

Second Regular Session  
Seventieth General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 16-0324.01 Kate Meyer x4348

HOUSE BILL 16-1225

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HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Priola,

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Tate,

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House Committees  
Education

Senate Committees

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A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 CONCERNING A REQUIREMENT THAT SCHOOL DISTRICTS WITH A  
102 CERTAIN MINIMUM NUMBER OF ENROLLED PUPILS POST  
103 INFORMATION ONLINE THAT IS SUBMITTED BY DIRECTOR  
104 CANDIDATES PRIOR TO THE ELECTION.

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

The bill requires a school district of at least 1,000 pupils to post on its official website, no later than 60 days before the date of an election for school district directors, a statement provided by each director candidate

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.  
*Capital letters indicate new material to be added to existing statute.*  
*Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.*

to the secretary of the board of education with other required filings. The statement must be posted verbatim, except that it may not include any profane or false statements or exceed 1,000 words in length.

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

2           **SECTION 1. Legislative declaration.** The general assembly  
3 hereby finds, determines, and declares that the position of school district  
4 director is an important and often powerful role, involving the direction  
5 of billions of public dollars, but that electors frequently receive very little  
6 information on director candidates. The general assembly further finds  
7 that modern technology has enabled instant and comprehensive access to  
8 many types of personal information on individuals in the private sphere,  
9 and that the public sector could easily and efficiently adapt those models  
10 for the public good. The general assembly therefore declares that  
11 increasing transparency and knowledge in school district director  
12 elections by requiring larger school districts to post online biographical  
13 statements provided by director candidates is an efficient and inexpensive  
14 way to help create a fully informed electorate.

15           **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-31-107, **add** (2.5)  
16 as follows:

17           **22-31-107. Candidates for school director - call - qualification**  
18 **- nomination - legislative intent.** (2.5) (a) A CANDIDATE FOR THE OFFICE  
19 OF SCHOOL DIRECTOR OF A DISTRICT WITH AT LEAST ONE THOUSAND  
20 ENROLLED PUPILS SHALL SUBMIT A STATEMENT WITH THE SECRETARY OF  
21 THE BOARD OF EDUCATION WHEN THE CANDIDATE FILES HIS OR HER  
22 NOTICE OF INTENTION AND NOMINATION PETITION PURSUANT TO  
23 SUBSECTION (2) OF THIS SECTION. ON OR PRIOR TO THE SIXTIETH DAY  
24 BEFORE THE DATE OF THE ELECTION, ALL SUCH STATEMENTS MUST BE

1 POSTED ON THE SAME DAY, VERBATIM, IN A PROMINENT AREA ON THE  
2 SCHOOL DISTRICT'S OFFICIAL WEBSITE; EXCEPT THAT THE STATEMENTS  
3 SHALL NOT INCLUDE ANY PROFANE OR FALSE STATEMENTS OR EXCEED ONE  
4 THOUSAND WORDS IN LENGTH. PRIOR TO EACH STATEMENT BEING POSTED  
5 ON A SCHOOL DISTRICT'S WEBSITE, THE SECRETARY OF THE BOARD OF  
6 EDUCATION FOR THAT DISTRICT SHALL REDACT ANY PROFANE WORDS,  
7 USING CURRENT FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION RULES AND  
8 DEFINITIONS AS GUIDANCE, AND STRIKE ANY PORTION OF EACH  
9 STATEMENT BEYOND THE ONE THOUSANDTH WORD.

10 (b) THE RECEIPT AND ONLINE POSTING OF BIOGRAPHICAL  
11 STATEMENTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH PARAGRAPH (a) OF THIS SUBSECTION  
12 (2.5) SHALL BE ACCOMPLISHED, TO THE MAXIMUM EXTENT POSSIBLE,  
13 WITHIN EXISTING FISCAL RESOURCES.

14 **SECTION 3. Act subject to petition - effective date -**  
15 **applicability.** (1) This act takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following  
16 the expiration of the ninety-day period after final adjournment of the  
17 general assembly (August 10, 2016, if adjournment sine die is on May 11,  
18 2016); except that, if a referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1  
19 (3) of article V of the state constitution against this act or an item, section,  
20 or part of this act within such period, then the act, item, section, or part  
21 will not take effect unless approved by the people at the general election  
22 to be held in November 2016 and, in such case, will take effect on the  
23 date of the official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.

24 (2) This act applies to elections conducted on or after the  
25 applicable effective date of this act.