

First Regular Session  
Seventy-third General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 21-0568.01 Julie Pelegrin x2700

HOUSE BILL 21-1112

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HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Snyder,

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Lee,

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House Committees  
Education

Senate Committees

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A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 CONCERNING AUTHORIZATION FOR A SCHOOL DISTRICT TO ESTABLISH  
102 A SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM FOR SCHOOL DISTRICT GRADUATES  
103 USING THE SCHOOL DISTRICT'S LOCALLY RECEIVED MONEY.

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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://leg.colorado.gov>.)*

The bill authorizes a school district board of education to establish a scholarship program for graduates of the school district. The scholarships must be paid from additional mill levy revenue that the school district is authorized to collect; gifts, grants, and donations; or both. A board of education that establishes a scholarship program is

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

encouraged to prioritize low-income and first-generation students; limit the tuition rate that may be paid using a scholarship; and specify the uses of the scholarship. A school district that implements a scholarship program must submit a report concerning the scholarship program and scholarship recipients to the department of education, which must compile the reports received and submit the compilation to the state board of education and the education committees of the general assembly.

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

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 22-32-149 as  
3 follows:

4 **22-32-149. District scholarship programs - authorized - report.**

5 (1) A SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION MAY ESTABLISH A  
6 SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM FOR STUDENTS WHO RECEIVE A HIGH SCHOOL  
7 DIPLOMA FROM THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OR SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETE A  
8 HIGH SCHOOL EQUIVALENCY EXAMINATION WHILE ENROLLED IN THE  
9 SCHOOL DISTRICT. THE SCHOLARSHIPS MUST BE FUNDED FROM  
10 ADDITIONAL MILL LEVY REVENUE THAT IS APPROVED PURSUANT TO  
11 SECTION 22-54-108; FROM GIFTS, GRANTS, OR DONATIONS THAT THE  
12 SCHOOL DISTRICT RECEIVES FOR PURPOSES OF THE SCHOLARSHIP  
13 PROGRAM; OR FROM A COMBINATION OF BOTH. A BOARD OF EDUCATION  
14 THAT ESTABLISHES A SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM IS STRONGLY ENCOURAGED  
15 TO:

16 (a) PRIORITIZE SCHOLARSHIPS FOR STUDENTS WHO ARE ELIGIBLE  
17 FOR FREE OR REDUCED-PRICE MEALS PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF THE  
18 FEDERAL "RICHARD B. RUSSELL NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH ACT", 42  
19 U.S.C. SEC. 1751 ET SEQ., AND STUDENTS WHOSE PARENTS DO NOT HAVE  
20 A POSTSECONDARY CREDENTIAL, TO FACILITATE AWARDING  
21 SCHOLARSHIPS TO INCREASE GRADUATES' ACCESS TO POSTSECONDARY  
22 EDUCATION;

1 (b) LIMIT THE TUITION RATE THAT MAY BE PAID USING A  
2 SCHOLARSHIP TO THE AVERAGE OF THE TUITION AMOUNTS CHARGED BY  
3 THE COMMUNITY COLLEGES IN THE AREA SURROUNDING THE SCHOOL  
4 DISTRICT; AND

5 (c) LIMIT THE USE OF SCHOLARSHIP MONEY TO TUITION, BOOKS  
6 AND SUPPLIES, AND TRANSPORTATION.

7 (2) A SCHOOL DISTRICT THAT IMPLEMENTS A SCHOLARSHIP  
8 PROGRAM AS DESCRIBED IN THIS SECTION SHALL SUBMIT TO THE  
9 DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION A REPORT FOR EACH SCHOOL YEAR IN WHICH  
10 THE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM OPERATES DESCRIBING THE TOTAL AMOUNT  
11 OF SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED, THE NUMBER OF SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS,  
12 AND AGGREGATE INFORMATION CONCERNING THE SCHOLARSHIP  
13 RECIPIENTS, INCLUDING RECIPIENT DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION, THE  
14 CREDENTIALS PURSUED BY RECIPIENTS, AND THE CREDENTIALS EARNED BY  
15 RECIPIENTS. THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION SHALL COMPILE THE  
16 INFORMATION RECEIVED FROM SCHOOL DISTRICTS PURSUANT TO THIS  
17 SUBSECTION (2) AND SUBMIT IT TO THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION AND  
18 THE EDUCATION COMMITTEES OF THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF  
19 REPRESENTATIVES, OR ANY SUCCESSOR COMMITTEES. NOTWITHSTANDING  
20 THE REQUIREMENT IN SECTION 24-1-136 (11)(a)(I), THE REQUIREMENT TO  
21 SUBMIT THE REPORT REQUIRED IN THIS SUBSECTION (2) CONTINUES  
22 INDEFINITELY.

23 **SECTION 2. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds,  
24 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate  
25 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety.