HOUSE BILL 00-1136

BY REPRESENTATIVES Tapia, Bacon, Clarke, Coleman, Gagliardi, Gordon, Grossman, Hagedorn, Keller, Leyba, Mace, Miller, Morrison, Plant, Ragsdale, Saliman, Stengel, Tate, Tupa, Veiga, S. Williams, and Windels;
also SENATORS Thiebaut, Dennis, Feeley, Hernandez, Martinez, Nichol, Pascoe, Phillips, Reeves, Rupert, Tanner, and Weddig.

CONCERNING THE CREATION OF THE LEARNING IMPROVEMENT GRANT PROGRAM FOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

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

SECTION 1. Part 5 of article 7 of title 22, Colorado Revised Statutes, is amended BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW SECTION to read:

22-7-507. Learning improvement grants - programs - fund. (1) (a) THERE IS HEREBY CREATED IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION THE LEARNING IMPROVEMENT GRANT PROGRAM, REFERRED TO IN THIS SECTION AS THE "PROGRAM". THE READ-TO-ACHIEVE BOARD, CREATED IN SECTION 22-7-506 AND REFERRED TO IN THIS SECTION AS THE "BOARD", SHALL ESTABLISH CRITERIA FOR AWARDING GRANTS UNDER THE PROGRAM. ON AND AFTER JULY 1, 2001, THE BOARD, IS HEREBY AUTHORIZED TO AWARD LEARNING IMPROVEMENT GRANTS TO SCHOOLS OR A COLLABORATIVE GROUP OF SCHOOLS FOR PROGRAMS TO ENHANCE THE LITERACY AND READING

Capital letters indicate new material added to existing statutes; dashes through words indicate deletions from existing statutes and such material not part of act.

COMPREHENSION SKILLS OF EARLY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENTS.

(b) (I) THE CRITERIA FOR AWARDING GRANTS PURSUANT TO PARAGRAPH (a) OF THIS SUBSECTION (1) SHALL ALLOW FOR GRANTS FOR PROGRAMS TO BE CONDUCTED FOR STUDENTS WHO HAVE JUST COMPLETED THE FIRST GRADE. PROGRAMS AUTHORIZED TO RECEIVE GRANTS PURSUANT TO THIS PARAGRAPH (b) SHALL INCLUDE PROCEDURES TO IDENTIFY STUDENTS IN NEED OF ASSISTANCE AND TO EVALUATE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF SUCH PROGRAMS.

(II) ON OR BEFORE MARCH 1, 2003, THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION SHALL REPORT TO THE EDUCATION COMMITTEES OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ON THE EFFECTIVENESS OF PROGRAMS RECEIVING GRANTS UNDER THIS PARAGRAPH (b).

(2) THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION SHALL SEEK, AND IS HEREBY AUTHORIZED TO RECEIVE, FUNDING FOR THE FINANCING OF LITERACY PROGRAMS ENACTED AFTER JANUARY 1, 2000, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO FUNDING FROM PUBLIC OR PRIVATE GIFTS, GRANTS, OR DONATIONS, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO ANY FUNDS AVAILABLE PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 20 OF THIS TITLE. ANY FUNDS RECEIVED PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION SHALL BE CREDITED TO THE LEARNING IMPROVEMENT FUND CREATED IN SUBSECTION (3) OF THIS SECTION.

(3) THERE IS HEREBY CREATED IN THE STATE TREASURY THE LEARNING IMPROVEMENT FUND, REFERRED TO IN THIS SECTION AS THE "FUND". THE FUND SHALL CONSIST OF SUCH GENERAL FUND MONEYS AS MAY BE APPROPRIATED THERETO BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND ANY MONEYS CREDITED THERETO PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (2) OF THIS SECTION. ALL MONEYS APPROPRIATED OR CREDITED TO THE FUND AND ALL INCOME EARNED THEREON SHALL BE SUBJECT TO ANNUAL APPROPRIATION BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FOR FUNDING LITERACY PROGRAMS ENACTED AFTER JANUARY 1, 2000. ANY MONEYS REMAINING IN THE FUND AT THE CLOSE OF ANY FISCAL YEAR SHALL REMAIN IN THE FUND AND SHALL NOT REVERT TO THE GENERAL FUND.

SECTION 2. Effective date. This act shall take effect upon passage; except that this act shall not take effect unless Senate Bill 00-124 is enacted by the Sixty-second General Assembly.

SECTION 3. Safety clause. The general assembly hereby finds, determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, and safety.

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Russell George	Ray Powers
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE	PRESIDENT OF
OF REPRESENTATIVES	THE SENATE

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Judith M. Rodrigue	Patricia K. Dicks
CHIEF CLERK OF THE HOUSE	SECRETARY OF
OF REPRESENTATIVES	THE SENATE

APPROVED_____

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Bill Owens
GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF COLORADO