

Second Regular Session  
Seventy-first General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 18-0755.02 Brita Darling x2241

HOUSE BILL 18-1309

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HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Coleman and Wilson,

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Hill,

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House Committees  
Education

Senate Committees

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A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 CONCERNING PROGRAMS ADDRESSING EDUCATOR SHORTAGES.

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 the Colorado department of education and the Colorado department of higher education to create the framework for a grow your own educator program that includes the following provisions:

- ! Enrollment in a grow your own educator program at a participating institution of higher education;
- ! Employment with a school district or a district or institute charter school (charter school) under a teacher of record license during the student's final year of the grow your own

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

- educator program;
- ! Payment of tuition by the school district or charter school for up to the student's last 36 credit hours of the grow your own educator program;
- ! In exchange for payment of tuition, the student's commitment to work in the same school district or charter school for 3 years after completion of the grow your own educator program; and
- ! A state grant to the employing school district or charter school to pay a portion of up to the final 36 credit hours of the student's in-state tuition at the institution of higher education, limited to a certain number of new students annually.

Institutions of higher education and participating school districts or charter schools are required to enter into an agreement that includes provisions set forth in the bill. Further, school districts or charter schools and teachers of record employed by the school district or charter school are required to enter into an agreement that includes provisions set forth in the bill.

The bill establishes a teacher of record license for a student who has completed all or substantially all of the course work requirements for a baccalaureate degree, but has not completed teacher field work requirements. A student who holds a teacher of record license may be employed by a school district or charter school through the grow your own educator program or through a teacher of record program established in the bill. The student must work for a school district or charter school that has identified a critical teacher shortage and has a vacant position for which no other qualified applicant has applied. A teacher of record license is valid for 2 years.

The bill creates a second program that authorizes local education providers, as defined in the bill, to implement a one- or 2-year teacher of record program. As part of a teacher of record program, a local education provider, as defined in the bill, may employ a person holding a teacher of record license in a vacant position if there are no other qualified, licensed applicants to fill the position.

The bill amends the special services intern authorization to allow the authorization to be renewed for a second academic year if the intern is employed by a school district or board of cooperative services and the intern has not completed a program of preparation for a special services provider due to unforeseen circumstances or hardship.

The bill amends the school counselor corps grant program to define "school counselor" to include a person who holds a special services intern authorization. The bill amends the behavioral health care professional matching grant program to include state-certified professionals qualified to provide services to children and adolescents.

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

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add 22-60.5-208.5**  
3 as follows:

4 **22-60.5-208.5. Grow your own educator program -**  
5 **authorization - duties - rules - legislative declaration - definitions -**  
6 **repeal.** (1) (a) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FINDS THAT:

7 (I) COLORADO IS COMMITTED TO ENSURING THAT ITS PUBLIC  
8 SCHOOLS ARE THE BEST IN THE WORLD;

9 (II) ENSURING THAT EACH CLASSROOM HAS A QUALIFIED,  
10 WELL-TRAINED EDUCATOR IS CRITICAL TO GUARANTEEING THAT  
11 COLORADO'S PUBLIC EDUCATION SYSTEM REMAINS COMPETITIVE BOTH  
12 NATIONALLY AND INTERNATIONALLY; AND

13 (III) A SHORTAGE OF EDUCATORS IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS ACROSS THE  
14 STATE JEOPARDIZES COLORADO'S ABILITY TO MAINTAIN THE HIGHEST  
15 STANDARDS IN EDUCATION DELIVERY.

16 (b) THEREFORE, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY DECLARES THAT IT IS  
17 IMPORTANT THAT THE COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND THE  
18 COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION CREATE A GROW YOUR  
19 OWN EDUCATOR PROGRAM TO:

20 (I) DEVELOP A PIPELINE FOR CONSISTENT RECRUITMENT AND  
21 PLACEMENT OF EDUCATORS IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS ACROSS THE STATE;

22 (II) MAKE THE TRAINING AND PREPARATION OPTIONS THAT ARE  
23 AVAILABLE TO FUTURE EDUCATORS RELEVANT, ACCESSIBLE, AND  
24 AFFORDABLE STATEWIDE;

25 (III) DEVELOP "HOMEGROWN" SOLUTIONS TO INCENTIVIZE FUTURE  
26 EDUCATORS TO STAY IN THE COMMUNITIES WHERE THEY WERE RAISED;

1 (IV) WORK WITH PUBLIC SCHOOLS TO DEVELOP LOCAL SOLUTIONS  
2 CUSTOMIZED TO THE NEEDS OF INDIVIDUAL COMMUNITIES;

3 (V) FACILITATE PARTNERSHIPS THAT COMBINE TRADITIONAL  
4 EDUCATOR PREPARATION CURRICULA WITH EXPERIENTIAL EDUCATION TO  
5 GIVE FUTURE EDUCATORS OPPORTUNITIES TO LEARN AS TEACHERS OF  
6 RECORD WORKING DIRECTLY IN SCHOOLS; AND

7 (VI) CREATE A SYSTEMATIC APPROACH TO ORGANIZING AND  
8 FACILITATING EDUCATOR PREPARATION AND TRAINING THAT PROVIDES  
9 FOR THE LICENSURE OF EDUCATORS, THEREBY ALLEVIATING COLORADO'S  
10 EDUCATOR SHORTAGE AND ENHANCING THE QUALITY OF EDUCATION  
11 DELIVERED IN COLORADO'S PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

12 (2) AS USED IN THIS SECTION, UNLESS THE CONTEXT OTHERWISE  
13 REQUIRES:

14 (a) "CHARTER SCHOOL" MEANS A CHARTER SCHOOL AUTHORIZED  
15 BY A SCHOOL DISTRICT PURSUANT TO PART 1 OF ARTICLE 30.5 OF THIS  
16 TITLE 22 OR A CHARTER SCHOOL AUTHORIZED BY THE STATE CHARTER  
17 SCHOOL INSTITUTE PURSUANT TO PART 5 OF ARTICLE 30.5 OF THIS TITLE  
18 22.

19 (b) "PROGRAM" MEANS A GROW YOUR OWN EDUCATOR PROGRAM  
20 ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION.

21 (c) "TEACHER OF RECORD" MEANS A PERSON LICENSED PURSUANT  
22 TO SECTION 22-60.5-201 (1)(a.5).

23 (3) THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND THE DEPARTMENT OF  
24 HIGHER EDUCATION SHALL CREATE THE FRAMEWORK FOR A GROW YOUR  
25 OWN EDUCATOR PROGRAM THAT, AT A MINIMUM, MUST INCLUDE:

26 (a) ENROLLMENT IN AN INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION THAT  
27 PARTICIPATES IN THE PROGRAM AND COMPLETION OF NOT LESS THAN THE

1 FINAL THIRTY-SIX CREDIT HOURS REQUIRED BY THE PARTICIPATING  
2 INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION TO COMPLETE THE PROGRAM;

3 (b) EMPLOYMENT UNDER A TEACHER OF RECORD LICENSE FOR A  
4 POSITION FOR WHICH NO OTHER QUALIFIED, LICENSED TEACHER HAS  
5 APPLIED WITH A SCHOOL DISTRICT OR CHARTER SCHOOL THAT DETERMINES  
6 THAT THERE IS A CRITICAL TEACHER SHORTAGE;

7 (c) PAYMENT BY THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OR CHARTER SCHOOL OF  
8 THE EDUCATOR'S IN-STATE TUITION FOR NO MORE THAN THE FINAL  
9 THIRTY-SIX CREDIT HOURS REQUIRED BY THE INSTITUTION OF HIGHER  
10 EDUCATION TO COMPLETE THE PROGRAM, WITH THE GRANT PROGRAM  
11 LIMITED TO TWO HUNDRED NEW STUDENTS PARTICIPATING ANNUALLY;  
12 AND

13 (d) THE REQUIREMENT THAT THE EDUCATOR WORK IN THE SAME  
14 SCHOOL DISTRICT OR CHARTER SCHOOL FOR THREE ACADEMIC YEARS  
15 AFTER COMPLETION OF THE PROGRAM, UNLESS WAIVED BY THE SCHOOL  
16 DISTRICT OR CHARTER SCHOOL, AS A CONDITION OF THE SCHOOL  
17 DISTRICT'S OR CHARTER SCHOOL'S PAYMENT OF A PORTION OF THE  
18 EDUCATOR'S TUITION FOR THE PROGRAM PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (3)(c)  
19 OF THIS SECTION.

20 (4) A SCHOOL DISTRICT OR CHARTER SCHOOL IS AUTHORIZED TO  
21 ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH ONE OR MORE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER  
22 EDUCATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PROGRAM PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION.  
23 AT A MINIMUM, THE AGREEMENT MUST INCLUDE THE COURSES AND  
24 NUMBER OF CREDIT HOURS THAT A STUDENT MUST COMPLETE BEFORE AND  
25 WHILE THE STUDENT IS A TEACHER OF RECORD WITH THE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
26 OR CHARTER SCHOOL, INCLUDING THE TIME AND SUPPORT THE SCHOOL  
27 DISTRICT OR CHARTER SCHOOL WILL PROVIDE THE TEACHER OF RECORD TO

1 COMPLETE THE COURSE WORK, AND ANY TEACHER PREPARATION PROGRAM  
2 OR TEACHER SUPPORT SERVICES PROVIDED TO THE STUDENT WHILE THE  
3 STUDENT IS A TEACHER OF RECORD.

4 (5) A SCHOOL DISTRICT OR CHARTER SCHOOL SHALL ENTER INTO  
5 AN AGREEMENT WITH A STUDENT WHO PARTICIPATES AS A TEACHER OF  
6 RECORD WITH THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OR CHARTER SCHOOL PURSUANT TO  
7 THE PROGRAM THAT INCLUDES, BUT IS NOT LIMITED TO, THE FOLLOWING  
8 PROVISIONS:

9 (a) A REQUIREMENT THAT THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OR CHARTER  
10 SCHOOL INCLUDE THE TEACHER OF RECORD IN PROFESSIONAL  
11 DEVELOPMENT, TEACHER MENTORSHIP, THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OR CHARTER  
12 SCHOOL'S INDUCTION PROGRAM, AND OTHER SUPPORTS PROVIDED BY THE  
13 SCHOOL DISTRICT OR CHARTER SCHOOL WHILE THE TEACHER OF RECORD  
14 COMPLETES THE PROGRAM AND DURING THE REQUIRED THREE ACADEMIC  
15 YEARS OF EMPLOYMENT WITH THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OR CHARTER SCHOOL  
16 AFTER COMPLETION OF THE BACCALAUREATE DEGREE;

17 (b) A REQUIREMENT THAT THE STUDENT APPLY FOR AND RECEIVE  
18 A COLLEGE OPPORTUNITY FUND STIPEND PURSUANT TO PART 2 OF ARTICLE  
19 18 OF TITLE 23, IF ELIGIBLE, AND ANY FEDERAL OR STATE NEED-BASED OR  
20 MERIT-BASED FINANCIAL AID FOR WHICH THE STUDENT IS ELIGIBLE PRIOR  
21 TO THE AWARD OF THE BACCALAUREATE DEGREE; AND

22 (c) A REQUIREMENT THAT THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OR CHARTER  
23 SCHOOL PAY THE STUDENT'S IN-STATE TUITION AT THE PARTICIPATING  
24 INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION TO COMPLETE THE PROGRAM, NOT TO  
25 EXCEED THIRTY-SIX CREDIT HOURS. THE TUITION PAYMENT MUST BE  
26 REPAID BY THE STUDENT TO THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OR CHARTER SCHOOL,  
27 UNLESS WAIVED BY THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OR CHARTER SCHOOL, IF THE

1 STUDENT DOES NOT COMPLETE THE PROGRAM, DOES NOT COMPLETE THE  
2 REQUIRED THREE ACADEMIC YEARS OF EMPLOYMENT WITH THE SCHOOL  
3 DISTRICT OR CHARTER SCHOOL AFTER COMPLETION OF THE PROGRAM, OR  
4 BECOMES INELIGIBLE FOR CONTINUED EMPLOYMENT IN THE SCHOOL  
5 DISTRICT OR CHARTER SCHOOL PURSUANT TO STATE OR FEDERAL LAW.  
6 THE AGREEMENT MUST INCLUDE THE TERMS FOR REPAYMENT OF THE  
7 TUITION PAYMENT, IF APPLICABLE.

8 (6) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SHALL APPROPRIATE TO THE  
9 DEPARTMENT MONEY FOR NONCOMPETITIVE GRANTS THAT THE  
10 DEPARTMENT SHALL DISTRIBUTE DIRECTLY TO A SCHOOL DISTRICT OR  
11 CHARTER SCHOOL THAT EMPLOYS A STUDENT AS A TEACHER OF RECORD  
12 DURING THE PROGRAM. GRANT FUNDING IS LIMITED TO TWO HUNDRED  
13 NEW STUDENTS PARTICIPATING IN THE PROGRAM ANNUALLY. THE SCHOOL  
14 DISTRICT OR CHARTER SCHOOL SHALL USE THE GRANT TO PAY FOR THE  
15 COST OF UP TO THIRTY-SIX CREDIT HOURS OF THE STUDENT'S SHARE OF  
16 IN-STATE TUITION, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 23-18-102, LESS ANY AMOUNT  
17 RECEIVED BY THE STUDENT IN FEDERAL AND STATE FINANCIAL AID, TO THE  
18 INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN WHICH THE STUDENT IS ENROLLED.  
19 THE AMOUNT OF EACH GRANT TO A SCHOOL DISTRICT OR CHARTER SCHOOL  
20 IS AN AMOUNT EQUAL TO THE COLLEGE OPPORTUNITY FUND STIPEND PER  
21 CREDIT HOUR ESTABLISHED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY PURSUANT TO  
22 SECTION 23-18-202 (2)(b), AND IS LIMITED TO THIRTY-SIX CREDIT HOURS  
23 IN TOTAL. EACH SCHOOL DISTRICT OR CHARTER SCHOOL THAT EMPLOYS A  
24 STUDENT AS A TEACHER OF RECORD IN THE PROGRAM SHALL ANNUALLY  
25 PROVIDE TO THE DEPARTMENT A LIST OF PARTICIPANTS FOR THE FISCAL  
26 YEAR AND THE NUMBER OF CREDIT HOURS GRANTED TO EACH  
27 PARTICIPANT.

1 (7) THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION AND COLORADO  
2 COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION ARE AUTHORIZED, FOR GOOD CAUSE,  
3 TO WAIVE ANY REQUIREMENTS IMPOSED BY LAW REGARDING A PROGRAM  
4 ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION AND TEACHER LICENSURE AND  
5 SCHOOL DISTRICT OR CHARTER SCHOOL DUTIES AS NECESSARY TO MEET  
6 THE GOALS OF THIS SECTION, UNLESS SUCH WAIVER WOULD NEGATIVELY  
7 AFFECT THE QUALITY OF EDUCATION PROVIDED IN THE PUBLIC SCHOOL OR  
8 THE ACCREDITATION OF THE ACCEPTED INSTITUTION OF HIGHER  
9 EDUCATION.

10 (8) (a) THIS SECTION IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 1, 2023.

11 (b) BEFORE ITS REPEAL, THE DEPARTMENT OF REGULATORY  
12 AGENCIES SHALL REVIEW THE PROGRAM IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION  
13 24-34-104.

14 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-34-104, **add**  
15 (24)(a)(V) as follows:

16 **24-34-104. General assembly review of regulatory agencies**  
17 **and functions for repeal, continuation, or reestablishment - legislative**  
18 **declaration - repeal.** (24) (a) The following agencies, functions, or both,  
19 are scheduled for repeal on September 1, 2023:

20 (V) THE GROW YOUR OWN EDUCATOR PROGRAM, AUTHORIZED  
21 PURSUANT TO SECTION 22-60.5-208.5.

22 **SECTION 3.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 22-60.5-208.7  
23 as follows:

24 **22-60.5-208.7. Teacher of record program - rules -**  
25 **authorization - definition.** (1) AS USED IN THIS SECTION, UNLESS THE  
26 CONTEXT OTHERWISE REQUIRES, "LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER" MEANS  
27 A SCHOOL DISTRICT, A CHARTER SCHOOL AUTHORIZED BY A SCHOOL



1 DISTRICT PURSUANT TO PART 1 OF ARTICLE 30.5 OF THIS TITLE 22, A  
2 CHARTER SCHOOL AUTHORIZED BY THE STATE CHARTER SCHOOL  
3 INSTITUTE PURSUANT TO PART 5 OF ARTICLE 30.5 OF THIS TITLE 22, OR A  
4 BOARD OF COOPERATIVE SERVICES CREATED AND OPERATING PURSUANT  
5 TO ARTICLE 5 OF THIS TITLE 22 THAT OPERATES A PUBLIC SCHOOL.

6 (2) A LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER IS AUTHORIZED TO IMPLEMENT  
7 A ONE- OR TWO-YEAR TEACHER OF RECORD PROGRAM AND MAY ONLY  
8 EMPLOY A TEACHER OF RECORD IF THE LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER HAS  
9 DETERMINED THAT THERE IS A CRITICAL TEACHER SHORTAGE AND IF  
10 THERE ARE NO OTHER QUALIFIED, LICENSED APPLICANTS FOR A VACANT  
11 POSITION. THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION SHALL ESTABLISH RULES AND  
12 POLICIES GOVERNING A TEACHER OF RECORD PROGRAM ESTABLISHED  
13 PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION.

14 (3) A PERSON EMPLOYED IN A TEACHER OF RECORD PROGRAM  
15 ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION SHALL HOLD A TEACHER OF  
16 RECORD LICENSE ISSUED PURSUANT TO SECTION 22-60.5-201 (1)(a.5).

17 (4) TO ASSIST THE TEACHER OF RECORD IN MEETING THE  
18 PERFORMANCE-BASED TEACHER LICENSURE STANDARDS ADOPTED BY THE  
19 STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION PURSUANT TO SECTION 22-2-109 (3), A  
20 TEACHER OF RECORD PROGRAM MUST INCLUDE, AT A MINIMUM:

- 21 (a) DIRECT AND REGULAR SUPERVISION BY MENTOR TEACHERS;
- 22 (b) PERFORMANCE EVALUATIONS; AND
- 23 (c) THE TEACHER PREPARATION PROGRAM OR TEACHER SUPPORT  
24 SERVICES TO BE PROVIDED TO TEACHERS OF RECORD AS AGREED UPON BY  
25 THE LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER AND THE INSTITUTION OF HIGHER  
26 EDUCATION.

27 (5) A LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER MAY INCLUDE THE TEACHER OF

1 RECORD IN THE LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER'S INDUCTION PROGRAM. IF  
2 THE TEACHER OF RECORD SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETES AN INDUCTION  
3 PROGRAM, THE TEACHER OF RECORD MAY APPLY COMPLETION OF THE  
4 INDUCTION PROGRAM TOWARD MEETING THE REQUIREMENTS FOR A  
5 PROFESSIONAL TEACHER LICENSE.

6 (6) A LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER SHALL TREAT A TEACHER OF  
7 RECORD AS A FIRST-YEAR TEACHER FOR PURPOSES OF COMPENSATION AND  
8 PLACEMENT ON A TEACHER SALARY SCHEDULE.

9 **SECTION 4.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-60.5-201, **amend**  
10 (1)(b)(I) introductory portion and (1)(b)(I)(B); and **add** (1)(a.5) as  
11 follows:

12 **22-60.5-201. Types of teacher licenses issued - term - rules.**

13 (1) The department is designated as the sole agency authorized to issue  
14 the following teacher licenses to persons of good moral character:

15 (a.5) **Teacher of record license.** (I) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL  
16 ISSUE A TEACHER OF RECORD LICENSE TO AN APPLICANT WHO:

17 (A) IS ENROLLED IN AN ACCEPTED INSTITUTION OF HIGHER  
18 EDUCATION AND HAS SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED ALL, OR SUBSTANTIALLY  
19 ALL, OF THE COURSE WORK REQUIREMENTS FOR COMPLETION OF A  
20 BACHELOR'S DEGREE BUT HAS NOT YET COMPLETED TEACHING FIELD  
21 WORK REQUIREMENTS;

22 (B) IS ENROLLED IN A GROW YOUR OWN EDUCATOR PROGRAM  
23 PURSUANT TO SECTION 22-60.5-208.5, OR IN A ONE- OR TWO-YEAR  
24 TEACHER OF RECORD PROGRAM PURSUANT TO SECTION 22-60.5-208.7;  
25 AND

26 (C) THE APPLICANT IS OR WILL BE EMPLOYED IN A POSITION FOR  
27 WHICH NO OTHER QUALIFIED, LICENSED TEACHER HAS APPLIED BY A LOCAL

1 EDUCATION PROVIDER, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 22-60.5-208.7 (1), THAT  
2 DETERMINES THAT THERE IS A CRITICAL TEACHER SHORTAGE.

3 (II) A TEACHER OF RECORD LICENSE IS VALID FOR TWO YEARS  
4 AFTER THE DATE OF ISSUANCE AND CAN ONLY BE RENEWED ONE TIME IF  
5 THE HOLDER DID NOT COMPLETE A BACHELOR'S DEGREE DUE TO  
6 UNFORESEEN CIRCUMSTANCES OR HARDSHIP.

7 (III) THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION SHALL ESTABLISH THE  
8 COMPETENCIES AND STANDARDS NECESSARY FOR A TEACHER OF RECORD  
9 TO BE EMPLOYED BY A SCHOOL DISTRICT OR PUBLIC SCHOOL.

10 (b) **Initial teacher license.** (I) Except as otherwise provided in  
11 ~~subparagraph (H) of this paragraph (b)~~ SUBSECTION (1)(b)(II) OF THIS  
12 SECTION, the department, in its discretion, may issue an initial teacher  
13 license to any applicant who:

14 (B) Has completed an approved program of preparation for  
15 teachers, ~~or~~ a one-year or two-year alternative teacher program, OR A  
16 GROW YOUR OWN EDUCATOR PROGRAM ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO  
17 SECTION 22-60.5-208.5;

18 **SECTION 5.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 23-18-202, **amend**  
19 (2)(b) as follows:

20 **23-18-202. College opportunity fund - appropriations -**  
21 **payment of stipends - reimbursement - report.** (2) (b) (I) For the state  
22 fiscal year commencing July 1, 2005, and for state fiscal years thereafter,  
23 for an eligible undergraduate student attending a state institution of higher  
24 education, the specified amount of the stipend per credit hour ~~shall be~~ IS  
25 an amount set annually by the general assembly, which in no case shall  
26 exceed the student's total in-state tuition. The value of the per credit hour  
27 stipend ~~shall be~~ IS the same for each eligible undergraduate student,

1 regardless of the state institution of higher education that the student  
2 attends. The student ~~shall be~~ IS responsible for paying the student's share  
3 of total in-state tuition, if any.

4 (II) If the student is enrolled in a pathways in technology early  
5 college high school pursuant to article 35.3 of title 22, ~~C.R.S.~~, the p-tech  
6 school ~~shall be~~ IS responsible for paying the student's share of total  
7 in-state tuition, if any.

8 (III) IF THE STUDENT IS ENROLLED IN A GROW YOUR OWN  
9 EDUCATOR PROGRAM PURSUANT TO SECTION 22-60.5-208.5, AND THE  
10 SCHOOL DISTRICT OR CHARTER SCHOOL RECEIVES A GRANT PURSUANT TO  
11 SECTION 22-60.5-208.5 (6), THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OR CHARTER SCHOOL  
12 THAT EMPLOYS THE STUDENT AS A TEACHER OF RECORD AS DESCRIBED IN  
13 SECTION 22-60.5-201 (1)(a.5) DURING THE TEACHING PORTION OF THE  
14 GROW YOUR OWN EDUCATOR PROGRAM IS RESPONSIBLE FOR PAYING THE  
15 STUDENT'S SHARE OF TOTAL IN-STATE TUITION, NOT TO EXCEED  
16 THIRTY-SIX CREDIT HOURS, LESS ANY AMOUNT RECEIVED IN FEDERAL AND  
17 STATE FINANCIAL AID.

18 **SECTION 6.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-91-102, **amend**  
19 (6) as follows:

20 **22-91-102. Definitions.** As used in this article 91, unless the  
21 context otherwise requires:

22 (6) "School counselor" means a person who holds a special  
23 services provider license with a school counselor endorsement issued  
24 pursuant to article 60.5 of this ~~title~~ TITLE 22 or who is otherwise endorsed  
25 or accredited by a national association to provide school counseling  
26 services. "SCHOOL COUNSELOR" INCLUDES A PERSON WHO HOLDS A  
27 SPECIAL SERVICES INTERN AUTHORIZATION PURSUANT TO SECTION

1 22-60.5-111 (3).

2 **SECTION 7.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-60.5-111, **amend**  
3 (3) as follows:

4 **22-60.5-111. Authorization - types - applicants' qualifications**  
5 **- rules.** (3) (a) **Special services intern authorization.** The department  
6 of education may issue an intern authorization to an applicant who holds  
7 at least a bachelor's degree from an accepted institution of higher  
8 education and who is enrolled in an approved program of preparation for  
9 a special services provider that requires completion of an internship. A  
10 person employed under an intern authorization shall work under the  
11 supervision of a person who holds a professional special services provider  
12 license. A school district may pay a person who is employed under an  
13 intern authorization. An intern authorization is valid for one academic  
14 year and may not be renewed.

15 (b) NOTWITHSTANDING THE PROVISIONS OF SUBSECTION (3)(a) OF  
16 THIS SECTION TO THE CONTRARY, THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION MAY  
17 RENEW AN INTERN AUTHORIZATION FOR ONE ACADEMIC YEAR IF THE  
18 SPECIAL SERVICES INTERN IS EMPLOYED BY A SCHOOL DISTRICT OR BOARD  
19 OF COOPERATIVE SERVICES AND THE INTERN HAS NOT COMPLETED THE  
20 APPROVED PROGRAM OF PREPARATION FOR A SPECIAL SERVICES PROVIDER  
21 DUE TO UNFORSEEN CIRCUMSTANCES OR HARDSHIP.

22 **SECTION 8.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-96-102, **amend**  
23 (3) as follows:

24 **22-96-102. Definitions.** As used in this article 96, unless the  
25 context otherwise requires:

26 (3) "School health professional" means a state-licensed or  
27 state-certified school nurse, psychologist, social worker, counselor, or

1 other state-licensed or state-certified ~~health~~ professional qualified under  
2 state law to provide support services to children and adolescents.

3 **SECTION 9.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 23-20-140 as  
4 follows:

5 **23-20-140. Partnership for rural education**  
6 **preparation.**(1) (a) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FINDS THAT:

7 (I) THERE IS A TEACHER SHORTAGE ACROSS THE STATE,  
8 PARTICULARLY IN RURAL AREAS, WHICH JEOPARDIZES COLORADO'S  
9 ABILITY TO MAINTAIN THE HIGHEST STANDARDS IN EDUCATION DELIVERY;

10 (II) THERE ARE VARIOUS CAUSES OF THE TEACHER SHORTAGE; AND

11 (III) THERE ARE RESOURCES AVAILABLE, AND POTENTIALLY  
12 AVAILABLE, THAT COULD HELP ALLEVIATE THE TEACHER SHORTAGE;  
13 HOWEVER, DUE TO THE UNIQUE CAUSES OF TEACHER SHORTAGES ACROSS  
14 THE STATE, THERE IS A NEED FOR COLLABORATION TO CONNECT LOCAL  
15 EDUCATION PROVIDERS WITH RESOURCES TO DEVELOP CUSTOMIZED  
16 SOLUTIONS.

17 (b) THEREFORE, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY DECLARES THAT THE  
18 CREATION OF A PARTNERSHIP FOR RURAL EDUCATION IS AN EFFECTIVE  
19 WAY TO REDUCE TEACHER SHORTAGES IN COLORADO.

20 (2) THERE IS CREATED THE PARTNERSHIP FOR RURAL EDUCATION  
21 PREPARATION ON THE DENVER CAMPUS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF  
22 COLORADO, REFERRED TO IN THIS SECTION AS THE "PARTNERSHIP", TO  
23 COLLABORATE WITH OTHER INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION TO  
24 BRING CUSTOMIZED SOLUTIONS TO LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDERS TO  
25 ADDRESS TEACHER SHORTAGES. SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS,  
26 THE PARTNERSHIP SHALL:

27 (a) DETERMINE THE CAUSES OF TEACHER SHORTAGES ACROSS THE

1 STATE;

2 (b) IDENTIFY AVAILABLE AND POTENTIALLY AVAILABLE  
3 RESOURCES TO ADDRESS TEACHER SHORTAGES;

4 (c) CONNECT THESE RESOURCES TO LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDERS  
5 THROUGH CUSTOMIZED SOLUTIONS TARGETED TO THE SPECIFIC CAUSES OF  
6 THE TEACHER SHORTAGE FOR THE LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER; AND

7 (d) PROVIDE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE IN IMPLEMENTING THE LOCAL  
8 EDUCATION PROVIDER'S CUSTOMIZED SOLUTION.

9 **SECTION 10. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act  
10 takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the  
11 ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly (August  
12 8, 2018, if adjournment sine die is on May 9, 2018); except that, if a  
13 referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V of the  
14 state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this act  
15 within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take effect  
16 unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in  
17 November 2018 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the  
18 official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.