

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

PREAMENDED

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

LLS NO. 24-0548.01 Jacob Baus x2173

HOUSE BILL 24-1282

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Martinez and Pugliese,

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Coleman and Simpson,

House Committees

Education
Appropriations

Senate Committees

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 **CONCERNING MEASURES TO INCREASE THE SUCCESS RATES OF**
102 **NINTH-GRADE STUDENTS IN PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOLS IN**
103 **COLORADO, AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, MAKING AND**
104 **REDUCING AN APPROPRIATION.**

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>.)

Under current law, the ninth-grade success grant program (grant program) provides funding to local education providers and charter schools to implement a ninth-grade success program to assist students in

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.

ninth grade to develop the skills needed to successfully graduate high school and succeed in their education and careers. Beginning in the 2024-25 state fiscal year, and for each year thereafter, the bill requires the general assembly to annually appropriate \$2.8 million for the grant program.

Under current law, the office of dropout prevention and student re-engagement (office) submits an annual report to the state board of education, education committees of the house of representatives and senate, and the governor regarding findings and recommendations to reduce the student dropout rate and increase graduation and completion rates. Starting with the report submitted in March 2026, the bill requires the office to include certain ninth-grade performance measures for each public school, school district, the charter school institute, and the state as a whole.

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

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-14-109.5, **repeal**
3 (8); and **add** (7.7) as follows:

4 **22-14-109.5. Ninth-grade success grant program - created -**
5 **criteria - use of grant money - appropriation - report - rules -**
6 **definitions.** (7.7) (a) FOR THE 2024-25 STATE FISCAL YEAR THROUGH THE
7 2027-28 STATE FISCAL YEAR, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SHALL ANNUALLY
8 APPROPRIATE TWO MILLION DOLLARS FROM THE STATE EDUCATION FUND
9 TO THE DEPARTMENT FOR PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION.

10 (b) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY DECLARES THAT FOR THE PURPOSES
11 OF SECTION 17 (4) OF ARTICLE IX OF THE STATE CONSTITUTION, PROVIDING
12 FUNDING TO THE DEPARTMENT FOR THE PURPOSES OF THE NINTH-GRADE
13 SUCCESS GRANT PROGRAM IS AN ACCOUNTABLE PROGRAM TO MEET STATE
14 ACADEMIC STANDARDS, AND THEREFORE THE DEPARTMENT MAY RECEIVE
15 FUNDING FROM THE STATE EDUCATION FUND CREATED IN SECTION 17 (4)
16 OF ARTICLE IX OF THE STATE CONSTITUTION FOR THIS PURPOSE.

17 (8) ~~This section is repealed, effective July 1, 2025.~~

1 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-14-111, **add** (2.5)
2 as follows:

3 **22-14-111. Report to general assembly, state board, and**
4 **governor - exception to three-year expiration.** (2.5) (a) BEGINNING
5 WITH THE REPORT SUBMITTED PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION ON MARCH 15,
6 2026, THE OFFICE SHALL INCLUDE INFORMATION REGARDING
7 NINTH-GRADE PERFORMANCE. AT A MINIMUM, THE FOLLOWING MEASURES
8 MUST BE INCLUDED:

9 (I) FOR EACH PUBLIC SCHOOL THAT SERVES THE NINTH GRADE, THE
10 NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF FIRST-TIME NINTH GRADE STUDENTS WHO
11 AT THE END OF THE SCHOOL YEAR HAVE NOT EARNED AT LEAST FOUR CORE
12 CREDITS OR HAVE FAILED ONE OR MORE CORE CREDITS, REPORTED FOR THE
13 SCHOOL IN TOTAL AND DISAGGREGATED BY RACE, ETHNICITY, GENDER,
14 ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNER STATUS, AND WHETHER OR NOT THE
15 STUDENT HAS AN INDIVIDUALIZED EDUCATION PROGRAM;

16 (II) FOR EACH SCHOOL DISTRICT, THE NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE
17 OF FIRST-TIME NINTH GRADE STUDENTS WHO AT THE END OF THE SCHOOL
18 YEAR HAVE NOT EARNED AT LEAST FOUR CORE CREDITS OR HAVE FAILED
19 ONE OR MORE CORE CREDITS, REPORTED FOR THE SCHOOL DISTRICT IN
20 TOTAL AND DISAGGREGATED BY RACE, ETHNICITY, GENDER, ENGLISH
21 LANGUAGE LEARNER STATUS, AND WHETHER OR NOT THE STUDENT HAS AN
22 INDIVIDUALIZED EDUCATION PROGRAM;

23 (III) FOR THE CHARTER SCHOOL INSTITUTE, THE NUMBER AND
24 PERCENTAGE OF FIRST-TIME NINTH GRADE STUDENTS WHO AT THE END OF
25 THE SCHOOL YEAR HAVE NOT EARNED AT LEAST FOUR CORE CREDITS OR
26 HAVE FAILED ONE OR MORE CORE CREDITS, REPORTED FOR THE CHARTER
27 SCHOOL INSTITUTE IN TOTAL AND DISAGGREGATED BY RACE, ETHNICITY,

1 GENDER, ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNER STATUS, AND WHETHER OR NOT
2 THE STUDENT HAS AN INDIVIDUALIZED EDUCATION PROGRAM; AND

3 (IV) FOR THE STATE AS A WHOLE, THE NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE
4 OF FIRST-TIME NINTH GRADE STUDENTS WHO AT THE END OF THE SCHOOL
5 YEAR HAVE NOT EARNED AT LEAST FOUR CORE CREDITS OR HAVE FAILED
6 ONE OR MORE CORE CREDITS, REPORTED FOR THE STATE AS A WHOLE IN
7 TOTAL AND DISAGGREGATED BY RACE, ETHNICITY, GENDER, ENGLISH
8 LANGUAGE LEARNER STATUS, AND WHETHER OR NOT THE STUDENT HAS AN
9 INDIVIDUALIZED EDUCATION PROGRAM.

10 (b) IN PERFORMING THEIR DUTIES PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION
11 (2.5), THE DEPARTMENT, THE OFFICE, EACH SCHOOL DISTRICT, THE
12 CHARTER SCHOOL INSTITUTE, AND EACH PUBLIC SCHOOL SHALL COMPLY
13 WITH THE FEDERAL AND STATE LAWS REGARDING PRIVACY, INCLUDING
14 THE FEDERAL "FAMILY EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS AND PRIVACY RIGHTS ACT
15 OF 1974", 20 U.S.C. SEC. 1232G, AS AMENDED, AND ITS IMPLEMENTING
16 REGULATIONS, AND THE "STUDENT DATA TRANSPARENCY AND SECURITY
17 ACT" CREATED PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 16 OF THIS TITLE 22, AS AMENDED,
18 AND ITS IMPLEMENTING RULES.

19 **SECTION 3. Appropriation - adjustments to 2024 long bill.**

20 (1) To implement this act, the appropriation from the general fund made
21 in the annual general appropriation act for the 2024-25 state fiscal year to
22 the department of education for use by student pathways for the ninth
23 grade success grant program is reduced by \$792,444, and the related FTE
24 is decreased by 0.6 FTE.

25 (2) For the 2024-25 state fiscal year, \$2,000,000 is appropriated
26 to the department of education. This appropriation is from the state
27 education fund created in section 17 (4)(a) of article IX of the state

1 constitution. To implement this act, the department may use this
2 appropriation as follows:

3 (a) \$74,950 for use by management and administration for
4 information technology services; and

5 (b) \$1,925,050 for use by student pathways for the ninth grade
6 success grant program, which amount is based on an assumption that the
7 division will require an additional 1.4 FTE.

8 **SECTION 4. Safety clause.** The general assembly finds,
9 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate
10 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety or for appropriations for
11 the support and maintenance of the departments of the state and state
12 institutions.