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BILL 4

LLS NO. 19-0196.01 Julie Pelegrin x2700

INTERIM COMMITTEE BILL

Early Childhood and School Readiness Legislative Commission

BILL TOPIC: "Teacher Training To Address Literacy Challenges"

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 **CONCERNING TRAINING FOR TEACHERS TO ADDRESS ISSUES FACED BY**
102 **YOUNG CHILDREN WITH LITERACY CHALLENGES.**

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/>.)

Early Childhood and School Readiness Legislative Commission. Under existing law, the department of education (department) may make technical assistance and training to address issues faced by students with literacy challenges, including dyslexia, available to school districts, administrative units, and other agencies that provide education. The bill requires the department to provide this technical

*Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material to be added to existing statute.
Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.*

assistance and training to education agencies that serve children in preschool and kindergarten. The bill directs the state board of education to include in the teacher licensure standards the requirement that each candidate for an initial teacher license to teach preschool or kindergarten demonstrate the ability to address students' needs in the areas of literacy assessment and instructional skills, including dyslexia awareness, identification, and remediation for general and special education. The bill requires that traditional and alternative teacher preparation programs for candidates training to teach in preschool or kindergarten include instruction in the areas of literacy assessment and instructional skills, including dyslexia awareness, identification, and remediation for general and special education.

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

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-2-133, **amend** (1),
3 (2), and (3) as follows:

4 **22-2-133. Assessment and identification of students with**
5 **literacy challenges including dyslexia - training and technical**
6 **assistance - collaboration with higher education - report - definitions.**

7 (1) On or before August 1, ~~2008~~ 2019, as part of its responsibility for
8 education standards and practice, the department ~~may~~ SHALL make
9 available TO EACH SCHOOL DISTRICT, ADMINISTRATIVE UNIT AS DEFINED
10 IN SECTION 22-20-103 (1), OR OTHER LOCAL EDUCATION AGENCY, WHICH
11 SERVES STUDENTS ENROLLED IN PRESCHOOL AND KINDERGARTEN,
12 technical assistance and training concerning issues faced by PRESCHOOL
13 AND KINDERGARTEN students with literacy challenges, including dyslexia.
14 ~~to school districts, administrative units as defined in section 22-20-103~~
15 ~~(1), residential treatment facilities, correctional facilities, and other local~~
16 ~~education agencies throughout the state~~ THE DEPARTMENT MAY ALSO
17 MAKE AVAILABLE TO SCHOOL DISTRICTS, ADMINISTRATIVE UNITS,
18 RESIDENTIAL TREATMENT FACILITIES, CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES, AND
19 OTHER LOCAL EDUCATION AGENCIES THROUGHOUT THE STATE TECHNICAL

1 ASSISTANCE AND TRAINING CONCERNING THESE ISSUES AS FACED BY
2 STUDENTS ENROLLED IN FIRST THROUGH TWELFTH GRADE. The provision
3 of ~~any~~ technical assistance and training pursuant to this subsection (1)
4 shall not preclude the department from using federal funds to implement
5 such technical assistance and training. ~~Any~~ Technical assistance and
6 training provided ~~shall~~ MUST include, but need not be limited to, the areas
7 of awareness, assessment, identification, and evidence-based progress
8 monitoring, and ~~shall~~ MUST include scientifically based interventions to
9 address the needs of students with literacy challenges, including dyslexia.
10 ~~Any~~ Technical assistance and training provided ~~shall represent~~ MUST
11 INCLUDE a tiered continuum of intensity for intervention consistent with
12 the response to intervention model that school districts are required to
13 implement no later than August 15, 2009, pursuant to rules adopted by the
14 ~~department~~ STATE BOARD.

15 (2) The department ~~is encouraged to~~ SHALL coordinate ~~any~~ THE
16 technical assistance and training provided PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (1)
17 OF THIS SECTION with current best practices and work occurring in teacher
18 preparation programs at institutions of higher education. Where
19 appropriate, the department ~~is encouraged to~~ SHALL provide technical
20 assistance and training to school districts, administrative units, residential
21 treatment facilities, correctional facilities, and local education agencies
22 in a coordinated effort with teacher preparation programs at institutions
23 of higher education. The department and institutions of higher education
24 ~~are encouraged to~~ SHALL work collaboratively to develop or affirm
25 minimum standards for teacher preparation programs in the areas of
26 literacy assessment and instructional skills, including dyslexia awareness,
27 identification, and remediation for general and special education.

1 (3) On or before January 30, ~~2009~~ 2020, and on or before January
2 30 each year thereafter, the department shall report to the state board of
3 education and to the education committees of the house of representatives
4 and the senate, or any successor committees, concerning the activities and
5 status of ~~any~~ THE technical assistance and training made available
6 pursuant to this section. NOTWITHSTANDING THE REQUIREMENT IN
7 SECTION 24-1-136 (11)(a)(I), THE REQUIREMENT TO SUBMIT THE REPORT
8 REQUIRED IN THIS SUBSECTION (3) CONTINUES INDEFINITELY.

9 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-2-109, **amend**
10 (3)(b) as follows:

11 **22-2-109. State board of education - additional duties - teacher**
12 **standards - principal standards.** (3) On or before July 1, 2000, the state
13 board of education by rule shall adopt performance-based teacher
14 licensure standards, which at a minimum shall include a requirement that
15 each candidate for an initial teacher license shall have and be able to
16 demonstrate the following skills:

17 (b) The ability to teach in a manner that addresses individual
18 student needs and enables the student to improve his or her performance,
19 INCLUDING FOR PRESCHOOL AND KINDERGARTEN TEACHERS' ABILITIES IN
20 THE AREAS OF LITERACY ASSESSMENT AND INSTRUCTIONAL SKILLS,
21 INCLUDING DYSLEXIA AWARENESS, IDENTIFICATION, AND REMEDIATION
22 FOR GENERAL AND SPECIAL EDUCATION;

23 **SECTION 3.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-60.5-205, **add**
24 (2)(b.5) as follows:

25 **22-60.5-205. One-year and two-year alternative teacher**
26 **programs - legislative declaration - standards and evaluation - duties**
27 **of department - duties of the state board of education - fees.**

1 (2) Designated agencies are hereby authorized to implement one-year
2 alternative teacher programs or two-year alternative teacher programs,
3 which two-year programs were formerly known as teacher in residence
4 programs, as follows:

5 (b.5) IN ADDITION TO THE REQUIREMENTS SPECIFIED IN
6 SUBSECTION (2)(b) OF THIS SECTION, AN ALTERNATIVE TEACHER PROGRAM
7 THAT PREPARES PRESCHOOL AND KINDERGARTEN TEACHERS MUST
8 INCLUDE INSTRUCTION IN THE AREAS OF LITERACY ASSESSMENT AND
9 INSTRUCTIONAL SKILLS, INCLUDING DYSLEXIA AWARENESS,
10 IDENTIFICATION, AND REMEDIATION FOR GENERAL AND SPECIAL
11 EDUCATION.

12 **SECTION 4.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 23-1-121, **add**
13 (2)(c.5) as follows:

14 **23-1-121. Commission directive - approval of educator**
15 **preparation programs - review.** (2) The commission shall adopt
16 policies establishing the requirements for educator preparation programs
17 offered by institutions of higher education. The department shall work in
18 cooperation with the state board of education in developing the
19 requirements for educator preparation programs. At a minimum, the
20 requirements must ensure that each educator preparation program
21 complies with section 23-1-125, is designed on a performance-based
22 model, and includes:

23 (c.5) FOR CANDIDATES TRAINING TO TEACH STUDENTS IN
24 PRESCHOOL AND KINDERGARTEN, INSTRUCTION IN THE AREAS OF LITERACY
25 ASSESSMENT AND INSTRUCTIONAL SKILLS, INCLUDING DYSLEXIA

- 1 AWARENESS, IDENTIFICATION, AND REMEDIATION FOR GENERAL AND
- 2 SPECIAL EDUCATION;
- 3 <{*Act subject to petition or safety clause?*}>