

SENATE COMMITTEE OF REFERENCE REPORT

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Chair of Committee

February 7, 2024  
Date

Committee on Education.

After consideration on the merits, the Committee recommends the following:

SB24-069 be amended as follows, and as so amended, be referred to the Committee on Appropriations with favorable recommendation:

- 1 Amend printed bill, page 2, strike lines 4 and 5 and substitute:
- 2       **"22-20-122. Special education advocates and parents - training**
- 3 **program - publish materials - legislative declaration - definition.**
- 4 (1) (a) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FINDS THAT:
- 5       (I) IN THE 2017-18 SCHOOL YEAR, TWENTY-ONE THOUSAND ONE
- 6 HUNDRED NINE STUDENTS IN COLORADO PUBLIC SCHOOLS WERE ELIGIBLE
- 7 TO RECEIVE SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES PURSUANT TO THE FEDERAL
- 8 "REHABILITATION ACT OF 1973", 29 U.S.C. SEC. 701 ET SEQ.;
- 9       (II) IN THE 2022-23 SCHOOL YEAR, TWELVE PERCENT OF STUDENTS
- 10 IN COLORADO PUBLIC SCHOOLS WERE IDENTIFIED AS HAVING A DISABILITY
- 11 THAT QUALIFIED THOSE STUDENTS FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES
- 12 PURSUANT TO THE FEDERAL "INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES EDUCATION
- 13 ACT", 20 U.S.C. SEC. 1400 ET SEQ. AND THIS ARTICLE 20;
- 14       (III) APPROXIMATELY FIFTEEN PERCENT OF STUDENTS IN
- 15 COLORADO PUBLIC SCHOOLS ARE CHILDREN WHO HAVE AN
- 16 INDIVIDUALIZED EDUCATION PROGRAM OR A SECTION 504
- 17 ACCOMMODATION; AND
- 18       (IV) FEDERAL AND STATE LAWS, AND RELATED PROCESSES
- 19 REGARDING INDIVIDUALIZED EDUCATION PLANS, ARE COMPLEX AND
- 20 CHALLENGING TO NAVIGATE.
- 21       (b) THEREFORE, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY DECLARES THAT IT IS AN
- 22 IMPORTANT PRIORITY TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE TO PARENTS, THE PUBLIC,
- 23 AND ADVOCATES TO HELP PROMOTE UNDERSTANDING OF INDIVIDUALIZED
- 24 EDUCATION PLANS AND PARTICIPATION OUR CHILDREN'S EDUCATION.
- 25       (2) (a) ON OR BEFORE JULY".
- 26 Renumber succeeding subsections accordingly.

1 Page 2, strike lines 6 and 7 and substitute "1, 2026, THE DEPARTMENT  
2 SHALL CREATE, DELIVER, AND MAKE PUBLICLY AVAILABLE A TRAINING  
3 PROGRAM. THE".

4 Page 2, lines 9 and 10, strike "TO SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVOCATES AND  
5 PARENTS".

6 Page 2, strike lines 14 through 18 and substitute:

7 "(b) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL DELIVER THE TRAINING PROGRAM IN  
8 PERSON AND MAKE THE TRAINING ACCESSIBLE ONLINE. THE GENERAL  
9 ASSEMBLY ENCOURAGES ANYONE WHO WISHES TO PARTICIPATE TO".

10 Page 3, strike lines 7 through 9 and substitute:

11 "(I) A RECORDING OF THE TRAINING DELIVERED PURSUANT TO THIS  
12 SECTION; AND".

13 Page 3, line 12, strike "SUBSECTION (1) OF".

14 Page 3, line 14, strike "(2)(a)" and substitute "(3)(a)".

15 Page 3, after line 15 insert:

16 "(3.5) SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS, THE GENERAL  
17 ASSEMBLY MAY APPROPRIATE MONEY TO THE DEPARTMENT FOR PURPOSES  
18 OF THIS SECTION IN STATE FISCAL YEARS 2024-25 AND 2025-26. FOR  
19 STATE FISCAL YEAR 2026-27, AND EACH FISCAL YEAR THEREAFTER, THE  
20 GENERAL ASSEMBLY SHALL NOT APPROPRIATE MONEY TO THE  
21 DEPARTMENT FOR PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION, AND THE DEPARTMENT  
22 SHALL PERFORM ANY DUTIES REQUIRED PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION  
23 WITHIN EXISTING RESOURCES."

24 Page 3, strike lines 16 through 25, and substitute:

25 "(4) UPON THE REQUEST OF A NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION, THE  
26 DEPARTMENT SHALL PROVIDE A TRAIN-THE-TRAINER MODEL TRAINING TO  
27 EMPLOYEES, VOLUNTEERS, OR AGENTS OF THE NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION.  
28 THE DEPARTMENT SHALL PUBLISH, AND UPDATE AS NECESSARY ON ITS  
29 WEBSITE, THE NAMES OF NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS THAT HAVE  
30 EMPLOYEES, VOLUNTEERS, OR AGENTS WHO HAVE COMPLETED THE  
31 TRAIN-THE-TRAINER MODEL TRAINING.

32 (5) UPON THE REQUEST OF ANY PERSON, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL  
33 PROVIDE ANY RESOURCES OR MATERIALS DEVELOPED TO ACCOMPANY THE  
34 TRAINING PROGRAM IN THE LANGUAGE REQUESTED BY THE PERSON.

35 (6) AS USED IN THIS SECTION, UNLESS THE CONTEXT OTHERWISE

1 REQUIRES, "TRAIN-THE-TRAINER" MEANS A TRAINING FRAMEWORK THAT  
2 DEVELOPS TRAINING RECIPIENTS INTO SUBJECT MATTER EXPERTS WHO ARE  
3 THEN QUALIFIED TO DELIVER A TRAINING."

4 Page 1, line 102, strike "INFORMATION." and substitute "INFORMATION  
5 THROUGH A PUBLICLY AVAILABLE TRAINING PROGRAM."

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