

First Regular Session
Seventieth General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 15-0969.01 Brita Darling x2241

HOUSE BILL 15-1350

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Pettersen, Wilson

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Hill,

House Committees
Education

Senate Committees

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 CONCERNING PERFORMANCE MEASURES FOR ACCREDITING AN
102 ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION CAMPUS.

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 the department of education (department) to convene stakeholder meetings for the purpose of reviewing state statutes and state board of education (state board) rules relating to the performance indicators for the accreditation of public schools that are classified as alternative education campuses. In convening the meetings, the department must invite representatives from alternative education

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.

campuses, school authorizers, and others. Members of the department's staff that have knowledge of accountability and data analysis and dropout prevention will also attend the stakeholder meetings. By a certain date, the department shall submit recommendations, if any, to the commissioner of education and the meeting participants relating to changes to state statutes and state board rules for the accreditation of alternative education campuses.

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) An alternative education campus, referred to as an "AEC", is
5 a public school with greater than ninety-five percent of its students
6 meeting high-risk criteria;

7 (b) In 2015-16, a number of AECs will enter into their fifth
8 consecutive year of being in either turnaround or priority improvement
9 performance status;

10 (c) A review of the current accountability framework is needed to
11 ensure that the educational achievement and success of high-risk students
12 served in alternative education campuses is adequately captured in the
13 accountability framework; and

14 (d) The Colorado standards and assessment task force, created
15 pursuant to House Bill 14-1202, enacted in 2014, recently released
16 findings and recommendations, including the specific recommendation
17 that all schools and districts should be held harmless from the
18 consequences associated with school and district performance
19 accountability frameworks through the 2015-16 school year.

20 (2) Therefore, the general assembly hereby finds and declares that
21 a thoughtful reevaluation of the accountability framework imposed on
22 AECs is necessary to add criteria that are relevant and that adequately

1 capture the success of high-risk students served by AECs. To accomplish
2 this review, the Colorado department of education shall work with
3 stakeholders to determine new measures of success that are uniquely
4 suited to AECs.

5 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-11-210, **add** (1.5)
6 as follows:

7 **22-11-210. Public schools - annual review - plans - supports**
8 **and interventions - rules - repeal.** (1.5) (a) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL
9 CONVENE STAKEHOLDER MEETINGS FOR THE PURPOSE OF REVIEWING
10 STATE STATUTES AND THE STATE BOARD'S RULES PURSUANT TO
11 PARAGRAPH (b) OF SUBSECTION (1) OF THIS SECTION RELATING TO THE
12 PERFORMANCE INDICATORS FOR AN ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION CAMPUS.
13 THE REVIEW MAY CONSIDER AMENDMENTS TO THE ACCOUNTABILITY
14 FRAMEWORK FOR ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION CAMPUSES, INCLUDING BUT
15 NOT LIMITED TO:

16 (I) QUALITATIVE MEASURES, IN ADDITION TO QUANTITATIVE
17 MEASURES OF A SCHOOL'S PERFORMANCE IN SERVING HIGH-RISK
18 STUDENTS;

19 (II) DEVELOPMENT OF MEASURE-SPECIFIC CUT POINTS; AND

20 (III) CONSIDERATION OF THE CURRENT "N" WEIGHTING SYSTEM
21 AND SUGGESTING CHANGES TO WEIGHTS TO ADDRESS THE UNIQUE
22 SOCIO-EMOTIONAL NEEDS OF THE STUDENTS SERVED BY THE ALTERNATIVE
23 EDUCATION CAMPUS.

24 (b) BASED ON THE REVIEW, NO LATER THAN DECEMBER 1, 2015,
25 THE DEPARTMENT SHALL SUBMIT TO THE COMMISSIONER AND TO THE
26 STAKEHOLDERS WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE MEETINGS, WRITTEN
27 RECOMMENDATIONS FOR REVISIONS TO STATE BOARD RULES AND STATE

1 STATUTES RELATING TO THE ACCREDITATION OF ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION
2 CAMPUSES.

3 (c) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL INVITE, BUT IS NOT LIMITED TO
4 INVITING, THE FOLLOWING STAKEHOLDERS TO ATTEND THE MEETINGS:

5 (I) ONE REPRESENTATIVE FROM A SCHOOL DISTRICT OR
6 AUTHORIZER WITH MORE THAN ONE ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION CAMPUS;

7 (II) ONE REPRESENTATIVE FROM A SCHOOL DISTRICT OR
8 AUTHORIZER SERVING ONLY ONE ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION CAMPUS IN A
9 RURAL AREA OF LESS THAN ONE THOUSAND STUDENTS;

10 (III) ONE REPRESENTATIVE FROM AN ON-LINE ALTERNATIVE
11 EDUCATION CAMPUS;

12 (IV) ONE REPRESENTATIVE FROM A CHARTER ALTERNATIVE
13 EDUCATION CAMPUS;

14 (V) ONE REPRESENTATIVE FROM AN ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION
15 CAMPUS THAT EXCLUSIVELY SERVES STUDENTS WITH AN INDIVIDUALIZED
16 EDUCATION PLAN;

17 (VI) ONE REPRESENTATIVE FROM AN ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION
18 CAMPUS THAT SERVES STUDENTS WHO ATTEND ON A PART-TIME BASIS;

19 (VII) ONE REPRESENTATIVE FROM AN ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION
20 CAMPUS THAT HAS MORE THAN FIFTY PERCENT OF ITS STUDENTS
21 IDENTIFIED AS OVER-AGE AND UNDER-CREDITED;

22 (VIII) ONE REPRESENTATIVE FROM AN ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION
23 CAMPUS THAT HAS MORE THAN FIFTY PERCENT OF ITS STUDENTS
24 PREVIOUSLY DROPPED OUT FROM OR EXPELLED FROM ANOTHER SCHOOL;

25 (IX) ONE REPRESENTATIVE FROM AN ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION
26 CAMPUS THAT CURRENTLY OFFERS POSTSECONDARY OPPORTUNITIES IN
27 HIGH SCHOOL;

1 (X) ONE REPRESENTATIVE FROM A STATEWIDE ORGANIZATION
2 THAT REPRESENTS ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION CAMPUSES;

3 (XI) A MEMBER OF THE DEPARTMENT'S ACCOUNTABILITY AND
4 DATA ANALYSIS UNIT; AND

5 (XII) A MEMBER OF THE DEPARTMENT WHO SPECIALIZES IN
6 DROPOUT PREVENTION.

7 (d) THIS SUBSECTION (1.5) IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2017.

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