

Second Regular Session
Seventy-fourth General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 24-0066.01 Jacob Baus x2173

SENATE BILL 24-069

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Kolker,

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

(None),

Senate Committees
Education

House Committees

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 **CONCERNING MEASURES TO CLARIFY INDIVIDUALIZED EDUCATION**
102 **PROGRAM INFORMATION.**

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>.)

On or before July 1, 2026, the bill requires the department of education to:

- Create and deliver a training program, in plain and easy-to-understand language, regarding individualized education program laws and procedures for special education advocates and parents; and

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.

- Make certain training program information publicly available on its website, in plain and easy-to-understand language.

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

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 22-20-122 as
3 follows:

4 **22-20-122. Special education advocates and parents - training**
5 **program - publish materials - definitions.** (1) (a) ON OR BEFORE JULY
6 1, 2026, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL CREATE AND DELIVER A TRAINING
7 PROGRAM FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVOCATES AND PARENTS. THE
8 TRAINING PROGRAM MUST PRESENT COMPREHENSIVE INFORMATION, IN
9 PLAIN AND EASY-TO-UNDERSTAND LANGUAGE, TO SPECIAL EDUCATION
10 ADVOCATES AND PARENTS REGARDING FEDERAL AND STATE LAWS AND
11 PROCEDURES REGARDING INDIVIDUALIZED EDUCATION PROGRAMS. THE
12 DEPARTMENT MAY INCLUDE INTERPERSONAL AND COMMUNICATION
13 STRATEGY EXERCISES IN THE TRAINING PROGRAM.

14 (b) AT A MINIMUM, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL MAKE THE TRAINING
15 PROGRAM AVAILABLE TO SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVOCATES AND PARENTS.
16 THE DEPARTMENT SHALL DELIVER THE TRAINING PROGRAM IN PERSON AND
17 MAKE THE TRAINING ACCESSIBLE ONLINE. THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
18 ENCOURAGES SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVOCATES AND PARENTS TO
19 COMPLETE THE TRAINING PROGRAM IN PERSON, IF PRACTICABLE, IN ORDER
20 TO BENEFIT FROM ANY INTERPERSONAL AND COMMUNICATION STRATEGY
21 EXERCISES OFFERED DURING THE TRAINING PROGRAM.

22 (c) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL COLLABORATE WITH STAKEHOLDERS
23 TO CREATE THE TRAINING PROGRAM. AT A MINIMUM, THE DEPARTMENT IS
24 ENCOURAGED TO COLLABORATE WITH PARENTS OF CHILDREN WHO HAVE

1 AN INDIVIDUALIZED EDUCATION PROGRAM, TEACHERS, PERSONS WITH
2 DISABILITIES, SCHOOL DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVES, AND MEMBERS OF THE
3 PUBLIC.

4 (2) (a) ON OR BEFORE JULY 1, 2026, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL
5 PUBLISH, AND UPDATE AS NECESSARY, THE FOLLOWING MATERIALS ON THE
6 DEPARTMENT'S WEBSITE:

7 (I) A LIST OF SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVOCATES WHO HAVE
8 COMPLETED THE TRAINING PROGRAM PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (1) OF
9 THIS SECTION; AND

10 (II) ANY RESOURCES OR MATERIALS DEVELOPED TO ACCOMPANY
11 THE TRAINING PROGRAM CREATED AND DELIVERED PURSUANT TO
12 SUBSECTION (1) OF THIS SECTION.

13 (b) THE MATERIALS AND RESOURCES PUBLISHED PURSUANT TO
14 SUBSECTION (2)(a) OF THIS SECTION MUST BE AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC
15 AND IN PLAIN AND EASY-TO-UNDERSTAND LANGUAGE.

16 (3) AS USED IN THIS SECTION, UNLESS THE CONTEXT OTHERWISE
17 REQUIRES:

18 (a) "PARENT" HAS THE SAME MEANING AS SET FORTH IN SECTION
19 22-20-103 (19.7).

20 (b) "SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVOCATE" MEANS A PERSON WHO
21 ASSISTS A PARENT OF A CHILD WHO HAS OR IS SUSPECTED TO HAVE A
22 DISABILITY WITH AN INDIVIDUALIZED EDUCATION PROGRAM. "SPECIAL
23 EDUCATION ADVOCATE" DOES NOT INCLUDE A PERSON WHO IS EMPLOYED
24 BY OR CONTRACTED WITH A SCHOOL DISTRICT, DISTRICT SCHOOL, DISTRICT
25 CHARTER SCHOOL, INSTITUTE CHARTER SCHOOL, OR NONPUBLIC SCHOOL.

26 **SECTION 2. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act
27 takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the

1 ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly; except
2 that, if a referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V
3 of the state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this
4 act within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take
5 effect unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in
6 November 2024 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the
7 official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.