

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

REVISED

*This Version Includes All Amendments Adopted
on Second Reading in the Second House*

LLS NO. 20-0663.01 Jane Ritter x4342

HOUSE BILL 20-1312

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A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 **CONCERNING BEHAVIORAL HEALTH TRAINING REQUIREMENTS FOR**
102 **EDUCATOR LICENSURE.**

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>.)

The bill creates a requirement that of the 90 hours of professional development training currently required for educator licensure renewal during the term of the educator's license, at least 10 of those hours must include some form of behavioral health training that is culturally responsive and trauma- and evidence-informed.

The bill requires teacher preparation programs to include in

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

SENATE
2nd Reading Unamended
June 10, 2020

HOUSE
3rd Reading Unamended
June 9, 2020

HOUSE
Amended 2nd Reading
June 8, 2020

program graduation requirements that each teacher candidate in an initial educator licensure program complete at least 10 hours of behavioral health training that is culturally responsive and trauma- and evidence-informed.

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

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-60.5-110, **amend**
3 **as amended by House Bill 20-1128** (3)(b) introductory portion, (3)(b)(I),
4 (3)(b.5), and (3)(c)(XI); **amend as added by House Bill 20-1128**
5 (3)(b.7)(I); and **add** (3)(f) as follows:

6 **22-60.5-110. Renewal of licenses.** (3) (b) A professional licensee
7 shall complete such ongoing professional development within the period
8 of time for which such professional license is valid. Such professional
9 development may include but need not be limited to in-service education
10 programs, including ~~programs concerning juvenile mental health issues~~
11 ~~and the awareness and prevention of youth suicide~~; training in preventing,
12 identifying, and responding to child sexual abuse and assault;
13 BEHAVIORAL HEALTH TRAINING THAT IS CULTURALLY RESPONSIVE AND
14 TRAUMA- AND EVIDENCE-INFORMED; and laws and practices relating to the
15 education of students with disabilities in the classroom, including but not
16 limited to child find and inclusive learning environments; college or
17 university credit from an accepted institution of higher education or a
18 community, technical, or local district college; educational travel that
19 meets the requirements specified in subsection (3)(d) of this section;
20 involvement in school reform; service as a mentor teacher for teacher
21 candidates participating in clinical practice, as defined in section
22 23-78-103; internships; and ongoing professional development training
23 and experiences. The state board of education, by rule, may establish

1 minimum criteria for professional development; except that such criteria
2 shall not:

3 (I) Specify any particular type of professional development
4 activity as a requirement or partial requirement for license renewal,
5 except as provided in subsection (3)(b.7) OR (3)(f) of this section;

6 (b.5) In adopting minimum criteria for professional development
7 activities, the state board, by rule, may require all or a portion of the
8 professional development activities to be related to increasing the license
9 holder's competence in his or her existing or potential endorsement area;
10 increasing the professional licensee's skills and competence in delivery
11 of instruction in his or her existing or potential endorsement area; the
12 teaching of literacy; INCREASING AWARENESS AND KNOWLEDGE OF
13 BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CONCERNS, RESPONSES, AND STRATEGIES; or
14 increasing awareness of laws and practices relating to educating students
15 with disabilities in the classroom, including but not limited to child find
16 and inclusive learning environments.

17 (b.7) (I) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (3)(f) OF THIS
18 SECTION FOR RENEWAL OF A PROFESSIONAL TEACHER LICENSE, in selecting
19 professional development activities for renewal of a ~~professional teacher,~~
20 special services, principal, or administrator license, in addition to the
21 other requirements set forth in this section, the ~~professional~~ SPECIAL
22 SERVICES, PRINCIPAL, OR ADMINISTRATOR licensee shall complete A
23 MINIMUM OF ten of the clock hours of professional development HOURS
24 required during the term of any ~~professional~~ SPECIAL SERVICES,
25 PRINCIPAL, OR ADMINISTRATOR license in professional development
26 activities relating to increasing awareness of laws and practices relating
27 to educating students with disabilities in the classroom, including but not

1 limited to child find and inclusive learning environments.

2 (c) In selecting professional development activities for the
3 renewal of a professional license pursuant to this section, each licensee
4 shall choose those activities that will aid the licensee in meeting the
5 standards for a professional educator, including but not limited to the
6 following goals:

7 (XI) Awareness of warning signs of dangerous behavior in youth
8 and situations that present a threat to the health and safety of students and
9 knowledge of the community resources available to enhance the health
10 and safety of students and the school community, YOUTH MENTAL
11 HEALTH, SAFE DE-ESCALATION OF CRISIS SITUATIONS, RECOGNITION OF
12 SIGNS OF POOR MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE USE, AND SUPPORT OF
13 STUDENTS. TRAINING PROVIDED PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION (3)(c)(XI)
14 MUST BE PROVIDED USING CULTURALLY RESPONSIVE AND TRAUMA- AND
15 EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICES; and

16 (f) (I) IN SELECTING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES FOR
17 RENEWAL OF A PROFESSIONAL TEACHER LICENSE ONLY, IN ADDITION TO
18 THE OTHER REQUIREMENTS SET FORTH IN THIS SECTION, EXCEPT FOR
19 THOSE SET FORTH FOR SPECIAL SERVICES, PRINCIPAL, OR ADMINISTRATOR
20 LICENSES IN SUBSECTION (3)(b.7) OF THIS SECTION, THE PROFESSIONAL
21 TEACHER LICENSEE SHALL COMPLETE A MINIMUM OF TEN CLOCK HOURS OF
22 THE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT HOURS REQUIRED DURING THE TERM OF
23 ANY PROFESSIONAL LICENSE IN TRAINING RELATING TO:

24 (A) BEHAVIORAL HEALTH TRAINING THAT IS CULTURALLY
25 RESPONSIVE AND TRAUMA- AND EVIDENCE-INFORMED; AND

26 (B) INCREASING AWARENESS OF LAWS AND PRACTICES RELATING
27 TO EDUCATING STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES IN THE CLASSROOM,

1 INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO CHILD FIND AND INCLUSIVE LEARNING
2 ENVIRONMENTS.

3 (II) THE TEN CLOCK HOURS REQUIRED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION
4 (3)(f)(I) OF THIS SECTION MAY BE OBTAINED THROUGH ANY COMBINATION
5 OF COURSES RELATED TO SUBSECTION (3)(f)(I) OF THIS SECTION, SO LONG
6 AS AT LEAST ONE OF THE REQUIRED CLOCK HOURS IS RELATED TO
7 BEHAVIORAL HEALTH TRAINING THAT IS CULTURALLY RESPONSIVE AND
8 TRAUMA- AND EVIDENCE-INFORMED AND ONE OF THE REQUIRED CLOCK
9 HOURS IS RELATED TO INCREASING AWARENESS OF LAWS AND PRACTICES
10 RELATING TO EDUCATING STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES IN THE
11 CLASSROOM, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO CHILD FIND AND INCLUSIVE
12 LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS.

13 (III) A PROFESSIONAL TEACHER LICENSEE WHO HAS LESS THAN
14 THREE YEARS LEFT IN THE LICENSE RENEWAL PERIOD ON JUNE 30, 2020,
15 HAS UNTIL THE END OF THE NEXT APPLICABLE RENEWAL PERIOD TO
16 COMPLETE THE REQUIREMENTS ESTABLISHED IN SUBSECTION (3)(f)(I) OF
17 THIS SECTION AND MAY SUBMIT CLASSES AND ACTIVITIES COMPLETED
18 WITHIN FIVE YEARS PRIOR TO JUNE 30, 2020, TO SATISFY THE
19 REQUIREMENTS OF SUBSECTION (3)(f)(I) OF THIS SECTION.

20 (IV) NOTHING IN SUBSECTION (3)(f)(I) OF THIS SECTION PROHIBITS
21 A PROFESSIONAL TEACHER LICENSEE FROM APPLYING A SINGLE
22 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT COURSE OR ACTIVITY TO ONE OR MORE
23 CONTENT OR HOURLY REQUIREMENTS ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO THIS
24 SECTION OR BY RULE OF THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION.

25 (V) THE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH TRAINING REQUIRED PURSUANT TO
26 SUBSECTION (3)(f)(I) OF THIS SECTION MAY INCLUDE PROGRAMS SUCH AS:

27 (A) MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID SPECIFIC TO YOUTH AND TEENS;

- 1 (B) STAFF DEVELOPMENT TRAINING MODULES CONCERNING HOW
- 2 TO PREVENT TEEN SUICIDE;
- 3 (C) INTERCONNECTED SYSTEMS FRAMEWORK FOR POSITIVE
- 4 BEHAVIORAL INTERVENTIONS AND SUPPORTS AND MENTAL HEALTH;
- 5 (D) TRAINING APPROVED OR PROVIDED BY THE SCHOOL DISTRICT
- 6 WHERE THE TEACHER IS EMPLOYED;
- 7 (E) TRAINING CONCERNING STUDENTS WITH BEHAVIORAL
- 8 CONCERNS OR DISABILITIES;
- 9 (F) TRAINING MODULES CONCERNING CHILD TRAUMATIC STRESS;
- 10 AND
- 11 (G) ANY OTHER PROGRAM OR TRAINING THAT MEETS THE
- 12 REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SUBSECTION (3)(f).

13 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 23-1-121, **add**
14 (2)(d.5) as follows:

15 **23-1-121. Commission directive - approval of educator**
16 **preparation programs - review.** (2) The commission shall adopt
17 policies establishing the requirements for educator preparation programs
18 offered by institutions of higher education. The department shall work in
19 cooperation with the state board of education in developing the
20 requirements for educator preparation programs. At a minimum, the
21 requirements must ensure that each educator preparation program
22 complies with section 23-1-125, is designed on a performance-based
23 model, and includes:

- 24 (d.5) A REQUIREMENT THAT EACH TEACHER CANDIDATE IN AN
- 25 INITIAL LICENSURE PROGRAM COMPLETE AT LEAST ONE SEMESTER OR
- 26 QUARTER-LENGTH COURSE IN BEHAVIORAL HEALTH TRAINING USING
- 27 CULTURALLY RESPONSIVE AND TRAUMA- AND EVIDENCE-INFORMED

1 PRACTICES;

2 **SECTION 3. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds,
3 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate
4 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety.