

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

**ENGROSSED**

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

LLS NO. 25-0440.01 Jerry Barry x4341

**HOUSE BILL 25-1167**

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**HOUSE SPONSORSHIP**

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**House Committees**

Education  
Appropriations

**Senate Committees**

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**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

101      **CONCERNING ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION CAMPUSES, AND, IN**  
102      **CONNECTION THEREWITH, MAKING AN APPROPRIATION.**

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**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>.)*

For alternative education campuses (AECs), the bill:

- Directs the department of education (department) when administering state education grants to allocate priority points to AECs;
- Authorizes AECs to include certain high-risk students in the AEC's pupil count who are 21 years of age or younger

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.

HOUSE  
Amended 2nd Reading  
April 15, 2025

- during the budget year;
- Requires the department to prepare and post a report on enrollment trends, student demographics, and student mobility in AECs; and
- Exempts an AEC from losing its designation due to a fluctuation in enrollment for one school year.

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

2 **SECTION 1. Legislative declaration.** (1) The general assembly  
3 finds and declares that:

4 (a) Alternative education campuses (AECs) play a critical role in  
5 Colorado's education system by serving students who face extraordinary  
6 challenges;

7 (b) Despite serving some of Colorado's most impacted students,  
8 AECs frequently operate with insufficient funding and resources.  
9 Consequently, many AECs often struggle to meet the critical needs of the  
10 students they are dedicated to serving and are reliant on additional  
11 funding through gifts, grants, and donations.

12 (c) By prioritizing existing education grant programs, AECs will  
13 be able to access more of the resources that they need to best address the  
14 unique circumstances and challenges of the students they enroll;

15 (d) AECs often also see great variability in their enrollment  
16 throughout the school year due to the transient nature and urgent needs of  
17 many AEC students. As a result, the current funding system, which relies  
18 on a single enrollment count date, does not accurately reflect the  
19 fluctuating enrollment of AECs throughout the year.

20 (e) To assess the impact of an alternative funding system, such as  
21 a dual enrollment count, the department of education should annually  
22 monitor and report on AEC enrollment trends, student demographics, and

1 student mobility; and

2 (f) Despite the mission of helping students who are often  
3 marginalized, current statute caps the age of parents and expectant  
4 pregnant moms who can be served at AECs at twenty years of age. The  
5 eligibility age for these students at AECs should be expanded to include  
6 individuals up to twenty-one years of age.

7 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-7-604.5, **amend**  
8 (1.5)(j); and **add** (1.2), (4), (5), and (6) as follows:

9 **22-7-604.5. Alternative education campuses - criteria -**  
10 **application - rule-making - report - definition.**

11 (1.2) NOTWITHSTANDING THE REQUIREMENT IN SUBSECTION  
12 (1)(a)(VI)(B) OF THIS SECTION, AN ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION CAMPUS  
13 THAT HAS A PUPIL ENROLLMENT OF LESS THAN TWO HUNDRED FIFTY  
14 STUDENTS SHALL NOT LOSE ITS DESIGNATION IF THE CAMPUS MET THE  
15 NINETY PERCENT THRESHOLD DURING THE SCHOOL YEAR, DID NOT FALL  
16 BELOW THE NINETY PERCENT THRESHOLD BY MORE THAN THREE STUDENTS  
17 DURING THE SUBSEQUENT YEAR, AND AGAIN MET THE NINETY PERCENT  
18 THRESHOLD THE FOLLOWING YEAR.

19 (1.5) As used in this section, unless the context otherwise requires,  
20 a "high-risk student" means a student enrolled in a public school who:

21 (j) Is a parent or pregnant woman ~~under the age of twenty~~ WHO IS  
22 TWENTY-ONE years OF AGE OR YOUNGER;

23 (4) IN THE ADMINISTRATION OF A GRANT EXISTING PURSUANT TO  
24 THIS TITLE 22, THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION SHALL ALLOCATE  
25 PRIORITY POINTS TO AN ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION CAMPUS IF THE  
26 ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION CAMPUS IS ELIGIBLE AND SATISFIES THE  
27 GRANT'S REQUIREMENTS.

1           (5) NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION OF LAW, AN  
2 ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION CAMPUS MAY INCLUDE IN ITS PUPIL  
3 ENROLLMENT A HIGH-RISK STUDENT, AS DEFINED IN THIS SECTION, WHO IS  
4 TWENTY-ONE YEARS OF AGE OR YOUNGER ON THE PUPIL ENROLLMENT  
5 COUNT DAY IF THE HIGH-RISK STUDENT HAS SUFFICIENT CREDITS SO THAT  
6 THE STUDENT WILL BE ELIGIBLE FOR A DIPLOMA BY THE END OF THE SAME  
7 SCHOOL YEAR.

8           (6) BEGINNING IN SEPTEMBER 2025, AND EACH SEPTEMBER  
9 THEREAFTER, THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION SHALL PREPARE AND POST  
10 AN ANNUAL REPORT ON ENROLLMENT TRENDS, STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS,  
11 AND STUDENT MOBILITY IN ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION CAMPUSES. THE  
12 REPORT MUST INCLUDE, BUT NEED NOT BE LIMITED TO:

13           (a) YEAR-ROUND ENROLLMENT TRENDS, INCLUDING  
14 FLUCTUATIONS BEYOND THE OFFICIAL OCTOBER COUNT DATE;

15           (b) A DEMOGRAPHIC BREAKDOWN OF ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION  
16 CAMPUS STUDENTS, INCLUDING FACTORS SUCH AS AGE, RACE AND  
17 ETHNICITY, MULTILINGUAL LEARNERS, AND SPECIAL EDUCATION STATUS;  
18 AND

19           (c) DATA ON STUDENT MOBILITY, INCLUDING TRANSFERS INTO AND  
20 OUT OF ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION CAMPUSES THROUGHOUT THE SCHOOL  
21 YEAR.

22           **SECTION 3. Appropriation.** For the 2025-26 state fiscal year,  
23 \$9,613 appropriated to the department of education for use by school  
24 quality and support. This appropriation is from the general fund and is  
25 based on an assumption that the division will require an additional 0.1  
26 FTE. To implement this act, the division may use this appropriation for  
27 accountability and improvement planning.

1           **SECTION 4. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act  
2 takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the  
3 ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly; except  
4 that, if a referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V  
5 of the state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this  
6 act within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take  
7 effect unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in  
8 November 2026 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the  
9 official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.