

HOUSE COMMITTEE OF REFERENCE REPORT

Chair of Committee

Date

June 3, 2021

Committee on Education.

After consideration on the merits, the Committee recommends the following:

HB21-1325 be amended as follows, and as so amended, be referred to the Committee on Appropriations with favorable recommendation:

1 Amend printed bill, strike everything below the enacting clause and
2 substitute:

3 "SECTION 1. In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** part 20 to
4 article 2 of title 2 as follows:

5 PART 20

6 LEGISLATIVE INTERIM COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL FINANCE

7 **2-2-2001. Legislative interim committee on school finance -**
8 **creation.** (1) NOTWITHSTANDING SECTION 2-3-303.3, THERE IS CREATED
9 THE LEGISLATIVE INTERIM COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL FINANCE, REFERRED TO
10 IN THIS PART 20 AS THE "INTERIM COMMITTEE", TO STUDY THE ISSUES
11 DESCRIBED IN SECTION 2-2-2002 AND CONSIDER CHANGES TO THE "PUBLIC
12 SCHOOL FINANCE ACT OF 1994", ARTICLE 54 OF TITLE 22. IN ADDITION TO
13 MEETING DURING THE 2021 AND 2022 LEGISLATIVE INTERIMS, THE
14 INTERIM COMMITTEE MAY MEET DURING THE 2022 AND 2023 LEGISLATIVE
15 SESSIONS TO APPROVE LEGISLATION. THE INTERIM COMMITTEE CONSISTS
16 OF:

17 (a) FOUR MEMBERS OF THE SENATE, WITH TWO MEMBERS
18 APPOINTED BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE AND TWO MEMBERS
19 APPOINTED BY THE MINORITY LEADER OF THE SENATE; AND

20 (b) FOUR MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, WITH
21 TWO MEMBERS APPOINTED BY THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF
22 REPRESENTATIVES AND TWO MEMBERS APPOINTED BY THE MINORITY
23 LEADER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

1 (2) (a) THE APPOINTING AUTHORITIES SHALL APPOINT THE
2 MEMBERS OF THE INTERIM COMMITTEE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AFTER THE
3 EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS PART 20 BUT NOT LATER THAN THIRTY DAYS
4 AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS PART 20. THE APPOINTING
5 AUTHORITIES SHALL, TO THE EXTENT PRACTICABLE, ENSURE THAT THE
6 MEMBERS OF THE INTERIM COMMITTEE REPRESENT SCHOOL DISTRICTS IN
7 ALL AREAS OF THE STATE, INCLUDING URBAN, SUBURBAN, AND RURAL
8 SCHOOL DISTRICTS, SCHOOL DISTRICTS WITH VARYING STUDENT
9 DEMOGRAPHICS, AND SCHOOL DISTRICTS OF VARYING WEALTH IN
10 PROPERTY VALUATION AND LOCAL REVENUE. IF A VACANCY ARISES ON
11 THE INTERIM COMMITTEE, THE APPROPRIATE APPOINTING AUTHORITY
12 SHALL APPOINT A MEMBER TO FILL THE VACANCY AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

13 (b) THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES SHALL
14 APPOINT THE CHAIR OF THE INTERIM COMMITTEE FOR THE TWO-YEAR TERM
15 OF THE INTERIM COMMITTEE, AND THE MINORITY LEADER OF THE SENATE
16 SHALL APPOINT THE VICE-CHAIR OF THE INTERIM COMMITTEE FOR THE
17 TWO-YEAR TERM OF THE INTERIM COMMITTEE. IN THE CASE OF A TIE VOTE,
18 THE CHAIR OF THE INTERIM COMMITTEE SHALL CAST AN ADDITIONAL
19 DECIDING VOTE.

20 (3) THE CHAIR OF THE INTERIM COMMITTEE SHALL SCHEDULE THE
21 FIRST MEETING OF THE INTERIM COMMITTEE TO BE HELD NOT LATER THAN
22 SIXTY DAYS AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS PART 20. THE INTERIM
23 COMMITTEE MAY MEET UP TO FIVE TIMES DURING EACH INTERIM IN
24 ADDITION TO ANY MEETINGS HELD DURING THE 2022 OR 2023 LEGISLATIVE
25 SESSIONS.

26 (4) THE CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR OF THE INTERIM COMMITTEE MAY
27 APPOINT SUBCOMMITTEES. A SUBCOMMITTEE MAY INCLUDE MEMBERS OF
28 THE INTERIM COMMITTEE AND PERSONS WITH TECHNICAL EXPERTISE IN
29 SCHOOL FINANCE. MEMBERS OF A SUBCOMMITTEE SERVE WITHOUT
30 COMPENSATION AND WITHOUT REIMBURSEMENT FOR EXPENSES.

31 (5) THE DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
32 AND THE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE LEGAL SERVICES SHALL
33 PROVIDE STAFF ASSISTANCE TO THE INTERIM COMMITTEE.

34 (6) THE INTERIM COMMITTEE MAY INTRODUCE UP TO A TOTAL OF
35 FIVE BILLS, JOINT RESOLUTIONS, AND CONCURRENT RESOLUTIONS IN EACH
36 OF THE 2022 AND 2023 LEGISLATIVE SESSIONS. BILLS THAT THE INTERIM
37 COMMITTEE INTRODUCES ARE EXEMPT FROM THE FIVE-BILL LIMITATION
38 SPECIFIED IN RULE 24 (b)(1)(A) OF THE JOINT RULES OF THE SENATE AND
39 THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. JOINT RESOLUTIONS AND CONCURRENT
40 RESOLUTIONS THAT THE INTERIM COMMITTEE INTRODUCES ARE EXEMPT
41 FROM THE LIMITATIONS SET OUT IN RULE 26 (g) OF THE RULES OF THE

1 HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND RULE 30 (f) OF THE RULES OF THE
2 SENATE. THE INTERIM COMMITTEE IS EXEMPT FROM THE REQUIREMENT TO
3 REPORT BILLS OR OTHER MEASURES TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AS
4 SPECIFIED IN RULE 24 (b)(1)(D) AND RULE 24A (d)(8) OF THE JOINT RULES
5 OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND IN SECTION
6 2-3-303 (1)(f). THE INTERIM COMMITTEE IS SUBJECT TO RULE 24A OF THE
7 JOINT RULES OF THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXCEPT TO
8 THE EXTENT THAT THE RULE MAY CONFLICT WITH THIS PART 20. THE
9 INTERIM COMMITTEE MAY MEET DURING THE 2022 AND 2023 LEGISLATIVE
10 SESSIONS TO APPROVE LEGISLATION. BILLS RECOMMENDED BY THE
11 INTERIM COMMITTEE MUST BE INTRODUCED BY THE INTRODUCTION
12 DEADLINE FOR HOUSE BILLS SPECIFIED IN RULE 23 (a)(1) OF THE JOINT
13 RULES OF THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. THE CHAIR AND
14 VICE-CHAIR SHALL JOINTLY ESTABLISH THE LAST DATE FOR THE SINGLE
15 MEETING AT WHICH THE INTERIM COMMITTEE MAY APPROVE BILL
16 REQUESTS, THE LAST DATE BY WHICH INTERIM COMMITTEE MEMBERS MUST
17 FINALIZE BILL DRAFTS OR BY WHICH BILL DRAFTS WILL BE DEEMED
18 FINALIZED FOR FISCAL NOTE PURPOSES, AND THE LAST DATE BY WHICH THE
19 INTERIM COMMITTEE WILL CONSIDER AND TAKE FINAL ACTION ON BILL
20 DRAFTS.

21 (7) THE INTERIM COMMITTEE SHALL USE NINETY MILLION DOLLARS
22 FROM THE STATE EDUCATION FUND, CREATED IN SECTION 17 (4) OF
23 ARTICLE IX OF THE STATE CONSTITUTION, AS NECESSARY, FOR THE
24 IMPLEMENTATION OF SCHOOL FINANCE FORMULA CHANGES.

25 (8) ALL EXPENDITURES THAT THE INTERIM COMMITTEE INCURS,
26 INCLUDING THE COST OF CONTRACTING FOR THE STUDY PURSUANT TO
27 SECTION 2-2-2003, ARE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL BY THE CHAIR OF THE
28 INTERIM COMMITTEE AND, IF APPROVED, SHALL BE PAID BY VOUCHERS AND
29 WARRANTS DRAWN AS PROVIDED BY LAW FROM APPROPRIATIONS MADE BY
30 THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS PART 20.

31 **2-2-2002. Issues to study - recommendations to general**
32 **assembly - legislative declaration.** (1) AT A MINIMUM, THE INTERIM
33 COMMITTEE SHALL STUDY THE FOLLOWING ISSUES:

34 (a) HOW TO MODERNIZE THE "PUBLIC SCHOOL FINANCE ACT OF
35 1994" TO MAKE THE SCHOOL FINANCE FORMULA MORE TRANSPARENT,
36 EQUITABLE, AND STUDENT-CENTERED;

37 (b) WHETHER THE CURRENT METHOD FOR IDENTIFYING AT-RISK
38 PUPILS IS AN APPROPRIATE, ACCURATE METHOD FOR IDENTIFYING AND
39 WEIGHTING STUDENTS WHO, BECAUSE OF THEIR LIFE CIRCUMSTANCES, ARE
40 IN GREATER NEED OF SERVICES AND SUPPORTS TO GIVE THEM
41 OPPORTUNITIES EQUAL TO THOSE OF THEIR PEERS TO ACHIEVE THEIR



1 ACADEMIC POTENTIAL, AND, IF NOT, THE APPROPRIATE METHOD FOR
2 ALLOCATING ADDITIONAL RESOURCES TO THOSE PUPILS, WHICH METHOD
3 MAY BE INFORMED BY THE POVERTY STUDY COMMISSIONED PURSUANT TO
4 SECTION 2-2-2003;

5 (c) WHETHER TO REDESIGN THE ALLOCATION OF FUNDING IN THE
6 SCHOOL FINANCE FORMULA FOR SCHOOL DISTRICT COST-OF-LIVING AND
7 PERSONNEL COSTS TO LIMIT FUNDING TO ONLY SIGNIFICANTLY HIGH-COST
8 SCHOOL DISTRICTS THOUGH THE CREATION OF A FIXED AMOUNT OF
9 ADDITIONAL PER PUPIL FUNDING FOR HIGH-COST SCHOOL DISTRICTS;

10 (d) THE APPROPRIATE METHOD TO ADDRESS SMALL, REMOTE, AND
11 RURAL SCHOOL DISTRICT FUNDING, INCLUDING WHETHER A DIFFERENT
12 WEIGHT SHOULD BE APPLIED IN THE SCHOOL FINANCE FORMULA FOR THE
13 SIZE FACTOR FOR SMALL, REMOTE SCHOOL DISTRICTS AND WHETHER TO
14 REDESIGN THE DISTRIBUTION OF RURAL SCHOOL FUNDING RECEIVED
15 PURSUANT TO SECTION 22-54-142;

16 (e) ALTERNATIVE EDUCATOR SUPPORT FOR SCHOOL DISTRICTS FOR
17 TEACHING STUDENTS ENROLLED IN KINDERGARTEN THROUGH SECOND
18 GRADE; AND

19 (f) THE BENEFITS AND CHALLENGES OF INCORPORATING SPECIAL
20 EDUCATION SERVICES FUNDING INTO THE SCHOOL FINANCE FORMULA.

21 (2) (a) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FINDS AND DECLARES THAT
22 DRAMATIC DIFFERENCES IN LOCAL PROPERTY WEALTH AND THE ABILITY
23 OF SOME SCHOOL DISTRICTS TO OBTAIN VOTER APPROVAL TO COLLECT
24 PROPERTY TAX REVENUE IN ADDITION TO THAT PROVIDED BY TOTAL
25 PROGRAM MILL LEVIES HAS LED TO INEQUITY IN THE AMOUNT OF FUNDING
26 AVAILABLE TO SERVE STUDENTS IN SCHOOL DISTRICTS THROUGHOUT THE
27 STATE. TO LESSEN THIS INEQUITY, IT IS APPROPRIATE TO IDENTIFY ONE OR
28 MORE METHODS BY WHICH TO SUPPORT EFFORTS BY LOW-PROPERTY
29 WEALTH DISTRICTS TO SUPPORT THE NEEDS OF THEIR STUDENTS THROUGH
30 MILL LEVY OVERRIDES FOR OPERATING PURPOSES.

31 (b) THEREFORE, IN ADDITION TO THE ISSUES SPECIFIED IN
32 SUBSECTION (1) OF THIS SECTION, THE INTERIM COMMITTEE SHALL DESIGN
33 AND RECOMMEND A PROGRAM BEGINNING IN THE 2022-23 BUDGET YEAR
34 TO SUPPORT STUDENTS BY ASSISTING LOW-PROPERTY WEALTH SCHOOL
35 DISTRICTS IN OBTAINING VOTER APPROVAL FOR ADDITIONAL MILL LEVIES
36 PURSUANT TO SECTION 22-54-108 BY PROVIDING STATE MATCHING
37 MONEY. IN DESIGNING THE PROGRAM, THE INTERIM COMMITTEE SHALL
38 CONSIDER:

39 (I) HOW TO ADDRESS OUT-OF-DISTRICT STUDENTS AND
40 MULTI-DISTRICT ONLINE PROGRAMS THAT INCREASE A SCHOOL DISTRICT'S
41 PUPIL COUNT AND TOTAL PROGRAM FUNDING BUT DO NOT CONTRIBUTE TO



1 THE COLLECTION OF PROPERTY TAXES IN THE SCHOOL DISTRICT;
2 (II) HOW THE MIX OF RESIDENTIAL AND NON-RESIDENTIAL
3 PROPERTY DIRECTLY AFFECTS ASSESSED VALUES AND THE AMOUNT OF
4 PROPERTY TAX REVENUE COLLECTED IN THE SCHOOL DISTRICT DUE TO
5 DIFFERENCES IN THE ASSESSMENT RATES;
6 (III) THE DISTRICT MILL LEVY CAPACITY THRESHOLD AT WHICH
7 SCHOOL DISTRICTS WOULD BECOME ELIGIBLE FOR STATE MONEY TO MATCH
8 MILL LEVY OVERRIDES AND HOW THE THRESHOLD WILL IMPACT THE
9 NUMBER OF ELIGIBLE SCHOOL DISTRICTS;
10 (IV) THE APPROPRIATE NUMBER OF MILLS A SCHOOL DISTRICT
11 SHOULD BE LEVYING FOR TOTAL PROGRAM TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR THE
12 PROGRAM;
13 (V) THE APPROPRIATE MANNER IN WHICH TO CONSIDER INSTITUTE
14 CHARTER SCHOOLS LOCATED IN SCHOOL DISTRICTS PARTICIPATING IN THE
15 PROGRAM; AND
16 (VI) ANY OTHER RELEVANT CONSIDERATIONS, AS DETERMINED BY
17 THE INTERIM COMMITTEE.
18 (c) THE INTERIM COMMITTEE MAY INTRODUCE LEGISLATION
19 PURSUANT TO SECTION 2-2-2001 TO IMPLEMENT THE PROGRAM DESIGNED
20 AND RECOMMENDED BY THE INTERIM COMMITTEE PURSUANT TO THIS
21 SUBSECTION (2).
22 (3) BASED ON THE STUDY OF ISSUES DESCRIBED IN THIS SECTION,
23 THE INTERIM COMMITTEE MAY MAKE LEGISLATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS TO
24 THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY ADDRESSING HOW TO MOST ACCURATELY MEET
25 THE EDUCATIONAL NEEDS OF INDIVIDUAL STUDENTS THROUGH THE
26 FUNDING OF EDUCATION IN COLORADO.
27 **2-2-2003. Poverty study - contract - report - legislative**
28 **declaration - repeal.** (1) (a) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FINDS AND
29 DECLARES THAT:
30 (I) FREE AND REDUCED-PRICE LUNCH ELIGIBILITY FOR THE
31 FEDERAL "RICHARD B. RUSSELL NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH ACT", 42
32 U.S.C. SEC. 1751 ET SEQ., IS A MEASURE BY WHICH SCHOOL DISTRICTS
33 RECEIVE ADDITIONAL FUNDING THROUGH THE AT-RISK FACTOR IN THE
34 SCHOOL FINANCE FORMULA;
35 (II) WHILE MANY STATES PROVIDE ADDITIONAL FUNDING BASED
36 ON REDUCED-PRICE LUNCH ELIGIBILITY, IN COLORADO, AT-RISK FUNDING
37 HAS TRADITIONALLY BEEN ALLOCATED ONLY FOR STUDENTS WHO ARE
38 ELIGIBLE FOR FREE LUNCH;
39 (III) THE FEDERAL "RICHARD B. RUSSELL NATIONAL SCHOOL
40 LUNCH ACT", 42 U.S.C. SEC. 1751 ET SEQ., WAS DESIGNED AS AN
41 ANTI-HUNGER PROGRAM, NOT AS A SINGLE PROXY FOR CAPTURING



1 STUDENT NEED. ECONOMIC DISADVANTAGE IS COMPLEX AND IS AFFECTED
2 BY MANY FACTORS BEYOND INCOME, INCLUDING WEALTH, LOCAL COST OF
3 LIVING, AND FLUCTUATING HOUSEHOLD EXPENSES.

4 (IV) IN THE LONG TERM, COLORADO'S RELIANCE ON FREE LUNCH
5 ELIGIBILITY AS THE SINGULAR POVERTY PROXY FOR SCHOOL FINANCE
6 PURPOSES IS INACCURATE AND UNSUSTAINABLE, AND SERVES AS A
7 BARRIER TO DELIVERING ESSENTIAL RESOURCES TO STUDENTS WHO NEED
8 THEM;

9 (V) FREE LUNCH ELIGIBILITY IS A BINARY MEASURE BY WHICH A
10 STUDENT IS CONSIDERED ECONOMICALLY DISADVANTAGED OR NOT AND
11 FAILS TO ACCOUNT FOR VARYING LEVELS OF POVERTY AND THE
12 CORRESPONDING LEVELS OF NEED THAT EXIST AMONG STUDENT
13 POPULATIONS;

14 (VI) THE RECENT CHANGES TO FEDERAL POLICY THAT ALLOW ALL
15 STUDENTS TO RECEIVE A FREE LUNCH WITHOUT SUBMITTING AN INCOME
16 ELIGIBILITY FORM NEGATIVELY IMPACTED COLORADO'S AT-RISK PUPIL
17 COUNT IN THE 2020-21 SCHOOL YEAR AND WILL CONTINUE TO DO SO IN
18 THE 2021-22 SCHOOL YEAR, WHICH MAY RESULT IN ANOTHER
19 UNDERCOUNT AND UNDERESTIMATION OF RESOURCES NEEDED TO SERVE
20 ECONOMICALLY DISADVANTAGED STUDENTS;

21 (VII) ADDITIONALLY, DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC,
22 COLORADO'S DECENTRALIZED METHOD OF COLLECTING INCOME
23 ELIGIBILITY DATA CREATED BARRIERS TO REACHING FAMILIES WHO WERE
24 ELIGIBLE FOR PANDEMIC ELECTRONIC BENEFIT TRANSFER PAYMENTS,
25 RESULTING IN FEWER THAN HALF OF THE ELIGIBLE CHILDREN RECEIVING
26 THE BENEFIT;

27 (VIII) DUE TO THE CONTINUED USE OF THE MISALIGNED PROXY
28 FOR DETERMINING STUDENT NEED AND THE CONTINUED
29 UNDERESTIMATION OF ECONOMIC DISADVANTAGE, COLORADO STUDENTS
30 WHO WOULD BENEFIT THE MOST FROM ADDITIONAL SUPPORT ARE GOING
31 WITHOUT IT; AND

32 (IX) STATE POLICY CAN MORE ACCURATELY ACCOUNT FOR AND
33 RESPOND TO STUDENTS' ECONOMIC CIRCUMSTANCES. OTHER STATES HAVE
34 MOVED AWAY FROM RELYING ON ONE SELF-REPORTED MEASURE, SUCH AS
35 FREE AND REDUCED-PRICE LUNCH ELIGIBILITY, TOWARD AN INDEX OF
36 MEASURES OF NEED THAT AUTOMATICALLY QUALIFY STUDENTS FOR
37 SCHOOL MEALS OR FOR ADDITIONAL FUNDING THROUGH THE SCHOOL
38 FINANCE FORMULA.

39 (b) THEREFORE, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY DECLARES THAT
40 STUDYING METHODS TO IDENTIFY ECONOMIC DISADVANTAGE AMONG
41 STUDENTS PRECISELY AND HOLISTICALLY IS AN IMPORTANT AND

1 NECESSARY GOAL IN PROVIDING PUBLIC SCHOOLS WITH THE RESOURCES
2 NECESSARY TO ENABLE ALL STUDENTS TO ACHIEVE ACADEMIC SUCCESS.

3 (2) (a) TO UNDERSTAND ALTERNATIVE APPROACHES TO BETTER
4 IDENTIFY ECONOMIC DISADVANTAGE AMONG STUDENTS, THE INTERIM
5 COMMITTEE, SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS, SHALL CONTRACT
6 WITH A THIRD-PARTY VENDOR TO COMPLETE A STUDY TO ANALYZE
7 VARIOUS METHODS OF MEASURING STUDENT ECONOMIC DISADVANTAGE
8 AND THE NECESSARY DATA AND SYSTEMS ALIGNMENT THAT WOULD BE
9 NEEDED TO INCORPORATE THOSE MEASURES INTO THE STATE'S SCHOOL
10 FINANCE FORMULA.

11 (b) THE INTERIM COMMITTEE SHALL ISSUE A REQUEST FOR
12 PROPOSALS FOR QUALIFIED THIRD-PARTY VENDORS TO COMPLETE THE
13 POVERTY STUDY DESCRIBED IN THIS SECTION. BY SEPTEMBER 1, 2021, THE
14 INTERIM COMMITTEE SHALL CONTRACT WITH A VENDOR THAT HAS
15 EXPERTISE OR DEMONSTRATED EXPERIENCE ASSISTING STATES IN
16 EXAMINING MEASURES OF ECONOMIC DISADVANTAGE FOR PURPOSES OF
17 SCHOOL FUNDING. THE CHAIR OF THE INTERIM COMMITTEE, IN
18 CONSULTATION WITH THE INTERIM COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND THE
19 DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, SHALL SELECT THE THIRD-PARTY VENDOR TO
20 COMPLETE THE POVERTY STUDY.

21 (3) APPROACHES FOR ANALYZING OR IDENTIFYING STUDENT
22 ECONOMIC DISADVANTAGE AS PART OF THE STUDY MAY INCLUDE BUT ARE
23 NOT LIMITED TO:

- 24 (a) DIRECT CERTIFICATION;
- 25 (b) DIRECT CERTIFICATION WITH THE INCLUSION OF MEDICAID;
- 26 (c) FREE AND REDUCED-PRICE LUNCH ELIGIBILITY WITH HYBRID
27 APPROACHES;
- 28 (d) ECONOMIC DISADVANTAGE MEASURES AT THE CENSUS BLOCK
29 GROUP LEVEL; AND
- 30 (e) OTHER MORE ACCURATE APPROACHES TAKEN BY STATES TO
31 MEASURE STUDENT ECONOMIC DISADVANTAGE.

32 (4) FOR EACH APPROACH, THE ANALYSIS MUST INCLUDE:

- 33 (a) THE AVAILABILITY OF DATA BY SCHOOL DISTRICT, CENSUS
34 BLOCK GROUP, OR OTHER RELEVANT GEOGRAPHIC BOUNDARIES;
- 35 (b) THE DISTRIBUTIONAL EFFECTS FOR SCHOOL DISTRICT SHARES
36 OF THE STATE COUNT OF LOW-INCOME STUDENTS;
- 37 (c) BARRIERS TO ACCESSING DATA, INCLUDING INFORMATION
38 TECHNOLOGY AND DATA-SHARING LIMITATIONS AMONG AGENCIES THAT
39 MAY USE THE DATA;
- 40 (d) THE APPROACH'S POTENTIAL TO MEET IMPORTANT PRINCIPLES
41 AND POLICY OBJECTIVES, INCLUDING:

- 1 (I) ENSURING THE MOST ACCURATE COUNT POSSIBLE OF STUDENTS
2 EXPERIENCING ECONOMIC DISADVANTAGE;
- 3 (II) MAINTAINING AN INDIVIDUAL STUDENT INDICATOR OF
4 ECONOMIC DISADVANTAGE;
- 5 (III) DIFFERENTIATING AMONG LEVELS OF ECONOMIC
6 DISADVANTAGE;
- 7 (IV) DECREASING THE ADMINISTRATIVE BURDEN ON SCHOOLS AND
8 SCHOOL DISTRICTS TO COLLECT DATA AND THE BURDEN ON STUDENTS AND
9 FAMILIES TO PROVE ELIGIBILITY;
- 10 (V) ALLOWING FOR COLORADO'S LONG-TERM ABILITY TO IDENTIFY
11 LONGITUDINAL STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT TRENDS;
- 12 (VI) ALLOWING FOR COORDINATION ACROSS AGENCIES AND THEIR
13 USE OF INDICATORS OF ECONOMIC DISADVANTAGE FOR PUBLIC PROGRAM
14 ELIGIBILITY;
- 15 (VII) ENSURING STUDENT PRIVACY AND CONFIDENTIALITY OF
16 STUDENT RECORDS; AND
- 17 (VIII) ENSURING THAT THE APPROACH IS INCLUSIVE OF ALL
18 STUDENTS, INCLUDING THOSE WHO ARE HOMELESS OR WHO LACK
19 DOCUMENTATION.
- 20 (5) THE STUDY MUST ALSO DETERMINE THE ESTIMATED COSTS OF
21 LINKING DATA ACROSS SYSTEMS THAT ARE MAINTAINED BY DIFFERENT
22 AGENCIES, FOR EXAMPLE, THE COST OF SYSTEM CHANGES OR UPGRADES
23 THAT WOULD BE NEEDED TO MATCH STUDENT RECORDS WITH THE
24 RECORDS OF OTHER ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS IN WHICH STUDENTS ARE
25 ENROLLED.
- 26 (6) WHILE COLORADO CONTINUES TO USE FREE AND
27 REDUCED-PRICE LUNCH ELIGIBILITY AS A POVERTY INDICATOR BECAUSE OF
28 FEDERAL PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS, THE STUDY MUST ANALYZE BENEFITS
29 AND DRAWBACKS OF MAKING THE ELIGIBILITY FORM SECURE AND
30 ACCESSIBLE ONLINE FOR FAMILIES.
- 31 (7) NOT LATER THAN JANUARY 1, 2022, THE THIRD-PARTY VENDOR
32 SELECTED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (2) OF THIS SECTION SHALL PROVIDE
33 THE COMPLETED POVERTY STUDY OF THE MEASURES OF ECONOMIC
34 DISADVANTAGE STUDIED AND ANALYZED PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION TO
35 THE INTERIM COMMITTEE, THE JOINT BUDGET COMMITTEE, AND THE
36 EDUCATION COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND THE
37 SENATE, OR ANY SUCCESSOR COMMITTEES. THE STUDY'S ANALYSIS MUST
38 ALLOW MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO EVALUATE EACH
39 APPROACH, IN ISOLATION OR AS A COMBINATION OF APPROACHES,
40 ACCORDING TO THE PRINCIPLES AND POLICY OBJECTIVES SET FORTH IN
41 SUBSECTION (4)(d) OF THIS SECTION.



1 **2-2-2004. Repeal of part.** THIS PART 20 IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE
2 JULY 1, 2023.

3 **SECTION 2. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds,
4 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate
5 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety."

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