

Senate Education

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HB22-1220 Removing Barriers To Educator Preparation

Typed Text of Testimony Submitted

Name, Position, Representing	Typed Text of Testimony
Theresa Newsome For Self	<p>Thank you, Mr Chair and Madam Vice Chair and members of the committee.</p> <p>I am Dr. Theresa Newsom, and I have been an educator 41 years including 26 years in Colorado. I am testifying in support of House Bill 22-1220.</p> <p>As the spouse of an Enlisted Air Force Veteran I received my first teaching credential from Fresno State in California before we were transferred to South Carolina where I needed to obtain another license to meet their requirements. From there my husband and I were sent to England where I taught for the Department of Defense Dependent Schools at Feltwell AFB in East Anglia for 7 years. Yes, another license was needed. Then we were transferred back to CA where I had to become licensed again. I taught in the Vandenburg AFB community 7 years before coming to Colorado where I was licensed again due to different requirements from the previous locations and no reciprocity between states.</p> <p>In order for me to obtain new licenses I needed to pay fees and complete assessment competencies which included traveling to test sites. There were times I felt these barriers were insurmountable due to taking course work and simultaneously raising three children, two who are adopted.</p> <p>I did complete my Master's degree in Curriculum and instruction, become a school administrator (another CO license needed) and of course I still renew both licenses every 5 years to remain eligible to work in this state. In addition, I completed my competences to become a licensed Gifted and Talented Resource Teacher. I currently work in the field of gifted education today as the only Black GT teacher in Southern CO.</p> <p>House Bill 22-1220 will remove financial and access barriers to ensure a more diverse teacher workforce in Colorado. I respectfully ask for your 'yes' today on House Bill 22-1220. Thank you.</p>
Christine Muldoon For MSU Denver	<p>Greetings Senate Committee,</p> <p>As the Director of the Office of Education Solutions for the Metropolitan State University, I would like to provide written testimony on behalf of HB22-1220.</p>

	<p>Metropolitan State University of Denver (MSU Denver) School of Education (SOE) offers a variety of undergraduate, post-baccalaureate and graduate programs and transforms the lives of children, preschool through high school and beyond.</p> <p>Metropolitan State University of Denver, the second largest preparer of pre-baccalaureate teachers in Colorado, is a unique, access-oriented campus community that values diversity, equity, and inclusion in all its forms. Among teacher education programs statewide and nationally, the MSU Denver School of Education is among the most diverse.</p> <p>Approximately 42 percent of our students identify as students of color (the national average is 26 percent). Our student population consists of nearly 50% first generation students, while 70% of our students in the pre-K-3 program are first generation. We know our students struggle financially, and we know our students do not always make it through the program because of the financial hardship of student teaching.</p> <p>Again, as the second largest preparer of pre-baccalaureate teachers in Colorado, we know HB22-1220 will benefit the teacher workforce in our local school districts, especially considering approximately 70 percent of all placements for students are in Title I schools.</p> <p>MSU Denver fully supports HB22-1220. Thank you for taking the time to consider my perspective on this important bill.</p> <p>Cordially, Christine Muldoon, Ed.D.</p>
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