Second Regular Session Seventy-first General Assembly STATE OF COLORADO

REENGROSSED

This Version Includes All Amendments Adopted in the House of Introduction HOUSE BILL 18-1269

LLS NO. 18-0378.02 Brita Darling x2241

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

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A BILL FOR AN ACT

101	CONCERNING NOTIFICATION TO PARENTS OF CHARGES BROUGHT
102	AGAINST PUBLIC SCHOOL EMPLOYEES FOR ALLEGED FELONY
103	OFFENSES THAT WOULD RESULT IN THE REVOCATION OF AN
104	EDUCATOR LICENSE PURSUANT TO TITLE 22, COLORADO
105	Revised Statutes.

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 <u>http://leg.colorado.gov</u>.)

The bill requires school districts, district charter schools, institute charter schools, and boards of cooperative services (local education



HOUSE Amended 2nd Reading April 19, 2018 providers) to notify parents of students enrolled in a local education provider of charges brought against an employee or former employee, who has or had contact with students, if the charges are for one of the offenses that requires the denial, suspension, or revocation of a teacher license if the employee were a teacher.

A local education provider may provide notice to parents of charges brought against an employee for one of the offenses that could result in the denial, suspension, or revocation of a teacher license if the employee were a teacher.

The bill specifies the students whose parents must receive notification and the information that a local education provider shall include in the parent notification. The local education provider shall notify parents by mail or electronic means within 2 business days after learning of the charge unless the charging criminal justice agency requests a delay in notification. If notice is sent to parents, the local education provider shall also send notice within 2 business days to the same parents in the same manner regarding the disposition of the charges.

Each local education provider and the judicial districts in which the local education provider is located shall enter into a written agreement concerning the dissemination of information to a local education provider regarding charges brought against employees.

The bill requires a local education provider to use best efforts to comply with the notification requirements and exempts the local education provider from liability for damages that may arise from its failure to comply with the notification provisions included in the bill.

The bill prohibits the state board of education from waiving the requirements of the bill relating to parent notification for school districts or for charter schools authorized by a school district or by the state charter school institute.

1	be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado.
2	SECTION 1. In Colorado Revised Statutes, add 22-1-130 as
3	follows:
4	22-1-130. Notice to parents of alleged criminal conduct by
5	school employees - legislative declaration - definitions. (1) (a) T_{HE}
6	GENERAL ASSEMBLY FINDS THAT:
7	(I) IT IS THE RIGHT AND RESPONSIBILITY OF PARENTS TO GUIDE THE
8	EDUCATION AND UPBRINGING OF THEIR CHILDREN;

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

1

1 (II) AN ESSENTIAL ROLE OF PARENTS IN ENSURING THE SAFETY 2 AND QUALITY OF THEIR CHILDREN'S EDUCATION IS TO REMAIN ACTIVE, 3 ENGAGED, AND FULLY INFORMED ABOUT WHAT IS OCCURRING IN THEIR 4 CHILDREN'S CLASSROOMS AND WITHIN THE SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT; 5 (III) ENSURING THE SAFETY OF SCHOOL CHILDREN IS ONE OF THE 6 PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITIES OF STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT, LAW ENFORCEMENT, AND SCHOOL COMMUNITIES; 7 8 (IV) IN ORDER TO ENSURE A SAFE SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT THAT IS 9 CONDUCIVE TO LEARNING, STUDENTS AND PARENTS MUST BE ASSURED 10 THAT CRIMINAL BEHAVIOR THAT IS HARMFUL TO CHILDREN IS REPORTED 11 AND DEALT WITH APPROPRIATELY AND IN A MANNER THAT IS 12 TRANSPARENT TO PARENTS AND THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY; AND 13 (V) PARENTS ARE UNDERSTANDABLY CONCERNED WHEN LAW 14 ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES MAKE ACCUSATIONS ABOUT SCHOOL EMPLOYEES 15 AT THEIR CHILDREN'S SCHOOLS. 16 (b) THEREFORE, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY DECLARES THAT IT IS 17 APPROPRIATE TO REQUIRE A PUBLIC SCHOOL TO NOTIFY PARENTS OF 18 SCHOOL CHILDREN WHEN A SCHOOL EMPLOYEE IS CHARGED WITH CERTAIN 19 CRIMES THAT MAY PUT CHILDREN AT RISK. 20 (2) AS USED IN THIS SECTION, UNLESS THE CONTEXT OTHERWISE 21 **REOUIRES:** (a) "EMPLOYEE" MEANS AN EMPLOYEE OF A LOCAL EDUCATION 22 23 PROVIDER WHOSE EMPLOYMENT REQUIRES OR REQUIRED THE EMPLOYEE 24 TO BE IN CONTACT WITH STUDENTS OR WHOSE WORK AREA GIVES OR GAVE 25 THE EMPLOYEE ACCESS TO STUDENTS. "EMPLOYEE" INCLUDES A FORMER 26 EMPLOYEE IF THE EMPLOYEE WAS EMPLOYED BY THE LOCAL EDUCATION 27 PROVIDER AT ANY TIME WITHIN TWELVE MONTHS BEFORE AN OFFENSE IS

1 CHARGED. IF A SCHOOL DISTRICT, DISTRICT CHARTER SCHOOL, OR 2 INSTITUTE CHARTER SCHOOL HAS CONTRACTED WITH A PRIVATE ENTITY TO 3 OPERATE AN ONLINE SCHOOL, THE EMPLOYEE OF THE PRIVATE ENTITY IS 4 DEEMED TO BE AN EMPLOYEE OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT, DISTRICT CHARTER 5 SCHOOL, OR INSTITUTE CHARTER SCHOOL FOR PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION. 6 (b) "LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER" MEANS A SCHOOL DISTRICT, A 7 BOARD OF COOPERATIVE SERVICES, A CHARTER SCHOOL COLLABORATIVE, 8 A CHARTER SCHOOL AUTHORIZED BY A SCHOOL DISTRICT PURSUANT TO 9 PART 1 OF ARTICLE 30.5 of this title 22, and a charter school 10 AUTHORIZED BY THE STATE CHARTER SCHOOL INSTITUTE PURSUANT TO 11 PART 5 OF ARTICLE 30.5 OF THIS TITLE 22. (c) "PARENT" MEANS THE BIOLOGICAL OR ADOPTIVE PARENT OR 12 13 THE LEGAL GUARDIAN OR LEGAL CUSTODIAN OF A STUDENT ENROLLED IN 14 A LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER AT THE TIME NOTIFICATION IS MADE 15 PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION. 16 (3) (a) PURSUANT TO SECTION 22-2-119 (4)(b), LOCAL EDUCATION 17 PROVIDERS ROUTINELY RECEIVE REPORTS FROM THE COLORADO BUREAU 18 OF INVESTIGATION RELATING TO EMPLOYEES WHO HAVE PREVIOUSLY BEEN 19 SUBJECT TO A BACKGROUND CHECK. IF A LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER 20 RECEIVES A REPORT FROM THE COLORADO BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION 21 THAT INCLUDES INFORMATION THAT AN EMPLOYEE HAS BEEN ARRESTED 22 FOR AN OFFENSE DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (3)(b) OF THIS SECTION, THE 23 LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER SHALL MONITOR THE CRIMINAL 24 PROCEEDINGS TO DETERMINE WHETHER THE EMPLOYEE IS CHARGED WITH 25 AN OFFENSE DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (3)(b) OF THIS SECTION AND WHETHER A PRELIMINARY HEARING HAS BEEN HELD IF THE CHARGE IS 26 27 ELIGIBLE FOR A PRELIMINARY HEARING.

1 (b) THE LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER SHALL NOTIFY PARENTS, AS 2 PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (4) OF THIS SECTION, IF AN EMPLOYEE IS 3 CHARGED, AS THAT TERM IS DEFINED IN SECTION 16-1-104 (6), WITH: 4 (I) FELONY CHILD ABUSE, AS SPECIFIED IN SECTION 18-6-401; 5 (II) A CRIME OF VIOLENCE, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 18-1.3-406, 6 NOT INCLUDING ASSAULT IN THE SECOND DEGREE UNLESS THE VICTIM IS 7 A CHILD: 8 (III) A FELONY OFFENSE INVOLVING UNLAWFUL SEXUAL 9 BEHAVIOR, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 16-22-102 (9); 10 (IV) A FELONY, WHERE IT IS ALLEGED THAT THE UNDERLYING 11 FACTUAL BASIS OF WHICH INCLUDES AN ACT OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, AS 12 DEFINED IN SECTION 18-6-800.3; 13 (V) FELONY INDECENT EXPOSURE, AS DESCRIBED IN SECTION 14 18-7-302; OR 15 (VI) A FELONY DRUG OFFENSE DESCRIBED IN PART 4 OF ARTICLE 16 18 OF TITLE 18, THAT IS A LEVEL 1 OR LEVEL 2 DRUG FELONY. 17 (4) (a) WITHIN TWO SCHOOL DAYS AFTER THE PRELIMINARY 18 HEARING IS HELD OR IS WAIVED OR DEEMED WAIVED BY THE EMPLOYEE, 19 OR WITHIN TWO SCHOOL DAYS AFTER THE DATE ON WHICH THE EMPLOYEE 20 IS CHARGED, IF THE CHARGED OFFENSE IS NOT ELIGIBLE FOR A 21 PRELIMINARY HEARING, THE LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER SHALL PROVIDE 22 NOTICE TO PARENTS PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (5) OF THIS SECTION. 23 (b) IF THE LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER HAS ALREADY PROVIDED 24 NOTICE TO PARENTS THAT SUBSTANTIALLY CONFORMS WITH THE NOTICE 25 REQUIREMENTS SET FORTH IN SUBSECTION (5) OF THIS SECTION, THE LOCAL 26 EDUCATION PROVIDER NEED NOT PROVIDE ADDITIONAL NOTICE PURSUANT 27 TO THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION.

-5-

(c) THE LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER MUST PROVIDE NOTICE TO
 THE PARENTS OF A STUDENT:

3 (I) ENROLLED IN THE PUBLIC SCHOOL IN WHICH THE EMPLOYEE IS
4 EMPLOYED OR WAS EMPLOYED AT THE TIME OF THE ALLEGED OFFENSE; OR
5 (II) WITH WHOM THE LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER HAS REASON
6 TO BELIEVE THE EMPLOYEE MAY HAVE HAD CONTACT AS PART OF HIS OR
7 HER EMPLOYMENT WITH THE LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER.

8 (d) THE LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER SHALL PROVIDE THE 9 REQUIRED NOTICE TO PARENTS IN THE SAME MANNER BY WHICH THE 10 LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER NOTIFIES PARENTS OF IMPORTANT SCHOOL 11 BUSINESS, WHICH MAY INCLUDE E-MAIL NOTIFICATION OR OTHER 12 ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION SENT DIRECTLY TO PARENTS OR BY 13 FIRST-CLASS MAIL. WITHIN TWO SCHOOL DAYS AFTER THE LOCAL 14 EDUCATION PROVIDER CONFIRMS THE DISPOSITION OF THE CHARGE, THE 15 LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER SHALL PROVIDE NOTICE TO PARENTS OF THE 16 DISPOSITION OF THE CHARGE USING THE SAME NOTIFICATION METHOD 17 USED IN THE ORIGINAL NOTICE TO PARENTS.

(e) NOTWITHSTANDING THE PROVISIONS OF SUBSECTION (4)(a) OF
THIS SECTION TO THE CONTRARY, IF A DELAY IN PARENT NOTIFICATION IS
REQUESTED BY THE APPROPRIATE LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY, THE LOCAL
EDUCATION PROVIDER SHALL DELAY NOTIFICATION TO PARENTS UNTIL THE
REQUEST IS WITHDRAWN.

(f) A LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER SHALL NOTIFY PARENTS
PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION REGARDLESS OF WHETHER THE ACTIONS
GIVING RISE TO THE CHARGE OCCURRED WHILE THE EMPLOYEE WAS ON
DUTY.

27 (g) THE BOARD OR GOVERNING BODY OF THE LOCAL EDUCATION

-6-

1	PROVIDER SHALL ESTABLISH POLICIES TO COMPLY WITH THE PROVISIONS
2	OF THIS SECTION WHEN SCHOOL IS NOT IN SESSION.
3	(5) (a) The local education provider's notification to
4	PARENTS OF A CHARGE BROUGHT AGAINST AN EMPLOYEE MUST INCLUDE
5	THE FOLLOWING:
6	(I) THE NAME OF THE EMPLOYEE;
7	(II) THE EMPLOYEE'S POSITION;
8	(III) WHETHER THE EMPLOYEE CONTINUES TO BE EMPLOYED BY
9	THE LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER;
10	(IV) The length of employment with the local education
11	PROVIDER;
12	(V) The alleged offense as set forth in the charging
13	DOCUMENT, INCLUDING THE VIOLATION OF STATUTE OR CODE; AND
14	(VI) A STATEMENT THAT, UNDER STATE AND FEDERAL LAW, A
15	PERSON IS PRESUMED INNOCENT UNTIL PROVEN GUILTY.
16	(b) A LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER MAY PROVIDE ADDITIONAL
17	INFORMATION TO PARENTS REGARDING THE UNDERLYING FACTS OR
18	CIRCUMSTANCES RELATING TO THE CHARGE BUT SHALL NOT DISCLOSE THE
19	IDENTITY OF THE ALLEGED VICTIM.
20	(6) EACH LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER SHALL INCORPORATE THE
21	NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS SET FORTH IN THIS SECTION AS PART OF A
22	SAFE SCHOOL PLAN REQUIRED PURSUANT TO SECTION $22-32-109.1$, AS
23	APPLICABLE.
24	SECTION 2. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-2-117, amend
25	(1)(b)(V) and $(1)(b)(VI)$; and add $(1)(b)(VII)$ as follows:
26	22-2-117. Additional power - state board - waiver of
27	requirements - rules. (1) (b) The state board shall not waive any of the

1	requirements specified in any of the following statutory provisions:
2	(V) The "Children's Internet Protection Act", article 87 of this title
3	22; or
4	(VI) The requirement to post on the internet the statutes for which
5	waivers are granted as provided in section 22-44-305; OR
6	(VII) ANY PROVISIONS OF SECTION 22-1-130 RELATING TO
7	NOTIFICATION TO PARENTS OF ALLEGED CRIMINAL CONDUCT BY SCHOOL
8	DISTRICT EMPLOYEES.
9	SECTION 3. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-30.5-104, amend
10	(6)(c)(V) and (6)(c)(VI); and add (6)(c)(VII) as follows:
11	22-30.5-104. Charter school - requirements - authority - rules.
12	(6) (c) A school district, on behalf of a charter school, may apply to the
13	state board for a waiver of a state statute or state rule that is not an
14	automatic waiver. Notwithstanding any provision of this subsection (6)
15	to the contrary, the state board may not waive any statute or rule relating
16	to:
17	(V) The "Children's Internet Protection Act", article 87 of this title
18	22; or
19	(VI) The requirement to post on the internet the statutes for which
20	waivers are granted as provided in section 22-44-305; OR
21	(VII) ANY PROVISIONS OF SECTION 22-1-130, RELATING TO
22	NOTIFICATION TO PARENTS OF ALLEGED CRIMINAL CONDUCT BY CHARTER
23	SCHOOL EMPLOYEES.
24	SECTION 4. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-30.5-507, amend
25	(7)(b)(V) and $(7)(b)(VI)$; and add $(7)(b)(VII)$ as follows:
26	22-30.5-507. Institute charter school - requirements -
27	authority - rules. (7) (b) An institute charter school may apply to the

1	state board, through the institute, for a waiver of state statutes and state
2	rules that are not automatic waivers. The state board may waive state
3	statutory requirements or rules promulgated by the state board; except that
4	the state board may not waive any statute or rule relating to:
5	(V) The "Children's Internet Protection Act", article 87 of this title
6	22; or
7	(VI) The requirement to post on the internet the statutes for which
8	waivers are granted as provided in section 22-44-305; OR
9	(VII) ANY PROVISIONS OF SECTION 22-1-130, RELATING TO
10	NOTIFICATION TO PARENTS OF ALLEGED CRIMINAL CONDUCT BY INSTITUTE
11	CHARTER SCHOOL EMPLOYEES.
12	SECTION 5. Act subject to petition - effective date. This act
13	takes effect August 15, 2018; except that, if a referendum petition is filed
14	
	pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V of the state constitution against this
15	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 the ninety-day period
15 16	
	act or an item, section, or part of this act within the ninety-day period
16	act or an item, section, or part of this act within the ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly, then the act, item,
16 17	act or an item, section, or part of this act within the ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly, then the act, item, section, or part will not take effect unless approved by the people at the