



March 2024

To: House Education Committee

Re: AAUW Support for HB1282-- Ninth-Grade Success Grant & Performance Reporting

Dear Committee Members:

The American Association of University Women (AAUW) is one of the oldest women's organizations in the country, empowering women since 1881. The mission of AAUW is to advance equity for women and girls through research, education and advocacy. More than 700 community leaders are AAUW members in local branches around the state.

AAUW has led the fight for economic empowerment for women, and we have made progress over the years. Yet, girls and young women continue to face barriers to reach their full potential. In 2019, the Ninth Grade Success Program was started, which gives special attention to students to ensure they will graduate from high school and be prepared for college and careers. It is time to make the program permanent and expand it to reach more students throughout Colorado. This bill represents a small investment that will pay big rewards, not only for our young women, but for the state as a whole.

AAUW of Colorado urges your YES vote in committee and as the bill moves through the legislative process.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Su Ryden".

Su Ryden

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American Association of University Women--AAUW is a top-rated 501(c)3 charitable organization whose mission is to advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy.