

**UPDATED SUMMARY
HOUSE BILL 15-1321**

First Regular Session - Seventieth Colorado General Assembly

This summary applies to the reengrossed version of this bill as introduced in the second house. It does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. This summary reflects only the main points of the legislation.

The bill exempts a school district that is rural and enrolls fewer than 1,000 students *in kindergarten through twelfth grade* (small rural district) from the requirements to:

- ! Adopt a district policy for increasing and supporting parent engagement in public schools;
- ! Identify an employee to act as a point of contact for parent engagement training and resources; and
- ! Perform certain duties of the school district and school accountability committees that relate to increasing parent engagement.

Under current law, if a school district enrolls 500 or fewer students, a member of the school district board of education may serve on a school accountability committee, and the district accountability committee may serve as a school accountability committee. Under the bill, this provision applies to each small rural district.

Under current law, each school district board of education and board of cooperative services (BOCES) must provide written notice of special meetings to the board members. The bill allows the board of education of a school district that is rural and enrolls 6,500 *or fewer* students ~~or fewer~~ *in kindergarten through twelfth grade* (rural district) and a BOCES that includes a rural district to deliver the written notice by electronic mail.

Under current law, each school district must report its expenditures at the district level and at the school-site level. The bill allows a small rural district to report expenditures only at the district level, except for school-site level expenditures that are partially charged to a district charter school.

The bill allows a person who is employed in multiple educator roles simultaneously to receive a single performance evaluation that takes into account the person's performance in each of the roles. Under current law, both an administrator and a principal must serve on a school district's personnel performance evaluation council, in addition to a teacher and specified residents of the school district. Under the bill, if a school district does not employ both a superintendent and a principal, the person who is employed as both the superintendent and the principal may serve on the council.

The bill directs the general assembly to appropriate \$10 million for the 2015-16 budget year to the department of education to distribute to small rural districts and institute charter schools that are located within small rural districts. The money is distributed on a per pupil basis. If the rural district is the authorizer for a district charter school, the rural district must distribute the full per pupil share of the amount received to the district charter school. *The small rural districts and charter schools that receive the moneys must use them for one of the purposes specified in the provision that creates the state education fund.*

Under current law, the amount of revenue that a school district may receive from mill levy overrides cannot exceed 25% of the school district's total program. The bill increases the limit to 30% of total program for small rural districts.

Italicized words indicate new material added to the original summary; dashes through words indicate deletions from the original summary.
Prepared by the Office of Legislative Legal Services.