



# Legislative Newsletter



**Apr. 18, 2016**

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*An up-to-date review of Colorado government and politics especially for the Aurora Chamber of Commerce.  
Compiled and edited by Axiom Strategies, Inc.*

**"The companies that survive longest are the ones that work out what they uniquely can give to the world-not just growth or money but their excellence, their respect for others, or their ability to make people happy. Some call those things a soul."**

**-Charles Handy**

**Days Til Sine Die: 23**

## **Bernie Sanders wins Colorado with big showing at state convention**

*Denver Post*

Bernie Sanders scored a decisive victory Saturday in Colorado, taking a majority of the national delegates with a stronger-than-expected showing at a divided state Democratic convention.

The Vermont senator captured 41 delegates from the state's 78-member delegation, inching him closer to front-runner Hillary Clinton in what the campaign suggested is a larger shift in the presidential race.

## **Colorado GOP Chairman Steve House is getting threats from Donald Trump supporters**

*Denver 7 News*

Emails obtained by ABC News sent to Colorado GOP Chairman Steve House tell him to "pray" he makes it to Cleveland, and instructs him to support Trump or "you are done." One email provided to ABC News tells House to hide his family members.

"All I can say is pray you make it to Cleveland. The fix is in and the American people will eliminate anyone who gets in the way..." the email reads. "It would be in your best interest to take a stand and support the American People and trump [sic] or you are done. Trump goes independent to ride the nation of scum like you. I would be hiding all family members...Just check out social media."

## **Senate Gives Final OK Colo. Budget, Votes To Keep Private Prison Open**

*Colorado Public Radio*

Colorado's Senate approved a \$27 billion state budget after heated debate over a last-minute allocation to keep open a privately-run prison in Burlington.

Republican budget-writer Sen. Kent Lambert successfully argued the \$3 million will give Gov. John Hickenlooper time to negotiate with Corrections Corporation of America.

CCA runs the Kit Carson Correctional Center in Burlington. It says it needs the money to avoid closing the facility because the number of inmates there is dropping.

### **Conference committee OKs \$27 billion Colorado budget**

*Pueblo Chieftain*

A bipartisan conference committee quickly resolved a dispute over clean air funding to settle on a \$27 billion state budget.

Monday's compromise cuts nearly \$112,000 from the state's air quality unit.

That's a nod to Senate Republicans who protested state work on a federal clean air plan that's been put on hold by the U.S. Supreme Court.

### **'Ban the box' legislation advances in Colorado Legislature**

*Durango Herald*

A House committee on Tuesday advanced legislation that would prohibit some employers from asking about a person's criminal background on an initial application.

The effort is known as "ban the box," referring to the box on some job applications to disclose any criminal past, especially felonies.

The bill's sponsor, Rep. Beth McCann, D-Denver, acknowledges the messaging around "ban the box," but she believes the issue is more about "responsible re-entry."

### **Former state employee: I was ordered to delete emails**

*Complete Colorado*

A former employee of the Colorado Department of Revenue (DOR) claims he was ordered by that agency's executive director to delete emails that discussed how the agency was proceeding with an open records request.

Dan Bradley, who worked almost three decades as an FBI agent before serving just over two years with the DOR, stated he was advised by the Colorado Attorney Generals' Office that the order to delete emails by DOR Executive Director Barbara Brohl did not violate any laws or statutes. But he's coming forward to tell his story precisely because he finds that problematic.

Speaking exclusively with Complete Colorado on the Colorado Public Television public affairs show Devil's Advocate, Bradley says in early 2014 he and others were told by Brohl to delete emails:

### **Senate committee passes bill to encourage state government whistleblowers**

*CFOIC*

A bill to encourage state government whistleblowers won the endorsement of a Senate committee Monday, despite fears that private information could be made vulnerable to security breaches.

Under the amended version of SB16-056, state employees couldn't be disciplined for revealing confidential information while reporting instances of waste, mismanagement of public funds or abuses of authority to the state attorney general's office.

Currently, there are no protections in the law for Colorado government workers who might give out information exempted from disclosure by the Colorado Open Records Act or another state statute.

### **Gov. Hickenlooper announces appointments to the 2nd Judicial District**

*Office of the Governor*

DENVER - Thursday, April 14, 2016 - Gov. John Hickenlooper announced today his appointments of Jay Grant and Jennifer Torrington to serve as district court judges in the 2nd Judicial District (Denver). Grant and Torrington will fill vacancies created by the retirement of the Honorable R. Michael Mullins and the resignation of the Honorable Ann B. Frick.

Grant is currently a lead attorney with the Colorado Public Defenders Office in Denver. From 2003-2004, he was an associate with Stiner, Beck, Jonson and Nolan where he practiced family and criminal law. Grant received his undergraduate degree from New Mexico State University in 1989, his M.A. in History from New Mexico State University in 1992, and his Juris Doctor from Oklahoma City University in 1997.

Torrington is currently a magistrate judge in the Denver District Court, where she works on post-decree domestic cases. Prior to assuming this role, she was a magistrate judge in the Denver Juvenile Court from 2004-2015. Torrington received her undergraduate degree from the University of Arizona in 1993 and her Juris Doctor from the University of Colorado in 1999. The appointments are effective July 1, 2016.

### **Gov. Hickenlooper announces Boards and Commissions appointments**

*Office of the Governor*

Gov. John Hickenlooper today announced a Boards and Commissions appointment to the State Rehabilitation Council.

The State Rehabilitation Council advises State Rehabilitation Services on the provision of appropriate and quality services to its customers. A majority of its members must be persons with disabilities. For a term expiring August 1, 2017:

- Bobbie Rosa of Ignacio, to serve as a representative of Native Americans and Section 121, appointed.

### **Gov. Hickenlooper Signs Bills into Law**

*Office of the Governor*

Tuesday, April 12, 2016 - Gov. John Hickenlooper signed these bills into law today.

<b>Number</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Sponsors</b>	<b>Summary</b>
<b>SB 16-068</b>	<b>Hunter Safety Pink</b>	<b>Rep. Esgar &amp; Rep. Willett /</b>	<b>Concerning wearing fluorescent pink garments to hunt big game.</b>

HB 16-1030	Off-highway Vehicles Regulation & Local Government	Sen. Donovan Rep. Brown & Rep. Court / Sen. Donovan	Concerning the use of off-highway vehicles.
HB 16-1163	Appropriations From Noxious Weed Management Fund	Rep. Rankin / Sen. Grantham	Concerning appropriations from the noxious weed management fund.
HB 16-1182	Sunset Commodity Metals Theft Task Force	Rep. Court & Rep. Duran / Sen. Cooke & Sen. Heath	Concerning the continuation of the Commodity Metals Theft Task Force.
HB 16-1184	HCSM Fund Transfers To Broadband Fund	Rep. Rankin / Sen. Grantham	Concerning the administration of money that is required under existing law to be transferred from the high cost support mechanism to the broadband fund.
HB 16-1269	Electronic And Mail Application For ID Cards	Rep. Melton / Sen. Cooke	Concerning the ability of the Department of Revenue to allow additional application methods for identification cards.

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Number	Title	Sponsors	Summary
HB 16-1094	Make References to Attorney General Gender Neutral	Rep. Dore / Sen. Roberts	Concerning making references to the Attorney General in the Colorado Revised Statutes gender neutral.
HB 16-1157	Sunset Review Skolnik Medical Transparency Act	Reps. Garnett & Kraft-Tharp / Sen. Tate	Concerning the establishment of a future sunset review of the functions delegated to the Director of the Division of Professions and Occupations under the "Michael Skolnik Medical Transparency Act of 2010" to implement the recommendation of the Department of Regulatory Agencies as contained in its 2015 sunset report pertaining to the Division of Professions and Occupations.
HB 16-1168	Sunset Rural Alcohol & Sub Abuse Treatment Prog	Reps. Ginal & Danielson / Sen. Scott	Concerning the continuation of the rural alcohol and substance abuse prevention and treatment program.
HB 16-1169	Ute Representatives for Transportation Advisory Committee	Rep. Coram / Sen. Roberts	Concerning the appointment of representatives of the Southern Ute and Ute Mountain Ute tribes as voting members of the statewide transportation advisory committee.
HB 16-1176	Wine & Spirits Wholesalers Employee Purchase Program	Rep. Lebsock / Sen. Tate	Concerning the authority of a licensed wholesaler to establish an employee purchase program under which its employees may purchase directly from the wholesaler alcohol beverage products sold by that wholesaler.
HB 16-1188	Separate Governmental Entity	Rep. Rosenthal / Sen. Martinez	Concerning requirements for the provision of additional public information by a separate

	Transparency	Humenik	legal entity established by contract by a combination of political subdivisions of the state.
HB 16-1190	Exclude Detention Facilities From Deadly Force Law	Rep. Dore / Sen. Cooke	Concerning the use of deadly force in a detention facility.
HB 16-1192	Recodification Of Sunset Provisions	Rep. Kagan / Sen. Steadman	Concerning a nonsubstantive recodification of the sunset review provisions.
HB 16-1193	Electronic Access Of Respondent Parents' Counsel	Rep. Hamner / Sen. Lambert	Concerning granting electronic access to court information to attorneys under contract with the office of the respondent parents' counsel.
HB 16-1229	Higher Education Financial Obligation Repayment	Rep. Rankin / Sen. Steadman	Concerning modification of the means of repayment for certain ongoing financial obligations incurred by the state in order to fund capital construction projects for state-supported institutions of higher education.
HB 16-1247	Suppl Approp Dept Of Public Health & Environment	Rep. Hamner / Sen. Lambert	Concerning a supplemental appropriation to the Department of Public Health and Environment.
HB 16-1272	Disconnection of Land From A Municipality	Rep. Kraft-Tharp; Sen. Tate	Concerning procedures to be followed in connection with the disconnection by ordinance of land from a municipality.
HB 16-1297	Reestablish Check-offs Excluded From 2015 Tax Form	Rep. Court / Sen. Martinez Humenik	Concerning the immediate reestablishment of the voluntary contributions excluded from the 2015 Colorado income tax return form for not receiving the requisite minimum dollar amount of contributions by the statutory deadline, and, in connection therewith, expanding the number of voluntary contributions that may appear on the income tax return form and lowering the minimum amount of donations that must be received by every fund appearing on the form.
HB 16-1416	State Infrastructure General Fund Transfers	Rep. Hamner / Sen. Lambert	Concerning the transfer of money from the general fund to cash funds that are used for the state's infrastructure.
SB 16-051	Judge's Discretion Regarding Consecutive Sentences	Rep. Melton / Sens. Johnston & Lundberg	Concerning increasing judicial discretion regarding the imposition of consecutive sentences for violent crimes.
SB 16-099	Correctional Education Program Sales Of Goods	Rep. Primavera; Sen. Jahn	Concerning implementing recommendations of the state auditor's office by establishing the authority of the correctional education program to sell inmate-produced products to specified persons.
SB 16-110	Child Victim Privacy Criminal Justice Records	Rep. Lundeen; Sen. Woods	Concerning protecting the privacy of child victims when releasing criminal justice records.

**SB 16-122** More Oversight of Department of Transportation  
**Reps. Nordberg & Brown / Sen. Baumgardner**  
 Concerning additional oversight of the activities of the Department of Transportation.  
 Friday, April 15, 2016 - Gov. John Hickenlooper signed these bills into law today.

Number	Title	Sponsors	Summary
HB 16-1189	Bingo-affle License Regulation Secretary Of State	Rep. Wist & Sen. Roberts	Concerning the regulation of bingo-affle licensees.
HB 16-1090	Excess Foreclosure Proceeds Limit Finder's Fee	Rep. McCann & Sen. Jahn	Concerning the conditions under which a person may assist another for compensation in obtaining the proceeds of a foreclosure sale after all liens have been satisfied.
HB 16-1103	License Pathways For Mental Health Workforce	Reps. Kraft-Tharp & Landgraf; Sens. Martinez Humenik & Todd	Concerning clarifying license pathways for the mental health professional workforce.
SB 16-125	Credit Union Governance	Sen. Holbert & Rep. Kraft-Tharp	Concerning the governance of credit unions, and, in connection therewith, authorizing the appointment of an audit committee in lieu of a supervisory committee and allowing the reasonable compensation of a director for his or her service to the credit union.
HB 16-1073	Electrical Industry Safety And Training Act	Reps. Duran & Delgrosso; Sens. Guzman & Scheffel	Concerning the qualifications of licensed electricians.
HB 16-1224	Treat Trafficking Of Children As Child Abuse	Rep. Lundeen & Sen. Woods	Concerning child abuse involving human trafficking of minors.
HB 16-1011	Metro Dist Authority Promote Business Development	Rep. Vigil; Sens. Garcia & Grantham	Concerning the removal of restrictions on the authority of a board of a metropolitan district to provide activities in support of business development within the district.
HB 16-1170	Sunset Division Racing Events	Reps. Vigil & Coram; Sens. Sonnenberg & Garcia	Concerning the continuation of the Division of Racing Events in the Department of Revenue, and, in connection therewith, implementing recommendation 1 of the 2015 sunset report of the Department of Regulatory Agencies.
HB 16-1145	Documentary Fee For Residential Real Property	Rep. Lebsock & Sen. Tate	Concerning the determination of the documentary fee imposed for recording a grant or conveyance of residential real property.
HB 16-1106	County Authority To Designate Pioneer Trail	Rep. Wilson; Sens. Grantham & Garcia	Concerning the authority of a county to designate public roads as a section of a pioneer trail.
HB 16-1066	Habitual Domestic Violence Offenders	Rep. Roupe & Sen. Newell	Concerning an habitual domestic violence offender.
HB 16-	School Discipline	Rep. Lawrence &	Concerning updates to provisions related to

1098	Reporting Requirements	Sen. Newell	school discipline reporting.
HB 16-1236	Sunset Infection Control Advisory Committee	Rep. Primavera & Sen. Crowder	Concerning continuation of the infection control advisory committee.
HB 16-1149	Remove Budget Reporting Exemption HOAs Predate Act	Rep. Melton & Sen. Newell	Concerning a requirement that the executive board of a common interest community created in Colorado before July 1, 1992, comply with the budget reporting provision of the "Colorado Common Interest Ownership Act".
SB 16-013	Clean-up Office Of The Child Protection Ombudsman	Rep. Singer & Sen. Newell	Concerning statutory changes related to the office of the child protection ombudsman

**The Calculator**

**House Bills Introduced: 444**

**Senate Bills Introduced: 189**

**Number of Bills Pl'd: 155**

**Bills Signed by the Governor: 113**