

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

**INTRODUCED**

LLS NO. 26-0543.01 Conrad Imel x2313

**SENATE BILL 26-034**

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**SENATE SPONSORSHIP**

**Kolker and Marchman,**

**HOUSE SPONSORSHIP**

**Hamrick and Bacon,**

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**Senate Committees**  
Education

**House Committees**

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**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

101      **CONCERNING EXPANDING PARTICIPATION BY MEMBERS OF THE**  
102      **AURARIA BOARD OF DIRECTORS ADVISORY COMMITTEES.**

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**Bill Summary**

*(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <http://leg.colorado.gov>.)*

Under current law, the members of the Auraria board of directors who are the representatives of the student advisory committee and faculty advisory committee are nonvoting members. The bill makes those members voting members of the board. Concerning the representative of the student advisory committee, the bill repeals the requirement that the student be a full-time student and reduces the Colorado residency

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.  
Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material to be added to existing law.  
Dashes through the words or numbers indicate deletions from existing law.

requirement from 3 years prior to the member's election to one year prior to the member's election.

The bill expands the faculty advisory committee from 6 to 9 members. One of the additional members is elected from each constituent institution of the Auraria higher education center.

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

**SECTION 1. Short title.** The short title of this act is the "Auraria Student and Faculty Board Voting Rights Act of 2026".

**SECTION 2. Legislative declaration - legislative intent.**

(1) The general assembly finds and declares that:

(a) Student and faculty representation in postsecondary institutions' institutional governance promotes accountability, transparency, and responsiveness to the educational needs of the student body;

(b) The Auraria higher education center has 3 separately governed institutions whose students and faculty are materially affected by decisions of the Auraria board of directors, known as the Auraria board;

(c) Granting the elected student and faculty members of the Auraria board full voting rights strengthens shared governance by ensuring that directly elected student and faculty representatives participate substantively in decisions that affect students; and

(d) It is in the public interest to provide the elected student and faculty members of the Auraria board with voting rights equal to that of other board members.

(2) The general assembly further declares that this act does not alter any statutory eligibility requirement for the elected faculty member of the Auraria board, including residency requirements, except as expressly provided in the act.

1 (3) It is the intent of the general assembly that:

2 (a) The Auraria board and each of the governing boards of the  
3 constituent institutions of the Auraria higher education center will update  
4 their policies, bylaws, and rules, including rules of procedure, as  
5 applicable and as necessary to comply with the amendments to Auraria  
6 board members' authority made in this act; and

7 (b) A student or faculty member serving on the Auraria board on  
8 the effective date of this act assumes the voting rights granted to that  
9 member in this act without needing to be reelected to the Auraria board.

10 **SECTION 3.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 23-70-102, **amend**  
11 (1) introductory portion, (1)(c)(I), and (1)(d)(I) as follows:

12 **23-70-102. Auraria board - membership - terms - oath or**  
13 **affirmation - voting.**

14 (1) ~~Effective July 1, 1989,~~ There is created a ~~new~~ board of  
15 directors of the Auraria higher education center, which consists of ~~nine~~  
16 ELEVEN voting members. ~~and two ex officio nonvoting members.~~ The  
17 members of the Auraria board ~~shall be~~ ARE chosen ~~in the following~~  
18 ~~manner~~ AS FOLLOWS:

19 (c) (I) An advisory committee of six members who are ~~full-time~~  
20 students ~~shall be~~ IS elected, two from each of the student bodies of each  
21 of the three institutions governed by the Auraria board. ~~and it~~ THE  
22 ADVISORY COMMITTEE shall elect one of its members to fill one office on  
23 the Auraria board to serve for ~~one term~~ A ONE-YEAR TERM beginning  
24 EACH July 1. ~~The elected student office is advisory, without the right to~~  
25 ~~vote.~~ The elected student member of the board must have resided in the  
26 state of Colorado ~~not~~ NO less than ~~three years~~ ONE YEAR prior to the  
27 member's election. A vacancy in the office of the elected student member

1 ~~shall~~ MUST be filled by reelection for the unexpired term.

2 (d) (I) An advisory committee of ~~six~~ NINE members who are  
3 full-time faculty members ~~shall be~~ IS elected, ~~two~~ THREE from each of the  
4 faculties of each of the three institutions governed by the Auraria board.  
5 ~~and it~~ THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE shall elect one of its members to fill the  
6 remaining office on the Auraria board to serve for A one-year ~~terms~~ TERM  
7 beginning each July 1. The committee shall select ~~such~~ a member from  
8 the same institution only once in the same three-year period. ~~The elected~~  
9 ~~faculty office is advisory, without the right to vote.~~ The elected faculty  
10 member of the board must have resided in the state of Colorado ~~not~~ NO  
11 less than three years prior to the member's election. A vacancy in the  
12 office of the elected faculty member ~~shall~~ MUST be filled by reelection for  
13 the unexpired term.

14 **SECTION 4. Effective date.** This act takes effect October 1,  
15 2026.

16 **SECTION 5. Safety clause.** The general assembly finds,  
17 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate  
18 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety or for appropriations for  
19 the support and maintenance of the departments of the state and state  
20 institutions.