

LEGISLATIVE LETTER[®]
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L#7:66

THE BUDGET IS INTRODUCED

After a delay of nine days from the scheduled time, the budget (called the Long Appropriations Bill) was introduced as HB 1334 on April 4. Its committee of reference, House Appropriations, approved it on a vote of 13-0 on April 5 and sent the 65 House members home for a long Easter/Passover weekend to read it in detail and prepare for debate. Rarely does League take a position supporting or opposing the budget, especially in these days of extremely tight money and tough decisions, and we are not doing so this year.

In “olden days” before term limits, Article 10, Section 20 of the state constitution, and before the recession of 2001, the introduction of the Long Bill meant long days of arm-twisting both inside and between parties about how “extra” money would be spent. This negotiation would follow the negotiations between the Joint Budget Committee and the Governor.

No longer. Due to the limits from Article 10, Section 20, and to more than a decade of recessions and slow economic growth (and despite changes to limits on allowable appropriations) most of the budget decisions are made in the powerful Joint Budget Committee, negotiating with the Governor. Most of the controversy this year focused on what would continue to be cut. When the March revenue forecast showed solid increases, it was relatively easy to agree to not cut K-12 education. Thus, after some stalemates about whether/how/how much to have some additional savings in state personnel, the budget was finalized in ways that caused some relief. Some highlights of the budget as introduced:

- \$8 billion (including all reserves), an increase of \$339 million over FY 2011-12, or 4.4%
- Increases **K-12 school finance** act funding by \$57.2 million over the prior year, which fully funds enrollment growth and keeps the state average per pupil amount equal to the FY 2011-12 level. League is relieved.

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- Funds **higher education** at a level of only \$5.8 million lower than FY 2011-12, which isn't bad when one considers that the Governor's November budget request called for a cut of \$60 million. Again, League is relieved.
- Increases funding for **Old Age Pension** programs by \$9.7 million, including a cost of living increase and restoration of dental benefits. This helps truly needy seniors.
- Increases funding for programs helping people with **developmental disabilities** by \$11 million. This includes 193 new placements in waiver programs, chipping away at the waiting list.
- Provides funding for **state employees'** health care premium increases. Like other employers, the State of Colorado's costs for health care premiums for employees goes up each year. For the past three years the State has contributed nothing to employees' premium increases, and instead these amounts have been withheld from paychecks, taking a bigger bite out of take-home pay each year. State employees are still not getting standard increases (called "salary survey increases because they track movements in the private sector). However, last year's shift of 2.5% of retirement contributions to state employees was reversed. Layoffs of caregivers to mentally ill and developmentally disabled were largely avoided.
- Reduced **Corrections** from FY 2011-2012 by \$409,000. Doesn't sound like much, but it is not an increase. Sentencing reform, along with some reductions in crime in general, are paying off. A prison in Canon City is being closed. Of course, expenses are rising, mostly for salary and benefits for personnel working in the system. League is glad to see that proactive programs we have supported in the past appear to be paying off.
- Includes full funding for the **senior homestead property tax exemption**, at a cost of \$98.5 million. With the forecast of enough money to avoid cuts to K-12, it appeared that fighting about this in an election year was bad strategy. League has opposed this transfer of tax burden for several reasons. HB 1287 (see LL#4, p. 33) was a better solution to supporting needy seniors with property taxes.

There will be some wrangling when the House debates the Long Bill on April 10 and 11. However, as has been the case in past years, there is little room for fundamental change because so much of the budget is driven by existing statutes and case loads. The Senate will start the process the following week when all House changes are stripped from the bill via amendments, and the Senate considers the same "original" Long Bill that the House did. The JBC will then sit as a conference committee to sort out the differences.

Constructing the budget is hard work! You can't please everyone. The JBC and its staff are to be commended.

BUDGETING IN COLORADO: WHO? WHEN? HOW?

In most states, the executive branch initiates the main appropriation bill for its operations. In Colorado, the General Assembly (Legislature) has a permanent Joint Budget Committee (JBC), which writes the annual appropriations bill, called the Long Bill. The JBC has six members – three from each house (two majority members and one minority member) – and a nonpartisan staff of 16. The members of the JBC also are members of their respective Appropriation Committees. The Chairman of the committee and the introduction of the bill alternate each year between the House and Senate. Charged with analyzing the fiscal needs of each department of the state governments, the JBC holds hearings and reviews the executive budget requests for each state agency. The Colorado Constitution requires a balanced budget.

Colorado has an annual budget cycle with the fiscal year beginning July 1 and ending June 30. During the summer and early fall, departments submit budget proposals to the Governor's Office of State Planning and Budgeting (OSPB). The Governor and his staff review the budget requests and adjust each department based on the Governor's priorities. On November 1, the Governor's budget request is submitted to the JBC. At the same time, departments also submit their budget request to the JBC. The JBC then schedules briefings with the

departments during November and December before the General Assembly convenes in early January. All briefings and hearings are open to the public and are also taped. For the 2012 session, archived tapes of hearings were made easily available to the public. Go to www.leg.state.co.us; under “session information,” select “audio and video broadcasts.”

In January, the Committee considers request from departments for funding changes, called supplementals for the current fiscal year. In order for the state to have a balanced budget and to be within General Fund spending limits, the JBC may also need to find areas in the budget where funds can be taken back. When revenue shortfalls occur, the Governor must ask departments to restrict spending in order for the state to stay within projected revenues. The JBC, after considering these requests, prepares and introduces supplemental appropriation bills, which are acted on by the General Assembly.

By February 1, the General Assembly must certify the amount of revenue available to the General Fund for appropriations for the next fiscal year. However, final budget proposal is now commonly delayed until the revenue estimate for March is received. The estimate of those funds is made by economists working on the non-partisan Legislative Council staff; the Governor’s Officer of State Planning and budgeting (OSPB) also submits its economic analysis.

Upon introduction of the Long Bill in late March, legislative consideration begins in the party caucuses. Members discuss what changes they will propose. Those are offered as amendments and are voted on by the entire House and/or Senate. After passage by both houses, the bill is sent to the Governor for his signature. The Governor has line-item veto power but no authority to amend appropriations in the bill. During the summer and fall, the JBC meets once a month for two to three days to review where revenues stand relative to the budget. This has been important in recent years when revenues fell short of projections and budget, and cuts had to be made during the year. Members tour areas of the state to receive input on budget and management issues. Then in November the whole thing starts all over again.

Obstacles to Budget Planning: In 1992, Colorado voters passed the Taxpayers Bill of Rights (TABOR). TABOR limits increased state spending each year to inflation plus population growth and requires all revenue that exceeds the spending limits to be refunded to the taxpayers in the next fiscal year. TABOR does allow for the retention of excess revenue with voter approval. All tax increases and new taxes, but not fees, are also subject to voter approval. In the last 7-8 years, the General Assembly and the people (voting on referred measures) have relaxed some of the revenue and spending limitations of TABOR. However, since 2008, revenues have not kept up with spending authority, much less needs. Constitutional Amendment 23, passed, in 2000, mandates K-12 education to be funded at the rate of inflation plus 1%. Sentencing laws result in the building and staffing of prisons. Federal mandates for Medicaid also hinder budget building. We also have the 1982 Gallagher Amendment, structuring the collection of property taxes, which affects school financing.

The State Budget consists of four parts. **Federal Funds** are exempt from TABOR. **Cash Funds** are fees for services such as the gasoline tax for highways. **Cash Funds Exempt** are funds exempt from TABOR such as the Tobacco Settlement and unused Cash Fund. The **General Fund (GF)** consists of revenue from income and sales taxes, plus some excise tax including cigarette tax. It is used for the operation of the state and its programs such as education and human services. The GF – less than half of the total state budget – is the only part of the budget that must be approved the General Assembly and signed by the Governor.

Karen Knutson, 303.674.7686
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GOVERNMENT

ELECTIONS

ELECTION BILL PI'D

SB 109 Maintenance Regular List Registered Electors (Sen. Johnston; Rep. Coram) (support)

This bipartisan bill was heard in House Local Government Committee on Wednesday, March 28th. League was pleased with the aspect of the bill that would change the status "Inactive-Failed to Vote" to "Active," thus no longer penalizing voters for their failure to vote in even one General Election. Denver's Director of Elections presented in detail the cost savings to Denver if the bill were to pass. Everyone who testified, including the Clerk and Recorders from Eagle and Pueblo and Mesa (by letter) Counties were in favor of the bill.

The Secretary of State, however, had a very different analysis of the costs, indicating that in fact the cost in Arapahoe and El Paso Counties would increase. Apparently those clerks submitted letters, along with letters from Weld and Morgan Counties, but no one from any of these counties was present. The hearing conformed to the letter of GAVEL, in that the bill was heard and opponents and proponents had opportunities to speak. However, those speaking in favor were limited to only a couple of minutes, ostensibly because the hearing room needed to be vacated for another committee. However, the Secretary of State, appearing in opposition, was allowed 31 minutes to insist that with so much variance and disagreement between clerks and recorders, it would be ill advised to make changes during a Presidential election year. It was disturbing that when a committee member requested that the Pueblo C&R have an opportunity to react to the different numbers in the Secretary's analysis, the request was denied. The vote to PI the bill was 6 – 5: Balmer, Conti, Gardner, Swerdfeger, Szabo, and Bradford for; Hullinghorst, Labuda, Lee, Pace, and Soper against. Part of this bill may be resurrected as amendments to HB 1267 (see next article).

Previously reported LL#3, p. 21; LL#4, p. 36; LL#6, p. 56.

VOTING IMPROVEMENTS FOLLOW STRANGE PATHS

HB 1267 Various Elections Procedures Mailing Stubs Timing (Rep. Coram; Sen. Grantham)

(support) is a bill designed to cut the costs of pre-election procedures. When the original bill was amended to maintain early voting, the League changed to a support position. We were also happy to see the change that allowed Clerks, at their discretion, to send out information cards by either forwardable or nonforwardable mail. The bill was scheduled to be heard in Senate State Affairs on April 2, but the sponsor asked at the last minute that the bill be killed. The Committee voted 5-0 to postpone the bill indefinitely. However, the Committee voted on April 4 to reconsider the bill, essentially reversing the vote to postpone indefinitely. The bill will be heard in Senate State Affairs on April 9, where portions of SB 109 (whose House sponsor, Rep. Coram, is also the House sponsor of this bill), to allow electors who did not vote in just one general election to remain on the active list, are expected to be added to the bill.

Previously reported LL#3, p. 21; LL#5, p. 45; LL#6, p. 56

Both reported by Carol Tone 303.377.3746

JUSTICE SYSTEM

RATIONAL SENTENCES FOR DRUG POSSESSION ADVANCE

SB 163 Reduce Penalty Certain Drug Abuse Offenses (Sens. Mitchell and Steadman; Reps. Beezley and Levy) (support) reduces from felony to misdemeanor some drug possession offenses and reduces others to less serious felonies. The changes mean different sentences, which saves money. This builds on work done in 2010 (HB10-1352, supported by League). The bill directs that the savings are to be used for treatment programs for these drug offenses, and that treatment options be developed using the best practices available.

The bill was heard in Senate Judiciary Committee on March 28. Supporters include the Colorado

Criminal Justice Reform Coalition, Independence Institute, Colorado Association of Drug and Alcohol Service Providers, Colorado Behavioral HealthCare Council, ACLU, Colorado Criminal Defense Bar, Libertarian Party, and individuals who have conducted academic studies on drug addiction. All testified that treatment for drug possession was more likely than incarceration to help addicts get off drugs and reorient their lives away from those temptations.

Opposition came primarily from Sheriffs, and District Attorneys and the Attorney General. The bill would, in fact, shift costs initially to counties and Sheriff Departments, and most are already stretched thin as a result of falling tax revenues from the recession and 20 years of TABOR restrictions. The increased activity in methamphetamine, particularly in rural areas of the state, is accompanied by other crimes and the rural areas have less budgetary and time flexibility to deal with these problems.

Since the bill moves money around, it was referred to Senate Finance Committee on a Vote of 5-2. Voting yes: Giron, Guzman, Lundberg, Nicholson, Carroll. Voting no: Roberts, S. King. Senate Finance will hear the bill on Tuesday, April 10.

Previously reported LL#6, p. 58.

Chris Watson 303.250.1796

JUVENILE JUSTICE

LANDMARK DIRECT FILE BILL GOES TO GOVERNOR

HB 1271 Juvenile Direct File Limitations (Rep. Nikkel and McCann, Levy; Sen. Giron and Neville) passed 2nd reading in the Senate on April 4 following a lengthy, passionate debate. A 2nd reading amendment was introduced, but it failed to pass. Because HB 1271 was the only bill to be heard on second reading at that time, the vote to adopt the report of the Committee of the Whole was a vote for the bill. The vote was 24 to 11.

The following day (April 5) the bill passed 3rd reading but not without another effort to amend the bill and more passionate debate. That amendment failed by a vote of 17 yes votes and 18 no votes.

The final vote to pass the bill was 22 yes votes and 13 no votes.

The passage of this bill is a significant victory for the many groups and individuals who have worked for years to reform our direct file statute. In 2008 a direct file reform bill, HB08-1208, passed the legislature in spite of vigorous opposition from district attorneys. However, it was vetoed by Governor Ritter who is a former district attorney. HB 1271 now goes to Governor Hickenlooper for his signature. It is hoped that he will sign it.

Previously reported LL#3, p. 24; LL#5, p. 48; LL#6, p. 58.

Carla Bennett 303.757.2930

Senate Vote

YES	22	NO	13	EXCUSED	0	ABSENT	0
Aguilar	Y	Guzman	Y	Lambert	N	Scheffel	N
Bacon	Y	Harvey	N	Lundberg	Y	Schwartz	Y
Boyd	Y	Heath	Y	Mitchell	N	Spence	Y
Brophy	N	Hodge	Y	Morse	Y	Steadman	Y
Cadman	N	Hudak	Y	Neville	Y	Tochtrop	Y
Carroll	Y	Jahn	Y	Newell	Y	White	N
Foster	Y	Johnston	N	Nicholson	Y	Williams S.	Y
Giron	Y	King K.	N	Renfro	N	President	Y
Grantham	N	King S.	N	Roberts	N		

VOTING RIGHTS

DEFEATED FOR ANOTHER YEAR

HB 1111 Photo Identification for Voting (Reps. Szabo and Summers) (oppose) was heard over a nearly four-hour period on April 4th in Senate State Affairs. There were a large number of people in the room who planned to testify, and some got unruly early into the hearing. Senator Heath called for a five-minute “time-out” and instructed the crowd that such behavior was entirely unacceptable. Nearly all the people who testified in favor of the bill mentioned their support of the amendment which had been added on the floor of the House: referring the bill to the ballot for the November election. The League believes in representative government and that the legislature, along with the Governor’s office, is the best place for determining public policy in a representative democracy. Heath, Bacon and Boyd voted to PI the bill while Neville and Grantham were opposed.

Previously reported LL#2, p. 14; LL#3, p. 37; LL#6, p. 59.

Carol Tone 303.377.3746

NATURAL RESOURCES

ENERGY

REORGANIZATION ADVANCES

HB 1315 Reorganization of the Governor's Energy Office (Rep. Becker; Sen. Steadman) (watch) passed out of the House Committee on Agriculture, Livestock & Natural Resources and was referred to House Appropriations, with significant amendments, on an 11 to 2 vote (Jones and Ryden voting No). The bill also passed Appropriations with amendments. Voting to send the bill to the full House: DelGrosso, Gardner, A. Kerr, Looper, Solano, Sonnenberg, Vaad, Gerou, Becker. Voting No: Ferrandino, Hullinghorst, Levy, Pabon.

We had opposed the bill in part because of reductions to the Weatherization Program. These funds were restored in the amendment process. However we want to be certain that the final version of the bill will assure that Colorado continues to have a strong energy policy office which is adequately financed. Our position has been changed to "watch."

The bill is calendared for second reading on Tuesday, April 10.

Previously reported LL#6, p. 62.

Sigrid Higdon 303.233.8111

WATER

PROTECTION FOR WATER

NEW SB 107 Protect Water Oil Gas Operations Fracking (Sen. Carroll; Rep. Wilson) (support) proposes additional protections for water relating to hydraulic fracturing. It would enact the "Water Rights Protection Act" where the COGCC must establish rules for hydraulic fracturing near radioactive materials and sites and shut-down of operations when monitoring equipment detects a pressure drop. It would also require oil and gas operators to submit water quantity reports showing projected and actual sources and amounts of water needed for hydraulically fracturing a well. Operators would also have to submit pre and post

fracturing water quality reports for all active water wells located within .5 mile of oil and gas wells. Although this bill was introduced early in the session, it has not been calendared for Senate Judiciary at this time, and may be awaiting results of a study that are due shortly.

Jeannette Hillery 303.494.7718

SOCIAL POLICY

CHILDREN'S ISSUES

OFFICE OF EARLY CHILDHOOD ADVANCES

SB 130 Governance of Child Development Programs (Sens. Newell & Hodge; Reps. Massey & Hamner) (support) The purpose of this bill is to create a new administration for programs delivering services to young children and their families. It will consolidate these services and focus their administration under one umbrella administration. The bill passed the Senate Committee on Health and Human Services and went to the Committee of the Whole after being considered by Appropriations. Some comments in the Senate reflected a fear that agencies were being given the authority to intrude into the life of families in order to control family interaction. The body of the bill does not propose any change in the authority of agencies and does not extend their outreach.

Senate Bill 130 has been assigned to the House Committee on State, Veterans, and Military Affairs but has not yet been calendared.

Previously reported LL#4, p. 38.

Roberta Long-Twyman 303.377.9193

Senate Vote

YES	23	NO	12	EXCUSED	0	ABSENT	0
Aguilar	Y	Guzman	Y	Lambert	N	Schettel	N
Bacon	Y	Harvey	N	Lundberg	N	Schwartz	Y
Boyd	Y	Heath	Y	Mitchell	N	Spence	Y
Brophy	N	Hodge	Y	Morse	Y	Steadman	Y
Cadman	N	Hudak	Y	Neville	N	Tochtrop	Y
Carroll	Y	Jahn	Y	Newell	Y	White	Y
Foster	Y	Johnston	Y	Nicholson	Y	Williams S.	Y
Giron	Y	King K.	N	Renfroe	N	President	Y
Grantham	N	King S.	N	Roberts	Y		

HIGHER EDUCATION

HIGHER EDUCATION BILL KEEPS MOVING

SB 45 Higher Ed Associate Degree Transfer Students (Sens. Hudak & King, K.; Reps. Massey & Field) (support) This bill proposes to allow students who have not completed a two-year degree program before moving on to a four-year institution to be able to do so when he/she has the appropriate number of credit hours. Again there was unanimous support in the House of Representatives to pass the bill with a vote of yes-62 and no-0 and excused – 3 (DelGrosso, Miklosi and McNulty) on March 27, 2012. The Senate concurred with House amendments, and the bill is on its way to the Governor. Previously reported LL#2, p. 18; LL#4, p. 40; LL#6, p. 60.

Barbara Whinery 970.353.6731

EDUCATION

K-12 SCHOOL FUNDING 2012

NEW The 2012 School Finance Act, **HB 1345 Financing of Public Schools (Rep. Massey; Sen. Bacon) (watch)**, maintains K-12 funding at last year's level, adds \$1 million to the \$5 million per year charter schools receive for capitol construction (a 20% increase), and gives \$1.3 million to rural schools to implement state education reforms. It also adds a classification to "children with disabilities"--children 3-8 years old who have been determined to be experiencing developmental delays.

Due to increasing state revenues, the legislature is able to add \$57 million more to the school funding bucket than originally thought, preventing further cuts. The additional funding to help rural school districts pay for state mandates such as the teacher and principal effectiveness evaluations partially addresses concerns LWVCO has had with that and similar unfunded legislation.

The bill will be heard in House Education on Monday, April 9. Adjustments will clearly be made as it moves through the legislative process.

Sally Augden 303.455.5800

WAITING FOR AMENDMENTS

HB 1238 Ensuring K-3 Literacy Education (Reps. Massey and Hamner; Sens. Johnston and Spence) (oppose) was introduced in the Senate and assigned to State Veterans and Military Affairs, whose vice-chair is also the chair of the Senate Education Committee. There has been discussion about amendments to be added in committee, but no specifics are yet available. It has not yet been calendared.

Previously reported LL#3, p. 20; LL#6, p. 61.

Sally Augden 303.455.5800

HEALTH CARE

PAYMENT ASSISTANCE BILL ADVANCES

SB 134 Hospital Payment Assistance Program (Sen. Aguilar; Rep. Acree) (support) This bill provides greater transparency in hospital billing and establishes requirements around hospital charity care programs. Introduced in the Senate, the bill was referred to Health and Human Services, where, after amendments, the bill garnered the support of the Colorado Hospital Association, and passed the committee unanimously. Introduced as a bi-partisan bill in the House, the bill was assigned to Health and Environment, where it was heard on March 29. Opening with testimony from the Hospital Association in support of the bill, and followed by all supportive testimony, the bill again passed committee review unanimously. Referred to the COW, the bill passed second reading of the House on April 5.

Previously reported: LL#4, p. 41; LL#5, p. 52.

Carol Pace 303.751.4125

CONSCIENCE VS. HEALTH CARE

NEW SM 3 Respect for Rights of Conscience Act of 2011 (Sen. Neville) (oppose) is a proposal that the Colorado State Senate send a letter to the President of the US urging him to provide an effective and comprehensive religious conscience exemption from a requirement to cover health care services (directly or through health insurance policies) that are contrary to the religious beliefs

and practices of certain faiths. The proposal was driven by the controversy over whether or not employers, such as hospitals, that are associated with the Roman Catholic Church, should provide coverage for contraception to employees who may or may not be members of the Church.

League opposes such restrictions based on its health care position calling for comprehensive and quality health care available to all. The issue goes much further than reproductive matters, however. The full title of the Memorial includes the phrase “effective and comprehensive” exemption. Should legislation be enacted to follow the letter of the request in SM 3, it would be possible for employers or insurance carriers to deny coverage for ANY treatment or procedure that was deemed to violate a religious practice or belief. These might include: hospice care and end of life directives, blood transfusions, treatments for mental health problems, treatments for smoking or alcohol related illnesses, or, in some cases, any medical intervention. Once a law is in place, its application is not limited to the controversy that sparked it.

Unusual for a memorial, SM 3 was assigned to be heard in committee. The Senate State Affairs Committee took testimony on March 26 and passed the memorial to the floor for second reading by a vote of 3-2. Voting in favor: Boyd, Grantham, Neville. Voting against: Bacon, Heath.

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INCOME ASSISTANCE

MORE PILOT PROGRAMS

SB 139 Coordination of Work Support Assistance (Sen. Boyd) (support) has been completely changed, except in its intent to improve outcomes for families working toward self-sufficiency. A strike-below amendment offered by the sponsor creates a Colorado Job Support Program Committee to advise the Dept. of Human Services on awarding grants for pilot programs that address goals such as job retention, mitigation of the cliff effect, financial literacy, and effective case management. The state treasurer is authorized to

receive gifts, grants and donations for a new Colorado Job Support Fund.

Amended in Health and Human Services and sent to Appropriations. Voting yes: Aguilar, Foster, Nicholson, White, Newell, Boyd. No: Lundberg, Mitchell, Roberts. Previously reported: LL #4, p. 41.

Julie Leonard 720.384.8421

A BLOW TO WELFARE STEREOTYPES

HB 1046 Colorado Works Program Drug Testing Requirement (Rep. Sonnenberg; Sen. Brophy) (oppose) was amended in Appropriations to require annual drug tests by all elected state officials, by extension of the argument that if people are receiving state money, the state should make sure they’re not spending the money on drugs. The bill was defeated on Second Reading in the House, as Representatives recognized the experience of other states that have passed similar bills to require drug testing of applicants for welfare: it costs money but brings no demonstrable benefits.

Previously reported by Carol Pace: LL#3, p. 29.

Julie Leonard 720.384.8421

CHILD CARE ASSISTANCE IMPROVED

SB 22 Maintain Child Care Assistance Working Families (Sen. William S.; Rep. Massey) (support) addresses the “cliff effect” created when Colorado Works participants start earning wages, only to lose their child care assistance, which drops them back below the poverty line. As amended in the Senate, SB 22 sets up a pilot program for counties to taper off child care assistance over two years to see if that helps keep families moving forward toward self-sufficiency. The House adopted the bill unanimously (excused: DelGrosso, Miklosi, McNulty). The bill now goes to the Governor.

Previously reported: LL#2, p. 18; LL#3, p. 28; LL#5, p. 51; LL#6, p. 63.

Julie Leonard 720.384.8421

STATUS SHEET

The Status Sheet is a constantly updated list of bills being followed by Legislative Action Committee members.

New bills are in **boldface**.

S=Support O=Oppose SIP=Support in Part OIP=Oppose in Part W=Watch or Monitor

POLICY AREA	S/H	BILL #	BILL TITLE	S/O	PAGE	STATUS
Children's Issues	SB	11	Child Abuse Differential Response Program	S	26,60	Signed
Children's Issues	SB	33	Child Fatality Reviews	S	8,26,49,60	To Gov
Children's Issues	SB	64	Colorado Children's Trust Fund	S	26,39	Signed
Children's Issues	SB	66	Guardianship Program Eligibility	S	15, 26,60	To Gov
Children's Issues	SB	99	Expand Access To Academic Model Juvenile Facility	OIP	27,39,60	To Gov
Children's Issues	SB	130	Governance Of Child Development Programs	S	38,71	H-SVM
Children's Issues	HB	1047	Non-safety Licensing Standards Kinship Foster Care	S	39	Signed
Education	SB	46	Discipline In Public Schools	S	15,40,49	S-APP
Education	SB	103	At-risk Funding Formula Charter School & District	S	39	S-ED
Education	HB	1238	Ensuring K-3 Literacy Education	O	20,61,72	S-SVM
Education	HB	1345	Financing Of Public Schools	W	72	H-Ed & APP
Elections	SB	109	Maintenance Regular List Regis Electors	S	21,36,56,69	PI'd
Elections	SB	135	Secretary of State Post Election Returns Online	S	35	S-APP
Elections	SB	147	Prohibit False Election Info Made To Deter Voting	S	22,35,5	PI'd
Elections	SB	155	Transparency of Elections & CORA	W	44,56	S-2nd Rdg
Elections	HB	1024	Plain Language For Ballot Titles	S	7, 46	PI'd
Elections	HB	1076	Additional Voluntary Info On Initiative Petitions	W	7	PI'd
Elections	HB	1089	Specific Wording Relating To Statewide Ballot Title	S	13,22,46	Signed
Elections	HB	1143	Adjust County Reimbursement Rate For Elections	S	22	H-APP
Elections	HB	1267	Various Elections Procedures Mailings Stubs Timing	O	21,45,56,69	S-SVM
Elections	HB	1279	Public Financing Of Legislative Campaigns	S	35,56	PI'd
Elections	HB	1292	Update Election Law Administration Timing Process	S	46,55	S-SVM
Elections	HB	1313	Statewide Initiative Title Board Procedures	S	35,57	S-SVM
Energy	HB	1105	Wind Energy Property Rights	W	59	S-2nd Rdg
Energy	HB	1121	PUC Hearings Utility Ratepayers Bill of Rights	O	49	PI'd
Energy	HB	1160	Captured Methane From Coal Mines	S	14,59	S-2nd Rdg
Energy	HB	1164	Require Disclosure Severed Mineral Estate	S	14	PI'd
Energy	HB	1173	Protect Pub Health Oil & Gas Hydraulic Fracturing	S	25	PI'd
Energy	HB	1176	Oil Gas Surface Owner Horizontal Drilling Setbacks	S	15, 25	PI'd
Energy	HB	1277	Local Control Oil Gas Regulation	S	25,38	PI'd
Energy	HB	1315	Reorganization Of Governor's Energy Office	OIP	62,71	H-2nd Rdg
Equal Opportunity	SB	2	Civil Unions	S	7,40	S-APP
Fiscal Policy	SB	83	Dynamic Modeling For Fiscal Impact Of Bills	S	23	S-FIN
Fiscal Policy	HB	1039	Pay-as-you-go Requirements	S	23	PI'd
Fiscal Policy	HB	1029	Economic Stimulus Personal Property Tax Exemption	S	47,57	Signed
Fiscal Policy	HB	1075	Six Percent General Fund Appropriation Limit	O	32	H-APP
Fiscal Policy	HB	1241	Review Enterprise Zone Designations	S	33,57	To LC
Fiscal Policy	HB	1287	Adjust Value of Senior Property Tax Exemption	W	33	PI'd
Government	SB	27	Committee Of Reference Review Of Rules	O	12	S-APP
Government	HB	1008	GA & Public Input Proposed Agency Rules & Fees	S	12,21,34,55	H-Concur
Government	HB	1234	Allow Customers To Be Heard in PUC Proceedings	S	35	PI'd
Gun Control	SB	25	Concealed Handgun Carry With No Permit	O	13	PI'd
Gun Control	HB	1048	End CBI Instacheck Duty For Firearm Transfers	O	13,23,48	H-2nd Rdg
Gun Control	HB	1064	Firearm Possession During State Of Emergency	O	13,23,36,47	PI'd
Gun Control	HB	1088	Deadly Force Against Intruder At Place Of Business	O	36, 47	PI'd

Gun Control	HB	1092	Concealed Handgun Carry Without Permit	O	13,23,37	H-JUD
Health Care	SM	3	Respect For Rights Of Conscience Act Of 2011	O	73	COW
Health Care	SB	23	Improve Eligible Persons Access To PACE Program	W	28	To Gov
Health Care	SB	32	Medicaid Reform Seek Federal Waiver	O	8,28	PI'd
Health Care	SB	53	Colorado Health Benefit Exchange Repeal	O	16, 28, 54	PI'd
Health Care	SB	60	Improve Medicaid Fraud Prosecution	W	17,55	H-HE
Health Care	SB	65	Prior Authorization Form Prescription Drugs	S	16,55	S-HHS
Health Care	SB	93	Notice Of Hosp Serv Not Provided Religious Grounds	S	16,41,51,63	PI'd
Health Care	SB	108	Medicaid Dental Services Pregnant Women	S	27	S-APP
Health Care	SB	134	Hospital Payment Assistance Program	S	41,52,55,72	H-3rd Rdg
Health Care	HB	1017	Extend Local Access Health Care Pilot	S	17,55	S-2nd Rdg
Health Care	HB	1052	Health Care Work Force Data Collection	S	27,55	H-Concur
Health Care	HB	1054	Simplify Procurement DHCPF Health Care Providers	S	28,55	Signed
Health Care	HB	1065	Deadline Advan Prac Nurse Retain Prescriptive Auth	W	16	Signed
Health Care	HB	1281	Medicaid Payment Reform Pilot Program	S	51,55	H-2nd Rdg
Higher Education	SB	15	Creating Optional Category Of Higher Ed Tuition	S	9,17,40	S-3rd Rdg
Higher Education	SB	45	Higher Ed Associate Degree Transfer Students	S	18,40,60,72	To Gov
Higher Education	HB	1072	Higher Ed Prior Learning Assessments	W	18,40,50,61	Signed
Higher Education	HB	1155	Improvements In College Completion	S	61	H-APP
Higher Education	HB	1252	Transparency Of Higher Ed Financial Information	O	50	H-APP
Income Assistance	SB	22	Maintain Child Care Assistance Working Families	S	18,28,51,63,73	To Gov
Income Assistance	SB	139	Coordination Of Work Support Assistance	S	41	S-APP
Income Assistance	HB	1028	Continue Low-income Energy-related Assistance	S	9,18,29,51,62	Signed
Income Assistance	HB	1046	Colorado Works Program Drug Testing Requirement	O	2973	Lost
Income Assistance	HB	1152	Economic Opportunity Poverty Reduction Task Force	S	29,41	PI'd
Income Assistance	HB	1253	Low-income Property Expenses Assistance Grants	S	34,63	PI'd
Income Assistance	HB	1320	Energy-related Assistance Low-income Households	W	62	H-Ag
Income Assistance	HB	1326	Concerning Assistance To The Elderly.	S	63	H-2nd Rdg
Justice System	SB	163	Reduce Penalty Certain Drug Abuse Offenses	S	58,69	S-FIN
Juvenile Justice	SB	28	Aggravated Juvenile Offender	S	24	S-App
Juvenile Justice	HB	1139	Pretrial Detention Of Children Tried As Adults	S	13,37,48	Signed
Juvenile Justice	HB	1271	Juvenile Direct File Limitations	S	24,48,58,70	To Gov
Reproductive Choice	HB	1100	Pregnancy & Evidence Of Substance Use	S	25,37	Signed
Reproductive Choice	HB	1130	First Degree Murder Of Unborn Child	O	24,37,58	S-JUD
Voting Rights	SB	62	Voting By Military Personnel	S	14, 25	To Gov
Voting Rights	HB	1111	Photo Identification For Voting	O	14,37,59,70	PI'd
Voting Rights	HB	1298	Voter Preregistration At 16	S	37, 48	PI'd
Water	SB	9	Consolidate Div Water Resources Funds	S	7,15,26	H-App
Water	SB	17	Prohibit Water Quality Standards Regs Nutrients	W	8, 26	PI'd
Water	SB	107	Protect Water Oil Gas Operations Fracking	S	71	S-JUD
Water	HB	1003	Authorize Graywater Use	W	8,15,26	PI'd
Water	HB	1126	On-site Wastewater Treatment Systems	S	25,38	Lost
Water	HB	1161	Nutrients Scientific Advisory Bd. Water Quality	O	15,38	H-3rd Rdg

The Legislative Letter is written by the members of the Legislative Action Committee, edited by Frank Bennett and Chris Watson, and published by the Colorado League of Women Voters every two weeks during the Legislative Session. To subscribe, please contact the League Office at 303-863-0437 for information about rates and delivery methods.