

Second Regular Session
Seventy-fifth General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 26-0004.02 Jacob Baus x2173

SENATE BILL 26-023

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Kolker and Kirkmeyer,

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Hamrick,

Senate Committees

Education

House Committees

A BILL FOR AN ACT
101 **CONCERNING THE FINANCING OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS.**

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>.)

The bill:

- Increases the statewide base per pupil funding for the 2026-27 budget year by \$217.30 to account for inflation;
- Sets a new statewide base per pupil funding amount for the 2026-27 budget year at \$8,909.10; and
- Sets the total program funding for the 2026-27 budget year at \$10,209,589,888.

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.

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

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-54-103.5, **add**
3 (3)(b) and (14)(b) as follows:

4 **22-54-103.5. District total program - rules - legislative**
5 **declaration - repeal.**

6 **(3) Statewide base per pupil funding.**

7 (b) (I) FOR THE 2026-27 BUDGET YEAR, THE STATEWIDE BASE PER
8 PUPIL FUNDING IS EIGHT THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED NINE DOLLARS AND
9 TEN CENTS (\$8,909.10), WHICH IS AN AMOUNT EQUAL TO EIGHT THOUSAND
10 SIX HUNDRED NINETY-ONE DOLLARS AND EIGHTY CENTS (\$8,691.80),
11 SUPPLEMENTED BY TWO HUNDRED SEVENTEEN DOLLARS AND THIRTY
12 CENTS (\$217.30) TO ACCOUNT FOR INFLATION.

13 (II) THIS SUBSECTION (3)(b) IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2032.

14 **(14) Total program funding.**

15 (b) (I) FOR THE 2026-27 BUDGET YEAR, THE DEPARTMENT OF
16 EDUCATION AND THE STAFF OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL SHALL
17 DETERMINE, BASED ON BUDGET PROJECTIONS, THE AMOUNT TO ENSURE
18 THAT FOR THE 2026-27 BUDGET YEAR, THE SUM OF TOTAL PROGRAM
19 FUNDING FOR ALL DISTRICTS, INCLUDING FUNDING FOR INSTITUTE
20 CHARTER SCHOOLS, IS AT LEAST TEN BILLION TWO HUNDRED NINE MILLION
21 FIVE HUNDRED EIGHTY-NINE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED EIGHTY-EIGHT
22 DOLLARS (\$10,209,589,888); EXCEPT THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF
23 EDUCATION AND THE STAFF OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL SHALL MAKE
24 MID-YEAR REVISIONS TO REPLACE PROJECTIONS WITH ACTUAL FIGURES,
25 INCLUDING ACTUAL PUPIL ENROLLMENT, ASSESSED VALUATIONS, AND
26 SPECIFIC OWNERSHIP TAX REVENUE FROM THE PRIOR YEAR TO DETERMINE

1 ANY NECESSARY CHANGES IN THE AMOUNT TO MAINTAIN TOTAL PROGRAM
2 FUNDING FOR THE APPLICABLE BUDGET YEAR.

3 (II) THIS SUBSECTION (14)(b) IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE JULY 1,
4 2032.

5 **SECTION 2. Safety clause.** The general assembly finds,
6 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate
7 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety or for appropriations for
8 the support and maintenance of the departments of the state and state
9 institutions.