

**Second Regular Session  
Seventieth General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO**

**PREAMENDED**

*This Unofficial Version Includes Committee  
Amendments Not Yet Adopted on Second Reading*

LLS NO. 16-0746.01 Jason Gelender x4330

**SENATE BILL 16-072**

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**SENATE SPONSORSHIP**

**Kerr**, Kefalas, Newell, Crowder, Garcia, Aguilar, Heath, Hodge, Jahn, Johnston, Merrifield,  
Todd

**HOUSE SPONSORSHIP**

**(None)**,

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**Senate Committees**

Education  
Finance  
Appropriations

**House Committees**

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**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

101      **CONCERNING AN INCREASE IN THE MAXIMUM TOTAL AMOUNT OF**  
102              **ANNUAL LEASE PAYMENTS AUTHORIZED FOR LEASE-PURCHASE**  
103              **AGREEMENTS ENTERED INTO UNDER THE "BUILDING**  
104              **EXCELLENT SCHOOLS TODAY ACT", AND, IN CONNECTION**  
105              **THEREWITH, MAKING AN APPROPRIATION.**

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**Bill Summary**

*(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <http://www.leg.state.co.us/billsummaries>.)*

Under the "Building Excellent Schools Today Act" (BEST), the state may enter into lease-purchase agreements for public school facility

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.  
*Capital letters indicate new material to be added to existing statute.  
Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.*

capital construction projects subject to the limitation that the maximum total annual amount of lease payments payable under the terms of the agreements does not exceed \$80 million. The bill increases the maximum total annual amount of lease payments authorized to be paid with both state money and local matching money to \$90 million for the 2016-17 fiscal year, \$100 million for the 2017-18 fiscal year, \$110 million for the 2018-19 fiscal year, and \$120 million for the 2019-20 fiscal year and for each fiscal year thereafter. In addition, to match the increase in the maximum annual amount of lease payments authorized and thereby ensure that the annual transfer of public school lands income to the BEST program continues to be sufficient, by itself, to cover the 50% state share of the total amount of annual lease payments, the bill increases the minimum amount of the annual transfer from \$40 million to \$60 million.

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1 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

2 **SECTION 1. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-43.7-103, amend**  
3 **(7) as follows:**

4 **22-43.7-103. Definitions.** As used in this article, unless the  
5 **context otherwise requires:**

6 **(7) "Charter school" means a charter school as described in**  
7 **section 22-54-124 (1) (f.6) (I) (A) or (1) (f.6) (I) (B). that has been**  
8 **chartered for at least five years on the date its authorizer forwards an**  
9 **application for financial assistance to the board on the charter school's**  
10 **behalf.**

11 **SECTION 2. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-43.7-109, amend**  
12 **(3); and repeal (1) (b) as follows:**

13 **22-43.7-109. Financial assistance for public school capital**  
14 **construction - application requirements - evaluation criteria - local**  
15 **match requirements. (1) For fiscal years commencing on or after July**  
16 **1, 2008, the board, with the support of the division and subject to the**  
17 **approval of the state board and, in the case of financial assistance that**  
18 **involves lease-purchase agreements, subject to both the preliminary**

1 approval of the state board and the final approval of the capital  
2 development committee, regarding financial assistance awards as  
3 specified in this section, shall provide financial assistance as specified in  
4 this section subject to the following limitations:

5 (b) The board may provide financial assistance to a charter school  
6 that first occupies a public school facility on or after May 22, 2008, only  
7 if the public school facility occupied by the charter school complied with  
8 all public school facilities construction guidelines addressing health and  
9 safety issues established by the board pursuant to section 22-43.7-107 (2)  
10 (a) at the time the charter school first occupied the facility.

11 (3) A CHARTER SCHOOL THAT CHOOSES TO APPLY FOR FINANCIAL  
12 ASSISTANCE MUST APPLY DIRECTLY TO THE BOARD. A charter school shall  
13 notify its authorizer that it intends to apply IF THE CHARTER SCHOOL  
14 APPLIES for financial assistance. NOTHING SHALL PROHIBIT THE  
15 AUTHORIZER FROM SUBMITTING A LETTER INDICATING THE AUTHORIZER'S  
16 POSITION ON THE APPLICATION. at least four months prior to the  
17 application submission deadline. The charter school shall forward its  
18 application for financial assistance to its authorizer, which shall forward  
19 the application to the board together with a letter indicating the  
20 authorizer's position on the application. The Colorado school for the deaf  
21 and blind shall ALSO apply for financial assistance directly. Financial  
22 assistance awarded to a charter school as a matching cash grant shall be  
23 provided to the authorizer, which shall distribute all financial assistance  
24 received as a grant to the charter school and may not retain any portion of  
25 such moneys for any purpose. All other financial assistance shall be  
26 provided in the form of lease payments made by the board directly to a  
27 lessor or trustee as required by the terms of the applicable lease-purchase

1 agreement.

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3 **SECTION 3.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-43.7-110, **amend**  
4 (2) (a) (III) and (2) (a) (IV); and **add** (2) (a) (V), (2) (a) (VI), (2) (a) (VII),  
5 and (2) (a) (VIII) as follows:

6 **22-43.7-110. Financial assistance - grants - lease-purchase**  
7 **agreements.** (2) Subject to the following requirements and limitations,  
8 the board may also instruct the state treasurer to enter into lease-purchase  
9 agreements on behalf of the state to provide financial assistance to  
10 applicants by financing public school facility capital construction projects  
11 for which the state board has recommended and the capital development  
12 committee has authorized the provision of financial assistance that  
13 involves a lease-purchase agreement pursuant to section 22-43.7-109 (7):

14 (a) Subject to the limitation specified in paragraph (b) of this  
15 subsection (2), the maximum total amount of annual lease payments  
16 payable by the state during any fiscal year under the terms of all  
17 outstanding lease-purchase agreements entered into by the state treasurer  
18 as instructed by the board pursuant to this subsection (2) is:

19 (III) Sixty million dollars for the 2010-11 fiscal year; **and**

20 (IV) Eighty million dollars for the 2011-12 fiscal year and for  
21 each fiscal year thereafter THROUGH THE 2015-16 FISCAL YEAR;

22 (V) NINETY MILLION DOLLARS FOR THE 2016-17 FISCAL YEAR; AND

23 (VI) ONE HUNDRED MILLION DOLLARS FOR THE 2017-18 FISCAL  
24 YEAR.

25 **SECTION 4. Appropriation.** For the 2016-17 state fiscal year,  
26 \$5,000,000 is appropriated to the department of education for use by the  
27 division of public school capital construction assistance. This

1 appropriation is from the public school capital construction assistance  
2 fund created in section 22-43.7-104 (1), C.R.S. To implement this act, the  
3 department may use this appropriation for public school capital  
4 construction assistance board - lease payments.

5 **SECTION 5. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds,  
6 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate  
7 preservation of the public peace, health, and safety.