

**Second Regular Session  
Sixty-seventh General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO**

**REENGROSSED**

*This Version Includes All Amendments  
Adopted in the House of Introduction*

LLS NO. 10-0475.01 Michael Dohr

**SENATE BILL 10-101**

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**SENATE SPONSORSHIP**

**Gibbs,** Schwartz, Romer, Bacon, Cadman, Hudak, Johnston, Kester, Sandoval, Scheffel, Steadman, Tapia, White

**HOUSE SPONSORSHIP**

**Scanlan and Massey,** Balmer, Baumgardner, Curry, Frangas, Liston, Merrifield, Pace

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**Senate Committees**  
Education

**House Committees**

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**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

101 **CONCERNING AUTHORIZING COLORADO MOUNTAIN COLLEGE TO**  
102 **OFFER BACCALAUREATE DEGREES.**

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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 authorizes Colorado mountain college to offer baccalaureate degrees that address the needs of the communities within its service area.

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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.*

SENATE  
3rd Reading Unamended  
March 3, 2010

SENATE  
Amended 2nd Reading  
March 1, 2010

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

2 **SECTION 1. Legislative declaration.** (1) The general assembly  
3 declares that:

4 (a) It is a priority in Colorado to afford the citizens in rural areas  
5 of the state greater access to higher education; and

6 (b) Four-year degrees are of increasing importance in enabling  
7 individuals to qualify for and obtain jobs.

8 (2) It is therefore in the best interests of the state of Colorado to  
9 grant Colorado Mountain College, a junior college that was created to  
10 offer two-year degrees, the authority to offer four-year baccalaureate  
11 degrees.

12 **SECTION 2.** 23-71-102, Colorado Revised Statutes, is amended  
13 to read:

14 **23-71-102. Definitions.** As used in this article, unless the context  
15 otherwise requires:

16 (1) "Junior college" means an educational institution ~~which~~ THAT  
17 provides not more than two years of training in the arts, sciences, and  
18 humanities beyond the twelfth grade of the public high school curriculum  
19 or vocational education and ~~which~~ THAT conducts occupational, technical,  
20 and community service programs, with no term limitations, and general  
21 education, including college transfer programs, with unrestricted  
22 admissions; EXCEPT THAT COLORADO MOUNTAIN COLLEGE, IN ADDITION  
23 TO ITS MISSION AS A JUNIOR COLLEGE, MAY ALSO OFFER NO MORE THAN  
24 FIVE BACCALAUREATE DEGREE PROGRAMS AS ITS BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
25 DETERMINES APPROPRIATE TO ADDRESS THE NEEDS OF THE COMMUNITIES  
26 WITHIN ITS SERVICE AREA AND THAT ARE APPROVED BY THE COLORADO  
27 COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION.

1           SECTION 3. Part 1 of article 71 of title 23, Colorado Revised  
2           Statutes, is amended BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW SECTION to  
3           read:

4           23-71-133. Approval of baccalaureate degrees. (1) WHEN  
5           APPROVING BACCALAUREATE DEGREES FOR COLORADO MOUNTAIN  
6           COLLEGE PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY IN SECTION 23-71-102 (1), THE  
7           COLORADO COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION SHALL MAKE ITS  
8           DETERMINATION BASED ON THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA:

9           (a) WHETHER COLORADO MOUNTAIN COLLEGE CAN DEMONSTRATE  
10          WORKFORCE AND STUDENT DEMAND FOR THE BACCALAUREATE DEGREE  
11          PROGRAM BY PROVIDING DATA;

12          (b) WHETHER COLORADO MOUNTAIN COLLEGE CAN DEMONSTRATE  
13          REGIONAL AND PROFESSIONAL ACCREDITATION REQUIREMENTS, WHEN  
14          APPLICABLE, AND COMPLIANCE WITH THOSE REQUIREMENTS AS DEEMED  
15          APPROPRIATE AT BOTH THE INSTITUTIONAL AND PROGRAM LEVELS;

16          (c) WHETHER COLORADO MOUNTAIN COLLEGE CAN DEMONSTRATE  
17          THAT ITS PROVISION OF THE BACCALAUREATE DEGREE PROGRAM IS THE  
18          MOST COST-EFFECTIVE METHOD OF PROVIDING THE BACCALAUREATE  
19          DEGREE PROGRAM IN ITS SERVICE AREA; AND

20          (d) WHETHER COLORADO MOUNTAIN COLLEGE CAN PROVIDE A  
21          COST-BENEFIT ANALYSIS SHOWING THAT THE ADDITIONAL  
22          BACCALAUREATE DEGREE PROGRAM WILL NOT CREATE A NEGATIVE  
23          IMPACT FOR THE COLLEGE OR REQUIRE ADDITIONAL STATE APPROPRIATED  
24          MONEYS TO OPERATE.

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