

**First Regular Session
Seventy-fifth General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO**

ENGROSSED

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

LLS NO. 25-0213.01 Jennifer Berman x3286

SENATE BILL 25-055

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Winter F. and Marchman,

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Joseph and Bacon,

Senate Committees
Health & Human Services

House Committees

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 **CONCERNING MEASURES TO INVOLVE YOUTH IN ENVIRONMENTAL**
102 **JUSTICE.**

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/>.)

Representative Hugh McKean Colorado Youth Advisory Council Review Committee. The environmental justice advisory board in the department of public health and environment (advisory board) advises the environmental justice ombudsperson, develops recommendations related to adverse environmental effects on disproportionately impacted communities, and supports 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.*

SENATE
2nd Reading Unamended
February 4, 2025

implementation of a grant program to finance environmental mitigation projects. **Section 1** of the bill replaces one voting member of the advisory board with a youth voting member who is between 14 and 21 years of age and adds one youth nonvoting member to the advisory board.

Section 2 requires the Colorado energy office (office), on or before December 31, 2025, to develop and post on its website best practices for the adoption and financing of clean energy resources in schools. The office is required to periodically update the best practices and post the updates on its website.

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

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 25-1-134, **amend**
3 (2)(b), (2)(c) introductory portion, (2)(c)(I), (2)(c)(III), and (2)(d)(I); and
4 **add** (2)(c)(III.5), (2)(d)(III), and (2)(d.5) as follows:

5 **25-1-134. Environmental justice - ombudsperson - advisory**
6 **board - grant program - definitions - repeal. (2) Environmental**
7 **justice advisory board.** (b) Except as otherwise provided in this
8 subsection (2), the members of the advisory board are appointed by the
9 governor. ~~The governor shall make the initial appointments as soon as~~
10 ~~practicable, but no later than four months after July 2, 2021.~~ An
11 appointing authority may remove a member of the advisory board for
12 malfeasance in office, failure to regularly attend meetings, or any cause
13 that renders the member unable or unfit to discharge the member's duties.

14 (c) The advisory board consists of the following ~~twelve~~ THIRTEEN
15 members who, to the extent practicable, must reside in different
16 geographic areas of the state, reflect the racial and ethnic diversity of the
17 state, and have experience with a range of environmental issues, including
18 air pollution, water contamination, and public health impacts:

19 (I) (A) Four voting members appointed by the governor, who must
20 be or have been residents of a disproportionately impacted community,

1 ONE OF WHOM IS AN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS FOURTEEN YEARS OF AGE OR
2 OLDER BUT LESS THAN TWENTY-TWO YEARS OF AGE AT THE TIME OF
3 APPOINTMENT.

4 (B) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (2)(c)(I)(C) OF THIS
5 SECTION, THE YOUTH VOTING MEMBER DESCRIBED IN THIS SUBSECTION
6 (2)(c)(I) IS FIRST APPOINTED AS A NONVOTING MEMBER PURSUANT TO
7 SUBSECTION (2)(c)(III.5) OF THIS SECTION AND, AFTER SERVING ONE YEAR
8 OF THE MEMBER'S TERM, BECOMES A VOTING MEMBER PURSUANT TO THIS
9 SUBSECTION (2)(c)(I) AND SUBSECTION (2)(d)(III) OF THIS SECTION FOR
10 THE REMAINDER OF THE MEMBER'S TERM.

11 (C) ON OR BEFORE SEPTEMBER 15, 2025, THE GOVERNOR SHALL
12 REPLACE ONE OF THE EXISTING VOTING MEMBERS OF THE ADVISORY
13 BOARD BY APPOINTING AN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS FOURTEEN YEARS OF AGE
14 OR OLDER BUT LESS THAN TWENTY-TWO YEARS OF AGE AT THE TIME OF
15 APPOINTMENT TO SERVE A SINGLE ONE-YEAR TERM AS A YOUTH VOTING
16 MEMBER OF THE ADVISORY BOARD. THEREAFTER, THIS YOUTH VOTING
17 MEMBER'S SEAT ON THE ADVISORY BOARD SHALL BE FILLED PURSUANT TO
18 THE PROCESS DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (2)(c)(I)(B) OF THIS SECTION.
19 THIS SUBSECTION (2)(c)(I)(C) IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026.

20 (III) The executive director of the department, or the executive
21 director's designee, as a nonvoting member; ~~and~~

22 (III.5) AN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS FOURTEEN YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER
23 BUT LESS THAN TWENTY-TWO YEARS OF AGE AT THE TIME OF
24 APPOINTMENT, AS A YOUTH NONVOTING MEMBER APPOINTED BY THE
25 GOVERNOR; AND

26 (d) (I) Except as provided in ~~subsection (2)(d)(II)~~ SUBSECTIONS
27 (2)(d)(II) AND (2)(d)(III) of this section, each member's term of

1 appointment is four years. Voting members may serve no more than two
2 terms; EXCEPT THAT A YOUTH VOTING MEMBER WHO IS FOURTEEN YEARS
3 OF AGE OR OLDER BUT LESS THAN TWENTY-TWO YEARS OF AGE AT THE
4 TIME OF APPOINTMENT MAY SERVE ONLY A SINGLE TERM. The governor
5 shall fill any vacancies on the advisory board, including for the remainder
6 of any unexpired term. A member appointed to fill a vacancy may serve
7 the remainder of the unexpired term of the member whose vacancy is
8 being filled, and this remainder counts as one term for that appointee.

9 (III) A YOUTH MEMBER WHO IS FOURTEEN YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER
10 BUT LESS THAN TWENTY-TWO YEARS OF AGE AT THE TIME OF
11 APPOINTMENT AND WHO IS APPOINTED AS A YOUTH NONVOTING MEMBER
12 PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (2)(c)(III.5) OF THIS SECTION SERVES A SINGLE
13 TWO-YEAR TERM. AFTER SERVING ONE YEAR OF THE MEMBER'S TWO-YEAR
14 TERM, THE MEMBER BECOMES A YOUTH VOTING MEMBER PURSUANT TO
15 SUBSECTION (2)(c)(I)(B) OF THIS SECTION FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE
16 MEMBER'S TERM.

17 (d.5) (I) THE GOVERNOR SHALL MAKE THE INITIAL APPOINTMENT
18 OF THE YOUTH NONVOTING MEMBER APPOINTED PURSUANT TO
19 SUBSECTION (2)(c)(III.5) OF THIS SECTION ON OR BEFORE SEPTEMBER 15,
20 2025.

21 (II) THIS SUBSECTION (2)(d.5) IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE JULY 1,
22 2026.

23 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add 24-38.5-123** as
24 follows:

25 **24-38.5-123. Best practices for clean energy resources in**
26 **schools - creation - updates - publication.** (1) ON OR BEFORE
27 DECEMBER 31, 2025, THE COLORADO ENERGY OFFICE SHALL DEVELOP

1 ANDPOST ON ITS WEBSITE BEST PRACTICES FOR ADOPTING AND FINANCING
2 CLEAN ENERGY RESOURCES IN SCHOOLS. THE BEST PRACTICES MUST
3 INCLUDE:

4 (a) A DESCRIPTION OF CLEAN ENERGY RESOURCES AND THEIR
5 COSTS AND BENEFITS;

6 (b) FOR EACH CLEAN ENERGY RESOURCE DESCRIBED IN
7 SUBSECTION (1)(a) OF THIS SECTION, A LIST OF RECOMMENDED PROVIDERS
8 OF THE CLEAN ENERGY RESOURCE IN THE STATE;

9 (c) ANY GRANTS, LOANS, AND OTHER FINANCING SOURCES
10 AVAILABLE TO SCHOOLS TO HELP FINANCE THE USE OF CLEAN ENERGY
11 RESOURCES IN SCHOOLS; AND

12 (d) RESOURCES THAT STUDENTS MAY USE IN DEVELOPING
13 PROPOSALS FOR THE ADOPTION AND FINANCING OF CLEAN ENERGY
14 RESOURCES IN THEIR SCHOOLS.

15 (2) THE COLORADO ENERGY OFFICE SHALL PERIODICALLY REVIEW
16 AND UPDATE THE BEST PRACTICES AND POST ANY UPDATES MADE TO THE
17 BEST PRACTICES ON ITS WEBSITE.

18 **SECTION 3. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act
19 takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the
20 ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly; except
21 that, if a referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V
22 of the state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this
23 act within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take
24 effect unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in
25 November 2026 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the
26 official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.