

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

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 23-0783.02 Jane Ritter x4342

SENATE BILL 23-087

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Marchman and Baisley, Bridges

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Kipp and Wilson,

Senate Committees
Education

House Committees

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 **CONCERNING CREATION OF A TEACHER DEGREE APPRENTICESHIP**
102 **PROGRAM AS AN ALTERNATIVE ROUTE TO TEACHER LICENSURE.**

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>.)

As an alternative route to teacher licensure, the bill creates a teacher degree apprenticeship program (apprenticeship program), which builds on elements of current alternative teacher licensure programs, including a bachelor's degree requirement, training programs approved by the state department of education (CDE), and structured on-the-job training. The apprenticeship program is run collaboratively with the

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.*

United States department of labor apprenticeship office (DOL office) and utilizes apprentice mentor teachers and apprenticeship program sponsors.

The bill allows CDE to issue a teacher apprenticeship authorization (authorization) to a person (apprentice) who is employed by a school district, board of cooperative services, charter school, or institute charter school (school) who is actively registered in an apprenticeship program, and who is actively enrolled in an affiliated bachelor's degree program from an accredited institution. The authorization is valid for 4 years while the apprentice completes the bachelor's degree requirement of the program. CDE may renew the authorization for 2 years. An authorization is invalid if the apprentice withdraws from any part of the apprenticeship program or fails to make satisfactory progress.

Upon application from an entity with expertise in apprenticeship or teacher preparation, CDE shall authorize the entity to serve as a teacher apprenticeship program sponsor (sponsor). Applications to serve as a sponsor must include a proposed work process schedule and related instruction required by the DOL office. CDE shall review each application and approve or disapprove the sponsor. If approved, the sponsor may apply to CDE for approval of an apprenticeship program.

An apprenticeship program must meet the following criteria:

- Be registered with the DOL office;
- Incorporate a bachelor's degree program from an accredited institution in a related field of study relative to the licensure type; and
- Incorporate on-the-job training in meaningful and time-saving ways.

Every 5 years after apprenticeship program approval, CDE shall consult with the DOL office concerning the federally required audit of the apprenticeship program to ensure the apprenticeship program continues to meet requirements.

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) The state of Colorado has a significant teacher shortage;

5 (b) According to the Colorado department of education, in the
6 2021-22 school year, the state needed to hire seven thousand teachers and
7 other support services professionals;

8 (c) The existing teacher preparation system produced three

1 thousand two hundred and one educators, leaving a gap of three thousand
2 seven hundred and ninety-nine educators. Further, persons who complete
3 existing teacher preparation programs do not represent the diverse
4 populations they serve, as seventy-two percent of persons who complete
5 such programs are female and seventy-four percent are White.

6 (d) The current paths to teacher licensure limit the number and
7 types of individuals who can access them. The existing traditional and
8 alternative teacher preparation programs have established important
9 standards of rigor that can be applied to new frameworks to positively
10 impact the teacher shortage.

11 (e) New paths to licensure are more suitable for first-generation
12 college students, individuals who require full-time employment,
13 individuals already working in schools, individuals outside of the
14 commuting distance of existing teacher programs, and others who lack
15 access to traditional teacher preparation programs;

16 (f) The current alternative path to teacher licensure offers an
17 opportunity only for those individuals who already hold a bachelor's
18 degree;

19 (g) Another option to make teacher licensure accessible to
20 Coloradans who do not yet hold a bachelor's degree is necessary to
21 expand the teacher candidate pool and meet the needs of Colorado's
22 schools and students;

23 (h) A teacher degree apprenticeship program builds on elements
24 established by current alternative routes, including a bachelor's degree
25 requirement, department of education-approved training programs, and
26 structured on-the-job training. A teacher degree apprenticeship program
27 gets teachers teaching more quickly, keeps rural residents training and

1 working in their communities, and ultimately sets apprentices up for
2 success by putting first-year teachers in the classroom with years of
3 practical experience from an apprenticeship. It positions apprentices to
4 begin the first year of teaching with more than four thousand hours of
5 on-the-job experience and creates flexibility without sacrificing quality
6 standards.

7 (i) A paid United States department of labor-approved registered
8 apprenticeship incorporated into a licensure pathway would create a more
9 equitable path to a career in education. Apprenticeship in a teacher
10 licensure program further ensures quality by not only adhering to the
11 United States department of labor-approved registered apprenticeship
12 competencies, but also aligns with the Colorado department of education
13 quality standards.

14 (j) Coloradans would benefit from an earn-and-learn model that
15 incorporates apprenticeship and allows for flexibility in degree and
16 licensure.

17 (2) Therefore, the general assembly declares that it is necessary to
18 create a new teacher licensure program in Colorado that authorizes
19 registered apprenticeship as a path to licensure.

20 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-60.5-102, **add**
21 (3.5), (6.5), (6.7), (8.5), (9.1), (22), and (23) as follows:

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

24 (3.5) "AFFILIATED BACHELOR'S DEGREE PROGRAM" MEANS THE
25 BACHELOR'S DEGREE THAT IS IDENTIFIED IN THE INSTRUCTION PLAN
26 SUBMITTED BY THE APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM SPONSOR.

27 (6.5) "APPRENTICE MENTOR TEACHER" MEANS A PROFESSIONALLY

1 LICENSED TEACHER IN GOOD STANDING, DESIGNATED BY THE
2 APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM SPONSOR, WHO PROVIDES EXEMPLARY
3 MODELING AND COUNSELING TO A TEACHER APPRENTICE, WHO IS TRAINED
4 IN THE APPRENTICESHIP MODEL, AND WHO TAKES RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE
5 TRAINING, MENTORING, AND PROGRESS OF THE TEACHER APPRENTICE.

6 (6.7) "APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM SPONSOR" MEANS AN ENTITY
7 RESPONSIBLE FOR THE REGISTRATION, ADMINISTRATION, AND OPERATION
8 OF A TEACHER DEGREE APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM.

9 (8.5) "BOARD OF COOPERATIVE SERVICES" OR "BOCES" HAS THE
10 SAME MEANING AS SET FORTH IN SECTION 22-5-103.

11 (9.1) "CERTIFICATE OF APPRENTICESHIP COMPLETION" MEANS A
12 CERTIFICATE THAT HAS BEEN ISSUED BY THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT
13 OF LABOR OR THE COLORADO APPRENTICESHIP AGENCY THAT CERTIFIES
14 A TEACHER APPRENTICE HAS SATISFACTORILY GAINED THE SKILLS,
15 ABILITIES, AND COMPETENCIES, AND COMPLETED THE REQUIREMENTS OF
16 AN APPRENTICESHIP.

17 (22) "TEACHER APPRENTICE", OR "APPRENTICE", MEANS A
18 STUDENT WHO IS REGISTERED AND ENROLLED IN AN APPROVED TEACHER
19 DEGREE APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM, IS ENROLLED IN AN AFFILIATED
20 BACHELOR'S DEGREE PROGRAM FROM AN ACCREDITED INSTITUTION, AND
21 HAS OBTAINED A COLORADO TEACHER APPRENTICESHIP AUTHORIZATION
22 PURSUANT TO SECTION 22-60.5-111. A "TEACHER APPRENTICE" CAN ALSO
23 MEAN A STUDENT ENROLLED IN AN APPROVED TEACHER DEGREE
24 APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM THAT IS REGISTERED BEFORE THE EFFECTIVE
25 DATE OF THIS SUBSECTION (22).

26 (23) "TEACHER DEGREE APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM" MEANS A
27 TEACHER EDUCATION PROGRAM CONTAINING ALL OF THE ELEMENTS OF A

1 COMPETENCY-BASED APPRENTICESHIP REQUIRED BY THE UNITED STATES
2 DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND APPROVED BY THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF
3 EDUCATION AND SPONSORED BY AN APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM SPONSOR
4 OR A TEACHER APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM APPROVED PRIOR TO THE
5 EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS SUBSECTION (23).

6 **SECTION 3.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-60.5-111, **add**
7 (16) as follows:

8 **22-60.5-111. Authorization - types - applicants' qualifications**
9 **- rules. (16) Teacher apprenticeship authorization.** (a) (I) THE
10 DEPARTMENT MAY ISSUE A TEACHER APPRENTICESHIP AUTHORIZATION TO
11 AN APPRENTICE THAT ALLOWS THE APPRENTICE TO BE EMPLOYED BY A
12 SCHOOL DISTRICT AS A TEACHER APPRENTICE IN ROLES OF INCREASING
13 RESPONSIBILITY, INCLUDING WORKING AS A SUBSTITUTE TEACHER AND A
14 TEACHER OF RECORD. TO RECEIVE A TEACHER APPRENTICESHIP
15 AUTHORIZATION, A PERSON SHALL:

16 (A) BE EMPLOYED BY A SCHOOL DISTRICT, BOCES, CHARTER
17 SCHOOL, OR INSTITUTE CHARTER SCHOOL AS A TEACHER APPRENTICE;

18 (B) BE ACTIVELY REGISTERED IN A TEACHER APPRENTICESHIP
19 PROGRAM; AND

20 (C) BE ACTIVELY ENROLLED IN AN AFFILIATED BACHELOR'S
21 DEGREE PROGRAM FROM AN ACCREDITED INSTITUTION.

22 (II) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ISSUE A TEACHER APPRENTICESHIP
23 AUTHORIZATION TO A PERSON WHO MEETS THE CRITERIA PURSUANT TO
24 SUBSECTION (16)(a)(I) OF THIS SECTION NO LATER THAN THIRTY DAYS
25 AFTER RECEIPT OF THE INITIAL APPLICATION.

26 (III) THE TEACHER APPRENTICESHIP AUTHORIZATION IS VALID FOR
27 A PERIOD OF FOUR YEARS WHILE THE APPRENTICE COMPLETES THE

1 AFFILIATED BACHELOR'S DEGREE AND ON-THE-JOB TRAINING
2 REQUIREMENTS. THE DEPARTMENT MAY RENEW THE AUTHORIZATION FOR
3 TWO YEARS AND MAY PROVIDE ADDITIONAL TWO-YEAR EXTENSIONS AT ITS
4 DISCRETION.

5 (IV) THE TEACHER APPRENTICESHIP AUTHORIZATION IS
6 AUTOMATICALLY REVOKED IF THE TEACHER APPRENTICE WITHDRAWS
7 FROM THE TEACHER APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM OR WITHDRAWS FROM THE
8 AFFILIATED BACHELOR'S DEGREE PROGRAM. THE APPRENTICESHIP
9 PROGRAM SPONSOR MAY REVOKE THE AUTHORIZATION IF THE APPRENTICE
10 DOES NOT MAKE SATISFACTORY PROGRESS IN THE TEACHER
11 APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM, AS DETERMINED BY THE EMPLOYER. THE
12 APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM SPONSOR IS RESPONSIBLE FOR NOTIFYING THE
13 DEPARTMENT WHEN AN APPRENTICE WITHDRAWS FROM THE TEACHER
14 DEGREE APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM.

15 (b) THE TEACHER APPRENTICESHIP AUTHORIZATION INCLUDES:

16 (I) AUTHORIZATION FOR THE APPRENTICE TO WORK AS A
17 SUBSTITUTE TEACHER, BUT NOT TO EXCEED THE STANDARD OF LEVEL 1
18 PRACTICES;

19 (II) AUTHORIZATION TO STUDENT TEACH, BUT NOT TO EXCEED THE
20 STANDARD OF LEVEL 2 PRACTICES, AS WELL AS ANY EXAMINATION
21 DEEMED NECESSARY FOR LICENSING; AND

22 (III) AUTHORIZATION TO WORK AS A TEACHER OF RECORD UNDER
23 THE TEACHER APPRENTICESHIP AUTHORIZATION. THIS AUTHORIZATION
24 MUST NOT REQUIRE COMPLETION OF A BACHELOR'S DEGREE, AND MUST
25 NOT EXCEED THE STANDARD OF LEVEL 3 PRACTICES, AS WELL AS ANY
26 EXAMINATION DEEMED NECESSARY FOR LICENSURE.

27 **SECTION 4.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 22-60.5-111.5

1 as follows:

2 **22-60.5-111.5. Teacher degree apprenticeship program -**
3 **standards - apprenticeship program sponsors - application for**
4 **approval - criteria for approval - program audit. (1) THE**

5 DEPARTMENT SHALL CREATE AND ESTABLISH STANDARDS FOR A TEACHER
6 DEGREE APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM ON OR BEFORE SEPTEMBER 1, 2023.

7 THE DEPARTMENT'S STANDARDS MUST NOT IMPOSE HIGHER
8 REQUIREMENTS OR RESTRICTIONS THAN THE STANDARDS SET FORTH IN
9 SECTION 22-60.5-111 (16) FOR TEACHER APPRENTICESHIP AUTHORIZATION.

10 THE STANDARDS MUST INCLUDE:

11 (a) THE MINIMUM PASSING SCORE FOR ANY EXAMINATION, WHICH
12 MUST NOT EXCEED WHAT IS REQUIRED FOR ANY TEACHER LICENSURE
13 CANDIDATE;

14 (b) APPRENTICE COMPETENCIES, WHICH ARE INDEPENDENTLY AND
15 EXCLUSIVELY EVALUATED BY THE APPRENTICE MENTOR TEACHER,
16 PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR, OR PROGRAM EVALUATOR;

17 (c) A PROVISION THAT APPRENTICE MENTOR TEACHERS ARE
18 SELECTED AT THE FULL DISCRETION OF THE EMPLOYER; AND

19 (d) A REQUIREMENT THAT A TEACHER APPRENTICE WORKS AS A
20 TEACHER OF RECORD FOR A MINIMUM OF ONE YEAR.

21 (2) (a) THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION SHALL AUTHORIZE
22 QUALIFIED AGENCIES WITH EXPERTISE IN APPRENTICESHIP OR IN TEACHER
23 PREPARATION TO SERVE AS APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM SPONSORS IN
24 PARTNERSHIP WITH EMPLOYER PARTNERS, INCLUDING ANY SCHOOL
25 DISTRICTS, BOCES, CHARTER SCHOOLS, NONPUBLIC SCHOOLS, OR
26 INSTITUTES. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL DETERMINE THE NUMBER OF NEW
27 AGENCIES ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE AUTHORIZATION.

1 (b) AN ENTITY THAT WISHES TO SERVE AS AN APPRENTICESHIP
2 PROGRAM SPONSOR SHALL NOTIFY THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
3 AND SUBMIT AN APPLICATION THAT, AT A MINIMUM, DOCUMENTS THE
4 ENTITY'S EXPERTISE WITH APPRENTICESHIP OR WITH TEACHER
5 PREPARATION.

6 (c) WITHIN THIRTY DAYS AFTER AN ENTITY SUBMITS A COMPLETE
7 APPLICATION TO THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, THE STATE
8 BOARD OF EDUCATION SHALL NOTIFY THE ENTITY THAT THE STATE BOARD
9 OF EDUCATION HAS EITHER APPROVED OR DISAPPROVED THE SPONSORSHIP
10 APPLICATION.

11 (3) (a) IN ADDITION TO SUBMITTING AN APPLICATION TO BE
12 APPROVED AS AN APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM SPONSOR, THE ENTITY SHALL
13 SUBMIT AN APPLICATION FOR THE SPONSOR'S TEACHER DEGREE
14 APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM TO THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION FOR
15 APPROVAL. THE APPLICATION FOR THE TEACHER DEGREE APPRENTICESHIP
16 PROGRAM MUST INCLUDE A PROPOSED WORK PROCESS SCHEDULE AND
17 RELATED INSTRUCTION PLAN AS SET FORTH BY THE UNITED STATES
18 DEPARTMENT OF LABOR.

19 (b) THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION SHALL REVIEW
20 APPLICATIONS FOR THE TEACHER DEGREE APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM AND
21 SHALL MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
22 FOR APPROVAL OR DENIAL OF THE APPLICATIONS.

23 (c) WITHIN NINETY DAYS AFTER AN APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM
24 SPONSOR SUBMITS A COMPLETE APPLICATION TO THE STATE DEPARTMENT
25 OF EDUCATION, THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION SHALL NOTIFY THE
26 APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM SPONSOR THAT THE STATE BOARD OF
27 EDUCATION HAS EITHER APPROVED OR DENIED THE APPLICATION FOR THE

1 TEACHER DEGREE APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM. IF THE APPLICATION IS
2 DENIED, THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION SHALL CITE THE REASONS FOR
3 THE DENIAL.

4 (4) AN APPROVED TEACHER DEGREE APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM
5 MUST MEET THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA:

6 (a) BE REGISTERED WITH THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF
7 LABOR OR THE COLORADO APPRENTICESHIP AGENCY;

8 (b) INCLUDE A PLAN FOR TRAINING AND SUPPORTING APPRENTICE
9 MENTOR TEACHERS;

10 (c) INCLUDE A WAGE SCALE COMMENSURATE WITH EXISTING PAY
11 SCALES WITHIN THE SCHOOL DISTRICT BASED ON THE LEVEL OF WORK
12 BEING PERFORMED;

13 (d) THE APPROVED TEACHER DEGREE APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM
14 INCORPORATES A BACHELOR'S DEGREE PROGRAM FROM AN ACCREDITED
15 INSTITUTION IN A RELATED FIELD OF STUDY RELATIVE TO THE LICENSURE
16 TYPE FIELD OF STUDY RELATED TO THE ENDORSEMENT AREA THAT THE
17 PROGRAM'S PARTICIPANTS WILL PURSUE. THE BACHELOR'S DEGREE
18 PROGRAM DOES NOT NEED TO BE AN APPROVED EDUCATOR PREPARATION
19 PROGRAM PURSUANT TO SECTION 23-1-121.

20 (e) THE BACHELOR'S DEGREE PROGRAM REFERENCED IN
21 SUBSECTION (4)(d) OF THIS SECTION MUST INCORPORATE ON-THE-JOB
22 TRAINING IN MEANINGFUL AND TIME-SAVING WAYS THROUGH ONE OF THE
23 FOLLOWING MECHANISMS:

24 (I) OFFERING THIRTY OR MORE CREDITS FOR SUCCESSFULLY
25 COMPLETING ON-THE-JOB TRAINING;

26 (II) CREATING A RESIDENCY MODEL THAT COUNTS AS
27 TWENTY-FIVE PERCENT OR MORE TOWARD THE DEGREE;

1 (III) FULFILLING HOMEWORK REQUIREMENTS FOR SIXTY OR MORE
2 CREDITS IN THE BACHELOR'S DEGREE PROGRAM; OR

3 (IV) OPERATING AS A COMPETENCY-BASED BACHELOR'S DEGREE
4 PROGRAM.

5 (5) (a) EVERY FIVE YEARS AFTER PROGRAM APPROVAL, THE STATE
6 DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION SHALL CONSULT WITH THE UNITED STATES
7 DEPARTMENT OF LABOR APPRENTICESHIP OFFICE, OR COLORADO
8 APPRENTICESHIP AGENCY REPRESENTATIVES, REGARDING THE AUDIT
9 REQUIRED PURSUANT TO 29 CFR 29.3 TO REVIEW PROGRAM COMPLIANCE
10 AND AUDIT FINDINGS TO ENSURE THE APPROVED TEACHER DEGREE
11 APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM CONTINUES TO MEET THE REQUIREMENTS. AN
12 APPROVED TEACHER DEGREE APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM THAT DOES NOT
13 MEET THE REQUIREMENTS IS SUBJECT TO DISQUALIFICATION BY THE STATE
14 DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
15 APPRENTICESHIP OFFICE, OR THE COLORADO APPRENTICESHIP AGENCY.

16 (b) IF DISQUALIFIED, THE APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM SPONSOR MAY
17 CONTINUE TO OPERATE THE TEACHER DEGREE APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM
18 ONLY AS LONG AS NECESSARY TO ALLOW THE ACTIVELY REGISTERED
19 APPRENTICES TO FINISH.

20 (c) IF THE APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM SPONSOR REDESIGNS THE
21 TEACHER DEGREE APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM TO MEET THE
22 REQUIREMENTS, AND THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION APPROVES THE
23 REDESIGNED TEACHER DEGREE APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM, THE
24 APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM SPONSOR MAY REINSTATE APPRENTICESHIP
25 ENROLLMENT.

26 (6) THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION SHALL ANNUALLY
27 INCLUDE DATA ON TEACHER DEGREE APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAMS IN THE

1 EXISTING EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAM REPORT DASHBOARD,
2 CONSISTENT WITH THE DATA AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS IN SECTION
3 22-2-112 (1)(q). THE DEPARTMENT SHALL COORDINATE WITH THE UNITED
4 STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR OR THE COLORADO APPRENTICESHIP
5 AGENCY TO SOURCE THE DATA.

6 **SECTION 5.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-60.5-201, **amend**
7 (1)(c)(II) introductory portion and (1)(c)(II)(B); and **add** (1)(c)(II)(C) as
8 follows:

9 **22-60.5-201. Types of teacher licenses issued - term - rules.**

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

12 (c) **Professional teacher license.** (II) The department ~~of~~
13 ~~education~~ may, in its discretion, issue a professional teacher license to any
14 applicant who:

15 (B) Has previously held a professional teacher license issued
16 pursuant to this ~~article~~ ARTICLE 60.5 or an equivalent certificate ~~which~~
17 THAT was issued pursuant to article 60 of this ~~title~~ TITLE 22 prior to July
18 1, 1994; OR

19 (C) HOLDS A CERTIFICATE OF APPRENTICESHIP COMPLETION FROM
20 AN APPROVED TEACHER DEGREE APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM PURSUANT TO
21 SECTION 22-60.5-111.

22 **SECTION 6. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act
23 takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the
24 ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly; except
25 that, if a referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V
26 of the state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this
27 act within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take

1 effect unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in
2 November 2024 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the
3 official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.