

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

**INTRODUCED**

LLS NO. 23-0622.01 Jerry Barry x4341

**HOUSE BILL 23-1114**

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**HOUSE SPONSORSHIP**

**Taggart and Gonzales-Gutierrez,**

**SENATE SPONSORSHIP**

**(None),**

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**House Committees**  
Education

**Senate Committees**

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**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

101 **CONCERNING THE DESIGNATION OF STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER**  
102 **EDUCATION AS FIRST-GENERATION-SERVING INSTITUTIONS.**

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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>.)*

The bill requires the department of higher education (department) to:

- Identify and designate state institutions of higher education (state institutions) as first-generation-serving institutions if the resident first-generation undergraduate population represents 45% or more of the institution's overall resident

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.*

- student population;
- Post on the department's website the names of the state institutions that are so designated; and
- Notify the state institutions that receive the designation.

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

2       **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 23-1-142 as  
3 follows:

4       **23-1-142. Commission directive - first-generation-serving**  
5 **institution designation - legislative declaration - definitions.** (1) THE

6 GENERAL ASSEMBLY FINDS AND DECLARES THAT:

7       (a) IN 2017, THE COLORADO COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION,  
8 IN ITS MASTER PLAN, COLORADO RISES: ADVANCING EDUCATION AND  
9 TALENT DEVELOPMENT, SET A STATEWIDE ATTAINMENT GOAL FOR  
10 SIXTY-SIX PERCENT OF COLORADO'S ADULT POPULATION TO HOLD A  
11 POSTSECONDARY CREDENTIAL;

12       (b) COLORADO HAS MADE PROGRESS, BUT AS OF 2022, COLORADO  
13 HAS STILL NOT MET THIS GOAL;

14       (c) ONE OF THE WAYS TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF PERSONS  
15 HOLDING A POSTSECONDARY CREDENTIAL IS TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF  
16 FIRST-GENERATION STUDENTS ATTENDING INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER  
17 EDUCATION;

18       (d) BY RECOGNIZING AND DESIGNATING INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER  
19 EDUCATION THAT SERVE A LARGE NUMBER OF FIRST-GENERATION  
20 STUDENTS, THE STATE SHOWS INCOMING STUDENTS AT THOSE  
21 INSTITUTIONS THAT THE STUDENTS WILL BE JOINED BY OTHERS WITH  
22 SIMILAR BACKGROUNDS AND THAT THE INSTITUTIONS ARE COMMITTED TO  
23 MEETING THE NEEDS OF FIRST-GENERATION STUDENTS;

1 (e) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY ALSO RECOGNIZES THAT INSTITUTIONS  
2 OF HIGHER EDUCATION ENROLLING A HIGH PERCENTAGE OF  
3 FIRST-GENERATION STUDENTS INCUR INCREASED COSTS; AND

4 (f) IT IS THEREFORE NECESSARY TO ESTABLISH A DESIGNATION TO  
5 RECOGNIZE STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION THAT SERVE A  
6 HIGH PERCENTAGE OF FIRST-GENERATION STUDENTS.

7 (2) AS USED IN THIS SECTION, UNLESS THE CONTEXT OTHERWISE  
8 REQUIRES:

9 (a) "FIRST-GENERATION-SERVING INSTITUTION" MEANS A STATE  
10 INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION WHOSE RESIDENT FIRST-GENERATION  
11 UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT POPULATION SHARE, AS DEFINED IN SECTION  
12 23-18-302, IS FORTY-FIVE PERCENT OR HIGHER.

13 (b) "STATE INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION" HAS THE SAME  
14 MEANING AS DEFINED IN SECTION 23-1-108.

15 (3) WITHIN THIRTY DAYS AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS  
16 SECTION, AND WITHIN THIRTY DAYS AFTER RECEIPT OF THE FALL  
17 ENROLLMENT DATA FROM EACH STATE INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION  
18 IN 2023 AND EACH YEAR THEREAFTER, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL:

19 (a) IDENTIFY FIRST-GENERATION-SERVING INSTITUTIONS FOR THAT  
20 SCHOOL YEAR;

21 (b) POST ON THE DEPARTMENT'S WEBSITE THE  
22 FIRST-GENERATION-SERVING INSTITUTIONS FOR THAT SCHOOL YEAR; AND

23 (c) NOTIFY EACH FIRST-GENERATION-SERVING INSTITUTION THAT  
24 RECEIVED THE DESIGNATION FOR THE APPLICABLE SCHOOL YEAR.

25 **SECTION 2. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds,  
26 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate  
27 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety.