

CHAPTER 204

EDUCATION - PUBLIC SCHOOLS

SENATE BILL 97-029

BY SENATORS Ament, Bishop, Blickensderfer, Chlouber, Dennis, Feeley, Hernandez, Hopper, Linkhart, Martinez, Matsunaka, Pascoe, Phillips, Reeves, Rizzuto, Rupert, Thiebaut, Wattenberg, and Wham;
also REPRESENTATIVES Tucker, Allen, Chavez, Gotlieb, Mace, Schwarz, Udall, and Zimmerman.

AN ACT

CONCERNING THE PROVISION OF FUNDING FOR TRAVEL IN ORDER FOR PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS TO COMPETE IN NATIONAL ACADEMIC STUDENT COMPETITIONS, AND MAKING AN APPROPRIATION IN CONNECTION THEREWITH.

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

SECTION 1. Part 1 of article 2 of title 22, Colorado Revised Statutes, 1995 Repl. Vol., as amended, is amended BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW SECTION to read:

22-2-121. Department of education - funding for national academic award winners. (1) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL HAVE THE AUTHORITY TO DISTRIBUTE MONEYS TO SCHOOL DISTRICTS FOR THE PURPOSE OF SENDING PUPILS FROM THE SCHOOL DISTRICT WHO ARE STATE-LEVEL WINNERS OF ACADEMIC CONTESTS AND THEIR CHAPERONES TO REPRESENT THE STATE AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL OF SAID CONTESTS. PUPILS PARTICIPATING IN AN ACADEMIC EXTRACURRICULAR OR INTERSCHOLASTIC ACTIVITY OFFERED BY A PUBLIC SCHOOL WITHIN A SCHOOL DISTRICT PURSUANT TO SECTION 22-32-116.5 OR 22-33-104.5 SHALL BE DEEMED TO BE PUPILS FROM SUCH SCHOOL DISTRICT FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION.

(2) THE STATE BOARD SHALL PROMULGATE RULES GOVERNING THE DISTRIBUTION OF MONEYS PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (1) OF THIS SECTION. SUCH RULES SHALL BE PROMULGATED IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE 4 OF TITLE 24, C.R.S. THE CRITERIA UPON WHICH THE STATE BOARD SHALL DISTRIBUTE MONEYS PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (1) OF THIS SECTION SHALL INCLUDE, BUT NOT BE LIMITED TO, THE FOLLOWING:

Capital letters indicate new material added to existing statutes; dashes through words indicate deletions from existing statutes and such material not part of act.

(a) THE CONTESTS SHALL BE ACADEMIC IN NATURE AND SHALL MOTIVATE PUPILS TO BE CREATIVE AND TO DEMONSTRATE EXCELLENCE.

(b) THE CONTESTS SHALL BE SPONSORED BY A NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED ORGANIZATION.

(c) THE CONTESTS SHALL BE OPEN TO ALL PUPILS REGARDLESS OF RACE, CREED, SEX, OR NATIONAL ORIGIN; EXCEPT THAT A CONTEST MAY SEPARATE PUPILS BY AGE OR GRADE LEVEL.

(d) THE OPPORTUNITY TO COMPETE AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL SHALL BE THE RESULT OF SUCCESSFULLY COMPETING AT THE STATE LEVEL OF THAT CONTEST.

(e) THE BOARD SHALL ENCOURAGE SCHOOL DISTRICTS, INDIVIDUAL SCHOOLS, AND COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS TO PROVIDE CONTRIBUTIONS TO ASSIST IN SENDING PUPILS AND THEIR CHAPERONES TO NATIONAL-LEVEL CONTESTS AND SHALL CONSIDER SUCH CONTRIBUTIONS IN MAKING DISTRIBUTIONS TO A SCHOOL DISTRICT.

(3) THE DEPARTMENT IS AUTHORIZED TO ACCEPT ANY BEQUESTS, GIFTS, AND GRANTS TO BE USED FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION. SUCH BEQUESTS, GIFTS, AND GRANTS, ALONG WITH ANY OTHER MONEYS APPROPRIATED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, SHALL BE CREDITED TO THE NATIONAL ACADEMIC CONTEST FUND, WHICH FUND IS HEREBY CREATED IN THE STATE TREASURY. THE MONEYS IN SAID FUND SHALL BE SUBJECT TO ANNUAL APPROPRIATION BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO THE DEPARTMENT FOR THE PURPOSES SET FORTH IN SUBSECTION (1) OF THIS SECTION. ALL INTEREST DERIVED FROM THE DEPOSIT AND INVESTMENT OF MONEYS IN THE FUND SHALL BE CREDITED TO THE FUND. ANY MONEYS NOT APPROPRIATED SHALL REMAIN IN THE FUND AND SHALL NOT BE TRANSFERRED OR REVERT TO THE GENERAL FUND OF THE STATE AT THE END OF ANY FISCAL YEAR.

(4) IT IS THE INTENT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY THAT NO GENERAL FUND DOLLARS BE APPROPRIATED FOR THE PURPOSE OF IMPLEMENTING THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SECTION.

SECTION 2. Appropriation. (1) In addition to any other appropriation, there is hereby appropriated, out of any moneys in the department of state cash fund created pursuant to section 24-21-104 (3) (b), Colorado Revised Statutes, not otherwise appropriated, to the department of education, for allocation to the national academic contest fund, for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1997, the sum of fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000), or so much thereof as may be necessary, for the implementation of this act.

(2) In addition to any other appropriation, there is hereby appropriated, out of any moneys in the national academic contest fund created pursuant to section 22-2-121, Colorado Revised Statutes, not otherwise appropriated, to the department of education, for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1997, the sum of fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000), or so much thereof as may be necessary, for the implementation of this act.

SECTION 3. Safety clause. The general assembly hereby finds, determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, and safety.

Approved: May 27, 1997