

CHAPTER 308

EDUCATION - PUBLIC SCHOOLS

HOUSE BILL 08-1370

BY REPRESENTATIVE(S) Middleton, Carroll M., Carroll T., Casso, Ferrandino, Fischer, Frangas, Gallegos, Green, Hodge, Kefalas, Labuda, Madden, Marshall, McFadyen, Merrifield, Peniston, Scanlan, Solano, Stafford, Todd, Borodkin, Kerr A., and Romanoff;
also SENATOR(S) Bacon, Boyd, Gibbs, Groff, Keller, Morse, Schwartz, Shaffer, Tapia, Tupa, Veiga, Williams, and Windels.

AN ACT

CONCERNING INCREASING THE LEVEL OF SERVICES PROVIDED BY SCHOOL COUNSELORS TO STUDENTS IN PUBLIC SECONDARY SCHOOLS, AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, CREATING THE COUNSELOR CORPS GRANT PROGRAM AND MAKING AN APPROPRIATION.

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 91
School Counselor Corps Grant Program

22-91-101. Legislative declaration. (1) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY HEREBY FINDS THAT:

(a) A STUDENT'S LEVEL OF EDUCATION ATTAINMENT WILL DIRECTLY INFLUENCE THE STUDENT'S LEVEL OF ACHIEVEMENT AND SUCCESS THROUGHOUT THE REST OF HIS OR HER LIFE;

(b) THE NATIONAL CENTER FOR EDUCATION STATISTICS REPORTS THAT, IN COMPARING EMPLOYMENT RATES AND LEVELS OF EDUCATION ATTAINMENT ACROSS THE COUNTRY, IN 2005, THE UNEMPLOYMENT RATE FOR PERSONS WHO DROPPED OUT OF HIGH SCHOOL WAS SEVEN AND SIX-TENTHS PERCENT, COMPARED TO AN OVERALL AVERAGE UNEMPLOYMENT RATE FOR ALL EDUCATION LEVELS OF FOUR PERCENT. THE UNEMPLOYMENT RATE FOR PERSONS WHO GRADUATED FROM HIGH SCHOOL AND ATTAINED AN ASSOCIATES DEGREE WAS THREE AND THREE-TENTHS PERCENT, AND THE UNEMPLOYMENT RATE DROPPED TO TWO AND THREE-TENTHS PERCENT FOR

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

PERSONS WHO ATTAINED A BACHELOR'S DEGREE.

(c) THE COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION REPORTS THAT THE GRADUATION RATE FOR COLORADO SCHOOL DISTRICTS IN THE SPRING OF 2006 WAS SEVENTY-FOUR AND ONE-TENTH PERCENT;

(d) IN 2003, APPROXIMATELY FORTY-NINE PERCENT OF THE STUDENTS WHO GRADUATED FROM A COLORADO PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL ENROLLED IN A PUBLIC INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN COLORADO;

(e) AS RECENTLY AS 2006, STATISTICS SHOWED THAT THERE IS A FORTY PERCENT PROBABILITY THAT A STUDENT WHO IS ENROLLED IN NINTH GRADE IN COLORADO WILL BE ENROLLED IN POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION WHEN THE STUDENT IS NINETEEN YEARS OF AGE, AND THIRTY-FOUR PERCENT OF THE PERSONS IN COLORADO WHO ARE EIGHTEEN TO TWENTY-FOUR YEARS OF AGE ARE ENROLLED IN POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION;

(f) STUDIES SHOW THAT SCHOOL COUNSELING AND POSTSECONDARY PREPARATION CAN HAVE A SIGNIFICANT EFFECT ON STUDENTS IN ASSISTING THEM TO BEGIN AS EARLY AS SEVENTH OR EIGHTH GRADE TO IDENTIFY THEIR POST-GRADUATION GOALS AND TO BEGIN PLANNING TO ACHIEVE THEM. THIS IS ESPECIALLY TRUE FOR AFRICAN-AMERICAN AND HISPANIC STUDENTS, LOW-INCOME STUDENTS, AND STUDENTS WHOSE PARENTS HAVE NO DIRECT EXPERIENCE WITH POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION.

(g) STUDIES FURTHER SHOW THAT STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS AMONG SCHOOL COUNSELORS, PROPERLY TRAINED ADMINISTRATORS, TEACHERS, AND COMMUNITY-BASED POSTSECONDARY SERVICE PROVIDERS RESULT IN IMPROVED ATTENDANCE, IMPROVED ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE, AND INCREASED POSTSECONDARY SUCCESS FOR STUDENTS FROM LOW-INCOME FAMILIES AND STUDENTS WHOSE PARENTS HAVE NO DIRECT EXPERIENCE WITH POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION;

(h) STUDIES ALSO SHOW THAT A SIGNIFICANT FACTOR IN ASSISTING A STUDENT TO REMAIN IN SCHOOL AND TO GRADUATE IS THE CREATION OF A STRONG PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP WITH AT LEAST ONE ADULT IN THE SCHOOL, AND IN MANY CASES THAT ADULT IS A SCHOOL COUNSELOR;

(i) PROFESSIONAL SCHOOL COUNSELORS ARE TRAINED TO PROVIDE COMPREHENSIVE PROGRAMS THAT FACILITATE THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE WHOLE CHILD IN THE AREAS OF ACADEMIC, CAREER, AND PERSONAL AND SOCIAL NEEDS;

(j) FOR THE 2006-07 SCHOOL YEAR, THE STUDENT-TO-COUNSELOR RATIO IN COLORADO PUBLIC SCHOOLS WAS APPROXIMATELY FIVE HUNDRED TO ONE, WHICH IS DOUBLE THE RATIO RECOMMENDED BY THE AMERICAN SCHOOL COUNSELORS ASSOCIATION AS AN AVERAGE STATEWIDE RATIO; AND

(k) REDUCING THE STUDENT-TO-COUNSELOR RATIO IN COLORADO'S PUBLIC SECONDARY SCHOOLS IS A POSITIVE MOVE TOWARD ACHIEVING THE GOALS OF CLOSING THE ACHIEVEMENT GAP, DECREASING THE DROPOUT RATE, AND INCREASING THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS WHO MATRICULATE INTO POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION

WITHOUT THE NEED FOR REMEDIATION.

(2) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY CONCLUDES, THEREFORE, THAT IT IS IN THE BEST INTERESTS OF THE STUDENTS IN THE STATE TO ENCOURAGE AND SUPPORT SCHOOL DISTRICTS, BOARDS OF COOPERATIVE SERVICES, AND CHARTER SCHOOLS IN INCREASING THE NUMBER OF SCHOOL COUNSELORS AVAILABLE IN MIDDLE, JUNIOR HIGH, AND HIGH SCHOOLS AND IN IMPROVING THE LEVEL OF SCHOOL COUNSELING SERVICES PROVIDED TO STUDENTS BY ENACTING THE SCHOOL COUNSELOR CORPS GRANT PROGRAM.

22-91-102. 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) "EDUCATION PROVIDER" MEANS A SCHOOL DISTRICT, A BOARD OF COOPERATIVE SERVICES, A CHARTER SCHOOL AUTHORIZED BY A SCHOOL DISTRICT PURSUANT TO PART 1 OF ARTICLE 30.5 OF THIS TITLE, OR A CHARTER SCHOOL AUTHORIZED BY THE STATE CHARTER SCHOOL INSTITUTE PURSUANT TO PART 5 OF ARTICLE 30.5 OF THIS TITLE.

(3) "POSTSECONDARY SERVICE PROVIDER" MEANS AN INDEPENDENT AGENCY WHOSE PRIMARY PURPOSE IS TO PROVIDE CAREER AND COLLEGE PREPARATORY SERVICES TO STUDENTS.

(4) "PROGRAM" MEANS THE SCHOOL COUNSELOR CORPS GRANT PROGRAM CREATED IN SECTION 22-91-103.

(5) "RECIPIENT SECONDARY SCHOOL" MEANS A SECONDARY SCHOOL AT WHICH AN EDUCATION PROVIDER WILL USE MONEYS RECEIVED FROM THE PROGRAM TO EITHER INCREASE THE NUMBER OF SCHOOL COUNSELORS OR OTHERWISE RAISE THE LEVEL OF SCHOOL COUNSELING PROVIDED.

(6) "SCHOOL COUNSELOR" MEANS A PERSON WHO HOLDS A SPECIAL SERVICES PROVIDER LICENSE WITH A SCHOOL COUNSELOR ENDORSEMENT ISSUED PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 60.5 OF THIS TITLE OR WHO IS OTHERWISE ENDORSED OR ACCREDITED BY A NATIONAL ASSOCIATION TO PROVIDE SCHOOL COUNSELING SERVICES.

(7) "SECONDARY SCHOOL" MEANS A PUBLIC SCHOOL THAT INCLUDES ANY OF GRADES SEVEN THROUGH TWELVE.

(8) "STATE BOARD" MEANS THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION CREATED PURSUANT TO SECTION 1 OF ARTICLE IX OF THE STATE CONSTITUTION.

22-91-103. School counselor corps grant program - created - rules.

(1) THERE IS HEREBY CREATED IN THE DEPARTMENT THE SCHOOL COUNSELOR CORPS GRANT PROGRAM TO PROVIDE FUNDING TO EDUCATION PROVIDERS TO INCREASE THE AVAILABILITY OF EFFECTIVE SCHOOL-BASED COUNSELING WITHIN SECONDARY SCHOOLS WITH THE GOAL OF INCREASING THE GRADUATION RATE WITHIN THE STATE AND INCREASING THE PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS WHO

APPROPRIATELY PREPARE FOR, APPLY TO, AND CONTINUE INTO POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION. AN EDUCATION PROVIDER THAT RECEIVES A GRANT UNDER THE PROGRAM SHALL USE THE MONEYS TO INCREASE THE LEVEL OF FUNDING THE EDUCATION PROVIDER ALLOCATED TO SCHOOL-BASED COUNSELING PRIOR TO RECEIVING THE GRANT AND NOT TO REPLACE OTHER FUNDING SOURCES ALLOCATED TO SCHOOL-BASED COUNSELING. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ADMINISTER THE PROGRAM AS PROVIDED IN THIS ARTICLE AND PURSUANT TO RULES ADOPTED BY THE STATE BOARD.

(2) THE STATE BOARD SHALL ADOPT RULES, PURSUANT TO THE "STATE ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE ACT", ARTICLE 4 OF TITLE 24, C.R.S., FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAM, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO RULES REGARDING:

(a) THE TIME LINE FOR SUBMITTING APPLICATIONS TO THE DEPARTMENT;

(b) THE FORM OF THE GRANT APPLICATION AND ANY INFORMATION IN ADDITION TO THAT SPECIFIED IN SECTION 22-91-104 (2) TO BE INCLUDED IN THE APPLICATION;

(c) ANY CRITERIA FOR AWARDING GRANTS IN ADDITION TO THOSE SPECIFIED IN SECTION 22-91-104 (3); AND

(d) ANY INFORMATION TO BE INCLUDED IN THE DEPARTMENT'S PROGRAM REPORT IN ADDITION TO THAT REQUIRED IN SECTION 22-91-105.

22-91-104. School counselor corps grant program - application - criteria - grant awards. (1) AN EDUCATION PROVIDER THAT SEEKS A GRANT FROM THE PROGRAM SHALL SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO THE DEPARTMENT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE RULES ADOPTED BY THE STATE BOARD. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL REVIEW EACH APPLICATION RECEIVED FROM AN EDUCATION PROVIDER AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE STATE BOARD CONCERNING WHETHER A GRANT SHOULD BE AWARDED TO THE EDUCATION PROVIDER AND THE RECOMMENDED AMOUNT OF THE GRANT. IF THE DEPARTMENT DETERMINES AN APPLICATION IS MISSING ANY INFORMATION REQUIRED BY RULE TO BE INCLUDED WITH THE APPLICATION, THE DEPARTMENT MAY CONTACT THE EDUCATION PROVIDER TO OBTAIN THE MISSING INFORMATION.

(2) AT A MINIMUM, EACH GRANT APPLICATION SHALL SPECIFY:

(a) THE INTENDED RECIPIENT SECONDARY SCHOOLS, THE NUMBER OF SECONDARY SCHOOL COUNSELORS EMPLOYED BY THE EDUCATION PROVIDER PRIOR TO RECEIPT OF A GRANT, AND THE RATIO OF STUDENTS TO SCHOOL COUNSELORS IN THE SECONDARY SCHOOLS OPERATED BY OR RECEIVING SERVICES FROM THE EDUCATION PROVIDER;

(b) WHETHER THE EDUCATION PROVIDER HAS ADOPTED STANDARDS FOR SCHOOL COUNSELOR RESPONSIBILITIES, AS RECOMMENDED BY A NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL COUNSELORS;

(c) WHETHER THE EDUCATION PROVIDER HAS ENTERED INTO, OR HAS COMMITTED TO ESTABLISHING, ONE OR MORE PARTNERSHIPS WITH INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER

EDUCATION OR POSTSECONDARY SERVICE PROVIDERS IN COLORADO TO SUPPORT AND INCREASE THE CAPACITY AND EFFECTIVENESS OF THE COUNSELING AND POSTSECONDARY PREPARATION SERVICES PROVIDED TO SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS ENROLLED IN OR RECEIVING EDUCATIONAL SERVICES FROM THE EDUCATION PROVIDER;

(d) THE EDUCATION PROVIDER'S PLAN FOR USE OF THE GRANT MONEYS, INCLUDING THE EXTENT TO WHICH THE GRANT MONEYS WILL BE USED TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF SCHOOL COUNSELORS AT RECIPIENT SECONDARY SCHOOLS AND TO PROVIDE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR SCHOOL COUNSELORS AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT TO ENABLE OTHER FACULTY MEMBERS TO PROVIDE COUNSELING AND POSTSECONDARY PREPARATION SERVICES AT RECIPIENT SECONDARY SCHOOLS;

(e) THE EDUCATION PROVIDER'S PLAN FOR INVOLVING LEADERS AT THE RECIPIENT SECONDARY SCHOOLS AND IN THE SURROUNDING COMMUNITY AND THE FACULTY AT RECIPIENT SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN INCREASING THE CAPACITY AND EFFECTIVENESS OF THE COUNSELING AND POSTSECONDARY PREPARATION SERVICES PROVIDED TO SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS ENROLLED IN OR RECEIVING EDUCATIONAL SERVICES FROM THE EDUCATION PROVIDER;

(f) THE EXTENT TO WHICH THE EDUCATION PROVIDER HAS DEVELOPED OR PLANS TO DEVELOP PARTNERSHIPS TO SERVE THE POSTSECONDARY NEEDS OF ALL OF THE SECONDARY STUDENTS ENROLLED IN OR RECEIVING EDUCATIONAL SERVICES FROM THE EDUCATION PROVIDER;

(g) THE EDUCATION PROVIDER'S USE OF DISTRICT-LEVEL, OR SCHOOL-LEVEL IF THE EDUCATION PROVIDER IS A CHARTER SCHOOL, NEEDS ASSESSMENTS THAT IDENTIFY CHALLENGING ISSUES IN THE DISTRICT OR SCHOOL IN TERMS OF STUDENT LEARNING AND SUCCESS AND IDENTIFICATION OF ANY PROGRAMS INITIATED OR SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE EDUCATION PROVIDER TO SECONDARY STUDENTS THAT HAVE HELPED TO INCREASE GRADUATION RATES AND THE LEVEL OF POSTSECONDARY SUCCESS AMONG GRADUATES;

(h) THE ATTENDANCE, GRADE-RETENTION AND PROMOTION, AND GRADING POLICIES IMPLEMENTED BY THE EDUCATION PROVIDER;

(i) WHETHER THE EDUCATION PROVIDER INTENDS TO PROVIDE MATCHING FUNDS TO AUGMENT ANY GRANT MONEYS RECEIVED FROM THE PROGRAM AND THE ANTICIPATED AMOUNT AND SOURCE OF ANY MATCHING FUNDS; AND

(j) THE EDUCATION PROVIDER'S PLAN FOR CONTINUING TO FUND THE INCREASES IN SCHOOL COUNSELING SERVICES FOLLOWING EXPIRATION OF THE GRANT.

(3) IN REVIEWING APPLICATIONS AND MAKING RECOMMENDATIONS, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL APPLY THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA IN ADDITION TO ANY OTHER CRITERIA ADOPTED BY RULE OF THE STATE BOARD:

(a) THE DROPOUT RATE AT THE INTENDED RECIPIENT SECONDARY SCHOOL OR SCHOOLS AND, IF THE EDUCATION PROVIDER IS A SCHOOL DISTRICT, AT ALL OF THE SECONDARY SCHOOLS WITHIN THE SCHOOL DISTRICT. THE DEPARTMENT AND THE

STATE BOARD SHALL GIVE PRIORITY TO EDUCATION PROVIDERS THAT INTEND TO USE THE GRANT MONEYS TO ASSIST SECONDARY SCHOOLS AT WHICH THE DROPOUT RATE EXCEEDS THE STATEWIDE AVERAGE.

(b) THE PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS ENROLLED IN THE INTENDED RECIPIENT SECONDARY SCHOOL OR SCHOOLS WHO ARE ELIGIBLE FOR FREE OR REDUCED-COST LUNCH. THE DEPARTMENT AND THE STATE BOARD SHALL GIVE PRIORITY TO EDUCATION PROVIDERS THAT IDENTIFY INTENDED RECIPIENT SECONDARY SCHOOLS WITH A HIGH PERCENTAGE OF SAID STUDENTS.

(c) THE PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS ENROLLED IN THE INTENDED RECIPIENT SECONDARY SCHOOL OR SCHOOLS AND, IF THE EDUCATION PROVIDER IS A SCHOOL DISTRICT, IN THE SCHOOL DISTRICT, WHO GRADUATE AND ENROLL IN POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION WITHIN TWO YEARS AFTER GRADUATING FROM HIGH SCHOOL;

(d) WHETHER THE EDUCATION PROVIDER HAS ADOPTED, OR HAS DEMONSTRATED A COMMITMENT TO ADOPTING, STANDARDS FOR SCHOOL COUNSELOR RESPONSIBILITIES, AS RECOMMENDED BY A NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL COUNSELORS; AND

(e) THE LIKELIHOOD THAT THE EDUCATION PROVIDER WILL CONTINUE TO FUND THE INCREASES IN THE LEVEL OF SCHOOL COUNSELING SERVICES FOLLOWING EXPIRATION OF THE GRANT.

(4) THE DEPARTMENT AND THE STATE BOARD SHALL CONSULT WITH EXPERTS IN THE AREA OF SCHOOL COUNSELING, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO SCHOOL COUNSELORS, PERSONS WHO PROVIDE EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE AREAS OF SCHOOL COUNSELING AND CAREER COUNSELING, AND HIGHER EDUCATION ADMISSIONS OFFICERS, IN ESTABLISHING ANY ADDITIONAL CRITERIA FOR AWARDING GRANTS AND IN REVIEWING APPLICATIONS AND SELECTING GRANT RECIPIENTS.

(5) SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS, THE STATE BOARD SHALL AWARD GRANTS TO APPLYING EDUCATION PROVIDERS PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION. THE STATE BOARD SHALL BASE THE GRANT AWARDS ON THE DEPARTMENT'S RECOMMENDATIONS. EACH GRANT SHALL HAVE A TERM OF THREE YEARS BEGINNING IN THE 2008-09 BUDGET YEAR. IN MAKING THE AWARD, THE STATE BOARD SHALL SPECIFY THE AMOUNT OF EACH GRANT.

(6) THE DEPARTMENT MAY EXPEND NO MORE THAN TWO PERCENT OF THE MONEYS ANNUALLY APPROPRIATED FOR THE PROGRAM TO OFFSET THE COSTS INCURRED IN IMPLEMENTING THE PROGRAM.

(7) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL SEEK AND MAY ACCEPT PUBLIC OR PRIVATE GIFTS, GRANTS, OR DONATIONS TO ASSIST IN FUNDING THE PROGRAM.

(8) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY HEREBY FINDS AND DECLARES THAT, FOR PURPOSES OF SECTION 17 OF ARTICLE IX OF THE STATE CONSTITUTION, AWARDING GRANTS TO EDUCATION PROVIDERS TO USE IN INCREASING THE AVAILABILITY OF SCHOOL COUNSELORS AND THE LEVEL OF SCHOOL COUNSELING SERVICES PROVIDED IN

SECONDARY SCHOOLS AND TO THEREBY INCREASE THE GRADUATION AND MATRICULATION RATES AND DECREASE THE NEED FOR REMEDIATION IN POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION IS AN IMPORTANT ELEMENT OF ACCOUNTABLE EDUCATION REFORM AND MAY THEREFORE RECEIVE FUNDING FROM THE STATE EDUCATION FUND CREATED IN SECTION 17 (4) OF ARTICLE IX OF THE STATE CONSTITUTION.

22-91-105. Reporting. (1) EACH EDUCATION PROVIDER THAT RECEIVES A GRANT THROUGH THE PROGRAM SHALL REPORT THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION TO THE DEPARTMENT EACH YEAR DURING THE TERM OF THE GRANT:

(a) THE NUMBER OF SCHOOL COUNSELORS HIRED USING GRANT MONEYS;

(b) ANY PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS PROVIDED USING GRANT MONEYS;

(c) ANY OTHER SERVICES PROVIDED USING GRANT MONEYS;

(d) A COMPARISON OF THE DROPOUT RATES, AND THE COLLEGE MATRICULATION AND REMEDIATION RATES, IF APPLICABLE, AT THE RECIPIENT SECONDARY SCHOOLS FOR THE YEARS PRIOR TO RECEIPT OF THE GRANT AND THE YEARS FOR WHICH THE EDUCATION PROVIDER RECEIVES THE GRANT;

(e) INFORMATION INDICATING AN INCREASE IN THE LEVEL OF POSTSECONDARY PREPARATION SERVICES PROVIDED TO SECONDARY STUDENTS AT RECIPIENT SECONDARY SCHOOLS, SUCH AS THE USE OF INDIVIDUAL CAREER AND ACADEMIC PLANS OR ENROLLMENT IN PRE-COLLEGIATE PREPARATION PROGRAMS OR POSTSECONDARY OR VOCATIONAL PREPARATION PROGRAMS; AND

(f) ANY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION THAT THE STATE BOARD, BY RULE, MAY REQUIRE.

(2) ON OR BEFORE APRIL 15, 2009, AND ON OR BEFORE APRIL 15 EACH YEAR THEREAFTER, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL SUBMIT TO THE EDUCATION COMMITTEES OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, OR ANY SUCCESSOR COMMITTEES, A REPORT THAT, AT A MINIMUM, SUMMARIZES THE INFORMATION RECEIVED BY THE DEPARTMENT PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (1) OF THIS SECTION. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ALSO POST THE REPORT TO ITS WEB SITE.

(3) THE DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION SHALL COOPERATE WITH THE DEPARTMENT IN PROVIDING INFORMATION NECESSARY FOR THE REPORT SUBMITTED BY THE DEPARTMENT PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (2) OF THIS SECTION.

SECTION 2. Appropriation. In addition to any other appropriation, for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2008, there is hereby appropriated, out of any moneys in the state education fund, created in section 17 (4) of article IX of the state constitution, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of five million dollars (\$5,000,000) and 1.0 FTE, or so much thereof as may be necessary, for the school counselor corps grant program created in article 91 of title 22, Colorado Revised Statutes.

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, 2008