

SB21-85 Actuarial Review Health Insurance Mandate Legislation  
Wednesday, March 30, 2021  
Senate Finance Committee  
Kelly Brough, President and CEO, Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce

I'd like to start by thanking Madame Chair and committee members for your consideration of this testimony. My name is Kelly Brough and I submit this testimony on behalf of the Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce in support of SB 85. The Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce represents 3,000 businesses and their 400,000 employees.

This bill is all about data, which we love. We think it's critical that legislators and their constituents understand the cost impacts of various mandates and use those cost impacts to inform their opinions on policy. We have to balance benefits against costs and understand the full picture of what an added benefit will cost employers, who provide health insurance coverage for almost half of all Coloradans.

Just last year, the legislature passed a bill that mandated that insurance plans cover infertility treatments. We know infertility can be a devastating diagnosis but also believe that legislators and constituents should have been aware that this new law will drive fully insured premiums up by 0.6% to 1%, or \$36 million to \$61 million, annually. And this increase happens at a time when we are trying to decrease the cost of care in Colorado.

Good policy requires good information that is rooted in data and facts. Therefore, we should all strongly support SB 85.