

Second Regular Session
Seventy-fifth General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO

PREAMENDED

*This Unofficial Version Includes Committee
Amendments Not Yet Adopted on Second Reading*

LLS NO. 26-0408.02 Owen Hatch x2698

SENATE BILL 26-103

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Kolker and Marchman,

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

(None),

Senate Committees
Education

House Committees

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 **CONCERNING PUBLIC SCHOOLS, AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH,**
102 **CREATING A SPECIALIZED SCHOOL POLICY FOR AT-RISK**
103 **STUDENTS.**

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://leg.colorado.gov>.)

The bill requires school districts and charter schools to adopt a policy that directs additional resources and supports toward at-risk public school students. The policy may implement the utilization of community-school-based learning programs, as well as wraparound services, after-school programs, and tutoring services, among other

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.
*Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material to be added to existing law.
Dashes through the words or numbers indicate deletions from existing law.*

community-focused programs.

Subdivision regulations adopted by a board of county commissioners must include land set aside for public schools of a school district.

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

2 **SECTION 1. Legislative declaration.** (1) The general assembly
3 finds and declares that:

4 (a) Colorado law recognizes community schools as
5 evidence-based, democratic public-school models that integrate
6 academics, family engagement, health services, and community
7 partnerships;

8 (b) Under current law, the community school model appears
9 primarily as a last-resort accountability intervention, becoming available
10 after schools have entered priority improvement or turnaround status;

11 (c) Due to systemic inequities, the needs of Black, Latino, and
12 low-income students are unmet far more often and far earlier than
13 accountability systems recognize;

14 (d) The state must be proactive in allowing schools and families
15 to adopt evidence-based, comprehensive interventions, like the
16 community school model, before crisis emerges, thereby strengthening
17 public schools and ensuring all students have access to high-quality
18 schools; and

19 (e) School district contracting and metro-district land gifts have
20 enabled privatization that diverts public education dollars and governance
21 to private parties. These gaps must be addressed to preserve transparency,
22 oversight, and equity.

23 (2) This act establishes early pathways for schools to adopt proven

1 evidence-based, comprehensive interventions, like the community school
2 model, and supports equitable school success across Colorado.

3 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 22-32.5-112 as
4 follows:

5 **22-32.5-112. Achieving community commitment to equitable**
6 **school success policy - required - definition.**

7 (1) AS USED IN THIS SECTION, UNLESS THE CONTEXT OTHERWISE
8 REQUIRES, "ACCESS POLICY" OR "POLICY" MEANS A POLICY DESCRIBED
9 IN SUBSECTION (2) OF THIS SECTION.

10 (2) (a) ON OR BEFORE JULY 1, 2027, EACH INSTITUTE CHARTER
11 SCHOOL, DISTRICT CHARTER SCHOOL, AND LOCAL BOARD OF EDUCATION,
12 FOR ITS SCHOOLS THAT ARE NOT DISTRICT CHARTER SCHOOLS, SHALL
13 ADOPT AND IMPLEMENT AN ACHIEVING COMMUNITY COMMITMENT TO
14 EQUITABLE SCHOOL SUCCESS POLICY, TO BE KNOWN AS AN ACCESS
15 POLICY, THAT DIRECTS _____ RESOURCES AND SUPPORTS TO AT-RISK
16 STUDENTS, AND SHALL POST THE POLICY ON THE SCHOOL'S OR SCHOOL
17 DISTRICT'S WEBSITE.

18 (b) THE POLICY MAY INCLUDE:

19 (I) PARTNERSHIPS WITH COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS TO INCREASE
20 ACCESS TO HEALTH CLINICS, LEGAL SERVICES, AND COLLEGE
21 OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS AND THE COMMUNITY;

22 (II) INTEGRATED STUDENT SUPPORT AND WRAPAROUND SERVICES
23 INFORMED BY THE ASSET AND NEEDS ASSESSMENT DESCRIBED IN SECTION
24 22-32.5-103 (1.5)(a), INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, INCREASING
25 COUNSELORS, CASEWORKERS, AND OTHER MENTAL HEALTH
26 PROFESSIONALS;

27 (III) EXTENDED LEARNING TIME WITH AFTER-SCHOOL, TUTORING,

1 AND OTHER SUMMER PROGRAMS;

2 (IV) STRATEGIES TO SUPPORT TEACHER RETENTION AND PAY,
3 INCLUDING INCREASING PLANNING TIME AND OPPORTUNITIES TO
4 COLLABORATE MEANINGFULLY WITH COLLEAGUES AND FUNDING
5 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT ADVANCEMENT OPPORTUNITIES;

6 (V) FAMILY AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT STRATEGIES THAT
7 REFLECT CULTURAL AND LINGUISTIC DIVERSITY, INCLUDING BILINGUAL
8 AND DUAL-LANGUAGE SUPPORTS, TRANSLATORS, AND FAMILY LIAISONS;
9 AND

10 (VI) THE AT-RISK MEASURE DESCRIBED IN SECTION 22-54-104.6.

11 (c) AN INSTITUTE CHARTER SCHOOL, DISTRICT CHARTER SCHOOL,
12 AND A SCHOOL OF A LOCAL BOARD OF EDUCATION THAT IS NOT A DISTRICT
13 CHARTER SCHOOL THAT IS PARTICIPATING IN A PERFORMANCE,
14 IMPROVEMENT, PRIORITY IMPROVEMENT, OR TURNAROUND PLAN
15 PURSUANT TO SECTION 22-11-210, WHICH PLAN DIRECTS RESOURCES AND
16 SUPPORTS TO AT-RISK STUDENTS, IS DEEMED TO SATISFY THE
17 REQUIREMENTS OF SUBSECTION (2)(a) OF THIS SECTION, AND SHALL POST
18 THE PLAN ON THE SCHOOL OR SCHOOL DISTRICT'S WEBSITE.

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20 **SECTION 3.** **Safety clause.** The general assembly finds,
21 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate
22 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety or for appropriations for
23 the support and maintenance of the departments of the state and state
24 institutions.