

**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. 10-0475.01 Michael Dohr

SENATE BILL 10-101

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Gibbs, Schwartz, Romer, Bacon, Cadman, Hudak, Johnston, Kester, Sandoval, Scheffel, Steadman, Tapia, White

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Scanlan and Massey, Balmer, Baumgardner, Curry, Frangas, Liston, Merrifield, Pace

Senate Committees
Education

House Committees

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 **CONCERNING AUTHORIZING COLORADO MOUNTAIN COLLEGE TO**
102 **OFFER BACCALAUREATE DEGREES.**

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>.)

The bill authorizes Colorado mountain college to offer baccalaureate degrees that address the needs of the communities within its service area.

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.

SENATE
Amended 2nd Reading
March 1, 2010

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

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

4 (a) It is a priority in Colorado to afford the citizens in rural areas
5 of the state greater access to higher education; and

6 (b) Four-year degrees are of increasing importance in enabling
7 individuals to qualify for and obtain jobs.

8 (2) It is therefore in the best interests of the state of Colorado to
9 grant Colorado Mountain College, a junior college that was created to
10 offer two-year degrees, the authority to offer four-year baccalaureate
11 degrees.

12 **SECTION 2.** 23-71-102, Colorado Revised Statutes, is amended
13 to read:

14 **23-71-102. Definitions.** As used in this article, unless the context
15 otherwise requires:

16 (1) "Junior college" means an educational institution ~~which~~ THAT
17 provides not more than two years of training in the arts, sciences, and
18 humanities beyond the twelfth grade of the public high school curriculum
19 or vocational education and ~~which~~ THAT conducts occupational, technical,
20 and community service programs, with no term limitations, and general
21 education, including college transfer programs, with unrestricted
22 admissions; EXCEPT THAT COLORADO MOUNTAIN COLLEGE, IN ADDITION
23 TO ITS MISSION AS A JUNIOR COLLEGE, MAY ALSO OFFER NO MORE THAN
24 FIVE BACCALAUREATE DEGREE PROGRAMS AS ITS BOARD OF TRUSTEES
25 DETERMINES APPROPRIATE TO ADDRESS THE NEEDS OF THE COMMUNITIES
26 WITHIN ITS SERVICE AREA AND THAT ARE APPROVED BY THE COLORADO
27 COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION.

1 SECTION 3. Part 1 of article 71 of title 23, Colorado Revised
2 Statutes, is amended BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW SECTION to
3 read:

4 23-71-133. Approval of baccalaureate degrees. (1) WHEN
5 APPROVING BACCALAUREATE DEGREES FOR COLORADO MOUNTAIN
6 COLLEGE PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY IN SECTION 23-71-102 (1), THE
7 COLORADO COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION SHALL MAKE ITS
8 DETERMINATION BASED ON THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA:

9 (a) WHETHER COLORADO MOUNTAIN COLLEGE CAN DEMONSTRATE
10 WORKFORCE AND STUDENT DEMAND FOR THE BACCALAUREATE DEGREE
11 PROGRAM BY PROVIDING DATA;

12 (b) WHETHER COLORADO MOUNTAIN COLLEGE CAN DEMONSTRATE
13 REGIONAL AND PROFESSIONAL ACCREDITATION REQUIREMENTS, WHEN
14 APPLICABLE, AND COMPLIANCE WITH THOSE REQUIREMENTS AS DEEMED
15 APPROPRIATE AT BOTH THE INSTITUTIONAL AND PROGRAM LEVELS;

16 (c) WHETHER COLORADO MOUNTAIN COLLEGE CAN DEMONSTRATE
17 THAT ITS PROVISION OF THE BACCALAUREATE DEGREE PROGRAM IS THE
18 MOST COST-EFFECTIVE METHOD OF PROVIDING THE BACCALAUREATE
19 DEGREE PROGRAM IN ITS SERVICE AREA; AND

20 (d) WHETHER COLORADO MOUNTAIN COLLEGE CAN PROVIDE A
21 COST-BENEFIT ANALYSIS SHOWING THAT THE ADDITIONAL
22 BACCALAUREATE DEGREE PROGRAM WILL NOT CREATE A NEGATIVE
23 IMPACT FOR THE COLLEGE OR REQUIRE ADDITIONAL STATE APPROPRIATED
24 MONEYS TO OPERATE.

25 **SECTION 4. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds,
26 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate
27 preservation of the public peace, health, and safety.