Second Regular Session Seventieth General Assembly STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 16-0947.01 Julie Pelegrin x2700

HOUSE BILL 16-1222

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	A BILL FOR AN ACT				
101	CONCERNING INCREASING THE AVAILABILITY OF SUPPLEMENTAL				
102	ONLINE EDUCATION RESOURCES, AND, IN CONNECTION				
103	THEREWITH, CREATING THE STATEWIDE SUPPLEMENTAL ONLINE				
104	AND BLENDED LEARNING PROGRAM.				

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://www.leg.state.co.us/billsummaries.)

Under current law, a board of cooperative services (BOCES) is designated to make supplemental online education courses, teacher professional development, and consulting services available to school districts, charter schools, and other BOCES (local education providers). The designated BOCES contracts with nonprofit entities to provide these services.

The bill creates the statewide supplemental online and blended learning program (program) to better administer the availability of these courses and services. The designated BOCES is charged with leading and administering the program, which includes creating a statewide plan for making supplemental online and blended learning resources available to local education providers. In administering the program, the designated BOCES may contract with multiple nonprofit providers for the supplemental online education courses, professional development, and consulting services. The designated BOCES must also actively market the program to local education providers. The designated BOCES may expend up to 10 % of the amount appropriated for the program to offset the increased costs of administering the program.

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

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **amend** 22-5-119 as

3 follows:

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4 **22-5-119.** Statewide supplemental online and blended learning

program - legislative declaration - created - contract - definitions.

(1) THE SHORT TITLE OF THIS SECTION IS THE "EMPOWERING DIGITAL

LEARNING FOR ALL ACT".

- 8 $\frac{(1)}{(2)}$ (a) (I) The general assembly finds that:
- 9 (A) Online education courses that are supplemental to the 10 education program provided by a school district, charter school, or 11 BOCES are a valuable resource for schools because they allow a school 12 district, charter school, or BOCES to provide a much richer, more varied 13 curriculum of courses for students at all levels of achievement. Many 14 small school districts and rural communities, however, lack the capacity 15 and resources to develop their own supplemental online courses and blended learning strategies THE OVERWHELMING INFLUENCE OF THE 16 17 RAPIDLY EVOLVING USE OF TECHNOLOGY AND THE INTERNET WILL RENDER

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HIGH-QUALITY REMOTE DIGITAL EDUCATIONAL CONTENT ALMOST
COST-FREE AFTER A PERIOD OF DECLINING COSTS. ACCESS TO DIGITAL

3 CONTENT AND EDUCATIONAL COURSES IS ALREADY AN ESSENTIAL PART OF

4 THE HIGHER EDUCATION SYSTEM, BUT IS NOT WIDELY APPLIED IN

5 ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION. WHILE SOME SCHOOL

6 DISTRICTS HAVE BEEN ABLE TO KEEP PACE WITH THE CHANGING CONTEXT

7 OF PUBLIC EDUCATION, MOST HAVE NOT.

- (B) Supplemental online education courses provide tools for school districts, charter schools, and BOCES to use in decreasing the college remediation rates and in helping their students comply with the higher education admission guidelines; The scope of the coming change in the delivery of public education services is massive and more far-reaching than the currently available constructs of online learning or blended learning. The scope of the change is such that every public school in the state must evolve into a digital learning environment that capitalizes on the student-teacher relationship while leveraging the advances that the technology revolution brings.
- (C) The cost of supplemental online education courses is prohibitive for many school districts, charter schools, and BOCES whose students may be most in need of these courses. Because of the value of these courses, it is appropriate that the state provide moneys to assist school districts, charter schools, and BOCES in purchasing supplemental online education courses The Public Education system must take advantage of this opportunity to significantly improve statewide educational equity by delivering educational services through the digital learning environment. It is likely

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THAT FAILURE TO EMBRACE THIS CHANGE IN THE DELIVERY OF PUBLIC EDUCATION SERVICES WILL LEAD TO A DECLINE IN THE EQUITY AND QUALITY OF THE SYSTEM OF PUBLIC EDUCATION IN COLORADO.

- (D) COLORADO LACKS A CLEARLY ARTICULATED AND ACCEPTED VISION AND PLAN TO IMPLEMENT THE SHIFT IN DELIVERING EDUCATIONAL SERVICES TO A DIGITAL ENVIRONMENT, WHICH MUST OCCUR TO ADEQUATELY PREPARE STUDENTS FOR POSTSECONDARY SUCCESS. IT IS CRUCIAL THAT THE STATE IDENTIFY A SINGLE PUBLIC ENTITY TO PROVIDE LEADERSHIP IN DESIGNING AND IMPLEMENTING A STATEWIDE PLAN FOR INCREASING THE AVAILABILITY OF SUPPLEMENTAL ONLINE EDUCATIONAL COURSES AND BLENDED LEARNING FOR SCHOOL DISTRICTS, CHARTER SCHOOLS, AND BOCES.
- (II) It is therefore in the best interests of the state to invest INCREASE ITS INVESTMENT in the expansion of affordable, high-quality supplemental online education courses and blended learning support for school districts, charter schools, and BOCES, especially those that lack the capacity to develop their own supplemental ONLINE EDUCATION COURSE offerings, by subsidizing the provision of SUPPLEMENTAL online education courses, professional development, and technical assistance to implement SUPPLEMENTAL online and blended learning statewide.
- (III) Due to its experience in assisting school districts with SUPPLEMENTAL online EDUCATION COURSES and blended learning in Colorado, it is further in the best interests of the state to designate a BOCES to contract through a request for a proposal process that adheres to the goals set forth in paragraph (a.5) of this subsection (1) developed in consultation with the department, with one or more nonprofit providers to provide resources for school districts, charter schools, and BOCES in

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1	the form of supplemental online course offerings, professional
2	development for educators, and consulting assistance for schools and
3	school districts wanting to use online and blended learning for their
4	students. In contracting with providers, the priority shall result in the
5	expansion of student access to quality supplemental online courses and
6	resources available to implement supplemental online and blended
7	learning in school districts, charter schools, and BOCES statewide
8	ARTICULATE THE STATEWIDE PLAN FOR SUPPLEMENTAL ONLINE AND
9	BLENDED LEARNING AND TO LEAD, MANAGE, AND ADMINISTER THE
10	STATEWIDE SUPPLEMENTAL ONLINE AND BLENDED LEARNING PROGRAM IN
11	ACCORDANCE WITH THIS SECTION.
12	(a.5) The general assembly also finds that the goals of online
13	courses and blended learning strategies are to:
14	(I) Expand the availability of online courses and blended learning
15	strategies;
16	(II) Increase the number of students taking high-quality, effective,
17	and affordable online courses;
18	(HI) Establish a program to work with school districts, charter
19	schools, and BOCES to create, offer, and sustain their own high-quality,
20	effective, and affordable blended learning courses, as well as targeted
21	professional development and mentoring support;
22	(IV) Increase the capacity of educators in school districts, charter
23	schools, and BOCES to utilize standards, data, and interventions in
24	regular, online, and blended learning classes; and
25	(V) Document and share best practices in online and blended
26	learning.
27	(b) It is further the intent of The general assembly DECLARES that

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1	the amount necessary to reduce the cost to school districts, charter
2	schools, and BOCES of purchasing supplemental online education
3	courses IMPLEMENT THE STATEWIDE SUPPLEMENTAL ONLINE AND
4	BLENDED LEARNING PROGRAM MAY be appropriated annually from federal
5	mineral leasing revenues transferred to the state public school fund
6	pursuant to section 34-63-102, C.R.S., and section 22-54-114 (1).
7	(c) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FURTHER DECLARES THAT, FOR
8	PURPOSES OF SECTION 17 OF ARTICLE IX OF THE STATE CONSTITUTION, THE
9	STATEWIDE SUPPLEMENTAL ONLINE AND BLENDED LEARNING PROGRAM IS
10	AN IMPORTANT ELEMENT IN IMPLEMENTING ACCOUNTABLE EDUCATION
11	REFORM AND ENABLING SCHOOL DISTRICTS, CHARTER SCHOOLS, AND
12	BOCES TO MEET STATE ACADEMIC STANDARDS AND MAY THEREFORE
13	RECEIVE FUNDING FROM THE STATE EDUCATION FUND CREATED IN SECTION
14	17 (4) OF ARTICLE IX OF THE STATE CONSTITUTION.
15	(2) (3) As used in this section, unless the context otherwise
16	requires:
17	(a) "Administering BOCES" means the BOCES that the
18	DEPARTMENT DESIGNATES AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (4) OF THIS
19	SECTION.
20	(a) (b) "BOCES" means a board of cooperative services created
21	pursuant to this article.
22	(b) (c) "Charter school" means a district charter school authorized
23	pursuant to part 1 of article 30.5 of this title or an institute charter school
24	authorized pursuant to part 5 of article 30.5 of this title.
25	(e) (d) "Department" means the department of education created
26	and existing pursuant to section 24-1-115, C.R.S.
27	(d) (e) "Provider" means an A NONPROFIT entity that sells

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1	PROVIDES:
2	(I) Supplemental online education courses that are taught by
3	employees of the provider who are teachers licensed in Colorado pursuant
4	to article 60.5 of this title;
5	(II) PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT RESOURCES FOR TEACHERS; OR
6	(III) CONSULTING SERVICES FOR SCHOOL DISTRICTS, CHARTER
7	SCHOOLS, AND BOCES WITH REGARD TO PROVIDING SUPPLEMENTAL
8	ONLINE EDUCATION COURSES AND BLENDED LEARNING.
9	(f) "STATEWIDE SUPPLEMENTAL ONLINE AND BLENDED LEARNING
10	PROGRAM" OR "PROGRAM" MEANS THE PROGRAM DESCRIBED IN
11	SUBSECTION (4) OF THIS SECTION.
12	(e) (g) "Supplemental online education course" means an
13	education course that is:
14	(I) Taught by a teacher who is licensed pursuant to article 60.5 of
15	this title;
16	(II) Delivered via an internet A TECHNOLOGICALLY ENHANCED
17	format to one or more students at a location that is remote from the
18	delivery point; and
19	(III) Purchased DEVELOPED by a school district, charter school, or
20	BOCES OR OBTAINED from a provider to augment the education program
21	provided by the school district, charter school, or BOCES.
22	(4) (a) The department, in consultation with the statewide
23	ASSOCIATION OF BOCES, SHALL DESIGNATE A BOCES TO LEAD, MANAGE,
24	AND ADMINISTER THE STATEWIDE SUPPLEMENTAL ONLINE AND BLENDED
25	LEARNING PROGRAM AS PROVIDED IN THIS SECTION. IN ADMINISTERING
26	THE PROGRAM, THE BOCES, SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS,
27	SHALL SELECT AND CONTRACT WITH DROVIDERS IN ACCORDANCE WITH

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1	$\hbox{\tt SUBSECTION}(6)\hbox{\tt OF THIS SECTION}\hbox{\tt TO PROVIDE THE RESOURCES}\hbox{\tt DESCRIBED}$
2	IN PARAGRAPH (b) OF SUBSECTION (5) OF THIS SECTION.
3	$(b)\ The\ administering\ BOCES\ shall\ manage\ and\ administer$
4	THE PROGRAM TO ACHIEVE, AT A MINIMUM, THE FOLLOWING GOALS:
5	(I) EXPANDING THE AVAILABILITY OF SUPPLEMENTAL ONLINE
6	EDUCATION COURSES AND BLENDED LEARNING STRATEGIES;
7	(II) INCREASING SIGNIFICANTLY THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS WHO
8	ENROLL IN HIGH-QUALITY, EFFECTIVE, AND AFFORDABLE SUPPLEMENTAL
9	ONLINE EDUCATION COURSES;
10	(III) WORKING WITH SCHOOL DISTRICTS, CHARTER SCHOOLS, AND
11	BOCES TO CREATE, OFFER, AND SUSTAIN THEIR OWN HIGH-QUALITY,
12	EFFECTIVE, AND AFFORDABLE SUPPLEMENTAL ONLINE EDUCATION
13	COURSES AND BLENDED LEARNING, AS WELL AS TARGETED PROFESSIONAL
14	DEVELOPMENT AND MENTORING SUPPORT;
15	(IV) INCREASING THE CAPACITY OF EDUCATORS IN SCHOOL
16	DISTRICTS, CHARTER SCHOOLS, AND BOCES TO USE STANDARDS, DATA,
17	AND INTERVENTIONS IN REGULAR COURSES, SUPPLEMENTAL ONLINE
18	EDUCATION COURSES, AND BLENDED LEARNING; AND
19	(V) DOCUMENTING AND SHARING BEST PRACTICES IN PROVIDING
20	SUPPLEMENTAL ONLINE EDUCATION COURSES AND BLENDED LEARNING.
21	(5) (a) IN LEADING THE STATEWIDE SUPPLEMENTAL ONLINE AND
22	BLENDED LEARNING PROGRAM, THE ADMINISTERING BOCES, IN
23	PARTNERSHIP WITH THE COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION, THE STATE BOARD
24	OF EDUCATION AND ONE OR MORE PRIVATE, NONPROFIT ENTITIES, SHALL
25	PREPARE A PLAN FOR INTEGRATING SUPPLEMENTAL ONLINE AND BLENDED
26	LEARNING INTO THE EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS PROVIDED BY SCHOOL
27	DISTRICTS, CHARTER SCHOOLS, AND BOCES. EACH SCHOOL DISTRICT,

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1	CHARTER SCHOOL, AND BOCES MAY DETERMINE THE EXTENT TO WHICH
2	IT PARTICIPATES IN THE STATEWIDE PLAN.
3	(b) THE ADMINISTERING BOCES SHALL ENSURE THAT, THROUGH
4	THE PROGRAM, ALL SCHOOL DISTRICTS, CHARTER SCHOOLS, AND BOCES
5	IN THE STATE HAVE ACCESS TO:
6	(I) SUPPLEMENTAL ONLINE AND BLENDED LEARNING RESOURCES,
7	INCLUDING, AT A MINIMUM, SUPPLEMENTAL ONLINE EDUCATION COURSES
8	AVAILABLE FROM CONTRACT PROVIDERS OR FROM A SCHOOL DISTRICT,
9	CHARTER SCHOOL, OR BOCES AND A LIBRARY OF DIGITAL COURSE
10	CONTENT;
11	(II) PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT RESOURCES FOR TEACHERS,
12	INCLUDING RESOURCES FOR CERTIFYING TEACHERS' ABILITY TO
13	SUCCESSFULLY INTEGRATE SUPPLEMENTAL ONLINE AND BLENDED
14	LEARNING RESOURCES INTO SCHOOL-BUILDING-BASED EDUCATIONAL
15	PROGRAMS; AND
16	(III) CONSULTING ASSISTANCE FOR SCHOOL DISTRICTS, CHARTER
17	SCHOOLS, AND BOCES THAT CHOOSE TO USE SUPPLEMENTAL ONLINE AND
18	BLENDED LEARNING FOR STUDENTS, INCLUDING AN INVENTORY OF
19	SUCCESSFUL MODELS FOR INTEGRATING SUPPLEMENTAL ONLINE
20	EDUCATION COURSES AND BLENDED LEARNING INTO
21	SCHOOL-BUILDING-BASED EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS.
22	(c) The administering BOCES shall actively market to
23	SCHOOL DISTRICTS, CHARTER SCHOOLS, AND BOCES THE AVAILABILITY
24	OF RESOURCES THROUGH THE STATEWIDE SUPPLEMENTAL ONLINE AND
25	BLENDED LEARNING PROGRAM.
26	$(d)\ The\ administering\ BOCES\ may\ enter\ into\ an\ agreement$
27	WITH THE STATEWIDE INTERNET PORTAL AUTHORITY CREATED IN ARTICLE

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1	37.7 OF TITLE 24, C.R.S., TO PROVIDE THE PLATFORM FOR ACCESSING
2	SERVICES AND PROGRAMS AVAILABLE THROUGH THE STATEWIDE
3	SUPPLEMENTAL ONLINE AND BLENDED LEARNING PROGRAM.
4	(3) (6) (a) On or before February 15, 2015, and on or before
5	February 15 of every third year thereafter, the BOCES designated
6	pursuant to subsection (4) of this section shall, subject to available
7	appropriations, create The administering BOCES shall establish a
8	fair and transparent request for a proposal process to select one or more
9	nonprofit USE WHEN SELECTING providers to provide resources for school
10	districts, charter schools, and BOCES in the form of supplemental online
11	course offerings, professional development for educators, and consulting
12	assistance for school districts, charter schools, and BOCES wanting to
13	use online and blended learning for students. Proposals received in
14	response to the request for proposals must be reviewed by a committee
15	consisting of AS DESCRIBED IN PARAGRAPH (b) OF SUBSECTION (5) OF THIS
16	SECTION THROUGH THE STATEWIDE SUPPLEMENTAL ONLINE AND BLENDED
17	LEARNING PROGRAM. THE REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL PROCESS MUST
18	INCLUDE INPUT FROM A REVIEW COMMITTEE AS DESCRIBED IN PARAGRAPH
19	(b) OF THIS SUBSECTION (6) THAT THE ADMINISTERING BOCES CONVENES
20	AS NEEDED.
21	(b) THE REVIEW COMMITTEE CONSISTS OF:
22	(I) A representative from the designated ADMINISTERING BOCES;
23	(II) A representative from the office in the department responsible
24	for online and blended learning; AND
25	(III) THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS SELECTED JOINTLY BY THE
26	ADMINISTERING BOCES AND THE DEPARTMENT:

(A) A national expert in online and blended learning; to be

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- (B) An administrator from A SCHOOL THAT IS DESIGNATED an alternative education campus school to be selected by the designated BOCES and the department AS PROVIDED IN SECTION 22-7-604.5; and
- (C) An administrator from a school that purchases OBTAINS online or blended services to be selected by the designated BOCES and the department. The committee must convene at least ninety days prior to the release of the request for proposals THROUGH THE PROGRAM.
- established rubric RUBRICS and shall recommend one or more providers for approval to the ADMINISTERING BOCES. designated pursuant to subsection (4) of this section. If the designated ADMINISTERING BOCES chooses not to follow the recommendations of the REVIEW committee concerning any A provider, it shall provide the REVIEW committee with a written explanation of its rationale for so doing THE RATIONALE FOR THE DECISION.
- (3.3) (7) Supplemental online education courses must be provided to a purchasing school district, charter school, or BOCES at an affordable total program cost for high-quality, accredited courses with local support.
- (3.5) (8) Each high school student in Colorado may take at least one supplemental online course per year. The EACH supplemental online course CONTRACT provider shall report to the ADMINISTERING BOCES designated pursuant to subsection (4) of this section which INFORMATION CONCERNING THE students are participating WHO PARTICIPATE in THE supplemental online courses so TO ENABLE the ADMINISTERING BOCES designated pursuant to subsection (4) of this section can TO track student THE STUDENTS' academic performance for those students taking IN THE

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supplemental online courses. The ADMINISTERING BOCES designated pursuant to subsection (4) of this section shall annually collect data related to completion and passage rates from any nonprofit THE providers selected CONTRACTED to provide SUPPLEMENTAL online and blended learning and report that data to the department. The data collected by the department must be collected SHALL COLLECT THE DATA through existing student data collection systems and in compliance with all state and federal laws and regulations concerning the privacy of information, including but not limited to the federal "Family Education Rights and Privacy Act of 1974", 20 U.S.C. sec. 1232g, as amended.

(4) (9) The general assembly shall annually appropriate to the department of education for allocation to a BOCES designated, in consultation with the statewide association of BOCES, moneys THE ADMINISTERING BOCES AN AMOUNT sufficient to administer THE STATEWIDE SUPPLEMENTAL ONLINE AND BLENDED LEARNING PROGRAM and fund any contract entered into with a provider THE CONTRACTS ENTERED INTO WITH PROVIDERS pursuant to this section. The designated ADMINISTERING BOCES may expend not more than two UP TO TEN percent of the contract amount in administering any such contract THE AMOUNT ANNUALLY APPROPRIATED TO OFFSET ITS COSTS INCURRED IN LEADING, MANAGING, AND ADMINISTERING THE PROGRAM.

(5) (10) (a) On or before March 15, 2008 2017, and on or before March 15 each year thereafter, the designated ADMINISTERING BOCES shall submit to the education committees of the house of representatives and the senate, or any successor committees, the joint budget committee of the general assembly, THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION, and the department a report summarizing the provision of supplemental online

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I	courses pursuant to this section CONCERNING IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
2	STATEWIDE SUPPLEMENTAL ONLINE AND BLENDED LEARNING PROGRAM
3	FOR THE PRECEDING SCHOOL YEAR. At a minimum, the report must
4	include:
5	(a) The number of registrants in supplemental online courses,
6	disaggregated by the school district, charter school, or BOCES that
7	registered the students;
8	(b) The supplemental online course titles offered and the number
9	of registrants per course;
10	(c) Completion statistics for each supplemental online course,
11	disaggregated by semester;
12	(d) The number of supplemental online courses taken for both
13	high school and postsecondary credit, disaggregated by postsecondary
14	institution and school district;
15	(e) A list of the supplemental online courses developed or revised
16	by the contract provider;
17	(f) The strategies used successfully to facilitate student success in
18	supplemental online course work;
19	(g) An analysis of the reasons school districts, charter schools, and
20	BOCES use supplemental online courses;
21	(h) A description of any unique uses of supplemental online
22	courses by school districts, charter schools, and BOCES;
23	(i) A description of any barriers encountered by school districts,
24	charter schools, or BOCES in using supplemental online courses;
25	(j) Results from an annual survey of parents, teachers, and
26	students regarding participation in and satisfaction with supplemental
27	online courses offered by a nonprofit provider with which the BOCES

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1	designated pursuant to subsection (4) of this section contracted;
2	(k) Trend data related to the supplemental online learning
3	environment; and
4	(l) An accounting of the expenditure of the funds allocated
5	pursuant to subsection (4) of this section, which must include an
6	accounting by the designated BOCES and any contract providers.
7	(b) This subsection (10) is exempt from the provisions of
8	SECTION 24-1-136 (11), C.R.S., AND THE ANNUAL REPORTING
9	REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SUBSECTION (10) ARE EFFECTIVE UNTIL CHANGED
10	BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTING BY BILL.
11	(6) Repealed.
12	SECTION 2. Safety clause. The general assembly hereby finds
13	determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate
14	preservation of the public peace, health, and safety.

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