

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

PREAMENDED

*This Unofficial Version Includes Committee
Amendments Not Yet Adopted on Second Reading*

LLS NO. 22-0568.01 Julie Pelegrin x2700

SENATE BILL 22-004

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Rankin and Bridges,

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

McCluskie,

Senate Committees

Education
Appropriations

House Committees

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 **CONCERNING MEASURES TO SUPPORT EVIDENCE-BASED LITERACY**
102 **INSTRUCTION FOR STUDENTS IN EARLY GRADES.**

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>.)

By the beginning of the 2023-24 school year and continuing thereafter, the bill requires each school district, board of cooperative services, and charter school (local education provider) to ensure that the principal in a school that serves kindergarten or any of grades one through 3 and each school district administrator with responsibility that pertains to programs in kindergarten or any of grades one through 3 to

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.

successfully complete evidence-based training in the science of reading. The local education provider may request a one-year extension from the state board of education to ensure that the teachers, principals, and administrators whom it employs meet the training requirements. Each local education provider must submit to the department of education (department) evidence that it is in compliance with the principal and administrator training requirements to receive per-pupil intervention money in a budget year.

The bill requires the board of trustees for each public library to adopt a policy by January 1, 2023, to support parents and children in improving literacy through the science of reading. The policy must include a requirement that:

- Each librarian successfully complete evidence-based training in the science of reading;
- The director of the board of trustees maintain an accurate list on the library website of the librarians who successfully complete the training; and
- The director of the board of trustees identify materials and activities for parents and children to improve literacy and ensure that the materials and activities are available in the public library and are updated monthly.

Upon request of a local education provider or the board of trustees of a public library, the department shall provide training in the science of reading to principals and administrators of the local education provider and librarians of the public library for free.

The bill directs the state librarian to work with public libraries throughout the state to facilitate access to evidence-based training in the science of reading for librarians and assist in identifying materials and activities for parents and children to improve literacy.

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

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-7-1208, **amend**
3 (6)(d); and **add** (6.5) and (6.7) as follows:

4 **22-7-1208. Local education providers - procedures - plans -**
5 **training - rules.** (6) (d) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection
6 (6)(a) of this section, a local education provider that is not in compliance
7 with the requirements of this subsection (6) as of the beginning of the
8 2022-23 school year or for a subsequent school year may request a

1 one-year extension from the ~~department~~ STATE BOARD based on a
2 demonstration of good cause for inability to comply.

3 (6.5) (a) BY THE BEGINNING OF THE 2024-25 SCHOOL YEAR AND
4 CONTINUING FOR EACH SCHOOL YEAR THEREAFTER, EACH LOCAL
5 EDUCATION PROVIDER THAT RECEIVES PER-PUPIL INTERVENTION MONEY
6 OR A GRANT THROUGH THE EARLY LITERACY GRANT PROGRAM IN ANY
7 BUDGET YEAR STARTING WITH THE 2023-24 BUDGET YEAR SHALL ENSURE
8 THAT EACH PRINCIPAL IN A SCHOOL THAT SERVES KINDERGARTEN OR ANY
9 OF GRADES ONE THROUGH THREE AND EACH ADMINISTRATOR WITH
10 RESPONSIBILITY THAT PERTAINS TO PROGRAMS IN KINDERGARTEN OR ANY
11 OF GRADES ONE THROUGH THREE SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETES OR HAS
12 SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED EVIDENCE-BASED TRAINING DESIGNED FOR
13 SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS IN THE SCIENCE OF READING. THE
14 EVIDENCE-BASED TRAINING IN THE SCIENCE OF READING MUST INCLUDE
15 THE CONCEPTS OF PHONEMIC AWARENESS, PHONICS, VOCABULARY
16 DEVELOPMENT, READING FLUENCY, INCLUDING ORAL SKILLS, AND
17 READING COMPREHENSION TO ASSIST PRINCIPALS IN COACHING AND
18 EVALUATING TEACHERS. THE TRAINING MUST ALSO INCLUDE TOPICS
19 RELATED TO IMPLEMENTING SCHOOLWIDE SCIENTIFICALLY BASED AND
20 EVIDENCE-BASED READING PROGRAMMING. TO COMPLY WITH THIS
21 SUBSECTION (6.5)(a), A LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER SHALL SUBMIT
22 VERIFICATION THAT EACH PRINCIPAL AND ADMINISTRATOR DESCRIBED IN
23 THIS SUBSECTION (6.5)(a) HAS SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED
24 EVIDENCE-BASED TRAINING IN THE SCIENCE OF READING THAT IS:

25 (I) INCLUDED AS A COURSE IN AN APPROVED PROGRAM OF
26 PREPARATION, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 22-60.5-102(8) FOR PRINCIPALS OR
27 ADMINISTRATORS, OR AN INDIVIDUALIZED ALTERNATIVE PRINCIPAL

1 PROGRAM, OR OTHER ALTERNATIVE PRINCIPAL PROGRAM, APPROVED
2 PURSUANT TO SECTION 22-60.5-305.5;

3 (II) INCLUDED AS A COURSE IN A POST-GRADUATE DEGREE
4 PROGRAM IN TEACHING READING OR LITERACY;

5 (III) PROVIDED BY THE DEPARTMENT OR INCLUDED ON THE
6 ADVISORY LIST OF RIGOROUS PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS
7 PROVIDED BY THE DEPARTMENT PURSUANT TO SECTION 22-7-1209 (2)(c);

8 OR

9 (IV) PROVIDED BY A LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER OR IS
10 APPROPRIATE FOR LICENSE RENEWAL PURSUANT TO SECTION 22-60.5-110
11 (3).

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13 (b) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL PROVIDE, AT NO COST, TRAINING FOR
14 ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS TO MEET THE REQUIREMENTS
15 SPECIFIED IN SUBSECTION (6.5)(a) OF THIS SECTION.

16 (c) NOTWITHSTANDING SUBSECTION (6.5)(a) OF THIS SECTION, A
17 LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER THAT IS NOT IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE
18 REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SUBSECTION (6.5) AS OF THE BEGINNING OF THE
19 2024-25 SCHOOL YEAR OR FOR A SUBSEQUENT SCHOOL YEAR MAY
20 REQUEST A ONE-YEAR EXTENSION FROM THE STATE BOARD BASED ON A
21 DEMONSTRATION OF GOOD CAUSE FOR INABILITY TO COMPLY.

22 (d) THE STATE BOARD MAY ADOPT RULES AS NECESSARY TO
23 SPECIFY THE CONTENT AND MINIMUM NUMBER OF HOURS REQUIRED FOR
24 THE TRAINING DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (6.5)(a) OF THIS SECTION; THE
25 TIME FRAMES AND PROCEDURES FOR COMPLYING WITH THE REQUIREMENTS
26 SPECIFIED IN SUBSECTION (6.5)(a) OF THIS SECTION AND FOR APPLYING FOR
27 AN EXTENSION PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (6.5)(c) OF THIS SECTION; AND

1 THE FORM IN WHICH A LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER MUST SUBMIT
2 VERIFICATION OF THE COMPLETION OF THE TRAINING REQUIRED IN
3 SUBSECTION (6.5)(a) OF THIS SECTION. ___

4 (6.7) (a) BY THE BEGINNING OF THE 2024-25 SCHOOL YEAR AND
5 CONTINUING FOR EACH SCHOOL YEAR THEREAFTER, EACH LOCAL
6 EDUCATION PROVIDER THAT RECEIVES PER-PUPIL INTERVENTION MONEY
7 OR A GRANT THROUGH THE EARLY LITERACY GRANT PROGRAM IN ANY
8 BUDGET YEAR STARTING WITH THE 2023-24 BUDGET YEAR SHALL ENSURE
9 THAT EACH READING SPECIALIST EMPLOYED TO TEACH STUDENTS IN ANY
10 OF GRADES FOUR THROUGH TWELVE SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETES OR HAS
11 SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED EVIDENCE-BASED TRAINING IN TEACHING
12 READING AS DESCRIBED FOR TEACHERS IN SUBSECTION (6) OF THIS
13 SECTION. TO COMPLY WITH THIS SUBSECTION (6.7)(a), A LOCAL
14 EDUCATION PROVIDER SHALL SUBMIT EVIDENCE THAT EACH READING
15 SPECIALIST EMPLOYED TO TEACH STUDENTS IN ANY OF GRADES FOUR
16 THROUGH TWELVE HAS PASSED AN END-OF-COURSE ASSESSMENT OF
17 LEARNING AT THE COMPLETION OF THE EVIDENCE-BASED TRAINING.

18 (b) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL PROVIDE, AT NO COST, TRAINING FOR
19 READING SPECIALISTS TO MEET THE REQUIREMENTS SPECIFIED IN
20 SUBSECTION (6.7)(a) OF THIS SECTION.

21 (c) NOTWITHSTANDING SUBSECTION (6.7)(a) OF THIS SECTION, A
22 LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER THAT IS NOT IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE
23 REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SUBSECTION (6.7) AS OF THE BEGINNING OF THE
24 2024-25 SCHOOL YEAR OR FOR A SUBSEQUENT SCHOOL YEAR MAY
25 REQUEST A ONE-YEAR EXTENSION FROM THE STATE BOARD BASED ON A
26 DEMONSTRATION OF GOOD CAUSE FOR INABILITY TO COMPLY.

27 (d) THE STATE BOARD MAY ADOPT RULES AS NECESSARY TO

1 SPECIFY THE CONTENT AND MINIMUM NUMBER OF HOURS REQUIRED FOR
2 TRAINING FOR READING SPECIALISTS REQUIRED IN SUBSECTION (6.7)(a) OF
3 THIS SECTION; TIME FRAMES AND PROCEDURES FOR COMPLYING WITH THE
4 REQUIREMENTS SPECIFIED IN SUBSECTION (6.7)(a) OF THIS SECTION AND
5 FOR APPLYING FOR AN EXTENSION PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (6.7)(c) OF
6 THIS SECTION; AND THE FORM IN WHICH A LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER
7 MUST SUBMIT EVIDENCE OF THE COMPLETION OF AN END-OF-COURSE
8 ASSESSMENT OF LEARNING AS REQUIRED IN SUBSECTION (6.7)(a) OF THIS
9 SECTION.

10 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-7-1209, **amend**
11 (2)(c) introductory portion as follows:

12 **22-7-1209. State board - rules - department - duties.**

13 (2) (c) Using the procedure developed pursuant to subsection (3) of this
14 section, the department shall create an advisory list of rigorous
15 professional development programs ~~that~~ FOR TEACHERS, READING
16 SPECIALISTS, PRINCIPALS, AND ADMINISTRATORS, WHICH PROGRAMS are
17 related to addressing significant reading deficiencies and to applying
18 intervention instruction and strategies, in addition to programs related to
19 teaching general literacy, that local education providers are encouraged
20 to use. The department shall include on the advisory list professional
21 development programs that are available online. The department shall
22 ensure that each professional development program included on the
23 advisory list is:

24 **SECTION 3.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-7-1210, **amend**
25 (4)(d)(I)(E) as follows:

26 **22-7-1210. Early literacy fund - created.** (4) The money in the
27 fund is subject to annual appropriation by the general assembly to the

1 department. The department shall annually expend the money in the fund
2 as follows:

3 (d) (I) Beginning in the 2020-21 budget year and for budget years
4 thereafter, the department shall annually expend the money credited to the
5 early literacy fund for the following purposes:

6 (E) To pay the costs incurred in providing to local education
7 providers technical assistance in implementing this part 12, ~~and~~ training
8 in teaching reading for teachers employed to teach kindergarten and
9 grades one through three AND FOR READING SPECIALISTS EMPLOYED TO
10 TEACH GRADES FOUR THROUGH TWELVE, TRAINING FOR PRINCIPALS AND
11 ADMINISTRATORS PURSUANT TO SECTION 22-7-1208 (6.5), AND TRAINING
12 FOR LIBRARIANS PURSUANT TO SECTION 24-90-121; monitoring the use of
13 money received as per-pupil intervention money or grants through the
14 early literacy grant program; and fulfilling the administrative
15 requirements specified in this part 12.

16 **SECTION 4.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-7-1210.5, **amend**
17 (4)(g); and **add** (3)(b)(II.5) as follows:

18 **22-7-1210.5. Per-pupil intervention money - uses - distribution**
19 **- monitoring - repeal.** (3) (b) To receive per-pupil intervention money
20 in a budget year, a local education provider must meet the following
21 requirements:

22 (II.5) FOR THE 2024-25 BUDGET YEAR AND BUDGET YEARS
23 THEREAFTER, THE LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER MUST SUBMIT EVIDENCE
24 THAT IT IS IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE PRINCIPAL AND ADMINISTRATOR
25 TRAINING REQUIREMENTS SPECIFIED IN SECTION 22-7-1208 (6.5) AND THE
26 READING SPECIALIST TRAINING REQUIREMENTS SPECIFIED IN SECTION
27 22-7-1208 (6.7);

1 (4) A local education provider may use the per-pupil intervention
2 money only as follows:

3 (g) To provide professional development programming to support
4 educators in teaching reading. Professional development programming
5 authorized in this subsection (4)(g) may include hiring a reading coach
6 who is trained in teaching the foundational reading skills of phonemic
7 awareness, phonics, vocabulary development, reading fluency, including
8 oral skills, and reading comprehension to provide job-embedded, ongoing
9 professional development to support kindergarten-through-third-grade
10 teacher competence in teaching phonemic awareness, phonics, vocabulary
11 development, reading fluency, including oral skills, and reading
12 comprehension. A local education provider that has not fully complied
13 with ~~section 22-7-1208 (6)~~ SECTION 22-7-1208 (6), (6.5), OR (6.7) is
14 strongly encouraged to use per-pupil intervention money to ensure that all
15 teachers employed by the local education provider to teach kindergarten
16 or any of grades one through three AND ALL READING SPECIALISTS
17 EMPLOYED TO TEACH GRADES FOUR THROUGH TWELVE successfully
18 complete evidence-based training in teaching reading, AND THE
19 PRINCIPALS AND ADMINISTRATORS DESCRIBED IN SECTION 22-7-1208
20 (6.5)(a) SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETE EVIDENCE-BASED TRAINING IN THE
21 SCIENCE OF READING, before using the money for other authorized
22 purposes.

23 **SECTION 5.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 24-90-121 as
24 follows:

25 **24-90-121. Public libraries - science of reading - training -**
26 **report - definitions.** (1) AS USED IN THIS SECTION, UNLESS THE CONTEXT
27 OTHERWISE REQUIRES:

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(a) "DIRECTOR" MEANS THE DIRECTOR OF A BOARD OF TRUSTEES EMPLOYED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES PURSUANT TO SECTION 24-90-109 (1)(c).

(b) "EVIDENCE-BASED TRAINING IN THE SCIENCE OF READING" OR "TRAINING" MEANS TRAINING THAT:

- (I) IS BASED ON RELIABLE, TRUSTWORTHY, AND VALID EVIDENCE;
- (II) INCLUDES EXPLANATION AND INSTRUCTION IN THE AREAS OF PHONEMIC AWARENESS, PHONICS, VOCABULARY DEVELOPMENT, READING FLUENCY, INCLUDING ORAL SKILLS, AND READING COMPREHENSION; AND
- (III) IS INCLUDED ON THE ADVISORY LIST OF RIGOROUS PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS CREATED AND MAINTAINED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PURSUANT TO SECTION 22-7-1209 (2)(c).

(2) (a) THE DIRECTOR OF EACH PUBLIC LIBRARY IS ENCOURAGED TO WORK WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO PROVIDE EVIDENCE-BASED TRAINING IN THE SCIENCE OF READING FOR EACH LIBRARIAN WHO WORKS WITH CHILDREN ENROLLED IN PRESCHOOL, KINDERGARTEN, OR EARLY ELEMENTARY GRADES. IN ADDITION, THE DIRECTOR IS ENCOURAGED TO IDENTIFY AND PROVIDE IN THE LIBRARY MATERIALS AND ACTIVITIES FOR PARENTS AND CHILDREN TO IMPROVE LITERACY, WHICH MATERIALS AND ACTIVITIES ARE APPROPRIATE FOR PRESCHOOL, KINDERGARTEN THROUGH SECOND GRADE, AND THIRD THROUGH SIXTH GRADE AND ARE DESIGNED TO IMPROVE READING COMPETENCY IN THE AREAS OF PHONEMIC AWARENESS; PHONICS; VOCABULARY DEVELOPMENT; READING FLUENCY, INCLUDING ORAL SKILLS; AND READING COMPREHENSION.

(b) AT THE REQUEST OF A DIRECTOR, THE DEPARTMENT OF

1 EDUCATION SHALL PROVIDE, AT NO COST TO THE PUBLIC LIBRARY,
2 EVIDENCE-BASED TRAINING IN THE SCIENCE OF READING TO ONE OR MORE
3 LIBRARIANS WHO ARE EMPLOYED BY THE PUBLIC LIBRARY.

4 (3) THE DIRECTOR OF EACH PUBLIC LIBRARY MAY PREPARE A PLAN
5 DESCRIBING HOW THE DIRECTOR AND THE LIBRARIANS EMPLOYED AT THE
6 LIBRARY WILL WORK WITH CHILDREN AND THEIR PARENTS TO SUPPORT
7 LITERACY USING MATERIALS, ACTIVITIES, AND STRATEGIES THAT ARE
8 SUPPORTED BY THE SCIENCE OF READING. THE DIRECTOR SHALL SUBMIT
9 THE PLAN TO THE STATE LIBRARIAN BY JULY 1, 2024.

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11 **SECTION 6.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-90-105, **add**
12 (2)(g) as follows:

13 **24-90-105. Powers and duties of state librarian.** (2) The state
14 librarian has the following powers and duties with respect to other
15 publicly supported libraries in the state:

16 (g) TO WORK WITH PUBLIC LIBRARIES THROUGHOUT THE STATE TO
17 FACILITATE ACCESS TO EVIDENCE-BASED TRAINING IN THE SCIENCE OF
18 READING, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 24-90-121, FOR LIBRARIANS AND ASSIST
19 IN IDENTIFYING MATERIALS AND ACTIVITIES FOR PARENTS AND CHILDREN
20 TO IMPROVE LITERACY, AS DESCRIBED IN SECTION 24-90-121.

21 **SECTION 7. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act
22 takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the
23 ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly; except
24 that, if a referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V
25 of the state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this
26 act within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take

1 effect unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in
2 November 2022 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the
3 official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.