

UPDATED SUMMARY
SENATE BILL 16-104

Second 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 creates several methods to address the problem of recruitment and retention of teachers in rural school districts of Colorado (rural districts). This includes:

- ! Establishing ~~one or more~~ a rural education ~~centers~~ *coordinator* housed in ~~institutions~~ *an institution* of higher education in a rural ~~districts~~ *district*;
- ! Providing *up to 40 financial stipends annually, not to exceed \$2,800 per student*, to offset tuition costs ~~to student teachers who are~~ *for individuals* in approved educator preparation programs and who agree to student teach in a rural *school or rural school* district *of the student's choice*;
- ! Establishing teacher cadet programs in identified rural *schools and rural school* districts to identify and support high school students interested in pursuing teaching careers in rural districts; and
- ! *Annually providing funds up to 20 financial stipends, not to exceed \$6,000 each*, to offset costs for a teacher in a rural district who is pursuing either becoming a national board certified teacher, ~~or~~ becoming qualified as a concurrent enrollment teacher in his or her rural district, *or is a teacher furthering his or her professional development plan through continuing education. A teacher who receives such a stipend must commit to teach for a total of 3 years in his or her rural school or school district.*