

First Regular Session
Seventy-fifth General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 25-0170.01 Alana Rosen x2606

HOUSE BILL 25-1307

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Luck and Carter,

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Ball and Rich,

House Committees
Education

Senate Committees

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 CONCERNING UPDATING TECHNICAL REFERENCES IN EDUCATION LAW.

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/>.)

Statutory Revision Committee. The bill repeals obsolete references to the teacher residency expansion program (program), which was repealed in 2023.

Current law continues to reference the definition for "paraprofessional" as it appeared in the program. The bill recreates the definition of "paraprofessional" for the current statutory uses of the term.

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.

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

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-60.3-201, **add**
3 (5.5) as follows:

4 **22-60.3-201. Definitions.** As used in this part 2, unless the
5 context otherwise requires:

6 (5.5) "PARAPROFESSIONAL" MEANS A PERSON WHO IS TRAINED TO
7 ASSIST A LICENSED TEACHER.

8 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-60.3-204, **amend**
9 (2)(b)(II) as follows:

10 **22-60.3-204. Program eligibility - financial assistance - funding**
11 **- report.** (2) The department shall review each application received and
12 determine whether the applicant meets the following criteria for
13 participation in the program:

14 (b) (II) The applicant is currently employed as a paraprofessional
15 ~~as defined in section 22-60.3-102;~~ in a school district, charter school, or
16 board of cooperative services and is working toward a baccalaureate
17 degree as required to pursue a professional teaching license; or

18 **SECTION 3.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-60.5-209.1,
19 **amend** (1)(a)(III); and **repeal** (1)(a)(II) as follows:

20 **22-60.5-209.1. Department of education - adjunct instructor**
21 **authorization - alternative teacher programs - information.**

22 (1) (a) The department shall direct resources toward publicizing the
23 existence of:

24 (II) ~~The teacher residency programs available through the teacher~~
25 ~~residency expansion program created in part 1 of article 60.3 of this title~~
26 ~~22;~~

27 (III) Programs to support paraprofessionals, as defined in ~~section~~

1 ~~22-60.3-102~~ SECTION 22-60.3-201, who are seeking a baccalaureate
2 degree to pursue a professional teaching license;

3 **SECTION 4.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-51-1101, **amend**
4 (1.9)(a)(I), (1.9)(a)(II)(B), and (1.9)(a)(II)(C) as follows:

5 **24-51-1101. Employment after service retirement - report -**
6 **definitions - repeal.** (1.9) (a) (I) Subject to ~~the provisions of~~ subsection
7 (1.9)(h) of this section, a service retiree who is a superintendent, a
8 principal, a teacher, a school bus driver, a school food services cook, a
9 school nurse, or a paraprofessional, as defined in ~~section 22-60.3-102 (9)~~
10 SECTION 22-60.3-201, and is hired pursuant to subsection (1.9)(b) of this
11 section by an employer in the school division of the association that
12 satisfies the criteria specified in subsection (1.9)(a)(II) of this section may
13 receive salary without reduction in benefits for any length of employment
14 in a calendar year if the service retiree has not worked for ~~any~~ AN
15 employer, as defined in section 24-51-101 (20), during the month of the
16 effective date of retirement. A service retiree described in this subsection
17 (1.9)(a) who works for ~~any~~ AN employer, as defined in section 24-51-101
18 (20), during the month of the effective date of retirement ~~shall be~~ IS
19 subject to a reduction in benefits as provided in section 24-51-1102 (2).

20 (II) The provisions of this subsection (1.9) apply only if:

21 (B) The school district, board of cooperative services, or charter
22 school hires the service retiree for the purpose of providing classroom
23 instruction or school bus transportation to students enrolled by the district,
24 enrolled by one or more of the districts served by the board of cooperative
25 services, or enrolled by the charter school, or for the purpose of being a
26 superintendent, a principal, a school food services cook, a school nurse,
27 or a paraprofessional, as defined in ~~section 22-60.3-102 (9)~~ SECTION

1 22-60.3-201; and

2 (C) The school district, board of cooperative services, or charter
3 school determines that there is a critical shortage of qualified
4 superintendents, principals, teachers, school bus drivers, school food
5 services cooks, school nurses, or paraprofessionals, as defined in ~~section~~
6 ~~22-60.3-102(9)~~ SECTION 22-60.3-201, as applicable, and that the service
7 retiree has specific experience, skills, or qualifications that would benefit
8 the district, board of cooperative services, or charter school.

9 **SECTION 5. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act
10 takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the
11 ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly; except
12 that, if a referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V
13 of the state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this
14 act within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take
15 effect unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in
16 November 2026 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the
17 official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.