

Higher Education Bills of Interest Status Update as of March 4, 2021

Key: Blue denotes CDHE leg agenda item		Green denotes passed/for Governor's consideration		Red denotes failed
Bill #	Short Title	Sponsors	Bill Summary	Most Recent Status
HB21-1010	Diverse K-12 Educator Workforce Report	N. Ricks / R. Fields (D)	The bill directs the department of higher education and the department of education to convene a workgroup on diversity in the educator workforce (workgroup). The department of higher education and the department of education shall select the members of the workgroup, which must include those agencies, persons, and organizations specified in the bill. The departments may seek recommendations or nominations from interested stakeholders. The workgroup shall investigate barriers to the preparation, retention, and recruitment of a diverse educator workforce and shall consider strategies to increase diversity in the educator workforce. The bill includes specific issues for the workgroup to consider. The workgroup shall submit a written report of its findings and recommendations to the education committees of the general assembly no later than September 30, 2022. The workgroup may submit interim findings and recommendations during the 2022 legislative session. Under current law, the department of higher education reports annually concerning educator preparation programs, including enrollment, graduation rates, outcomes of graduates, and performance on assessments administered for licensure. The bill requires the department of higher education to include the required information disaggregated by the candidates' or graduates' gender, race, and ethnicity. Further, the information contained in the annual report must be posted on the department of higher education's and the department of education's websites. (Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced.)	2/16/2021 Introduced In House - Assigned to Education
HB21-1067	College Admission Use Of National Test Score	C. Kipp (D) M. Baisley (R) / T. Story (D) J. Buckner	The governing board of a state institution of higher education (institution) may, but is not required to, require a national assessment test score as an eligibility criterion for admission. Each institution shall submit an annual report to the department of higher education concerning the first-time freshman cohort. The department of higher education shall submit a collective annual report to the education committees of the house of representatives and the senate. (Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced.)	2/16/2021 Introduced In House - Assigned to Education
HB21-1100	Electronic Filing Of Documents With Governmental Entities	M. Soper (R) / J. Bridges (D)	The bill requires a governmental entity to establish an electronic filing option by January 1, 2022, for each document required or allowed to be filed with the governmental entity. A governmental entity includes each principal department of the state and each county, and any agency, department, board, or division thereof. The electronic filing option may include accepting a scanned copy of the original document by email or through a secure file transfer system. The electronic filing option must comply with existing requirements for a governmental entity to have reasonable security practices in place if the governmental entity receives or maintains personal identifying information. The governmental entity is not authorized to require a filing to be made only by electronic filing if the department does not have authority under other law to require electronic filing. (Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced.)	2/16/2021 Introduced In House - Assigned to Finance
HB21-1104	Professional Educator Licensure Renewal Period	C. Larson (R) B. McLachlan (D) / P. Lundeen (R)	The bill extends the renewal period for professional teacher, special services educator, principal, and administrator licenses from 5 to 7 years. The bill allows for a professional teacher, special services educator, principal, or administrator who is partially through the current 5-year licensing cycle to have that extended to 7 years for that particular cycle. (Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced.)	2/16/2021 Introduced In House - Assigned to Education

HB21-1108	Gender Identity Expression Anti-discrimination	D. Esgar (D) / D. Moreno (D)	The bill amends the definition of "sexual orientation" and adds definitions of the terms "gender expression" and "gender identity". The bill also adds the terms "gender expression" and "gender identity" to statutes prohibiting discrimination against members of a protected class, including statutes prohibiting discriminatory practices in the following areas: Membership of the Colorado civil rights commission; Employment practices; Housing practices; Places of public accommodation; Publications that advertise places of public accommodation; Consumer credit transactions; Selection of patients by direct primary health care providers; Sales of cemetery plots; Membership in labor organizations; Colorado labor for public works projects; Issuance or renewal of automobile insurance policies; The provision of funeral services and crematory services; Eligibility for jury service; Issuance of licenses to practice law; The juvenile diversion program; Access to services for youth in foster care; Enrollment in a charter school, institute charter school, public school, or pilot school; Local school boards' written policies regarding employment, promotion, and dismissal; The assignment or transfer of a public school teacher; Leasing portions of the grounds of or improvements on the grounds of the Colorado state university - Pueblo and the Colorado school of mines; Enrollment or classification of students at private occupational schools; Training provided to peace officers concerning the prohibition against profiling; Criminal justice data collection; Employment in the state personnel system; The availability of	2/16/2021 Introduced In House - Assigned to Judiciary
HB21-1111	Consent Collection Personal Information	H. McKean (R)	The bill requires a governmental entity that maintains, owns, or licenses computerized data that includes certain personal information about any Colorado residents, or a governmental entity that uses a third-party service provider to maintain computerized data that includes certain personal information, to give notice to those Colorado residents every 90 days. The notice must give Colorado residents the option to either assent to the governmental entity possessing the Colorado resident's personal information or request that the governmental entity dispose of any paper or electronic documents containing the Colorado resident's personal identifying information. (Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced.)	2/16/2021 Introduced In House - Assigned to State, Civic, Military, & Veterans Affairs + Finance
HB21-1112	School District Scholarship Programs	M. Snyder (D) M. Bradfield / P. Lee (D)	The bill authorizes a school district board of education to establish a scholarship program for graduates of the school district. The scholarships must be paid from additional mill levy revenue that the school district is authorized to collect; gifts, grants, and donations; or both. A board of education that establishes a scholarship program is encouraged to prioritize low-income and first-generation students; limit the tuition rate that may be paid using a scholarship; and specify the uses of the scholarship. A school district that implements a scholarship program must submit a report concerning the scholarship program and scholarship recipients to the department of education, which must compile the reports received and submit the compilation to the state board of education and the education committees of the general assembly. (Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced.)	2/16/2021 Introduced In House - Assigned to Education
HB21-1149	Energy Sector Career Pathway In Higher Education	D. Jackson (D)	The bill requires the Colorado work force development council (council), in collaboration with local work force boards, the department of education, superintendents of local school districts, the state board for community colleges and occupational education, and other postsecondary partners, to design a career pathway for students in the energy sector using an existing statutory model for the design and implementation of career pathways.	3/3/2021 Introduced In House - Assigned to Energy & Environment

SB21-008	Remove Junior From Certain College Names	C. Simpson / D. Valdez (D) R. Holtorf (R)	The bill changes the names of the following colleges: Trinidad state junior college to Trinidad state college; Otero junior college to Otero college; and Northeastern junior college to Northeastern college.(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced.)	3/3/2021 Introduced In House - Assigned to Education
SB21-029	Colorado American Indian Tribes In-state Tuition	S. Fenberg (D) / A. Garnett (D) A. Benavidez (D)	The bill requires a state institution of higher education (institution) to offer in-state tuition classification to students who would not otherwise qualify for in-state tuition if the student is a member of an American Indian tribe with historical ties to Colorado. The institution shall not count the student as a resident student for any other purpose. The student is eligible for the Colorado opportunity fund stipend and may be eligible for state-funded and private financial aid programs.(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced.)	2/18/2021 Senate Committee on Education Refer Amended to Appropriations
SB21-052	Capital Construction Supplemental	D. Moreno (D) / J. McCluskie (D)	Supplemental appropriations are made for capital construction projects. (Note: This summary applies to the reengrossed version of this bill as introduced in the second house.)	3/2/2021 House Committee on Appropriations Refer Unamended to House Committee of the Whole

SB21-057	Private Lenders Of Student Loans Acts And Practices	F. Winter (D) J. Gonzales (D)	The bill expands the existing "Colorado Student Loan Servicers Act", which applies only to persons who service student loans, by adding a new part 2 covering private lenders, creditors, and collection agencies in connection with those student education loans that are not made, insured, or guaranteed under federal law and that are used for postsecondary education. The bill: Requires lenders to grant a release to cosigners if certain conditions are met, including 12 months of consecutive, on-time payments, and to ensure that cosigners have access to all documentation and records related to the loan they have cosigned; Expands disability discharge requirements so that a borrower or cosigner may be released from repayment obligations if permanently disabled; Prohibits "robo-signing" of documents used in collection lawsuits and requires specific evidence of loan origination and chain of ownership of the debt before a loan creditor or collection agency may commence legal proceedings; Prohibits auto-defaults, in which a loan is declared immediately due and payable upon the death or bankruptcy of a cosigner even when there has been no default in payments; and Provides legal recourse for borrowers who are harmed by predatory acts and practices of a lender, creditor, or collection agency. A violation of the new part 2 is defined as a deceptive trade practice under the "Colorado Consumer Protection Act".(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced.)	2/16/2021 Introduced In Senate - Assigned to Education
SB21-077	Remove Lawful Presence Verification Credentialing	J. Gonzales (D) / A. Benavidez (D) C. Kipp (D)	The bill eliminates the requirement that the department of education and each division, board, or agency of the department of regulatory agencies verify the lawful presence of each applicant before issuing or renewing a license. The bill also specifies that lawful presence is not required of any applicant for any license, certificate, or registration. The bill affirmatively states that the bill is a state law within the meaning of the federal law that gives states authority to provide for eligibility for state and local public benefits to persons who are unlawfully residing in the United States.(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced.)	2/16/2021 Introduced In Senate - Assigned to Business, Labor, & Technology
SB21-083	Higher Education Student Financial Assistance Funding	C. Hansen (D) / L. Herod (D)	Joint Budget Committee. The bill modifies the requirement for the 2021-22 fiscal year that the annual appropriations for the higher education student financial assistance program increase by at least the same percentage as the aggregate percentage increase of all general fund appropriations to institutions of higher education. The bill clarifies that this standard increase will not apply to appropriations for the 2021-22 fiscal year for increases in funding for the institutions of higher education that restore aggregate general fund appropriations to a level at or below the level of such appropriations for the 2019-20 fiscal year. Furthermore, for the 2021-22 fiscal year, the standard formula will be calculated based on 2020-21 fiscal year financial aid appropriations during the 2020 legislative session and does not include supplemental appropriations for financial aid during the 2021 legislative session.(Note: This summary applies to the reengrossed version of this bill as introduced in the second house.)	3/2/2021 House Committee on Appropriations Refer Unamended to House Committee of the Whole
SB21-100	Sunset Continue Council Higher Education Representatives	J. Buckner	Sunset Process - Senate Education Committee. The bill continues the council of higher education representatives (council) indefinitely by removing the repeal of the council.(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced.)	2/25/2021 Senate Committee on Education Refer Amended to Appropriations

SB21-106	Concerning Successful High School Transitions	J. Coleman K. Priola (R) / B. McLachlan (D) M. Baisley (R)	The bill amends the high school innovative learning pilot program (ILOP) that authorized school districts, district charter schools, and institute charter schools (local education providers) to count as full-time students high school students participating in innovative learning opportunities regardless of whether they meet the number of teacher-pupil instruction and contact hours for full-time enrollment. The bill allows a school of a school district to participate in an ILOP with a district or independently and requires all applicants to demonstrate how their innovative learning plan disproportionately benefits underserved students. In selecting applicants to participate in the pilot program, the bill requires the department of education (department) and the state board of education (state board) to consider whether the innovative learning plan includes opportunities for students to participate in registered or unregistered apprenticeships, internships, and technical training or skills programs through an industry provider, teacher training opportunities, concurrent enrollment, and industry certificates. Further, subject to available appropriations, the state board is encouraged to select up to 20 applicants and is not limited to choosing applicants that had part-time students in the prior year and that enroll fewer than 5,000 students. The bill creates the fourth year innovation pilot program (pilot program) in the department of higher education to disburse state funding to postsecondary education and training programs on behalf of low-income students who graduate early from a high school	2/18/2021 Introduced In Senate - Assigned to Education
SB21-109	Bond Payments For Auraria Higher Education Center	C. Hansen (D) B. Rankin (R) / J. McCluskie (D) L. Herod (D)	Joint Budget Committee. For the 2020-21 and 2021-22 state fiscal years only, the bill allows the Auraria board (board) to make payments on certain existing bonds for auxiliary facilities from other sources, including money contributed by constituent institutions and from money appropriated to the board by the general assembly. (Note: This summary applies to the reengrossed version of this bill as introduced in the second house.)	3/2/2021 House Committee on Appropriations Refer Unamended to House Committee of the Whole
SB21-116	Prohibit American Indian Mascots	J. Danielson (D) / A. Benavidez (D) B. McLachlan (D)	The bill prohibits the use of American Indian mascots (mascots) by public schools, including charter and institute charter schools, and public institutions of higher education (school) as of June 1, 2022. The bill imposes a fine of \$25,000 per month for each month that a school continues to use a mascot after such date, payable to the state education fund. (Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced.)	2/23/2021 Introduced In Senate - Assigned to Education
SB21-119	Increasing Access To High-Quality Credentials	J. Bridges (D) P. Lundeen (R)	The career development success program provides financial incentives for participating school districts and participating charter schools to encourage pupils enrolled in grades 9 through 12 to enroll in and successfully complete qualified industry-credential programs; qualified internship, residency, or construction industry pre-apprenticeship or apprenticeship programs; and qualified advanced placement courses (programs and courses). The bill amends the list of qualified programs by removing residency programs and expanding pre-apprenticeship and apprenticeship programs to include any industry program, not just construction industry programs. The bill expands the definition of a qualified industry-credential program to include a career and technical education program that, upon completion, results in an industry-recognized credential with labor market value aligned with a high-skill, high-wage, in-demand job. Current law requires the work force development council (council) to identify the programs and courses by identifying the jobs included in the Colorado talent report with the greatest regional and state demand, including jobs in in-demand industries. The bill requires the council to consult with relevant industries to identify the programs and courses by identifying high-skill, high-wage jobs in in-demand industries that have labor market value. Any programs and courses the council determines do not demonstrate labor market value may be removed from the council's website. Beginning in the 2022-23 school year, and each school year thereafter, the department of education (department), in	2/23/2021 Introduced In Senate - Assigned to Education

SB21-131	Protect Personal Identifying Information Kept By State	J. Gonzales (D) / S. Gonzales-Gutierrez (D)	<p>The bill specifies measures in several categories to protect personal identifying information (PII) kept by state agencies. Limitations on PII shared by state agencies: A state agency employee is prohibited from disclosing or making accessible PII that is not available to the public for the purpose of investigating for, participating in, cooperating with, or assisting in federal immigration enforcement, except as required by federal or state law or as required to comply with a court-issued subpoena, warrant, or order. Reduction of PII collected by state agencies: Beginning January 1, 2022, a state agency employee is prohibited from inquiring into, or requesting information or documents to ascertain, a person's immigration status for the purpose of identifying if the person has complied with federal immigration laws except as required by state or federal law or as necessary to perform state agency duties. In addition, beginning January 1, 2022, a state agency shall not collect data regarding a person's place of birth, immigration or citizenship status, or information from passports, permanent resident cards, alien registration cards, or employment authorization documents, except as required by state or federal law or as necessary to perform state agency duties. Access to state agency records: Beginning January 1, 2022, to be granted access to PII through a database or automated network maintained by a state agency that is not otherwise available to the public, a third party must have, within the past year, certified under penalty of perjury that the third party will not use or disclose PII obtained for the</p>	2/25/2021 Introduced In Senate - Assigned to State, Veterans, & Military Affairs
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