

Second Regular Session  
Sixty-seventh General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 10-0473.01 Michael Dohr

SENATE BILL 10-088

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SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Johnston,

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Massey,

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Senate Committees  
Education

House Committees

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A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 CONCERNING AUTHORIZATION OF TWO-YEAR DEGREES WITH  
102 ACADEMIC DESIGNATION.

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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/billssummaries>.)*

The bill authorizes community colleges and junior colleges to offer 2-year degree programs with academic designation. Prior to offering the degree program, a community college must submit the degree program designation for review and approval by the state board for community colleges and occupational education and a junior college must submit the

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.*

degree program designation for review and approval by its board of trustees.

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

2 **SECTION 1.** 23-60-201, Colorado Revised Statutes, is amended  
3 to read:

4 **23-60-201. State system of community colleges established -**  
5 **local district colleges - role and mission.** There is hereby established a  
6 state system of community and technical colleges which shall be under  
7 the management and jurisdiction of the state board for community  
8 colleges and occupational education. The mission of the community  
9 colleges shall be to serve Colorado residents who reside in their service  
10 areas by offering a broad range of general, personal, vocational, and  
11 technical education programs. Each college shall be a two-year college.  
12 EACH COMMUNITY COLLEGE MAY OFFER TWO-YEAR DEGREE PROGRAMS  
13 WITH OR WITHOUT ACADEMIC DESIGNATION. No college shall impose  
14 admission requirements upon any student. The objects of the community  
15 and technical colleges shall be to provide educational programs to fill the  
16 occupational needs of youth and adults in technical and vocational fields,  
17 two-year transfer educational programs to qualify students for admission  
18 to the junior year at other colleges and universities, basic skills,  
19 workforce development, and a broad range of personal and vocational  
20 education for adults.

21 **SECTION 2.** 23-60-202 (1), Colorado Revised Statutes, is  
22 amended BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW PARAGRAPH to read:

23 **23-60-202. Duties of board with respect to state system.**  
24 (1) With respect to the community and technical colleges within the state  
25 system, the board has the authority, responsibility, rights, privileges,

1 powers, and duties customarily exercised by the governing boards of  
2 institutions of higher education, including the following:

3 (f.5) TO REVIEW AND APPROVE THE DEGREE PROGRAMS DESCRIBED  
4 IN SECTION 23-60-211, SUBJECT ONLY TO THE REVIEW FUNCTION OF THE  
5 COLORADO COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION RELATING TO FORMAL  
6 ACADEMIC PROGRAMS;

7 **SECTION 3.** Part 2 of article 60 of title 23, Colorado Revised  
8 Statutes, is amended BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW SECTION to  
9 read:

10 **23-60-211. Degrees.** BEFORE A COMMUNITY COLLEGE OFFERS A  
11 TWO-YEAR DEGREE PROGRAM WITH ACADEMIC DESIGNATION, AS  
12 AUTHORIZED BY SECTION 23-60-201, THE COMMUNITY COLLEGE SHALL  
13 DETERMINE THE PROGRAM DESIGNATION FOR THE DEGREE. THE  
14 COMMUNITY COLLEGE SHALL THEN SUBMIT THE DEGREE PROGRAM  
15 DESIGNATION TO THE BOARD FOR ITS REVIEW AND APPROVAL. THE  
16 COMMUNITY COLLEGE MAY OFFER THE DEGREE PROGRAM ONLY AFTER IT  
17 HAS BEEN APPROVED BY THE BOARD AND BY THE COLORADO COMMISSION  
18 ON HIGHER EDUCATION. THE COMMUNITY COLLEGE SHALL EXCLUSIVELY  
19 USE THE DEGREE PROGRAM DESIGNATION NAME IN OFFICIAL  
20 PUBLICATIONS, COURSE CATALOGS, DIPLOMAS, AND OFFICIAL  
21 TRANSCRIPTS.

22 **SECTION 4.** 23-71-123, Colorado Revised Statutes, is amended  
23 BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW SUBSECTION to read:

24 **23-71-123. Duties of board of trustees - degrees.** (3) A JUNIOR  
25 COLLEGE MAY OFFER A TWO-YEAR DEGREE PROGRAM WITH OR WITHOUT  
26 ACADEMIC DESIGNATION. BEFORE A JUNIOR COLLEGE OFFERS A TWO-YEAR  
27 DEGREE PROGRAM WITH ACADEMIC DESIGNATION, AS AUTHORIZED BY THIS

1 SUBSECTION (3), THE JUNIOR COLLEGE SHALL DETERMINE THE PROGRAM  
2 DESIGNATION FOR THE DEGREE. THE JUNIOR COLLEGE SHALL THEN SUBMIT  
3 THE DEGREE PROGRAM DESIGNATION TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR ITS  
4 REVIEW AND APPROVAL. THE JUNIOR COLLEGE MAY OFFER THE DEGREE  
5 PROGRAM ONLY AFTER IT HAS BEEN APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF  
6 TRUSTEES. THE JUNIOR COLLEGE SHALL EXCLUSIVELY USE THE DEGREE  
7 PROGRAM DESIGNATION NAME IN OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS, COURSE  
8 CATALOGS, DIPLOMAS, AND OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPTS.

9 **SECTION 5. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act  
10 shall take effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the  
11 ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly (August  
12 11, 2010, if adjournment sine die is on May 12, 2010); except that, if a  
13 referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V of the  
14 state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this act  
15 within such period, then the act, item, section, or part shall not take effect  
16 unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in  
17 November 2010 and shall take effect on the date of the official  
18 declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.