

**First Regular Session
Seventy-first General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO**

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 17-0735.02 Brita Darling x2241

HOUSE BILL 17-1194

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Foote,

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Cooke,

House Committees
Education

Senate Committees

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 **CONCERNING TECHNICAL CHANGES RELATING TO THE OPERATION OF**
102 **PATHWAYS IN TECHNOLOGY EARLY COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOLS.**

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://leg.colorado.gov>.)

The bill amends the definition of a pathways in technology early college (p-tech) high school to include a p-tech program that operates within a host school.

In addition, in applying school accreditation requirements and reporting graduation rates, a p-tech student is counted as a high school graduate in the year in which the student completes the local education

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.

provider's or host school's minimum high school graduation requirements.

A p-tech school or the host school shall notify the department of education prior to a p-tech student's twelfth-grade year if the student will be enrolled in the p-tech school for grades 13 or 14.

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

2 **SECTION 1. Legislative declaration.** (1) (a) The general
3 assembly hereby finds and declares that:

4 (I) In 2015, the general assembly passed House Bill 15-1270,
5 authorizing pathways in technology early college (p-tech) high schools in
6 Colorado;

7 (II) P-tech schools represent a unique partnership between
8 industry, community colleges, and K-12 school districts that creates
9 opportunities for students to receive real-world work experiences while
10 simultaneously achieving a high school diploma and associate degree;

11 (III) After two years of operation, school districts have learned
12 lessons that will allow p-tech schools to operate more efficiently and
13 effectively, but this requires technical changes to p-tech statutes;

14 (IV) First, to accommodate local management and control, p-tech
15 schools need the flexibility to operate as a stand-alone school or as a
16 program within a host school; and

17 (V) Second, to facilitate accurate data collection and reporting,
18 p-tech schools need the ability to report high school graduation rates for
19 p-tech students in the year in which the students complete minimum high
20 school graduation requirements.

21 (b) Therefore, the general assembly declares that it is necessary to
22 make technical improvements to the operation and effectiveness of the
23 p-tech model through legislation.

1 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-35.3-102, **amend**
2 the introductory portion and (10); and **add** (8.5) as follows:

3 **22-35.3-102. Definitions.** As used in this ~~article~~ ARTICLE 35.3,
4 unless the context otherwise requires:

5 (8.5) "HOST SCHOOL" MEANS A SCHOOL OF A LOCAL EDUCATION
6 PROVIDER.

7 (10) "P-tech school" means a pathways in technology early college
8 high school OR PROGRAM WITHIN A HOST SCHOOL that is approved
9 pursuant to this ~~article~~ ARTICLE 35.3.

10 **SECTION 3.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-35.3-103, **add** (5)
11 as follows:

12 **22-35.3-103. Pathways in technology early college high schools**
13 **- design - requirements - approval.** (5) A P-TECH SCHOOL MAY HAVE
14 DIFFERENT HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS FROM THOSE OF
15 THE LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER OR THE HOST SCHOOL. HOWEVER, FOR
16 PURPOSES OF APPLYING THE PROVISIONS OF ARTICLE 11 OF THIS TITLE 22
17 CONCERNING SCHOOL ACCOUNTABILITY AND REPORTING GRADUATION
18 RATES, A P-TECH STUDENT WILL BE COUNTED IN THE LOCAL EDUCATION
19 PROVIDER'S OR HOST SCHOOL'S GRADUATION RATE IN THE YEAR IN WHICH
20 THE STUDENT COMPLETES THE LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER'S OR HOST
21 SCHOOL'S MINIMUM GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS. NOTHING IN THIS
22 SUBSECTION (5) AFFECTS PROVISIONS RELATING TO THE FUNDING OF
23 P-TECH STUDENTS PURSUANT TO SECTION 22-35.3-104.

24 **SECTION 4.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-35.3-104, **add**
25 (1)(c) as follows:

26 **22-35.3-104. P-tech schools - funding.** (1)(c) A P-TECH SCHOOL,
27 OR THE HOST SCHOOL FOR A P-TECH PROGRAM, SHALL NOTIFY THE

1 DEPARTMENT PRIOR TO A P-TECH STUDENT'S TWELFTH-GRADE YEAR IF THE
2 STUDENT WILL CONTINUE TO BE ENROLLED IN THE P-TECH SCHOOL FOR
3 GRADES THIRTEEN OR FOURTEEN.

4 **SECTION 5. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act
5 takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the
6 ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly (August
7 9, 2017, if adjournment sine die is on May 10, 2017); except that, if a
8 referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V of the
9 state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this act
10 within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take effect
11 unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in
12 November 2018 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the
13 official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.