A BILL FOR AN ACT

Concerning the provision of grants for career and technical education capital construction through the "Building Excellent Schools Today Act".

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 amends the "Building Excellent Schools Today Act" to allow the public school capital construction assistance board (board) to provide grants to support career and technical education capital construction, which is defined as:

New construction or retrofitting of public school facilities
for certain career and technical education programs; and

Equipment necessary for individual student learning and
classroom instruction, including equipment that provides
access to instructional materials or that is necessary for
professional use by a classroom teacher.

The bill requires the board to report annually to the capital
development committee and to the education and finance committees of
the house of representatives and the senate, or to any successor
committees, concerning the issuance and denial of career and technical
education capital construction grants during the preceding year.

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

SECTION 1. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-43.7-103, amend
(6); and add (6.7) as follows:

22-43.7-103. Definitions. As used in this article 43.7, unless the
context otherwise requires:

(6) "Capital construction" has the same meaning as set forth in
section 24-30-1301 (2); except that the term also includes technology, as
defined in section 22-43.7-109 (5)(a)(I)(B), AND CAREER AND TECHNICAL
EDUCATION CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION.

(6.7) "CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION CAPITAL
CONSTRUCTION" MEANS:

(a) NEW CONSTRUCTION OR RETROFITTING OF PUBLIC SCHOOL
FACILITIES FOR CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS THAT
SATISFY THE STANDARDS PRESCRIBED IN SECTION 23-8-103 (2); AND

(b) EQUIPMENT NECESSARY FOR INDIVIDUAL STUDENT LEARNING
AND CLASSROOM INSTRUCTION, INCLUDING EQUIPMENT THAT PROVIDES
ACCESS TO INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS OR THAT IS NECESSARY FOR
PROFESSIONAL USE BY A CLASSROOM TEACHER.

SECTION 2. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-43.7-109, amend
(5)(b); and add (5)(b.5) and (14) as follows:
22-43.7-109. Financial assistance for public school capital construction - application requirements - evaluation criteria - local match requirements - technology grants - career and technical education capital construction grants - rules - definition. (5) The board, taking into consideration the financial assistance priority assessment conducted pursuant to section 22-43.7-108, shall prioritize applications that describe public school facility capital construction projects deemed eligible for financial assistance based on the following criteria, in descending order of importance:

(b) Projects that will relieve overcrowding in public school facilities, including but not limited to projects that will allow students to move from temporary instructional facilities into permanent facilities; and

(b.5) PROJECTS THAT WILL PROVIDE CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION IN PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITIES; AND

(14) FOR FISCAL YEAR 2019-20 AND FOR EACH SUCCEEDING FISCAL YEAR, THE BOARD, WITH THE SUPPORT OF THE DIVISION AND SUBJECT TO THE APPROVAL OF THE STATE BOARD REGARDING FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AWARDS AS SPECIFIED IN THIS SECTION, MAY PROVIDE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE IN THE FORM OF CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION GRANTS. IN CONJUNCTION WITH ITS ESTABLISHMENT OF AN ANNUAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TIMELINE AS REQUIRED BY SUBSECTION (2)(a) OF THIS SECTION, THE BOARD SHALL ANNually NOTIFY ALL POTENTIAL APPLICANTS, BY SUCH MEANS AS THE BOARD DEEMS APPROPRIATE, THAT IT WILL ACCEPT AND CONSIDER APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE IN THE FORM OF CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION GRANTS. TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR A CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION GRANT, AN
APPLICANT FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE MUST APPLY SPECIFICALLY FOR THAT GRANT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TIMELINE ESTABLISHED BY THE BOARD PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (2)(a) OF THIS SECTION AND MUST SUBMIT AN APPLICATION IN THE FORM PRESCRIBED BY THE BOARD PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (4) OF THIS SECTION. THE BOARD MAY AWARD CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION GRANTS TO FUND CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS. IN AWARDING GRANTS, THE BOARD SHALL CONSIDER WHETHER EACH GRANT APPLICATION DESCRIBES A CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION PROJECT THAT CONCERNS A PROFESSIONAL FIELD THAT IS IDENTIFIED AS A KEY INDUSTRY IN THE MOST RECENT ANNUAL COLORADO TALENT REPORT PRODUCED BY THE STATE WORK FORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL PURSUANT TO SECTION 24-46.3-103 (3). NOTHING IN THIS SUBSECTION (14) PROHIBITS THE BOARD FROM CONSIDERING OTHER FACTORS IN AWARDING AND DENYING CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION GRANTS.

SECTION 3. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-43.7-111, amend (1)(a)(III), (1)(a)(IV), and (1)(d) introductory portion as follows:

22-43.7-111. Reporting requirements - auditing by state auditor. (1) Notwithstanding section 24-1-136 (11)(a)(I), no later than February 15, 2010, and no later than each February 15 thereafter, the board shall present a written report to the education and finance committees of the house of representatives and the senate and the capital development committee, or any successor committees, regarding the provision of financial assistance to applicants pursuant to this article 43.7. The report must include, at a minimum:
(a) An accounting of the financial assistance provided through the prior fiscal year that includes:

(III) A list of the public school facility capital construction projects for which financial assistance has been provided, which must include:

(A) A sublist of projects for which financial assistance has been provided in the form of technology grants pursuant to section 22-43.7-109 (13);

(B) A sublist of projects for which financial assistance has been provided in the form of career and technical education capital construction grants pursuant to section 22-43.7-109 (14);

(C) A brief description of each project;

(D) A statement of the amount and type of financial assistance provided for each project and, where applicable, the amount of financial assistance committed to be provided for but not yet provided for each project;

(E) A statement of the amount of matching moneys provided by the applicant for each project and, where applicable, the amount of matching moneys committed to be provided by the applicant but not yet provided for each project; and

(F) A summary of the reasons of the board and the state board for providing financial assistance for the project; and

(IV) A list of the public school facility capital construction projects for which financial assistance has been provided during the prior fiscal year, which must include:

(A) A sublist of projects for which financial assistance has been provided in the form of technology grants pursuant to section 22-43.7-109
(B) A SUBLIST OF PROJECTS FOR WHICH FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE
HAS BEEN PROVIDED IN THE FORM OF CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION
CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION GRANTS PURSUANT TO SECTION 22-43.7-109 (14);
(C) A brief description of each project;
(D) A statement of the amount and type of financial assistance
provided for each project; and
(E) A statement of the amount of matching MONEY
provided by the applicant for each project.
(d) A list of the financial assistance applications for public school
facility capital construction that were denied financial assistance during
the prior fiscal year, which must include a sublist of denied applications
for projects for which financial assistance in the form of technology
grants was requested pursuant to section 22-43.7-109 (13) AND A SUBLIST
OF DENIED APPLICATIONS FOR WHICH FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE IN THE FORM
OF CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION GRANTS
WAS REQUESTED PURSUANT TO SECTION 22-43.7-109 (14), AND that
includes for each project:
SECTION 4. Act subject to petition - effective date. This act
takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the
ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly (August
2, 2019, if adjournment sine die is on May 3, 2019); except that, if a
referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V of the
state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this act
within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take effect
unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in
November 2020 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.