CHAPTER 334

EDUCATION - PUBLIC SCHOOLS

SENATE BILL 23-258

BY SENATOR(S) Buckner and Lundeen, Cutter, Exum, Fields, Priola, Rich, Winter F.; also REPRESENTATIVE(S) Michaelson Jenet and Bradfield, Bird, English, Froelich, Hamrick, Jodeh, Lieder, Lindsay, Lindstedt, Lukens, McLachlan, Ricks, Snyder, Story, Young, McCluskie.

AN ACT

CONCERNING CONSOLIDATING DUTIES UNDER THE AUTHORIZATION PROCESS FOR COLORADO EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAMS FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION TO THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, MAKING AN APPROPRIATION.

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

SECTION 1. Legislative declaration. (1) The general assembly finds and declares that:

- (a) All educator preparation programs in Colorado, both traditional and alternative, provide a route to ensure that all educators have a consistent, high-quality baseline of content competency and teaching skills;
- (b) Colorado is one of only a handful of states in the nation with an educator preparation approval process that is the joint responsibility of a state department of education and a state department of higher education;
- (c) For the Colorado commission on higher education, education is the only academic program leading to licensure over which the commission has approval authority while all others are overseen by the department of regulatory agencies or designated programmatic accrediting entities;
- (d) While Colorado's joint approval process allows for collaboration between the department of education and the department of higher education, it is possible to consolidate responsibilities in a way that allows for continued collaboration and leads to greater transparency and efficiency for educator preparation programs; and

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.

- (e) Such consolidation is supported by both departments and continues to respect the statutory autonomy of institutions of higher education.
- (2) Therefore, the general assembly declares that a more effective approval process would consolidate the authorization and reauthorization of educator preparation programs under the state board of education and the department of education and achieve the following purposes:
- (a) Align the process with the approval of other academic programs in Colorado; and
- (b) Allow for consistency, clear messaging, and accountability from a single department with respect to authorization of new educator preparation programs; reauthorization of existing educator preparation programs; authorization of added endorsement areas in already-approved programs; and annual reporting to the legislature on educator preparation programs.

SECTION 2. In Colorado Revised Statutes, add 22-60.5-121 as follows:

- **22-60.5-121.** Educator preparation programs requirements advisory committee report rules legislative declaration definitions. (1) As used in this section, unless the context otherwise requires:
- (a) "CANDIDATE" MEANS A PERSON WHO IS PARTICIPATING IN AN INITIAL, ADVANCED, OR OTHER EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAM.
- (b) "Educator preparation program" means a program that prepares educator candidates to meet the quality standards established pursuant to section 22-9-105.5(10) and the requirements for Licensure endorsement adopted by state board rule pursuant to section 22-60.5-106. For purposes of this section, an "educator preparation program" does not include an alternative teacher program that obtains approval from the state board of education pursuant to section 22-60.5-205(3).
- (c) "Institution of higher education" means a state institution of higher education, as defined in section 23-18-102 (10)(a); a local district college, as defined in section 23-71-102 (1); an area technical college, as defined in section 23-60-103 (1); a private college or university, as defined in section 23-2-102 (11) and authorized by the Colorado commission on higher education; and an out-of-state public institution, as defined in section 23-2-102 (9) and authorized by the Colorado commission on higher education.
- (d) "Program" means a planned sequence of undergraduate, post-baccalaureate, or graduate courses and experiences for the purpose of preparing candidates to be effective educators in prekindergarten through twelfth-grade settings. A program may lead to a degree, an educator license, or both.
 - (2) THE STATE BOARD SHALL ADOPT RULES ESTABLISHING THE REQUIREMENTS

FOR EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAMS, WHICH, AT A MINIMUM, MUST ENSURE THAT EACH EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAM INCLUDES:

- (a) PROGRAM DESIGN AROUND CANDIDATE PROFICIENCY AND PROFESSIONALISM THAT SUPPORTS DECISION-MAKING ABOUT PARTNERSHIPS AND THE INTEGRATION OF CURRICULA, LEARNERS, COURSE WORK, AND CLINICAL EXPERIENCE;
- (b) Mapping, Planning, Development, Assessment, and Support of Candidate Proficiency, including a candidate's deep understanding of Content Knowledge, pedagogical knowledge, the Content Knowledge Required for Educating, and the dispositions and Professional Qualities Necessary to be Successful;
- (c) Course work that provides content knowledge as described in part 10 of article 7 of title 22, specifically in teaching to the state content standards adopted pursuant to section 22-7-1005;
- (d) Course work that is aligned with the "Colorado Reading to Ensure Academic Development Act", part 12 of article 7 of title 22, and the foundational reading skills of phonemic awareness, phonics, vocabulary development, reading fluency, including oral skills and reading comprehension, and the skills and strategies to apply to ensure that every student learns how to read. Reading course work and clinical practice opportunities must be a significant focus for teachers preparing for endorsement in elementary, early childhood, or special education.
- (e) Course work that provides educator candidates with an overview of Title II of the federal "Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990", 42 U.S.C. sec. 12101 et seq., as amended, and its implementing regulations; section 504 of the federal "Rehabilitation Act of 1973", 29 U.S.C. sec. 701 et seq., as amended, and its implementing regulations; the federal "Individuals with Disabilities Education Act", 20 U.S.C. sec. 1400 et seq., as amended, and its implementing regulations; individualized education programs, as defined in section 22-20-103 (15); and child find, as defined in section 22-20-103 (4), and that teaches educators effective special education classroom practices, including, but not limited to, inclusive learning environments;
- (f) Intentional clinical experience, early on and throughout educator preparation, relating to predetermined state content standards that afford candidates multiple intentional experiences to learn from practice. Clinical experiences must be aligned with educator preparation program curricula so that candidates develop pedagogical skills and pedagogical content knowledge. Teacher preparation candidates shall complete a minimum of eight hundred hours in clinical experience, and principal and administrator candidates shall complete a minimum of three hundred hours of clinical experience. A teacher candidate shall complete the clinical experience hours while enrolled in an approved educator preparation program; except that an educator preparation program may review and accept clinical experience hours completed before enrolling an educator in the educator preparation program. A

MAJORITY OF THE CLINICAL EXPERIENCE HOURS MUST BE COMPLETED THROUGH A CONTINUOUS CLINICAL PLACEMENT. FOR EVERY ADDITIONAL ENDORSEMENT OR ADVANCED DEGREE, A CANDIDATE SHALL COMPLETE AN APPROPRIATE AMOUNT OF SUPERVISED CLINICAL EXPERIENCES THAT RELATE TO PREDETERMINED STATE CONTENT STANDARDS, INCLUDING BEST PRACTICES AND RELEVANT NATIONAL NORMS RELATED TO THE CANDIDATE'S ENDORSEMENTS.

- (g) A requirement that each teacher preparation candidate in an initial licensure program complete at least one semester or quarter-length course in behavioral health training and one semester or quarter-length course in using culturally responsive and trauma- and evidenced-informed practices;
- (h) A requirement that candidates for an elementary education endorsement, a middle school mathematics endorsement, or a secondary mathematics endorsement are trained in evidence-informed practices in mathematics, as defined in section 22-2-146.6, including interventions to help students who are below grade level or struggling in mathematics; children with disabilities, as defined in section 22-20-103; and students who are English language learners.
- (i) A requirement that each educator preparation candidate, prior to graduation, demonstrate the skills required for licensure, as specified by rule of the state board of education pursuant to section 22-2-109 (4), in the manner specified by rule of the state board of education; and
- (j) A requirement that educator preparation programs, to improve their outcomes, engage in continuous evidence-based cycles of review regarding the impact of the educator preparation programs on the candidates' development throughout the educator preparation program. The cycles must include data on current candidates enrolled in the educator preparation program and available data on educators who have completed the educator preparation program.
- (3) The state board shall adopt rules to ensure that each educator preparation program includes procedures to monitor and improve the effectiveness of the educator preparation program, as well as educator effectiveness of its graduates pursuant to section 22-9-105.5, including, at a minimum, the following:
- (a) PERIODIC REVIEW OF THE EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAM TO ENSURE THAT THE EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAM MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS SPECIFIED BY STATE BOARD RULE PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION;
- (b) A procedure for collecting and reviewing evaluative data concerning the educator preparation program, including periodic surveys of graduates and employers, and educator data collected pursuant to section 22-2-112 (1)(q) in order to modify the educator preparation program as necessary in response to the data collected; and
 - (c) A procedure for reviewing the scores achieved on the professional

COMPETENCY ASSESSMENTS REQUIRED PURSUANT TO SECTION 22-60.5-203 AND THE DATA CONCERNING MULTIPLE MEASURES OF ASSESSING PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCIES REQUIRED PURSUANT TO SECTION 22-60.5-203 (3)(e) FOR CANDIDATES ENROLLED IN AND GRADUATING FROM THE EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAM AND A PROCEDURE FOR MODIFYING THE EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAM AS NECESSARY.

- (4) (a) (I) The department shall review each educator preparation program as provided in subsection (4)(b) of this section and establish a schedule for review of each educator preparation program that ensures each educator preparation program is reviewed not more frequently than once every five years; except that, if an educator preparation program is placed on conditional approval or probationary status, the educator preparation program must receive an additional review within the five-year period, as determined by the department. A review of or decision made concerning an educator preparation program after it is placed on conditional approval or probationary status does not change the date of the educator preparation program's next five-year review.
- (II) Notwithstanding subsection (4)(a)(I) of this section, the department shall review any new educator preparation program no sooner than twelve months but not more than twenty-four months after the new educator preparation program is initially approved.
- (III) ANY NEW EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAM OR MODIFICATION TO AN EXISTING EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAM THAT SIGNIFICANTLY MODIFIES THE CONTENT, CLINICAL EXPERIENCES, OR EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAM DELIVERY MUST BE SUBMITTED TO THE DEPARTMENT FOR REVIEW PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION. THE STATE BOARD SHALL ADOPT RULES AND PROCEDURES FOR THE REVIEW OF NEW AND MODIFIED EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAMS.
- (b) Each educator preparation program review conducted pursuant to subsection (4)(a) of this section must ensure that the educator preparation program meets the minimum requirements adopted pursuant to subsections (2) and (3) of this section. The review must be designed to ensure that educator preparation programs are implemented in a manner that enables candidates to meet the quality standards, as defined in section 22-9-103 (2.9), and the requirements for licensure endorsement adopted by state board rule pursuant to section 22-60.5-106. The department shall recommend to the state board that an educator preparation program be approved, placed on conditional approval, placed on probation, or not be approved pursuant to this section.
- (c) The department shall work cooperatively with each educator preparation program to obtain any data requested by the department to determine the admission and enrollment patterns, completion rates, and effectiveness of educator preparation programs. In addition, each educator preparation program shall, upon request from the department, prepare and submit an annual report to assist the department in reviewing the educator preparation program pursuant to this section. The department shall collaborate with representatives from the

GOVERNING BOARDS OF EACH INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION THAT OFFERS EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAMS IN SPECIFYING THE INFORMATION TO BE INCLUDED IN THE ANNUAL REPORT.

- (d) (I) Based on the department's recommendation that an educator preparation program not be approved or that it be placed on conditional approval or probation, the state board shall deny approval, grant the educator preparation program conditional approval, or place the educator preparation program on probation. The state board shall adopt rules specifying the procedures for denying approval or placing an educator preparation program on conditional approval or probation and the process by which the level of approval of an educator preparation program is reviewed and changed.
- (II) AN EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAM THAT THE STATE BOARD PLACES ON CONDITIONAL APPROVAL MAY CONTINUE TO ACCEPT NEW CANDIDATES. AN EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAM THAT THE STATE BOARD PLACES ON PROBATION SHALL NOT ACCEPT NEW CANDIDATES UNTIL THE DEPARTMENT REMOVES THE EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAM FROM PROBATIONARY STATUS.
- (III) IF THE STATE BOARD PLACES AN EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAM ON CONDITIONAL APPROVAL OR PROBATION, THE STATE BOARD SHALL CONSULT WITH THE DEPARTMENT IN DETERMINING WHETHER THE EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAM SHOULD SUBSEQUENTLY BE REAPPROVED, CONDITIONALLY APPROVED, PLACED ON PROBATION, OR TERMINATED.
- (IV) Institutions of higher education offering educator preparation programs are subject to the requirements of sections 23-1-107, 23-1-108, and 23-1-125. A private college or university, as defined in section 23-2-102 (11), and out-of-state public institutions, as defined in section 23-2-102 (9), that offer educator preparation programs in Colorado are subject to the requirements in article 2 of title 23 and related policies of the Colorado commission on higher education. In determining whether to initially approve or continue the approval of an educator preparation program, the state board shall consider any recommendations by the commission on higher education.
- (e) THE STATE BOARD SHALL ADOPT RULES AND PROCEDURES TO TERMINATE ANY EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAM IF THE PROGRAM DID NOT SUCCESSFULLY GRADUATE ANY CANDIDATES DURING THE PREVIOUS FIVE YEARS.
- (5) THE DEPARTMENT MAY ESTABLISH A FEE OR REIMBURSEMENT MECHANISM TO BE PAID TO THE DEPARTMENT BY AN ENTITY THAT PROVIDES AND APPLIES FOR APPROVAL OF AN EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAM. THE AMOUNT OF THE FEE OR REIMBURSEMENT MUST REFLECT THE DIRECT AND INDIRECT COSTS OF THE DEPARTMENT IN ADMINISTERING THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION.
- (6) (a) (I) The general assembly finds and declares that a high-quality teacher is the most important in-school factor for student achievement and that students benefit from seeing a diverse group of educators in

CLASSROOMS. HOWEVER, THE EDUCATOR WORKFORCE IN COLORADO IS NOT AS DIVERSE AS THE POPULATION OF STUDENTS IT SERVES OR WILL SERVE IN THE FUTURE.

- (II) Therefore, the general assembly declares that educator preparation programs must clearly and transparently show the first-time pass rates of candidates on the assessment administered pursuant to section 22-60.5-203 (3)(a)(I), especially those candidates whose gender, race, or ethnicity is underrepresented in the educator workforce, and that diverse educator candidates should have access to the necessary information to determine which educator preparation program gives the candidate the best chance of success at becoming an educator.
- (b) Notwithstanding section 24-1-136 (11)(a)(I), the department shall annually prepare a report concerning the enrollment in, graduation from, and effectiveness of the educator preparation programs authorized by the department. In addition, the report must include:
- (I) Data on the outcomes of graduates of educator preparation programs pursuant to section 22-2-112 (1)(q);
- (II) THE PERCENTAGE OF EDUCATOR CANDIDATES GRADUATING FROM EACH EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAM DURING THE PRECEDING TWELVE MONTHS WHO APPLIED FOR AND RECEIVED AN INITIAL LICENSE PURSUANT TO SECTION 22-60.5-201;
- (III) The percentage of graduates who passed the assessment administered pursuant to section 22-60.5-203 (3)(a)(I), including the percentage of graduates who passed the assessment on the first attempt; and
- (IV) The percentage of graduates who did not take an assessment identified in section 22-60.5-203 (3)(a)(I) and instead sought licensure through the multiple measure options in section 22-60.5-203 (3)(a)(II) or (3)(a)(III).
- (c) For purposes of completing the report required pursuant to subsection (6)(b) of this section, the department and the department of higher education shall share with one another any relevant data that complies with state and federal regulations. The department shall submit the report to the house of representatives education committee and the senate education committee, or their successor committees.
- (d) All data and information required to be reported annually pursuant to subsection (6)(b) of this section must be disaggregated by the gender, race, and ethnicity of the candidates and graduates, to the extent possible.
- (e) The department and the department of higher education shall post the annual report on their respective websites in the location relating to educator preparation programs and teacher licensure, if applicable.

- (7) THE DEPARTMENT IS ENCOURAGED TO COLLABORATE WITH NATIONAL ACCREDITING BODIES OF EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAMS AND TO OFFER CONCURRENT AND JOINT SITE VISITS TO EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAMS, TO THE EXTENT FEASIBLE.
- (8) (a) There is created an advisory committee to the state board of education and the department to provide input on relevant topics related to educator preparation and educator quality, including but not limited to:
- (I) REVIEWING AND PROVIDING FEEDBACK ON THE AUTHORIZATION AND REAUTHORIZATION PROCESS FOR NEW EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAMS, AS WELL AS ADDED ENDORSEMENT AREAS IN ALREADY-APPROVED PROGRAMS;
- (II) PARTICIPATING IN STAKEHOLDER DISCUSSIONS CONCERNING NEW OR REVISED EDUCATOR PREPARATION STANDARDS;
- (III) IDENTIFYING WAYS TO STREAMLINE APPLICATIONS FOR PROGRAM AUTHORIZATION, REAUTHORIZATION, AND ADDED ENDORSEMENT AREAS;
- (IV) IDENTIFYING STRATEGIES TO BETTER INTERSECT AND SUPPORT COLORADO SCHOOLS IN A SCHOOL'S EDUCATOR PIPELINE DEVELOPMENT; AND
- (V) ARTICULATING WAYS TO INCREASE THE EDUCATOR TALENT PIPELINE THAT MEETS COLORADO'S HIRING NEEDS, ESPECIALLY AMONG UNDERREPRESENTED COMMUNITIES.
- (b) The advisory committee consists of the following seven members who are appointed by the commissioner of education in consultation with the executive director of the department of higher education through applications developed by the department:
 - (I) ONE REPRESENTATIVE FROM AN URBAN SCHOOL DISTRICT;
 - (II) ONE REPRESENTATIVE FROM A RURAL SCHOOL DISTRICT;
- (III) One representative from a traditional educator preparation program:
- (IV) ONE REPRESENTATIVE FROM AN ALTERNATIVE EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAM;
- (V) One member who is a recent graduate from a Colorado educator preparation program that is currently teaching in a Colorado school;
 - (VI) ONE REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE DEPARTMENT;
 - (VII) ONE REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION; AND
- (VIII) ONE REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE STATE CHARTER SCHOOL INSTITUTE ESTABLISHED IN SECTION 22-30.5-503.

- (c) The members of the advisory committee shall select the chair.
- (d) The advisory committee shall meet as often as necessary to provide input to the state board of education and the department pursuant to this subsection (8). The department shall establish procedures to allow members to participate in the meetings remotely.
- **SECTION 3.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-2-109, **amend** (1)(g), (1)(h), (1)(i), (3) introductory portion, (4), and (6)(a) introductory portion; and **repeal** (5) and (7) as follows:
- **22-2-109.** State board of education additional duties teacher standards principal standards rules. (1) The state board of education shall:
- (g) Adopt rules that prescribe performance-based standards of qualification, preparation, training, or experience that are required for the issuance of all licenses, master certificates, and authorizations, as provided for in article 60.5 of this title TITLE 22;
- (h) Adopt rules that prescribe performance-based standards for endorsements deemed appropriate for each type of license or authorization;
- (i) Utilize representatives from all levels of education in the development of performance-based DEVELOPING standards of qualification, preparation, and experience for all licenses, master certificates, authorizations, and endorsements;
- (3) On or before July 1, 2000, The state board of education by rule shall adopt performance-based teacher licensure BY RULE QUALITY standards, which AS DEFINED IN SECTION 22-9-103 (2.9), THAT at a minimum shall MUST include a requirement that each candidate for an initial teacher license shall have and be able to demonstrate the following skills:
- (4) In adopting the performance-based teacher licensure QUALITY standards pursuant to subsection (3) of this section, the state board shall also adopt rules specifying the methods by which a teacher candidate may demonstrate that he or she THE TEACHER CANDIDATE has achieved the specified skills and the manner in which such demonstrations may be documented for submission when the teacher candidate applies for licensure.
- (5) (a) The state board shall review the content of educator preparation programs offered by institutions of higher education within the state. Such review must be designed to ensure that the content of each program is designed and implemented in a manner that will enable a candidate to meet the requirements specified by the state board pursuant to subsection (3) of this section and the requirements for licensure endorsement adopted by rule of the state board pursuant to section 22-60.5-106. The state board shall recommend to the Colorado commission on higher education that a program be placed on conditional approval, be placed on probation, or not be approved pursuant to section 23-1-121 if it determines that the program content does not meet the requirements specified in subsection (3) of this section or the endorsement requirements.

- (b) Upon the request of a nonpublic institution that provides an educator preparation program, the state board shall review the content of the program to determine whether the program content is designed and implemented in a manner that will enable a candidate to meet the requirements specified by the state board of education pursuant to subsection (3) of this section, and the requirements for licensure endorsement adopted by rule of the state board pursuant to section 22-60.5-106. Upon completion of the review, the state board shall notify the Colorado commission on higher education concerning whether the program content meets said requirements.
- (6) (a) On or before January 1, 2003, The state board of education by rule shall adopt performance-based principal licensure BY RULE QUALITY standards, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 22-9-103 (2.9), to guide the development of principal preparation programs. offered by institutions of higher education. The state board of education shall develop said THE standards in collaboration with institutions of higher education AND ALTERNATIVE PROGRAMS that offer principal preparation programs, AND superintendents and local boards of education. and the commission on higher education. The state board of education shall ensure that said THE standards are consistent with national standards for principal preparation. Said THE standards must include, but need not be limited to, the following:
- (7) (a) Beginning with the 2006-07 school year and annually thereafter, the state board shall direct the department to survey the superintendents of the school districts of the state who employ principals who hold a principal authorization or an initial principal license or who obtain a professional principal license without first holding an initial principal license and who are in their first three years of employment as a principal. The department shall base the survey questions on the performance-based principal licensure standards adopted by the state board pursuant to subsection (6) of this section. The department shall design the survey to solicit information by which to measure the quality and effectiveness of principal preparation programs and other alternative forms of principal preparation and to solicit information from superintendents concerning the principal licensure standards.
- (b) Notwithstanding section 24-1-136 (11)(a)(I), the state board shall submit annually to the education committees of the house of representatives and the senate, or any successor committees, a written summary report of the results of the survey conducted pursuant to subsection (7)(a) of this section. In submitting the report, the state board shall ensure that the report for the current year and the preceding year's report, if one exists, are available to the education committees for consideration at the biennial joint meeting held pursuant to section 22-60.5-116.5. The state board shall also submit the report annually to the governor, the Colorado commission on higher education, and the institutions of higher education that operate principal preparation programs.
- (c) The costs incurred by the department in implementing this subsection (7) shall be paid from moneys appropriated from the educator licensure cash fund created in section 22-60.5-112 (1).
- **SECTION 4.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-2-112, **amend** (1)(q)(I), (1)(q)(II), and (1)(q)(IV) as follows:

- **22-2-112.** Commissioner duties report legislative declaration. (1) Subject to the supervision of the state board, the commissioner has the following duties:
- (q) (I) To assist the state board in reviewing the content of educator preparation programs offered by institutions of higher education within the state. In so doing, the commissioner shall direct the department to collaborate with the department of higher education to prepare IN THE STATE BY PREPARING an annual report on the effectiveness of educator preparation programs.
- (II) For purposes of this paragraph (q) SUBSECTION (1)(q), the department shall use data collected from an educator in his or her THE EDUCATOR'S first three years of placement as the educator of record.
- (IV) The department shall work collaboratively with educator preparation programs and the department of higher education and make the report prepared pursuant to this paragraph (q) SUBSECTION (1)(q) available to the public on its THE DEPARTMENT'S website no later than thirty days after its THE REPORT'S completion. The department shall share the information with educator preparation programs to inform curriculum and program improvements.
- **SECTION 5.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-60.5-102, **amend** (8)(a) and (20) as follows:
- **22-60.5-102. Definitions.** As used in this article 60.5, unless the context otherwise requires:
- (8) (a) "Approved program of preparation" means a program of study for preparation that is approved by the Colorado commission on higher education DEPARTMENT pursuant to section 23-1-121, C.R.S., SECTION 22-60.5-121 and that upon completion leads to a recommendation for licensure. by an accepted institution of higher education.
- (20) "State board of education" OR "STATE BOARD" means the state board of education established by section 1 of article IX of the state constitution.
 - **SECTION 6.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **amend** 22-60.5-116.5 as follows:
- **22-60.5-116.5.** Education committees evaluation of educator preparation programs biennial joint meeting. (1) (a) The EDUCATION committees on education of the house of representatives and the senate, or any successor committees, shall biennially hold a joint meeting to assess the reports received concerning the effectiveness of the approved educator preparation programs offered by accepted institutions of higher education in the state. and the reports of the survey of superintendents conducted by the department of education and submitted by the state board of education pursuant to section 22-2-109 (7).
- (b) At the meeting, the committees shall consider the reports on the review of approved educator preparation programs received from the Colorado commission on higher education pursuant to section 23-1-121 (6), C.R.S. THE STATE BOARD PURSUANT TO SECTION 22-60.5-121. The committees shall take testimony from representatives of the institutions of higher education ENTITIES that provide the

educator preparation programs, the state board of education, the Colorado commission on higher education, and from any other interested persons. Based on the review of said THE reports and any testimony received, the committees shall assess whether the approved educator preparation programs are adequately preparing candidates to meet the performance-based educator licensure QUALITY standards adopted by rule of the state board of education pursuant to section 22-2-109 (3).

- (c) At the meeting, the committees shall consider the reports of the survey of superintendents conducted by the department of education and submitted by the state board of education pursuant to section 22-2-109 (7). The committees shall take testimony from representatives of the institutions of higher education that provide the principal preparation programs, the state board of education, the Colorado commission on higher education, and from any other interested persons. based on the review of said THE reports and any testimony received, the committees shall assess whether the approved principal preparation programs and alternative forms of principal preparation are adequately preparing principal candidates to meet the performance-based principal licensure QUALITY standards adopted by rule of the state board of education pursuant to section 22-2-109 (6).
- (2) If the committees, based on the reports received from the Colorado commission on higher education and the state board of education, determine that an approved educator preparation program is not adequately preparing licensure candidates, the committees shall instruct the Colorado commission on higher education to reduce the funding received by the institution of higher education that provides the approved educator preparation program during the next fiscal year. The commission shall notify the committees of the amount of said THE reduction prior to introduction of the annual general appropriation bill.
- **SECTION 7.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-60.5-208.7, **amend** (4) introductory portion as follows:
- **22-60.5-208.7. Teacher of record program rules authorization definition.**(4) To assist the teacher of record in meeting the performance-based teacher licensure QUALITY standards adopted by the state board of education pursuant to section 22-2-109 (3), a teacher of record program must include, at a minimum:
- **SECTION 8.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-60.5-203, **amend** (6) introductory portion as follows:
- **22-60.5-203.** Assessment of professional competencies multiple measures to assess professional competencies rules. (6) For purposes of establishing minimum competency in a licensure endorsement area, the state board of education shall establish minimum course work standards that align with the content QUALITY standards established by the state board of education pursuant to section 22-2-109 (3). Attainment of the minimum course work standards may be shown in one of the following ways:
- **SECTION 9.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-60.5-205, **amend** (2)(c) and (2)(h) as follows:

- 22-60.5-205. One-year and two-year alternative teacher programs standards and evaluation duties of department duties of the state board of education fees legislative declaration. (2) Designated agencies are authorized to implement one-year alternative teacher programs or two-year alternative teacher programs, which two-year programs were formerly known as teacher in residence programs, as follows:
- (c) A designated agency that chooses to implement an alternative teacher program may collaborate and contract with an institution of higher education ENTITY that provides an approved educator preparation program. A contract entered into pursuant to this paragraph (c) shall SUBSECTION (2)(c) MUST include, but need not be limited to, the provision of educator preparation courses and subject matter courses as necessary to comply with the educator preparation program requirements established by the Colorado commission on higher education pursuant to section 23-1-121, C.R.S. DEPARTMENT PURSUANT TO SECTION 22-60.5-121.
- (h) An alternative teacher program shall MUST meet the performance-based teacher licensure QUALITY standards adopted by the state board of education pursuant to section 22-2-109 (3).
- **SECTION 10.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-2-119.3, **amend** (6)(c) as follows:
- **22-2-119.3. Department of education educator preparation program students record check fee definitions.** (6) As used in this section, unless the context otherwise requires:
- (c) "Educator preparation program" means an approved educator preparation program as defined in section 23-1-121 SECTION 22-60.5-121 (1)(b).
 - **SECTION 11.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **amend** 23-1-121.2 as follows:
- **23-1-121.2. Department directive educator preparation pathways public information.** By October 1, 2020, the department shall post on the department website a description of each of the existing programs and pathways that lead to teacher licensure, including alternative teacher preparation programs AND TEACHER PREPARATION PROGRAMS approved pursuant to article 60.5 of title 22, teacher preparation programs approved pursuant to section 23-1-121, teacher residency programs, student teacher programs, concurrent enrollment programs, teacher cadet programs, grow your own educator programs established pursuant to section 22-60.5-208.5, and the teaching fellowship programs created pursuant to part 3 of article 78 of this title 23. The department shall annually update the descriptions of programs and pathways.
- **SECTION 12.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 23-2-103.1, **amend** (1)(b), (1)(c), and (1)(d) as follows:
- 23-2-103.1. Commission department duties limitation reciprocity. (1) The commission shall:

- (b) Grant or deny authorizations, renew authorizations, and revoke authorizations pursuant to sections 23-2-103.3 and 23-2-103.4; AND
- (c) Establish the types and amounts of fees that a private college or university or seminary or religious training institution shall pay as required in section 23-2-104.5 PURSUANT TO SECTION 23-2-104.5 (1); and
- (d) Establish policies to require private colleges and universities and seminaries and religious training institutions to submit to the department, upon request, data that is directly related to student enrollment and degree completion and, if applicable, student financial aid and educator preparation programs as described in section 23-1-121 SECTION 22-60.5-121. The director of the commission and an employee of the department of higher education shall not divulge or make known in any way data for individual students or personnel, except in accordance with judicial order or as otherwise provided by law. A person who violates this subsection (1)(d) commits a class 2 misdemeanor and shall be punished as provided in section 18-1.3-501, and shall be removed or dismissed from public service on the grounds of malfeasance in office.

SECTION 13. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 23-2-104.5, **repeal** (2) as follows:

23-2-104.5. Fees - public hearing. (2) The commission may establish a fee to be paid to the department by a private college or university that is authorized pursuant to this article and that applies for approval of an educator preparation program pursuant to section 23-1-121 The amount of the fee shall reflect the direct and indirect costs of the department in administering the provisions of section 23-1-121.

SECTION 14. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 23-3.3-901, **amend** (2)(a) as follows:

- **23-3.3-901.** Teach Colorado grant initiative created award of grants legislative declaration. (2) As used in this part 9, unless the context otherwise requires:
- (a) "Approved educator preparation program" means an approved educator preparation program as defined in section 23-1-121 (1)(a) SECTION 22-60.5-121 (1)(b).

SECTION 15. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 23-3.9-101, amend (1) as follows:

- **23-3.9-101. Definitions.** As used in this part 1, unless the context otherwise requires:
- (1) "Approved program of preparation" means a program of study for preparation that is approved by the Colorado commission on higher education DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION pursuant to section 23-1-121 SECTION 22-60.5-121 and that upon completion leads to a recommendation for licensure. by an accepted institution of higher education in Colorado.

SECTION 16. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 23-3.9-301, **amend** (2) as follows:

- **23-3.9-301. Definitions.** As used in this part 3, unless the context otherwise requires:
- (2) "Approved program of preparation" means an approved educator preparation program, as defined in section 23-1-121 (1)(a) SECTION 22-60.5-121 (1)(b), including a preparation program for school counselors, or an alternative teacher program, as defined in section 22-60.5-102 (5).
- **SECTION 17.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 23-3.9-304, **amend** (1) introductory portion as follows:
- **23-3.9-304. Reporting requirements.** (1) The department shall include the following data concerning the student educator stipend program and the educator test stipend program in the annual report required in section 23-1-121 (6)(a) SECTION 22-60.5-121 (5):
- **SECTION 18.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 23-60-110, **amend** (2) introductory portion as follows:
- **23-60-110. Teaching career pathway design.** (2) The teaching career pathway must be aligned with the performance-based teacher licensing QUALITY standards adopted by the state board of education pursuant to section 22-2-109 (3). In addition, the pathway must include the following components:
 - **SECTION 19.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 23-76-102, **amend** (2) as follows:
- **23-76-102. Definitions.** As used in this article 76, unless the context otherwise requires:
- (2) "Educator preparation program" means an educator preparation program approved by the commission DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION pursuant to section 23-1-121 SECTION 22-60.5-121 and that upon completion leads to a recommendation for licensure. by an accepted institution of higher education in Colorado.
 - **SECTION 20.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 23-78-103, **amend** (2) as follows:
- **23-78-103. Definitions.** As used in this part 1, unless the context otherwise requires:
- (2) "Approved educator preparation program" means an educator preparation program for teachers that the commission on higher education DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION has reviewed pursuant to section 23-1-121 SECTION 22-60.5-121 and determined meets the performance-based MINIMUM standards established by the commission pursuant to section 23-1-121 SET FORTH IN SECTION 22-60.5-121 (2) AND (3) and the requirements of section 23-1-108.
 - **SECTION 21.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 23-78-104, **amend** (2) as follows:
- **23-78-104.** Educator preparation program best practices guidelines report. (2) The department of higher education and the department of education shall jointly prepare a report concerning the identified best practices, the adopted

guidelines, and regulatory and legislative recommendations to ensure that the policies and criteria for reviewing and approving educator preparation programs pursuant to sections 22-2-109 (5), SECTIONS 22-60.5-115 (2), 22-60.5-205 (3), and 23-1-121 22-60.5-121 align with the identified best practices and are designed to determine the degree to which educator preparation programs are implementing the best practices. On or before January 15, 2020, the departments shall submit the report to the commission, the state board, and the education committees of the house of representatives and the senate, or any successor committees. To the extent necessary, the commission shall amend its guidelines and the state board shall amend its rules to align with the best practices.

SECTION 22. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 23-78-303, **amend** (2) as follows:

- **23-78-303. Definitions.** As used in this part 3, unless the context otherwise requires:
- (2) "Approved educator preparation program" has the same meaning as provided in section 23-1-121 SECTION 22-60.5-121 (1)(b).
- **SECTION 23.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 23-78-307, **amend** (2) introductory portion as follows:
- 23-78-307. Department of higher education review of agreements report. (2) The department of higher education shall review the annual report received concerning each teaching fellowship program and submit an annual summary report to the state board of education, the Colorado commission on higher education, the joint budget committee of the general assembly, and the education committees of the house of representatives and the senate, or any successor committees. The department of higher education shall prepare and submit the summary report annually, notwithstanding section 24-1-136 (11)(a)(I), as part of the report required in section 23-1-121 (6) SECTION 22-60.5-121 (6). At a minimum, the summary report must include:
- **SECTION 24.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 23-1-121, **repeal as added by House Bill 23-1231** (2) introductory portion and (2)(g) as follows:
- 23-1-121. Commission directive approval of educator preparation programs review report legislative declaration. (2) The commission shall adopt policies establishing the requirements for educator preparation programs offered by institutions of higher education. The department shall work in cooperation with the state board of education in developing the requirements for educator preparation programs. At a minimum, the requirements must ensure that each educator preparation program complies with section 23-1-125, is designed on a performance-based model, and includes:
- (g) A requirement that candidates for an elementary education endorsement, a middle school mathematics endorsement, or a secondary mathematics endorsement are trained in evidence-informed practices in mathematics, as defined in section 22-2-146.6, including interventions to help students who are below grade level or struggling in mathematics; children with disabilities, as defined in section 22-20-103; and students who are English language learners.

SECTION 25. In Colorado Revised Statutes, repeal 23-1-121.

- **SECTION 26. Appropriation.** For the 2023-24 state fiscal year, the general assembly anticipates that the department of education will expend \$108,990 from the educator licensure cash fund created in section 22-60.5-112 (1)(a), C.R.S., based on an assumption that the department will require an additional 0.8 FTE. This figure is subject to the "(I)" notation as defined in the annual general appropriation act for the same fiscal year. To implement this act, the department is anticipated to use this appropriation for the office of professional services.
- **SECTION 27.** Act subject to petition effective date. (1) This act takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly; except that, if a referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V of the state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this act within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take effect unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in November 2024 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.
- (2) Section 22-60.5-121 (2)(h), Colorado Revised Statutes, added in section 2 of this act, takes effect only if House Bill 23-1231 becomes law, in which case section 22-60.5-121 (2)(h) takes effect on the effective date of this act or the effective date of House Bill 23-1231, whichever is later.

Approved: June 2, 2023