CHAPTER 238

EDUCATION - PUBLIC SCHOOLS

HOUSE BILL 24-1364

BY REPRESENTATIVE(S) McCluskie and Bacon, Amabile, Bird, Boesenecker, Brown, Clifford, Daugherty, Duran, English, Epps, Froelich, Garcia, Hamrick, Hernandez, Herod, Jodeh, Joseph, Kipp, Lieder, Lindsay, Lukens, Mabrey, Marshall, McLachlan, Ortiz, Parenti, Ricks, Rutinel, Snyder, Valdez, Willford, Woodrow, Young, Marvin, McCormick, Titone, Velasco, Weissman; also SENATOR(S) Bridges and Lundeen, Marchman, Michaelson Jenet, Priola, Winter F.

AN ACT

CONCERNING MEASURES TO SUPPORT EDUCATION-BASED WORKFORCE READINESS, AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, MAKING AN APPROPRIATION.

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

SECTION 1. In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 22-35-115 as follows:

- **22-35-115.** Postsecondary and workforce readiness programs financial study funding reports legislative declaration definitions. (1) (a) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FINDS AND DECLARES THAT:
- (I) COLORADO'S ECONOMIC VITALITY DEPENDS ON A HIGHLY EDUCATED, SKILLED, AND DIVERSE WORKFORCE READY TO MEET THE JOB DEMANDS OF A POST-PANDEMIC WORLD. THIS REQUIRES A LEARNER-CENTERED APPROACH TO OFFERING PROGRAMS DESIGNED TO INTEGRATE SECONDARY, POSTSECONDARY, AND WORK-BASED LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS ENROLLED IN HIGH SCHOOL AND, ULTIMATELY, CREATING PATHWAYS AND WORKFORCE OPTIONS THAT ALLOW STUDENTS IN COLORADO TO GRADUATE HIGH SCHOOL WITH A CAREER-CONNECTED LEARNING OPPORTUNITY.
- (II) COLORADO IS CONSIDERED A NATIONAL LEADER IN POSTSECONDARY AND WORKFORCE READINESS POLICIES AND HAS ENACTED STATUTES THAT PROVIDE RESOURCES AND FUNDING MECHANISMS TO DISTRICTS THAT OFFER POSTSECONDARY AND WORKFORCE OPPORTUNITIES IN HIGH SCHOOL, INCLUDING THE ABILITY TO EARN COLLEGE CREDITS, OBTAIN INDUSTRY CREDENTIALS, OR EXPERIENCE WORK-BASED LEARNING;

Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material added to existing law; dashes through words or numbers indicate deletions from existing law and such material is not part of the act.

- (III) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY HAS ENACTED STATUTES DIRECTING COMMUNITY COLLEGES AND THE STATE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL TO CREATE AND EXPAND CAREER PATHWAYS IN A WIDE VARIETY OF CAREERS RANGING FROM MANUFACTURING CAREER PATHWAYS TO INTEGRATED CAREER PATHWAYS WITHIN GROWING INDUSTRY SECTORS TO CAREER PATHWAYS FOR TEACHERS;
- (IV) These statutes and programs have led to a significant expansion of work-based learning and partnerships with employers and a notable increase in the number of students completing courses in high school that qualify for both secondary and postsecondary credit, industry credential programs, and work-based learning experiences. The Colorado department of education reports that between 2016 and 2023, over sixty-five thousand students completed qualifying advanced placement courses through the career development success program, obtained industry credentials, and participated in work-based learning experiences.
- (V) The task force created in House Bill 21-1330 called for expanding innovative high school, postsecondary, and workforce options and pathways, which broadly include work-based learning, credential completion, apprenticeships, and other experiences, with a focus on high-need, in-demand, high-value business- and industry-focused career pathways;
- (VI) IN RESPONSE, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY PASSED HOUSE BILL 22-1215, WHICH CREATED A TASK FORCE TO REVIEW THE COMPLICATED AND INTERWOVEN SET OF ISSUES RELATED TO PROGRAM APPROVAL, AVAILABILITY, AND FUNDING THAT RESULTS IN UNEQUAL STUDENT ACCESS TO POSTSECONDARY AND WORKFORCE READINESS PROGRAMS ACROSS THE STATE AND TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO ADDRESS THESE ISSUES;
- (VII) THE IMPORTANT WORK CONDUCTED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE TASK FORCE PROVIDED CRITICAL RECOMMENDATIONS FOR HOW THE STATE CAN ENSURE THAT EVERY STUDENT IN COLORADO CAN GRADUATE FROM HIGH SCHOOL WITH COLLEGE CREDITS; AN IN-DEMAND, INDUSTRY CREDENTIAL; OR A QUALITY, WORK-BASED LEARNING EXPERIENCE;
- (VIII) THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE TASK FORCE CENTER ON SIMPLIFYING PROGRAMS, ALIGNING INCENTIVES, UNDERSTANDING EFFECTS, AND DEVELOPING AND IMPROVING SYSTEMS THAT BETTER CONNECT EDUCATION AND THE WORKFORCE;
- (IX) Notably, the task force was unable to evaluate the effect of postsecondary and workforce readiness programs due to the limited access to outcome data and lack of consistent outcome data, and the absence of disaggregated data and a longitudinal data system to connect long-term wage outcomes with participation in these programs;
- (X) THE TASK FORCE MADE THIRTEEN RECOMMENDATIONS AND RECOMMENDED THE STATE BEGIN BY FOCUSING ON STREAMLINING ADMINISTRATION, DEVELOPING A LONGITUDINAL DATA SYSTEM, AND CREATING SUSTAINABLE FUNDING. THE TASK FORCE REPORT CONCLUDED WITH ENCOURAGEMENT TO THINK BEYOND EXISTING

PROGRAMS AND TO DEVELOP, "A STREAMLINED SYSTEM THAT SERVES LEARNERS IN ALL THEIR EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE READINESS TRAINING AND IS EASY TO NAVIGATE FOR ALL THOSE WHO SUPPORT THEM."

- (XI) THE TASK FORCE ALSO RECOMMENDED PRIORITIZING THE THIRD RECOMMENDATION: "ESTABLISH AND UTILIZE A ROBUST STATEWIDE LONGITUDINAL DATA SYSTEM. THE SYSTEM SHOULD INTERFACE WITH DATA REPORTED FROM THE RELEVANT ENTITIES THAT IS SHAREABLE ACROSS AGENCIES AND COMPLY WITH EXISTING STATUTORY PARAMETERS, INCLUDING STATE AND FEDERAL DATA PRIVACY LAWS. THERE SHOULD ALSO BE AN INVESTMENT IN A PUBLIC-FACING DASHBOARD WITH EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT OUTCOMES TO HELP INFORM DECISIONS MADE BY LEARNERS AND FAMILIES."
- (XII) THE COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, THE COLORADO WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, THE COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION, AND THE OFFICE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY HAVE LED EFFORTS TO EXPAND DATA SHARING TO ANSWER KEY QUESTIONS REGARDING EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE ISSUES, WHILE PROTECTING STUDENT PRIVACY AND SECURITY, AT THE BEHEST OF STATE AGENCIES AND THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY;
- (XIII) THESE STATE PARTNERSHIPS ARE IN ADDITION TO ONE-ON-ONE DATA-SHARING EFFORTS THAT EXIST FOR SPECIFIC, EXISTING, STATUTORILY REQUIRED REPORTS;
- (XIV) COLORADO DOES NOT HAVE A SINGLE, LONGITUDINAL DATA SYSTEM, WHICH, AS SEEN IN OTHER STATES, CAN PROVIDE A SINGLE STOP IN A NEUTRAL AGENCY TO EXAMINE THE LONG-TERM EFFECTS OF INVESTMENTS MADE BY THE STATE IN WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS THAT SIT PRIMARILY, BUT NOT ENTIRELY, IN EDUCATION, WORKFORCE, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AGENCIES; AND
- (XV) Addressing the recommendations provided by the task force will require partnership within and beyond the general assembly and government partners and requires intentionality to ensure that the state is taking action in the best interest of its students.
 - (b) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FINDS, THEREFORE, THAT:
- (I) To begin the work of ensuring students have equitable access in high school to college credit, quality industry credentials, and work-based learning experiences, the state must begin by understanding the costs for students to obtain these experiences, and as recommended by the task force, examine the long-term effect of these opportunities for students;
- (II) Studying the costs for postsecondary and workforce programs and implementing a statewide longitudinal data system will lay critical foundation for implementing the recommendations into state systems in 2025 to modernize, simplify, and better integrate opportunities for students to obtain college credit, industry credentials, and work-based learning opportunities; and

- (III) THERE IS UNDERSTANDING OF AND COMMITMENT TO THE CONCLUSION OF THE TASK FORCE REPORT: "THE RECOMMENDATIONS ARE INTERTWINED AND SHOULD BE SCAFFOLDED AS SUCH, WITH THE UNDERSTANDING THAT THEY WILL TAKE TIME TO IMPLEMENT. THE TASK FORCE BELIEVES THAT IMPLEMENTING ALL RECOMMENDATIONS IS NECESSARY TO MEANINGFULLY IMPROVE [POSTSECONDARY AND WORKFORCE READINESS]..."
 - (2) As used in this section, unless the context otherwise requires:
- (a) "COLORADO STATEWIDE LONGITUDINAL DATA SYSTEM" MEANS THE STATEWIDE DATA SYSTEM THAT CONNECTS DATA FROM CONTRIBUTING STATE AGENCIES AND PARTNER ENTITIES AND SUPPORTS THE PURPOSES IDENTIFIED IN SECTION 24-37.5-125 (2)(a).
- (b) "Postsecondary and workforce readiness programs" means programs for Colorado high school students to develop the knowledge and competencies needed to succeed in postsecondary settings and to advance in career pathways as lifelong learners and contributing citizens.
- (3) (a) The department shall commission a financial study to analyze costs to the state, local education providers, and students, and potential cost savings when providing students the opportunity to obtain college credits, industry credentials, and work-based learning experiences. The financial study must include an analysis on the effects of consolidating certain postsecondary and workforce readiness programs. The department shall contract with an independent contractor, in accordance with the "Procurement Code", articles 101 to 112 of title 24, to conduct the financial study and prepare a final report summarizing the financial study's methodologies, findings, and recommendations.
- (b) The department, the department of labor and employment, the Colorado workforce development council, the department of higher education, the Colorado commission on higher education, and the career and technical education division within the Colorado community college system shall provide guidance and input, as necessary, to assist the independent contractor in preparing the final report.
- (c) LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL STAFF AND JOINT BUDGET COMMITTEE STAFF SHALL PROVIDE INPUT ON THE FINANCIAL MODELING TO ASSESS THE COSTS AND SAVINGS OF POSTSECONDARY AND WORKFORCE READINESS PROGRAMS.
- (4) (a) The financial study commissioned pursuant to subsection (3)(a) of this section must include a review of the following postsecondary and workforce readiness programs:
 - (I) THE ASCENT PROGRAM CREATED IN SECTION 22-35-108;
- (II) THE CAREER DEVELOPMENT SUCCESS PROGRAM CREATED IN SECTION 22-54-138;

- (III) THE CONCURRENT ENROLLMENT PROGRAMS DESCRIBED IN SECTION 22-35-104;
 - (IV) EARLY COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOLS;
- (V) Pathways in technology early college high schools created in part 1 of article 35.3 of this title 22;
- (VI) Teacher recruitment education and preparation program created in section 22-35-108.5; and
- (VII) K-12 WORK-BASED LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES DESCRIBED IN SECTION 8-83-602 (5).
 - (b) THE FINANCIAL STUDY MAY INCLUDE A REVIEW OF:
- (I) THE JOHN W. BUCKNER AUTOMATIC ENROLLMENT IN ADVANCED COURSES GRANT PROGRAM CREATED IN PART 2 OF ARTICLE 95.5 OF THIS TITLE 22;
- (II) The accelerated college opportunity exam fee grant program created in section 22-95.5-102;
- (III) THE CONCURRENT ENROLLMENT EXPANSION AND INNOVATION GRANT PROGRAM CREATED IN SECTION 22-35-114;
- (IV) The school counselor corps grant program created in part 1 of article 91 of this title 22; and
- (V) ANY OTHER PILOT PROGRAM OR GRANT PROGRAM THAT SUPPORTS POSTSECONDARY AND WORKFORCE READINESS.
- (c) The independent contractor shall interview school district leaders from a broad range of school districts, including, but not limited to, large, urban, and small rural school districts, in order to understand the actual costs to school districts to implement postsecondary and workforce readiness programs.
 - (d) THE INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR SHALL TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION:
- (I) The study for adequate public school funding described in Section 22-54-104.7 (7), as applicable; and
 - (II) The department's ongoing grant program evaluation work.
- (5) THE PURPOSES OF THE FINANCIAL STUDY COMMISSIONED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (3) OF THIS SECTION ARE TO:
- (a) Understand the actual costs to local education providers, especially in rural and small rural districts, to develop, offer, and maintain opportunities for students to obtain college credits, industry credentials, and work-based learning experiences;

- (b) STUDY THE ACTUAL COSTS, WHICH INCLUDE, BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO, INFRASTRUCTURE, STAFFING, EXAM FEES, TRANSPORTATION, AND START-UP COSTS;
- (c) Examine the variation in costs by geographic region, especially rural and small rural districts, the types of industry credentials offered, the quality of nondegree credentials described in section 23-5-145.6 (2), and the types of work-based learning opportunities described in section 8-83-602;
- (d) Identify how to streamline the financial administration and reporting of postsecondary and workforce readiness programs in the secondary education system into one comprehensive program;
- (e) Analyze different funding mechanisms, which may include outcomes-based funding, guaranteed funding, innovation funding, a hybrid system of funding, or another type of funding mechanism to provide opportunities for students to obtain college credits, industry credentials, or work-based learning experiences;
- (f) Identify and model the costs, benefits, and potential cost savings of the different funding mechanisms described in subsection (5)(e) of this section and the financial effects the consolidation of postsecondary and workforce readiness programs may have on local education providers and state agencies;
- (g) Project the costs required to equitably expand opportunities for students to obtain college credits, industry credentials, or work-based learning experiences to additional local education providers and students;
- (h) ANALYZE STATE-LEVEL INCENTIVES AND BARRIERS THAT MAY ENCOURAGE OR DISCOURAGE THE ADOPTION OF POSTSECONDARY AND WORKFORCE READINESS PROGRAMS WITHIN A CONSOLIDATED SYSTEM FOR LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDERS;
- (i) Review and analyze, to the extent possible, the statutory purposes and outcomes of the postsecondary and workforce readiness programs, including students' attainment of college credits or industry credentials, when determining how to streamline postsecondary and workforce readiness programs; and
- (j) Develop and consider implementing recommendations in the 2025-26 state budget year.
- (6) On or before December 1, 2024, the department shall submit the financial study and final report, including the consideration to implement recommendations in the 2025-26 state budget year, described in this section to the education committees of the house of representatives and the senate, or their successor committees, the governor, the joint budget committee, the state board, and the Colorado statewide longitudinal data system governing board created in section 24-37.5-125 (3)(a).

(7) FOR THE 2024-25 STATE BUDGET YEAR, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SHALL APPROPRIATE EIGHT HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS FROM THE GENERAL FUND TO THE DEPARTMENT FOR PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION.

SECTION 2. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-37.5-105, add (3.5) as follows:

24-37.5-105. Office - roles - responsibilities - state search interface - rules - legislative declaration - definitions. (3.5) The office shall build, or contract with a third-party vendor to build, the Colorado statewide longitudinal data system, as defined in section 24-37.5-125, that advances technology solutions and improves data connectivity and analysis concerning education and workforce readiness statewide.

SECTION 3. In Colorado Revised Statutes, add 24-37.5-125 as follows:

- **24-37.5-125.** Colorado statewide longitudinal data system education and workforce postsecondary workforce readiness programs appropriation cash fund report definitions repeal. (1) As used in this section, unless the context otherwise requires:
- (a) "Colorado statewide longitudinal data system" or "data system" means the Colorado statewide longitudinal data system created in subsection (2)(a) of this section.
- (b) "Colorado Statewide Longitudinal data system governing Board" or "Governing Board" means the Colorado Statewide Longitudinal data system governing Board created in Subsection (3)(a) of this section.
- (c) "Contributing agencies" means agencies that contribute data to the office for the Colorado statewide longitudinal data system. Contributing agencies include, but are not limited to, the department of early childhood, the department of education, the department of higher education, the department of labor and employment, and the office of economic development.
- (d) "Operational tools" means the software and hardware needed to securely and legally connect data across systems and support data analysis.
- (e) "Postsecondary and workforce readiness programs" means programs for Colorado high school students to develop the knowledge and competencies needed to succeed in postsecondary settings and to advance in career pathways as lifelong learners and contributing citizens.
- (f) "Statewide Longitudinal data system cash fund" or "cash fund" means the statewide longitudinal data system cash fund created in subsection (8) of this section.
- (g) "Sustainability interagency advisory group" or "sustainability advisory group" means the sustainability interagency advisory group

Convened pursuant to subsection (4)(n) of this section by the governing board

- (h) "Systems build and implementation interagency advisory group" or "systems advisory group" means the systems build and implementation interagency advisory group convened pursuant to subsection (4)(n) of this section by the governing board.
- (2) (a) THE COLORADO STATEWIDE LONGITUDINAL DATA SYSTEM IS CREATED WITHIN THE OFFICE. THE PURPOSES OF THE DATA SYSTEM ARE TO:
- (I) ESTABLISH A CONSISTENT, APPROPRIATE, SECURE, AND LEGAL MEANS OF DATA SHARING FOCUSED ON EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE OUTCOMES AND POSTSECONDARY AND WORKFORCE READINESS PROGRAM DATA;
- (II) PROVIDE DATA AND DATA ANALYSIS THAT SUPPORTS EVIDENCE-BASED DECISION MAKING FOR POLICYMAKERS AS THE POLICYMAKERS CONSIDER OPPORTUNITIES TO IMPROVE EDUCATIONAL AND WORKFORCE OUTCOMES AND REDUCE OPPORTUNITY GAPS;
- (III) PROVIDE INFORMATION, AS APPROPRIATE, THAT SUPPORTS EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE PRACTITIONERS AND SUPPORTS STUDENTS AND FAMILIES IN MAKING INFORMED DECISIONS REGARDING STUDENTS' EDUCATION; AND
- (IV) Enhance the security of data sharing by minimizing the number of data-sharing agreements between contributing agencies and standardizing data-sharing practices.
 - (b) IN CREATING THE DATA SYSTEM, OFFICE SHALL, AT A MINIMUM:
- (I) Consider the recommendations set forth in the reports described in section 23-1-141(7);
- (II) Adopt a timeline to phase in the data system, including a timeline for the development of analytical tools and operational tools and to offer professional development and technical assistance to contributing agencies that use the data system:
 - (III) INITIATE WORK ON THE DATA SYSTEM;
- (IV) Ensure protection of individual privacy in accordance with applicable state and federal laws that apply to the data provided by contributing agencies;
- (V) FOCUS ON THE DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF OPERATIONAL TOOLS TO MEET THE PURPOSES OUTLINED IN SUBSECTION (2)(a) OF THIS SECTION;
- (VI) DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT COMMUNICATIONS, PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT, AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE THAT SUPPORT THE DATA SYSTEM'S USE ACROSS CONTRIBUTING AGENCIES AND WITH PARTNER ENTITIES;

- (VII) ALIGN DATA SYSTEMS FROM CONTRIBUTING AGENCIES AND PARTNER ENTITIES WITH INTEROPERABLE STANDARDS AND COMMON DATA GOVERNANCE PRACTICES TO MAXIMIZE SERVICES PROVIDED TO COLORADANS;
- (VIII) CONVENE THE COLORADO STATEWIDE LONGITUDINAL DATA SYSTEM GOVERNING BOARD;
- (IX) IMPLEMENT THE OPERATIONAL DECISIONS OF THE GOVERNING BOARD PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (4) OF THIS SECTION; AND
- (X) DEVELOP A DATA-REQUEST PROCESS CONSISTENT WITH THE GOVERNING BOARD'S DATA-REQUEST POLICY DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (4)(e) OF THIS SECTION.
- (3) (a) THE COLORADO STATEWIDE LONGITUDINAL DATA SYSTEM GOVERNING BOARD IS CREATED IN THE OFFICE. THE OFFICE SHALL CONVENE AND ADMINISTER THE GOVERNING BOARD. THE GOVERNING BOARD INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING VOTING MEMBERS:
- (I) THE CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER OR THE CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER'S DESIGNEE WHO HOLDS AN EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP POSITION;
- (II) The executive director of the department of early childhood or the executive director's designee who holds an executive leadership position;
- (III) THE COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION OR THE COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION'S DESIGNEE WHO HOLDS AN EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP POSITION;
- (IV) The executive director of the department of higher education or the executive director's designee who holds an executive leadership position; and
- (V) THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT OR THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S DESIGNEE WHO HOLDS AN EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP POSITION.
 - (b) THE GOVERNING BOARD INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING NONVOTING MEMBERS:
- (I) A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE, APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR;
- (II) A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE OFFICE OF STATE PLANNING AND BUDGETING, APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR;
- (III) A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL WITH LEGAL EXPERTISE IN DATA PRIVACY AND GOVERNANCE, APPOINTED BY THE ATTORNEY GENERAL;
- (IV) AN ADMINISTRATOR OF THE FEDERAL "CARL D. PERKINS CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 1998", 20 U.S.C. SEC. 2301 ET SEQ., AS AMENDED, APPOINTED BY THE STATE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE STATE BOARD FOR

COMMUNITY COLLEGES AND OCCUPATIONAL EDUCATION IN COORDINATION WITH ITS CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION ROLE; AND

- (V) No more than three members of the public appointed by the governor.
 - (4) At a minimum, the governing board shall:
- (a) Establish the governance structure necessary to oversee the sharing and connecting of multiple data sets into the data system;
- (b) Establish the process and procedures for voting and decision-making;
- (c) Align existing data-sharing and data governance efforts to minimize the need for new or duplicative data infrastructures and to connect existing data to the data system more efficiently and securely;
- (d) REVIEW WORKFORCE AND EDUCATION DATA WHEN IT IS ANNUALLY AVAILABLE, REVIEW THE STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS AND TIMELINES FOR REPORTING DATA, AND CONSIDER WHEN DATA COLLECTION AND REPORTING IS MOST VALUABLE;
- (e) DEVELOP DATA GOVERNANCE POLICIES FOR CONTRIBUTING AGENCIES WITH AN EMPHASIS ON LIMITING THE NUMBER OF NEW DATA-SHARING AGREEMENTS REQUIRED TO MAXIMIZE EFFICIENCY AND TO ENSURE CONSISTENT PRACTICE. THE GOVERNANCE POLICY MUST INCLUDE A DATA-REQUEST POLICY THAT IS CONSISTENT WITH APPLICABLE STATE AND FEDERAL LAWS.
- (f) Define the data elements necessary to measure the impacts and long-term outcomes of education and workforce programs in accordance with the "Student Data Transparency and Security Act", article 16 of title 22;
- (g) Ensure the security and data privacy of data system data, including compliance with existing state and federal data privacy and use laws:
- (h) Determine standard data elements to be included in data-sharing agreements;
- (i) DETERMINE EDUCATION AND BUSINESS REQUIREMENTS FOR THE INITIAL DATA SYSTEMS BUILD, INCLUDING ONGOING MAINTENANCE, SCALABLE INFRASTRUCTURE, AND THE ANALYTICAL TOOLS AND OPERATIONAL TOOLS NECESSARY TO HELP THE PUBLIC USE THE EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE OUTCOME DATA, AS APPROPRIATE;
- (j) Create a plan that prioritizes and sequences key components needed to enhance and expand the data system and identify the additional data elements and data sources that may be needed for future linkage to the data system;

- (k) ESTIMATE THE ONGOING FISCAL EFFECT AND STRUCTURE FOR EACH CONTRIBUTING AGENCY TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE DATA SYSTEM, IDENTIFY COSTS AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR EFFICIENCIES AND COST-SAVINGS IN SHARING, PROTECTING, AND REPORTING DATA THROUGH THE DATA SYSTEM;
- (1) Adopt and adjust, as necessary, a data dictionary, data standards, and security protocols to ensure interoperability between the data system, data from other state agencies, and other state data systems using the same data;
- (m) Ensure the data system serves its intended purposes by seeking input and collecting data, including disaggregated data, from contributing agencies and summarizing the data and providing recommendations to the general assembly, governor, and the state board of education in the interim report and annual report described in subsection (7) of this section in order to adjust the vision, mission, and strategic objectives for the data system; and
- (n) Convene the systems build and implementation interagency advisory group and the sustainability interagency advisory group.
- (5) (a) The systems build and implementation interagency advisory group shall, at a minimum, advise the governing board on the technical development and implementation of the data system. The systems advisory group members must have an understanding of each contributing agency's data system, processes, and structures. The systems advisory group shall advise and support the governing board's duties pursuant to subsection (4) of this section. Members of the systems advisory group include a representative of:
- (I) The office of information technology, appointed by the executive director of the office of information technology;
- (II) THE DEPARTMENT OF EARLY CHILDHOOD, APPOINTED BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF EARLY CHILDHOOD;
- (III) THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, APPOINTED BY THE COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION;
- (IV) THE DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION, APPOINTED BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION;
- (V) THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT, APPOINTED BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT;
 - (VI) THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE, APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR;
- (VII) THE OFFICE OF STATE PLANNING AND BUDGETING, APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR; AND

- (VIII) THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, APPOINTED BY THE ATTORNEY GENERAL.
- (b) The sustainability interagency advisory group shall, at a minimum, advise the governing board on the use and function of the data system. The members of the sustainability advisory group shall have an understanding of the programs and data sets included in the data system, and how the data system informs decisions within each contributing agency and the contributing agency's stakeholders. The sustainability advisory group shall advise and support the governing board's duties pursuant to subsection (4) of this section. The sustainability advisory group shall include a representative of:
- (I) THE OFFICE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY, APPOINTED BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY;
- (II) THE DEPARTMENT OF EARLY CHILDHOOD, APPOINTED BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF EARLY CHILDHOOD;
- (III) THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, APPOINTED BY THE COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION;
- (IV) The department of higher education, appointed by the executive director of the department of higher education;
- (V) THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT, APPOINTED BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT;
 - (VI) THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE, APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR;
- (VII) THE OFFICE OF STATE PLANNING AND BUDGETING, APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR; AND
- (VIII) THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, APPOINTED BY THE ATTORNEY GENERAL.
 - (6) (a) FOR PURPOSES OF THE DATA SYSTEM, THE GOVERNING BOARD SHALL:
 - (I) PRIORITIZE THE NEEDS OF STUDENTS AND FAMILIES;
- (II) Comply with state and federal laws to protect individual privacy, including, but not limited to:
- (A) The Federal "Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974", 20 U.S.C. sec. 1232g, as amended;
- (B) The federal "Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996", 42 U.S.C. sec. 1320d et seq., as amended; and
- (C) The federal "Higher Education Act of 1965", 20 U.S.C. sec. 1070 et seq., as amended; and

- (III) CONSIDER STAKEHOLDER INPUT.
- (b) To inform the design of the data system, contributing state agencies shall seek input from relevant stakeholders to determine important measurements of value and outcome metrics.
- (c) State agencies, in addition to the contributing agencies, may contribute data to the data system, as necessary, for legislative reports, research questions, or other projects that require cross-agency data sharing.
- (7) (a) On or before January 15, 2025, the office shall submit an interim report on the progress of the data system, the data governance processes and procedures, and recommendations for legislative changes and funding, as necessary, to the education committees of the house of representatives and the senate, or their successor committees, the state board of education, and the governor.
- (b) (I) Notwithstanding section 24-1-136 (11)(a)(I), beginning April 15, 2026, and each April 15 thereafter, the office shall submit an annual report to the education committees of the house of representatives and the senate, or their successor committees, the state board of education, and the governor. Subject to data availability, the annual report must summarize key findings from education and workforce outcomes and education and workforce readiness, including, at a minimum:
- (A) ENROLLMENT AND OUTCOMES IN POSTSECONDARY AND WORKFORCE READINESS PROGRAMS FOR HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES;
 - (B) HIGH SCHOOL MATRICULATION RATES;
 - (C) Postsecondary retention rates;
 - (D) Postsecondary completion rates; and
 - (E) One-, FIVE-, AND TEN-YEAR WAGE OUTCOMES.
- (II) When possible and in alignment with data privacy practices, data must be disaggregated by local education provider, high school, or postsecondary or workforce readiness program participation; race; ethnicity; gender; disability status; and socioeconomic status.
- (c) The office shall post the interim report and the annual report described in this subsection (7) on the office's website.
- (8) (a) The statewide longitudinal data system cash fund is created in the state treasury. The cash fund consists of money transferred to the cash fund pursuant to subsection (8)(b) of this section and any other money that the general assembly may appropriate or transfer to the cash fund. The state treasurer shall credit all interest and income

DERIVED FROM THE DEPOSIT AND INVESTMENT OF MONEY IN THE CASH FUND TO THE CASH FUND.

- (b) On July 1, 2024, the state treasurer shall transfer five million dollars from the general fund to the cash fund for purposes of this section.
- (c) Subject to annual appropriation by the general assembly for the 2024-25, 2025-26, and 2026-27 state fiscal years, the office and the department of education may expend money from the cash fund for purposes of this section.
- (d) Any money appropriated in a state fiscal year pursuant to this section that is unencumbered or unexpended at the end of that state fiscal year remains available for expenditure in the next fiscal year for the same purposes without further appropriation.
- (e) The state treasurer shall transfer all unexpended and unencumbered money in the cash fund on September 1, 2027, to the general fund.
 - (f) This subsection (8) is repealed, effective October 1, 2027.
- (9) THE OFFICE MAY SEEK, ACCEPT, AND EXPEND GIFTS, GRANTS, OR DONATIONS FROM PRIVATE OR PUBLIC SOURCES FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION.

SECTION 4. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 8-1-103, **add** (4) as follows:

8-1-103. Division of labor standards and statistics - director - employees - qualifications - compensation - expenses. (4) The director shall contribute education and workforce data beginning in the 2025-26 state fiscal year, as necessary, to the Colorado statewide longitudinal data system consistent with the governance practices established by the Colorado statewide longitudinal data system governing board pursuant to section 24-37.5-125 (4).

SECTION 5. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 8-3.7-103, add (2)(1) as follows:

- **8-3.7-103.** Colorado office of new Americans creation duties report. (2) The Colorado office of new Americans shall:
- (1) Contribute education and workforce data beginning in the 2025-26 state fiscal year, as necessary, to the Colorado statewide longitudinal data system consistent with the governance practices established by the Colorado statewide longitudinal data system governing board pursuant to section 24-37.5-125 (4).

SECTION 6. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 8-15.7-102, **add** (6) as follows:

8-15.7-102. State apprenticeship agency - created - director - powers and duties - rules. (6) The director shall contribute education and workforce

data beginning in the 2025-26 state fiscal year, as necessary, to the Colorado statewide longitudinal data system consistent with the governance practices established by the Colorado statewide longitudinal data system governing board pursuant to section 24-37.5-125 (4).

SECTION 7. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 8-15.8-103, add (4) as follows:

8-15.8-103. Colorado office of future of work - creation - powers and duties - report. (4) The OFW shall contribute education and workforce data beginning in the 2025-26 state fiscal year, as necessary, to the Colorado statewide longitudinal data system consistent with the governance practices established by the Colorado statewide longitudinal data system governing board pursuant to section 24-37.5-125 (4).

SECTION 8. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 8-71-102, add (3) as follows:

8-71-102. Powers, duties, and functions - acceptance of money. (3) The division shall contribute education and workforce data beginning in the 2025-26 state fiscal year, as necessary, to the Colorado statewide longitudinal data system consistent with the governance practices established by the Colorado statewide longitudinal data system governing board pursuant to section 24-37.5-125 (4).

SECTION 9. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 8-83-103, add (4) as follows:

8-83-103. Powers, duties, and functions - acceptance of money. (4) The division shall contribute education and workforce data beginning in the 2025-26 state fiscal year, as necessary, to the Colorado statewide longitudinal data system consistent with the governance practices established by the Colorado statewide longitudinal data system governing board pursuant to section 24-37.5-125 (4).

SECTION 10. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 8-83-225, **add** (4) as follows:

8-83-225. Colorado department of labor and employment - functions. (4) The department shall contribute education and workforce data beginning in the 2025-26 state fiscal year, as necessary, to the Colorado statewide longitudinal data system consistent with the governance practices established by the Colorado statewide longitudinal data system governing board pursuant to section 24-37.5-125 (4).

SECTION 11. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 8-84-105, **amend** (1)(b.5); and **add** (1)(d) as follows:

8-84-105. Administration - rules. (1) The department shall:

- (b.5) Accept and expend money from governmental and nongovernmental entities to carry out the division's authorized powers and duties; and
 - (d) Contribute education and workforce readiness data beginning in

The 2025-26 state fiscal year, as necessary, to the Colorado statewide longitudinal data system consistent with the governance practices established by the Colorado statewide longitudinal data system governing board pursuant to section 24-37.5-125 (4).

SECTION 12. In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 22-2-311 as follows:

- **22-2-311.** Colorado statewide longitudinal data system postsecondary workforce readiness programs. (1) The department shall contribute education and workforce readiness data beginning in the 2025-26 budget year, as necessary, to the Colorado statewide longitudinal data system consistent with the governance practices established by the Colorado statewide longitudinal data system governing board pursuant to section 24-37.5-125 (4).
- (2) Upon the department's request, a local education provider, as defined in section 22-35-103, shall submit to the department any data that the department reasonably requires for purposes of subsection (1) of this section.

SECTION 13. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 23-1-140, add (3) as follows:

- **23-1-140.** Commission directive statewide student success measures definitions. (3) (a) The department shall contribute education and workforce readiness data beginning in the 2025-26 state fiscal year, as necessary, to the Colorado statewide longitudinal data system consistent with the governance practices established by the Colorado statewide longitudinal data system governing board pursuant to section 24-37.5-125 (4).
- (b) Upon the department's request, an institution of higher education shall submit to the department any data that the department reasonably requires for purposes of subsection (3)(a) of this section.

SECTION 14. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 23-8-102, **add** (8) as follows:

23-8-102. School districts, boards of cooperative services, and institute charter schools conducting career and technical education courses - eligibility for state money. (8) For purposes of recording career and technical education data, the board shall contribute education and workforce readiness data beginning in the 2025-26 state fiscal year, as necessary, to the Colorado statewide longitudinal data system consistent with the governance practices established by the Colorado statewide longitudinal data system governing board pursuant to section 24-37.5-125 (4).

SECTION 15. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 23-1-141, **amend** (7) as follows:

23-1-141. Student success data system - student success data transparency - appropriation - definition - repeal. (7) On or before January 15, 2023, and on or before January 15, 2024, the commission shall submit a report to the house of

representatives education committee and senate education committee on the work required and any barriers identified, including recommendations for legislative changes necessary, to deliver a ON THE PROGRESS OF THE statewide longitudinal data system CREATED IN SECTION 24-37.5-125 (2)(a) that connects K-12, postsecondary education, and workforce information.

SECTION 16. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-48.5-101, add (2)(i) as follows:

- **24-48.5-101.** Colorado office of economic development creation duties report. (2) The Colorado office of economic development shall:
- (i) Contribute education and workforce readiness data beginning in the 2025-26 state fiscal year, as necessary, to the Colorado statewide longitudinal data system consistent with the governance practices established by the Colorado statewide longitudinal data system governing board pursuant to section 24-37.5-125 (4).

SECTION 17. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 26.5-1-111, add (3.5) as follows:

- 26.5-1-111. Data system collection analysis cross-agency agreements. (3.5) The department shall contribute education and workforce readiness data beginning in the 2025-26 state fiscal year, as necessary, to the Colorado statewide longitudinal data system consistent with the governance practices established by the Colorado statewide longitudinal data system governing board pursuant to section 24-37.5-125 (4).
- **SECTION 18. Appropriation.** (1) For the 2024-25 state fiscal year, \$800,005 is appropriated to the department of education. This appropriation is from the general fund. To implement this act, the department may use this appropriation as follows:
- (a) \$21,700 for use by management and administration for general department and program administration;
- (b) \$10,900 for use by school district operations for administration related to public school finance; and
- (c) \$767,405 for use by student pathways for implementation of H.B. 22-1215 task force report, which amount is based on an assumption that the division will require an additional 0.2 FTE.
- (2) For the 2024-25 state fiscal year, \$202,992 is appropriated to the department of education for use by management and administration. This appropriation is from the statewide longitudinal data system cash fund created in section 24-37.5-125 (8)(a), C.R.S., and is based on an assumption that the division will require an additional 1.0 FTE. To implement this act, the division may use this appropriation for information technology services.
- (3) For the 2024-25 state fiscal year, \$4,432,419 is appropriated to the office of the governor for use by the office of information technology. This appropriation is

from the statewide longitudinal data system cash fund created in section 24-37.5-125 (8)(a), C.R.S., and is based on an assumption that the office will require an additional 6.9 FTE. To implement this act, the office may use this appropriation for enterprise solutions.

SECTION 19. Safety clause. The general assembly finds, determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety or for appropriations for the support and maintenance of the departments of the state and state institutions.

Approved: May 23, 2024