

Second Regular Session
Sixty-eighth General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 12-0165.01 Jane Ritter x4342

HOUSE BILL 12-1135

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Murray,

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

(None),

House Committees
Education

Senate Committees

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 CONCERNING TEACHERS WITH WHOM A TEACHER CANDIDATE IN A
102 TEACHER PREPARATION PROGRAM SPENDS HIS OR HER HOURS
103 OF FIELD WORK.

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 instructs the state board of education (board) to promulgate rules concerning a method to include in educator evaluations the work of teachers who serve as cooperating teachers in field work or student teaching for teacher candidates (cooperating teachers).

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.

A timeline is established concerning the use of effective and highly effective teachers as cooperating teachers, leading to 100% of cooperating teachers as having had an effective or highly effective rating for the previous school year by the 2017-18 school year.

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 and declares that:

4 (a) Teachers and principals are the first- and second-most
5 important in-school factors influencing student growth and achievement;

6 (b) The national council for accreditation of teacher education
7 advocates for a clinically based structure in teacher preparation programs,
8 which places strong accountability on the school districts to help design
9 and implement programs, select teacher candidates, and assess candidate
10 performance and progress;

11 (c) There are eighteen teacher preparation programs at Colorado
12 institutions of higher education, and 82% of teacher candidates are
13 enrolled in public institutions of higher education;

14 (d) It is important to provide multiple incentives to highly
15 effective and effective teachers to work with teacher candidates from
16 teacher preparation programs who are doing their field work so the
17 teacher candidates are better prepared for the realities of today's
18 classrooms; and

19 (e) The state board of education sets the content of educator
20 preparation programs, the rules for teacher induction, and the
21 performance-based standards for teachers and principals, while the
22 department of higher education authorizes the programs and sets
23 performance measures for them.

1 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-9-104, **add** (3) as
2 follows:

3 **22-9-104. State board - powers and duties - rules.** (3) ON OR
4 BEFORE JULY 1, 2014, AS A WAY TO CREATE INCENTIVES FOR TEACHERS TO
5 BECOME COOPERATING TEACHERS, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 23-1-121 (1)
6 (a.7), C.R.S., THE STATE BOARD SHALL PROMULGATE RULES CONCERNING
7 A METHOD TO INCLUDE IN EDUCATOR EVALUATIONS THE WORK OF
8 TEACHERS WHO SERVE AS COOPERATING TEACHERS. THE STATE BOARD
9 MAY CONSIDER, BUT NEED NOT BE LIMITED TO:

10 (a) ADDING A DESIGNATION OF TEACHER LEADER FOR A
11 COOPERATING TEACHER WHO WORKS WITH A TEACHER CANDIDATE FROM
12 A TEACHER PREPARATION PROGRAM FOR FIELD WORK; AND

13 (b) METHODS OF EVALUATING STUDENT GROWTH THAT TAKE INTO
14 ACCOUNT THAT A COOPERATING TEACHER HAS NOT INSTRUCTED THE
15 STUDENTS FULL-TIME BECAUSE OF HIS OR HER ROLE AS A COOPERATING
16 TEACHER.

17 **SECTION 3.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 23-1-121, **amend** (2)
18 (d); and **add** (1) (a.7) as follows:

19 **23-1-121. Commission directive - approval of educator**
20 **preparation programs - review.** (1) As used in this section, unless the
21 context otherwise requires:

22 (a.7) "COOPERATING TEACHER" MEANS AN ELEMENTARY- OR
23 SECONDARY-LEVEL TEACHER WITH WHOM A TEACHER CANDIDATE SPENDS
24 HIS OR HER HOURS OF FIELD WORK OR STUDENT TEACHING PURSUANT TO
25 PARAGRAPH (d) OF SUBSECTION (2) OF THIS SECTION.

26 (2) The commission shall adopt policies establishing the
27 requirements for educator preparation programs offered by institutions of

1 higher education. The department shall work in cooperation with the state
2 board of education in developing the requirements for educator
3 preparation programs. At a minimum, the requirements shall ensure that
4 each educator preparation program complies with section 23-1-125, is
5 designed on a performance-based model, and includes:

6 (d) A requirement that, during the course of the preparation
7 program, each teacher candidate in an initial licensure program complete
8 a minimum of eight hundred hours WITH A COOPERATING TEACHER, each
9 principal and administrator candidate complete a minimum of three
10 hundred hours, and each other advanced degree or add-on endorsement
11 candidate complete appropriate supervised field-based experience that
12 relates to predetermined learning standards and includes best practices
13 and national norms related to the candidate's endorsement. A
14 COOPERATING TEACHER WORKING WITH TEACHER CANDIDATES IN EITHER
15 FIELD WORK OR STUDENT TEACHING SHALL MEET THE FOLLOWING
16 REQUIREMENTS:

17 (I) BEGINNING IN THE 2012-13 ACADEMIC YEAR, A COOPERATING
18 TEACHER SHALL HAVE AT LEAST THREE YEARS OF TEACHING EXPERIENCE
19 AND NON-PROBATIONARY STATUS PURSUANT TO SECTION 22-63-203,
20 C.R.S.

21 (II) BEGINNING IN THE 2012-13 ACADEMIC YEAR, A COOPERATING
22 TEACHER SHALL SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETE AN ASSESSMENT OF READINESS
23 TO WORK WITH TEACHER CANDIDATES IN EITHER FIELD WORK OR STUDENT
24 TEACHING. THE ASSESSMENT OF READINESS SHALL BE BASED ON A
25 TEMPLATE APPROVED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND
26 CONDUCTED BY PRINCIPALS, SCHOOL DISTRICTS, OR INSTITUTIONS OF
27 HIGHER EDUCATION.

1 (III) BEGINNING IN THE 2013-14 ACADEMIC YEAR, A COOPERATING
2 TEACHER SHALL COMPLETE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT APPROVED BY
3 THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND THE TEACHER PREPARATION
4 PROGRAM. THE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT MUST INCLUDE SECTIONS ON
5 HAVING THE CAPACITY TO MENTOR AN ADULT, PROMOTING SKILLS IN
6 OBSERVATION, PROVIDING FEEDBACK, HOLDING PROFESSIONAL
7 CONVERSATIONS, AND WORKING COLLABORATIVELY.

8 (IV) COOPERATING TEACHERS WORKING WITH TEACHER
9 PREPARATION PROGRAMS SHALL HAVE DEMONSTRATED EFFECTIVENESS BY
10 EARNING AN EFFECTIVE OR HIGHLY EFFECTIVE RATING IN THE PREVIOUS
11 SCHOOL YEAR AS DEFINED BY RULES PROMULGATED PURSUANT TO
12 SECTION 22-9-105.5, C.R.S., AS FOLLOWS:

13 (A) BEGINNING IN THE 2015-16 ACADEMIC YEAR, AT LEAST SIXTY
14 PERCENT OF COOPERATING TEACHERS WORKING WITH A TEACHER
15 PREPARATION PROGRAM SHALL HAVE HAD AN EFFECTIVE OR HIGHLY
16 EFFECTIVE RATING IN THE PREVIOUS ACADEMIC YEAR;

17 (B) BEGINNING IN THE 2016-17 ACADEMIC YEAR, AT LEAST
18 SEVENTY-FIVE PERCENT OF COOPERATING TEACHERS WORKING WITH A
19 TEACHER PREPARATION PROGRAM SHALL HAVE HAD AN EFFECTIVE OR
20 HIGHLY EFFECTIVE RATING IN THE PREVIOUS ACADEMIC YEAR; AND

21 (C) BEGINNING IN THE 2017-18 ACADEMIC YEAR, ONE HUNDRED
22 PERCENT OF COOPERATING TEACHERS WORKING WITH A TEACHER
23 PREPARATION PROGRAM SHALL HAVE HAD AN EFFECTIVE OR HIGHLY
24 EFFECTIVE RATING IN THE PREVIOUS ACADEMIC YEAR.

25 **SECTION 4. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act
26 takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the
27 ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly (August

1 8, 2012, if adjournment sine die is on May 9, 2012); except that, if a
2 referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V of the
3 state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this act
4 within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take effect
5 unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in
6 November 2012 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the
7 official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.