

Second Regular Session  
Sixty-ninth General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 14-0638.01 Julie Pelegrin x2700

HOUSE BILL 14-1078

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HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Pettersen,

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

(None),

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House Committees  
Education

Senate Committees

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A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 CONCERNING CHANGES TO THE PUBLIC EDUCATION ACCREDITATION  
102 STATUTES AS A RESULT OF LEGISLATIVE REVIEW OF THE RULES  
103 OF THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION, AND, IN CONNECTION  
104 THEREWITH, CLARIFYING THE TERM "PUBLIC SCHOOL" IN THE  
105 ACCREDITATION STATUTES AND ALLOWING AUTOMATIC  
106 RENEWAL OF THE ACCREDITATION CONTRACT FOR AN ENTITY  
107 WITH AN IMPROVEMENT PLAN.

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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*

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.*

[http://www.leg.state.co.us/bills/summaries.](http://www.leg.state.co.us/bills/summaries/))

The bill clarifies that, for purposes of the accreditation statutes, a public school includes an on-line school but not an on-line program.

Under existing law, if a school district or the state charter school institute is in the accreditation category of accredited or accredited with distinction, the district's or the institute's accreditation contract is automatically renewed each year. The bill authorizes the department of education to automatically renew a district's or the institute's accreditation contract if the district or the institute is accredited with an improvement plan.

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

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-11-103, **amend**  
3 (28) as follows:

4 **22-11-103. Definitions.** As used in this article, unless the context  
5 otherwise requires:

6 (28) "Public school" ~~shall have~~ HAS the same meaning as provided  
7 in section 22-1-101 and includes, but is not limited to, a district charter  
8 school, an institute charter school, ~~an on-line program, as defined in~~  
9 ~~section 22-30.7-102 (9)~~, and an on-line school, as defined in section  
10 22-30.7-102 (9.5).

11 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-11-206, **amend**  
12 (2) as follows:

13 **22-11-206. Accreditation of school districts and institute -**  
14 **contracts - rules.** (2) The state board shall enter into an accreditation  
15 contract with each local school board and with the institute. Each  
16 accreditation contract shall have a term of one year and shall be  
17 automatically renewed each year so long as the school district or the  
18 institute remains in the accreditation category of accredited WITH  
19 IMPROVEMENT PLAN or higher. The parties to each accreditation contract

1 may renegotiate the contract at any time during the term of the contract,  
2 based on appropriate and reasonable changes in the circumstances upon  
3 which the original contract terms were based. The state board shall  
4 promulgate rules specifying the contents and terms of the accreditation  
5 contract in accordance with the provisions of this article.

6 **SECTION 3. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds,  
7 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate  
8 preservation of the public peace, health, and safety.