

**First Regular Session  
Sixty-third General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO**

**INTRODUCED**

LLS NO. R01-0886.01 Michele Hanigsberg

SJR01-009

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**SENATE SPONSORSHIP**

**Matsunaka**

**HOUSE SPONSORSHIP**

**(None)**

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**Senate Committees**  
Education

**House Committees**

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**SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 01-009**

101     **CONCERNING CREATION OF AN INTERIM COMMITTEE TO STUDY**  
102             **GOVERNANCE IN HIGHER EDUCATION, AND, IN CONNECTION**  
103             **THEREWITH, ADDRESSING THE ROLE AND MISSION OF**  
104             **INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION.**

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1             WHEREAS, The current governance structure for higher education  
2     was established in 1985; and

3             WHEREAS, The state recently received a report from the  
4     Northwest Educational Research Center recommending changes in the  
5     governance alignment for institutions of higher education in Colorado;  
6     and

7             WHEREAS, The Northwest Educational Research Center report  
8     recommendations were not sufficiently supported by analysis or data; and

9             WHEREAS, The Northwest Educational Research Center report  
10     did not address the fiscal implications of the recommended governance  
11     realignments; and

*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.*

1 WHEREAS, Any governance report is incomplete without a  
2 discussion of the respective roles and missions of the state-supported  
3 institutions of higher education; and

4 WHEREAS, Any changes in governance structure should be  
5 preceded by ample opportunity for review and comment on proposals by  
6 all effected parties, including students, parents, alumni, and local  
7 communities; and

8 WHEREAS, Three pieces of legislation have been introduced this  
9 session to change the existing governance structures of selected  
10 state-supported institutions of higher education, and, due to the limitations  
11 of the Northwest Educational Research Center report, these bills may be  
12 premature; and

13 WHEREAS, The Northwest Educational Research Center report  
14 did not sufficiently outline the benefit to the students or the institutions of  
15 higher education of the proposed realignments in higher education  
16 governance; and

17 WHEREAS, The Northwest Educational Research Center report  
18 made many recommendations for change without identifying the specific  
19 problems these changes were addressing; and

20 WHEREAS, Maintaining a strong and vital system of higher  
21 education is crucial to the economic well-being of the state; and

22 WHEREAS, Recent studies of higher education performance  
23 indicate that Colorado's system of higher education is affordable,  
24 accessible, and of high quality; and

25 WHEREAS, Higher education governance has not been studied by  
26 the Colorado General Assembly since 1984; now, therefore,

27 *Be It Resolved by the Senate of the Sixty-third General Assembly*  
28 *of the State of Colorado, the House of Representatives concurring herein:*

29 (1) That there shall be a legislative committee formed to study  
30 governance of state-supported institutions of higher education, hereinafter  
31 referred to as the "interim committee", which shall meet in the interim  
32 after the 2001 regular session of the Sixty-third General Assembly.

33 (2) That the interim committee shall consist of eleven members as  
34 follows:

35 (a) Five senators appointed by the President of the Senate, one of  
36 whom shall be the chair of the Senate education committee and who shall  
37 serve as the chair of the interim committee, and no more than three of  
38 whom shall be from the same political party;

39 (b) Six representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House of  
40 Representatives, one of whom shall be the chair of the House education  
41 committee and who shall serve as the vice-chair of the interim committee,

1 and no more than four of whom shall be from the same political party.

2 (3) That the interim committee shall consider the following issues:

3 (a) The implications of realigning state-supported institutions of  
4 higher education within the current governing board structure or within a  
5 newly created governing board structure including, but not limited to, the  
6 autonomy of the schools and the financial viability of the institutions;

7 (b) An examination of role and mission of the state-supported  
8 institutions of higher education to ensure that institutions are meeting the  
9 needs of the state of Colorado and the local communities;

10 (c) An examination of mechanisms to grant state-supported  
11 institutions of higher education increased autonomy in exchange for  
12 higher levels of demonstrated performance.

13 (4) Appointments to the interim committee shall be made by July  
14 1, 2001.

15 (5) That the staff of the Legislative Council and the Office of  
16 Legislative Legal Services shall be available to assist the interim  
17 committee in carrying out its duties.

18 (6) That the interim committee shall make recommendations  
19 regarding the issues reviewed and, if necessary, recommend legislation.  
20 Legislation recommended by the committee shall be treated as legislation  
21 recommended by any other legislative interim committee for purposes of  
22 any introduction deadlines or bill limitations imposed by the joint rules of  
23 the Senate and the House of Representatives.

24 (7) That the legislative members of the interim committee shall be  
25 compensated as provided in section 2-2-307, Colorado Revised Statutes,  
26 for attendance at meetings of the interim committee.

27 (8) That the actual and necessary expenses, including per diem,  
28 incurred in the conduct of the interim committee shall be approved by the  
29 chairperson of the Legislative Council and paid by vouchers and warrants  
30 drawn as provided by law from funds allocated to the Legislative Council  
31 from appropriations made by the General Assembly.