



DENVER
METRO
CHAMBER
OF COMMERCE

[HB17-1219 Extend Colorado Water Conservation Board Following And Leasing Pilot Program](#)/Rep. Jeni Arndt (D), Rep. Barbara McLachlan (D), Sen. Kerry Donovan (D) and Sen. Larry Crowder (R)

The Chamber supports HB17-1219. The Chamber is supportive of this pilot program, as prescribed in the Colorado Water Plan, as it provides an alternative method for farmers to monetize their water rights rather than simply selling them. When a farmer sells their land and water rights, the water permanently leaves agricultural use to serve populated urban areas. Pilots such as those allowed by this legislation help avoid the drying up of producing agricultural land which can have significant economic impacts for rural communities as well as a straining effect on our state's food production resources.