



# Legislative Newsletter



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**May 22, 2018**

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

**“To err is human. To blame someone else is politics.”**

*-Hubert H. Humphrey*

The Second Regular Session of the Seventy-first General Assembly adjourned on May 9, 2018. The First Regular Session of the Seventy-second General Assembly will convene on January 4, 2019.

## **General Assembly approves Senate Bill 18-200 to return PERA to full funding**

### *PERA on the Issues*

Late Wednesday evening, May 9, the Colorado General Assembly voted to approve Senate Bill 18-200, sending legislation that will return PERA to full funding over 30 years to the Governor for his signature.

All stakeholders—PERA members, retirees and employers—will be impacted by the legislation. It will reset PERA’s path to financial resilience, making the retirement fund stronger and more stable.

Having already been approved by both the Senate and the House, the legislation passed out of conference committee Wednesday evening and, later on the 9th, was again approved by both chambers. Some of the key provisions of the bill in its final form include:

- PERA receiving an annual direct distribution from the state budget of \$225 million.
- Increasing employer contributions by 0.25 percent beginning July 1, 2019 (except Local Government employers).
- A phased-in increase of employee contributions for most members by an additional 2 percent, reaching a total of 10 percent of pay by 2021.
- Suspending the Annual Increase (AI, or Cost of Living Adjustment) for 2018 and 2019.
- Capping the Annual Increase at 1.5 percent and increasing the waiting period from one to three years.
- Increasing the age and service requirements for new hires as of January 1, 2020 to:
  - Any age with 35 years of service
  - Age 64 with 30 years of service
  - Age 65 with five years of service
  - Age 55 with 25 years of service for state troopers
  - Age 65 with five years of service for state troopers
- Increasing from three to five the number of years used to calculate Highest Average Salary (HAS) for non-vested members as of January 1, 2020.
- Implementing an Automatic Adjustment Provision for contributions, Annual Increases and the state’s direct distribution that will keep PERA on a path to full funding in 30 years.
- For new members hired on or after January 1, 2019, expanded access to the PERA Defined Contribution (DC) Plan for the Local Government Division, and for classified college and university employees.

PERA on the Issues will continue to publish additional information about the legislation and its impacts on current retirees, members and employers. More details about Senate Bill 200 in its final form are available [here](#).

## **Senate sends transportation funding bill to the governor**

*Colorado Politics*

None of the Republicans in the state House of Representatives supported it earlier in the day, but Senate Republicans collected a unanimous vote Tuesday before sine die to send a bill to the governor that will eventually put almost \$3 billion into the state's beleaguered transportation system.

Senate Bill 1 puts \$495 million into roads, bridges and alternative transportation this year, \$150 million next year, then allows the state to borrow \$2.3 billion to be repaid over the next 20 years, tapping the state general fund for \$122.6 million a year. Granted, only about \$50 million a year is new money, with the rest coming from previous legislation and existing tax dollars that go to the state highway department.

But it sounds good to advocates to finally see a legislative commitment to quick cash and ongoing money to a state transportation system that the Colorado Department of Transportation says is in need of \$9 billion in the next decade and \$20 billion over the next 20 years.

"While the funding provided to transportation is short of where we could have been, politics is the art of the possible," said Sandra Hagen Solin, who represents Fix Colorado Roads, the coalition driving the funding discussion for years. "Since the beginning, we've advocated from that point of view. Today, Senate Bill 1 passed a split legislature and is what was possible this year.

"And for that, we are grateful."

Negotiations over transportation haven't been this fruitful in recent memory, however you add up the money.

Senate President Kevin Grantham, R-Canon City, has been at the forefront of negotiations for the past two sessions. Last year, Republicans on a Senate committee killed House Bill 1242, which Grantham co-sponsored; it would have asked Colorado votes to pass a half-cent sales tax.

Contrast that to this year's transportation compromise, which was announced to reporters in Grantham's office on Monday, with House Speaker Crisanta Duran at his side.

"This is significant," he said Tuesday night. "When we get to look back on this endeavor and what took place in the 2018 legislative session, this is what I'm going to remember.

"I'm going to remember the senators who have put their heart and soul into this and the collaboration across the aisle on this one."

## **11th hour compromise over Colo. civil rights panel in legislature**

*Colorado Politics*

A bill reauthorizing Colorado's Division of Civil Rights and the Colorado Civil Rights Commission — the subject of much contention during the 2018 Colorado legislative session — was sent on its way to the governor's desk just before the final gavel fell Wednesday night.

As a midnight deadline approached, a legislative conference committee worked out differences between the House and Senate versions of House Bill 1256.

Earlier Wednesday night, the Republican-controlled Senate voted 26-9 to approve the compromise and 30-5 to pass the bill. The Democrat-led House voted 43-21 to re-pass the bill. Democrats broke out in applause with the announcement of the final vote.

Gov. John Hickenlooper told Colorado Politics late Wednesday he approves of the compromise, largely because it keeps politics out of the equation, referring to earlier language that sought to allow legislative leaders to make some of the appointments to the civil rights commission. Hickenlooper and House Democrats believed that would politicize the commission.

The commission had come under fire from some conservatives, especially after it weighed in on the case of a Lakewood baker who refused to make a wedding cake for a same-sex couple. The panel ruled against the baker, whose challenge against the ruling is now before the U.S. Supreme Court.

The compromise on House Bill 1256 went through a series of conference committee meetings, the last just after 8 p.m. Wednesday night, the 120th and final day of the 2018 legislative session.

The agreement was hammered out after a contentious meeting between the House and Senate sponsors that took place earlier in the day and that resulted in a standoff on the House floor, when Democrats threatened to stick to their version of the bill, which would have meant the bill's demise.

Letting the bill die would mean Republicans would have no chance to effect change in the commission's appointment structure. The agency's funding is already set in the 2018-19 budget and would be allowed to continue for another year.

House Democrats had suggested they could try again in 2019, with hopes that Democrats could wrest control of the state Senate away from Republicans and hold onto the governor's office. That would allow them to craft a bill that would expand the commission's mission and the division's operations.

Moments after that standoff, Speaker of the House Crisanta Duran of Denver announced one of the Senate Republicans on the conference committee, Sen. John Cooke of Greeley, had agreed to a compromise that would make changes in who would be appointed to the commission, as well as incorporating language from another bill pushed by Senate President Kevin Grantham of Cañon City on commission appointments.

Under the compromise, the seven-member commission would still be appointed by the governor.

Currently, two members are representatives of state and local government with a third coming from business. The compromise changed that to a member from state or local government, another member who is a majority owner of a business of five to 50 employees, another who is from a business of more than 50 employees, and another who represents a statewide chamber or similar organization. That could be from a Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, the Colorado Black Chamber of Commerce, the Colorado chapter of the National Federation of Independent Business or the Colorado Association of Commerce and Industry.

The commission already has a requirement that four of its seven members must be people representing protected classes under the state's civil rights laws (LGBT, the disabled or minorities, for example). Democratic Rep. Leslie Herod of Denver, one of the bill's co-sponsors, said she believed that could still happen under the compromise.

## **Legislature reaches last-day compromise on beer-sales regulations**

*Denver Business Journal*

After months of tense discussions that looked often like they were more likely to end in a lawsuit than in legislation, House and Senate negotiators reached a compromise late Wednesday on a bill that largely would give grocery and convenience stores freedom as they begin to sell full-strength beer in 2019 but also would put guardrails on areas like deliveries and below-cost sales that liquor stores sought badly.

Senate Bill 243, as passed by the Colorado Legislature on the final day of its 2018 session, paves the way for chain stores that have sold only low-strength beer since the end of Prohibition to begin putting full-strength beer on their shelves on Jan. 1 — a transition that was agreed to in a deal on a separate bill that passed on the final day of the 2016 legislative session. It also allows Walmart to add as many as 19 more locations that also can sell wine and spirits, as grocery chains can, in the next 19 years.

The future of the bill, sponsored by Republican Senate Majority Leader Chris Holbert of Parker and Democratic Assistant Senate Minority Leader Lucia Guzman of Denver, looked in peril on Friday, when Republicans gutted many of its provisions intended to restrict the spread of full-strength beer to 3,000 new locations, as liquor-store industry leaders argued this would devastate the 1,600 independently owned stores in the state. Rep. Larry Liston, R-Colorado Springs, called some restrictions in the bill "offensive and abhorrent" and, with others, threatened to kill the bill if House sponsors took out amendments removing those restrictions — all while the Colorado Licensed Beverage Association threatened to sue if full-strength beer sales were set to begin in January without any regulations.

But by Wednesday, some liquor stores were ready to accept many of those changes, even if CLBA leaders said they continue to mull their legal options.

Those change include the allowance of 18- to 20-year-olds to sell beer in any stores, the dropping of distance restrictions between new beer sellers and retail-liquor stores from 1,500 feet down to 500 feet, and the elimination of a prohibition on existing low-strength beer sellers converting to full-strength licenses if less than 20 percent of revenues came from food sales.

What liquor stores got instead was the inclusion of a couple of lower-key but very important provisions that local owners feel will allow them to compete with national grocery chains.

A conference committee removed a provision, for example, that would have allowed grocers to use third-party delivery contractors — a provision that smaller stores worried would open the market to Amazon coming in and putting smaller stores out of business. And it also kept in the bill a prohibition against below-cost sales of alcohol — a clause they pushed for out of fear that bigger stores would begin under-selling products in order to drive smaller competitors out of business, then turn around and raise their prices.

## **Aurora Mayor Steve Hogan dies at 69 after battle with cancer**

*Denver Post*

Aurora Mayor Steve Hogan, who helped lead his city through rapid expansion and tragedy as a decades-long political fixture in the metro area and throughout Colorado, died last Sunday morning. He was 69.

Hogan announced in March that he was diagnosed with cancer and on Wednesday said he was entering home hospice care.

“Mayor Hogan honorably served as mayor of Aurora from 2011 until his passing,” the city of Aurora said in a news release. “... He was the heart of Aurora.”

Gov. John Hickenlooper ordered that flags be lowered to half-staff on all public buildings Monday, from sunrise to sunset, to honor Hogan.

“Today Colorado lost a true friend in Mayor Steve Hogan,” Hickenlooper said in a statement Sunday. “This was a man who went above and beyond to do right by the city he loved. He was that rare public servant who put people before party — my God, how we will miss him.”

## **Opioids Package Signed by Gov. Hickenlooper**

*Colorado House Democrats*

(May 21) – Gov. John Hickenlooper went to Lutheran Medical Center in Wheat Ridge today to sign five bills to tackle opioid abuse, which has become the leading cause of death for Americans under the age of 50.

“The war on opioids will not be won overnight, but today we gain some ground,” said Rep. Brittany Pettersen, D-Lakewood, who has spearheaded legislative efforts to combat an epidemic that has killed more Americans than the entire Vietnam War.

The bills signed into law today are:

- SB18-022, sponsored in the House by Reps. Pettersen and Chris Kennedy, D-Lakewood, limiting many opioid prescriptions to a seven-day supply and mandating that medical professionals check the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program database before writing refills.
- SB18-024, sponsored in the House by Reps. Jonathan Singer, D-Longmont, and Pettersen, expanding the Colorado Health Service Corps program, which includes loan repayment and scholarship programs for medical professionals who commit to working in underserved areas where substance abuse is more likely to go untreated.
- SB18-270, sponsored in the House by Reps. Pettersen and Cole Wist, R-Centennial, coordinating referrals of high-risk individuals with significant mental health or substance use disorders to transition specialists who can provide housing services, program placement and access to other behavioral health treatment or benefits.
- HB18-1007, by Reps. Kennedy and Singer, requiring insurance companies and Medicaid to provide faster approval of medication-assisted treatment so patients with substance use disorders don’t go back to opioids while waiting for approval to begin their treatment.
- HB18-1003, by Rep. Pettersen, commissioning further study of the substance use disorder problem in Colorado.

## **What Colorado lawmakers did for and to schools in 2018**

*Colorado Politics*

The Colorado General Assembly's 2018 session ended with a down-to-the-wire compromise on pension reform that left some teachers feeling bruised, but Gov. John Hickenlooper said there should be no confusion. In a world of competing priorities, education came out ahead.

The 2018-19 budget puts more into K-12 education than the state has spent in years, and Republicans agreed to put ongoing taxpayer dollars into stabilizing the Public Employees Retirement Association system, something they had long resisted.

Making those investments is why lawmakers ended up budgeting far less money into transportation infrastructure, another top priority, than Republican leaders wanted.

"That money went to PERA and school teachers," Hickenlooper said. "Let's be bluntly honest about that."

Hickenlooper, who began the session with a certain futility about increasing education spending, called it "pretty remarkable" that Colorado's education funding shortfall is down to \$672 million, when it was over \$1 billion just a few years ago.

"We made major investments in K-12 education," he said.

The education bills this year were not just about money. Lawmakers also took modest steps to address the teacher shortage, tightened up the school accountability system, made it a little easier for foster children to graduate from high school – and enabled more children from low-income families to take AP exams or just eat lunch at school.

[Click here](#) for a look at the education legislation that made it through this year.

## **States are free to allow sports betting, U.S. Supreme Court rules**

### *Colorado Politics*

The U.S. Supreme Court on Monday struck down a federal law that kept most states from authorizing sports betting, a ruling that is sure to set off a scramble among the states to find a way into a billion-dollar business.

The challenge was brought by New Jersey, which had said it could be ready within weeks of a favorable decision to offer sports betting at its racetracks and casinos. Other states are expected to act quickly as well.

The court's 6-3 decision struck down the Professional and Amateur Sports Protection Act (PASPA), which Congress passed in the early 1990s to protect the integrity of sports, according to its sponsors.

Only Nevada's sports wagering industry was protected by the law, which said it was unlawful for other states to authorize such gambling.

But the court's majority on Monday said that violated states' rights to make their own decisions, when Congress itself has not passed a law regulating an activity.

"The legalization of sports gambling requires an important policy choice, but the choice is not ours to make," wrote Justice Samuel A. Alito Jr., for the majority.

"Congress can regulate sports gambling directly, but if it elects not to do so, each state is free to act on its own."

Justices Ruth Bader Ginsburg and Sonia Sotomayor said the law did not need to be struck down, and Justice Stephen G. Breyer agreed with them in part.

The gambling industry was excited by the decision.

"Today's ruling makes it possible for states and sovereign tribal nations to give Americans what they want: an open, transparent, and responsible market for sports betting," American Gaming Association President Geoff Freeman said in a statement.

"Through smart, efficient regulation this new market will protect consumers, preserve the integrity of the games we love, empower law enforcement to fight illegal gambling, and generate new revenue for states, sporting bodies, broadcasters and many others."

New Jersey for years has tried to breathe new life into its troubled casinos and racetracks by authorizing sports betting at the facilities.

As of now, PASPA allows live betting on sports events only in Nevada facilities, while a handful of other states have sports lotteries.

## **Republicans, Democrats split over which transportation-funding ballot measure to support**

*Denver Business Journal*

Although Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce leaders remain a week away from deciding how big a sales-tax hike they will seek on the November statewide ballot for transportation needs, Colorado legislative leaders are already starting to split into two camps: one group that says they'll like to support whatever comes from the chamber and another that says it is likely to back a non-taxing measure from the Independence Institute.

And as one might guess, the division is largely partisan.

Several Democrats this week expressed appreciation for the chamber's efforts, as part of a larger coalition to move forward a sales-tax hike that would fund state highway expansions, local-government roadway needs and multi-modal transit to the tune of between \$4.1 billion and \$8.4 billion. The chamber has submitted a handful of ballot options, and president/CEO Kelly Brough said Friday at the group's annual post-session state-of-the-state luncheon that it is committed to asking for an increase of half a cent, .62 cents or a full penny to address the issue.

"We have to be about solving real problems in Colorado, not pretending to solve them," Brough told a crowd of about 700 people at the Hilton Denver City Center. "We've done this before. We've taken the policy reins of our state and said 'When we want something, we'll go get it.'"

But there's an increasing chance that if chamber leaders collect enough signatures to get their measure on the ballot, they won't be the only ones offering a transportation plan. Jon Caldara, president of the free-market Independence Institute, said Monday that his organization will begin collecting signatures on its proposal, Fix Our Damn Roads, that would ask voters to approve \$3.5 billion in bond sales for highway improvements and would require the Legislature to set aside \$350 million per year in its general fund to repay those bonds.

"We're told the only way to Fix Our Damn Roads is to raise taxes and raise fees. We're told the only way to Fix Our Damn Roads is to pay ransom to ineffective transit schemes and pay off cities with slush funds," Caldara wrote earlier this week to Independence Institute supporters. "I'm here to say HELL NO! We're not going to be played again!"

Legislators this year approved a bill that would put \$645 million in one-time funding over the next two years to state highways, local roads and multi-modal options like transit and bike lanes, plus dedicate another \$50 million a year to transportation for the next 20 years. That measure, Senate Bill 1, would ask voters to approve the sale of \$2.3 billion in bonds in 2019 for state-highway and multi-modal projects — if neither the Denver Chamber nor Independence Institute initiatives pass in 2018.

## **Colorado boosts savings to \$730 million with help of recent tobacco industry settlement but may need more**

*Denver Post*

Thanks to a boost from a recent tobacco industry settlement, Colorado plans to sock away an extra \$90 million next year in the state's reserves. But by one credit rating agency's analysis, it's still woefully unprepared for the next economic downturn.

In the waning days of the 2018 legislative session, lawmakers voted to increase the state's reserves to 7.25 percent of general fund spending, or an estimated \$730 million for the fiscal year that starts July 1.

That's up from 6.5 percent this fiscal year, and more than triple the 2 percent reserve the state had on hand at the depths of the Great Recession. And yet it still might not be nearly enough to avoid deep cuts to public services the next time the economy tanks.

A 2017 study from credit rating agency Moody's Analytics found that because of unique economic factors, such as its reliance on income taxes and the oil and gas industry, and what it spends on Medicaid, recessions hit Colorado significantly harder than most states. And it should be saving more, accordingly.

Moody's found Colorado needs to save 15 percent of what it spends to withstand even a moderate recession, and a whopping 26 percent to prepare for a severe downturn on par with the Great Recession. That's the fourth largest projected fiscal shock of any state in the country.

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

Friday, May 11, 2018 — Gov. Hickenlooper today announced Boards and Commissions appointments to the Governor's Expert Emergency Epidemic Response Committee, Interbasin Compact Committee, Colorado Medical Board, State Board of Optometry, State Board of Pharmacy, State Board of Psychologist Examiners, Stroke Advisory Board and Venture Capital Authority.

The Governor's Expert Emergency Epidemic Response Committee shall amend the state disaster plan that deals with the public health response to acts of bioterrorism, pandemic influenza and epidemics caused by infectious agents. The Committee shall also advise the Governor in the event of an emergency epidemic.

For terms expiring May 1, 2020:

- Stephen Veale Cantrill, MD, FACEP of Denver, to serve as a licensed physician who specializes in emergency medicine, appointed;
- Mark Bernarr Johnson, MD, MPH of Louisville, to serve as a director of a county, district or municipal public health agency, appointed;
- Laura Holladay Rang, BSPS of Denver, to serve as a member of the State Board of Pharmacy, appointed;

For terms expiring May 1, 2024:

- John D. Carver, MD of Denver, to serve as a medical examiner, appointed;
- Michael W. Miller, DVM of Fort Collins, to serve as a specialist in wildlife disease with the Colorado Division of Wildlife, appointed;
- John Albert Nicoletti, PhD, ABPP of Lakewood, to serve as a specialist in post traumatic stress management, appointed.

The Interbasin Compact Committee develops a framework and foundational principles to guide voluntary negotiations between basin roundtables, facilitates discussions within and between basins on water management issues, and encourages locally driven collaborative solutions to water supply challenges.

For a term expiring May 1, 2022:

- Andrew A. Mueller of Glenwood Springs, to serve as an Unaffiliated, appointed.

The Colorado Medical Board reviews applications for medical licenses. In cases involving any professional or ethical violations of the Medical Practices Act, the board holds hearings and assists the state's district attorneys in the prosecution of all persons, firms, associations, or corporations charged with improper conduct.

For a term expiring May 3, 2020:

- Donald Louis Davenport of Lakewood, to serve as a member of the public, and occasioned by the resignation of Judith Freda Schulman of Denver, appointed;

For terms expiring May 3, 2022:

- Ty T. Higuchi, MD, PhD. of Aurora, to serve as a doctor of medicine, reappointed;
- Keith Orin Marks of Denver, to serve as a public member, reappointed;
- Samara McElroy, DO of Brighton, to serve as a doctor of osteopathic medicine, reappointed;

- C. Lamont Smith of Denver, to serve as a public member, appointed.

The State Board of Optometry sets rules and regulations for administering examinations and conducts hearings to revoke, suspend, deny or reissue licenses.

For a term expiring April 15, 2021:

- Tuesday Nicole Hennessy, OD of Lakewood, to serve as an optometrist, and occasioned by the resignation of Dustin Clark Anderson, OD of Woodland Park, appointed;

For a term expiring April 15, 2022:

- Lewis Moore Cutter, Jr., OD of Steamboat Springs, to serve as an optometrist, appointed.

The State Board of Pharmacy examines applicants, holds disciplinary hearings to issue and revoke pharmaceutical licenses and inspects pharmacies.

Effective July 1, 2018 for a term expiring July 1, 2022:

- Patricia Ann Evako, PharmD of Arvada, to serve as a licensed pharmacist and a Democrat, appointed.

The State Board of Psychologist Examiners reviews applicants for licensure and issues a license to those who those who meet the requirements to be a psychologist in the State of Colorado.

For terms expiring May 31, 2022:

- Catherine Marie Anderson, RN, JD of Centennial, to serve as a member of the public appointed;
- Courtney Ellen Klein, PsyD of Denver, to serve as a professional member, appointed;
- Julie Rippeth, PhD, ABPP-CN of Castle Rock, to serve as a professional member reappointed.

The Stroke Advisory Board evaluates potential strategies for stroke prevention and treatment, and develops statewide needs assessments identifying relevant resources to improve quality of care for stroke patients. Each January 1, the Board submits a report specifying its findings and recommendations to the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment and the corresponding committees in the State House and State Senate.

For terms expiring Aug. 1, 2018:

- Shaye Isaac Moskowitz, MD, PhD of Colorado Springs, to serve as a physician who is actively involved in stroke care and who is a board-certified in neurosurgery, and occasioned by the resignation of Dongwoo John Chang, MD, FRCS (C) of Denver, appointed;
- Wesley D. Reynolds, MD of Denver, to serve as a physician who is actively involved in stroke care and who is a board-certified neurologist serving patients in a rural area of the state, and occasioned by the resignation of Jessica Ann Hannah, MD of Bayfield, appointed;

For a term expiring Aug. 1, 2020:

- John Phillip Savage II of Greenwood Village, to serve as a representative of a statewide hospital association, and occasioned by the resignation of Elizabeth Adle, BSN of Westminster, appointed;

For terms expiring Aug. 1, 2021:

- Shaye Isaac Moskowitz, MD, PhD of Colorado Springs, to serve as a physician who is actively involved in stroke care and who is a board-certified in neurosurgery, reappointed;



- Wesley D. Reynolds, MD of Denver, to serve as a physician who is actively involved in stroke care and who is a board-certified neurologist serving patients in a rural area of the state, reappointed.

The Venture Capital Authority makes funding available for Colorado businesses in the beginning and early stages of their development.

For terms expiring May 5, 2022:

- David Saunders, CFA of Golden, to serve as a representative of venture capital, institutional investment, fund management or investment banking, reappointed;
- Rhondalyn “Ron” Kay Wisdom of Alamosa, to serve as a representative of venture capital, institutional investment, fund management or investment banking, reappointed.

Monday, May 14, 2018 — Gov. Hickenlooper today announced Boards and Commissions appointments to the High-Performance Transportation Enterprise and Colorado Podiatry Board.

The High-Performance Transportation Enterprise seeks out opportunities for public-private partnerships to complete surface transportation infrastructure projects. The Transportation Enterprise pursues any available means of financing such surface transportation projects that will allow the efficient completion of the projects.

For a term expiring Oct. 1, 2021:

- Travis Wayne Easton of Monument, to serve as a member who resides within the planning area of the Pikes Peak area council of governments, and who has professional expertise in transportation planning or development, local government, design-build contracting, public or private finance, engineering, environmental issues, or any other area that the Governor believes will benefit the board in the execution of its powers and performance of its duties, appointed.

The Colorado Podiatry Board conducts examinations and institutes hearings to revoke, suspend, deny or reissue licenses.

For a term expiring March 17, 2022:

- Ora J. DeMorrow of Littleton, to serve as a public member, appointed.

Tuesday, May 15, 2018 — Gov. John Hickenlooper today appointed Dan Baer as the next executive director of the Colorado Department of Higher Education.

“Dan has dedicated his career to public service and higher education, and has ample experience in both government and the private sector,” said Governor John Hickenlooper. “But it is the passion that he will bring to higher ed these last eight months that will make all the difference.”

Baer is currently a practitioner in residence at the University of Denver’s Korbel School and previously served as U.S. Ambassador to the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (2013-2017). Prior to that he was Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for the Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor at the U.S. Department of State (2009-2013). Baer also served as an Assistant Professor of Strategy, Economics, Public Policy and Ethics at Georgetown University’s McDonough School of Business.

He is a graduate of Heritage High School in Littleton and earned his bachelor’s degree from Harvard University and his doctorate from Oxford University.

“I’m excited to hit the ground running with Kim Hunter Reed and the terrific team at CDHE,” Baer said. “Governor Hickenlooper has made clear that he wants to use every single day in his term to make progress for Coloradans, and I’m ready to roll up my sleeves to help continue the great work being done on educational opportunity, equity, and workforce development in Colorado.”

Starting today, Baer will be working alongside current Executive Director Kim Hunter Reed as a special advisor. He will begin his appointment as executive director effective June 8, 2018.

Wednesday, May 16, 2018 — Gov. Hickenlooper today announced Boards and Commissions appointments to the Governor's Expert Emergency Epidemic Response Committee, State Board of Stock Inspection Commission and Water Quality Control Commission.

The Governor's Expert Emergency Epidemic Response Committee shall amend the state disaster plan that deals with the public health response to acts of bioterrorism, pandemic influenza and epidemics caused by infectious agents. The Committee shall also advise the Governor in the event of an emergency epidemic.

For a term expiring May 1, 2020:

- Lorena Marcia Barboza Neely of Parker, to serve as a specialist in infectious diseases, appointed.

The State Board of Stock Inspection Commission makes rules regarding brand inspection and livestock laws and regulates fees for stock inspections. The commission also sets service charges and procedures, administers the Estray Fund, licenses public livestock markets, and secures bond and surety on butchers and slaughters.

For a term expiring May 1, 2022:

- Erik Mohrlang of Fort Morgan, to represent the confinement cattle industry, appointed.

The Water Quality Control Commission develops and maintains a comprehensive and effective program for prevention, control and abatement of water pollution of the waters throughout the entire State.

For terms expiring February 15, 2021:

- Joan Card of Boulder, appointed;
- Richard Clark Hum of Nathrop, reappointed;
- Troy Glen Waters of Fruita, appointed.

Friday, May 18, 2018 — Gov. Hickenlooper today announced Boards and Commissions appointments to the State Board of Chiropractic Examiners, Combative Sports Commission and State Board of Veterinary Medicine.

The State Board of Chiropractic Examiners makes rules and regulations dealing with the Chiropractic Profession in Colorado. It also grants licenses to qualified applicants, approves chiropractic schools and conducts hearings when necessary.

For a term expiring May 18, 2019:

- Alexandra Tatiana Zuccarelli of Denver, to serve as a member of the public, and occasioned by the resignation of Georgia Lee Stewart of Fruita, appointed;

For a term expiring May 18, 2022:

- Sara Ann Schmidt, DC of Indian Hills, to serve as a professional member, reappointed.

The Combative Sports Commission regulates the conduct, promotion, and performance of live boxing and kickboxing matches in Colorado. The Commission oversees ticket sales, referee licensing, and qualifications for participants, including classification by weight and skill.

Effective June 27, 2018, for a term expiring June 27, 2021:

- Richard Paul Morales of Commerce City, reappointed;

Effective June 27, 2018, for a term expiring June 27, 2022:

- Raymond A. Garcia, Jr. of Denver, reappointed;

Effective June 27, 2018, for a term expiring June 27, 2023:

- Ryan L. Frazier of Denver, reappointed.

The State Board of Veterinary Medicine regulates and licenses veterinarians in the State of Colorado. The Board establishes and enforces professional standards through the development and maintenance of rules and policies, ensuring that only qualified persons are licensed to provide veterinary care, and that violators of the laws and rules regulating veterinary medicine are sanctioned as appropriate.

For a term expiring June 30, 2022:

- Ronald E. Carsten, PhD, MS, DVM of Glenwood Springs, a licensed veterinarian, reappointed.

Tuesday, May 22, 2018 — Gov. Hickenlooper today announced Boards and Commissions appointments to the Colorado Humanities Board and Real Estate Commission.

The Colorado Humanities Board was established to promote progress and scholarship in the humanities and the arts in Colorado.

For terms expiring May 1, 2021:

- Richard Gale Ballantine of Durango, reappointed;
- Paulette Tate Grant of Denver, reappointed.

The Real Estate Commission regulates the licensing and conduct of real estate brokers and salespeople and pre-owned home warranty service companies.

For terms expiring April 12, 2021:

- Lenee Marie Koch of Golden, to serve as a public member, appointed;
- Charles Jarrod Nixon of Durango, to serve as a real estate broker with expertise in real estate business, reappointed;
- John Arthur Frederic Wendt of Orchard City, to serve as a real estate broker with expertise in real estate business, appointed.