

**First Regular Session
Seventy-fifth General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO**

PREAMENDED

*This Unofficial Version Includes Committee
Amendments Not Yet Adopted on Second Reading*

LLS NO. 25-0213.01 Jennifer Berman x3286

SENATE BILL 25-055

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Winter F. and Marchman, Amabile, Ball, Bridges, Coleman, Cutter, Exum, Gonzales J.,
Jodeh, Kolker, Michaelson Jenet, Sullivan, Weissman

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Joseph and Bacon,

Senate Committees

Health & Human Services

House Committees

Energy & Environment
Appropriations

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 **CONCERNING MEASURES TO INVOLVE YOUTH IN ENVIRONMENTAL**
102 **JUSTICE, AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, MAKING AN**
103 **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://leg.colorado.gov/>.)

Representative Hugh McKean Colorado Youth Advisory Council Review Committee. The environmental justice advisory board in the department of public health and environment (advisory board) advises the environmental justice ombudsperson, develops recommendations related to adverse environmental effects on

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.
Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material to be added to existing law.
Dashes through the words or numbers indicate deletions from existing law.

SENATE
3rd Reading Unamended
February 5, 2025

SENATE
2nd Reading Unamended
February 4, 2025

disproportionately impacted communities, and supports the implementation of a grant program to finance environmental mitigation projects. **Section 1** of the bill replaces one voting member of the advisory board with a youth voting member who is between 14 and 21 years of age and adds one youth nonvoting member to the advisory board.

Section 2 requires the Colorado energy office (office), on or before December 31, 2025, to develop and post on its website best practices for the adoption and financing of clean energy resources in schools. The office is required to periodically update the best practices and post the updates on its website.

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

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 25-1-134, **amend**
3 (2)(b), (2)(c) introductory portion, (2)(c)(I), (2)(c)(III), and (2)(d)(I); and
4 **add** (2)(c)(III.5), (2)(d)(III), and (2)(d.5) as follows:

5 **25-1-134. Environmental justice - ombudsperson - advisory**
6 **board - grant program - definitions - repeal.** (2) **Environmental**
7 **justice advisory board.** (b) Except as otherwise provided in this
8 subsection (2), the members of the advisory board are appointed by the
9 governor. ~~The governor shall make the initial appointments as soon as~~
10 ~~practicable, but no later than four months after July 2, 2021.~~ An
11 appointing authority may remove a member of the advisory board for
12 malfeasance in office, failure to regularly attend meetings, or any cause
13 that renders the member unable or unfit to discharge the member's duties.

14 (c) The advisory board consists of the following ~~twelve~~ **FOURTEEN**
15 members who, to the extent practicable, must reside in different
16 geographic areas of the state, reflect the racial and ethnic diversity of the
17 state, and have experience with a range of environmental issues, including
18 air pollution, water contamination, and public health impacts:

19 (I) (A) ~~Four~~ **FIVE** voting members appointed by the governor, who
20 must be or have been residents of a disproportionately impacted

1 community, ONE OF WHOM IS AN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS FOURTEEN YEARS OF
2 AGE OR OLDER BUT LESS THAN TWENTY-TWO YEARS OF AGE AT THE TIME
3 OF APPOINTMENT.

4 (B) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (2)(c)(I)(C) OF THIS
5 SECTION, THE YOUTH VOTING MEMBER DESCRIBED IN THIS SUBSECTION
6 (2)(c)(I) IS FIRST APPOINTED AS A NONVOTING MEMBER PURSUANT TO
7 SUBSECTION (2)(c)(III.5) OF THIS SECTION AND, AFTER SERVING ONE YEAR
8 OF THE MEMBER'S TERM, BECOMES A VOTING MEMBER PURSUANT TO THIS
9 SUBSECTION (2)(c)(I) AND SUBSECTION (2)(d)(III) OF THIS SECTION FOR
10 THE REMAINDER OF THE MEMBER'S TERM.

11 (C) ON OR BEFORE SEPTEMBER 15, 2025, THE GOVERNOR SHALL
12 APPOINT AN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS FOURTEEN YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER BUT
13 LESS THAN TWENTY-TWO YEARS OF AGE AT THE TIME OF APPOINTMENT TO
14 SERVE A SINGLE ONE-YEAR TERM AS A YOUTH VOTING MEMBER OF THE
15 ADVISORY BOARD. THEREAFTER, THIS YOUTH VOTING MEMBER'S SEAT ON
16 THE ADVISORY BOARD SHALL BE FILLED PURSUANT TO THE PROCESS
17 DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (2)(c)(I)(B) OF THIS SECTION. THIS SUBSECTION
18 (2)(c)(I)(C) IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026.

19 (III) The executive director of the department, or the executive
20 director's designee, as a nonvoting member; and

21 (III.5) AN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS FOURTEEN YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER
22 BUT LESS THAN TWENTY-TWO YEARS OF AGE AT THE TIME OF
23 APPOINTMENT, AS A YOUTH NONVOTING MEMBER APPOINTED BY THE
24 GOVERNOR; AND

25 (d) (I) Except as provided in ~~subsection (2)(d)(II)~~ SUBSECTIONS
26 (2)(d)(II) AND (2)(d)(III) of this section, each member's term of
27 appointment is four years. Voting members may serve no more than two

1 terms; EXCEPT THAT A YOUTH VOTING MEMBER WHO IS FOURTEEN YEARS
2 OF AGE OR OLDER BUT LESS THAN TWENTY-TWO YEARS OF AGE AT THE
3 TIME OF APPOINTMENT MAY SERVE ONLY A SINGLE TERM. The governor
4 shall fill any vacancies on the advisory board, including for the remainder
5 of any unexpired term. A member appointed to fill a vacancy may serve
6 the remainder of the unexpired term of the member whose vacancy is
7 being filled, and this remainder counts as one term for that appointee.

8 (III) A YOUTH MEMBER WHO IS FOURTEEN YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER
9 BUT LESS THAN TWENTY-TWO YEARS OF AGE AT THE TIME OF
10 APPOINTMENT AND WHO IS APPOINTED AS A YOUTH NONVOTING MEMBER
11 PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (2)(c)(III.5) OF THIS SECTION SERVES A SINGLE
12 TWO-YEAR TERM. AFTER SERVING ONE YEAR OF THE MEMBER'S TWO-YEAR
13 TERM, THE MEMBER BECOMES A YOUTH VOTING MEMBER PURSUANT TO
14 SUBSECTION (2)(c)(I)(B) OF THIS SECTION FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE
15 MEMBER'S TERM.

16 (d.5) (I) THE GOVERNOR SHALL MAKE THE INITIAL APPOINTMENT
17 OF THE YOUTH NONVOTING MEMBER APPOINTED PURSUANT TO
18 SUBSECTION (2)(c)(III.5) OF THIS SECTION ON OR BEFORE SEPTEMBER 15,
19 2025.

20 (II) THIS SUBSECTION (2)(d.5) IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE JULY 1,
21 2026.

22 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 24-38.5-123 as
23 follows:

24 **24-38.5-123. Best practices for clean energy resources in**
25 **schools - creation - updates - publication.** (1) ON OR BEFORE
26 DECEMBER 31, 2025, THE COLORADO ENERGY OFFICE SHALL DEVELOP
27 AND POST ON ITS WEBSITE BEST PRACTICES FOR ADOPTING AND FINANCING

1 CLEAN ENERGY RESOURCES IN SCHOOLS. THE BEST PRACTICES MUST
2 INCLUDE:

3 (a) A DESCRIPTION OF CLEAN ENERGY RESOURCES AND THEIR
4 COSTS AND BENEFITS;

5 (b) FOR EACH CLEAN ENERGY RESOURCE DESCRIBED IN
6 SUBSECTION (1)(a) OF THIS SECTION, A LIST OF RECOMMENDED PROVIDERS
7 OF THE CLEAN ENERGY RESOURCE IN THE STATE;

8 (c) ANY GRANTS, LOANS, AND OTHER FINANCING SOURCES
9 AVAILABLE TO SCHOOLS TO HELP FINANCE THE USE OF CLEAN ENERGY
10 RESOURCES IN SCHOOLS; AND

11 (d) RESOURCES THAT STUDENTS MAY USE IN DEVELOPING
12 PROPOSALS FOR THE ADOPTION AND FINANCING OF CLEAN ENERGY
13 RESOURCES IN THEIR SCHOOLS.

14 (2) THE COLORADO ENERGY OFFICE SHALL PERIODICALLY REVIEW
15 AND UPDATE THE BEST PRACTICES AND POST ANY UPDATES MADE TO THE
16 BEST PRACTICES ON ITS WEBSITE.

17 **SECTION 3. Appropriation.** For the 2025-26 state fiscal year,
18 \$5,042 is appropriated to the department of public health and
19 environment. This appropriation is from the community impact cash fund
20 created in section 25-7-129 (1), C.R.S. To implement this act, the
21 department may use this appropriation for environmental justice program
22 costs.

23 **SECTION 4. Act subject to petition - effective date.** Section 3
24 of this act takes effect only if Senate Bill 25-265 becomes law, and the
25 remainder of this act takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the
26 expiration of the ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general
27 assembly; except that, if a referendum petition is filed pursuant to section

1 1 (3) of article V of the state constitution against this act or an item,
2 section, or part of this act within such period, then the act, item, section,
3 or part will not take effect unless approved by the people at the general
4 election to be held in November 2026 and, in such case, will take effect
5 on the date of the official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.