

LEGISLATION THAT FAILED

Colorado Congress of Foreign Language Teachers

HB1195 INCOME TAX CREDIT FOR PRIVATE SCHOOL TUITION

Rep. Lambert & Sen. Brophy

Creates an income tax credit to offset a portion of tuition paid to private schools for certain qualifying students. Allows taxpayers to claim this credit if their child leaves public school and enters private school after the effective date of the act, and specifies the amount and mechanism for calculating the credit. Allows the credit to be carried forward for up to 3 years, but not refunded.

Position Monitor

Current Status Postponed Indefinitely

HB1304 SUSPEND CSAPs NOT REQUIRED BY FEDERAL LAW

Rep. Solano & Sen. Williams

For school years 2009-10 and 2010-11, suspends the administration of all writing CSAPs and all CSAPs for students in 9th and 10th grades. Cites "extreme budget restrictions" as the reason for restricting the scope of CSAP testing.

Position Passive support

Current Status Postponed Indefinitely

HB1324 EMPLOYMENT DISQUALIFICATIONS PUBLIC SCHOOL EMPLOYEES

Rep. McNulty & Sen. Mitchell

Prohibits public schools from employing nonlicensed personnel who have been convicted (defined to also include nolo contendere and deferred judgments) of certain criminal offenses. Creates discretionary disqualifications for certain criminal offenses that may be a bar to employment. Adds to the existing list of mandatory disqualifications for licensed educators any conviction for a felony drug offense. Makes conforming amendments to charter school and state charter school institute statutes.

Position Monitor

Current Status Postponed Indefinitely

HB1356 USE STATE EDUCATION FUND FOR COF STIPEND FUNDING

Rep. Pommer and Liston

Appropriates \$25 million from the State Education Fund to be used to provide College Opportunity Fund stipends to students enrolled in certain higher education programs. Makes findings as to permissible uses of SEF under the terms of Amendment 23, and specifies that COF stipends funded with SEF will be used for students in concurrent enrollment programs, remedial programs, teacher prep programs and early childhood education and development programs. Repeals act on July 1, 2010 (making this a one-year only use of SEF moneys).

Position Monitor

Current Status Lost

LEGISLATION THAT FAILED

HJR1013 INTERIM STUDY TO CONSIDER MERGER OF CDE AND CDHE

Rep. Weissmann & Sen. Spence

Proposes the creation of an 8-member interim study committee of 6 legislators plus representatives of the commissioner and CCHE to consider the issues involved in merging the Colorado Department of Education with the Colorado Department of Higher Education. Makes findings about recent efforts such as the P-20 Council to align the K-12 and higher ed systems. Specifies issues to be considered by the committee.

Position Monitor

Current Status Postponed Indefinitely

SB131 REQUIRE PHYSICAL ACTIVITY IN SCHOOL

Sen. Romer & Rep. Massey

Encourages each school board and the charter school institute to ensure that students in their elementary schools engage in at least 150 minutes of physical activity each week. Requires schools that currently exceed this amount to maintain the higher level of physical activity. Defines "physical activity" as exercise, fitness breaks, PE classes, recess, and field trips or classroom activities that include physical activity. Disallows substitution of physical activity for PE classes. Amended to apply only to elementary school students. Amended to delete reporting requirements. Amended in House to make permissive and "encourage" compliance.

Position Monitor

Current Status Lost

SB155 FUNDING FOR EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES

Sen. K. King & Rep. Rice

Authorizes a metropolitan district to build a public school building when the local school district refuses a land dedication for a school site and refuses payment in lieu thereof. Directs the metropolitan district board to consult with the local school board concerning operation of the school, and allows the metropolitan district to contract with an entity or group to operate the school as a charter school. Directs the metropolitan district or the contracting entity to apply for a district charter, and if denied, to the state charter school institute. Allows a subdivider to dedicate a school site or make a payment in lieu thereof to a metropolitan district. Adds private not-for-profit early childhood education facilities and public school facilities to the list of projects for which a municipality or county may issue bond debt. Authorizes the State Board of Land Commissioners to lease or sell state trust lands to charter schools. When a qualified charter school does not restore its debt service fund to required levels, requires the State Treasurer, rather than the CECFA, to notify the governor. Allows CECFA to buy buildings on behalf of an educational institution in situations in which the building is currently occupied by a tenant and permit that tenant to remain in the facility through the term of the lease.

Position Monitor

Current Status Postponed Indefinitely

LEGISLATION THAT FAILED

SB170 NONDISCRIMINATION IN HIGHER ED TUITION RATES

Sen. Romer & Rep. Miklosi

Permits students, regardless of immigration status, to qualify for in-state tuition rate if they had attended a Colorado high school for 3 years and graduated or completed a GED and they enroll in a public institution of higher education within one year after high school completion.

Requires applicants for in-state tuition to sign affidavit stating they have filed an application for permanent resident status or that they intend to do so when they become eligible. Amended to remove eligibility for financial aid and the Colorado Opportunity Fund. Amended to clarify that provisions of this act do not apply to persons who can provide verification of lawful presence in the United States. Amended to restore language providing exception to requirements of HB 06S-1023 requiring verification of lawful presence.

Position Active Support

Current Status Lost

SB221 PROPERTY TAX CREDIT FOR PRIVATE SCHOOL EDUCATION

Sen. Lundberg & Rep. Lambert

For property tax years 2009 through 2013, creates a property tax credit for tuition and other educational expenses associated with private school education. Defines "qualified student" as one that attended a public school in the prior fiscal year, but switches to a private school during the years in which the credit is available. Establishes procedures for claiming the credit and permits the credit to be transferred. Provides state funding to counties to backfill lost revenues, but prevents backfill for school finance total program.

Position Monitor

Current Status Postponed Indefinitely