The Chamber opposes HB17-1117. 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. We support the implementation of strong statewide assessments because they provide data that can inform school choices for parents and students; the opportunity to identify weaknesses and intervene when a student needs remediation, ultimately saving parents, students and schools money; enhanced transparency through diverse local input from educators, parents and business and community leaders on standards and assessments; and increased understanding of the outcomes of our education system.