



5401 W. 20<sup>th</sup> Street  
Greeley, CO 80634

**HB 09-1079**  
**ANNEXING MUNICIPALITIES TO EXISTING JUNIOR COLLEGE DISTRICTS.**  
Rep. Vaad and Marostica/Sen. Renfroe

There are two primary local district junior colleges in CO: Aims Community College and Colorado Mountain College. These schools have a local tax base derived from a mill levy in their taxing district. The local revenue obtained from the mill levy is used to fund capital construction and buy down student tuition. These colleges have a single line item in the budget and do NOT receive: COF, state capital construction dollars or fee-for-service. They are also not part of the state system of community colleges. They have their own elected governing boards.

Currently school districts can join a local district tax base, but municipalities cannot.

Local district junior colleges have a service district and a taxing district that are not one and the same.

This bill creates a procedure for the city of Berthoud to join the taxing district of Aims Community College through a series of votes:

- Local municipality requests inclusion;
- Local district junior college board votes to accept or deny inclusion;
- Municipality board votes to accept or deny inclusion in the tax district;
- Electorate of the municipality votes to increase tax for inclusion in tax district.

**Benefits**

- Discounted tuition by being in the taxing district—about 57% reduction
- The municipality must agree by vote to be annexed into the district
- Increased opportunities for lifelong learning
- Increased opportunities for financial aid for municipality residents currently not available to them
- Improved access to higher education through lower tuition and location of facilities and programs
- Leading edge programs in many areas, including renewable and sustainable energy
- Increased opportunities for governance and representation

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