

Second Regular Session  
Sixty-ninth General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 14-0777.01 Julie Pelegrin x2700

HOUSE BILL 14-1208

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HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Wright and Hamner, Ferrandino

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Zenzinger and King,

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House Committees  
Education

Senate Committees

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A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 CONCERNING AUTHORIZING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO  
102 RECOGNIZE AS ADMINISTRATIVE UNITS FOR PURPOSES OF THE  
103 "EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN'S EDUCATIONAL ACT" GROUPS OF  
104 SCHOOL DISTRICTS THAT WERE PARTIES TO JOINT AGREEMENTS  
105 EXISTING ON JANUARY 1, 2011, TO PROVIDE SPECIAL EDUCATION  
106 SERVICES WITHOUT FORMING A BOARD OF COOPERATIVE  
107 SERVICES.

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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/))

Under existing law, an administrative unit, for purposes of the "Exceptional Children's Educational Act" (act), is defined as a school district, a board of cooperative services, or the state charter school institute that provides special education services and locally administers the act. The bill defines a "multi-district administrative unit" as a group of school districts that did not form a board of cooperative services but were parties to an agreement existing on January 1, 2011, to jointly provide special education services and were recognized by the department as an administrative unit as of January 1, 2011. The definition of "administrative unit" is amended to include a multi-district administrative unit.

The department shall not recognize or authorize as an administrative unit a group of school districts unless the group qualifies as a multi-district administrative unit or is a board of cooperative services.

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

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-20-103, **amend**  
3 (1); and **add** (19.3) as follows:

4 **22-20-103. Definitions.** As used in this part 1, unless the context  
5 otherwise requires:

6 (1) "Administrative unit" means a school district, a board of  
7 cooperative services, A MULTI-DISTRICT ADMINISTRATIVE UNIT, or the  
8 state charter school institute, that is providing educational services to  
9 exceptional children and that is responsible for the local administration  
10 of this article.

11 (19.3) "MULTI-DISTRICT ADMINISTRATIVE UNIT" MEANS A GROUP  
12 OF TWO OR MORE SCHOOL DISTRICTS THAT DID NOT FORM A BOARD OF  
13 COOPERATIVE SERVICES BUT WERE PARTIES TO AN AGREEMENT EXISTING  
14 ON JANUARY 1, 2011, TO PROVIDE EDUCATIONAL SERVICES TO  
15 EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN AND TO BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE LOCAL  
16 ADMINISTRATION OF THIS ARTICLE, WHICH GROUP OF SCHOOL DISTRICTS

1 THE DEPARTMENT RECOGNIZED AS OF JANUARY 1, 2011, AS AN  
2 ADMINISTRATIVE UNIT.

3 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-20-106, **amend**  
4 (1) (a) as follows:

5 **22-20-106. Special education programs - early intervening**  
6 **services - rules.** (1) (a) ~~By September 1, 1973,~~ Every school district in  
7 the state shall be either an administrative unit in itself or in a board of  
8 cooperative services ~~which shall be designated~~ THAT THE DEPARTMENT  
9 DESIGNATES as an administrative unit OR PARTICIPATE IN A  
10 MULTI-DISTRICT ADMINISTRATIVE UNIT. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL NOT  
11 RECOGNIZE OR AUTHORIZE A GROUP OF SCHOOL DISTRICTS AS AN  
12 ADMINISTRATIVE UNIT UNLESS THE GROUP OF SCHOOL DISTRICTS  
13 QUALIFIES AS A MULTI-DISTRICT ADMINISTRATIVE UNIT OR IS A BOARD OF  
14 COOPERATIVE SERVICES.

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