

Second Regular Session
Seventy-fourth General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 24-0548.01 Jacob Baus x2173

HOUSE BILL 24-1282

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Martinez and Pugliese,

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Coleman,

House Committees
Education

Senate Committees

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 CONCERNING MEASURES TO INCREASE THE SUCCESS RATES OF
102 NINTH-GRADE STUDENTS IN PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOLS IN
103 COLORADO.

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>.)

Under current law, the ninth-grade success grant program (grant program) provides funding to local education providers and charter schools to implement a ninth-grade success program to assist students in ninth grade to develop the skills needed to successfully graduate high school and succeed in their education and careers. Beginning in the

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

2024-25 state fiscal year, and for each year thereafter, the bill requires the general assembly to annually appropriate \$2.8 million for the grant program.

Under current law, the office of dropout prevention and student re-engagement (office) submits an annual report to the state board of education, education committees of the house of representatives and senate, and the governor regarding findings and recommendations to reduce the student dropout rate and increase graduation and completion rates. Starting with the report submitted in March 2026, the bill requires the office to include certain ninth-grade performance measures for each public school, school district, the charter school institute, and the state as a whole.

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

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-14-109.5, **repeal**
3 (8); and **add** (7.7) as follows:

4 **22-14-109.5. Ninth-grade success grant program - created -**
5 **criteria - use of grant money - appropriation - report - rules -**
6 **definitions.** (7.7) FOR THE 2024-25 STATE FISCAL YEAR, AND EACH STATE
7 FISCAL YEAR THEREAFTER, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SHALL ANNUALLY
8 APPROPRIATE TWO MILLION EIGHT HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS FROM
9 THE GENERAL FUND TO THE DEPARTMENT FOR PURPOSES OF THE PROGRAM.

10 (8) ~~This section is repealed, effective July 1, 2025.~~

11 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-14-111, **add** (2.5)
12 as follows:

13 **22-14-111. Report to general assembly, state board, and**
14 **governor - exception to three-year expiration.** (2.5) (a) BEGINNING
15 WITH THE REPORT SUBMITTED PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION ON MARCH 15,
16 2026, THE OFFICE SHALL INCLUDE INFORMATION REGARDING
17 NINTH-GRADE PERFORMANCE. AT A MINIMUM, THE FOLLOWING MEASURES
18 MUST BE INCLUDED:

19 (I) FOR EACH PUBLIC SCHOOL THAT SERVES THE NINTH GRADE, THE

1 DEPARTMENT SHALL CALCULATE THE PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS WHO, AT
2 THE COMPLETION OF THE NINTH GRADE, HAVE SATISFIED ALL OF THE
3 FOLLOWING:

4 (A) EARNED ONE-FOURTH OR MORE OF THE TOTAL NUMBER OF
5 CREDITS REQUIRED TO GRADUATE FROM HIGH SCHOOL;

6 (B) FAILED ONE COURSE OR FEWER; AND

7 (C) PASSED ALL ATTEMPTED COURSES THAT ARE REQUIRED IN
8 ORDER TO GRADUATE FROM HIGH SCHOOL;

9 (II) FOR EACH SCHOOL DISTRICT AND THE CHARTER SCHOOL
10 INSTITUTE, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL CALCULATE THE PERCENTAGE OF
11 STUDENTS WHO, AT THE COMPLETION OF THE NINTH GRADE, HAVE:
12 SATISFIED ALL OF THE FOLLOWING:

13 (A) EARNED ONE-FOURTH OR MORE OF THE TOTAL NUMBER OF
14 CREDITS REQUIRED TO GRADUATE FROM HIGH SCHOOL;

15 (B) FAILED ONE COURSE OR FEWER; AND

16 (C) PASSED ALL ATTEMPTED COURSES THAT ARE REQUIRED IN
17 ORDER TO GRADUATE FROM HIGH SCHOOL; AND

18 (III) FOR THE STATE, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL CALCULATE THE
19 PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS WHO, AT THE COMPLETION OF THE NINTH
20 GRADE, HAVE SATISFIED ALL OF THE FOLLOWING:

21 (A) EARNED ONE-FOURTH OR MORE OF THE TOTAL NUMBER OF
22 CREDITS REQUIRED TO GRADUATE FROM HIGH SCHOOL;

23 (B) FAILED ONE COURSE OR FEWER; AND

24 (C) PASSED ALL ATTEMPTED COURSES THAT ARE REQUIRED IN
25 ORDER TO GRADUATE FROM HIGH SCHOOL.

26 (b) IN PERFORMING THEIR DUTIES PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION
27 (2.5), THE DEPARTMENT, THE OFFICE, EACH SCHOOL DISTRICT, THE

1 CHARTER SCHOOL INSTITUTE, AND EACH PUBLIC SCHOOL SHALL COMPLY
2 WITH THE FEDERAL AND STATE LAWS REGARDING PRIVACY, INCLUDING
3 THE FEDERAL "FAMILY EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS AND PRIVACY RIGHTS ACT
4 OF 1974", 20 U.S.C. SEC. 1232G, AS AMENDED, AND ITS IMPLEMENTING
5 REGULATIONS, AND THE "STUDENT DATA TRANSPARENCY AND SECURITY
6 ACT" CREATED PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 16 OF THIS TITLE 22, AS AMENDED,
7 AND ITS IMPLEMENTING RULES.

8 **SECTION 3. Safety clause.** The general assembly finds,
9 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate
10 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety or for appropriations for
11 the support and maintenance of the departments of the state and state
12 institutions.