

CHAPTER 327

EDUCATION - PUBLIC SCHOOLS

HOUSE BILL 17-1294

BY REPRESENTATIVE(S) Weissman, Becker K., Benavidez, Bridges, Buckner, Coleman, Covarrubias, Danielson, Esgar, Exum, Foote, Garnett, Ginal, Gray, Hamner, Hansen, Herod, Hooton, Jackson, Kennedy, Kraft-Tharp, Lebsack, Lontine, McLachlan, Melton, Michaelson Jenet, Mitsch Bush, Neville P., Pettersen, Rosenthal, Salazar, Singer, Valdez, Van Winkle, Winter, Young, Duran;
 also SENATOR(S) Todd, Baumgardner, Cooke, Crowder, Donovan, Fields, Gardner, Hill, Jones, Kefalas, Kerr, Martinez Humenik, Merrifield, Moreno, Sonnenberg, Williams A., Zenzinger.

AN ACT

CONCERNING COUNTING A HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT WHO PARTICIPATES IN THE ACCELERATING STUDENTS THROUGH CONCURRENT ENROLLMENT PROGRAM IN THE ENROLLING EDUCATION ENTITY'S HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATE IN THE SCHOOL YEAR IN WHICH THE STUDENT COMPLETES THE HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS.

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

SECTION 1. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-35-108, **amend** (5) and (6)(b); and **repeal** (6)(a) as follows:

22-35-108. Accelerating students through concurrent enrollment program - objectives - selection criteria - rules. (5) For the purposes of ~~part 6 of article 7 of this title~~ PART 5 OF ARTICLE 11 OF THIS TITLE 22 concerning school accountability reports, the department shall include ASCENT program participants in the reporting requirements, regardless of whether an ASCENT program participant has completed his or her graduation requirements.

(6) (a) ~~A qualified student who is designated by the department as an ASCENT program participant shall not be considered a high school graduate until he or she has completed his or her participation in the ASCENT program and any remaining graduation requirements specified by his or her high school administration.~~

(b) ~~On or before June 1, 2010,~~ FOR PURPOSES OF APPLYING THE PROVISIONS OF ARTICLE 11 OF THIS TITLE 22 CONCERNING SCHOOL ACCOUNTABILITY AND REPORTING GRADUATION RATES, A QUALIFIED STUDENT WHO IS AN ASCENT

Capital letters indicate new material added to existing statutes; dashes through words indicate deletions from existing statutes and such material not part of act.

PROGRAM PARTICIPANT SHALL BE COUNTED IN THE ENROLLING SCHOOL DISTRICT'S OR INSTITUTE CHARTER SCHOOL'S GRADUATION RATE IN THE SCHOOL YEAR IN WHICH THE STUDENT COMPLETES THE SCHOOL DISTRICT'S OR INSTITUTE CHARTER SCHOOL'S MINIMUM HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS. The state board of education shall promulgate rules for schools and school districts to follow in satisfying state and federal reporting requirements concerning the enrollment status of ASCENT program participants. To the extent practicable, the rules ~~shall~~ MUST ensure that schools and school districts are not adversely affected in calculating and reporting the completion of high school graduation requirements by qualified students who have been designated by the department as ASCENT program participants. The rules ~~shall~~ MUST include, at a minimum, reporting requirements relating to:

(I) The provisions of article 7 of this ~~title~~ TITLE 22 concerning educational accountability; and

(II) The provisions of article 11 of this ~~title~~ TITLE 22 concerning educational accreditation.

SECTION 2. Safety clause. The general assembly hereby finds, determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, and safety.

Approved: June 5, 2017