTRICT WILL USE A GRANT AWARD IN
38 FURTHERANCE OF THE GOALS OF THE PILOT PROGRAM;
39 (d) ANY MEASURABLE GOALS THAT THE SCHOOL DISTRICT EXPECTS
40 TO ACHIEVE WITH GRANT MONEY; AND
41 (e) ANY OTHER INFORMATION REQUIRED BY THE DEPARTMENT.

1 (3) (a) ON OR BEFORE NOVEMBER 1, 2020, THE DEPARTMENT
2 SHALL AWARD GRANTS TO SCHOOL DISTRICTS SELECTED FROM THOSE
3 SUBMITTING APPLICATIONS PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION.

4 (b) GRANTS AWARDED PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION ARE
5 THREE-YEAR GRANTS THAT COVER THE 2020-21 ACADEMIC YEAR
6 THROUGH THE 2022-23 ACADEMIC YEAR. SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE
7 APPROPRIATIONS, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ANNUALLY DISTRIBUTE GRANT
8 MONEY TO GRANT RECIPIENTS.

9 (4) A SCHOOL DISTRICT THAT RECEIVES A GRANT AWARD SHALL
10 RECEIVE SUPPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE CONSULTANT AND
11 SHALL USE A GRANT AWARD FOR THE FOLLOWING:

12 (a) THE ACQUISITION OF EQUIPMENT NECESSARY FOR EACH
13 SCHOOL BUS TO COMMUNICATE DIRECTLY WITH FIRST RESPONDERS BY
14 CELLULAR, SATELLITE, OR ANY OTHER AVAILABLE MEANS OF VOICE
15 COMMUNICATION AND BY USING A SILENT DURESS ALARM;

16 (b) TRAINING, INSTALLATION, MAINTENANCE,
17 TELECOMMUNICATION, AND DATA-RELATED COSTS RELATED TO ANY
18 EQUIPMENT ACQUIRED WITH GRANT MONEY;

19 (c) THE OPERATION AND USE OF AN INTERNET WEBSITE, ONLINE
20 SERVICE, ONLINE APPLICATION, OR MOBILE APPLICATION, OR A
21 COMBINATION THEREOF, THAT INCLUDES DATA PRIVACY AND INTEGRITY
22 AND DEVICE IDENTITY AND INTEGRITY PROTECTIONS, TO PROVIDE SECURE
23 AND VERIFIABLE PARENTAL NOTIFICATION, AT NO COST TO PARENTS,
24 RELATING TO SCHOOL BUS AND STUDENT STATUS;

25 (d) SCHOOL BUS DRIVER TRAINING AND THE PROVISION OF
26 BACKGROUND CHECKS WHEN NECESSARY FOR SCHOOL BUS DRIVERS TO
27 OPERATE EQUIPMENT ACQUIRED WITH GRANT MONEY;

28 (e) ADVANCED SCHOOL BUS DRIVER TRAINING, INCLUDING
29 TRAINING RELATED TO TRANSPORTATION FOR STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL
30 NEEDS;

31 (f) THE TRAINING NECESSARY TO USE ANY EQUIPMENT ACQUIRED
32 WITH GRANT MONEY; AND

33 (g) OBTAINING CREDENTIALS OR OTHER PERMISSIONS, INCLUDING
34 DIGITAL IDENTITIES, NECESSARY FOR BUS DRIVERS OR OTHER PERSONNEL
35 TO PROPERLY OPERATE EQUIPMENT ACQUIRED WITH GRANT MONEY.

36 (5) ON OR BEFORE JUNE 30, 2021, AND ON OR BEFORE EACH JUNE
37 30 THEREAFTER, A SCHOOL DISTRICT THAT RECEIVES A GRANT PURSUANT
38 TO THIS SECTION SHALL SUBMIT A REPORT TO THE DEPARTMENT. AT A
39 MINIMUM, THE REPORT MUST INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

40 (a) THE NUMBER OF BUSES EQUIPPED WITH EQUIPMENT NECESSARY
41 TO COMMUNICATE DIRECTLY WITH FIRST RESPONDERS, INCLUDING BY

1 USING A SILENT DURESS ALARM;

2 (b) WHETHER ANY SUCH EQUIPMENT WAS USED IN AN EMERGENCY
3 SITUATION, INCLUDING A SITUATION THAT REQUIRED ASSISTANCE FROM
4 EMERGENCY RESPONSE PERSONNEL;

5 (c) ANY SCHOOL BUS MAINTENANCE OR OPERATION DECISIONS
6 MADE BASED ON INFORMATION LEARNED FROM EQUIPMENT ACQUIRED
7 WITH GRANT MONEY;

8 (d) WHETHER THE SCHOOL DISTRICT ACHIEVED ANY OF THE GOALS
9 DESCRIBED IN ITS GRANT APPLICATION; AND

10 (e) ANY OTHER USE OF GRANT MONEY.

11 **24-33.5-2505. Pilot program consultant - report.** (1) ON OR
12 BEFORE NOVEMBER 1, 2020, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL SELECT AN
13 ORGANIZATION TO SERVE AS A CONSULTANT THAT SUPPORTS SCHOOL
14 DISTRICTS AWARDED GRANTS PURSUANT TO THIS PART 25.

15 (2) THE CONSULTANT MAY BE A NONPROFIT OR FOR-PROFIT
16 ORGANIZATION THAT OPERATES WITH A CHARITABLE PURPOSE AND MUST
17 HAVE EXPERIENCE IN EVIDENCE-BASED SCHOOL BUS SAFETY AND SURFACE
18 TRANSPORTATION SECURITY, CHILD SAFETY CAMPAIGN MANAGEMENT,
19 AND CONDUCTING FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGNS THAT SUPPORT
20 SAFETY-RELATED INITIATIVES.

21 (3) IN ORDER TO BE SELECTED AS THE CONSULTANT, AN
22 ORGANIZATION MUST SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO THE DEPARTMENT. AN
23 APPLICATION MUST:

24 (a) DEMONSTRATE THAT THE APPLICANT HAS THE EXPERIENCE
25 REQUIRED OF THE CONSULTANT, AS DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (2) OF THIS
26 SECTION;

27 (b) DESCRIBE ANY PUBLIC SERVICE CAMPAIGNS CONDUCTED BY
28 THE APPLICANT WITH THE SUPPORT OF GOVERNMENT ENTITIES OR MEDIA
29 ORGANIZATIONS;

30 (c) DEMONSTRATE THE APPLICANT'S ABILITY TO OBTAIN
31 CORPORATE SPONSORSHIPS AND OTHER FUNDING THROUGH GIFTS, GRANTS,
32 AND DONATIONS THAT WOULD ALLOW THE APPLICANT TO PROVIDE SCHOOL
33 DISTRICTS WITH SERVICES DESCRIBED IN THIS PART 25 IN ADDITION TO
34 SUCH SERVICES FUNDED WITH STATE MONEY; AND

35 (d) INCLUDE ANY OTHER INFORMATION REQUIRED BY THE
36 DEPARTMENT.

37 (4)(a) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL SELECT ONE ORGANIZATION THAT
38 MEETS THE ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS DESCRIBED IN THIS SECTION TO
39 SERVE AS THE CONSULTANT.

40 (b) THE ORGANIZATION SELECTED BY THE DEPARTMENT SHALL
41 CONTINUE TO SERVE AS THE CONSULTANT AS LONG AS THE ORGANIZATION

1 MEETS THE CRITERIA DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (4)(a) OF THIS SECTION
2 AND DOES NOT VIOLATE ANY PROVISION OF THIS SECTION.

3 (c) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ANNUALLY DISTRIBUTE ONE MILLION
4 DOLLARS OF THE PILOT PROGRAM MONEY APPROPRIATED TO THE
5 DEPARTMENT PURSUANT TO SECTION 24-33.5-2506 TO THE CONSULTANT.

6 (5) THE CONSULTANT SHALL USE PILOT PROGRAM MONEY FOR THE
7 FOLLOWING:

8 (I) SUPPORTING SCHOOL DISTRICTS AWARDED GRANTS PURSUANT
9 TO SECTION 24-33.5-2504;

10 (II) DEVELOPING AND MAINTAINING AN INTERNET WEBSITE,
11 ONLINE APPLICATION, AND MOBILE APPLICATION, THAT INCLUDES DATA
12 PRIVACY AND INTEGRITY AND DEVICE IDENTITY AND INTEGRITY
13 PROTECTIONS, TO PROVIDE SECURE AND VERIFIABLE PARENTAL
14 NOTIFICATION, AT NO COST TO PARENTS, RELATING TO SCHOOL BUS AND
15 STUDENT STATUS;

16 (III) RECRUITING SCHOOL BUS DRIVERS;

17 (IV) DEVELOPING, AND MAKING PUBLICLY AVAILABLE, SCHOOL
18 BUS TRANSPORTATION SAFETY INFORMATION AND EDUCATIONAL
19 MATERIALS; AND

20 (V) DEVELOPING PRIVATE-PUBLIC PARTNERSHIP FUNDING AND
21 STUDYING THE AVAILABILITY OF NEW FUNDING SOURCES, INCLUDING
22 SEEKING GIFTS, GRANTS, AND DONATIONS ON BEHALF OF THE PILOT
23 PROGRAM FROM THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, CORPORATIONS, OR OTHER
24 NONGOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES.

25 (6) ON OR BEFORE JUNE 30, 2021, AND ON OR BEFORE EACH JUNE
26 30 THEREAFTER, THE CONSULTANT SHALL SUBMIT A REPORT TO THE
27 DEPARTMENT CONCERNING THE OPERATION OF THE PILOT PROGRAM. THE
28 REPORT MUST INCLUDE, BUT IS NOT LIMITED TO, DOCUMENTATION OF THE
29 CONSULTANT'S USE OF PILOT PROGRAM MONEY AND A DESCRIPTION OF THE
30 CONSULTANT'S DUTIES PERFORMED AS REQUIRED PURSUANT TO
31 SUBSECTION (5) OF THIS SECTION.

32 **24-33.5-2506. Pilot program funding.** IN STATE FISCAL YEARS
33 2020-21, 2021-22, AND 2022-23, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SHALL
34 APPROPRIATE TWO MILLION DOLLARS TO THE DEPARTMENT FOR THE
35 PURPOSES OF THIS PART 25.

36 **24-33.5-2507. Department report.** NOTWITHSTANDING SECTION
37 24-1-136 (11)(a)(I), THE DEPARTMENT SHALL INCLUDE INFORMATION
38 ABOUT THE PILOT PROGRAM IN ITS ANNUAL PRESENTATION TO ITS
39 LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE OF REFERENCE PURSUANT TO SECTION 2-7-203.

40 **24-33.5-2508. Repeal of part.** THIS PART 25 IS REPEALED,
41 EFFECTIVE JULY 31, 2024.

1 **SECTION 2. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds,
2 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate
3 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety."."

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