

Second Regular Session  
Seventy-fourth General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 24-0809.01 Alana Rosen x2606

HOUSE BILL 24-1076

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HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Marshall and Weissman,

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Fields,

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House Committees  
Education

Senate Committees

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A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 CONCERNING CREATING A PROGRAM TO RECOGNIZE PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
102 THAT PROVIDE CERTAIN SERVICES TO MILITARY-CONNECTED  
103 FAMILIES.

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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 creates the purple star school program (program) in the department of education (department). The purpose of the program is to designate schools of a school district, district charter schools, institute charter schools, or boards of cooperative services (public schools) that provide services and supports to military-connected students and their

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

families to help mitigate the academic and social-emotional challenges they may face as a result of frequent moves, new schools, parental deployments, and different social circles and experiences.

The department is required to create:

- An application for a public school to apply for a purple star school designation;
- A rubric to measure whether a public school qualifies for a purple star school designation; and
- A timeline for a public school to apply for and to renew the purple star school designation.

The department shall designate a public school as a purple star school if the public school applies and qualifies for the designation.

During the first week of April each year, the governor, or the governor's designee, shall recognize each purple star school and present the purple star schools with a certificate.

A purple star school designation is valid for 3 years.

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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** 22-1-144 as  
3 follows:

4 **22-1-144. Purple star school program - creation - rules -**  
5 **definitions.** (1) AS USED IN THIS SECTION, UNLESS THE CONTEXT  
6 OTHERWISE REQUIRES:

7 (a) "BOARD OF COOPERATIVE SERVICES" OR "BOCES" MEANS A  
8 BOARD OF COOPERATIVE SERVICES CREATED AND OPERATING PURSUANT  
9 TO ARTICLE 5 OF THIS TITLE 22.

10 (b) "DEPARTMENT" MEANS THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
11 CREATED IN SECTION 24-1-115.

12 (c) "MILITARY-CONNECTED STUDENT" MEANS A STUDENT  
13 ENROLLED IN A SCHOOL OF A SCHOOL DISTRICT, DISTRICT CHARTER  
14 SCHOOL, INSTITUTE CHARTER SCHOOL, OR BOCES WHO IS A DEPENDENT  
15 OF A:

16 (I) CURRENT OR FORMER MEMBER OF THE UNITED STATES

1 MILITARY;  
2 (II) UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE ACTIVE-DUTY  
3 SERVICE MEMBER;  
4 (III) COLORADO NATIONAL GUARD MEMBER;  
5 (IV) UNITED STATES MILITARY RESERVES MEMBER; OR  
6 (V) MEMBER OF THE UNITED STATES MILITARY, COLORADO  
7 NATIONAL GUARD, OR UNITED STATES MILITARY RESERVES KILLED IN THE  
8 LINE OF DUTY.

9 (d) "PUBLIC SCHOOL" MEANS A SCHOOL OF A SCHOOL DISTRICT, A  
10 CHARTER SCHOOL AUTHORIZED BY A SCHOOL DISTRICT PURSUANT TO PART  
11 1 OF ARTICLE 30.5 OF THIS TITLE 22, A CHARTER SCHOOL AUTHORIZED BY  
12 THE STATE CHARTER SCHOOL INSTITUTE PURSUANT TO PART 5 OF ARTICLE  
13 30.5 OF THIS TITLE 22, OR A BOCES.

14 (e) "PURPLE STAR SCHOOL PROGRAM" OR "PROGRAM" MEANS THE  
15 PURPLE STAR SCHOOL PROGRAM CREATED IN SUBSECTION (2) OF THIS  
16 SECTION.

17 (2) (a) THE PURPLE STAR SCHOOL PROGRAM IS CREATED IN THE  
18 DEPARTMENT. THE PURPOSE OF THE PROGRAM IS TO DESIGNATE AS PURPLE  
19 STAR SCHOOLS PUBLIC SCHOOLS THAT PROVIDE SERVICES AND SUPPORTS  
20 TO MILITARY-CONNECTED STUDENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES TO MITIGATE  
21 ACADEMIC AND SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL CHALLENGES RELATED TO FREQUENT  
22 MOVES, NEW SCHOOLS, PARENTAL DEPLOYMENTS, AND DIFFERENT SOCIAL  
23 CIRCLES AND EXPERIENCES.

24 (b) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL CREATE:

25 (I) AN APPLICATION FOR A PUBLIC SCHOOL TO APPLY FOR A PURPLE  
26 STAR SCHOOL DESIGNATION;

27 (II) A RUBRIC TO MEASURE WHETHER A PUBLIC SCHOOL QUALIFIES

1 FOR A PURPLE STAR SCHOOL DESIGNATION, WHICH MUST IDENTIFY:

2 (A) THE REQUIRED PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION STEPS THAT

3 CORRESPOND TO SUBSECTION (3) OF THIS SECTION; AND

4 (B) EVALUATION CRITERIA TO PROVIDE FEEDBACK TO A PUBLIC

5 SCHOOL ON THE PUBLIC SCHOOL'S READINESS TO IMPLEMENT THE

6 PROGRAM; AND

7 (III) A TIMELINE FOR A PUBLIC SCHOOL TO APPLY FOR AND TO

8 RENEW THE PURPLE STAR SCHOOL DESIGNATION.

9 (c) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL DESIGNATE A PUBLIC SCHOOL AS A

10 PURPLE STAR SCHOOL IF THE PUBLIC SCHOOL APPLIES AND QUALIFIES FOR

11 THE DESIGNATION PURSUANT TO THE RUBRIC DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION

12 (2)(b)(II) OF THIS SECTION.

13 (3) (a) TO QUALIFY AS A PURPLE STAR SCHOOL, A PUBLIC SCHOOL

14 SHALL:

15 (I) DESIGNATE A STAFF MEMBER AS A MILITARY LIAISON, WHO

16 SHALL PERFORM THE FOLLOWING DUTIES:

17 (A) IDENTIFY MILITARY-CONNECTED STUDENTS ENROLLED AT THE

18 PUBLIC SCHOOL;

19 (B) SERVE AS THE POINT OF CONTACT BETWEEN THE PUBLIC

20 SCHOOL CAMPUS AND MILITARY-CONNECTED STUDENTS AND THEIR

21 FAMILIES;

22 (C) DETERMINE APPROPRIATE SCHOOL SERVICES AVAILABLE TO

23 MILITARY-CONNECTED STUDENTS; AND

24 (D) DETERMINE WHETHER MILITARY-CONNECTED STUDENTS HAVE

25 ACCESS TO THE APPROPRIATE COUNSELING SERVICES, MENTORSHIP

26 SERVICES, VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES, AND STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES;

27 (II) CREATE AND MAINTAIN ON THE PUBLIC SCHOOL'S WEBSITE AN

1 ACCESSIBLE WEB PAGE THAT INCLUDES RESOURCES FOR  
2 MILITARY-CONNECTED STUDENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES, INCLUDING THE  
3 FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

4 (A) HOW TO RELOCATE TO, ENROLL IN, REGISTER FOR, AND  
5 TRANSFER RECORDS TO THE PUBLIC SCHOOL;

6 (B) ACADEMIC PLANNING, COURSE SEQUENCES, AND ADVANCED  
7 COURSES AVAILABLE AT THE PUBLIC SCHOOL;

8 (C) COUNSELING AND OTHER SUPPORT SERVICES AVAILABLE FOR  
9 MILITARY-CONNECTED STUDENTS ENROLLED AT THE PUBLIC SCHOOL; AND

10 (D) THE NAME OF THE DESIGNATED MILITARY LIAISON FOR THE  
11 PUBLIC SCHOOL AND THE MILITARY LIAISON'S DUTIES AS DESCRIBED IN  
12 SUBSECTION (3)(a)(I) OF THIS SECTION;

13 (III) ESTABLISH AND MAINTAIN A STUDENT-LED TRANSITION  
14 PROGRAM THAT ASSISTS MILITARY-CONNECTED STUDENTS WHO ARE  
15 RELOCATING TO THE PUBLIC SCHOOL;

16 (IV) OFFER PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR EDUCATORS AND  
17 STAFF ON ISSUES RELATED TO MILITARY-CONNECTED STUDENTS; AND

18 (V) OFFER AT LEAST ONE OF THE FOLLOWING INITIATIVES:

19 (A) A PUBLIC SCHOOL RESOLUTION PUBLISHED ON THE PUBLIC  
20 SCHOOL'S WEBSITE SHOWING SUPPORT FOR MILITARY-CONNECTED  
21 STUDENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES;

22 (B) CELEBRATIONS IN APRIL AND NOVEMBER TO RECOGNIZE  
23 MILITARY CHILDREN AND MILITARY FAMILIES, WITH ASSOCIATED EVENTS  
24 HOSTED BY THE PUBLIC SCHOOL;

25 (C) A PARTNERSHIP WITH A LOCAL MILITARY INSTALLATION THAT  
26 FACILITATES OPPORTUNITIES FOR MILITARY MEMBERS TO VOLUNTEER ON  
27 THE PUBLIC SCHOOL'S CAMPUS, SPEAK AT A PUBLIC SCHOOL ASSEMBLY, OR

1 HOST A FIELD TRIP; OR

2 (D) STUDENT-DRIVEN CLUBS AND GROUPS THAT SHOW  
3 COMMUNITY-FAMILY ENGAGEMENT FOR MILITARY-CONNECTED STUDENTS  
4 AND THEIR FAMILIES.

5 (b) THE DEPARTMENT MAY ESTABLISH ADDITIONAL CRITERIA TO  
6 IDENTIFY PUBLIC SCHOOLS COMMITTED TO SUPPORTING  
7 MILITARY-CONNECTED FAMILIES, INCLUDING:

8 (I) HOSTING AN ANNUAL MILITARY RECOGNITION EVENT;

9 (II) PARTNERING WITH A SCHOOL LIAISON PROGRAM MANAGER  
10 FROM A MILITARY INSTALLATION;

11 (III) SUPPORTING PROJECTS THAT CONNECT THE PUBLIC SCHOOL  
12 TO THE MILITARY COMMUNITY; OR

13 (IV) PROVIDING OUTREACH TO MILITARY-CONNECTED STUDENTS  
14 AND THEIR FAMILIES.

15 (4) DURING THE FIRST WEEK OF APRIL EACH YEAR, THE  
16 GOVERNOR, OR THE GOVERNOR'S DESIGNEE, SHALL RECOGNIZE EACH  
17 PURPLE STAR SCHOOL AND PRESENT THE PURPLE STAR SCHOOLS WITH A  
18 CERTIFICATE.

19 (5) A PURPLE STAR SCHOOL DESIGNATION IS VALID FOR THREE  
20 YEARS.

21 (6) THE DEPARTMENT MAY PROMULGATE RULES FOR THE  
22 IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS SECTION.

23 **SECTION 2. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act  
24 takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the  
25 ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly; except  
26 that, if a referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V  
27 of the state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this

1 act within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take  
2 effect unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in  
3 November 2024 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the  
4 official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.