



April 25, 2024 **SB24 069 Clarify Individualized Education Program Information**

SUPPORT

Madam Chair and Members of the House Education Committee:

My name is Dr. Kathy Wilson. As Co-Director of Action & Advocacy and the Chair of the Education Task Force for the League of Women Voters of Colorado, I am representing the League regarding **SB24 069 Clarify Individualized Education Program Information**. The League is a nonpartisan organization that encourages citizen participation in government. The Colorado League has over 2300 members in 19 local Leagues spanning the state. We urge you to vote in **SUPPORT of SB24 069 Clarify Individualized Education Program Information**.

The League of Women Voters of Colorado recognizes parents, guardians, and advocates as vital members of students' Individualized Education Program teams. Who better than parents know and understand their child's needs? This deep understanding should empower them as effective advocates in IEP meetings for their child with special education needs. Unfortunately, their advocacy becomes problematic when the language in IEP meetings and documentation is peppered with education jargon that can be difficult to understand and interpret. Having Individualized Education Program training delivered by CDE – a trusted source - in clear, understandable language to parents and advocates can foster increased and productive engagement among parents, advocates, and the school's IEP team.

The passage of SB 069 would provide funding to equitably support parents and advocates in better understanding IEP procedures and regulations and their implications. The Colorado League supports measures which promote, help, and encourage families to prepare their children to meet academic standards. We particularly acknowledge the necessity for equity in programs involving special needs students. The League views high quality, equitable public education as a civil right and as an essential component for a strong, viable, and sustainable democratic society.

Therefore, the League of Women Voters of Colorado urges you to vote **YES** on **SB24 069**.

Respectfully,

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