

Second Regular Session
Seventieth General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 16-0732.02 Julie Pelegrin x2700

SENATE BILL 16-079

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Todd, Carroll, Kerr, Martinez Humenik, Merrifield

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Young,

Senate Committees
Education

House Committees

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 CONCERNING INCREASING THE ALIGNMENT OF POSTSECONDARY AND
102 WORKFORCE READINESS INITIATIVES AT THE SECONDARY
103 EDUCATION LEVEL WITH POSTSECONDARY CAREER AND
104 TECHNICAL EDUCATION.

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>.)

The bill requires that, if a student chooses to follow a career pathway, the student's individual career and academic plan must be aligned with the plan of study, if any, that is appropriate to the student's

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.

career goal. The bill directs the commissioner of education to ensure that the department of education (department) aligns the postsecondary and workforce readiness programs and initiatives that it implements with the model plans of study created by the community college system. The bill requires the department, in collaboration with the community college system, to create and make available informational materials that explain the alignment of the state academic standards, the state high school graduation guidelines, and the postsecondary and workforce initiatives and programs that the department implements with the model plans of study and the career pathways.

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

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

4 (a) Student and parent access to career education information is
5 important at each step of a student's educational experience as the student
6 plans and prepares for a productive career following graduation;

7 (b) Greater alignment between the secondary and postsecondary
8 public education systems, especially in regard to course expectations and
9 requirements for achieving postsecondary, industry-approved credentials
10 and degrees, is essential to enable students and their parents to plan and
11 direct their academic careers;

12 (c) Greater alignment of the expectations of the secondary and
13 postsecondary public education systems also strengthens the ability of
14 teachers, principals, and counselors to help students adequately prepare
15 to achieve postsecondary and career success in each student's chosen
16 pathway;

17 (d) Greater alignment between these systems also promotes
18 smoother student transitions, less course duplication, and a reduced need
19 for developmental course work when students enter college; and

20 (e) Aligning the secondary and postsecondary public education

1 systems supports students as they plan and prepare to follow the career
2 pathways that are aligned with the needs of industry and businesses
3 within the state and ultimately supports continued economic development
4 within the state.

5 (2) The general assembly finds, therefore, that it is in the best
6 interests of the state and of students and their families to direct the
7 department of education to collaborate with the community college
8 system to create the greatest possible alignment of the postsecondary and
9 workforce readiness initiatives that are implemented at the secondary
10 public education level with the career and technical education plans of
11 study and career pathways created at the postsecondary level.

12 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-2-136, **amend** (2)
13 (b) and (2) (c); and **add** (2) (d) as follows:

14 **22-2-136. Additional duty - state board - individual career and**
15 **academic plans - standards - rules.** (2) In establishing the standards for
16 individual career and academic plans, the state board shall ensure, at a
17 minimum, that:

18 (b) Each individual career and academic plan is accessible to
19 educators, students, and parents; ~~and~~

20 (c) Each public school, in assisting students and parents in
21 creating and maintaining the individual career and academic plans, is in
22 compliance with the requirements of the federal "Family Educational
23 Rights and Privacy Act of 1974", 20 U.S.C. sec. 1232g; AND

24 (d) IF A STUDENT CHOOSES TO FOLLOW A CAREER PATHWAY
25 CREATED PURSUANT TO SECTION 24-46.3-104, C.R.S., THE STUDENT'S
26 INDIVIDUAL CAREER AND ACADEMIC PLAN IS ALIGNED WITH THE PLAN OF
27 STUDY AS DEFINED IN SECTION 22-2-112 (1) (s), IF ANY, THAT IS

1 APPROPRIATE TO THE STUDENT'S CAREER GOALS.

2 **SECTION 3.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-2-112, **add** (1) (s)
3 as follows:

4 **22-2-112. Commissioner - duties.** (1) Subject to the supervision
5 of the state board, the commissioner has the following duties:

6 (s) (I) TO ENSURE THAT THE DEPARTMENT ALIGNS THE
7 POSTSECONDARY AND WORKFORCE READINESS PROGRAMS AND
8 INITIATIVES THAT IT IMPLEMENTS WITH THE MODEL PLANS OF STUDY
9 CREATED BY THE COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM.

10 (II) FOR PURPOSES OF THIS PARAGRAPH (s), "PLAN OF STUDY"
11 MEANS A DESCRIPTION OF THE PROGRAM AND SEQUENCE OF COURSES THAT
12 A STUDENT INTENDS TO COMPLETE TO SATISFY HIS OR HER REMAINING
13 REQUIREMENTS FOR HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION AND SELECTED PATHWAY
14 FOR ACADEMIC AND CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION.

15 **SECTION 4.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-7-1008, **add** (4)
16 as follows:

17 **22-7-1008. Postsecondary and workforce readiness description**
18 **- adoption - revision.** (4) THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION SHALL
19 COLLABORATE WITH THE COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM TO CREATE AND
20 MAKE AVAILABLE INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS EXPLAINING THE
21 ALIGNMENT OF THE STATE ACADEMIC STANDARDS, THE STATE HIGH
22 SCHOOL GRADUATION GUIDELINES ADOPTED PURSUANT TO SECTION
23 22-2-106 (1) (a.5), AND THE POSTSECONDARY AND WORKFORCE
24 INITIATIVES AND PROGRAMS THAT THE DEPARTMENT IMPLEMENTS WITH
25 THE MODEL PLANS OF STUDY, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 22-2-112 (1) (s),
26 AND THE CAREER PATHWAYS DEVELOPED PURSUANT TO SECTION
27 24-46.3-104, C.R.S.

1 **SECTION 5. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act
2 takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the
3 ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly (August
4 10, 2016, if adjournment sine die is on May 11, 2016); except that, if a
5 referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V of the
6 state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this act
7 within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take effect
8 unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in
9 November 2016 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the
10 official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.