

SENATE COMMITTEE OF REFERENCE REPORT

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Chair of Committee

March 22, 2023  
Date

Committee on Education.

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

SB23-029 be amended as follows, and as so amended, be referred to the Committee on Appropriations with favorable recommendation:

1 Amend printed bill, page 2, line 4, strike "**policy**" and substitute "**task**  
2 **force**".

3 Page 2, line 5, strike "**communications**" and substitute "**report**", and  
4 strike "**definitions.**" and substitute "**definitions - repeal.**".

5 Page 3, strike lines 19 through 27 and insert:

6  
7 (2) AS USED IN THIS SECTION, UNLESS THE CONTEXT OTHERWISE  
8 REQUIRES:

9 (a) "BOARD OF COOPERATIVE SERVICES" OR "BOCES" MEANS A  
10 BOARD OF COOPERATIVE SERVICES CREATED AND OPERATING PURSUANT  
11 TO ARTICLE 5 OF THIS TITLE 22 THAT OPERATES ONE OR MORE PUBLIC  
12 SCHOOLS.

13 (b) "COUNCIL" MEANS THE COLORADO YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL  
14 CREATED IN SECTION 2-2-1302.

15 (c) "DEPARTMENT" MEANS THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
16 CREATED IN SECTION 24-1-115.

17 (d) "GOVERNING BOARD OF A DISTRICT CHARTER SCHOOL" MEANS  
18 THE GOVERNING BOARD OF A DISTRICT CHARTER SCHOOL THAT RECEIVES  
19 DELEGATION POWER TO OVERSEE SCHOOL DISCIPLINE FOR A DISTRICT  
20 CHARTER SCHOOL PURSUANT TO THE TERMS OF THE DISTRICT CHARTER  
21 SCHOOL CONTRACT THAT WOULD HAVE BEEN FILLED BY THE AUTHORIZING  
22 SCHOOL DISTRICT.

23 (e) "LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER" MEANS A SCHOOL DISTRICT, A  
24 CHARTER SCHOOL AUTHORIZED BY A SCHOOL DISTRICT PURSUANT TO PART  
25 1 OF ARTICLE 30.5 OF THIS TITLE 22, A CHARTER SCHOOL AUTHORIZED BY  
26 THE STATE CHARTER SCHOOL INSTITUTE PURSUANT TO PART 5 OF ARTICLE

1 30.5 OF THIS TITLE 22, OR A BOCES THAT OPERATES A SCHOOL.  
2 (f) "LOCAL SCHOOL BOARD" MEANS A SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF  
3 EDUCATION; A GOVERNING BOARD OF A DISTRICT CHARTER SCHOOL; AN  
4 INSTITUTE CHARTER SCHOOL BOARD FOR A CHARTER SCHOOL AUTHORIZED  
5 BY THE STATE CHARTER SCHOOL INSTITUTE; OR THE GOVERNING BOARD OF  
6 A BOCES.  
7 (g) "REVIEW COMMITTEE" MEANS THE COLORADO YOUTH  
8 ADVISORY COUNCIL REVIEW COMMITTEE CREATED IN SECTION 2-2-1305.5.  
9 (h) "RURAL SCHOOL DISTRICT" MEANS A SCHOOL DISTRICT IN  
10 COLORADO THAT THE DEPARTMENT DETERMINES IS RURAL BASED ON THE  
11 GEOGRAPHIC SIZE OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT AND THE DISTANCE OF THE  
12 SCHOOL DISTRICT FROM THE NEAREST LARGE, URBANIZED AREA, AND THE  
13 TOTAL STUDENT ENROLLMENT OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT IS SIX THOUSAND  
14 FIVE HUNDRED OR FEWER STUDENTS.  
15 (i) "TASK FORCE" MEANS THE SCHOOL DISCIPLINE TASK FORCE  
16 CREATED IN SUBSECTION (3) OF THIS SECTION.  
17 (3) THERE IS CREATED IN THE DEPARTMENT THE SCHOOL  
18 DISCIPLINE TASK FORCE TO STUDY AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS  
19 REGARDING SCHOOL DISTRICT DISCIPLINE POLICIES AND PRACTICES, STATE  
20 AND LOCAL DISCIPLINE REPORTING REQUIREMENTS, AND LOCAL  
21 ENGAGEMENT.  
22 (4) THE TASK FORCE MEMBERS MUST BE APPOINTED ON OR BEFORE  
23 AUGUST 31, 2023. THE TASK FORCE CONSISTS OF SEVENTEEN MEMBERS AS  
24 FOLLOWS:  
25 (a) THE LEGISLATIVE MEMBER, WHO IS THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE  
26 REVIEW COMMITTEE, OR THE LEGISLATIVE MEMBER'S DESIGNEE;  
27 (b) THE COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION, OR THE COMMISSIONER'S  
28 DESIGNEE, SHALL SERVE AS THE CHAIR OF THE TASK FORCE AND SHALL  
29 APPOINT THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS:  
30 (I) ONE REPRESENTATIVE OF A STATEWIDE ORGANIZATION FOR  
31 SCHOOL DISTRICT ADMINISTRATORS;  
32 (II) ONE REPRESENTATIVE OF A STATEWIDE ORGANIZATION FOR  
33 SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARDS OF EDUCATION;  
34 (III) ONE REPRESENTATIVE OF A STATEWIDE ORGANIZATION FOR  
35 RURAL SCHOOL DISTRICTS;  
36 (IV) ONE REPRESENTATIVE OF A STATEWIDE ORGANIZATION  
37 REPRESENTING CHARTER SCHOOLS;  
38 (V) ONE REPRESENTATIVE OF A STATEWIDE ASSOCIATION FOR  
39 TEACHERS;  
40 (VI) ONE REPRESENTATIVE OF A STATEWIDE ORGANIZATION  
41 REPRESENTING SPECIAL EDUCATION DIRECTORS;  
42 (VII) ONE REPRESENTATIVE OF A STATEWIDE DISABILITY  
43 ADVOCACY ORGANIZATION;

1 (VIII) ONE REPRESENTATIVE OF A STATEWIDE MENTAL HEALTH  
2 ADVOCACY ORGANIZATION;

3 (IX) ONE REPRESENTATIVE OF A STATEWIDE ORGANIZATION  
4 REPRESENTING STUDENTS WHO HAVE EXPERIENCED SUSPENSION,  
5 EXPULSION, OR OTHER SCHOOL DISCIPLINE ISSUES;

6 (X) ONE REPRESENTATIVE OF A STATEWIDE ORGANIZATION  
7 SPECIALIZING IN EQUITY AND INCLUSION;

8 (XI) ONE REPRESENTATIVE OF A STATEWIDE ORGANIZATION THAT  
9 REPRESENTS THE INTERESTS OF STUDENTS AND FAMILIES;

10 (XII) ONE REPRESENTATIVE OF A STATEWIDE ORGANIZATION THAT  
11 REPRESENTS VICTIMS OF VIOLENT CRIMES OR SEXUAL ASSAULT; AND

12 (XIII) THREE FORMER STUDENTS WHO HAVE LIVED EXPERIENCE  
13 WITH THE SCHOOL DISCIPLINE SYSTEM.

14 (5) (a) ON OR BEFORE SEPTEMBER 15, 2023, THE CHAIR OF THE  
15 TASK FORCE, SHALL CALL THE FIRST MEETING OF THE TASK FORCE. DURING  
16 THE FIRST MEETING, THE TASK FORCE SHALL ESTABLISH PROCEDURES TO  
17 ALLOW MEMBERS OF THE TASK FORCE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE MEETINGS  
18 REMOTELY, DEVELOP BEST PRACTICES FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE  
19 TASK FORCE MEETINGS, AND CREATE A PLAN FOR THE ENGAGEMENT OF  
20 STAKEHOLDERS AND EXPERTS TO SUPPORT AND INFORM THE TASK FORCE'S  
21 WORK.

22 (b) THE TASK FORCE SHALL MEET AT LEAST SIX TIMES BETWEEN  
23 SEPTEMBER 15, 2023 AND THE FIRST REVIEW COMMITTEE MEETING IN  
24 2024.

25 (c) EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED IN SECTION 2-2-326, THE  
26 TASK FORCE MEMBERS SHALL SERVE WITHOUT COMPENSATION BUT MUST  
27 RECEIVE REIMBURSEMENT FOR REASONABLE EXPENSES INCURRED TO  
28 PARTICIPATE IN TASK FORCE MEETINGS.

29 (d) IF A VACANCY OCCURS ON THE TASK FORCE FOR ANY REASON,  
30 THE ORIGINAL APPOINTING AUTHORITY SHALL APPOINT A PERSON WHO  
31 MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE VACANT POSITION TO FILL THE  
32 VACANCY AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AFTER THE VACANCY OCCURS.

33 (e) UPON REQUEST OF THE CHAIR, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL  
34 PROVIDE TO THE TASK FORCE STAFF ASSISTANCE, MEETING SPACE, OR  
35 AUDIO-VISUAL COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY RESOURCES, AS  
36 NECESSARY, FOR THE TASK FORCE TO MEET THE DUTIES DESCRIBED IN  
37 SUBSECTION (6)(a) OF THIS SECTION.

38 (6) (a) IN COMPLETING THE STUDY REQUIRED IN THIS SECTION, THE  
39 TASK FORCE SHALL:

40 (I) DEFINE DISPROPORTIONATE DISCIPLINE WITH CONSIDERATIONS  
41 FOR SIZE, LOCATION, AND DEMOGRAPHICS OF A LOCAL EDUCATION  
42 PROVIDER;

43 (II) REVIEW EXISTING DISCIPLINE REPORTING CATEGORIES;

- 1 (III) RECOMMEND CHANGES TO DISCIPLINE REPORTING  
2 CATEGORIES AS NECESSARY TO STANDARDIZE DATA REPORTING;
- 3 (IV) RECOMMEND A STANDARDIZED DISCIPLINE REPORTING  
4 SYSTEM;
- 5 (V) DETERMINE WHETHER THE STANDARDIZED DISCIPLINE  
6 REPORTING SYSTEM DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (6)(a)(IV) OF THIS SECTION  
7 MUST INCLUDE REPORTS OF ALTERNATIVE DISCIPLINARY MEASURES TAKEN  
8 PRIOR TO A STUDENT'S SUSPENSION OR EXPULSION;
- 9 (VI) REVIEW BEST PRACTICES REGARDING ALTERNATIVE  
10 APPROACHES TO DISCIPLINE AND RECOMMEND BEST PRACTICES FOR  
11 INCLUSION IN THE RESOURCE BANK DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (6)(a)(X)  
12 OF THIS SUBSECTION;
- 13 (VII) RECOMMEND PROCESSES AND PROVIDE RESOURCES FOR  
14 PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT IN A LOCAL SCHOOL BOARD'S DISCUSSIONS OF  
15 DISCIPLINE DATA AND DEVELOPMENT OF IMPROVEMENT PLANS TO  
16 ADDRESS EVIDENCE OF DISPROPORTIONALITY IN DISCIPLINARY PRACTICES;
- 17 (VIII) REVIEW EXISTING PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT PROCESSES  
18 IMPLEMENTED WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF SCHOOL ACCOUNTABILITY  
19 PLANS PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 11 OF THIS TITLE 22 AND THE SAFE SCHOOL  
20 REPORTING REQUIREMENTS PURSUANT TO SECTION 22-32-109.1 (2) AND  
21 DETERMINE WHETHER TO ESTABLISH A NEW PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT PROCESS  
22 FOR DISCIPLINE DATA REVIEW AND RESPONSE;
- 23 (IX) ANALYZE THE COSTS AND TIME FRAMES REQUIRED TO  
24 IMPLEMENT ANY OF THE RECOMMENDED CHANGES TO THE DISCIPLINE  
25 REPORTING SYSTEM;
- 26 (X) RECOMMEND SPECIFIC MATERIALS TO BE INCLUDED IN A  
27 RESOURCE BANK THAT THE DEPARTMENT SHALL DEVELOP AND MAINTAIN,  
28 INCLUDING TRAINING MATERIALS AND RESOURCES FOR LOCAL EDUCATION  
29 PROVIDERS TO USE TO IDENTIFY AND ADDRESS DISPROPORTIONATE  
30 DISCIPLINARY PRACTICES THAT ARE TAILORED FOR USE IN SCHOOL  
31 DISTRICTS OF VARYING SIZE AND STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS;
- 32 (XI) DEVELOP AND EXPAND ALTERNATIVE APPROACHES TO  
33 DISCIPLINE AND ADDRESS CONCERNS AROUND WORKFORCE AND OTHER  
34 RESOURCE SHORTAGES IN SCHOOL DISTRICTS; AND
- 35 (XII) RECOMMEND LEGISLATION, AS NECESSARY.
- 36 (b) THE TASK FORCE SHALL CONSULT WITH ADDITIONAL  
37 STAKEHOLDERS AND EXPERTS AS NEEDED TO INFORM DISCUSSIONS AND TO  
38 ADDRESS QUESTIONS NECESSARY TO FINALIZE ITS FINDINGS AND  
39 RECOMMENDATIONS.
- 40 (7) (a) ON OR BEFORE AUGUST 1, 2024, THE TASK FORCE SHALL  
41 SUBMIT A FINAL REPORT, INCLUDING ITS FINDINGS AND  
42 RECOMMENDATIONS ON ISSUES IDENTIFIED IN SUBSECTION (6) OF THIS  
43 SECTION TO THE REVIEW COMMITTEE; THE EDUCATION COMMITTEES OF

1 THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND THE SENATE, OR THEIR SUCCESSOR  
2 COMMITTEES; THE GOVERNOR; THE STATE BOARD; AND THE DEPARTMENT.

3 (b) THE TASK FORCE SHALL PRESENT ITS FINDINGS AND  
4 RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE REVIEW COMMITTEE DURING THE FIRST  
5 MEETING OF THE REVIEW COMMITTEE IN 2024.

6 (8) THIS SECTION IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025."

7 Strike pages 4 and 5.

8 Page 6, strike lines 1 through 23.

9 Page 6, line 27, strike "(a)".

10 Page 7, strike lines 3 through 17.

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