

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

PREAMENDED

*This Unofficial Version Includes Committee
Amendments Not Yet Adopted on Second Reading*

LLS NO. 10-0187.01 Richard Sweetman

HOUSE BILL 10-1034

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Massey, Middleton, Scanlan

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

King K., Johnston, Spence

House Committees
Education

Senate Committees
Education

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 **CONCERNING THE CREDENTIALING OF SCHOOL SPEECH-LANGUAGE**
102 **PATHOLOGY ASSISTANTS.**

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>.)

Interim Committee to Study School Finance. The bill allows the department of education to issue an emergency authorization to a school speech-language pathology assistant (SLP assistant) who has not yet met the statutory requirements for a school SLP assistant authorization.

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
3rd Reading Unamended
January 29, 2010

HOUSE
Amended 2nd Reading
January 28, 2010

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

2 **SECTION 1. 22-60.5-111 (4) (a) and (10), Colorado Revised**
3 **Statutes, are amended to read:**

4 **22-60.5-111. Authorization - types - applicants' qualifications**
5 **- rules.** (4) **Emergency authorization.** (a) The department may issue
6 an emergency authorization to an applicant who is enrolled in an
7 approved preparation program but has not yet met the requirements for an
8 initial educator license OR A SCHOOL SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY
9 ASSISTANT AUTHORIZATION. The department may issue an emergency
10 authorization if:

11 (I) A school district requests the emergency authorization to
12 employ a nonlicensed teacher, principal, administrator, ~~or~~ special services
13 provider, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO AN UNAUTHORIZED SCHOOL
14 SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY ASSISTANT WHO HAS A BACHELOR'S
15 DEGREE IN:

16 (A) SPEECH, LANGUAGE, AND HEARING SCIENCES;

17 (B) COMMUNICATIONS DISORDERS-SPEECH SCIENCES; OR

18 (C) ANY OTHER FIELD IF THE UNAUTHORIZED SCHOOL
19 SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY ASSISTANT HAS COMPLETED A MINIMUM
20 NUMBER OF CREDITS OF COURSE WORK IN SPEECH, LANGUAGE, AND
21 HEARING SCIENCES, WHICH MINIMUM NUMBER OF CREDITS IS ESTABLISHED
22 BY RULES PROMULGATED BY THE STATE BOARD PURSUANT TO PARAGRAPH
23 (c) OF SUBSECTION (10) OF THIS SECTION;

24 (II) The requesting school district submits to the department ~~of~~
25 ~~education~~ documented evidence of a demonstrated need for specific and
26 essential educational services for students that the applicant would

1 provide and that would otherwise be unavailable to students in the school
2 district due to a shortage of licensed educators OR AUTHORIZED
3 SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY ASSISTANTS with appropriate
4 endorsements; AND

5 (III) The state board of education determines that employment of
6 the applicant is essential to preservation of the school district's
7 instructional program and that establishment of a one-year or two-year
8 alternative teacher preparation program within the school district is not
9 a practicable solution for resolution of the demonstrated shortage.

10 (10) **School speech-language pathology assistant authorization**

11 **- rules.** (a) The department of education may issue a school
12 speech-language pathology assistant authorization to a person who meets
13 the criteria specified by rule of the state board of education, which at a
14 minimum shall include:

15 (I) (A) Except as otherwise provided in sub-subparagraph (B) of
16 this subparagraph (I), Completion of at least a bachelor's degree, WHICH
17 DEGREE IS FROM AN ACCEPTED INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION, in
18 speech communication, speech-language pathology, or communication
19 disorders-speech sciences, which is from an accepted institution of higher
20 education OR A BACHELOR'S DEGREE IN ANY OTHER FIELD IF THE
21 UNAUTHORIZED SCHOOL SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY ASSISTANT HAS
22 COMPLETED A MINIMUM NUMBER OF CREDITS OF COURSE WORK IN SPEECH,
23 LANGUAGE, AND HEARING SCIENCES, WHICH MINIMUM NUMBER OF
24 CREDITS IS ESTABLISHED BY RULES PROMULGATED BY THE STATE BOARD
25 PURSUANT TO PARAGRAPH (C) OF SUBSECTION (10) OF THIS SECTION.

26 (B) If a school district's pupil enrollment is three thousand pupils
27 or less, a school speech-language pathology assistant hired by the district

1 shall not be required to have a degree higher than a bachelor's degree in
2 speech communication, speech-language pathology, or communication
3 disorders-speech sciences, which is from an accepted institution of higher
4 education.

5 (II) Successful completion of a school speech-language pathology
6 assistant program which THAT:

7 (A) Meets or exceeds recommended guidelines established by a
8 national association of speech-language-hearing professionals; AND

9 (B) INCLUDES A REQUIREMENT THAT EACH STUDENT COMPLETE AT
10 LEAST ONE HUNDRED CLOCK HOURS OF A SCHOOL-BASED PRACTICUM
11 UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF A NATIONALLY CERTIFIED SPEECH-LANGUAGE
12 PATHOLOGIST WHO RESIDES OR WORKS WITHIN COLORADO OR WITHIN A
13 REASONABLE COMMUTING DISTANCE TO COLORADO, WHICH SUPERVISION
14 MAY BE PERFORMED ELECTRONICALLY VIA REMOTE INTERACTIVE
15 TECHNOLOGY; AND

16 (III) Successful completion of at least one hundred clock hours of
17 a school-based practicum under the supervision of a nationally certified
18 speech-language pathologist; and

19 (IV) Demonstrated knowledge and skills in competencies
20 specified by rule of the state board of education.

21 (b) A school speech-language pathology assistant authorization is
22 valid for ~~three~~ FIVE years. The department of education may renew the
23 authorization for succeeding ~~three-year~~ FIVE-YEAR periods upon
24 presentation of documented evidence of completion of content-related
25 renewal requirements established by rule of the state board of education,
26 WHICH REQUIREMENTS SHALL INCLUDE, BUT NOT BE LIMITED TO,
27 CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS.

1 (c) ON OR BEFORE AUGUST 1, 2010, THE STATE BOARD OF
2 EDUCATION SHALL PROMULGATE RULES ESTABLISHING A MINIMUM
3 NUMBER OF CREDITS OF COURSE WORK IN SPEECH, LANGUAGE, AND
4 HEARING SCIENCES THAT A PERSON WITH A BACHELOR'S DEGREE MUST
5 COMPLETE FOR THE PURPOSES OF SUB-SUBPARAGRAPH (C) OF
6 SUBPARAGRAPH (I) OF PARAGRAPH (a) OF SUBSECTION (4) OF THIS SECTION
7 AND OF SUB-SUBPARAGRAPH (A) OF SUBPARAGRAPH (I) OF PARAGRAPH (a)
8 OF THIS SUBSECTION (10).

9 **SECTION 2. 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.