



Policy Positions - 2016 Legislative Session

Updated August 3, 2016

SUPPORT

- **[HB16-1006 Clarify Tax Exemptions for Housing Authority](#)**

Sponsored by Rep. KC Becker (D-Boulder) and Rep. Alec Garnett (D-Denver) (Supported 2/2)

Summary: The bill clarifies an exemption from certain local and state government charges for affordable housing properties.

The Chamber supports HB16-1006. This bill clarifies an exemption already in statute and encourages local affordable housing in Colorado, which supports the growth of our state's economy by providing diverse housing options for our workforce throughout Colorado communities.

Outcome: Governor signed on 5/18

- **[HB16-1008 Roadway Shoulder Access For Buses](#)**

Sponsored by Rep. Faith Winter (D-Westminster) and Sen. John Cooke (R-Greeley) (Supported 1/19)

Summary: This bill would allow the Colorado Department of Transportation to designate a shoulder for use as a traffic lane by commercial buses with approval of the Colorado State Patrol.

The Chamber supports HB16-1008. This proposal completes the FastTracks' promise of connecting our region with efficient transportation options. Once adopted, the bill will alleviate congestion on the U.S. 36 corridor, especially during peak travel periods, without major added cost.

Outcome: Governor signed on 3/9

- **[HB16-1014 Department of State Business Intelligence Center](#)**

Sponsored by Rep. Angela Williams (D-Denver) and Sen. Jack Tate (R-Centennial) (Supported 1/26)

Summary: The bill creates the business intelligence center program within the Department of State. The purpose of the program is to streamline access to public data collected by state agencies and to provide resources to make the data more useful.

The Chamber supports HB16-1014. This program is a great example of a beneficial and positive public-private partnership (P3) among business and government.

Outcome: Governor signed on 6/10

- **[HB16-1039 Interstate 70 Motor Vehicle Traction Equipment](#)**

Sponsored by Rep. Diane Mitsch Bush (D-Steamboat Springs) and Sen. Nancy Todd (D-Aurora) (Supported 1/19)



Policy Positions - 2016 Legislative Session

Updated August 3, 2016

Summary: Currently a person is required to use certain traction control equipment, such as chains or snow-rated tires, when the Colorado Department of Transportation restricts road use due to a winter storm. The bill broadens this law to require the traction equipment to be carried on I-70 between Dotsero and Morrison during icy or snow-packed conditions, before CDOT issues winter storm restrictions.

The Chamber supports HB16-1039. This proposal addresses one of the causes of accidents and congestion on the I-70 mountain corridor, especially during peak periods in winter conditions.

Outcome: **Senate Committee on Transportation Postpone Indefinitely on 3/24**

- **[HB16-1053 Retail Hydrogen Fuel Systems Regulation](#)**

Sponsored by Sen. Owen Hill (R-Colorado Springs) and Rep. Tracy Kraft-Tharp (D-Arvada) (Supported 2/2)

Summary: The bill gives the Division of Oil and Public Safety (OPS) the statutory authority to create the regulatory framework and corresponding costs for retail hydrogen fueling stations. The bill additionally amends the definition of "fuel products" in state statute to include hydrogen.

The Chamber supports HB16-1053. The U.S. Department of Energy's recent report, "State of the States: Fuel Cells in America 2015," highlights states with the potential for significant economic benefit and job creation from emerging hydrogen fuel cell companies. While most of these businesses are in early stages, the report recognizes Colorado as a hot bed for hydrogen fuel cell innovation. This legislation, in particular, sends a market signal to the hydrogen fuel vehicle industry that Colorado is open for business. If signed into law, it will enable future commercialization of hydrogen vehicles in Colorado by giving OPS the authority to regulate retail dispensing of hydrogen. That simple action will allow Colorado to stay ahead of the regulatory curve as the hydrogen fuel vehicle industry expands.

Outcome: **Governor signed on 3/9**

- **[HB16-1067 Regional Transportation Authority Mill Levy](#)**

Sponsored by Rep. Diane Mitsch Bush (D-Steamboat Springs) and Sen. Kerry Donovan (D-Vail) (Supported 1/26)

Summary: Current law authorizes a regional transportation authority to impose a uniform mill levy of up to five mills on all taxable property within its territory, but the authorization is scheduled to repeal on Jan. 1, 2019. The bill extends the authorization until Jan. 1, 2029.

The Chamber supports HB16-1067. The Chamber is in support of providing the necessary tools for the success of regional transportation authorities (RTAs) to fulfill their mission to fund local transportation needs in their areas. The authority over mill levy tax increases is key in helping these RTAs fund future transportation projects.

Outcome: **Senate Committee on Transportation Postpone Indefinitely on 3/8**

- **[HB16-1073 Electrical Industry Safety and Training Act](#)**



Policy Positions - 2016 Legislative Session

Updated August 3, 2016

Sponsored by Rep. Crisanta Duran (D-Denver) and Sen. Lucia Guzman (D-Denver) (Supported 3/8)

Summary: Under current law, an applicant seeking renewal of a license to be a journeyman electrician, a master electrician or a residential wireman must demonstrate competency through an assessment performed by a private company in compliance with state electrical board rules. The bill modifies the licensing process by removing the exam requirement and instead requiring continuing education.

The Chamber supports HB16-1073. This proposal streamlines a key licensing process for our trades and focuses on electricians' demonstrating their proficiency, which could help expedite work placement for youth interested in the trades—a key priority for the Chamber as it focuses on the talent pipeline and opportunity youth.

Outcome: Governor signed on 4/15

- **[HB16-1087 Increase Vendor Fee for Collecting State Sales Tax](#)**
Sponsored by Rep. Jon Becker (R-Fort Morgan) (Supported 2/9)

Summary: A retailer that collects sales tax is currently allowed to retain 3 ½ percent of the tax to cover the expense of collecting and remitting the tax. This amount is known as the vendor's fee. The bill increases this amount gradually over a period of five years until it equals 5 ½ percent of the tax reported.

The Chamber supports HB16-1087. This bill addresses a tax that hasn't been adjusted since 1965 and attempts to offset some costs of doing business by better reflecting inflation and increases in collection costs.

Outcome: House Committee on Finance Postpone Indefinitely on 3/16

- **[HB16-1109 Application of State Water Law to Federal Agencies](#)**
Sponsored by Rep. Jon Becker (R-Fort Morgan) and Sen. Jerry Sonnenberg (R-Sterling) (Supported 1/26)

Summary: The bill states basic tenets of Colorado water law concerning water as a transferable property right. It specifies that the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) or the federal Bureau of Land Management will establish federal water rights in accordance with the federal reserved water rights doctrine or Colorado water law. It prohibits the state and division engineers from enforcing or administering any USFS or bureau effort that: requires a full or partial transfer of ownership in a water right to the USFS or the bureau; restricts the use or alienability of the water right; or requires a third party that supplies water to a federal special use permit holder to supply the water for a set period of time or in a set amount. The bill does not impact any federal government authority to impose bypass flow requirements in connection with a special use permit or other authorization.

The Chamber supports HB16-1109. This bill emphasizes our state's control of our water, resulting in water law that meets the unique needs and challenges of our region. The Chamber has supported similar bills in the past and supports this bill as it preserves Colorado's authority over its own water.

Outcome: Governor signed 4/21



Policy Positions - 2016 Legislative Session

Updated August 3, 2016

- **[HB16-1138 General Fund Transfers for State Infrastructure](#)**

Sponsored by: Rep. J Paul Brown (R-Durango) (Supported 2/2)

Summary: Under current law, once a refund to taxpayers is triggered by hitting the TABOR cap (a cap based on population and economic growth), the state treasurer is required to transfer a percentage of the total general fund revenues to the capital construction fund and the highway users trust fund (HUTF), which is further allocated to the state highway fund. The bill adds on another year of transfers to the capital construction fund and the highway users trust fund.

The Chamber supports HB16-1138 because it adds another year of transfers to the capital construction fund and the highway user trust fund as originally established in [SB09-228](#). The funding outlined in that legislation is critical for infrastructure investment in Colorado, a key component of continuing to grow our economy and move workers and goods efficiently.

Outcome: House Committee on State, Veterans, & Military Affairs Postpone Indefinitely on 2/24

- **[HB16-1144 Transparency of College Courses for High School Students](#)**

Sponsored by Rep. Jon Becker (R-Fort Morgan) and Rep. Brittany Pettersen (D-Lakewood) (Supported 2/2)

Summary: The bill requires a public high school student's education provider to notify the student and his or her parent or legal guardian if the student enrolls in a postsecondary course that does not meet the statutory requirements for concurrent enrollment programs.

The Chamber supports HB16-1144. High school students enrolled in college credit courses should always know whether that course will help them reach a degree or certificate they seek. This bill adds certainty by requiring schools to notify students and parents if post-secondary courses will transfer, thereby providing them better information to base course decision on and reducing the risk of selecting courses that won't lead toward the post-secondary certification or degree they need.

Outcome: Governor signed on 3/24

- **[HB16-1145 Documentary Fee for Residential Real Property](#)**

Sponsored by Sen. Jack Tate (R-Centennial) and Rep. Steve Lebsock (D-Thornton) (Supported 2/2)

Summary: Currently a person filing a real property conveyance document with a county clerk and recorder must pay a documentary fee if the value is more than \$500. The amount of the fee is based on the total sales price to the purchaser, unless there is evidence of a separate amount paid for personal property. The bill also specifies that, unless indicated as commercial or industrial real property at the time of recording, a grant or conveyance is deemed to be of residential real property for the purpose of determining the documentary fee.

The Chamber supports HB16-1145 because it clarifies what is owed in a document fee transfer. The Chamber is



Policy Positions - 2016 Legislative Session

Updated August 3, 2016

supportive of legislation that creates statewide standards instead of a patchwork of rules and regulations, creating efficiencies and ease of business across the state.

Outcome: Governor signed on 4/15

- [**HB16-1465 Modifications Low-income Housing Tax Credit**](#)/Rep. Crisanta Duran (D-Denver) and Sen. Jessie Ulibarri (D-Commerce City) *(Supported 5/4)*

Summary: This bill is concerning modifications to the Colorado low-income housing tax credit, and, in connection therewith, extending the period during which the Colorado housing and finance authority may allocate low-income housing tax credits.

The Chamber supports HB16-1465. This is a key strategy to creating affordable housing and to continue our state's economic growth. Building affordable rental apartments creates good jobs, and funds cities and schools. This bill capitalizes on market activity that creates construction jobs; yields economic benefits to local employers by making it easier to attract and retain workers; and ultimately improves the quality of life for Coloradans.

Outcome: Governor signed on 6/6

- [**HB16-1181 Local Government Fracking Ban Liable Royalties**](#)
Sponsored by Rep. Perry Buck (R-Windsor) *(Supported 2/23)*

Summary: The bill specifies that a local government that bans hydraulic fracturing of an oil and gas well is liable to the mineral interest owner for the value of the lost royalties.

The Chamber supports HB16-1181. The Chamber maintains a firm position that local fracking bans are unconstitutional. We support this bill because it recognizes the private property rights of mineral owners and compensates owners for the financial loss if they are precluded from accessing resources that belong to them.

Outcome: House Committee on State, Veterans, & Military Affairs Postpone Indefinitely on 2/24

- [**HB16-1209 Working Group To Study Program Evaluation**](#)
Sponsored by Rep. Bob Rankin (R-Carbondale) and Rep. KC Becker (D-Boulder) *(Supported 2/16)*

Summary: The bill creates a results-first working group that consists of members appointed by the governor from the governor's office; executive branch agencies; the general assembly; the judicial branch; a nonprofit membership association whose purpose is to offer assistance to county commissioners, mayors and council members; and local nonprofits or service providers. The working group is tasked with making legislative, policy and budgetary recommendations to the general assembly, the governor's office and the executive branch agencies regarding State-funded program evaluation practices.

The Chamber supports HB16-1209. The Chamber is supportive of efforts that provide critical thinking, analysis and bring in experts to look at the impact of government programs increase efficiency and effectiveness of programs and ultimately maximize taxpayers' dollars.



Policy Positions - 2016 Legislative Session

Updated August 3, 2016

Outcome: House Committee on Legislative Council Postpone Indefinitely 5/6

- **[HB16-1267 Colorado Veterans' Service-to-Career Pilot Program](#)**

Sponsored by Rep. Pete Lee (D-Colorado Springs) and Sen. Laura Woods (R-Arvada) (Supported 2/23)

Summary: The bill creates the Colorado veterans' service-to-career pilot program to enhance workforce center services for veterans that are not available under federal law. Programs developed and created will provide workforce development-related services specifically tailored to the unique needs and talents of veterans, spouses and other eligible participants.

The Chamber supports HB16-1267. It is important we support our veterans as they transition into our workforce. We know our veterans have the kind of transferable knowledge, leadership skills and work ethic that make them valuable employees. With more than 413,000 vets in Colorado, there's a huge opportunity for businesses to take advantage of this great talent pipeline.

Outcome: Governor signed on 5/20

- **[HB16-1270 Security Interest Owner's Interest in Business Entity](#)**

Sponsored by Rep. Pete Lee (D-Colorado Springs) (Supported 3/15)

Summary: The bill updates partnership agreements among business owners by requiring consent from all partners prior to the transfer of a business to a new partner.

The Chamber supports HB16-1270 because it makes common sense to update laws relating to partnerships and corporations to make them consistent with other current laws and practices. These updates will have a positive impact on both the predictability of operations and growth of businesses in Colorado and are beneficial to both small and large business alike.

Outcome: Governor signed on 4/21

- **[HB16-1287 CDLE Pre-apprenticeship and Apprenticeship Study](#)**

Sponsored by Rep. Paul Rosenthal (D-Denver) and Sen. John Cooke (R-Greeley) (Supported 3/1)

Summary: The bill requires the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment to study the barriers of pre-apprenticeship and apprenticeship programs by Colorado businesses and make a report and recommendations based on the study. The report and recommendations that come from the study must be provided to the Colorado Workforce Development Council for inclusion in the annual Colorado Talent Pipeline Report.

The Chamber supports HB16-1287. Our economy depends on us working together to ensure that our youth are prepared to enter the talent pipeline. It's important that we equip our students with 21st century skills, prepare them for the future needs of businesses and for the jobs our economy depends on. This package of legislation improves coordination between the talent needs of our businesses and education achievement goals and would expand the pool of skilled workers available to fill current and future jobs.

Outcome: Governor signed on 6/6



Policy Positions - 2016 Legislative Session

Updated August 3, 2016

- [**HB16-1288 Industry Infrastructure Grant Program**](#)
Sponsored by Rep. Tracy Kraft-Tharp (D-Arvida) and Sen. Jack Tate (R-Centennial) (Supported 3/1)

Summary: The bill creates the industry infrastructure grant program within the Colorado Workforce Development Council (CWDC). CWDC is required to work with an authorized entity to award grants to organizations that develop and maintain industry best practices to support businesses developing worksite training programs with educators. The bill additionally creates the industry infrastructure fund to pay for the program. The fund consists of general fund money, a donation from the authorized nonprofit entity, and any other gifts, grants, or donations that the council receives.

The Chamber supports HB16-1288. Our economy depends on us working together to ensure that our youth are prepared to enter the talent pipeline. It's important that we equip our students with 21st century skills, prepare them for the future needs of businesses and for the jobs our economy depends on. This package of legislation improves coordination between the talent needs of our businesses and education achievement goals and would expand the pool of skilled workers available to fill current and future jobs.

Outcome: **Governor signed on 5/20**

- [**HB16-1289 Incentives to Complete Career Development Courses**](#)
Sponsored by Rep. Crisanta Duran (D-Denver) and Sen. Leroy Garcia (D-Pueblo) (Supported 3/1)

Summary: The bill creates the career development success pilot program to provide financial incentives for school districts and charter schools to encourage pupils enrolled in grades nine through 12 to enroll in and successfully complete industry-certificate, internship and pre-apprenticeship programs related to top jobs, jobs in other high-demand industries and computer science advanced placement (AP) courses.

The Chamber supports HB16-1289. Our economy depends on us working together to ensure that our youth are prepared to enter the talent pipeline. It's important that we equip our students with 21st century skills, prepare them for the future needs of businesses and for the jobs our economy depends on. This package of legislation improves coordination between the talent needs of our businesses and education achievement goals and would expand the pool of skilled workers available to fill current and future jobs.

Outcome: **Governor signed on 5/27**

- [**HB16-1290 Extend Transitional Jobs Program**](#)
Sponsored by Rep. Daneya Esgar (D-Pueblo) and Sen. Rollie Heath (D-Boulder) (Supported 3/1)

Summary: Current law provides money to employers to hire eligible persons for transitional jobs through June 30, 2017, with no new jobs offered after Dec. 31, 2016. The bill extends these dates to June 30, 2022, and Dec. 31, 2021.

The Chamber supports HB16-1290. Our economy depends on us working together to ensure that our youth are prepared to enter the talent pipeline. It's important that we equip our students with 21st century skills, prepare them for the future needs of businesses and for the jobs our economy depends on. This package of legislation



Policy Positions - 2016 Legislative Session

Updated August 3, 2016

improves coordination between the talent needs of our businesses and education achievement goals and would expand the pool of skilled workers available to fill current and future jobs.

Outcome: Governor signed on 5/20

- **[HB16-1291 Modern Technology Education in Public Schools](#)**

Sponsored by Rep. Crisanta Duran (D-Denver) and Sen. Owen Hill (R-Colorado Springs) (Supported 3/1)

Summary: Under current law, the Colorado State Board of Education must, by July 1, 2018, review and revise, as necessary, the state academic standards. The bill directs the Colorado State Board of Education, in the course of revising the academic standards, to incorporate into the standards for each subject skills relating to the use of information and communications technologies to find, evaluate, create and communicate information. The bill directs the Colorado Department of Education to create a resource of materials pertaining to computer science programs, including model standards, samples of curricula and materials for professional educator development.

The Chamber supports HB16-1291. Our economy depends on us working together to ensure that our youth are prepared to enter the talent pipeline. It's important that we equip our students with 21st century skills, prepare them for the future needs of businesses and for the jobs our economy depends on. This package of legislation improves coordination between the talent needs of our businesses and education achievement goals and would expand the pool of skilled workers available to fill current and future jobs.

Outcome: Senate Committee on Appropriations Postpone Indefinitely 5/3

- **[HB16-1299 Attorney Fees and Costs in Employment Discrimination Cases](#)**

Sponsored by Rep. Cole Wist (R-Centennial) and Sen. Cheri Jahn (D-Wheat Ridge) (Supported 3/1)

Summary: Under current law, if a plaintiff brings an employment discrimination action that the court finds to be frivolous or groundless, the court may award the defendant attorney fees and costs. The bill modifies the standard for awarding attorney fees and costs to a prevailing defendant to allow an award when the plaintiff pursues a claim that lacks substantial merit because it is pursued in bad faith or when a reasonable person would not believe the claim is likely to succeed.

The Chamber supports HB16-1299. The Chamber will continue to support efforts to slow down frivolous or groundless lawsuits that allow businesses to focus their time and resources on providing goods and services that in turn grow the state's economy.

Outcome: House Committee on State, Veterans, & Military Affairs Postpone Indefinitely 3/28

- **[HB16-1301 Business Income Tax Credit Offer Apprenticeships](#)**

Sponsored by Rep. Alec Garnett (D-Denver) and Sen. Mark Scheffel (R-Parker) (Supported 3/1)



Policy Positions - 2016 Legislative Session

Updated August 3, 2016

Summary: The bill provides an income tax credit to qualified Colorado businesses that meet certain criteria and retain pre-apprentices or apprentices. The credit is administered by the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment.

The Chamber supports HB16-1301. Our economy depends on us working together to ensure that our youth are prepared to enter the talent pipeline. It's important that we equip our students with 21st century skills, prepare them for the future needs of businesses and for the jobs our economy depends on. This package of legislation improves coordination between the talent needs of our businesses and education achievement goals and would expand the pool of skilled workers available to fill current and future jobs.

Outcome: **Senate Committee on Finance Postpone Indefinitely 5/6**

- [HB16-1302 Align with Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act](#)
Sponsored by Rep. Crisanta Duran (D-Denver) and Sen. Linda Newell (D-Aurora) (Supported 3/1)

Summary: The bill changes the title of the Colorado Workforce Investment Act to the Colorado Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act and aligns the current state statute with the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act. This bill also clarifies the roles that specific entities within Colorado play in workforce development programs, removing requirements that existed in state law that no longer apply due to the changes in federal law.

The Chamber supports HB16-1302. Our economy depends on us working together to ensure that our youth are prepared to enter the talent pipeline. It's important that we equip our students with 21st century skills, prepare them for the future needs of businesses and for the jobs our economy depends on. This package of legislation improves coordination between the talent needs of our businesses and education achievement goals and would expand the pool of skilled workers available to fill current and future jobs.

Outcome: **Governor signed on 5/19**

- [HB16-1329 Limited Liability Companies Governing Law](#)
Sponsored by Rep. Pete Lee (D-Colorado Springs) (Supported 3/15)

Summary: The bill updates several components of the Colorado Limited Liability Company (LLC) Act to ensure that the same rules are used for oral agreements among LLC partners as for other businesses.

The Chamber supports HB16-1329 because it makes common sense to update laws relating to partnerships and corporations to make them consistent with other current laws and practices. These updates will have a positive impact on both the predictability of operations and growth of businesses in Colorado and are beneficial to both small and large business alike.

Outcome: **Governor signed on 6/6**



Policy Positions - 2016 Legislative Session

Updated August 3, 2016

- [HB16-1330 Correction Statement Secretary of State Erroneous Filed Documents](#)
Sponsored by Rep. Pete Lee (D-Colorado Springs) (Supported 3/15)

Summary: Currently when a document is filed in error with the Secretary of State's office to dissolve a business, there isn't a way to withdraw the filing made in error. The bill amends the Colorado Corporations and Associations Act to allow persons who file documents in error to withdraw the filing with a statement of correction.

The Chamber supports HB16-1330 because it makes common sense to update laws relating to partnerships and corporations to make them consistent with other current laws and practices. These updates will have a positive impact on both the predictability of operations and growth of businesses in Colorado and are beneficial to both small and large business alike.

Outcome: **Governor signed on 6/6**

- [HB16-1332 Alternative Fuel Motor Vehicles Income Tax Credits](#)
Sponsored by Rep. Crisanta Duran (D-Denver) and Sen. Ray Scott (R-Grand Junction) (Supported 3/8)

Summary: The bill allows consumers to take advantage of existing tax credits for purchasing alternative fuel motor vehicles and trucks at the point of sale. This tax credit sunsets in 2021.

The Chamber supports HB16-1329. While Colorado provides some of the greatest incentives to purchase alternative fuel vehicles, the state is among the lowest to adopt this technology. Right now it takes roughly a year for a buyer to access the benefits of Colorado's alternative fuel motor vehicles tax credit. We are in support of this bill as a more efficient way to administer this tax credit. Once adopted, businesses and individuals will be able to apply the credit at the point of sale. Streamlining its functionality will encourage greater adoption of alternative fuel vehicles throughout the state.

Outcome: **Governor signed on 6/6**

- [HB16-1333 Partnerships Statute of Frauds Governing Law](#)
Sponsored by Rep. Pete Lee (D-Colorado Springs) (Supported 3/15)

Summary: The bill clarifies when fraud laws can be applied to partnership agreements and clarifies which existing laws govern limited partnerships.

The Chamber supports HB16-1333 because it makes common sense to update laws relating to partnerships and corporations to make them consistent with other current laws and practices. These updates will have a positive impact on both the predictability of operations and growth of businesses in Colorado and are beneficial to both small and large business alike.

Outcome: **Governor signed on 6/6**

- [HB16-1420 CO Healthcare Affordability and Sustainability Enter](#)



Policy Positions - 2016 Legislative Session

Updated August 3, 2016

Sponsored by Rep. Dickey Lee Hullinghorst (D-Gunbarrel) and Sen. Larry Crowder (R-Alamosa) (Supported 3/29)

Summary: The bill would remove the hospital provider fee from the revenues for evaluating TABOR cap and Ref C cap levels and establish an enterprise.

The Chamber supports 1420. This bill is the right move for Colorado. We firmly believe that by including the state's hospital provider fee as general revenue, (revenue that wasn't included when voters established the current TABOR limits in 2005) we aren't accurately reflecting our state's true economic growth. Now is the perfect time to address this problem because we are not eliminating a taxpayer's refund this year. If we fail to correct the current situation, we run the risk of losing hundreds of millions of much-needed dollars for roads, bridges and education in coming years. Taking this action fixes the unintended consequence of the hospital provider fee which is now causing cuts in funding to our roads and our schools. We are strong supporters of TABOR and support refunds when the formula dictates, but that means we have to ensure the formula is right—we support this change to fix the formula and do what is best for Colorado's economy.

Outcome: Senate Committee on Finance Postpone Indefinitely 5/10

- **[HB16-1421 Allocate Additional FY 2016-17 General Fund Revenues](#)
Sponsored by Rep. Dickey Lee Hullinghorst (D-Gunbarrel) (Supported 3/29)**

Summary: This bill is a companion bill to [HB 1420](#). The bill establishes guardrails to ensure that if revenues come in above the state's revenue limit, they are allocated in a transparent and accountable manner. The bill allocates \$50 million for transportation, fully funding SB 228, \$40 million to further increase funding for K-12 by reducing the negative factor, \$16.2 million to restore the FY 2015-16 severance tax transfer, and \$49.5 million to increase funding for higher education by the rate of inflation.

The Chamber supports HB16 – 1421 because it enacts the appropriate budget changes that go along with shifting the hospital provider fee into an enterprise fund of which we are [highly supportive](#).

Outcome: House Second Reading Laid Over to 5/12 - No Amendments 5/11

- **[HB16-1450 Allocate Additional Available State Revenues](#)
Sponsored by Rep. Dickey Lee Hullinghorst (D-Gunbarrel) (Supported 4/26)**

Summary: The bill addresses state funding related to the hospital provider fee enterprise fund. If the hospital provider fee is enacted as an enterprise fund, it frees up additional general fund dollars. This bill outlines how those additional funds would be spent. Additionally, the bill replaces HB16-1421, a previously bill with the same goal. This bill expands the timeline and the title as compared to HB16-1421.

The Chamber supports HB16-1450 because it enacts the appropriate budget changes that go along with shifting the hospital provider fee into an enterprise fund, an action of which we are highly supportive.

Outcome: Senate Committee on Finance Postpone Indefinitely 5/10



Policy Positions - 2016 Legislative Session

Updated August 3, 2016

- [HB16-1467 First-time Home Buyer Savings Accounts Tax Deduction](#)
Sponsored by Rep. Crisanta Duran (D-Denver) and Sen. Mark Scheffel (R-Parker) (Supported 5/10)

Summary: This bill allows a person to claim an income tax deduction for the interest earned on contributions made to a first-time home buyer savings account.

The Chamber supports HB16-1467. We are concerned about the cost of housing in Colorado and are supportive of innovative strategies like this that can increase affordability in our region. It is important that we support the growth of our state's economy by providing diverse housing options for our workforce throughout Colorado communities.

Outcome: **Governor signed on 6/10**

- [SB16-016 Modifications to the SCFD](#)
Sponsored by Sen. Pat Steadman (D-Denver) and Rep. Dickey Lee Hullinghorst (D-Gunbarrel) (Supported 1/19)

Summary: In 1987, the General Assembly created the Scientific and Cultural Facilities District (SCFD) in recognition of the importance of scientific and cultural facilities to residents of the state. Since 1989, the SCFD has distributed funds from a one-tenth of one percent sales and use tax to scientific and cultural facilities throughout the seven-county Denver metro area.

At the SCFD board meeting in May 2015, the board of directors deliberated 12 recommendations that were presented in April by an 18-member, board-appointed SCFD Renewal Task Force. The SCFD board of directors considered all task force recommendations, as well as public comment submitted throughout the process, keeping in mind the board's two primary goals: serve the public well and ensure a strong and sustainable SCFD. This bill represents those recommendations and will reflect what goes forward to the voters in November 2016.

The Chamber supports SB16-016. Arts and cultural facilities and organizations are a powerful industry driver and also an economic development driver that helps us attract the kind of workforce our region and state has become famous for – smart, active and engaged. The SCFD is a critical component of keeping our cultural facilities up to date and attractive for Coloradans and visitors.

Outcome: **Governor signed on 4/29**

- [SB16-036 Surety Requirement for Appealing Tax Bills Claimed Due](#)
Sponsored by Sen. Tim Neville (R-Littleton) and Rep. Tracey Kraft-Tharp (D-Arvada) (Supported 1/26)

Summary: The bill repeals certain elements of current statute and specifies that if the taxpayer wishes to appeal a district court ruling, then the taxpayer must set aside money within a specified number of days after the district court ruling.



Policy Positions - 2016 Legislative Session

Updated August 3, 2016

The Chamber supports SB16-036. This proposal alleviates unnecessary financial burdens on businesses when appealing a tax decision and defers any deposit of cash or bond until after the ruling of a district court. This will make it easier for a business to challenge an adverse tax ruling in court.

Outcome: Governor signed on 6/10

- **[SB16-050 Retailer Hold Harmless for Assigned Location Code](#)**

Sponsored by Sen. Tim Neville (R-Littleton) and Rep. Lori Saine (R-Dacono) (Supported 2/9)

Summary: The bill specifies that if the department of revenue assigns an incorrect location code to a licensed retailer who provided a correct address, and the retailer collects and remits sales taxes based on the assigned (but incorrect) location code, then the retailer is held harmless for any tax, charge, penalty, interest or fee payable as a result of failing to collect and remit sales taxes for the correct local jurisdiction.

The Chamber supports SB16-050. This bill creates a simplified process for business to collect and remit sales taxes, which decreases liability for business.

Outcome: Governor signed on 3/18

- **[SB16-067 Broadband Personal Property Tax Exemption](#)**

Sponsored by Sen. Mark Scheffel (R-Parker) and Rep. Angela Williams (D-Denver) (Supported 2/16)

Summary: The bill creates a property tax exemption for any locally assessed personal property that a broadband provider acquires on or after Jan. 1, 2016.

The Chamber supports SB16-067. The Chamber has traditionally supported business property tax exemptions that aim to further economic development. This bill shares that goal, is important for the growth of the telecommunications industry and encourages capital investment that could help expand broadband capabilities to all of Colorado.

Outcome: House Committee on Finance Postpone Indefinitely 5/10

- **[SB16-076 Repeal Employment Verification Standards](#)**

Sponsored by Sen. Jessie Ulibarri (D-Commerce City) and Rep. Brian DelGrosso (R-Loveland) (Supported 1/26)

Summary: The bill eliminates current Colorado's Employment Verification Standards which require filing the CDLE's Affirmation of Legal work Status form for each employee and the retention and production of each employee's federal 1-9 form, subject to penalties of up to \$25,000.

The Chamber supports SB16-076. This bill eliminates duplicative reporting for business at the state level for a requirement that is already mandated federally. Removing this duplicative mandate alleviates a compliance burden that is disproportionately harmful to small businesses in Colorado.

Outcome: Senate Committee on Business, Labor, & Technology Postpone Indefinitely 2/16



Policy Positions - 2016 Legislative Session

Updated August 3, 2016

- **[SB16-171 New Energy Improvement District Clarifications](#)**

Sponsored by Sen. Beth Martinez Humenik (R-Wheat Ridge) and Rep. Max Tyler (D-Lakewood) *(Supported 3/29)*

Summary: The new energy improvement district (NEID) is a statewide district that operates a program to facilitate private financing of energy and water improvements to eligible real property. This bill changes NEID statutes to make it easier for Colorado counties to opt-in to the program and allow local businesses to utilize the innovative Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy (C-PACE) financing model.

The Chamber supports SB16-171. This bill utilizes an innovative financing model that enables building owners to fund 100% of the cost of energy efficiency and water conservation improvements. This bill cleans up existing legislation, which ultimately will make it more effective and beneficial to Colorado companies who choose to opt into the C-PACE program.

Outcome: Governor signed on 6/6

- **[SB16-177 Modify 2015 Urban Renewal Legislation](#)**

Sponsored by Sen. Beth Martinez Humenik (R-Wheat Ridge) and Rep. Dickey Lee Hullinghorst (D-Gunbarrel) *(Supported 4/12)*

Summary: This bill makes technical modifications to legislation enacted in 2015 that added local representatives to urban renewal authority boards and established a fixed financial model for property and sales tax allocation in urban renewal projects.

The Chamber supports SB16-177 because it makes necessary technical fixes and clarifies definitions to ensure existing Colorado law is consistent.

Outcome: Governor signed on 5/18

- **[SB16-179 CDLE Unemployment Insurance Classification](#)**

Sponsored by Sen. Ellen Roberts (R-Durango) and Rep. Brian DelGrosso (R-Loveland) *(Supported 4/19)*

Summary: Under the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment (DOL), this bill establishes a clear set of criteria for employers to determine if a worker is an employee or subcontractor for purposes of unemployment insurance eligibility for audit purposes.

The Chamber supports SB16-179. This bill clarifies criteria for determining employment status, which brings certainty to employers. This will ultimately reduce costs associated with misclassification of employees, and ensure consistent standards by which DOL auditors must abide.

Outcome: Governor signed on 6/10



Policy Positions - 2016 Legislative Session

Updated August 3, 2016

- [**SB16-183 Clarify Portion of 911 Call Subject to PUC Regulation**](#)

Sponsored by Sen. Mark Scheffel (R-Parker) and Rep. Angela Williams (D-Denver) (Supported 4/12)

Summary: This bill clarifies the General Assembly's intent in enacting legislation in 2014 to outline the Public Utilities Commission's (PUC) authority over basic emergency services. Specifically, the bill clarifies that the intent of House Bill 14-1329 was not to expand PUC authority to internet-protocol-enabled services or commercial mobile radio service. The bill therefore defines the term "basic emergency service" in a manner that is consistent with the initial intent of the law passed in 2014.

The Chamber supports SB16-183. This bill has overwhelming industry support and the Chamber was supportive of 2014 legislation, which expanded definitions to accommodate new technologies. The bill reaffirms and clarifies the intent of the 2014 legislation, which deregulated a significant portion of the telecommunications industry in Colorado.

Outcome: **Governor signed on 6/10**

- [**SB16-184 Market-based Interest Rates on Judgements**](#)

Sponsored by Sen. Bill Cadman (R-Colorado Springs) and Rep. Yeulin Willet (R-Grand Junction) (Supported 4/19)

Summary: The bill changes the 9 percent statutory interest rate on civil lawsuits to a rate that floats 2 percent over the Kansas City Federal discount rate for judgment interest tort claims. .

The Chamber supports SB16-184. This bill keeps the interest rate in line with economic trends. Furthermore, this is a formula already used today elsewhere in Colorado law and removes an arbitrary interest rate put in place by the General Assembly in 1975, when inflation was high.

Outcome: **House Committee on State, Veterans, & Military Affairs Postpone Indefinitely 5/9**

- [**SB16-187 Measures Affecting Charter Schools**](#)

Sponsored by Sen. Owen Hill (R-Colorado Springs) and Rep. Angela Williams (D-Denver) (Supported 4/19)

Summary: The bill adds measures to enhance overall charter school operation efficiency and brings charter school policies in line with public school policies.

The Chamber supports SB16-187. All students should have access to a public school option and they shouldn't be affected because of the type of public school they attend. These commonsense measures enhance the operational efficiency of charter schools, which play an important role in allowing families to choose the school that best fits the needs of their kids.

Outcome: **House Committee on Education Postpone Indefinitely 5/10**

- [**SB16-188 Access to Resources for Charter Schools**](#)

Sponsored by Sen. Owen Hill (R-Colorado Springs) and Rep. Angela Williams (D-Denver) (Supported 4/19)



Policy Positions - 2016 Legislative Session

Updated August 3, 2016

Summary: The bill addresses key issues related to funding and facilities for charter schools, ensuring there is equal access for charter schools for all funding streams including mill levy, capital construction funding and grants. Ultimately the bill brings funding and facilities policies for charter schools in line with public school policies.

The Chamber supports SB16-188. This bill levels the playing field between charter schools and public schools. Tax revenue collected from all taxpayers in a school district should benefit all public school students in that district and be distributed equally. The bill seeks to remedy key disparities that charter public schools face. It is important that students are not underfunded based on the type of public school they choose to attend and all students have the opportunity for a quality education and are prepared to fill current and future jobs.

Outcome: **House Committee on Education Postpone Indefinitely 5/10**

- **[SB16-190 Improve County Administration Public Assistance Programs](#)**

Sponsored by Sen. Pat Steadman (D-Denver) and Rep. Bob Rankin (R-Carbondale) (Supported 4/26)

Summary: The bill clarifies the expectations for the administration of the Colorado SNAP food assistance program and other public assistance programs. It creates incentives for meeting and exceeding the federal standards for timely and accurate processing of food stamp applications. It also authorizes a study of how the counties can implement best practices to increase their efficiency and effectiveness in a number of public assistance programs and the support they will need from the state and each other to do so.

The Chamber supports SB16-190 because it improves government accountability and the efficiency of our State and counties' food assistance programs.

Outcome: **Governor signed on 6/1**

- **[SB16-194 Regional Transportation Development Projects](#)**

Sponsored by Sen. Ray Scott (R-Grand Junction) and Rep. Dominick Moreno (D-Commerce City) (Supported 4/26)

Summary: This bill allows local governments to apply to the transportation commission to use state sales tax to fund state highway and regional transit projects. In order to qualify to use state sales tax for transportation projects, the projects must directly enable commercial development in areas that have been deemed undeveloped or underdeveloped due to inadequate state highway and transportation systems.

The Chamber supports SB16-194 because aligns with the Chamber's transportation principles that were adopted by the Chamber's Board of Directors. We remain committed to finding innovative funding solutions for our growing transportation needs.

Outcome: **House Committee on Finance Postpone Indefinitely 5/10**

- **[SB16-200 Create Director Water Project Permit Coordination](#)**

Sponsored by Sen. Jerry Sonnenberg (R-Sterling) and Rep. Ed Vigil (D-San Luis Valley) (Supported 5/3)



Policy Positions - 2016 Legislative Session

Updated August 3, 2016

Summary: This bill creates a position in the Office of the Governor that coordinates the permitting of water projects.

The Chamber supports SB16-200. We believe that improving the efficiency of water project permitting is critical to ensure Colorado has the water storage it needs to support future growth. It is important that we clarify and streamline the state's role in the permitting process and ensure there are efficient ways to create and administer flexible water transfers, which this bill would accomplish.

Outcome: **Governor signed on 6/8**

- **SB16-211 Limit Certain Contests Past Special District Elections**

Sponsored by Sen. Bill Cadman (R-Colorado Springs), Sen. Mark Scheffel (R-Parker), Rep. Dickey Lee Hullinghorst (D-Gunbarrel) and Rep. Crisanta Duran (D-Denver) (Supported 4/29)

Summary: This bill is in response to the recent [Colorado Court Appeals Decision, Landmark Towers Association v. UMB Bank](#), a decision that has the potential to put at risk millions of dollars invested in bonds and questions the validity of previously held elections for the vast majority of the 1,475 metropolitan districts in Colorado. The bill attempts to fix the bonding issue with the Landmark case and prohibits contests of special district elections on the grounds that an elector was unqualified either to vote or to serve on a special district board of directors, and otherwise validates such elections conducted prior to April 21, 2016, and on May 3, 2016.

The Chamber supports SB16-211. We support this legislation because it clarifies the validity of special district elections held prior to the Landmark Appellate Court decision and we believe communities need this certainty. Additionally, the bill prevents challenges to the qualifications of special district directors thereby creating an immediate, sensible and efficient fix to prevent a serious breakdown to our State's special districts. Failure to pass this bill could have a crippling financial burden which will fall on cities and a significant negative impact on Colorado's housing market and home construction, which is in the midst of an already tight market.

Outcome: **Governor signed on 5/18**

- **SB16-213 Construction Defect Litigation Study Group**

Sponsored by Sen. Mark Scheffel (R-Parker) and Rep. Jonathan Singer (D-Longmont) (Supported 5/10)

Summary: The bill establishes a construction defect litigation study group to investigate construction defect litigation, creates a report recommending statutory changes and a pilot program within the judicial department for managing construction defect claims.

The Chamber supports SB16-213. We believe this study group will formalize what we already know: construction defect litigation is hampering the availability of attainable entry-level housing options like condos. However, it is important that we support the growth of our state's economy by providing diverse housing options for our workforce throughout Colorado communities.

Outcome: **House Committee on State, Veterans, & Military Affairs Postpone Indefinitely 5/10**



Policy Positions - 2016 Legislative Session

Updated August 3, 2016

- [SB16-217 Expedite Litigation Workers' Compensation Claims](#)
Sponsored by Sen. Owen Hill (R-Colorado Springs) and Rep. Angela Williams (D-Denver) *(Supported 5/10)*

Summary: This bill addresses technical issues experienced in the workers' compensation system.

The Chamber supports SB16-217 because it streamlines the workers' compensation claims process, ultimately ensuring our workers and business are protected and we are supportive of creating more efficient processes for business.

Outcome: **Governor signed on 6/10**

- [HJR16-1020 Recognize Importance of the Oil and Gas Industry to CO Citizens](#)
Sponsored by Rep. Brian DeGrosso (R-Loveland) and Sen. Jerry Sonnenberg (R-Sterling)
(Supported 4/26)

Summary: This House Joint Resolution recognizes the benefits and importance of the oil and natural gas industry to the citizens of Colorado.

The Chamber supports HJR16-1020. The energy industry is vital to Colorado's economy and a key employment cluster in the state. We are committed to ensuring it continues to be a critical part of our future and an important economic engine in Colorado.

Outcome: *House Third Reading Laid Over to 4/19- No Amendments 4/19*

- [SB16-218 State Severance Tax Refunds](#)
Sponsored by Sen. Kent Lambert (R-Colorado Springs), Sen. Pat Steadman (D-Denver), Rep. Millie Hamner (D-Dillon), and Rep. Bob Rankin (R-Carbondale) *(Supported 5/10)*

Summary: As a result of a Colorado Supreme Court Decision in *BP American v. Colorado Department of Revenue*, the court held that the plain language of Colorado severance tax statute authorizes a deduction for any transportation, manufacturing and processing costs including the cost of the capital. This decision means that the state will have to refund the over-taxed amounts not only to BP but to all other oil and gas companies that request a refund. This bill is an attempt to address the fiscal implications for the State as a result of this case by using a tiered approach to take the funds from multiple sources, including existing severance tax reserves, uncommitted funds in the Department of Local Affairs and Natural Resources and the Unclaimed Property Trust Fund and pay refunds with severance tax credits.

The Chamber supports SB16-218 because this proposal is structured to allow the state to meet its obligations as a result of the Supreme Court ruling without further cutting programs and services.

Outcome: **Governor signed on 6/10**

OPPOSE



Policy Positions - 2016 Legislative Session

Updated August 3, 2016

- [HB16-1001 State Contracts Certify Compliance with Equal Pay Laws](#)
Sponsored by Rep. Jessie Danielson (D-Wheat Ridge) (Opposed 1/19)

Summary: The bill requires a business that bids for a contract with a governmental body to submit with its bid certification that it is in compliance with state and federal equal pay standards and laws. A business that is awarded a contract is required to ensure that any subcontractor that it uses to fulfill the terms of the contract is also in compliance with equal pay standards and laws.

The Chamber opposes HB16-1001. This proposal duplicates current federal laws, which require businesses to provide equal pay to protected classes. It adds an additional level of state regulation for businesses that already must follow federal law.

Outcome: [Senate Committee on State, Veterans, & Military Affairs Postpone Indefinitely 3/30](#)

- [HB16-1002 Employee Leave to Attend Child's Academic Activities](#)
Sponsored by Rep. Janet Buckner (D-Aurora) and Sen. Andy Kerr (D-Lakewood) (Opposed 1/19)

Summary: The 2009 "Parental Involvement in K-12 Education Act," (expired Sept. 1, 2015) requires an employer that employs at least 50 employees to provide its employees up to six hours per month, and up to 18 hours per academic year, of leave from work to attend a child's academic activities. This bill reenacts the 2009 bill, expands the types of eligible academic activities and includes preschool children in addition to kindergarten through 12th grade. The act sunset in September 2015; this bill extends the act indefinitely.

The Chamber opposes HB16-1002. The Chamber strongly supports parental involvement in education. Additionally, we advocate strongly in favor our businesses' ability to determine personnel policies that work best for their employees, the needs of their business as well as the competitive environment they face within their respective industries.

Outcome: [Senate Committee on State, Veterans, & Military Affairs Postpone Indefinitely 3/9](#)

- [HB16-1015 Contingent Repeal of Health Insurance Laws Aligning With ACA](#)
Sponsored by Rep. Gordon Klingenschmitt (R-Colorado Springs) (Opposed 1/19)

Summary: In 2013, the General Assembly enacted House Bill 1266 to align state health insurance laws with the requirements of the federal "Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act" (ACA). The bill adds an automatic repeal of state laws associated with ACA compliance if the ACA is repealed at the federal level.

The Chamber opposes HB16-1015. The Chamber has been an unwavering partner in the implementation of the Colorado Health Exchange and other necessary policies to ensure its success and the successful implementation of the ACA in Colorado. This proposal would result in significant cost increases and uncertainty for the health care industry throughout the state and for Colorado businesses at large.

Outcome: [House Committee on State, Veterans, & Military Affairs Postpone Indefinitely 2/3](#)



Policy Positions - 2016 Legislative Session

Updated August 3, 2016

- [HB16-1099 Repeal of Mutual Consent Teacher Assignment Requirement](#)
Sponsored by Rep. Joe Salazar (D-Thornton) (Opposed 2/9)

Summary: Under existing law, if a non-probationary teacher is removed from a teaching assignment within a school district, the teacher must secure an assignment at another school in the district within a certain time or be placed on unpaid leave. Both the teacher and school administrators must agree on the new placement. The bill repeals this requirement. The bill requires each school district to either assign or dismiss, with due process, any teacher unable to secure a new assignment. In the new assignment, the teacher must receive the same level of salary and benefits that the teacher would have received if he or she had not been displaced.

The Chamber opposes HB16-1099. This bill would reverse a key provision of SB10-191, the mutual consent requirement, which protects a school from being forced to hire a teacher who the principal feels is not the best fit for the students at the school. It also protects teachers from being forcibly placed into schools in which they do not think they will be successful. As we hold principals more accountable for the performance of their schools, we have to provide them the power to choose the staff that is the right fit for their kids. Great teachers and leaders are the key to improving student outcomes and growing a great workforce. Our economy depends on it. Principals need to have the freedom to make their own hiring decisions based on the needs of their students. This bill undermines the progress of educators across the state, interrupts the movement towards establishing a modern evaluation system and hinders the benefits that teachers and school leaders are set to gain from this new system.

Outcome: [House Committee on Education Postpone Indefinitely 4/18](#)

- [HB16-1131 Public Education Standards and Assessments](#)
Sponsored by Rep. Terri Carver (R-Colorado Springs) (Opposed 2/9)

Summary: The bill repeals the requirement that the state participate in a consortium of states that creates a shared set of assessments to measure students' college and career readiness.

The Chamber opposes HB16-1131. The Chamber has long supported the development of the Colorado Academic Standards and the use of smart assessments in our schools. Colorado is now in the process of implementing the standards and assessments that the Chamber believes will equip our students with the skills needed to succeed in a 21st century workplace. Repealing these standards and assessments will add significant unnecessary cost and delay implementation of the high standards we need for our students.

Outcome: [House Committee on Education Postpone Indefinitely 3/7](#)

- [HB16-1166 Prohibit Seeking Salary History for Job Applicants](#)
Sponsored by Rep. Brittany Pettersen (D-Littleton), Rep. Faith Winter (D-Westminster) and Sen. Kerry Donovan (D-Vail) (Opposed 2/9)

Summary: The bill makes it an unfair employment practice for an employer to seek salary history information, including compensation and benefits, about an applicant for employment.



Policy Positions - 2016 Legislative Session

Updated August 3, 2016

The Chamber opposes HB16-1166. This bill is duplicative of current federal laws and the costs associated with this bill would negatively affect business, particularly small businesses.

Outcome: Senate Committee on State, Veterans, & Military Affairs Postpone Indefinitely 3/30

- **[HB16-1180 Free Exercise of Religion](#)**

Sponsored by Rep. Stephen Humphrey (R-Severance) and Rep. Patrick Neville (R-Castle Rock) (Opposed 2/9)

Summary: The bill specifies that no state action may burden a person's exercise of religion, even if the burden results from a rule of general applicability. The bill specifies that exercise of religion includes the ability to act or refuse to act in a manner substantially motivated by a person's sincerely held religious beliefs, whether or not the exercise is compulsory or central to a larger system of religious belief; except, that it does not include the ability to act or refuse to act based on race or ethnicity. The bill provides a claim or defense to a person whose exercise of religion is burdened by state action; and specifies that nothing in the bill creates any rights by an employee against an employer unless the employer is a government employer.

The Chamber opposes HB16-1180. The Chamber's focus is attracting and retaining top talent. We are committed to opposing legislation that hampers our ability to do so. If passed, this bill would allow business owners to refuse service based on religion or sexual orientation. This would send a message that conflicts with the inclusive and collaborative culture here in Colorado that would put our ability to attract top companies and workers at risk. Colorado is open for business to everyone, and we want to keep it that way.

Outcome: House Committee on State, Veterans, & Military Affairs Postpone Indefinitely 3/16

- **[HB16-1191 Bill of Rights for Persons Who are Homeless](#)**

Sponsored by Rep. Jovan Melton (D-Aurora) and Rep. Joe Salazar (D-Thornton) (Opposed 2/9)

Summary: The bill creates the Colorado Right to Rest Act, which establishes basic rights for persons experiencing homelessness, including, but not limited to, the right to use and move freely in public spaces without discrimination, to rest in public spaces without discrimination, to eat or accept food in any public space where food is not prohibited, to occupy a legally parked vehicle and to have a reasonable expectation of privacy of one's property.

The Chamber opposes HB16-1191. This bill duplicates rights already afforded to all people, regardless of housing status, in the U.S. Constitution.

Outcome: House Committee on Local Government Postpone Indefinitely 2/24

- **[HB16-1275 Taxation of Corporate Income Sheltered in Tax Haven](#)**

Sponsored by Rep. Mike Foote (D-Lafayette) and Sen. Matt Jones (D-Louisville) (Opposed 2/23)

Summary: The bill requires Colorado companies to pay taxes in Colorado for any foreign affiliates that are incorporated in tax haven jurisdictions. The bill allows the Colorado Department of Revenue to develop a list of countries they believe are tax havens. The bill makes an exemption for including foreign affiliates if the company



Policy Positions - 2016 Legislative Session

Updated August 3, 2016

can prove to the “satisfaction of Colorado Department of Revenue” that they are incorporated in a tax haven country for legitimate business purposes. Additionally, the bill requires the secretary of state to submit a ballot question in November on whether the state may retain the additional tax revenue.

The Chamber opposes HB16-1275. This proposal penalizes legitimate and law-abiding Colorado businesses and will make Colorado less attractive to businesses considering a relocation to Colorado. Additionally, this sends a message to businesses large and small that Colorado is no longer interested in attracting worldwide headquarters and the significant well-paying jobs that come along with them; and furthermore it severely limits one of the primary foci of the state’s Office of Economic Development and International Trade, which is to position Colorado as a global leader in key industries, such as tourism, aerospace, bioscience and renewable energy.

Outcome: Senate Committee on State, Veterans, & Military Affairs Postpone Indefinitely 3/28

- **[HB16-1310 Operators Liable For Oil And Gas Operations](#)**

Sponsored by Rep. Joe Salazar (D-Thornton) and Sen. Morgan Carroll (D-Aurora) (Opposed 3/1)

Summary: The bill amends surface land use claims to allow proof that the operator's oil and gas operations harmed the surface owner's use of the surface of the land, caused bodily injury to the surface owner or any person residing on the property of the surface owner or damaged the surface owner's property.

The Chamber opposes HB16-1310 because this bill shifts the burden of proof against an industry in our state and creates an assumption that oil and gas development is inherently dangerous. However, Colorado is a national and international model of responsible oil and gas development, with some of the strongest and safest regulations.

Furthermore, this classification sends a message that Colorado is not interested in supporting a diverse economy that includes energy production or the industries it supports, undoubtedly impacting Colorado’s economy.

Outcome: Senate Committee on Agriculture, Natural Resources, & Energy Postpone Indefinitely 4/28

- **[HB16-1326 Consumer Access To Physical Rehab Services](#)**

Sponsored by Rep. Diane Primavera (D-Broomfield) and Sen. Larry Crowder (R-Alamosa) (Opposed 3/15)

Summary: The bill requires a health insurance carrier that is providing benefits for physical rehabilitation services and an intermediary who has contracted with the carrier to follow specified procedures for coverage authorization.

The Chamber opposes HB16-1326. We have opposed similar bills since original legislation of this nature was introduced in 2014. Our position has remained consistent; this bill is a mandate that will raise health care costs for businesses in the state and interferes with private insurance contracts.

Outcome: Senate Committee on State, Veterans, & Military Affairs Postpone Indefinitely 5/4



Policy Positions - 2016 Legislative Session

Updated August 3, 2016

- [**HB16-1355 Affirm Local Government Siting Authority of Oil and Gas Facilities**](#)

Sponsored by Rep. Su Ryden (D-Aurora) and Sen. Matt Jones (D-Louisville) (Opposed 3/15)

Summary: The bill changes land use authority of local governments in relation to oil and gas mineral extraction areas.

The Chamber opposes HB16-1355 because it would lead to a patchwork of disparate rules and regulations throughout the state. The importance of clean air and clean water is not constrained to city and county boundaries. It is critical for Colorado's healthy way of life that we regulate oil and gas in a comprehensive, statewide manner. Colorado is known to have the most stringent oil and gas regulations in the country, which are regarded as best practices nationally and internationally. Furthermore, this legislation undermines the legitimacy of the 2015 Colorado oil and gas task force, which produced a number of comprehensive recommendations from a diverse group of stakeholders. In fact, the new local government coordination requirements just came into effect March 16, 2016 and deserve time to be fully implemented. With all of this in mind, it would be reckless to dramatically alter the state's regulatory landscape.

Outcome: **House Second Reading Lost with Amendments - Floor 4/4**

- [**HB16-1361 Patient Choice in Pharmacy**](#)

Sponsored by Rep. Dianne Primavera (D-Broomfield), Rep. Jon Becker (R-Fort Morgan), Sen. Jerry Sonnenberg (R-Sterling) and Sen. Linda Newell (D-Aurora) (Opposed 3/22)

Summary: The bill prohibits a health benefit plan or pharmacy benefit management firm that covers pharmaceutical services from certain limiting practices.

The Chamber opposes HB16-1361. We have opposed similar bills since the original legislation was introduced out of concern that this and similar proposals will ultimately drive up health care costs. Our position has remained consistent, prescription drugs represent a significant portion of health care costs and the Chamber maintains our focus on stemming the rise in said costs. We encourage efficiencies by way of prescription networks as a means to slow down the growth of healthcare costs.

Outcome: **Senate Committee on Finance Postpone Indefinitely 5/6**

[**HB16-1376 Expand Authority Office of Consumer Counsel**](#)

Sponsored by Rep. Faith Winter (D- Westminster) and Rep. Daneya Esgar (D-Pueblo) (Opposed 3/22)

Summary: The legislature last year eliminated the authority of the Office of Consumer Counsel (OCC) to intervene in Public Utilities Commission (PUC) matters involving telecommunications regulation. This bill reverses that legislation, restores that authority to the OCC and expands its jurisdiction to matters involving all regulated industries under PUC jurisdiction, including water, taxi and bus services.

The Chamber opposes HB16-1376. Business and the Colorado legislature supported the de-regulation of the telecommunications industry because market conditions have naturally benefited consumers. We stand by this approach and therefore believe this additional regulation will not benefit consumers or the industry.

Outcome: **Senate Committee on State, Veterans, & Military Affairs Postpone Indefinitely 5/5**



Policy Positions - 2016 Legislative Session

Updated August 3, 2016

- [HB16-1382 Divert Water Piscatorial Aesthetic Beneficial Use](#)
Sponsored by Rep. KC Becker (D-Boulder) (Opposed 3/29)

Summary: In alignment with a recent Colorado Supreme Court decision, this bill amends Colorado water statute to include diversions of water for aesthetic, recreational, and piscatorial purposes, without impoundment beneficial use.

The Chamber opposes 1382. Although the Chamber supports proposals that will get us closer to achieving what is in our Colorado state water plan, we want an idea that all stakeholders can get behind, which this bill does not accomplish. This proposal will make our water rights system more rigid when what we are striving for is a more flexible system. Additionally, the bill allows for a private person to hold an instream flow right, which is currently not allowed by law; the Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB) is the only entity that can hold these water rights.

Outcome: **House Committee on Agriculture, Livestock, & Natural Resources Postpone Indefinitely 4/4**

- [HB16-1388 Employer Hiring Criminal History Employee](#)
Sponsored by Rep. Beth McCann (D-Denver) (Opposed 3/22)

Summary: Under this bill, an employer may not prohibit applicants with a criminal history from applying for a job, ask applicants about criminal history or perform a criminal background check until the applicant is offered an interview.

The Chamber opposes HB16-1388. This is a process that is already addressed by many companies and doesn't need to be legislated. This bill puts an additional mandate on business that would have a substantial financial impact on employers. Businesses should be allowed to determine for themselves a hiring policy that works best them.

Outcome: **Senate Committee on State, Veterans, & Military Affairs Postpone Indefinitely 5/4**

- [HB16-1399 Workers' Compensation for PTSD](#)
Sponsored by Rep. Jonathan Singer (D-Longmont) and Sen. Linda Newell (D-Aurora) (Opposed 4/5)

Summary: The bill clarifies that a workers' compensation claim for mental impairment may not be denied based on the occupation of the worker.

The Chamber opposes HB16-1399The bill will ultimately result in higher costs for business. PTSD is currently a claim that is covered by workers' compensation and there is no need for it to be further codified into law.

Outcome: **Senate Committee on State, Veterans, & Military Affairs Postpone Indefinitely 4/27**

- [HB16-1400 Protection Against Retaliation by Homeowner Association](#)
Sponsored by Rep. Su Ryden (D-Aurora) (Opposed 4/12)



Policy Positions - 2016 Legislative Session

Updated August 3, 2016

Summary: The bill prohibits a homeowners' association or other person from retaliating or discriminating against a homeowner who files a complaint.

The Chamber opposes HB16-1400. This bill would open the door to many complaints of retaliation and stands to burden the courts with such complaints without requiring the complaining party to prove the underlying violation. Furthermore, we believe that this is unnecessary legislation because there are already consumer protections in place for these areas.

Outcome: [Senate Committee on State, Veterans, & Military Affairs Postpone Indefinitely 5/2](#)

- [HB16-1430 Oil and Gas Operators Share Development Plans with Local Government](#)
Sponsored by Rep. Steve Lebsock (D-Adams County) (Opposed 4/5)

Summary: The Colorado oil and gas conservation commission recently promulgated several rules to implement two of the recommendations of the governor's oil and gas task force. The bill codifies some of the essential elements of one of the two recommendations, but makes the following modifications: the rules require operators to share their development plans with municipalities where the proposed operations will occur; and the bill adds counties where the proposed operations will occur.

The Chamber opposes HB16-1430. This legislation undermines the legitimacy of the 2015 Colorado Oil and Gas Task Force by recommending into law modifications to the task force's recommendation. The task force produced a number of comprehensive recommendations from a diverse group of stakeholders in 2015. As part of that deliberative process, the Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission recently completed a lengthy rulemaking based on Recommendations 17 and 20, requiring oil and gas operators to follow a number of new rules in coordination with local governments. Those new rules came into effect March 16, 2016 and are still being implemented. It is premature and inappropriate to undermine the results of an 18 month collaborative process that is just now coming to fruition.

Outcome: [Senate Committee on Agriculture, Natural Resources, & Energy Postpone Indefinitely 4/28](#)

- [HB16-1435 Low-wage Employer Corporate Responsibility Act](#)
Sponsored by Rep. Crisanta Duran (D-Denver) and Sen. John Kefalas (D-Fort Collins) (Opposed 4/12)

Summary: The bill, known as the Corporate Responsibility Act, would impose a fee on employers with more than 250 employees and who pay some employees less than \$12 / hour. The fee would be used to create an enterprise fund that would be used to improve health care services for people eligible for Medicaid and help offset Medicaid administrative costs.

The Chamber opposes HB16-1435. The positive intent behind this bill has been tarnished by the disappointing lack of stakeholder engagement prior to its late introduction. Under the Affordable Care Act, employers with more than 250 employees must pay a fine if they don't provide health coverage; this legislation would require them to pay twice. Furthermore, this bill would also penalize those employers who are working with the Denver Opportunity Youth Investment Initiative to get youth out of poverty and in the right career opportunities.



Policy Positions - 2016 Legislative Session

Updated August 3, 2016

Outcome: Senate Committee on State, Veterans, & Military Affairs Postpone Indefinitely 5/10

- **[HB16-1438 Employer Accommodations Related to Pregnancy](#)**

Sponsored by Rep. Faith Winter (D-Westminster) and Sen. Beth Martinez Humenik (R-Wheat Ridge) (Opposed 4/19)

Summary: The bill requires employers to make reasonable accommodations for pregnant employees and requires employers to engage in a timely and interactive process to determine if an employee requires reasonable accommodations related to pregnancy or physical recovery from childbirth. Under the bill it is considered unfair employment practice if an employer fails to provide reasonable accommodations related to pregnancy or childbirth and then may be subject to accompanying penalties.

The Chamber opposes HB16-1438 as introduced. This proposal as originally filed duplicates and grossly expands protections and remedies already existing in current federal law. We will continue to work with the bill sponsors to explore ways to amend and improve this bill in a way that fulfills mutual interests.

Outcome: Governor signed on 6/1

- **[HB16-1454 Primary Participation Act](#)**

Sponsored by Rep. Dominick Moreno (D-Commerce City) and Sen. Lucia Guzman (D-Denver) (Opposed 4/26)

Summary: The bill would allow every voter, even those registered as unaffiliated with a party, to cast a mail ballot in a presidential primary in 2020, so long as they indicate in which major party's primary they want to participate in advance. This would restore a presidential primary election in Colorado. Under the bill, unaffiliated voters would pick which party's ballot they wish to receive, but would return to unaffiliated status 30 days after the vote.

The Chamber opposes HB16-1454. Registered unaffiliated voters should be able to participate in primary elections with the same ease as all other registered voters, and we are committed to working with sponsors to achieve this objective.

Outcome: Senate Committee on State, Veterans, & Military Affairs Postpone Indefinitely 5/10

- **[HB16-1468 Oil and Gas Transportation, Manufacturing and Processing Costs](#)**

Sponsored by Rep KC Becker (D-Boulder), Rep. Dickey Lee Hullinghorst (D-Gunbarrel), and Sen. Pat Steadman (D-Denver) (Opposed 5/10)

Summary: As a result of the BP America v. Colorado Department of Revenue case oil and gas producers may deduct any costs for transportation, manufacturing and processing when valuing severed minerals for tax purposes. The bill would allow oil and gas producers to deduct only their direct costs for the transportation, manufacturing, and processing of identifiable and measurable oil and gas. The bill limits the costs that may be deducted by a taxpayer for transportation, manufacturing and processing costs for purposes of calculating the



Policy Positions - 2016 Legislative Session

Updated August 3, 2016

net amount realized by the taxpayer for the sale of oil and gas for purposes of calculating the excise tax on the severance of oil and gas.

The Chamber opposes HB16-1468 because it attempts to completely rewrite corporate tax policy and there was lack of stakeholder engagement at its late introduction.

Outcome: House Second Reading Special Order - Laid Over to 5/12- No Amendments 5/10

- [SB16-002 Health Exchange Voter Approval To Impose Tax](#)
Sponsored by Sen. Kevin Lundberg (R-Berthoud) and Rep. Lang Sias (R-Arvada) (Opposed 1/26)

Summary: The bill directs the Secretary of State to submit an initiative to the voters in 2016 on the Colorado Health Benefit Exchange for taxes to support its operations.

The Chamber opposes SB16-002. The Chamber has been an unwavering partner in the implementation of the Colorado Health Exchange and other necessary policies to ensure its success and the successful implementation of the Affordable Care Act in Colorado. We will continue to oppose every proposal that undermines or otherwise seeks the demise of the Colorado Health Exchange.

Outcome: House Committee on State, Veterans, & Military Affairs Postpone Indefinitely 5/4

- [SB16-005 Eliminating Statewide Assessments in Ninth Grade](#)
Sponsored by Sen. Vicki Marble (R-Littleton) and Rep. Lori Saine (R-Dacono) (Opposed 1/26)

Summary: Under current law, the Department of Education administers state assessments in English language arts and mathematics to students enrolled in grades three through nine. The bill eliminates the ninth grade assessments in English language arts and mathematics.

The Chamber opposes SB16-005. The Chamber has long supported the development of the Colorado Academic Standards and the use of smart assessments in our schools. Education is key to our economic success because today's students are tomorrow's workforce. Repealing statewide assessments in the ninth grade will delay implementation of the high standards we need for our students. Studies show that success in ninth grade is highly predictive of high school graduation rates. The Chamber remains committed to maintaining statewide education standards and benchmarks.

Outcome: Senate Second Reading Lost with Amendments - Committee, Floor 4/25

- [SB16-011 Terminate Use of FASTER Fee Revenue for Transit](#)
Sponsored by Sen. Tim Neville (R-Littleton) and Rep. Patrick Neville (R-Castle Rock) (Opposed 1/26)

Summary: The bill repeals the statutory provisions that require these transit-related uses of FASTER fee revenue. As a result, the revenue must be used only for road safety projects, as defined by FASTER.



Policy Positions - 2016 Legislative Session

Updated August 3, 2016

The Chamber opposes SB16-011. The Chamber supported the original FASTER legislation ([SB09-108](#)), which currently generates about \$200 million every year from registration fees and fines for critical state transportation projects across Colorado. Terminating the use of FASTER fee revenue for transit would eliminate funding available for key transit projects across Colorado. If passed, this bill would be harmful to communities that rely on FASTER funds to complete multimodal projects that reduce traffic and congestion on our roads.

Outcome: [House Committee on Transportation & Energy Postpone Indefinitely 2/17](#)

- [SB16-033 Public Health Notice Sick Leave](#)

Sponsored by Sen. Jessie Ulibarri (D-Commerce City) and Rep. Joe Salazar (D-Thornton) (Opposed 1/19)

Summary: The bill requires licensees of retail food establishments to post a public health notice if they do not allow employees at least five days of sick leave per year.

The Chamber opposes SB16-033. The Chamber advocates strongly in favor our businesses' ability to determine personnel policies that work best for their employees, the needs of their business as well as the competitive environment they face within their respective industries.

Outcome: [Senate Committee on State, Veterans, & Military Affairs Postpone Indefinitely 2/3](#)

- [SB16-038 Transparency of Community-Centered Boards](#)

Sponsored by Sen. Irene Aguilar (D-Denver) and Rep. Dave Young (D-Greeley) (Opposed 2/23)

Summary: The bill makes all writings made, maintained or kept by a community-centered board that receives more than 75 percent of its funding on an annual basis from the federal, the state or a local government or from any combination of such governmental entities subject to public inspection.

The Chamber opposes SB16-038. We strongly believe that organizations that receive public funds should be held accountable through audits and financial transparency. This bill goes beyond audits and financial transparency. For the first time ever it would make the Colorado Open Records Act (CORA) applicable to private entities. The concerns raised by our members are about the broad application of public disclosure requirements to private entities and the unprecedented expansion of CORA, a law intended to allow the public to inspect government records.

Outcome: [Governor signed on 6/11](#)

- [SB16-054 Local Government Minimum Wage](#)

Sponsored by Sen. Michael Merrifield (D-Colorado Springs) (Opposed 1/26)

Summary: The bill permits a unit of local government to enact laws related to the minimum wage within its jurisdiction.

The Chamber opposes SB16-054. The Colorado Constitution already allows for an automatic increase in minimum wage based on a formula that takes into account inflationary pressures and sets a statewide minimum



Policy Positions - 2016 Legislative Session

Updated August 3, 2016

wage. Changing that through a statutory proposal such as this would be unconstitutional and bad for business. In Colorado many businesses have operations that span multiple cities and counties; therefore, having a statewide minimum wage is an imperative. This bill would create wage variability, which would result in an unpredictable business environment that makes Colorado less attractive to businesses.

Outcome: Senate Committee on State, Veterans, & Military Affairs Postpone Indefinitely 2/17

- **[SB16-070 Prohibit Discrimination Labor Union Participation](#)**

Sponsored by Sen. Tim Neville (R-Littleton) and Rep. Justin Everett (R-Littleton) (Opposed 1/26)

Summary: The bill prohibits an employer from requiring any person, as a condition of employment, to become or remain a member of a labor organization or to pay dues, fees or other assessments to a labor organization, charity organization or other third party in lieu of the labor organization.

The Chamber opposes SB16-070. The Chamber has consistently opposed any efforts to weaken our existing Labor Peace Act as its statutory framework provides the right balance to ensure a healthy relationship between business and labor in this state. Colorado's Labor Peace Act has long provided a unique legal middle ground between right-to-work and union states. The Metro Denver Economic Development Corporation has examined the economic performance of right-to-work states, union shop states and Colorado's unique Labor Peace Act to determine how states' economies performed during good and bad times. The Metro Denver EDC determined that Colorado's Labor Peace Act was the perfect balance between the two approaches, adding more jobs than either right-to-work or union states after the recession. Therefore, the Chamber opposes SB16-070, as it would damage the balance created by the Labor Peace Act, which economic data has shown to be the most successful approach.

Outcome: House Committee on State, Veterans, & Military Affairs Postpone Indefinitely 4/4

- **[SB16-082 HOA Whistleblower Protection](#)**

Sponsored by Sen. Morgan Carroll (D-Aurora) and Rep. Su Ryden (D-Aurora) (Opposed 2/16)

Summary: The bill prohibits a homeowners' association or other person from retaliating or discriminating against a homeowner who files a complaint.

The Chamber opposes SB16-082. This bill would open the door to many complaints of retaliation and stands to burden the courts with such complaints without requiring the complaining party to prove the underlying violation. Furthermore, if the homeowners association is involved in a lawsuit this will adversely affect homeowners, leading to harmful marketability of the property and difficulty with refinancing.

Outcome: Senate Committee on Business, Labor, & Technology Postpone Indefinitely 3/2

- **[SB16-105 Adjustments To Educator Performance Evaluation System](#)**

Sponsored by Sen. Michael Merrifield (D-Colorado Springs) and Sen. Vicki Marble (R-Littleton) (Opposed 2/2)



Policy Positions - 2016 Legislative Session

Updated August 3, 2016

Summary: This bill allows a local board of education or board of cooperative services that adopts its own local licensed personnel evaluation system to exempt teachers or principals who have either an existing effective or highly effective rating from the annual requirements of such system for up to three years.

The Chamber opposes SB16-105 because it would remove a key provision of [SB10-191](#), which created an evaluation system to develop greater accountability for educators and principals. The Chamber has long supported education as one of its pillars for a healthy and thriving economy. We also support a high-performing education system and quality instruction. Because of that, Chamber continues to be supportive of SB10-191 in its entirety as well as our [education principles](#). We believe that if we follow these principles our children will be prepared to lead our workforce and economy in the future.

Outcomes: [Senate Committee on Education Postpone Indefinitely 2/18](#)

- [SB16-114 Employee-earned Paid Sick Leave](#)

Sponsored by Sen. Morgan Carroll (D-Aurora) and Rep. Jessie Danielson (D-Wheat Ridge) (Opposed 2/16)

Summary: The bill creates the Healthy Families and Workplaces Act, which requires all private employers in Colorado to provide paid sick leave to their employees, accrued at one hour of sick leave for every 30 hours worked, capped annually at 40 hours for small employers and 72 hours for larger employers. Leave can carry forward, subject to the annual caps.

The Chamber opposes SB16-114. This bill puts an additional mandate on business that would have a substantial financial impact. While the Chamber supports paid sick leave, businesses should be allowed to determine for themselves a policy that works best for their employees and the needs of their business.

Outcome: [Senate Committee on State, Veterans, & Military Affairs Postpone Indefinitely 2/22](#)

- [SB16-123 Free Access to High Occupancy Vehicle Lanes](#)

Sponsored by Sen. Kevin Lundberg (R-Berthoud) and Rep. Jonathan Singer (D-Longmont) (Opposed 2/23)

Summary: The bill prohibits the Colorado Department of Transportation or the High-Performance Transportation Enterprise from requiring a vehicle owner to use a switchable transponder or other device in order to travel in a high occupancy vehicle on either a high occupancy vehicle lane or a high occupancy toll lane on a toll-free basis.

The Chamber opposes SB16-123. This bill undermines the structure of public-private partnerships (P3s) because it could eliminate the user fee funding mechanism, a core component of repaying the private companies that finance P3 projects. We will continue to support P3s as a funding strategy to complete much needed infrastructure projects across our state.

Outcome: [House Committee on Transportation & Energy Postpone Indefinitely 4/21](#)

- [SB16-129 Neutral Oversight Of Oil And Gas Activities](#)

Sponsored by Sen. Matt Jones (D-Louisville) and Rep. Jeni Arndt (D-Fort Collins) (Opposed 2/23)



Policy Positions - 2016 Legislative Session

Updated August 3, 2016

Summary: The bill implements a recommendation that was not approved by two-thirds of the Colorado oil and gas task force to clarify the balanced responsibilities that the Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission has with respect to its oversight of oil and gas operations.

The Chamber opposes SB16-129. The Chamber supported the outcomes of the Colorado oil and gas task force and we will be consistent in supporting their recommendations. This bill undermines the legitimacy of the Colorado oil and gas task force. The task force found common ground and provided recommendations that met the approval of a diverse group of stakeholders. Upholding the task force's process and recommendations strengthens our nationally recognized regulatory structure around oil and gas development and promote regulatory stability for an important Colorado industry.

Outcome: **Senate Committee on Agriculture, Natural Resources, & Energy Postpone Indefinitely 3/2**

NEUTRAL

- **[HB16-1432 Personnel Files Employee Inspection Right](#)**
Sponsored by Rep. Faith Winter (D-Westminster) (Neutral 4/12)

Summary: The bill allows an employee or former employee at least annually to request that his or her employer permit the employee or former employee to inspect or request copies of the employee's or former employee's personnel file at the employer's office and at a time convenient to both the employer and the employee or former employee. Employees or former employees are required to pay reasonable costs of duplication of documents.

The Chamber is neutral on HB16-1432. This is a policy that Colorado companies already have in place as part of their employment practices.

Outcome: *Governor signed on 6/10*

- **[HB16-1438 Employer Accommodations Related to Pregnancy](#)**
Sponsored by Rep. Faith Winter (D-Westminster) and Sen. Beth Martinez Humenik (R-Wheat Ridge) (Neutral 4/26)

Summary: The bill makes it an unfair employment practice if an employer fails to provide reasonable accommodations for an applicant for employment or an employee for conditions related to pregnancy or childbirth. The bill requires each employer to provide a notice of rights regarding the unfair employment practice to his or her employees.

The Chamber is neutral on HB16-1438 because the proponents and sponsors have made substantive changes to the bill that align it with Federal laws.

Outcome: **Governor signed on 6/1**



Policy Positions - 2016 Legislative Session

Updated August 3, 2016