

CHAPTER 85

EDUCATION - PUBLIC SCHOOLS

SENATE BILL 07-148

BY SENATOR(S) Romer, Spence, Gordon, Groff, Hagedorn, Keller, Morse, Sandoval, Shaffer, Tapia, Tochtrop, Veiga, Williams, Bacon, Boyd, Fitz-Gerald, Harvey, Isgar, Kopp, Schultheis, Schwartz, Tupa, Ward, Wiens, and Windels;
also REPRESENTATIVE(S) Casso, Benefield, Butcher, Carroll T., Fischer, Frangas, Hodge, Jahn, Kerr A., Labuda, Levy, Madden, Massey, May M., McFadyen, Mitchell V., Pommer, Riesberg, Romanoff, Solano, Stafford, Summers, and Todd.

AN ACT

CONCERNING EXPANDING SIMULTANEOUS ENROLLMENT IN SECONDARY AND POSTSECONDARY INSTITUTIONS.

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

SECTION 1. Title 22, Colorado Revised Statutes, is amended BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW ARTICLE to read:

ARTICLE 35.5
Fast College Fast Jobs Act

22-35.5-101. Short title. THIS ARTICLE SHALL BE KNOWN AND MAY BE CITED AS THE "FAST COLLEGE FAST JOBS ACT".

22-35.5-102. Legislative declaration. (1) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY HEREBY FINDS THAT:

(a) THE PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS WHO GRADUATE FROM COLORADO HIGH SCHOOLS AND ENROLL IN HIGHER EDUCATION IS ONE OF THE LOWEST IN THE COUNTRY;

(b) STUDENTS WHO EITHER DROP OUT OF HIGH SCHOOL OR WHO CHOOSE NOT TO CONTINUE THEIR EDUCATION PAST HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION DO SO FOR A VARIETY OF REASONS, INCLUDING A LACK OF RESOURCES AND A LACK OF ENCOURAGEMENT FROM PARENTS WHO DID NOT COMPLETE HIGH SCHOOL OR CONTINUE ON TO HIGHER EDUCATION;

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) SOME SCHOOL DISTRICTS HAVE EXPERIMENTED WITH PROGRAMS THAT ALLOW A HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT, WHILE ENROLLED IN HIGH SCHOOL, TO ENROLL CONCURRENTLY IN HIGHER EDUCATION COURSES, THEREBY ENABLING THE STUDENT TO COMPLETE HIS OR HER EDUCATION AND SIMULTANEOUSLY RECEIVE BOTH A HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA AND A HIGHER EDUCATION DEGREE OR A CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION CERTIFICATE;

(d) THE SCHOOL DISTRICTS THAT HAVE IMPLEMENTED THESE PROGRAMS HAVE FOUND THEM SUCCESSFUL IN INCREASING THE GRADUATION RATE, IN ENSURING THAT MORE STUDENTS COMPLETE A HIGHER EDUCATION CREDENTIAL, AND IN ASSISTING MORE STUDENTS IN OBTAINING MEANINGFUL EMPLOYMENT AFTER GRADUATION.

(2) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY THEREFORE FINDS THAT IT IS IN THE BEST INTERESTS OF THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF COLORADO TO ENACT THE "FAST COLLEGE FAST JOBS ACT" TO ALLOW ELIGIBLE SCHOOL DISTRICTS TO PARTNER WITH HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS IN OFFERING FAST COLLEGE FAST JOBS EDUCATION PROGRAMS TO ENABLE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS, WITHIN FIVE YEARS, TO SIMULTANEOUSLY COMPLETE THE REQUIREMENTS FOR A HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA AND AN ASSOCIATE'S DEGREE OR A CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION CERTIFICATE.

22-35.5-103. Definitions. AS USED IN THIS ARTICLE, UNLESS THE CONTEXT OTHERWISE REQUIRES:

(1) "DEPARTMENT" MEANS THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION CREATED AND EXISTING PURSUANT TO SECTION 24-1-115, C.R.S.

(2) (a) "ELIGIBLE SCHOOL DISTRICT" MEANS A SCHOOL DISTRICT, OTHER THAN A JUNIOR OR COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT, ORGANIZED AND EXISTING PURSUANT TO LAW, THAT:

(I) CONTRACTED WITH A COMMUNITY COLLEGE TO IMPLEMENT A DUAL DEGREE PROGRAM WITHIN THE TWO YEARS PRECEDING THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS ARTICLE; OR

(II) HAD A GRADUATION RATE OF LESS THAN SEVENTY-FIVE PERCENT FOR THE 2004-05 ACADEMIC YEAR, AS REPORTED BY THE DEPARTMENT.

(b) "ELIGIBLE SCHOOL DISTRICT" SHALL INCLUDE A BOARD OF COOPERATIVE SERVICES FOR WHICH AT LEAST HALF OF THE MEMBERS ARE SCHOOL DISTRICTS THAT MEET THE REQUIREMENTS SPECIFIED IN PARAGRAPH (a) OF THIS SUBSECTION (2).

(3) "FAST COLLEGE FAST JOBS EDUCATION PROGRAM" MEANS A FAST COLLEGE FAST JOBS EDUCATION PROGRAM, AS DESCRIBED IN SECTION 22-35.5-105, PROVIDED BY AN ELIGIBLE SCHOOL DISTRICT THAT CHOOSES TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PILOT PROGRAM.

(4) "HIGHER EDUCATION COURSE" MEANS A COURSE OFFERED BY AN INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.

(5) "INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION" MEANS A PUBLIC INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION THAT OFFERS A TWO-YEAR DEGREE PROGRAM IN ACCORDANCE

WITH ITS ROLE AND MISSION, AN AREA VOCATIONAL SCHOOL, OR A JUNIOR COLLEGE THAT IS PART OF A JUNIOR COLLEGE DISTRICT ORGANIZED PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 71 OF TITLE 23, C.R.S.

(6) "PILOT PROGRAM" MEANS THE FAST COLLEGE FAST JOBS PILOT PROGRAM CREATED PURSUANT TO SECTION 22-35.5-104.

(7) "TARGET HIGH SCHOOL" MEANS A PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL THAT SERVES GRADES NINE THROUGH TWELVE AND THAT:

(a) OFFERED A DUAL DEGREE PROGRAM THROUGH A CONTRACT WITH A COMMUNITY COLLEGE WITHIN THE TWO YEARS PRECEDING THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS ARTICLE; OR

(b) HAD A GRADUATION RATE OF LESS THAN SEVENTY-FIVE PERCENT FOR THE 2004-05 ACADEMIC YEAR, AS REPORTED BY THE DEPARTMENT.

22-35.5-104. Fast college fast jobs pilot program - created - participation.

(1) THERE IS HEREBY CREATED THE FAST COLLEGE FAST JOBS PILOT PROGRAM TO ENABLE STUDENTS ENROLLED IN TARGET HIGH SCHOOLS TO SIMULTANEOUSLY COMPLETE A HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA AND AN ASSOCIATE'S DEGREE OR A CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION CERTIFICATE IN FIVE YEARS, BEGINNING IN THE NINTH GRADE. TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PILOT PROGRAM, AN ELIGIBLE SCHOOL DISTRICT SHALL ENTER INTO A CONTRACT AS DESCRIBED IN SECTION 22-35.5-106 WITH ONE OR MORE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION TO PROVIDE A FAST COLLEGE FAST JOBS EDUCATION PROGRAM, AS DESCRIBED IN SECTION 22-35.5-105.

(2) THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF AN ELIGIBLE SCHOOL DISTRICT THAT CHOOSES TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PILOT PROGRAM SHALL ADOPT SUCH POLICIES AND PROCEDURES AS ARE NECESSARY FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FAST COLLEGE FAST JOBS EDUCATION PROGRAM.

(3) AN ELIGIBLE SCHOOL DISTRICT THAT CHOOSES TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PILOT PROGRAM IS NOT REQUIRED TO PROVIDE OR TO PAY FOR TRANSPORTATION TO OR FROM AN INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION FOR A STUDENT WHO PARTICIPATES IN THE FAST COLLEGE FAST JOBS EDUCATION PROGRAM.

(4) THE GOVERNING BOARD OF EACH INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION THAT CHOOSES TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PILOT PROGRAM SHALL ADOPT GUIDELINES BY WHICH THE INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION MAY PARTICIPATE IN THE PILOT PROGRAM. THE GUIDELINES SHALL BE IN CONFORMANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ARTICLE. EACH INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION'S PARTICIPATION IN THE PILOT PROGRAM SHALL BE IN CONFORMANCE WITH ITS GOVERNING BOARD'S GUIDELINES.

22-35.5-105. Fast college fast jobs education program - requirements - student participation.

(1) EACH ELIGIBLE SCHOOL DISTRICT THAT CHOOSES TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PILOT PROGRAM SHALL ESTABLISH WITHIN THE TARGET HIGH SCHOOLS OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT A FAST COLLEGE FAST JOBS EDUCATION PROGRAM. A STUDENT WHO CHOOSES TO PARTICIPATE IN THE FAST COLLEGE FAST JOBS EDUCATION PROGRAM SHALL BEGIN THE PROGRAM IN NINTH GRADE AND TAKE

A PRESCRIBED SCHEDULE OF HIGH SCHOOL COURSES AND HIGHER EDUCATION COURSES WITH A SUFFICIENT NUMBER OF CREDITS TO ENSURE THAT THE STUDENT EARNS A HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA AND AN ASSOCIATE'S DEGREE OR A CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION CERTIFICATE IN FIVE YEARS.

(2) THE ELIGIBLE SCHOOL DISTRICT SHALL DESIGN THE FAST COLLEGE FAST JOBS EDUCATION PROGRAM TO INCLUDE COURSES WITH A SUFFICIENT LEVEL OF RIGOR TO ENSURE THAT A STUDENT WHO PARTICIPATES IN THE FAST COLLEGE FAST JOBS EDUCATION PROGRAM DOES NOT NEED SKILLS REMEDIATION, BUT DEVELOPS A SUFFICIENTLY HIGH LEVEL OF SKILLS TO SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETE POSTSECONDARY-LEVEL COURSE WORK.

(3) TO PARTICIPATE IN A FAST COLLEGE FAST JOBS EDUCATION PROGRAM, A STUDENT SHALL MAINTAIN A MINIMUM 2.0 GRADE POINT AVERAGE FOR EACH SEMESTER DURING WHICH THE STUDENT PARTICIPATES IN THE PROGRAM. THE ELIGIBLE SCHOOL DISTRICT MAY ESTABLISH SUCH ADDITIONAL PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS AS IT DEEMS APPROPRIATE, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO REQUIRING YEAR-ROUND CLASSES AND REQUIRING A SPECIFIED LEVEL OF PARTICIPATION BY A STUDENT'S PARENTS.

(4) IN DESIGNING THE FAST COLLEGE FAST JOBS EDUCATION PROGRAM, THE ELIGIBLE SCHOOL DISTRICT SHALL ENSURE THAT THE PROGRAM INCLUDES REGULARLY SCHEDULED COUNSELING AND OTHER APPROPRIATE STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES FOR PARTICIPATING STUDENTS THROUGHOUT THE FIVE YEARS IN WHICH THEY PARTICIPATE IN THE PROGRAM.

(5) THE ELIGIBLE SCHOOL DISTRICT SHALL ANNUALLY NOTIFY STUDENTS ENROLLED IN TARGET HIGH SCHOOLS IN THE SCHOOL DISTRICT AND THE STUDENTS' PARENTS OF THE AVAILABILITY AND REQUIREMENTS OF THE FAST COLLEGE FAST JOBS EDUCATION PROGRAM.

22-35.5-106. Fast college fast jobs education program contract - contents.

(1) AN ELIGIBLE SCHOOL DISTRICT THAT CHOOSES TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PILOT PROGRAM SHALL ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH ONE OR MORE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION. AT A MINIMUM, THE CONTRACT SHALL SPECIFY:

(a) THE LEVEL OF ACADEMIC READINESS THAT A STUDENT SHALL MEET IN ORDER TO ENROLL IN HIGHER EDUCATION COURSES THROUGH THE FAST COLLEGE FAST JOBS EDUCATION PROGRAM;

(b) ANY LIMITATION ON THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS WHO MAY ENROLL IN COURSES AT THE INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION THROUGH THE FAST COLLEGE FAST JOBS EDUCATION PROGRAM;

(c) ANY LIMITATIONS ON THE NUMBER OF HIGHER EDUCATION COURSES IN WHICH A STUDENT WHO PARTICIPATES IN THE FAST COLLEGE FAST JOBS EDUCATION PROGRAM MAY ENROLL PER SEMESTER;

(d) THE ASSOCIATE'S DEGREE PROGRAMS OR CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS THAT ARE AVAILABLE TO STUDENTS THROUGH THE FAST COLLEGE FAST JOBS EDUCATION PROGRAM; AND

(e) FINANCIAL PROVISIONS FOR FUNDING EACH STUDENT'S ENROLLMENT IN HIGHER EDUCATION COURSES THROUGH THE FAST COLLEGE FAST JOBS EDUCATION PROGRAM THAT SATISFY THE PROVISIONS OF SECTION 22-35.5-107.

(2) THE CONTRACT ENTERED INTO PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION BETWEEN AN ELIGIBLE SCHOOL DISTRICT AND AN INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION SHALL BE SUBJECT TO THE APPROVAL OF THE INSTITUTION'S GOVERNING BOARD AND OF THE COLORADO COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION PURSUANT TO SECTION 23-1-107 (6), C.R.S.

(3) AN INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION THAT CONTRACTS WITH AN ELIGIBLE SCHOOL DISTRICT FOR CREATION OF A FAST COLLEGE FAST JOBS EDUCATION PROGRAM SHALL ALLOW STUDENTS PARTICIPATING IN THE FAST COLLEGE FAST JOBS EDUCATION PROGRAM TO ENROLL IN COURSES OFFERED BY THE INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION. A STUDENT WHO IS PARTICIPATING IN THE FAST COLLEGE FAST JOBS EDUCATION PROGRAM AND IS ENROLLED IN THE NINTH OR TENTH GRADE MAY ENROLL IN THE INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION ONLY IN ACCORDANCE WITH ANY AGE-WAIVER PROCEDURES THE INSTITUTION MAY HAVE IN PLACE.

(4) A PERSON WHO PROVIDES INSTRUCTION IN A HIGHER EDUCATION COURSE IN WHICH A STUDENT IS ENROLLED THROUGH A FAST COLLEGE FAST JOBS EDUCATION PROGRAM IS NOT REQUIRED TO HOLD A TEACHER'S LICENSE OR AUTHORIZATION ISSUED PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF ARTICLE 60.5 OF THIS TITLE, REGARDLESS OF WHETHER THE HIGHER EDUCATION COURSE WILL COUNT AS CREDIT TOWARD THE STUDENT'S HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA.

22-35.5-107. Fast college fast jobs education program - financial provisions.

(1) AN ELIGIBLE SCHOOL DISTRICT THAT CHOOSES TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PILOT PROGRAM SHALL INCLUDE EACH STUDENT WHO PARTICIPATES IN A FAST COLLEGE FAST JOBS EDUCATION PROGRAM IN THE PUPIL ENROLLMENT OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT, AS DETERMINED PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF SECTION 22-54-103 (10); EXCEPT THAT, IN ANY ACADEMIC YEAR IN WHICH A STUDENT IS ENROLLED IN AT LEAST TWELVE CREDIT HOURS IN HIGHER EDUCATION COURSES THROUGH THE FAST COLLEGE FAST JOBS EDUCATION PROGRAM AS OF OCTOBER 1, THE ELIGIBLE SCHOOL DISTRICT SHALL RECEIVE EIGHTY-FIVE PERCENT OF THE AMOUNT OF THE ELIGIBLE SCHOOL DISTRICT'S PER PUPIL REVENUE FOR THAT STUDENT.

(2)(a) IN THE CONTRACT ENTERED INTO PURSUANT TO SECTION 22-35.5-106, THE ELIGIBLE SCHOOL DISTRICT AND THE INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION SHALL NEGOTIATE THE AMOUNT AND PAYMENT BY THE DISTRICT AND THE INSTITUTION OF THE FOLLOWING COSTS FOR STUDENTS WHO ENROLL IN HIGHER EDUCATION COURSES THROUGH THE FAST COLLEGE FAST JOBS EDUCATION PROGRAM:

(I) THE COSTS OF TUITION;

(II) THE COSTS OF PROVIDING COUNSELING AND TUTORING SERVICES; AND

(III) OTHER APPLICABLE COURSE FEES CHARGED BY THE INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND THE COST OF THE STUDENT'S BOOKS.

(b) A STUDENT WHO PARTICIPATES IN THE FAST COLLEGE FAST JOBS EDUCATION

PROGRAM SHALL NOT BE ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE A STIPEND FROM THE COLLEGE OPPORTUNITY FUND PROGRAM CREATED PURSUANT TO PART 2 OF ARTICLE 18 OF TITLE 23, C.R.S.

22-35.5-108. Fast college fast jobs pilot program - reporting. (1) ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 15, 2008, AND ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 15 EACH YEAR THEREAFTER, EACH ELIGIBLE SCHOOL DISTRICT THAT CHOOSES TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PILOT PROGRAM SHALL SUBMIT TO THE DEPARTMENT A REPORT CONCERNING IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FAST COLLEGE FAST JOBS EDUCATION PROGRAMS IN TARGET HIGH SCHOOLS IN THE DISTRICT. AT A MINIMUM, THE REPORT SHALL SPECIFY, FOR EACH TARGET HIGH SCHOOL IN WHICH A FAST COLLEGE FAST JOBS EDUCATION PROGRAM OPERATES:

(a) THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS IN EACH OF GRADES NINE THROUGH TWELVE AND IN THE FIFTH YEAR WHO ARE PARTICIPATING IN THE FAST COLLEGE FAST JOBS EDUCATION PROGRAM;

(b) THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS WHO LEFT THE FAST COLLEGE FAST JOBS EDUCATION PROGRAM IN THE PRECEDING SCHOOL YEAR AND THE REASONS FOR LEAVING THE PROGRAM; AND

(c) THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS WHO SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED THE FAST COLLEGE FAST JOBS EDUCATION PROGRAM IN THE PRECEDING SCHOOL YEAR, THE AREA IN WHICH EACH STUDENT EARNED AN ASSOCIATE'S DEGREE OR A CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION CERTIFICATE, AND THE NUMBER OF SAID STUDENTS WHO ARE EMPLOYED AND WHERE THEY ARE EMPLOYED, IF KNOWN.

(2) ON OR BEFORE MARCH 1, 2009, AND ON OR BEFORE MARCH 1 EACH YEAR THEREAFTER, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL SUBMIT TO THE EDUCATION COMMITTEES AND THE FINANCE COMMITTEES OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, OR ANY SUCCESSOR COMMITTEES, AND TO THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE, A REPORT SUMMARIZING THE INFORMATION RECEIVED FROM ELIGIBLE SCHOOL DISTRICTS PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (1) OF THIS SECTION. IN ADDITION, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL POST THE SUMMARY REPORT ON ITS WEBSITE.

SECTION 2. 22-54-103 (10) (f), Colorado Revised Statutes, is amended, and the said 22-54-103 (10) is further amended BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW PARAGRAPH, to read:

22-54-103. Definitions - repeal. As used in this article, unless the context otherwise requires:

(10) (e.7) A PUPIL WHO IS ENROLLED IN A FAST COLLEGE FAST JOBS EDUCATION PROGRAM PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 35.5 OF THIS TITLE AND WHO IS ENROLLED IN AT LEAST TWELVE CREDIT HOURS OF HIGHER EDUCATION COURSES AS OF OCTOBER 1 OF THE APPLICABLE BUDGET YEAR SHALL BE INCLUDED IN THE DISTRICT'S PUPIL ENROLLMENT AS AN EIGHTY-FIVE-PERCENT-TIME PUPIL.

(f) In certifying the district's pupil enrollment to the state board pursuant to the provisions of section 22-54-112, the district shall specify the number of pupils enrolled in half-day kindergarten; the number of pupils enrolled in a full-day

kindergarten program pursuant to section 22-32-119 (3); the number of pupils enrolled in first grade through twelfth grade, specifying those who are enrolled as full-time pupils and those who are enrolled as less than full-time pupils; the number of expelled pupils receiving educational services pursuant to section 22-33-203; the number of pupils enrolled in the district's preschool program; the number of pupils receiving educational programs under the "Exceptional Children's Educational Act", article 20 of this title; ~~and~~ the number of at-risk pupils; AND THE NUMBER OF PUPILS ENROLLED IN AT LEAST TWELVE CREDIT HOURS OF HIGHER EDUCATION COURSES AS OF OCTOBER 1 OF THE APPLICABLE BUDGET YEAR THROUGH A FAST COLLEGE FAST JOBS EDUCATION PROGRAM PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 35.5 OF THIS TITLE.

SECTION 3. 23-1-107, Colorado Revised Statutes, is amended BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW SUBSECTION to read:

23-1-107. Duties and powers of the commission with respect to program approval, review, reduction, and discontinuance. (6) FOR EACH INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 22-35.5-103 (5), C.R.S., THAT CHOOSES TO PARTICIPATE IN THE FAST COLLEGE FAST JOBS PILOT PROGRAM PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 35.5 OF TITLE 22, C.R.S., THE COMMISSION SHALL REVIEW AND EITHER APPROVE OR DISAPPROVE THE CONTRACT ENTERED INTO BETWEEN THE INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND AN ELIGIBLE SCHOOL DISTRICT PURSUANT TO SECTION 22-35.5-106, C.R.S.

SECTION 4. 23-60-202 (1), Colorado Revised Statutes, is amended BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW PARAGRAPH to read:

23-60-202. Duties of board with respect to state system. (1) With respect to the community and technical colleges within the state system, the board has the authority, responsibility, rights, privileges, powers, and duties customarily exercised by the governing boards of institutions of higher education, including the following:

(n) TO REVIEW AND EITHER APPROVE OR DISAPPROVE ANY CONTRACT ENTERED INTO PURSUANT TO SECTION 22-35.5-106, C.R.S., BETWEEN A COMMUNITY OR TECHNICAL COLLEGE AND A SCHOOL DISTRICT FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FAST COLLEGE FAST JOBS PROGRAM PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 35.5 OF TITLE 22, C.R.S.

SECTION 5. 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: April 2, 2007