

Second Regular Session  
Seventieth General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO

**PREAMENDED**

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

LLS NO. 16-0169.01 Julie Pelegrin x2700

**HOUSE BILL 16-1429**

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**HOUSE SPONSORSHIP**

**Pettersen,**

**SENATE SPONSORSHIP**

**Kerr,**

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**House Committees**

Education  
Appropriations

**Senate Committees**

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**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

101 CONCERNING ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION **CAMPUSES, AND, IN**  
102 **CONNECTION 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 existing law, a school that meets specified criteria may be designated as an alternative education campus, which makes the school subject to accountability standards that are different from those that apply to other public schools. One of the criteria is that at least 95% of the school's student population has an individual education plan or meets the criteria for identification as an at-risk student under the alternative

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.*

education campus statute or that at least 95% of the school's student population meets a combination of these requirements. The bill reduces the percentage to 90%. The bill also expands some of the criteria for being identified as an at-risk student for purposes of the alternative education campus statute.

The bill creates the school quality review pilot program to create a base for qualitative measurement of the performance of alternative education campuses. An alternative education campus that participates in the pilot program will receive annual on-site reviews of its operations. The pilot program starts in the 2016-17 school year and continues through the 2018-19 school year. The department of education must review the findings of the pilot program and recommend whether to expand the school quality reviews to additional alternative education campuses.

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

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-7-604.5, **amend**  
3 (1) (a) (VI) (B), (1.5) (b), (1.5) (f), (1.5) (g), and (1.5) (m) as follows:

4 **22-7-604.5. Alternative education campuses - criteria -**  
5 **application - rule-making.** (1) A public school may apply to the state  
6 board for designation as an alternative education campus. The state board  
7 shall adopt rules specifying the criteria and application process for a  
8 public school to be designated an alternative education campus. The rules  
9 must include but need not be limited to:

10 (a) Criteria that a public school must meet to be designated an  
11 alternative education campus, including but not limited to the following:

12 (VI) (B) Serving a student population in which more than  
13 ~~ninety-five~~ NINETY percent of the students have an individualized  
14 education program pursuant to section 22-20-108 or meet the definition  
15 of a high-risk student contained in subsection (1.5) of this section, or any  
16 combination of these two criteria that equals at least ~~ninety-five~~ NINETY  
17 percent of the student population; or

18 (1.5) As used in this section, unless the context otherwise requires,

1 a "high-risk student" means a student enrolled in a public school who:

2 (b) Has dropped out of school or has ~~not been continuously~~  
3 ~~enrolled and regularly attending school for at least one semester prior to~~  
4 ~~enrolling in his or her current public school;~~ FOUR EXCUSED OR  
5 UNEXCUSED ABSENCES FROM PUBLIC SCHOOL IN ANY ONE MONTH OR TEN  
6 EXCUSED OR UNEXCUSED ABSENCES FROM PUBLIC SCHOOL DURING ANY  
7 SCHOOL YEAR. ABSENCES DUE TO SUSPENSION OR EXPULSION OF A  
8 STUDENT ARE CONSIDERED ABSENCES FOR PURPOSES OF THIS PARAGRAPH  
9 (b).

10 (f) Has a documented history of child abuse or neglect, HAS BEEN  
11 ADJUDICATED A WARD OF THE COURT, OR HAS BEEN INVOLVED IN THE  
12 FOSTER CARE SYSTEM;

13 (g) Has a parent or guardian in prison or on parole or probation OR  
14 HAS EXPERIENCED THE LOSS OF A PARENT OR SIBLING;

15 (m) Has a documented history of a ~~serious psychiatric or~~  
16 ~~behavioral disorder, including but not limited to an eating disorder,~~  
17 ~~suicidal behaviors, or deliberate, self-inflicted injury~~ MENTAL OR  
18 BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ISSUE OR HAS EXPERIENCED SIGNIFICANT TRAUMA;  
19 or

20 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add 22-7-604.7** as  
21 follows:

22 **22-7-604.7. Alternative education campuses - methods to**  
23 **measure quality performance - repeal.** (1) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
24 FINDS THAT IN THE STATE BUDGET FOR THE 2016-17 FISCAL YEAR, THERE  
25 IS NOT SUFFICIENT MONEY TO ESTABLISH A SCHOOL QUALITY REVIEW  
26 PROGRAM FOR ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION CAMPUSES AS RECOMMENDED BY  
27 THE DEPARTMENT AND THE STAKEHOLDERS PURSUANT TO SECTION

1 22-11-210 (1.5).

2 (2) THE DEPARTMENT, WITHIN EXISTING APPROPRIATIONS, SHALL  
3 CONTINUE WORKING WITH THE INTERESTED STAKEHOLDERS IDENTIFIED IN  
4 SECTION 22-11-210 (1.5) AND INTERESTED ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION  
5 CAMPUSES TO FIND AND DEVELOP EFFECTIVE METHODS TO ACCURATELY  
6 MEASURE QUALITATIVE ASPECTS OF AN ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION  
7 CAMPUS'S PERFORMANCE. ■ ■

8 (3) THIS SECTION IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2017.

9 **SECTION 3. Appropriation.** For the 2016-17 state fiscal year,  
10 \$43,896 is appropriated to the department of education. This  
11 appropriation is from the general fund and is based on an assumption that  
12 the department will require an additional 0.5 FTE. To implement this act,  
13 the department may use this appropriation for college and career  
14 readiness.

15 **SECTION 4. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds,  
16 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate  
17 preservation of the public peace, health, and safety.