

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

**INTRODUCED**

LLS NO. 25-0570.01 Jason Gelender x4330

**HOUSE BILL 25-1037**

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**HOUSE SPONSORSHIP**

**Marshall and Soper,**

**SENATE SPONSORSHIP**

**Frizell and Mullica,**

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**House Committees**  
Finance

**Senate Committees**

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**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

101      **CONCERNING A STATE INCOME TAX CREDIT FOR A LICENSED TEACHER**  
102                    **WHO IS EMPLOYED AS A TEACHER IN A PUBLIC SCHOOL ON A**  
103                    **FULL-TIME BASIS FOR AT LEAST ONE-HALF OF AN ACADEMIC**  
104                    **YEAR.**

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**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>.)*

For income tax years commencing on or after January 1, 2025, but before January 1, 2027, the bill allows a refundable state income tax credit, which is intended to offset the various expenses that licensed

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.*

teachers often incur throughout an academic year for classroom supplies, professional development costs, supplemental educational materials, field trips, and other items that improve the quality of the educational services that they provide, to a licensed teacher who is employed as a teacher in a public school on a full-time basis for at least one-half of an academic year (eligible teacher) during the income tax year for which the credit is claimed. The amount of the credit is \$1,000 for an eligible teacher who is employed for the equivalent of an entire academic year and \$500 for an eligible teacher who is employed for one-half of an academic year. Two eligible teachers who file a joint income tax return may each claim the credit.

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

2           **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 39-22-571 as  
3 follows:

4           **39-22-571. Credit - licensed teachers - tax preference**  
5 **performance statement - legislative declaration - definitions - repeal.**

6 (1) (a) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FINDS AND DECLARES THAT:

7           (I) LICENSED TEACHERS WHO TEACH IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS OFTEN  
8 SPEND THEIR OWN MONEY TO PAY FOR CLASSROOM SUPPLIES,  
9 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT COSTS, SUPPLEMENTAL EDUCATIONAL  
10 MATERIALS, FIELD TRIPS, AND OTHER ITEMS THAT IMPROVE THE QUALITY  
11 OF THE EDUCATIONAL SERVICES THAT THEY PROVIDE;

12           (II) THESE ITEMS PURCHASED BY LICENSED TEACHERS WITH THEIR  
13 OWN MONEY BENEFIT THEIR STUDENTS AND THE PUBLIC, AND THE PUBLIC  
14 SHOULD BE RESPONSIBLE FOR BEARING THEIR COSTS; AND

15           (III) THE INCOME TAX CREDIT CREATED IN THIS SECTION IS  
16 INTENDED TO SHIFT SOME OF THE COSTS CURRENTLY INCURRED BY  
17 LICENSED TEACHERS WHO TEACH IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS THAT SHOULD BE  
18 INCURRED BY THE PUBLIC FROM LICENSED TEACHERS TO THE PUBLIC.

19           (b) IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 39-21-304 (1), WHICH

1 REQUIRES EACH BILL THAT CREATES A NEW TAX EXPENDITURE TO INCLUDE  
2 A TAX PREFERENCE PERFORMANCE STATEMENT AS PART OF A STATUTORY  
3 LEGISLATIVE DECLARATION, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FURTHER FINDS AND  
4 DECLARES THAT THE PURPOSE OF THE TAX CREDIT CREATED IN THIS  
5 SECTION IS TO PROVIDE TAX RELIEF FOR ELIGIBLE TEACHERS. THE  
6 GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND THE STATE AUDITOR SHALL MEASURE THE  
7 EFFECTIVENESS OF THE CREDIT IN ACHIEVING THIS PURPOSE BASED ON THE  
8 NUMBER AND VALUE OF CREDITS CLAIMED.

9 (2) AS USED IN THIS SECTION, UNLESS THE CONTEXT OTHERWISE  
10 REQUIRES:

11 (a) "ACADEMIC YEAR" HAS THE SAME MEANING AS SET FORTH IN  
12 SECTION 22-63-103 (1).

13 (b) "ELIGIBLE TEACHER" MEANS A TEACHER WHO IS EMPLOYED  
14 FULL-TIME AS A TEACHER FOR AT LEAST ONE-HALF OF AN ACADEMIC YEAR.

15 (c) "ONE-HALF OF AN ACADEMIC YEAR" MEANS EITHER THE  
16 PORTION OF AN ACADEMIC YEAR THAT BEGINS IN JANUARY OF AN INCOME  
17 TAX YEAR OR THE PORTION OF AN ACADEMIC YEAR THAT ENDS IN  
18 DECEMBER OF AN INCOME TAX YEAR.

19 (d) "PUBLIC SCHOOL" MEANS A SCHOOL OF A SCHOOL DISTRICT, A  
20 CHARTER SCHOOL AUTHORIZED BY A SCHOOL DISTRICT PURSUANT TO PART  
21 1 OF ARTICLE 30.5 OF TITLE 22, A CHARTER SCHOOL AUTHORIZED BY THE  
22 STATE CHARTER SCHOOL INSTITUTE PURSUANT TO PART 5 OF ARTICLE 30.5  
23 OF TITLE 22, OR A BOARD OF COOPERATIVE SERVICES CREATED AND  
24 OPERATING PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 5 OF TITLE 22.

25 (e) "TEACHER" MEANS A RESIDENT INDIVIDUAL WHO HOLDS A  
26 VALID TEACHER LICENSE OF ANY TYPE DESCRIBED IN SECTION 22-60.5-201  
27 AND IS EMPLOYED TO INSTRUCT STUDENTS IN ANY PUBLIC SCHOOL IN THE

1 STATE.

2 (3) (a) FOR INCOME TAX YEARS COMMENCING ON OR AFTER  
3 JANUARY 1, 2025, BUT BEFORE JANUARY 1, 2027, AN ELIGIBLE TEACHER  
4 IS ALLOWED A CREDIT AGAINST THE INCOME TAXES IMPOSED BY THIS  
5 ARTICLE 22 IN THE AMOUNT OF:

6 (I) ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS IF THE ELIGIBLE TEACHER IS  
7 EMPLOYED FULL-TIME AS A TEACHER FOR BOTH ONE-HALF OF AN  
8 ACADEMIC YEAR THAT BEGINS IN JANUARY OF THE INCOME TAX YEAR FOR  
9 WHICH A CREDIT IS CLAIMED AND ONE-HALF OF AN ACADEMIC YEAR THAT  
10 ENDS IN DECEMBER OF THAT INCOME TAX YEAR; OR

11 (II) FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS IF THE ELIGIBLE TEACHER IS  
12 EMPLOYED FULL-TIME AS A TEACHER FOR EITHER ONE-HALF OF AN  
13 ACADEMIC YEAR THAT BEGINS IN JANUARY OF THE INCOME TAX YEAR FOR  
14 WHICH A CREDIT IS CLAIMED OR ONE-HALF OF AN ACADEMIC YEAR THAT  
15 ENDS IN DECEMBER OF THAT INCOME TAX YEAR, BUT NOT BOTH.

16 (b) TWO ELIGIBLE TEACHERS WHO FILE A JOINT RETURN MAY EACH  
17 CLAIM THE CREDIT IN THE APPLICABLE AMOUNT SPECIFIED IN EITHER  
18 SUBSECTION (3)(a)(I) OR (3)(a)(II) OF THIS SECTION.

19 (c) THE AMOUNT OF THE CREDIT UNDER THIS SECTION THAT  
20 EXCEEDS THE ELIGIBLE TEACHER'S INCOME TAXES DUE IS REFUNDED TO  
21 THE ELIGIBLE TEACHER.

22 (4) THIS SECTION IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 31, 2031.

23 **SECTION 2. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act  
24 takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the  
25 ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly; except  
26 that, if a referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V  
27 of the state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this

1 act within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take  
2 effect unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in  
3 November 2026 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the  
4 official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.