First Regular Session Seventieth General Assembly STATE OF COLORADO

REENGROSSED

This Version Includes All Amendments Adopted in the House of Introduction SENATE BILL 15-117

LLS NO. 15-0727.01 Brita Darling x2241

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A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 CONCERNING PROHIBITING DISCRIMINATION IN PUBLIC FINANCING OF

102 INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION.

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 <u>http://www.leg.state.co.us/billsummaries.</u>)

The bill prohibits the general assembly and the Colorado commission on higher education (commission) from appropriating or distributing state moneys to or for the benefit of students or state or private institutions of higher education based solely on the race, color, national origin, or sex of a student.

The bill requires the commission to prohibit such discrimination





in higher education funding in implementing part 3 of article 18 of title 23, Colorado Revised Statutes.

1 Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado: 2 SECTION 1. In Colorado Revised Statutes, add 23-18-308 as 3 follows: 4 23-18-308. Prohibition on discrimination in higher education 5 funding. IN APPROPRIATING, ALLOCATING, OR DISTRIBUTING STATE 6 MONEYS FOR THE BENEFIT OF ANY PUBLIC OR PRIVATE INSTITUTION OF 7 HIGHER EDUCATION OR FOR STUDENTS, INCLUDING CALCULATING THE 8 AMOUNT OF THE APPROPRIATION, ALLOCATION, OR DISTRIBUTION, THE 9 GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND THE COMMISSION SHALL NOT BASE THE 10 APPROPRIATION, ALLOCATION, OR DISTRIBUTION OF STATE MONEYS 11 SOLELY ON THE RACE, COLOR, NATIONAL ORIGIN, SEX, PREGNANCY, AGE, 12 DISABILITY, CREED, RELIGION, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, GENDER IDENTITY, 13 GENDER EXPRESSION, VETERAN STATUS, POLITICAL AFFILIATION, OR 14 POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY OF A STUDENT. NOTHING IN THIS SECTION 15 PROHIBITS THE USE OF STATE MONEYS FOR AMERICAN INDIAN STUDENTS 16 AT FORT LEWIS COLLEGE PURSUANT TO SECTION 23-52-105. NOTHING IN 17 THIS SECTION PROHIBITS INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION FROM 18 OFFERING EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROGRAMS, VETERANS' PREFERENCES, OR 19 OTHER PROGRAMS PERMITTED UNDER THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION. 20 AN INSTITUTION MAY USE STATE MONEYS TO INCREASE ETHNIC, 21 CULTURAL, AND GENDER DIVERSITY, INCREASE ACCESS FOR QUALIFIED 22 DISABLED INDIVIDUALS, AND PROVIDE EQUAL OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL 23 STUDENTS AND EMPLOYEES. 24 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 23-18-306, add (8)

as follows:

23-18-306. Duties and powers of the commission - department
role and mission factors and performance metrics - consultation
with interested parties - facilitator - legislative declaration. (8) THE
COMMISSION SHALL COMPLY WITH SECTION 23-18-308 IN IMPLEMENTING
THIS PART 3.

6 **SECTION 3.** Act subject to petition - effective date. This act 7 takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the 8 ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly (August 9 5, 2015, if adjournment sine die is on May 6, 2015); except that, if a 10 referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V of the 11 state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this act 12 within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take effect 13 unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in 14 November 2016 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the 15 official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.