Initiative 2023-2024 #143: Parental Rights Concerning Public Education Records

The single subject is a parent's right to review all of their child's public school records.

Be it Enacted by the People of the State of Colorado:

SECTION 1. In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 19-1-132 as follows: **19-1-132. Parental rights - legislative declaration - definitions - review school records.**

- (1) **Legislative Declaration.** We the voters of the State of Colorado, hereby find that the best education decisions are made by those who know the students best and who are responsible for implementing the decisions, and, therefore, that educators and parents have a right and responsibility to participate in the education institutions which serve them.
- (2) Definitions. As USED IN THIS SECTION:

(a) "Child" means a person less than 18 years of age who has not been Emancipated;

(b) "PARENT" MEANS A PERSON WHO HAS LEGAL CUSTODY OF A CHILD, INCLUDING A NATURAL PARENT, ADOPTIVE PARENT, OR LEGAL GUARDIAN;

(c) "PUBLIC EDUCATION" MEANS ANY PRESCHOOL, PRIMARY OR SECONDARY SCHOOL THAT RECEIVES STATE AND/OR FEDERAL FUNDS.

(d) 'PUBLIC EDUCATION REPRESENTATIVE" MEANS ANY PUBLIC EDUCATION ADMINISTRATOR, TEACHER, NURSE, CONTRACTOR, VOLUNTEER, OR ANY OTHER PERSON ASSOCIATED WITH PUBLIC EDUCATION.

(3) Parent's legal right to review their child's education. PARENT(S) OF A CHILD ENROLLED IN PUBLIC EDUCATION SHALL HAVE THE RIGHT, WITHIN 48 HOURS OF MAKING A REQUEST, TO REVIEW ALL OF THEIR CHILD'S PUBLIC EDUCATION RECORDS, INCLUDING, WITHOUT LIMITATION, RECORDS OF MATERIALS THE PARENT(S)'S CHILD HAS ACCESS TO IN A PUBLIC EDUCATION LIBRARY, IN A PUBLIC EDUCATION ONLINE RESOURCE, IN A PUBLIC EDUCATION CLASSROOM, OR ANY SCHOOL OR STUDENT SPONSORED EXTRACURRICULAR EVENT TO WHICH THE PARENT(S)'S CHILD HAS ACCESS.

SECTION 2. Effective date - applicability. This measure shall be effective on and after the date it is declared by proclamation of the governor to have been adopted by the registered electors of the state and shall apply to instances occurring on or after the effective date.