

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

PREAMENDED

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

LLS NO. 14-0956.01 Julie Pelegrin x2700

HOUSE BILL 14-1381

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

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A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 **CONCERNING ADOPTION OF A SCHOOL CLOSURE PLAN AS A**
102 **REQUIREMENT FOR CLOSING A LOW-PERFORMING PUBLIC**
103 **SCHOOL.**

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 requires a school district or the state charter school institute, if it decides or is directed by the state board of education to close a public school because of low performance, to adopt a school closure plan that addresses communications, the timeline for the closure,

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.*

and the reassignment of students to other public schools.

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

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-11-307, **add** (5)
3 as follows:

4 **22-11-307. Accreditation of public schools.** (5) IF A LOCAL
5 SCHOOL BOARD OR THE INSTITUTE DECIDES OR IS DIRECTED BY THE STATE
6 BOARD TO CLOSE A PUBLIC SCHOOL BECAUSE OF LOW PERFORMANCE, THE
7 SCHOOL DISTRICT AND THE INSTITUTE MUST DEVELOP **AND UPDATE AS**
8 **NECESSARY** A SCHOOL CLOSURE PLAN THAT IMPLEMENTS EVIDENCE-BASED
9 BEST PRACTICES DURING THE SCHOOL CLOSURE PROCESS TO ENSURE THAT
10 STUDENTS WHO ARE ENROLLED IN THE PUBLIC SCHOOL THAT IS CLOSED
11 ARE FULLY SUPPORTED IN ENROLLING IN THE SUCCESSOR PUBLIC SCHOOL,
12 IF ANY, OR IN ANOTHER PUBLIC SCHOOL. THE LOCAL SCHOOL BOARD OR
13 THE INSTITUTE SHALL MAKE THE SCHOOL CLOSURE PLAN **AND ANY**
14 **UPDATES** AVAILABLE TO THE STAFF OF THE PUBLIC SCHOOL, THE LOCAL
15 TEACHERS ASSOCIATION, IF ANY, THE PARENTS OF STUDENTS ENROLLED IN
16 THE PUBLIC SCHOOL, AND THE COMMUNITY SURROUNDING THE PUBLIC
17 SCHOOL. AT A MINIMUM, THE SCHOOL CLOSURE PLAN MUST INCLUDE:

18 (a) A PLAN FOR COMMUNICATING WITH PARENTS, SCHOOL STAFF,
19 THE LOCAL TEACHERS ASSOCIATION, IF ANY, AND THE COMMUNITY
20 SURROUNDING THE PUBLIC SCHOOL AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE **AFTER THE**
21 **LOCAL SCHOOL BOARD OR THE** **INSTITUTE** DECIDES TO CLOSE THE
22 **PUBLIC SCHOOL AND AT REGULAR INTERVALS THROUGHOUT THE CLOSURE**
23 **PROCESS;**

24 (b) A TIMELINE FOR CLOSING THE PUBLIC SCHOOL THAT INCLUDES
25 **OR IS UPDATED TO INCLUDE** ALL MAJOR STEPS AND DECISION POINTS IN

1 COMPLETING THE SCHOOL CLOSURE AND STARTS NO LATER THAN THE
2 DECISION TO CLOSE AND CONTINUES AT LEAST THROUGH THE
3 REASSIGNMENT OF STUDENTS AND THE OPENING OF A NEW PUBLIC SCHOOL,
4 IF APPLICABLE; AND

5 (c) A PLAN FOR REASSIGNING STUDENTS TO OTHER PUBLIC
6 SCHOOLS, WHICH MUST, TO THE FULLEST EXTENT PRACTICABLE, TAKE INTO
7 ACCOUNT PARENTS' CHOICE CONCERNING THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS TO WHICH
8 STUDENTS ARE REASSIGNED.

9 **SECTION 2. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds,
10 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate
11 preservation of the public peace, health, and safety.