

CHAPTER 339

EDUCATION - UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES

HOUSE BILL 01-1406

BY REPRESENTATIVE(S) Lawrence, Cadman, Dean, Hoppe, Kester, Miller, Spence, Spradley, Tapia, Williams S., Williams T., and Young;
also SENATOR(S) Thiebaut, Chlouber, and Perlmutter.

AN ACT

CONCERNING THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN COLORADO GOAL PLANNING PROCESS.

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

SECTION 1. Article 55 of title 23, Colorado Revised Statutes, is amended BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW SECTION to read:

23-55-108. State board of agriculture - goal planning for the university of southern Colorado - repeal. (1) THE STATE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE SHALL WORK WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN COLORADO TO PREPARE A REPORT THAT ASSESSES THE VALUE TO THE REGION SURROUNDING THE UNIVERSITY OF CHANGING ITS NAME AND MAKING MODIFICATIONS TO THE ROLE AND MISSION OF THE UNIVERSITY AND THE IMPLICATIONS TO ITS AUTONOMY AS A REGIONAL INSTITUTION IN EXCHANGE FOR NAME AND ROLE AND MISSION CHANGES. THE REPORT, AT A MINIMUM, SHALL INCLUDE A PLAN THAT DEMONSTRATES HOW THE UNIVERSITY WILL ACHIEVE THE FOLLOWING GOALS:

(a) ADOPTION OF ADMISSION STANDARDS COMPATIBLE WITH THE UNIVERSITY'S MISSION IN ACADEMIC AREAS THAT UNIQUELY SERVE SOUTHEASTERN COLORADO;

(b) IMPLEMENTATION OF COST-EFFECTIVE OUTREACH ACTIVITIES IN FURTHERANCE OF INCREASED ENROLLMENT AND RETENTION OF ENROLLMENT IN ITS PRIMARY SERVICE AREA OF SOUTHEASTERN COLORADO AND ANY OTHER AREAS THE UNIVERSITY SERVES, IDENTIFYING IMPROVEMENTS IN PROGRAMS THAT ASSIST STUDENTS TO RECEIVE ADDITIONAL MERIT-BASED AND NEED-BASED FINANCIAL AID AND THAT ASSIST STUDENTS TO MASTER BASIC ACADEMIC SKILLS AND EMPHASIZING COLLABORATIVE EFFORTS WITH REGIONAL COMMUNITY COLLEGES TO TRANSITION STUDENTS INTO THE UNIVERSITY;

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

(c) ADVANCEMENT TOWARD INCREASED STRENGTH AND QUALITY IN THE KEY ACADEMIC PROGRAMS PROVIDED BY THE UNIVERSITY, DETAILING ENHANCEMENTS TO PROFESSIONAL AND ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY PROGRAMS, EDUCATION PROGRAMS, TRADITIONAL LIBERAL ARTS AND SCIENCES PROGRAMS, AND SELECT GRADUATE PROGRAMS AND ASSESSING THE DESIRABILITY FOR INCREASED FACULTY RESEARCH AND GRADUATE STUDENT RESEARCH AND THE PROSPECTS FOR ACCESSING RESEARCH GRANTS IN COLLABORATION WITH OTHER STATE-SUPPORTED INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION THAT FOCUS ON DISTINCTIVE COMPETENCIES AND REGIONAL NEEDS;

(d) PROGRESSION TOWARD THE IMPLEMENTATION OF A GENERAL EDUCATION CURRICULUM AT THE UNIVERSITY THAT IS COMPARABLE TO THE CURRICULA EMPLOYED BY OTHER STATE-SUPPORTED INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION, RECOGNIZING THE NEED TO FACILITATE SUCCESSFUL CREDIT TRANSFERS AND THE ACADEMIC PROGRESS OF STUDENTS TRANSFERRING BETWEEN INSTITUTIONS AND FOR FACULTY COLLABORATION IN PROGRAM ARTICULATION, CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT AND REVIEW, AND EVALUATION;

(e) AVOIDANCE OF UNNECESSARY DUPLICATION OF PROGRAMS AND DEGREES WITH OTHER STATE-SUPPORTED INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION, TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION THE DIFFERENT STUDENT POPULATIONS SERVED AND THE DISTANCE SEPARATING INSTITUTIONS;

(f) ESTABLISHMENT OF STANDARDS FOR FACULTY APPOINTMENT, PROMOTION, TENURE, CLASS LOADS, CREATIVE AND SCHOLARLY WORK, OVERALL PERFORMANCE, AND SALARIES THAT ARE COMPARABLE TO STANDARDS APPLIED BY OTHER STATE-SUPPORTED INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION, TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION INSTITUTIONAL SIZE, ROLE, MISSION, AND STUDENT ADMISSION STANDARDS;

(g) ATTAINMENT OF RESOURCES ADEQUATE TO ENHANCE THE UNIVERSITY'S ROLE AND MISSION, IDENTIFYING ADDITIONAL RESOURCES REQUIRED TO MEET AN ENHANCED ROLE AND MISSION, INCLUDING RESOURCES TO EMPLOY THE NECESSARY FACULTY AND STAFF, AND TO PROVIDE ACADEMIC PROGRAM SERVICES, SUCH AS INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY, LIBRARY AND LABORATORY INSTRUCTIONAL OFFERINGS, AND FACULTY, STAFF, AND STUDENT DEVELOPMENT; AND

(h) EMPLOYMENT OF AN INTEGRATED STRATEGIC PLANNING, FINANCIAL PLANNING, AND BUDGETING PROCESS THAT ARTICULATES LONG-TERM OBJECTIVES IN FURTHERANCE OF THE UNIVERSITY'S MISSION AND IS REFLECTIVE OF COLLABORATIONS WITH OTHER STATE-SUPPORTED INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION.

(2) THE REPORT SHALL IDENTIFY EXISTING COLLABORATIVE EFFORTS WITHIN THE COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM IN THE AREA OF ACADEMICS, FACULTY AND STUDENT AFFAIRS, AND ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES, ASSESSING THEIR VALUE TO THE REGION SURROUNDING THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN COLORADO.

(3) (a) IF A COMMITTEE OR TASK FORCE TO STUDY HIGHER EDUCATION DURING THE 2001 INTERIM IS ESTABLISHED, OR THERE IS ANY MEETING OF THE JOINT EDUCATION COMMITTEE, THE STATE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE AND THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN COLORADO SHALL PROVIDE A STATUS REPORT TO SAID COMMITTEE OR TASK FORCE BY

SEPTEMBER 15, 2001. AFTER REVIEWING THE STATUS REPORT ON THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN COLORADO'S GOAL PLANNING PROCESS, THE COMMITTEE OR TASK FORCE MAY REQUEST ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FROM THE BOARD OR THE UNIVERSITY, AS DEEMED NECESSARY.

(b) THE STATE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE AND THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN COLORADO SHALL ISSUE THE REPORT PREPARED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (1) OF THIS SECTION TO THE EDUCATION COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND THE SENATE BY DECEMBER 15, 2001. AFTER REVIEWING THE REPORT ON THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN COLORADO'S GOAL PLANNING PROCESS, THE EDUCATION COMMITTEES, OR ANY OF THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE MEMBERS, MAY REQUEST ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FROM THE BOARD OR THE UNIVERSITY, AS DEEMED NECESSARY.

(c) PRIOR TO ISSUING THE REPORT PURSUANT TO PARAGRAPH (b) OF THIS SUBSECTION (3), THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN COLORADO SHALL HOLD AT LEAST TWO PUBLIC MEETINGS FOR DISCUSSION OF THE REPORT, ONE OF WHICH SHALL BE HELD AT THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN COLORADO AND ONE OF WHICH SHALL BE HELD WITHIN THE UNIVERSITY'S PRIMARY SERVICE AREA OUTSIDE OF PUEBLO COUNTY.

(4) THIS SECTION IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2002.

SECTION 2. 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.

Became Law: June 9, 2001