

CHAPTER 62

EDUCATION - PUBLIC SCHOOLS

SENATE BILL 20-014

BY SENATOR(S) Fields, Bridges, Crowder, Donovan, Gardner, Ginal, Gonzales, Hansen, Lee, Moreno, Priola, Story, Tate, Todd, Williams A., Winter;
 also REPRESENTATIVE(S) Michaelson Jenet and Cutter, Arndt, Bird, Buckner, Buentello, Caraveo, Coleman, Duran, Esgar, Exum, Froelich, Gonzales-Gutierrez, Gray, Herod, Hooton, Jackson, Jaquez Lewis, Kennedy, Kipp, Kraft-Tharp, Lontine, McCluskie, McLachlan, Melton, Mullica, Singer, Sirota, Snyder, Sullivan, Tipper, Titone, Valdez A., Valdez D., Van Winkle, Weissman, Wilson, Woodrow, Young, Becker.

AN ACT**CONCERNING EXCUSED ABSENCES IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS RESULTING FROM BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CONCERNS.**

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

SECTION 1. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-33-104, **amend** (2)(c) and (4)(a) as follows:

22-33-104. Compulsory school attendance. (2) The provisions of subsection (1) of this section shall not apply to a child:

(c) Who is absent for an extended period due to ~~physical, mental, or emotional disability~~ A PHYSICAL DISABILITY OR A MENTAL OR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH DISORDER;

(4) (a) The board of education shall adopt a written policy setting forth the district's attendance requirements. ~~Said~~ THE policy ~~shall~~ MUST provide for excused absences, including those listed as exclusions from compulsory school attendance in accordance with subsection (2) of this section, AS WELL AS TEMPORARY ABSENCES DUE TO BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CONCERNS. An attendance policy developed pursuant to this section may include appropriate penalties for nonattendance due to unexcused absence.

Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material added to existing law; dashes through words or numbers indicate deletions from existing law and such material is not part of the act.

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, or safety.

Approved: March 23, 2020