

**First Regular Session  
Sixty-ninth General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO**

**PREAMENDED**

*This Unofficial Version Includes Committee  
Amendments Not Yet Adopted on Second Reading*

LLS NO. 13-0444.01 Julie Pelegrin x2700

**HOUSE BILL 13-1007**

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**HOUSE SPONSORSHIP**

**Peniston,**

**SENATE SPONSORSHIP**

**Hudak,**

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**House Committees**

Education  
Appropriations

**Senate Committees**

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**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

101 **CONCERNING RECREATION OF THE EARLY CHILDHOOD AND SCHOOL**  
102 **READINESS LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION.**

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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 general assembly originally created the early childhood and school readiness legislative commission (commission) in 2009, and the commission repealed on July 1, 2012. The bill recreates the commission as it previously existed, but the commission will be staffed by legislative staff and will be eligible for funding through the appropriation for

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.*



1 (c) HIGH-QUALITY EARLY CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION  
2 DURING THE CRUCIAL GROWTH YEARS FROM BIRTH TO FIVE YEARS OF AGE  
3 IS NECESSARY TO ENABLE CHILDREN TO SUCCEED WHEN THEY START  
4 KINDERGARTEN AND AS THEY CONTINUE THEIR EDUCATION;

5 (d) RESEARCH DEMONSTRATES THAT PARENTAL SUPPORT AND  
6 INVOLVEMENT, COMBINED WITH A HIGH-QUALITY PRESCHOOL EDUCATION  
7 PROGRAM, INCREASES STUDENTS' SCHOOL READINESS AND ACHIEVEMENT  
8 IN KINDERGARTEN AND SIGNIFICANTLY CONTRIBUTES TO OVERCOMING THE  
9 EFFECTS OF STUDENTS' VARYING SOCIO-ECONOMIC CIRCUMSTANCES; AND

10 (e) RESEARCH FURTHER SHOWS THAT IMPROVING EDUCATIONAL  
11 PERFORMANCE THROUGH IMPROVED SCHOOL READINESS COSTS MUCH LESS  
12 THAN SPECIAL EDUCATION, REMEDIATION, AND GRADE RETENTION.

13 (2) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY CONCLUDES THEREFORE THAT IT IS  
14 IN THE BEST INTERESTS OF THE STATE TO CREATE A LEGISLATIVE  
15 COMMISSION TO MEET ON A REGULAR BASIS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR TO  
16 STUDY ISSUES AND RECOMMEND LEGISLATION CONCERNING EARLY  
17 CHILDHOOD AND SCHOOL READINESS, INCLUDING HEALTH CARE, MENTAL  
18 HEALTH, PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT, FAMILY SUPPORT, CHILD CARE, AND  
19 EARLY LEARNING.

20   
21 **26-6.5-203. Early childhood and school readiness legislative**  
22 **commission - creation - membership - duties - funding.** (1) (a) THERE  
23 IS CREATED A LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION FOR POLICY IMPROVEMENT  
24 RELATED TO EARLY CHILDHOOD AND SCHOOL READINESS, INCLUDING THE  
25 AREAS OF HEALTH, MENTAL HEALTH, PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT, FAMILY  
26 SUPPORT, CHILD CARE, AND EARLY LEARNING, REFERRED TO IN THIS  
27 ARTICLE AS THE "COMMISSION".

1 (b) THE COMMISSION CONSISTS OF SIX MEMBERS, APPOINTED FOR  
2 TERMS OF THREE YEARS; EXCEPT THAT, OF THE MEMBERS FIRST  
3 APPOINTED, TWO MEMBERS SHALL BE APPOINTED FOR ONE-YEAR TERMS,  
4 TWO MEMBERS SHALL BE APPOINTED FOR TWO-YEAR TERMS, AND TWO  
5 MEMBERS SHALL BE APPOINTED FOR THREE-YEAR TERMS. THE APPOINTING  
6 AUTHORITIES SHALL JOINTLY DETERMINE WHICH COMMISSION MEMBERS  
7 SERVE REDUCED TERMS. EACH COMMISSION MEMBER SERVES AT THE  
8 PLEASURE OF THE APPLICABLE APPOINTING AUTHORITY. VACANCIES SHALL  
9 BE FILLED BY APPOINTMENT OF THE ORIGINAL APPOINTING AUTHORITY FOR  
10 THE REMAINDER OF THE UNEXPIRED TERM. INITIAL APPOINTMENTS TO THE  
11 COMMISSION SHALL BE MADE ON OR BEFORE JULY 1, 2013, AS FOLLOWS:

12 (I) THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE SHALL APPOINT TWO SENATORS  
13 TO SERVE ON THE COMMISSION, ONE OF WHOM SERVES ON THE SENATE  
14 EDUCATION COMMITTEE, OR ANY SUCCESSOR COMMITTEE, AND ONE OF  
15 WHOM SERVES ON THE SENATE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
16 COMMITTEE, OR ANY SUCCESSOR COMMITTEE;

17 (II) THE MINORITY LEADER OF THE SENATE SHALL APPOINT ONE  
18 SENATOR TO SERVE ON THE COMMISSION WHO ALSO SERVES ON THE  
19 SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE, OR ANY SUCCESSOR COMMITTEE;

20 (III) THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES SHALL  
21 APPOINT TWO REPRESENTATIVES TO SERVE ON THE COMMISSION, ONE OF  
22 WHOM SERVES ON THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE OF  
23 REPRESENTATIVES, OR ANY SUCCESSOR COMMITTEE, AND ONE OF WHOM  
24 SERVES ON THE PUBLIC HEALTH CARE AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE  
25 OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, OR ANY SUCCESSOR COMMITTEE;

26 AND

27 (IV) THE MINORITY LEADER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

1 SHALL APPOINT ONE REPRESENTATIVE TO SERVE ON THE COMMISSION WHO  
2 ALSO SERVES ON THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE OF  
3 REPRESENTATIVES, OR ANY SUCCESSOR COMMITTEE.

4 (c) THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES SHALL  
5 SELECT THE FIRST CHAIR OF THE COMMISSION, AND THE PRESIDENT OF THE  
6 SENATE SHALL SELECT THE FIRST VICE-CHAIR. THE CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR  
7 SHALL ALTERNATE ANNUALLY THEREAFTER BETWEEN THE TWO HOUSES.  
8 THE CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR OF THE COMMISSION MAY ESTABLISH SUCH  
9 ORGANIZATIONAL AND PROCEDURAL RULES AS ARE NECESSARY FOR THE  
10 OPERATION OF THE COMMISSION.

11 (d) THE MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION SHALL RECEIVE  
12 COMPENSATION FOR ATTENDANCE AT MEETINGS OF THE COMMITTEE AS  
13 PROVIDED IN SECTION 2-2-307, C.R.S.

14 (2) (a) THE COMMISSION SHALL MEET AT LEAST FOUR TIMES  
15 ANNUALLY. THE COMMISSION SHALL STUDY ISSUES CONCERNING EARLY  
16 CHILDHOOD AND SCHOOL READINESS, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO  
17 HEALTH CARE, MENTAL HEALTH, PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT, FAMILY  
18 SUPPORT, CHILD CARE, AND EARLY LEARNING. THE COMMISSION SHALL  
19 SOLICIT INPUT FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC, ESPECIALLY THOSE  
20 INDIVIDUALS WITH EXPERTISE RELATED TO EARLY CHILDHOOD AND  
21 SCHOOL READINESS ISSUES, TO AID THE COMMISSION IN ITS WORK. THE  
22 COMMISSION SHALL CONSULT WITH THE EARLY CHILDHOOD LEADERSHIP  
23 COMMISSION, CREATED IN SECTION 24-44.7-102, C.R.S., WITH REGARD TO  
24 POLICIES CONCERNING EARLY CHILDHOOD AND SCHOOL READINESS.

25 (b) THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL STAFF AND THE OFFICE OF  
26 LEGISLATIVE LEGAL SERVICES SHALL ASSIST THE COMMISSION IN  
27 CARRYING OUT ITS DUTIES.

1 (c) THE COMMISSION SHALL REPORT TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
2 BY THE DATE SPECIFIED IN JOINT RULE 24 (b)(1)(D). THE REPORT MAY  
3 INCLUDE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR LEGISLATION, INCLUDING BUT NOT  
4 LIMITED TO LEGISLATION CONTINUING THE COMMISSION AND AN  
5 EXPLANATION OF THE ADDITIONAL TIME AND PROCEDURES THAT THE  
6 COMMISSION MAY REQUIRE TO ACHIEVE THE COMMISSION'S STUDY GOALS.  
7 LEGISLATION THAT THE COMMISSION RECOMMENDS SHALL BE TREATED AS  
8 LEGISLATION RECOMMENDED BY AN INTERIM COMMITTEE FOR THE  
9 PURPOSES OF THE INTRODUCTION DEADLINES AND BILL LIMITATIONS  
10 IMPOSED BY THE JOINT RULES OF THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF  
11 REPRESENTATIVES.

12 (3) THE CHAIR OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL SHALL APPROVE ALL  
13 REASONABLE AND NECESSARY EXPENSES THAT THE COMMISSION INCURS.  
14 THE APPROVED EXPENSES SHALL BE PAID BY VOUCHERS AND WARRANTS  
15 DRAWN AS PROVIDED BY LAW FROM MONEYS ALLOCATED TO THE  
16 LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL FOR LEGISLATIVE STUDIES FROM APPROPRIATIONS  
17 MADE BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

18 **26-6.5-204. Repeal of part.** THIS PART 2 IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE  
19 JULY 1, 2018.

20 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 26-6.5-106, **amend**  
21 (5) introductory portion and (9) (b) as follows:

22 **26-6.5-106. School-readiness quality improvement program.**

23 (5) **School-readiness quality rating system.** The state early childhood  
24 and school-readiness LEGISLATIVE commission created pursuant to section  
25 ~~26-6-304~~ IN SECTION **26-6.5-203** shall adopt a voluntary school-readiness  
26 quality rating system. ~~Such~~ THE rating system shall measure the level of  
27 preparedness of and quality of services provided by an early care and

1 education provider to prepare children to enter elementary school. The  
2 school-readiness quality rating system shall:

3 (9) **Evaluation - report.** (b) On or before April 1, 2009, and on  
4 or before April 1 every three years thereafter, the state department, or any  
5 private entity with which the state department is hereby authorized to  
6 contract for this purpose, shall submit a consolidated statewide report,  
7 based upon the reports prepared and submitted by the early childhood  
8 care and education councils, addressing the items set forth in paragraph  
9 (a) of this subsection (9) to the ~~state~~ early childhood and school-readiness  
10 LEGISLATIVE commission and to the members of the education  
11 committees of the house of representatives and the senate of the general  
12 assembly.

13 **SECTION 3.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 26-6.5-203, **amend**  
14 **as added by House Bill 13-1007** (2) (a) as follows:

15 **26-6.5-203. Early childhood and school readiness legislative**  
16 **commission - creation - membership - duties - funding.** (2) (a) The  
17 commission shall meet at least four times annually. The commission shall  
18 study issues concerning early childhood and school readiness, including  
19 but not limited to health care, mental health, parental involvement, family  
20 support, and early learning. The commission shall solicit input from  
21 members of the public, especially those individuals with expertise related  
22 to early childhood and school readiness issues, to aid the commission in  
23 its work. The commission shall consult with the early childhood  
24 leadership commission, created in section ~~24-44.7-102~~, ~~C.R.S.~~  
25 ~~26-6.2-103~~, with regard to policies concerning early childhood and school  
26 readiness.

27 **SECTION 4. Effective date.** This act takes effect upon passage;

1     except that section 3 of this act takes effect only if House Bill 13-1117 is  
2     enacted and becomes law, in which case section 3 of this act takes effect  
3     July 1, 2013.

4             **SECTION 5. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds,  
5     determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate  
6     preservation of the public peace, health, and safety.