HOUSE BILL 15-1170

A BILL FOR AN ACT

CONCERNING MEASURES TO RAISE THE LEVEL OF POSTSECONDARY AND WORKFORCE READINESS THAT COLORADO STUDENTS DEMONSTRATE UPON GRADUATION FROM HIGH 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.)

Under current law, postsecondary and workforce readiness and closing the achievement gap are 2 of the performance indicators that the department of education (department) must use to measure a public school's, a public school district's, the state charter school institute's, and the state's level of performance. The bill adds as a measure for each of...
these indicators the percentages of high school graduates who enroll in a career and technical education program, community college, or 4-year institution of higher education in the school year immediately following graduation. The department must give each postsecondary enrollment option equal weight in calculating performance.

Under existing law, each school district accountability committee must include a person from the community who is involved in business, and each school accountability committee must include a person from the community. The bill clarifies that the community person on the school district accountability committee must be involved in business or industry and that the community person on the school accountability committee must be involved in business or industry in the community.

The bill clarifies that the state board of education will issue career and technical education authorizations based on the qualifications that the state board for community colleges and occupational education adopts.

The bill creates the position of postsecondary and workforce readiness statewide coordinator (statewide coordinator). The statewide coordinator is responsible to the state work force development council (council) in the department of labor and employment. The executive committee of the council and the commissioner of the department of education will enter into a memorandum of understanding as necessary to enable the statewide coordinator to collaborate with appropriate offices within the department of education. The statewide coordinator will work with school districts, boards of cooperative services, the state charter school institute, charter schools, institutions of higher education, businesses, industry, the department of education, the department of labor and employment, and the work force development council to raise the level of postsecondary and workforce readiness that Colorado high school graduates achieve, especially with regard to obtaining skilled career positions in business and industry upon high school graduation.

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1 Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:
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3 SECTION 1. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-11-204, amend
4 (4), (5) (a) (I) (F), (5) (b) (I) (F), and (5) (c) (I) (F) as follows:
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6 22-11-204. Performance indicators - measures. (4) The department shall determine the level of attainment of each public high school, each school district, the institute, and the state as a whole on the postsecondary and workforce readiness indicator by using, at a minimum, the following measures:
(a) For each public high school, the department shall calculate:

(I) The percentages of students enrolled in the eleventh grade in the public high school who score at each achievement level on the standardized, curriculum-based, achievement, college entrance examination administered as a statewide assessment or the percentages of students enrolled in each of the grade levels included in the public high school who score at each achievement level on the postsecondary and workforce readiness assessments administered by the public high school;

(II) As soon as the data is available, the percentage of students graduating from the public high school who receive a diploma that includes a postsecondary and workforce readiness endorsement as described in section 22-7-1009 (1) and the percentage who receive a diploma that includes an endorsement for exemplary demonstration of postsecondary and workforce readiness as described in section 22-7-1009 (2); and

(III) The graduation and dropout rates, as defined by rule of the state board; AND

(IV) BEGINNING IN THE 2016-17 SCHOOL YEAR, THE PERCENTAGES OF STUDENTS GRADUATING FROM THE PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL WHO, IN THE SCHOOL YEAR IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING GRADUATION FROM HIGH SCHOOL, ENROLL IN A CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION PROGRAM, COMMUNITY COLLEGE, OR FOUR-YEAR INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL WEIGHT EACH POSTSECONDARY ENROLLMENT OPTION EQUALLY IN DETERMINING A PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL'S LEVEL OF ATTAINMENT OF THIS MEASURE.

(b) For each school district and the institute, the department shall calculate:
(I) The overall percentages of students enrolled in the eleventh grade in all of the district public high schools or all institute charter high schools who score at each achievement level on the standardized, curriculum-based, achievement, college entrance examination administered as a statewide assessment or the percentages of students enrolled in each of the grade levels included in the public high schools who score at each achievement level on the postsecondary and workforce readiness assessments administered by the public high schools;

(II) Beginning with the first school year for which criteria are adopted pursuant to section 22-7-1009 (1) for awarding diplomas that are endorsed for postsecondary and workforce readiness and for each school year thereafter, the overall percentage of all students graduating from the district public high schools or from the institute charter high schools who receive diplomas that are endorsed for postsecondary and workforce readiness as described in section 22-7-1009 (1) and the percentage who receive diplomas that are endorsed for exemplary demonstration of postsecondary and workforce readiness as described in section 22-7-1009 (2); and

(III) The overall graduation and dropout rates, as defined by rule of the state board, for the district public high schools or the institute charter high schools; AND

(IV) Beginning in the 2016-17 school year, the overall percentages of students graduating from all of the district public high schools or all institute charter high schools who, in the school year immediately following graduation from high school, enroll in a career and technical education program, community college, or four-year institution of higher
EDUCATION. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL WEIGHT EACH POSTSECONDARY ENROLLMENT OPTION EQUALLY IN DETERMINING A SCHOOL DISTRICT'S OR THE INSTITUTE'S LEVEL OF ATTAINMENT OF THIS MEASURE.

(c) For the state, the department shall calculate:

(I) The percentages of students enrolled in the eleventh grade in public high schools statewide who score at each achievement level on the standardized, curriculum-based, achievement, college entrance examination administered as a statewide assessment or the percentages of students enrolled in each of the grade levels included in the public high schools statewide who score at each achievement level on the postsecondary and workforce readiness assessments administered by the public high schools;

(II) Beginning with the 2011-12 school year and for each school year thereafter, the overall percentage of all students graduating from the public high schools in the state who receive diplomas that are endorsed for postsecondary and workforce readiness as described in section 22-7-1009 (1) and the percentage who receive diplomas that are endorsed for exemplary demonstration of postsecondary and workforce readiness as described in section 22-7-1009 (2); and

(III) The statewide graduation and dropout rates, as defined by rule of the state board, for the public high schools in the state; and

(IV) BEGINNING IN THE 2016-17 SCHOOL YEAR, THE PERCENTAGES OF STUDENTS GRADUATING FROM PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOLS STATEWIDE WHO, IN THE SCHOOL YEAR IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING GRADUATION FROM HIGH SCHOOL, ENROLL IN A CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION PROGRAM, COMMUNITY COLLEGE, OR FOUR-YEAR INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL WEIGHT EACH POSTSECONDARY

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ENROLLMENT OPTION EQUALLY IN DETERMINING THE STATE'S LEVEL OF ATTAINMENT OF THIS MEASURE.

(5) The department shall determine the level of attainment of each public school, each school district, the institute, and the state as a whole on the performance indicator that concerns the progress made in closing the achievement and growth gaps by using the following measures:

(a) (I) For each public school, the department shall disaggregate by student group:

(F) For each public high school, the percentage of students enrolled in the eleventh grade in the public high school who score at each achievement level of the standardized, curriculum-based, achievement, college entrance examination or the percentages of students enrolled in each of the grade levels included in the public high school who score at each achievement level on the postsecondary and workforce readiness assessments administered by the public high school; the percentages of students graduating from the public high school who receive a diploma that includes a postsecondary and workforce readiness endorsement or an endorsement for exemplary demonstration of postsecondary and workforce readiness; and the graduation and dropout rates; AND,

BEGINNING IN THE 2016-17 SCHOOL YEAR, THE PERCENTAGES OF STUDENTS GRADUATING FROM THE PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL WHO, IN THE SCHOOL YEAR IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING GRADUATION FROM HIGH SCHOOL, ENROLL IN A CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION PROGRAM, COMMUNITY COLLEGE, OR FOUR-YEAR INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.

(b) (I) For each school district and the institute, the department shall disaggregate by student group:
(F) The overall percentage of students enrolled in the eleventh grade in the district public high schools or the institute charter high schools who score at each achievement level of the standardized, curriculum-based, achievement, college entrance examination or the percentages of students enrolled in each of the grade levels included in the public high schools who score at each achievement level on the postsecondary and workforce readiness assessments administered by the public high schools; the overall percentages of students graduating from the district public high schools, or the institute charter high schools, who receive a diploma that includes a postsecondary and workforce readiness endorsement or an endorsement for exemplary demonstration of postsecondary and workforce readiness; and the overall graduation and dropout rates for the district public high schools or the institute charter high schools; AND BEGINNING IN THE 2016-17 SCHOOL YEAR, THE OVERALL PERCENTAGES OF STUDENTS GRADUATING FROM THE DISTRICT PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOLS OR THE INSTITUTE CHARTER HIGH SCHOOLS WHO, IN THE SCHOOL YEAR IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING GRADUATION FROM HIGH SCHOOL, ENROLL IN A CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION PROGRAM, COMMUNITY COLLEGE, OR FOUR-YEAR INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.

(c) (I) For the state, the department shall disaggregate by student group:

(F) The percentage of students enrolled in the eleventh grade in the public high schools in the state who score at each achievement level of the standardized, curriculum-based, achievement, college entrance examination or the percentages of students enrolled in each of the grade levels included in the public high schools in the state who score at each
achievement level on the postsecondary and workforce readiness assessments administered by the public high schools; the overall percentages of students graduating from the public high schools in the state who receive diplomas that include postsecondary and workforce readiness endorsements or endorsements for exemplary demonstration of postsecondary and workforce readiness; and the overall graduation and dropout rates for the public high schools in the state; AND BEGINNING IN THE 2016-17 SCHOOL YEAR, THE PERCENTAGES OF STUDENTS GRADUATING FROM THE PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOLS IN THE STATE WHO, IN THE SCHOOL YEAR IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING GRADUATION FROM HIGH SCHOOL, ENROLL IN A CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION PROGRAM, COMMUNITY COLLEGE, OR FOUR-YEAR INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.

SECTION 2. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-11-301, amend (1) (d) as follows:

22-11-301. School district accountability committees - creation - membership. (1) Each local school board shall appoint or create a process for the election of a school district accountability committee that shall consist of:

(d) At least one person who is involved in business OR INDUSTRY in the community within the school district boundaries.

SECTION 3. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-11-401, amend (1) (a) (V) as follows:

22-11-401. School accountability committee - creation - qualifications - elections. (1) (a) Each district public school and each institute charter school shall establish a school accountability committee. Each school accountability committee shall consist of at least seven members as follows:
(V) At least one person from WHO IS INVOLVED IN BUSINESS OR INDUSTRY IN the community.

SECTION 4. In Colorado Revised Statutes, amend 22-2-132 as follows:

22-2-132. Department of education - career and technical education authorization - rules. (1) In accordance with the state plans for occupational education adopted by THAT the state board for community colleges and occupational education ADOPTS pursuant to section 23-60-304, C.R.S., the department shall issue credentials AUTHORIZATIONS to teachers of occupational subjects, teacher-trainers, supervisors, directors, occupational counseling specialists, and others WHO HAVE responsibilities in connection with occupational education at the secondary level. Prior to BEFORE issuing a credential AN AUTHORIZATION pursuant to this section, the department shall determine that the person applying for the credential AUTHORIZATION meets the minimum qualifications established by THAT the state board for community colleges and occupational education ESTABLISHES pursuant to section 23-60-304 (3) (a), C.R.S. A person who is required by law to obtain an educator license or authorization pursuant to article 60.5 of this title may obtain a credential pursuant to this section in addition to, but not in lieu of, the required educator license or authorization CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION AUTHORIZATION PURSUANT TO SECTION 22-60.5-111 (9) RATHER THAN AN AUTHORIZATION PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION.

(2) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (1) of this section, the department may enter into a memorandum of understanding with the state board for community colleges and occupational education
pursuant to which the state board for community colleges and occupational education, prior to July 1, 2009, may issue credentials to teachers of occupational subjects, teacher-trainers, supervisors, directors, occupational counseling specialists, and others having responsibilities in connection with occupational education at the secondary level as provided in this section.

(3) The state board of education shall promulgate such rules as may be necessary for the implementation of this section. At a minimum, the rules shall establish the amount of and procedures for the department to collect a fee for the issuance of a credential ISSUING AN AUTHORIZATION pursuant to this section and section 22-60.5-112.

SECTION 5. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-60.5-111, amend (9) as follows:

22-60.5-111. Authorization - types - applicants' qualifications - rules. (9) Career and technical education authorization. (a) The department of education may issue a provisional AN INITIAL career and technical education authorization to a person who holds a provisional career and technical education credential issued by an institution of higher education within the state system of community and technical colleges established pursuant to section 23-60-201, C.R.S. A provisional qualification MEETS THE MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS THAT THE STATE BOARD FOR COMMUNITY COLLEGES AND OCCUPATIONAL EDUCATION ADOPTS PURSUANT TO SECTION 23-60-304 (3) (a), C.R.S. AN INITIAL career and technical education authorization is valid for three years and may not be renewed.

(b) The department of education may issue a professional career and technical education authorization to a person who holds a standard
career and technical education credential issued by an institution of higher education within the state system of community and technical colleges
MEETS THE CRITERIA THAT THE STATE BOARD FOR COMMUNITY COLLEGES AND OCCUPATIONAL EDUCATION ADOPTS PURSUANT TO SECTION 23-60-304 (3) (a), C.R.S. A professional career and technical education authorization is valid for five years. The department of education may renew a professional career and technical education authorization for succeeding five-year periods when the person holding the authorization completes the renewal requirements of the state system of community and technical colleges and submits a copy of the renewed professional credential to the department that the state board for community colleges and occupational education adopts pursuant to section 23-60-304 (3) (a), C.R.S.

SECTION 6. In Colorado Revised Statutes, add part 3 to article 46.3 of title 24 as follows:

PART 3
POSTSECONDARY AND WORKFORCE READINESS
STATEWIDE COORDINATOR

24-46.3-301. Definitions. As used in this part 3, unless the context otherwise requires:
(1) "Area vocational school" has the same meaning as provided in section 23-60-103, C.R.S.
(2) "Community college" means an institution that is included in the state system of community and technical colleges pursuant to section 23-60-205, C.R.S., Colorado mountain college, and Aims community college.
(3) "Local education provider" means a school district
ORGANIZED AND EXISTING AS PROVIDED BY LAW, A BOARD OF
COOPERATIVE SERVICES CREATED PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 5 OF TITLE 22,
C.R.S., THE STATE CHARTER SCHOOL INSTITUTE ESTABLISHED IN SECTION
22-30.5-503, C.R.S., A CHARTER SCHOOL AUTHORIZED BY A SCHOOL
DISTRICT PURSUANT TO PART 1 OF ARTICLE 30.5 OF TITLE 22, C.R.S., OR
AN INSTITUTE CHARTER SCHOOL AUTHORIZED BY THE STATE CHARTER
SCHOOL INSTITUTE PURSUANT TO PART 5 OF ARTICLE 30.5 OF TITLE 22,
C.R.S.

(4) "POSTSECONDARY AND WORKFORCE READINESS" MEANS THE
KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS THAT A STUDENT SHOULD HAVE ATTAINED
BEFORE OR UPON ATTAINING A HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA, AS ADOPTED BY
THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION AND THE COLORADO COMMISSION ON
HIGHER EDUCATION PURSUANT TO SECTION 22-7-1008, C.R.S.

(5) "STATEWIDE COORDINATOR" MEANS THE POSTSECONDARY AND
WORKFORCE READINESS STATEWIDE COORDINATOR WHOSE POSITION IS
CREATED IN SECTION 24-46.3-302.

24-46.3-302. Postsecondary and workforce readiness statewide
coordinator - position created - duties. (1) (a) THERE IS CREATED THE
POSITION OF POSTSECONDARY AND WORKFORCE READINESS STATEWIDE
COORDINATOR TO WORK UNDER THE DIRECTION OF THE STATE WORK
FORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL. THE STATEWIDE COORDINATOR WORKS
WITH AND HELPS TO COORDINATE THE EFFORTS OF LOCAL EDUCATION
PROVIDERS, BUSINESSES, INDUSTRY, AREA VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS,
COMMUNITY COLLEGES, THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, THE WORK
FORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, THE CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION
DIVISION WITHIN THE COLORADO COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM, THE
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION, AND OTHER APPROPRIATE ENTITIES
TO RAISE THE LEVEL OF POSTSECONDARY AND WORKFORCE READINESS
that Colorado high school graduates achieve, especially with
regard to readiness upon high school graduation for skilled
career positions in business and industry.

(b) The executive committee of the state work force
development council shall enter into a memorandum of
understanding with the commissioner of education as necessary
to enable the statewide coordinator to collaborate with the
office of postsecondary readiness and other appropriate offices
and divisions within the department of education in implementing
initiatives to increase the level of postsecondary and
workforce readiness that high school graduates achieve.

(2) (a) The statewide coordinator shall assist local
education providers in:

(I) Developing and implementing initiatives to increase the
level of postsecondary and workforce readiness that high
school graduates achieve, which may include but need not be
limited to specialized, industry-based curricula and programs;
apprenticeship programs; and internships and externships;

(II) Implementing concurrent enrollment programs as
provided in article 35 of title 22, C.R.S., and in entering into
concurrent enrollment agreements with area vocational
schools, community colleges, and four-year institutions of
higher education;

(III) Engaging students with the manufacturing career
pathway created pursuant to section 23-60-1003, C.R.S.; and

(IV) Developing partnerships with businesses, industry,
UNIONS, AREA VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS, COMMUNITY COLLEGES, AND OTHER
ENTITIES TO CREATE OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS TO PARTICIPATE IN
EDUCATIONAL AND TRAINING PROGRAMS THAT LEAD TO OBTAINING A
CAREER ENTRY-LEVEL CREDENTIAL.

(b) THE STATEWIDE COORDINATOR, UPON REQUEST OF A LOCAL
EDUCATION PROVIDER THAT DOES NOT EMPLOY A POSTSECONDARY AND
WORKFORCE READINESS COORDINATOR, SHALL WORK WITH THE LOCAL
EDUCATION PROVIDER TO COORDINATE POSTSECONDARY AND WORKFORCE
READINESS PROGRAMS AND INITIATIVES FOR THE STUDENTS THAT THE
LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER ENROLLS.

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