

**First Regular Session
Seventy-third General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO**

PREAMENDED

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

LLS NO. 21-0240.01 Julie Pelegrin x2700

SENATE BILL 21-058

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Story and Coram,

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Woodrow and Larson,

Senate Committees

Education
Appropriations

House Committees

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 **CONCERNING ALTERNATIVE PRINCIPAL PROGRAMS.**

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 authorizes a school district, a board of cooperative services, an institution of higher education, a nonprofit organization, a charter school, the state charter school institute, a nonpublic school, or any combination thereof to create an alternative principal program (program). The program must meet statutory requirements and is subject to approval and periodic reapproval by the state board of education. A person who completes an approved program while employed by a school district, board of cooperative services, or charter school may qualify for

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.

an initial or professional principal license.

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

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-60.5-102, **amend**
3 (10) as follows:

4 **22-60.5-102. Definitions.** As used in this article 60.5, unless the
5 context otherwise requires:

6 (10) "Designated agency" means a school district or districts, a
7 board of cooperative services, an accepted institution of higher education,
8 a nonprofit organization, a charter school, the institute, a nonpublic
9 school, or any combination thereof, that is responsible for the
10 organization, management, and operation of an approved alternative
11 teacher program OR AN APPROVED ALTERNATIVE PRINCIPAL PROGRAM.

12 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-60.5-111, **amend**
13 (14)(a), (14)(b) introductory portion, (14)(b)(I), (14)(d), and (14)(e)(II)
14 as follows:

15 **22-60.5-111. Authorization - types - applicants' qualifications**
16 **- rules.** (14) **Principal authorization.** (a) The department may issue a
17 principal authorization to a person who does not hold a principal license
18 but who holds an earned baccalaureate or higher degree from an accepted
19 institution of higher education and who will be employed pursuant to the
20 provisions of section 22-60.5-305.5 by a school district, charter school,
21 or nonpublic school ~~under~~ WHILE COMPLETING an individualized
22 alternative principal program ~~if the program is approved~~ OR AN
23 ALTERNATIVE PRINCIPAL PROGRAM APPROVED PURSUANT TO SECTION
24 22-60.5-305.5. IF THE PERSON IS COMPLETING AN INDIVIDUALIZED
25 ALTERNATIVE PRINCIPAL PROGRAM, THE PROGRAM MUST BE APPROVED by

1 the state board of education as provided in this subsection (14). A school
2 district may employ a person who holds a principal authorization to
3 perform the duties of a principal or a vice-principal in a school, so long
4 as the person who holds the authorization is under the supervision of a
5 professional principal licensee.

6 (b) To receive a principal authorization, a person, in collaboration
7 with a school district, charter school, NONPUBLIC SCHOOL, OR the institute,
8 ~~or nonpublic school~~, shall submit to the department of education
9 documentation that includes:

10 (I) (A) IF THE PERSON IS COMPLETING AN INDIVIDUALIZED
11 ALTERNATIVE PRINCIPAL PROGRAM, the course work, practicums, and
12 other educational requirements, identified by the person and the
13 collaborating school district, charter school, NONPUBLIC SCHOOL, OR ~~the~~
14 institute, ~~or nonpublic school~~ that will comprise the person's
15 individualized alternative principal program and that the person will
16 complete while ~~he or she~~ THE PERSON is employed under the principal
17 authorization; ~~and~~ OR

18 (B) IF THE PERSON IS COMPLETING AN ALTERNATIVE PRINCIPAL
19 PROGRAM, EVIDENCE THAT THE ALTERNATIVE PRINCIPAL PROGRAM IN
20 WHICH THE PERSON IS ENROLLED IS APPROVED PURSUANT TO SECTION
21 22-60.5-305.5; AND

22 (d) If the state board of education determines ~~the~~ A PERSON HAS
23 SUBMITTED THE DOCUMENTATION DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (14)(b) OF
24 THIS SECTION AND THE PERSON'S individualized alternative principal
25 program meets the requirements specified in ~~paragraph (c) of this~~
26 ~~subsection (14)~~ SUBSECTION (14)(c) OF THIS SECTION, the state board of
27 education shall approve the individualized alternative principal program

1 and the department of education shall issue the principal authorization to
2 the ~~applicant~~ PERSON. IF THE DEPARTMENT CONFIRMS THAT A PERSON HAS
3 SUBMITTED THE DOCUMENTATION DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (14)(b) OF
4 THIS SECTION AND THE PERSON IS ENROLLED AND PARTICIPATING IN AN
5 ALTERNATIVE PRINCIPAL PROGRAM APPROVED PURSUANT TO SECTION
6 22-60.5-305.5, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ISSUE THE PRINCIPAL
7 AUTHORIZATION TO THE PERSON. A principal authorization ~~shall be~~ IS
8 valid for three years and may not be renewed.

9 (e) (II) If a person who is employed under a principal
10 authorization successfully completes an induction program and completes
11 the individualized alternative principal program OR ALTERNATIVE
12 PRINCIPAL PROGRAM while employed under the principal authorization,
13 the department of education may issue a professional principal license to
14 the person upon application.

15 **SECTION 3.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-60.5-305.5,
16 **amend** (1), (2), and (5); and **add** (6) as follows:

17 **22-60.5-305.5. Alternative principal preparation programs -**
18 **requirements - rules - legislative declaration.** (1) (a) The general
19 assembly finds that there is a shortage of persons in the state who are
20 licensed as principals and are available for employment by school
21 districts. The general assembly further finds that persons who have
22 achieved success in careers outside of education and who are interested
23 in employment as school principals may provide a new source of
24 leadership talent for school districts as they seek to hire school principals.
25 Therefore, the general assembly concludes that it is in the interest of the
26 state to authorize school districts to design and implement individualized
27 alternative principal programs to enable persons from outside the

1 education community to develop the skills and experiences necessary to
2 successfully lead a public school and to qualify ultimately for licensure
3 as principals.

4 (b) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FURTHER FINDS THAT IT IS IN THE
5 BEST INTEREST OF THE STATE TO ALLOW DESIGNATED AGENCIES TO
6 CREATE ALTERNATIVE PRINCIPAL PROGRAMS THAT PROVIDE THE
7 PREPARATION NECESSARY TO ENABLE PRINCIPALS TO MEET THE QUALITY
8 STANDARDS FOR PRINCIPALS AND QUALIFY FOR A PROFESSIONAL PRINCIPAL
9 LICENSE.

10 (2) (a) A school district or charter school may employ as a
11 principal or a vice-principal a person who holds a principal authorization
12 issued pursuant to section 22-60.5-111 (14). A person who is employed
13 by a school district under a principal authorization may perform the
14 duties of a principal or a vice-principal in a school so long as the person
15 is under the supervision of a professional principal licensee. A person
16 who holds a principal authorization issued pursuant to section
17 22-60.5-111 (14) may participate in an individualized alternative principal
18 program offered by a nonpublic school.

19 (b) IF A PERSON IS PURSUING AN INDIVIDUALIZED ALTERNATIVE
20 PRINCIPAL PROGRAM, the school district, charter school, nonpublic school,
21 or ~~the~~ institute shall collaborate with the person in designing ~~an~~ THE
22 individualized alternative principal program, which the person ~~shall~~ MUST
23 complete while employed under the authorization. The school district,
24 charter school, nonpublic school, or ~~the~~ institute may work with a
25 governmental, nonprofit, or for-profit entity in designing and
26 implementing the individualized alternative principal program. The
27 individualized alternative principal program is subject to approval by the

1 state board of education as provided in section 22-60.5-111 (14) and in
2 accordance with rules adopted by the state board of education.

3 (c) IF A PERSON IS ENROLLED IN AN ALTERNATIVE PRINCIPAL
4 PROGRAM APPROVED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (6) OF THIS SECTION, THE
5 EMPLOYING SCHOOL DISTRICT OR CHARTER SCHOOL SHALL WORK WITH
6 THE DESIGNATED AGENCY THAT PROVIDES THE ALTERNATIVE PRINCIPAL
7 PROGRAM TO ENSURE THAT, WHILE THE PERSON HOLDS A PRINCIPAL
8 AUTHORIZATION AND IS EMPLOYED BY THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OR CHARTER
9 SCHOOL, THE PERSON COMPLETES THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE
10 ALTERNATIVE PRINCIPAL PROGRAM.

11 (5) A school district may employ a person who holds a
12 principal authorization for three years. After that time, the school district
13 may employ the person as a principal only if ~~he or she~~ THE PERSON
14 receives an initial or professional principal license pursuant to section
15 22-60.5-301. The school district OR CHARTER SCHOOL may choose to
16 provide an induction program, as described in section 22-60.5-304, for
17 the person while ~~he or she is~~ employed under a principal authorization.
18 The induction program, if provided, ~~shall~~ MUST be in addition to the
19 individualized alternative principal program ~~to be completed by~~ OR THE
20 APPROVED ALTERNATIVE PRINCIPAL PROGRAM THAT the person
21 COMPLETES while ~~he or she is~~ employed under a principal authorization.

22 (6) (a) A DESIGNATED AGENCY IS AUTHORIZED TO IMPLEMENT AN
23 ALTERNATIVE PRINCIPAL PROGRAM, SUBJECT TO APPROVAL BY THE STATE
24 BOARD PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (6)(b) OF THIS SECTION AND RULES
25 ADOPTED BY THE STATE BOARD. AT A MINIMUM, AN ALTERNATIVE
26 PRINCIPAL PROGRAM MUST:

27 (I) PROVIDE THE INFORMATION, EXPERIENCE, AND TRAINING TO

1 ENABLE THE PERSON WHO PARTICIPATES IN THE ALTERNATIVE PRINCIPAL
2 PROGRAM TO DEVELOP SKILLS AND OBTAIN EXPERIENCE AND TRAINING
3 THAT ARE COMPARABLE TO THOSE POSSESSED BY A PERSON WHO
4 QUALIFIES FOR AN INITIAL PRINCIPAL LICENSE, AS PROVIDED IN SECTION
5 22-60.5-301 (1)(a);

6 (II) PROVIDE INFORMATION AND TRAINING THAT INCLUDES AN
7 OVERVIEW OF TITLE II OF THE FEDERAL "AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES
8 ACT OF 1990", 42 U.S.C. SEC. 12101 ET SEQ., AS AMENDED, AND ITS
9 IMPLEMENTING REGULATIONS; SECTION 504 OF THE FEDERAL
10 "REHABILITATION ACT OF 1973", 29 U.S.C. SEC. 701 ET SEQ., AS
11 AMENDED, AND ITS IMPLEMENTING REGULATIONS; THE FEDERAL
12 "INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES EDUCATION ACT", 20 U.S.C. SEC. 1400
13 ET SEQ., AS AMENDED, AND ITS IMPLEMENTING REGULATIONS;
14 INDIVIDUALIZED EDUCATION PROGRAMS; AND CHILD FIND. THE
15 ALTERNATIVE PRINCIPAL PROGRAM MUST ALSO TEACH EFFECTIVE SPECIAL
16 EDUCATION CLASSROOM PRACTICES, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO
17 INCLUSIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS.

18 (III) REQUIRE A PERSON WHO PARTICIPATES IN THE ALTERNATIVE
19 PRINCIPAL PROGRAM TO SUCCESSFULLY DEMONSTRATE PROFESSIONAL
20 COMPETENCIES IN AREAS OF KNOWLEDGE, AS SPECIFIED BY RULE OF THE
21 STATE BOARD PURSUANT TO SECTION 22-60.5-303; AND

22 (IV) INCLUDE SUPERVISION BY MENTOR PRINCIPALS,
23 PERFORMANCE EVALUATIONS, AND A PROGRAM OF PLANNED INSTRUCTION
24 AND ACTIVITIES THAT ARE DESIGNED TO ENABLE THE PERSON ENROLLED
25 IN THE ALTERNATIVE PRINCIPAL PROGRAM TO MEET THE QUALITY
26 STANDARDS FOR PRINCIPALS ADOPTED BY THE STATE BOARD PURSUANT TO
27 SECTION 22-2-109 (6).

1 (b) A DESIGNATED AGENCY THAT SEEKS APPROVAL OF AN
2 ALTERNATIVE PRINCIPAL PROGRAM MUST, IN ACCORDANCE WITH STATE
3 BOARD RULES, SUBMIT TO THE DEPARTMENT EVIDENCE THAT THE
4 PROGRAM MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS SPECIFIED IN SUBSECTION (6)(a) OF
5 THIS SECTION AND ANY ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS SPECIFIED BY STATE
6 BOARD RULE. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL REVIEW EACH REQUEST FOR
7 APPROVAL OF AN ALTERNATIVE PRINCIPAL PROGRAM. IF THE DEPARTMENT
8 FINDS THAT THE ALTERNATIVE PRINCIPAL PROGRAM MEETS THE
9 REQUIREMENTS SPECIFIED IN SUBSECTION (6)(a) OF THIS SECTION AND THE
10 RULES OF THE STATE BOARD, THE STATE BOARD SHALL APPROVE THE
11 ALTERNATIVE PRINCIPAL PROGRAM. THE STATE BOARD, BY RULE, SHALL
12 ESTABLISH A SCHEDULE PURSUANT TO WHICH A DESIGNATED AGENCY
13 THAT OPERATES AN ALTERNATIVE PRINCIPAL PROGRAM MUST
14 PERIODICALLY SEEK REAPPROVAL.

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