

Second Regular Session
Sixty-seventh General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 10-0711.01 Jane Ritter

HOUSE BILL 10-1344

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Carroll T.,

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

(None),

House Committees
Education

Senate Committees

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 CONCERNING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF QUALITY STANDARDS FOR
102 CHARTERING AUTHORITIES OF CHARTER SCHOOLS.

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 defines and describes specific quality standards to which school district boards of education and the state charter school institute, in their capacity as chartering authorities of charter schools, must adhere on or before July 1, 2011.

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.

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

2 **SECTION 1.** 22-30.5-103, Colorado Revised Statutes, is
3 amended BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW SUBSECTION to read:

4 **22-30.5-103. Definitions.** As used in this part 1, unless the
5 context otherwise requires:

6 (1.5) "AUTHORIZER" MEANS A SCHOOL DISTRICT THAT HAS
7 AUTHORIZED A CHARTER SCHOOL OR THE STATE CHARTER SCHOOL
8 INSTITUTE ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO SECTION 22-30.5-503.

9 **SECTION 2.** Part 1 of article 30.5 of title 22, Colorado Revised
10 Statutes, is amended BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW SECTION to
11 read:

12 **22-30.5-116. Chartering authorities - authorizing standards.**

13 (1) ON OR BEFORE JULY 1, 2011, EACH AUTHORIZER, IN EXERCISING ITS
14 AUTHORITY TO AUTHORIZE A CHARTER SCHOOL PURSUANT TO THIS PART
15 1, SHALL CERTIFY TO THE STATE BOARD THAT IT MEETS THE STANDARDS
16 ADOPTED BY THE STATE BOARD PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (2) OF THIS
17 SECTION. THE STATE BOARD IS AUTHORIZED TO ESTABLISH CRITERIA FOR
18 THE CERTIFICATION. THE STANDARDS FOR AUTHORIZERS SHALL INCLUDE,
19 AT A MINIMUM:

20 (a) APPROACHING AUTHORIZATION OF CHARTER SCHOOLS
21 DELIBERATELY AND THOUGHTFULLY, WITH THE INTENT TO IMPROVE THE
22 QUALITY OF PUBLIC SCHOOL OPTIONS;

23 (b) SUPPORTING AND ADVANCING THE PURPOSES OF THE CHARTER
24 SCHOOL LAWS, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO THE PROVISIONS OF THIS
25 PART 1;

26 (c) BEING A CATALYST FOR CHARTER SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT TO

1 SATISFY ANY UNMET EDUCATIONAL NEEDS OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT;

2 (d) STRIVING FOR CLARITY, CONSISTENCY, AND TRANSPARENCY IN
3 DEVELOPING AND IMPLEMENTING CHARTER AUTHORIZING POLICIES AND
4 PROCEDURES AND USING FORMAL POLICIES, WHENEVER POSSIBLE, TO
5 GUIDE ITS WORK AS AN AUTHORIZER;

6 (e) BEING A SOURCE OF ACCURATE, INTELLIGIBLE,
7 PERFORMANCE-BASED INFORMATION ABOUT THE CHARTER SCHOOLS THAT
8 IT HAS AUTHORIZED;

9 (f) HOLDING CHARTER SCHOOLS IT HAS AUTHORIZED
10 ACCOUNTABLE FOR THEIR PERFORMANCE;

11 (g) USING OBJECTIVE AND VERIFIABLE MEASURES OF STUDENT
12 ACHIEVEMENT AS THE PRIMARY MEASURE OF CHARTER SCHOOL QUALITY;

13 (h) HELPING PARENTS AND STUDENTS MAKE DECISIONS AND STAY
14 INFORMED ABOUT THE QUALITY OF EDUCATION PROVIDED IN CHARTER
15 SCHOOLS;

16 (i) MAKING THE WELL-BEING OF STUDENTS THE FUNDAMENTAL
17 VALUE INFORMING ALL OF ITS DECISION-MAKING AND ACTIONS; AND

18 (j) TAKING INTO ACCOUNT, IN ALL DECISION MAKING, THE SIZE,
19 MISSION, AND ANY SPECIAL POPULATIONS SERVED BY A CHARTER SCHOOL
20 AND MAKING ALL DECISIONS COMMENSURATE WITH THESE FEATURES OF
21 THE SCHOOL.

22 (2) ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 1, 2011, THE STATE BOARD SHALL
23 ADOPT STANDARDS FOR QUALITY CHARTER SCHOOL AUTHORIZING THAT
24 ARE CONSISTENT WITH SUBSECTION (1) OF THIS SECTION. THE STANDARDS
25 SHALL TAKE INTO ACCOUNT AND APPROPRIATELY REFLECT ACCEPTED
26 NATIONAL STANDARDS THAT MAY BE REFERENCED IN DECISIONS ON
27 CHARTER SCHOOL APPROVALS, RENEWALS, REVOCATIONS, AND APPEALS.

1 THE STATE BOARD MAY APPOINT A COMMITTEE OF EDUCATORS, PARENTS,
2 INDUSTRY LEADERS, AND OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES TO ASSIST IN
3 DEVELOPING THE STANDARDS.

4 (3) ON OR BEFORE JULY 1, 2011, EACH LOCAL BOARD OF
5 EDUCATION, IN EXERCISING ITS AUTHORITY TO AUTHORIZE A CHARTER
6 SCHOOL PURSUANT TO THIS PART 1, SHALL MEET OR EXCEED THE
7 STANDARDS FOR QUALITY CHARTER SCHOOL AUTHORIZING ESTABLISHED
8 BY THE STATE BOARD PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (2) OF THIS SECTION.

9 (4) AN AUTHORIZER MAY MEET THE AUTHORIZER STANDARDS
10 ESTABLISHED BY THE STATE BOARD PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (2) OF THIS
11 SECTION BY CONTRACTING WITH A THIRD PARTY THAT MEETS SAID
12 STANDARDS TO PERFORM ITS AUTHORIZING FUNCTIONS, INCLUDING A
13 BOARD OF COOPERATIVE SERVICES, THE STATE CHARTER SCHOOL
14 INSTITUTE, OR OTHER AUTHORIZER.

15 **SECTION 3.** Part 5 of article 30.5 of title 22, Colorado Revised
16 Statutes, is amended BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW SECTION to
17 read:

18 **22-30.5-519. State charter school institute - authorizing**
19 **standards.** THE PROVISIONS OF SECTION 22-30.5-116 REGARDING
20 STANDARDS FOR LOCAL BOARDS OF EDUCATION WHEN REVIEWING AND
21 GRANTING OR DENYING A CHARTER SCHOOL'S APPLICATION FOR CHARTER
22 OR RENEWAL SHALL ALSO APPLY TO THE STATE CHARTER SCHOOL
23 INSTITUTE.

24 **SECTION 4. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act
25 shall take effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the
26 ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly (August
27 11, 2010, if adjournment sine die is on May 12, 2010); except that, if a

1 referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V of the
2 state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this act
3 within such period, then the act, item, section, or part shall not take effect
4 unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in
5 November 2010 and shall take effect on the date of the official
6 declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.