

First Regular Session  
Seventieth General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO

**REENGROSSED**

*This Version Includes All Amendments  
Adopted in the House of Introduction*

LLS NO. 15-0845.01 Brita Darling x2241

**HOUSE BILL 15-1270**

**HOUSE SPONSORSHIP**

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**House Committees**

Education  
Appropriations

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**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

101 **CONCERNING AUTHORIZATION FOR LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDERS TO**  
102 **OPERATE PATHWAYS IN TECHNOLOGY EARLY COLLEGE HIGH**  
103 **SCHOOLS, AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, MAKING AN**  
104 **APPROPRIATION.**

**Bill Summary**

*(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <http://www.leg.state.co.us/billsummaries>.)*

The bill authorizes the operation of a limited number of pathways in technology early college high schools (p-tech schools) in the state. A p-tech school enrolls students in grades 9 through 14 in an educational

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.  
*Capital letters indicate new material to be added to existing statute.*  
*Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.*

HOUSE  
3rd Reading Unamended  
April 2, 2015

HOUSE  
Amended 2nd Reading  
April 1, 2015

program that focuses on science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. The p-tech school combines high school and college-level course work with workplace educational experiences. A student who graduates from a p-tech school is expected to graduate with a high school diploma and an associate degree in applied science.

To operate a p-tech school, a school district, board of cooperative services, or charter school (local education provider) must enter into an agreement with a community college, as defined in the bill, and one or more employers. The parties to the agreement will collaborate in presenting the courses, providing student support services, and providing workplace educational experiences. They must also share decision-making responsibilities for the p-tech school.

The commissioner of education (commissioner) and the executive director of the department of higher education, acting jointly, must approve a p-tech school before it can operate within the state. The local education provider that operates the school may apply by submitting to the commissioner and the executive director a copy of the operating agreement, a description of the operating model for the p-tech school, the plan for enrolling students in the p-tech school, and other specified information. A p-tech school is subject to the same accountability requirements as other public schools, and a p-tech school's performance rating takes into account the employability of students who graduate from the p-tech school.

A p-tech school is funded through the school finance formula. Students enrolled in grades 9 through 12 are funded on the same basis as other high school students enrolled in public schools and students enrolled in grades 13 and 14 are funded at the same funding level as students who participate in the ASCENT program. Students enrolled in a p-tech school are included in the district pupil enrollment as full-time students. In addition, students enrolled in grades 13 and 14 are eligible to receive a stipend through the college opportunity fund.

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

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** article 35.3 to  
3 title 22 as follows:

4 **ARTICLE 35.3**

5 **Pathways in Technology Early College High Schools**

6 **22-35.3-101. Legislative declaration.** (1) THE GENERAL  
7 ASSEMBLY FINDS THAT:

1 (a) THE PATHWAYS IN TECHNOLOGY EARLY COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL  
2 MODEL (P-TECH) ALLOWS STUDENTS TO GRADUATE FROM HIGH SCHOOL  
3 WITH A HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA AND AN INDUSTRY-RECOGNIZED ASSOCIATE  
4 DEGREE. STUDENTS IN A P-TECH SCHOOL MAY ALSO EARN  
5 PRE-APPRENTICESHIP CERTIFICATES AND OTHER INDUSTRY-RECOGNIZED  
6 CERTIFICATES IN ADDITION TO AN ASSOCIATE DEGREE;

7 (b) THE SUCCESS OF P-TECH SCHOOLS DEPENDS UPON CLOSE  
8 COLLABORATION BETWEEN A LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER, A COMMUNITY  
9 COLLEGE, AND ONE OR MORE LOCAL HIGH-GROWTH INDUSTRY EMPLOYERS;

10 (c) THE P-TECH SCHOOL MODEL HAS BEEN RECENTLY ESTABLISHED  
11 IN OTHER STATES, INCLUDING NEW YORK, CONNECTICUT, AND ILLINOIS,  
12 AND IS SHOWING PROMISE; AND

13 (d) GRADUATING MORE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS WITH  
14 CAREER-READY SKILLS TO MEET COLORADO'S WORKFORCE NEEDS IS PART  
15 OF THE STATE'S EDUCATION AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT GOALS.

16 (2) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY THEREFORE DECLARES THAT  
17 ESTABLISHING A LIMITED NUMBER OF P-TECH SCHOOLS IN THE STATE WILL  
18 BENEFIT STUDENTS AND INDUSTRY IN COLORADO.

19 **22-35.3-102. Definitions.** AS USED IN THIS ARTICLE, UNLESS THE  
20 CONTEXT OTHERWISE REQUIRES:

21 (1) "ACCOUNTING DISTRICT" HAS THE SAME MEANING AS  
22 PROVIDED IN SECTION 22-54-103 (1.3).

23 (2) "CERTIFIED CENTER OF LEARNING" MEANS AN EMPLOYER THAT  
24 ENTERS INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH A P-TECH SCHOOL AND UNDERGOES A  
25 THIRD-PARTY CERTIFICATION PROCESS PROVING THAT THEY ARE  
26 QUALIFIED TO ASSIST THE LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER IN CREATING AND  
27 PROVIDING WORKPLACE EDUCATION EXPERIENCES AND TRAINING, WHICH

1 EXPERIENCES AND TRAINING MAY INCLUDE BUT NEED NOT BE LIMITED TO  
2 JOB SHADOWING, MENTORING, INTERNSHIPS, AND APPRENTICESHIPS.

3 (3) "COMMISSIONER" MEANS THE OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER  
4 OF EDUCATION CREATED AND EXISTING PURSUANT TO SECTION 1 OF  
5 ARTICLE IX OF THE STATE CONSTITUTION.

6 (4) "COMMUNITY COLLEGE" MEANS A COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
7 GOVERNED BY THE STATE BOARD FOR COMMUNITY COLLEGES AND  
8 OCCUPATIONAL EDUCATION OR A STATE-SUPPORTED INSTITUTION OF  
9 HIGHER EDUCATION OR LOCAL DISTRICT JUNIOR COLLEGE THAT IS  
10 AUTHORIZED TO GRANT ASSOCIATE DEGREES.

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

13 (6) "DISTRICT EXTENDED HIGH SCHOOL PUPIL ENROLLMENT" HAS  
14 THE SAME MEANING AS PROVIDED IN SECTION 22-54-103 (5.2).

15 (7) "EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR" MEANS THE OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE  
16 DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION CREATED AND  
17 EXISTING PURSUANT TO SECTION 24-1-114, C.R.S.

18 (8) "FUNDED PUPIL COUNT" HAS THE SAME MEANING AS PROVIDED  
19 IN SECTION 22-54-103 (7).

20 (9) "LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER" MEANS A SCHOOL DISTRICT, A  
21 BOARD OF COOPERATIVE SERVICES THAT OPERATES A HIGH SCHOOL, THE  
22 STATE CHARTER SCHOOL INSTITUTE ESTABLISHED IN SECTION 22-30.5-503,  
23 OR A CHARTER SCHOOL AUTHORIZED PURSUANT TO PART 1 OR PART 5 OF  
24 ARTICLE 30.5 OF THIS TITLE.

25 (10) "P-TECH SCHOOL" MEANS A PATHWAYS IN TECHNOLOGY  
26 EARLY COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL THAT IS APPROVED PURSUANT TO THIS  
27 ARTICLE.

1 (11) "PUPIL ENROLLMENT" HAS THE SAME MEANING AS PROVIDED  
2 IN SECTION 22-54-103 (10).

3 **22-35.3-103. Pathways in technology early college high schools**

4 **- design - requirements - approval.** (1) A PATHWAYS IN TECHNOLOGY  
5 EARLY COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL, OR P-TECH SCHOOL, IS A PUBLIC SCHOOL  
6 THAT INCLUDES GRADES NINE THROUGH FOURTEEN AND IS DESIGNED TO  
7 PREPARE STUDENTS FOR HIGH-POTENTIAL CAREERS IN INDUSTRY BY  
8 ENABLING THEM TO GRADUATE WITH A HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA AND AN  
9 INDUSTRY-RECOGNIZED ASSOCIATE DEGREE. STUDENTS IN A P-TECH  
10 SCHOOL MAY ALSO EARN PRE-APPRENTICESHIP CERTIFICATES AND OTHER  
11 INDUSTRY-RECOGNIZED CERTIFICATES IN ADDITION TO AN ASSOCIATE  
12 DEGREE. A P-TECH SCHOOL IS OPERATED AS A COLLABORATIVE EFFORT BY  
13 A LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER, A COMMUNITY COLLEGE, AND ONE OR  
14 MORE LOCAL HIGH-GROWTH INDUSTRY EMPLOYERS. THROUGHOUT  
15 GRADES NINE THROUGH FOURTEEN, A P-TECH SCHOOL INTEGRATES HIGH  
16 SCHOOL AND COLLEGE COURSES AND CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS THAT ARE  
17 INFORMED BY CURRENT AND PROJECTED INDUSTRY STANDARDS AND  
18 FOCUSED ON SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, AND MATHEMATICS  
19 WITH MENTORING, JOB SHADOWING, INTERNSHIPS, PRE-APPRENTICESHIP  
20 TRAINING, AND OTHER WORKPLACE EDUCATION EXPERIENCES.

21 (2) A P-TECH SCHOOL TO BE OPERATED BY A LOCAL EDUCATION  
22 PROVIDER MUST BE JOINTLY APPROVED BY THE COMMISSIONER OF  
23 EDUCATION AND THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF  
24 HIGHER EDUCATION. THE COMMISSIONER AND THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
25 SHALL JOINTLY ESTABLISH TIME LINES AND PROCEDURES BY WHICH A  
26 LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER MAY APPLY TO OPERATE A P-TECH SCHOOL  
27 AND SHALL DEVELOP A MODEL P-TECH AGREEMENT TEMPLATE THAT MAY

1 BE USED BY AN APPLICANT. THE APPLICATION MUST INCLUDE:

2 (a) THE AGREEMENT THAT THE LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER, A  
3 COMMUNITY COLLEGE, AND ONE OR MORE EMPLOYERS ENTER INTO TO  
4 OPERATE THE P-TECH SCHOOL, WHICH MUST ADDRESS:

5 (I) THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER  
6 AND THE COMMUNITY COLLEGE TO PROVIDE, AT A MINIMUM, COURSE  
7 WORK, COUNSELING, AND STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES, AS WELL AS  
8 PROVISIONS RELATING TO INSTRUCTOR QUALIFICATIONS;

9 (II) THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE EMPLOYER TO PROVIDE  
10 WORKPLACE EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCES AND TO CONSULT WITH THE  
11 LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER ON COURSE DESIGN, AS REQUESTED,  
12 WHETHER THE EMPLOYER IS A CERTIFIED CENTER OF LEARNING, WITH  
13 PREFERENCE GIVEN TO SUCH EMPLOYERS, AND ANY FUNDING THAT THE  
14 EMPLOYER MAY PROVIDE FOR THE P-TECH SCHOOL PROGRAM;

15 (III) THE PROCEDURE FOR COMMUNICATION AND SHARED  
16 DECISION-MAKING BY THE LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER, COMMUNITY  
17 COLLEGE, AND EMPLOYER REGARDING SCHOOL OPERATIONS; AND

18 (IV) THE ALLOCATION OF SUPPORT, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED  
19 TO FUNDING, INTERNSHIPS, MENTORSHIPS, POTENTIAL JOB OPPORTUNITIES,  
20 AND OTHER RELATED RESOURCES, BETWEEN THE LOCAL EDUCATION  
21 PROVIDER, THE EMPLOYER, AND THE COMMUNITY COLLEGE;

22 (b) THE OPERATIONAL MODEL FOR THE P-TECH SCHOOL, INCLUDING  
23 BUT NOT LIMITED TO CURRICULA, INSTRUCTIONAL PRACTICES, FACULTY  
24 ROLES, STUDENT SUPPORT STRUCTURES, CLASS SCHEDULES, EXPERIENTIAL  
25 LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES, AND THE ASSOCIATE DEGREES THAT STUDENTS  
26 MAY ATTAIN THROUGH THE P-TECH SCHOOL;

27 (c) THE ESTIMATED NUMBER OF STUDENTS THAT THE P-TECH

1 SCHOOL WILL ENROLL WHEN OPERATING AT FULL CAPACITY AND THE PLAN  
2 FOR SELECTING STUDENTS TO ENROLL IN THE P-TECH SCHOOL, WHICH MUST  
3 BE DESIGNED IN A WAY THAT ENCOURAGES THE ENROLLMENT OF A  
4 STUDENT BODY THAT IS SOCIO-ECONOMICALLY AND RACIALLY DIVERSE  
5 AND THAT INCLUDES FIRST-GENERATION COLLEGE STUDENTS, ENGLISH  
6 LANGUAGE LEARNERS, AND STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES;

7 (d) IF THE APPLYING LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER IS A CHARTER  
8 SCHOOL, WRITTEN CONFIRMATION THAT THE CHARTER SCHOOL'S  
9 AUTHORIZER AGREES TO AMEND THE CHARTER CONTRACT TO ALLOW THE  
10 CHARTER SCHOOL TO OPERATE AS A P-TECH SCHOOL; AND

11 (e) ANY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION THAT THE COMMISSIONER AND  
12 THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MAY REQUIRE.

13 (3) THE COMMISSIONER AND THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SHALL  
14 REVIEW EACH APPLICATION RECEIVED AND JOINTLY APPROVE LOCAL  
15 EDUCATION PROVIDERS TO OPERATE A LIMITED NUMBER OF P-TECH  
16 SCHOOLS WITHIN THE STATE. THE COMMISSIONER AND THE EXECUTIVE  
17 DIRECTOR SHALL BASE THEIR SELECTIONS ON THE QUALITY OF THE  
18 PROPOSED DESIGN OF THE P-TECH SCHOOL AND THE DEGREE TO WHICH THE  
19 AGREEMENT OF THE LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER, COMMUNITY COLLEGE,  
20 AND EMPLOYER IS COLLABORATIVE AND REQUIRES FULL PARTICIPATION BY  
21 EACH PARTY. ONCE AN APPLICATION IS APPROVED, THE LOCAL EDUCATION  
22 PROVIDER SHALL HAVE UP TO ONE FULL ACADEMIC YEAR TO IMPLEMENT  
23 THE P-TECH PROGRAM. IT IS THE INTENT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY THAT  
24 ONE OR MORE P-TECH SCHOOLS BEGIN OPERATING BY THE 2016-17 SCHOOL  
25 YEAR.

26 (4) A P-TECH SCHOOL IS SUBJECT TO THE STATE ASSESSMENT  
27 REQUIREMENTS SPECIFIED IN SECTIONS 22-7-409 AND 22-7-1006 AND THE

1 ACCOUNTABILITY REQUIREMENTS SPECIFIED IN ARTICLE 11 OF THIS TITLE.  
2 IN ADDITION, THE COMMISSIONER AND THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MAY  
3 ESTABLISH INDICATORS FOR MEASURING THE PERFORMANCE OF EACH  
4 P-TECH SCHOOL, WHICH INDICATORS MAY INCLUDE THE ABILITY OF  
5 STUDENTS WHO GRADUATE FROM A P-TECH SCHOOL TO OBTAIN  
6 EMPLOYMENT IN THE FIELD OR TO PURSUE ADDITIONAL POSTSECONDARY  
7 EDUCATION IN THE FIELD, AS WELL AS ANY RELEVANT PERFORMANCE  
8 INDICATORS ESTABLISHED FOR THE CONCURRENT ENROLLMENT AND  
9 ASCENT PROGRAMS.

10 **22-35.3-104. P-tech schools - funding.** (1) (a) TO CALCULATE  
11 DISTRICT TOTAL PROGRAM, PURSUANT TO SECTION 22-54-104, A SCHOOL  
12 DISTRICT THAT IS APPROVED TO OPERATE A P-TECH SCHOOL PURSUANT TO  
13 SECTION 22-35.3-103, INCLUDING A P-TECH SCHOOL THAT IS A DISTRICT  
14 CHARTER SCHOOL, MAY INCLUDE THE STUDENTS WHO ARE ENROLLED IN  
15 GRADES NINE THROUGH TWELVE IN THE P-TECH SCHOOL IN THE SCHOOL  
16 DISTRICT'S PUPIL ENROLLMENT, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 22-54-103 (10),  
17 AND MAY INCLUDE THE STUDENTS WHO ARE ENROLLED IN GRADES  
18 THIRTEEN AND FOURTEEN IN THE P-TECH SCHOOL IN THE SCHOOL  
19 DISTRICT'S DISTRICT EXTENDED HIGH SCHOOL PUPIL ENROLLMENT.

20 (b) IF AN INSTITUTE CHARTER SCHOOL IS APPROVED TO OPERATE  
21 A P-TECH SCHOOL PURSUANT TO SECTION 22-35.3-103, THE DEPARTMENT  
22 SHALL INCLUDE THE STUDENTS WHO ARE ENROLLED IN GRADES NINE  
23 THROUGH TWELVE IN THE P-TECH SCHOOL IN THE FUNDED PUPIL COUNT OF  
24 THE INSTITUTE CHARTER SCHOOL'S ACCOUNTING DISTRICT AND SHALL  
25 INCLUDE THE STUDENTS WHO ARE ENROLLED IN GRADES THIRTEEN AND  
26 FOURTEEN IN THE P-TECH SCHOOL IN THE DISTRICT EXTENDED HIGH  
27 SCHOOL PUPIL ENROLLMENT OF THE INSTITUTE CHARTER SCHOOL'S



1 ACCOUNTING DISTRICT.

2 (2) A STUDENT WHO IS ENROLLED IN A P-TECH SCHOOL THAT IS  
3 APPROVED PURSUANT TO SECTION 22-35.3-103 AND WHO IS  
4 SIMULTANEOUSLY ENROLLED IN ONE OR MORE POSTSECONDARY COURSES,  
5 INCLUDING ACADEMIC OR CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION COURSES,  
6 AT A COMMUNITY COLLEGE AS PART OF THE P-TECH PROGRAM, IS ELIGIBLE  
7 TO RECEIVE A STIPEND FROM THE COLLEGE OPPORTUNITY FUND PURSUANT  
8 TO PART 2 OF ARTICLE 18 OF TITLE 23, C.R.S., SO LONG AS THE  
9 INSTITUTION THE STUDENT ATTENDS PARTICIPATES IN THE COLLEGE  
10 OPPORTUNITY FUND PROGRAM PURSUANT TO SECTION 23-18-202, C.R.S.  
11 THE STIPEND IS PAYABLE TO THE COMMUNITY COLLEGE THAT IS A  
12 PARTNER IN THE APPROVED P-TECH SCHOOL.

13 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-54-103, **amend**  
14 (5.2), (7) (e) (I) introductory portion, and (10) (e.5); and **add** (9.7) as  
15 follows:

16 **22-54-103. Definitions.** As used in this article, unless the context  
17 otherwise requires:

18 (5.2) "District ~~ASCENT program~~ EXTENDED HIGH SCHOOL pupil  
19 enrollment" means the number of pupils, on the pupil enrollment count  
20 day within the applicable budget year, who are concurrently enrolled in  
21 a postsecondary course, including an academic course or a career and  
22 technical education course, as a participant in the ASCENT program AND  
23 THE NUMBER OF PUPILS, ON THE PUPIL ENROLLMENT COUNT DAY WITHIN  
24 THE APPLICABLE BUDGET YEAR, WHO ARE ENROLLED IN GRADE THIRTEEN  
25 OR FOURTEEN IN A P-TECH SCHOOL. A PUPIL ENROLLED IN A P-TECH  
26 SCHOOL PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 35.3 OF THIS TITLE SHALL BE INCLUDED IN  
27 THE DISTRICT EXTENDED HIGH SCHOOL PUPIL ENROLLMENT AS A

1 FULL-TIME STUDENT. An ASCENT program participant who is enrolled  
2 in at least twelve credit hours of postsecondary courses, including  
3 academic courses and career and technical education courses, as of the  
4 pupil enrollment count day of the applicable budget year shall be included  
5 in the district ~~ASCENT program~~ EXTENDED HIGH SCHOOL pupil  
6 enrollment as a full-time pupil. An ASCENT program participant who is  
7 enrolled in less than twelve credit hours of postsecondary courses,  
8 including academic courses and career and technical education courses,  
9 as of the pupil enrollment count day of the applicable budget year shall  
10 be included in the district ~~ASCENT program~~ EXTENDED HIGH SCHOOL  
11 pupil enrollment as a part-time pupil.

12 (7) "Funded pupil count" means:

13 (e) (I) For budget years commencing on and after July 1, 2009, the  
14 district's on-line pupil enrollment for the applicable budget year plus the  
15 district's preschool program enrollment for the applicable budget year  
16 plus the district's supplemental kindergarten enrollment for the applicable  
17 budget year plus the district's ~~ASCENT program~~ EXTENDED HIGH SCHOOL  
18 pupil enrollment for the applicable budget year, plus the greater of:

19 (9.7) "P-TECH SCHOOL" MEANS A PATHWAYS IN TECHNOLOGY  
20 EARLY COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL THAT IS APPROVED PURSUANT TO ARTICLE  
21 35.3 OF THIS TITLE.

22 (10) (e.5) A pupil who is enrolled as less than a full-time student,  
23 other than a student described in paragraph (b) or (d) of this subsection  
24 (10) OR A STUDENT ENROLLED IN A P-TECH SCHOOL PURSUANT TO ARTICLE  
25 35.3 OF THIS TITLE, shall be counted in accordance with rules promulgated  
26 by the state board for students who are enrolled as less than full-time  
27 students.

1           **SECTION 3.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-54-104, **amend**  
2 (2) (a) (IX), (3.5) (d) (III), (4.7) (a), (4.7) (c), and (5) (g) (VI) (C) as  
3 follows:

4           **22-54-104. District total program - definitions.**  
5 (2) (a) (IX) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection (2),  
6 paragraph (g) of subsection (5) or subsection (6) of this section, or section  
7 22-54-104.3, a district's total program for the 2009-10 budget year and  
8 budget years thereafter shall be the greater of the following:

9           (A) (District per pupil funding x (District funded pupil count -  
10 District on-line pupil enrollment - District ~~ASCENT program~~ EXTENDED  
11 HIGH SCHOOL pupil enrollment)) + District at-risk funding + District  
12 on-line funding + District ~~ASCENT program~~ EXTENDED HIGH SCHOOL  
13 funding; or

14           (B) (Minimum per pupil funding x (District funded pupil count -  
15 District on-line pupil enrollment - District ~~ASCENT program~~ EXTENDED  
16 HIGH SCHOOL pupil enrollment)) + District on-line funding + District  
17 ~~ASCENT program~~ EXTENDED HIGH SCHOOL funding.

18           (3.5) Minimum per pupil funding shall be:

19           (d) (III) (A) As used in this subsection (3.5), for the 2009-10  
20 budget year and budget years thereafter, "minimum per pupil funding  
21 base" means the total of the calculation specified in sub-subparagraph (B)  
22 of this subparagraph (III) for all districts for the budget year divided by  
23 the statewide funded pupil count minus the statewide on-line pupil  
24 enrollment and minus the statewide ~~ASCENT program~~ EXTENDED HIGH  
25 SCHOOL pupil enrollment, for said budget year.

26           (B) The following calculation shall be used for the purpose of  
27 determining the minimum per pupil funding base pursuant to this

1 subparagraph (III):  
2 (District per pupil funding x (District funded pupil count - District on-line  
3 pupil enrollment - District ~~ASCENT program~~ EXTENDED HIGH SCHOOL  
4 pupil enrollment)) + District at-risk funding.

5 (4.7) (a) For the 2009-10 budget year and budget years thereafter,  
6 a district's ~~ASCENT program~~ EXTENDED HIGH SCHOOL funding shall be  
7 determined in accordance with the following formula:

8 (District ~~ASCENT program~~ EXTENDED HIGH SCHOOL pupil enrollment x  
9 \$6,135, or an amount determined pursuant to paragraph (b) of this  
10 subsection (4.7)).

11 (c) In any budget year in which the provisions of paragraph (g) of  
12 subsection (5) of this section apply, the department of education shall  
13 calculate a district's reduction amount for ~~ASCENT program~~ EXTENDED  
14 HIGH SCHOOL funding by multiplying the negative factor calculated for  
15 the applicable budget year pursuant to sub-subparagraph (A) of  
16 subparagraph (II) of paragraph (g) of subsection (5) of this section by the  
17 amount of the district's ~~ASCENT program~~ EXTENDED HIGH SCHOOL  
18 funding calculated pursuant to paragraph (b) of this subsection (4.7) for  
19 the applicable budget year. A district's ~~ASCENT program~~ EXTENDED  
20 HIGH SCHOOL funding for the applicable budget year shall be the greater  
21 of:

22 (I) The district's ~~ASCENT program~~ EXTENDED HIGH SCHOOL  
23 funding calculated for the applicable budget year pursuant to paragraph  
24 (b) of this subsection (4.7) minus the district's reduction amount  
25 calculated for the applicable budget year pursuant to this paragraph (c) for  
26 ~~ASCENT program~~ EXTENDED HIGH SCHOOL funding; or

27 (II) An amount equal to the base per pupil funding amount

1 specified in paragraph (a) of subsection (5) of this section for the  
2 applicable budget year multiplied by the district's ~~ASCENT program~~  
3 EXTENDED HIGH SCHOOL pupil enrollment for the applicable budget year.

4 (5) For purposes of the formulas used in this section:

5 (g) (VI) For the 2010-11 budget year, two sources of federal  
6 moneys, totaling two hundred sixteen million three hundred fifty-eight  
7 thousand one hundred sixty-four dollars (\$216,358,164), have been made  
8 available to districts and are being allocated to districts by the department  
9 of education based on the formulas specified in subsection (2) of this  
10 section. Accordingly, the state's share of total program funding for all  
11 districts, including the funding for institute charter schools for the  
12 2010-11 budget year, has been reduced by said amount as is reflected in  
13 the sum of total program funding for the 2010-11 budget year specified  
14 in sub-subparagraph (A) of subparagraph (I) of this paragraph (g). For the  
15 2010-11 budget year, it is the general assembly's intent that the  
16 department of education calculate total program funding for the following  
17 purposes as if the state's share of total program funding for the 2010-11  
18 budget year was not reduced as specified in this subparagraph (VI):

19 (C) A district's ~~ASCENT program~~ EXTENDED HIGH SCHOOL  
20 funding pursuant to subsection (4.7) of this section; and

21 **SECTION 4.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-54-112, **amend**  
22 (2) (a) as follows:

23 **22-54-112. Reports to the state board.** (2) (a) On or before  
24 November 10 of each year, the secretary of the board of education of each  
25 district shall certify to the state board the pupil enrollment, the on-line  
26 pupil enrollment, the ~~ASCENT program~~ EXTENDED HIGH SCHOOL pupil  
27 enrollment, and the preschool program enrollment of the district taken in

1 the preceding October or previously in November.

2 **SECTION 5.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 23-18-102, **amend**  
3 (5) (a) (I); and **add** (5) (a) (I.5) as follows:

4 **23-18-102. Definitions.** As used in parts 1 and 2 of this article,  
5 unless the context otherwise requires:

6 (5) (a) "Eligible undergraduate student" means:

7 (I) A student who is enrolled at a state institution of higher  
8 education and who is classified as an in-state student for tuition purposes;  
9 **or**

10 (I.5) A STUDENT WHO IS ENROLLED AT A STATE INSTITUTION OF  
11 HIGHER EDUCATION AS PART OF A PATHWAYS IN TECHNOLOGY EARLY  
12 COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL THAT IS APPROVED AS PROVIDED IN ARTICLE 35.3  
13 OF TITLE 22, C.R.S. AND WHO IS CLASSIFIED AS AN IN-STATE STUDENT FOR  
14 TUITION PURPOSES; OR

15 **SECTION 6.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 23-18-202, **amend**  
16 (2) (b), (5) (c) (III), and (5) (f) as follows:

17 **23-18-202. College opportunity fund - appropriations -**  
18 **payment of stipends - reimbursement - repeal.** (2) (b) For the state  
19 fiscal year commencing July 1, 2005, and for state fiscal years thereafter,  
20 for an eligible undergraduate student attending a state institution of higher  
21 education, the specified amount of the stipend per credit hour shall be an  
22 amount set annually by the general assembly, which in no case shall  
23 exceed the student's total in-state tuition. The value of the per credit hour  
24 stipend shall be the same for each eligible undergraduate student,  
25 regardless of the state institution of higher education that the student  
26 attends. The student shall be responsible for paying the student's share of  
27 total in-state tuition, if **any.** **IF** THE STUDENT IS ENROLLED IN  A

1 PATHWAYS IN TECHNOLOGY EARLY COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL PURSUANT TO  
2 ARTICLE 35.3 OF TITLE 22, C.R.S., THE P-TECH SCHOOL SHALL BE  
3 RESPONSIBLE FOR PAYING THE STUDENT'S SHARE OF TOTAL IN-STATE  
4 TUITION, IF ANY.

5 (5) (c) (III) For an eligible undergraduate student who has  
6 completed one or more college courses while enrolled in high school  
7 pursuant to the "Concurrent Enrollment Programs Act", article 35 of title  
8 22, C.R.S., or while designated by the department of education as an  
9 ASCENT program participant pursuant to section 22-35-108, C.R.S., OR  
10 WHILE ENROLLED IN A PATHWAYS IN TECHNOLOGY EARLY COLLEGE HIGH  
11 SCHOOL PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 35.3 OF TITLE 22, C.R.S., all college-level  
12 credit hours earned by the student ~~during such enrollment shall~~ WHILE SO  
13 ENROLLED count against the lifetime limitation described in subparagraph  
14 (I) of this paragraph (c); except that credit hours earned from enrollment  
15 in a basic skills course, as defined in section 23-1-113 (11) (b), shall not  
16 count against the lifetime limitation.

17 (f) Notwithstanding the lifetime-credit-hour limitation established  
18 pursuant to paragraph (c) of this subsection (5) and in addition to the  
19 provisions of paragraph (e) of this subsection (5), a state institution of  
20 higher education may annually grant a one-year waiver of the  
21 lifetime-credit-hour limitation for up to five percent of the eligible  
22 undergraduate students enrolled in the state institution of higher  
23 education. In granting the waivers under this paragraph (f), the state  
24 institution of higher education shall, upon request, grant a waiver to an  
25 eligible undergraduate student for courses taken pursuant to the  
26 "Concurrent Enrollment Programs Act", article 35 of title 22, C.R.S., OR  
27 FOR COURSES TAKEN WHILE ENROLLED IN A PATHWAYS IN TECHNOLOGY

1 EARLY COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 35.3 OF TITLE 22,  
2 C.R.S. For any remaining portion of the institution's five percent of  
3 eligible undergraduate students who may receive waivers, the institution  
4 shall give priority to students who are seeking job retraining.

5 **SECTION 7. Appropriation.** (1) For the 2015-16 state fiscal  
6 year, \$7,232 is appropriated to the department of education. This  
7 appropriation is from the general fund and is based on the assumption that  
8 the department will require an additional 0.1 FTE. To implement this act,  
9 the department may use this appropriation for preschool to postsecondary  
10 education alignment.

11 (2) For the 2015-16 state fiscal year, \$7,232 is appropriated to the  
12 department of higher education for use by the Colorado commission on  
13 higher education. This appropriation is from the general fund and is based  
14 on an assumption that the commission will require an additional 0.1 FTE.  
15 To implement this act, the commission may use this appropriation for  
16 administration.

17 **SECTION 8.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-35-108, **amend**  
18 **as amended by Senate Bill 15-138** (3) as follows:

19 **22-35-108. Accelerating students through concurrent**  
20 **enrollment program - objectives - selection criteria - rules.** (3) (a) The  
21 local education provider of a qualified student who is designated by the  
22 department as an ASCENT program participant may include the student  
23 in the district's funded pupil count, or, in the case of a student enrolled in  
24 an institute charter school, in the school's accounting district, as provided  
25 in section 22-54-103 (7).

26 (b) A local education provider that receives ~~ASCENT program~~  
27 ~~EXTENDED HIGH SCHOOL~~ funding, as described in section 22-54-104 (4.7),



1 in a budget year FOR ASCENT PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS may expend the  
2 ASCENT program funding on behalf of ASCENT program participants  
3 who enroll in an institution of higher education during that budget year  
4 and on behalf of ASCENT program participants who, by May 1 of that  
5 budget year, are admitted to an institution of higher education to  
6 participate in the ASCENT program during the next budget year.

7 (c) The local education provider shall certify to the department by  
8 May 10 of each year the list of ASCENT program participants who are  
9 admitted to an institution of higher education to participate in the  
10 ASCENT program during the next budget year. At the end of the budget  
11 year in which the local education provider receives the ASCENT program  
12 EXTENDED HIGH SCHOOL funding FOR ASCENT PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS,  
13 the local education provider shall remit to the department any remaining  
14 amount of the ASCENT program funding that the local education  
15 provider is not using for an ASCENT program participant who is  
16 included on the certified list.

17 **SECTION 9. Act subject to petition - effective date.** (1) Except  
18 as otherwise provided in subsection (2) of this section, this act takes  
19 effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the ninety-day  
20 period after final adjournment of the general assembly (August 5, 2015,  
21 if adjournment sine die is on May 6, 2015); except that, if a referendum  
22 petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V of the state  
23 constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this act within  
24 such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take effect unless  
25 approved by the people at the general election to be held in November  
26 2016 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the official  
27 declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.

- 1 (2) Section 7 of this act takes effect only if Senate Bill 15-138
- 2 becomes law.