

CHAPTER 112

**EDUCATION - PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

**HOUSE BILL 24-1087**

BY REPRESENTATIVE(S) McCormick and Armagost, Amabile, Bird, Boesenecker, Brown, Clifford, Duran, Froelich, Garcia, Hernandez, Herod, Jodeh, Lieder, Lindsay, Lukens, Marshall, Marvin, McLachlan, Ortiz, Parenti, Ricks, Rutinel, Snyder, Titone, Valdez, Weinberg, Weissman, Young, McCluskie;  
also SENATOR(S) Kirkmeyer and Marchman, Buckner, Coleman, Cutter, Exum, Fields, Gardner, Ginal, Gonzales, Lundeen, Michaelson Jenet, Pelton B., Priola, Roberts, Sullivan, Will, Fenberg.

**AN ACT**

**CONCERNING THE CREATION OF AN ADDITIONAL PATHWAY FOR EDUCATORS TO GAIN AN ENDORSEMENT FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION INSTRUCTION.**

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

**SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-60.5-106, **amend** (2) as follows:

**22-60.5-106. Endorsement of license - effect - rules.** (2) Notwithstanding the discretionary authority granted in subsection (1) of this section, the department of education shall issue a special education teacher endorsement to an applicant who completes ~~course work~~ COURSEWORK and assessments, as specified by rule of the state board of education, in a program in special education offered by an accepted institution of higher education, OR AN ALTERNATIVE TEACHER PREPARATION PROGRAM FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION OFFERED BY A DESIGNATED AGENCY, which program has been approved by the state board of education.

**SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-60.5-205, **add** (2)(d)(III) as follows:

**22-60.5-205. One-year and two-year alternative teacher programs - standards and evaluation - duties of department - duties of the state board of education - fees - rules - legislative declaration.** (2) Designated agencies are authorized to implement one-year alternative teacher programs or two-year alternative teacher programs, which two-year programs were formerly known as teacher in residence programs, as follows:

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*Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material added to existing law; dashes through words or numbers indicate deletions from existing law and such material is not part of the act.*

(d) (III) (A) A PERSON WITH A PROFESSIONAL TEACHER LICENSE MAY CONTINUE IN THE PERSON'S CURRENT POSITION WHILE PARTICIPATING IN AN ALTERNATIVE TEACHER PREPARATION PROGRAM FOR THE PURPOSE OF RECEIVING A SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHING ENDORSEMENT PURSUANT TO SECTION 22-60.5-106 (2).

(B) THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION SHALL PROMULGATE RULES TO ESTABLISH THE AMOUNT AND TYPE OF EXPERIENCE WORKING WITH STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES A PROFESSIONAL TEACHER PARTICIPATING IN AN ALTERNATE TEACHER PREPARATION PROGRAM MUST COMPLETE TO RECEIVE A SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHING ENDORSEMENT PURSUANT TO SECTION 22-60.5-106 (2).

**SECTION 3. Safety clause.** The general assembly finds, determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety or for appropriations for the support and maintenance of the departments of the state and state institutions.

Approved: April 19, 2024