

**Second Regular Session  
Sixty-seventh General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO**

**ENGROSSED**

*This Version Includes All Amendments Adopted  
on Second Reading in the House of Introduction*

LLS NO. 10-0479.02 Julie Pelegrin

**HOUSE BILL 10-1273**

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**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

101     **CONCERNING IMPROVED WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT THROUGH**  
102             **INCREASED PARTICIPATION IN ARTS EDUCATION IN PUBLIC**  
103             **SCHOOLS.**

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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://www.leg.state.co.us/billsummaries>.)*

In **section 1**, the bill recognizes the importance of visual arts and performing arts in public education. **Section 2** of the bill requires each public school in the state to provide visual arts and performing arts education. Demonstration of proficiency regarding the visual arts and

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

HOUSE  
Amended 2nd Reading  
March 5, 2010

performing arts standards will be a condition of high school graduation from the public schools of the state beginning with the ninth-grade class of 2010-11.

Under current law, the state board of education must adopt rules describing the minimum contents of each student's individual career and academic plan. **Section 3** of the bill requires each plan to include the student's progress in visual arts and performing arts classes.

**Sections 4-8** of the bill amend several provisions of the "Preschool to Postsecondary Education Alignment Act" to specifically incorporate visual arts and performing arts education into the standards, assessments, and postsecondary and workforce readiness program that the state board of education and local education providers adopt.

**Sections 9-13** of the bill recognize the importance of visual arts and performing arts education in preventing student dropouts and in helping local education providers re-engage students in school. Under current law, the office of dropout prevention and student re-engagement, in the department of education, collaborates with several community organizations. The bill includes private nonprofit or for-profit community arts organizations in the list of collaborative agencies. Certain local education providers are currently required to assess their practices related to student dropouts and re-engagement. The bill includes policies and practices related to visual arts and performing arts education in the assessment. Those local education providers that adopt student graduation and completion plans are encouraged to include increased availability of visual arts and performing arts education in those plans. The bill also specifies visual arts and performing arts education as education services for which a local education provider may seek grant moneys under the student re-engagement grant program.

**Sections 14 and 15** of the bill conform the definition of arts-based activity in the dropout prevention activity grant program with the definitions of visual arts and performing arts created in the bill.

**Section 16** of the bill clarifies that career and technical education for which a school district, board of cooperative services, or charter school may receive funding includes visual arts and performing arts education.

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

2 **SECTION 1. Legislative declaration.** (1) The general assembly  
3 hereby finds that:

4 (a) Recent studies have shown that education in visual arts and  
5 performing arts has positive effects on children's behavior, attitudes, and

1 academic performance and on career and workforce readiness;

2 (b) The opportunity to study and build skills in the visual arts and  
3 performing arts increases students' self-confidence, nurtures students'  
4 creativity and curiosity, provides on-going challenges for students, helps  
5 students remain engaged in school, facilitates building positive  
6 relationships between students and teachers, and, as a result of these  
7 effects, helps reduce the school dropout rate;

8 (c) Visual arts and performing arts education provide an  
9 alternative method of reaching struggling students, including those who  
10 are disadvantaged, those for whom English is a second language, and  
11 students with disabilities;

12 (d) The innovation and creativity that students exercise and foster  
13 in visual arts and performing arts education enables them to innovate,  
14 creatively solve problems, and bring greater creativity to their thinking in  
15 the more traditional education areas of reading, mathematics, and science  
16 and to develop the twenty-first-century critical thinking, collaboration,  
17 communication, and leadership skills that are crucial to success in today's  
18 workforce;

19 (e) Because of the level of innovation and creativity demanded for  
20 Colorado and the nation to stay competitive in the global economy, it is  
21 crucial that each student graduate from a public high school in Colorado  
22 with a solid foundation in visual arts and performing arts education that  
23 will enable the student to participate fully, creatively, and successfully in  
24 the state's economy and workforce.

25 (2) The general assembly finds, therefore, that requiring school  
26 districts and charter schools to fully integrate visual arts and performing  
27 arts education into the elementary and secondary school curriculum and

1 into the description of postsecondary and workforce readiness is  
2 necessary to more fully support workforce development within the state  
3 and ensure that Colorado is able to compete economically on both a  
4 national and global scale.

5 **SECTION 2.** Article 1 of title 22, Colorado Revised Statutes, is  
6 amended BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW SECTION to read:

7 **22-1-104.5. Teaching of visual arts and performing arts -**  
8 **definitions.** (1) AS USED IN THIS SECTION, UNLESS THE CONTEXT  
9 OTHERWISE REQUIRES:

10 (a) "COURSE" INCLUDES, BUT NEED NOT BE LIMITED TO, A  
11 TRADITIONAL CLASS, AN ON-LINE COURSE OF STUDY, AN INTERNSHIP, AN  
12 EXTERNSHIP, A MENTOR EXPERIENCE, OR AN INDEPENDENT STUDY COURSE  
13 THAT CULMINATES IN AN INTEGRATIVE OR SPECIALIZED PERFORMANCE,  
14 SHOWCASE, OR EXHIBITION.

15 (b) "PERFORMING ARTS" MEANS ART FORMS THAT ARE EXPRESSED  
16 BY INDIVIDUALS OR GROUPS THAT INVOLVE PERFORMANCE THROUGH  
17 MULTI-SENSORY EXPERIENCES, WHICH PERFORMANCES MAY INCLUDE, BUT  
18 NEED NOT BE LIMITED TO, DANCE, MUSIC, THEATER, AND DIGITAL OR  
19 ELECTRONIC PRODUCTIONS.

20 (c) "VISUAL ARTS" MEANS ART WORKS CREATED BY INDIVIDUALS  
21 OR GROUPS USING A VARIETY OF MEDIA AND PROCESSES, WHICH ART  
22 WORKS MAY INCLUDE, BUT NEED NOT BE LIMITED TO, DRAWING, PAINTING,  
23 CERAMIC ARTS, SCULPTURE, PHOTOGRAPHY, GRAPHIC ARTS, PRINTMAKING,  
24 MEDIA ARTS, ELECTRONIC OR DIGITAL DESIGN, TEXTILES, JEWELRY, GLASS  
25 ARTS, AND FINE WOODWORKING.

26 (2) EACH PUBLIC SCHOOL IN THE STATE SHALL PROVIDE COURSES  
27 IN VISUAL ARTS AND IN PERFORMING ARTS, WHICH COURSES SHALL BE

1 BASED ON CONTENT STANDARDS FOR VISUAL ARTS AND PERFORMING ARTS  
2 AND PROVIDED IN COMPLIANCE WITH STATE AND FEDERAL LAW. SCHOOL  
3 DISTRICTS AND PUBLIC SCHOOLS ARE STRONGLY ENCOURAGED TO  
4 EXPLORE AND IMPLEMENT INNOVATIVE DELIVERY MECHANISMS FOR  
5 PERFORMING ARTS AND VISUAL ARTS COURSES, INCLUDING BUT NOT  
6 LIMITED TO USING ON-SITE TECHNOLOGY AND SOFTWARE, ON-LINE  
7 EDUCATION, AND COLLABORATION AMONG COMMUNITY COLLEGES, OTHER  
8 SCHOOL DISTRICTS OR PUBLIC SCHOOLS, BOARDS OF COOPERATIVE  
9 SERVICES, AND REGIONAL SERVICE AREAS.

10 (3) FOR STUDENTS WHO ENROLL IN NINTH GRADE ON OR AFTER  
11 JULY 1, 2011, EACH PUBLIC SCHOOL IN THE STATE THAT INCLUDES  
12 TWELFTH GRADE SHALL REQUIRE, AS A CONDITION OF HIGH SCHOOL  
13 GRADUATION, THAT EACH STUDENT SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETE AT LEAST  
14 ONE COURSE IN VISUAL ARTS OR PERFORMING ARTS, WHICH COURSE IS  
15 BASED ON THE CONTENT STANDARDS FOR VISUAL ARTS OR PERFORMING  
16 ARTS, WHICHEVER IS APPLICABLE.

17 **SECTION 3.** 22-2-136 (2) (a), Colorado Revised Statutes, is  
18 amended BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW SUBPARAGRAPH to read:

19 **22-2-136. Additional duty - state board - individual career and**  
20 **academic plans - standards - rules.** (2) In establishing the standards for  
21 individual career and academic plans, the state board shall ensure, at a  
22 minimum, that:

23 (a) Each individual career and academic plan includes a career  
24 planning and guidance component and a portfolio that reflects, at a  
25 minimum:

26 (II.5) THE STUDENT'S PROGRESS IN VISUAL ARTS AND PERFORMING  
27 ARTS COURSES;

1           **SECTION 4.** 22-7-1003, Colorado Revised Statutes, is amended  
2 BY THE ADDITION OF THE FOLLOWING NEW SUBSECTIONS to  
3 read:

4           **22-7-1003. Definitions.** As used in this part 10, unless the  
5 context otherwise requires:

6           (11.5) "PERFORMING ARTS" SHALL HAVE THE SAME MEANING AS  
7 PROVIDED IN SECTION 22-1-104.5 (1) (b).

8           (25) "VISUAL ARTS" SHALL HAVE THE SAME MEANING AS  
9 PROVIDED IN SECTION 22-1-104.5 (1) (c).

10          **SECTION 5.** 22-7-1005 (2) (a), Colorado Revised Statutes, is  
11 amended to read:

12          **22-7-1005. Preschool through elementary and secondary**  
13 **education - aligned standards - adoption - revisions.** (2) (a) The state  
14 board shall ensure that the preschool through elementary and secondary  
15 education standards, at a minimum, include standards in reading, writing,  
16 mathematics, science, history, geography, visual ~~and~~ ARTS, performing  
17 arts, physical education, world languages, English language competency,  
18 economics, civics, financial literacy, and any other instructional areas for  
19 which the state board had adopted standards as of January 1, 2008.

20          **SECTION 6.** 22-7-1009 (4), Colorado Revised Statutes, is  
21 amended to read:

22          **22-7-1009. Diploma endorsements - adoption - revisions.**  
23 (4) The state board shall also consider and may adopt criteria for a range  
24 of additional endorsements that a school district, BOCES, or institute  
25 charter high school may choose to grant to graduating students to  
26 recognize concentrated focus and outstanding achievement in a variety of  
27 subject areas, including but not limited to ~~performance and fine~~ VISUAL

1 ARTS, PERFORMING arts, career and technical education, history and civics,  
2 mathematics, and science.

3 **SECTION 7.** 22-7-1013 (1) (b), Colorado Revised Statutes, is  
4 amended to read:

5 **22-7-1013. Local education provider - preschool through**  
6 **elementary and secondary education standards - adoption.** (1) (b) In  
7 revising its preschool through elementary and secondary education  
8 standards, each local education provider shall ensure that it adopts  
9 standards, at a minimum, in those subject matter areas that are included  
10 in the state preschool through elementary and secondary education  
11 standards, including but not limited to English language competency AND  
12 VISUAL ARTS AND PERFORMING ARTS EDUCATION.

13 **SECTION 8.** 22-7-1015 (2) (b), Colorado Revised Statutes, is  
14 amended to read:

15 **22-7-1015. Postsecondary and workforce readiness program**  
16 **- technical assistance.** (2) (b) A local education provider may  
17 accommodate the range of student interests and aspirations by adopting  
18 multiple curricula that, combined, create multiple postsecondary and  
19 workforce readiness programs within a school district or within a high  
20 school that are designed to prepare a student for differing post-graduation  
21 goals, including but not limited to immediate entry into the workforce or  
22 matriculation into career and technical education or higher education.  
23 The local education provider shall ensure, however, that every  
24 postsecondary and workforce readiness program adopted by the local  
25 education provider:

26 (I) Is aligned with postsecondary and workforce readiness such  
27 that a student who successfully completes the program will be prepared

1 to demonstrate postsecondary and workforce readiness prior to or upon  
2 attaining a high school diploma; AND

3 (II) INCLUDES COURSES IN VISUAL ARTS AND PERFORMING ARTS.

4 **SECTION 9.** 22-14-102, Colorado Revised Statutes, is amended  
5 BY THE ADDITION OF THE FOLLOWING NEW SUBSECTIONS to  
6 read:

7 **22-14-102. Definitions.** As used in this article, unless the context  
8 otherwise requires:

9 (10.5) "PERFORMING ARTS" SHALL HAVE THE SAME MEANING AS  
10 PROVIDED IN SECTION 22-1-104.5 (1) (b).

11 (17) "VISUAL ARTS" SHALL HAVE THE SAME MEANING AS  
12 PROVIDED IN SECTION 22-1-104.5 (1) (c).

13 **SECTION 10.** 22-14-103 (3) (c) (XII) and (3) (c) (XIII),  
14 Colorado Revised Statutes, are amended, and the said 22-14-103 (3) (c)  
15 is further amended BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW  
16 SUBPARAGRAPH, to read:

17 **22-14-103. Office of dropout prevention and student**  
18 **re-engagement - created - purpose - duties.** (3) To accomplish the  
19 purposes specified in subsection (2) of this section, the office shall also:

20 (c) Develop interagency agreements and otherwise cooperate with  
21 other state and federal agencies and with private, nonprofit agencies to  
22 collect and review student data and develop and recommend methods for  
23 reducing student dropout rates and increasing student engagement and  
24 re-engagement. The office shall, to the extent possible, collaborate with,  
25 at a minimum:

26 (XII) Agencies and nonprofit organizations within the child  
27 welfare system; and



1 (XIII) Private, nonprofit organizations that provide services for  
2 homeless families and youth; AND

3 (XIV) PRIVATE NONPROFIT OR FOR-PROFIT COMMUNITY ARTS  
4 ORGANIZATIONS THAT WORK IN EITHER VISUAL ARTS OR PERFORMING  
5 ARTS;

6 **SECTION 11.** 22-14-106 (2), Colorado Revised Statutes, is  
7 amended BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW PARAGRAPH to read:

8 **22-14-106. Local education provider practices assessment -**  
9 **technical assistance - rules.** (2) Each practices assessment, at a  
10 minimum, shall address the high priority or priority local education  
11 provider's:

12 (g.5) PRACTICES RELATING TO VISUAL ARTS AND PERFORMING  
13 ARTS EDUCATION, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO THE AVAILABILITY OF  
14 COURSES IN VISUAL ARTS AND PERFORMING ARTS, REQUIREMENTS FOR  
15 OBTAINING VISUAL ARTS OR PERFORMING ARTS COURSE CREDITS, THE  
16 AVAILABILITY OF EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES THAT INVOLVE VISUAL  
17 ARTS OR PERFORMING ARTS, AND THE HIGH PRIORITY OR PRIORITY LOCAL  
18 EDUCATION PROVIDER'S RELATIONSHIPS WITH NONPROFIT OR FOR-PROFIT  
19 COMMUNITY ARTS ORGANIZATIONS;

20 **SECTION 12.** 22-14-107 (3) (a), Colorado Revised Statutes, is  
21 amended, and the said 22-14-107 (3) is further amended BY THE  
22 ADDITION OF A NEW PARAGRAPH, to read:

23 **22-14-107. Student graduation and completion plans -**  
24 **adoption - evaluation.** (3) In designing its student graduation and  
25 completion plan, each high priority or priority local education provider is  
26 encouraged to:

27 (a) Include a variety of innovative dropout reduction efforts in the

1 plan, including new schools and programs that provide educational  
2 environments that are specifically designed to promote student  
3 re-engagement, including policies and programs that create alternative  
4 pathways to high school graduation; and

5 (a.5) EXPAND THE AVAILABILITY OF VISUAL ARTS AND  
6 PERFORMING ARTS COURSES AND OPPORTUNITIES THROUGH THE REGULAR  
7 SCHOOL CURRICULUM AND THROUGH INCREASED ACCESS TO  
8 EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO ENTERING  
9 INTO AGREEMENTS WITH NONPROFIT OR FOR-PROFIT COMMUNITY ARTS  
10 ORGANIZATIONS TO PROVIDE EXPANDED VISUAL ARTS AND PERFORMING  
11 ARTS EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS; AND

12 **SECTION 13.** 22-14-109 (2) (b) (V) (H) and (2) (b) (V) (I),  
13 Colorado Revised Statutes, are amended, and the said 22-14-109 (2) (b)  
14 (V) is further amended BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW  
15 SUB-SUBPARAGRAPH, to read:

16 **22-14-109. Student re-engagement grant program - rules -**  
17 **application - grants - fund created - report.** (2) The state board shall  
18 adopt rules pursuant to the "State Administrative Procedure Act", article  
19 4 of title 24, C.R.S., for implementing the grant program. At a minimum,  
20 the rules shall include:

21 (b) The information to be included on grant applications,  
22 including at a minimum:

23 (V) A description of the local education provider's policies and  
24 practices related to:

25 (H) Innovations to address barriers to school engagement and  
26 success; and

27 (I) Transference of student records to and receipt of student

1 records from other local education providers; AND

2 (J) STUDENT PARTICIPATION IN AND THE AVAILABILITY OF VISUAL  
3 ARTS AND PERFORMING ARTS EDUCATION.

4 **SECTION 14.** 22-27.5-101 (1) (c) and (1) (e), Colorado Revised  
5 Statutes, are amended to read:

6 **22-27.5-101. Legislative declaration.** (1) The general assembly  
7 hereby finds that:

8 (c) With the increased difficulties in funding public education and  
9 increased emphasis on core academic subjects, schools have been forced  
10 to focus their resources on teaching the core curriculum subjects of  
11 reading, writing, and mathematics and have been less able to fund  
12 ~~education in music, dance, theater, and the~~ visual arts OR PERFORMING  
13 ARTS EDUCATION or to provide vocational education;

14 (e) A grant program to provide additional funding for schools to  
15 sponsor before- and after-school programs in ~~the~~ VISUAL ARTS AND  
16 PERFORMING arts and in vocational subjects will have the combined  
17 benefits of providing a wider range of VISUAL ARTS, PERFORMING arts,  
18 and vocational education, exposing students to a wide range of  
19 opportunities in ~~music, dance, creative writing, theater, photography, and~~  
20 ~~other~~ visual arts AND PERFORMING ARTS, assisting students in obtaining  
21 skills in a wide variety of vocations, enabling students to discover their  
22 artistic and vocational talents, and providing greater incentives for some  
23 students to stay in school.

24 **SECTION 15.** 22-27.5-102 (1), Colorado Revised Statutes, is  
25 amended, and the said 22-27.5-102 is further amended BY THE  
26 ADDITION OF THE FOLLOWING NEW SUBSECTIONS, to read:

27 **22-27.5-102. Definitions.** As used in this article, unless the

1 context otherwise requires:

2 (1) "Arts-based activity program" means a before- or after-school  
3 program that provides students with an opportunity to learn about and  
4 participate in an ~~arts-based activity including but not limited to theater,~~  
5 ~~music, dance, creative writing, photography, ceramics, sculpture,~~  
6 ~~painting, and any other form of~~ IN VISUAL ARTS OR PERFORMING ARTS.

7 (5.5) "PERFORMING ARTS" SHALL HAVE THE SAME MEANING AS  
8 PROVIDED IN SECTION 22-1-104.5 (1) (b).

9 (8.5) "VISUAL ARTS" SHALL HAVE THE SAME MEANING AS  
10 PROVIDED IN SECTION 22-1-104.5 (1) (c).

11 **SECTION 16.** 23-8-103 (2) (a), Colorado Revised Statutes, is  
12 amended to read:

13 **23-8-103. Standards for eligibility for grants - rules.** (2) Any  
14 course approved pursuant to subsection (1) of this section shall:

15 (a) Be designed to provide students with an entry-level  
16 occupational skill or prepare students for further education, INCLUDING  
17 BUT NOT LIMITED TO SKILLS OR PREPARATION IN THE AREAS OF VISUAL  
18 ARTS, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 22-1-104.5 (1) (c), C.R.S., OR PERFORMING  
19 ARTS, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 22-1-104.5 (1) (b), C.R.S.;

20 **SECTION 17. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds,  
21 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate  
22 preservation of the public peace, health, and safety.