

**Legislative Letter**

**League of Women Voters of Colorado**

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May 21, 2018

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## **2018 LEGISLATIVE WRAP-UP**

### **Legislative Action Committee League of Women Voters of Colorado**

#### **Committee Members**

##### **League Leadership**

*Toni Larson, LWVCO President*

*Jeannette Hillary, Legislative Action Chair*

*Deborah Gard, Chair Elect*

*Andrea Wilkins, Legislative Liaison*

*Gerry Cummins, Vice-President for Voter Service*

*Frank Bennett, Legislative Letter Editor*

##### **Contributors/Advocates:**

*Sally Augden, P-12 Education*

*Carla Bennett, Children's Issues & Juvenile Justice*

*J. Fern Black, Government Administration*

*Leslie Chomic, Reproductive Freedom*

*Jean Fredlund, Redistricting*

*Jean Grattet, Gun Safety*

*Sigrid Higdon, Energy*

*Jeannette Hillery, Natural Resources*

*Celeste Landry, Elections*

*Angie Layton*

*Carol Pace, Health Care*

*Lucinda Schneller, Justice System*  
*Amy Sherwood, Environmental Quality*  
*Carol Tone, Elections & Voting Rights*  
*Christine Watson, Fiscal Policy*  
*Barb Whinery, Higher Ed*

## **OVERVIEW**

**Andrea Wilkins**

One word that has frequently been used to describe the 2018 legislative session is “strange.” There was good news to be found in a positive economic forecast. This made finalizing the state budget easier than in the past, with passage of HB 1322 (Long Appropriation Act) in April. And compromise resulted in major investments in our state’s transportation infrastructure, which was cited as a priority by Democrats and Republicans alike. But the persistent sexual harassment claims against several lawmakers of both parties and the third-party investigations that accompanied them impacted work at the capitol and caused the legislature to confront some difficult issues. An expulsion vote was taken up against Rep. Steve Lebsack and Sen. Randy Baumgardner. Lebsack was expelled. Baumgardner was not. Allegations against both were found to be credible. Lebsack switched his party affiliation from Democrat to Republican shortly before the expulsion vote, allowing Republicans to fill his seat. Democrats were critical of Senate Republicans’ failure to hold fellow Republican Baumgardner accountable and blamed partisan politics for the different treatment. Democrat Lucia Guzman relinquished her position as Senate Minority Leader before her term expired at the end of the session, citing frustration over her colleagues’ handling of sexual harassment allegations in their chamber. An independent investigation found that sexual harassment is prevalent within the legislature but is rarely reported. Lawmakers will explore reforms to their reporting and disciplinary policies in the interim, all of this is occurring within the context of the #metoo movement and shifting attitudes in society toward sexual harassment and our responses to it.

Nevertheless, there still was a lot of activity at the capitol. A total of 721 bills were introduced, 432 of which were passed. LWVCO followed approximately 90 bills in the areas of voting and elections, campaign finance, government, gun control, bills relating to our justice system, environment and natural resources, and a number of social policy issues. The LAC researched, studied and provided testimony on several measures that impact LWVCO policy positions. Of particular focus was SCR 004 and SCR 005 dealing with Congressional and legislative redistricting.

Investments in our roads, bridges, and transit system were accomplished via SB 001 (Transportation Infrastructure Funding) which was introduced the first day of the 2018 session and finally passed one day before the session adjourned. The bill was the subject of much debate and compromise that ultimately resulted in a \$645 million allocation for transportation projects over the next two years. The bill also authorized a referred measure that seeks voter approval of approximately \$2.3 billion in transportation bonds in 2019.

Republican control of the Senate and Democratic control of the House made compromise necessary throughout the session and generally prevented the passage of more partisan measures. Given the fact that 2018 is an election year, however, change could be around the corner.

# GOVERNMENT

## ELECTIONS AND VOTING RIGHTS

Carol Tone and Celeste Landry

### November Ballot Issue:

As a result of **HCR 1001**, the Colorado electorate will vote on whether or not future ballots may compact judicial contests together with a single question and yes/no voting for each judge rather than using ballot space to repeat the question for each judicial contest.

### Cleaning up Election Language:

The governor signed two bills cleaning up statutory election language that flew through both houses: the bipartisan omnibus **SB 233 Elections Clean Up** and **HB 1039 Change Date of Special District Elections**. LWVCO also commented on Secretary of State rule updates regarding Colorado's new risk-limiting audits piloted in 2017; this year's primary election will include the first statewide contest to undergo a risk-limiting audit.

### Voting Rights:

Two new laws from this session focused on voting rights. LWVCO supported **SB150 Voter Registration** **Individuals Criminal Justice System** which sets up a structure to allow a person on parole to preregister to vote. **SB 076 Ban Vote Trading** was amended in the House to punish those who facilitate vote trading, e.g., operators of vote-trading websites, rather than individual voters.

### What Did Not Pass:

A few notable pieces of legislation did not pass. **HJR 1015** and **SJM 005 Free and Fair Elections** called for an Article V constitutional convention and were postponed indefinitely in their committees of origin. **HB 1318 Require Presidential Candidates Disclose Tax Return** on the Colorado ballot was a repeat bill from last year and was PI'd in Senate State Affairs. **HB 1033 Employee Leave to Participate in Elections** would have extended the time that employees may leave work to register, vote, etc. to any day polling locations are open, not just on Election Day.

## CAMPAIGN FINANCE

Deborah Gard

Unfortunately, it was not a good year (again) for campaign finance transparency bills. We only had three bills to follow: **HB 1047 Fair Campaign Practices Act Technical Changes** was a cleanup bill which passed and was signed by the Governor. Two other bills, **SB 75 Campaign Contribution Limits School District Director** was PI'd in Senate State Affairs [3-2](#) and **HB 1403 Stand by Your Ad Act** passed the House but was PI'd in Senate State Affairs on May 3 on a [3-2](#) vote.

## FISCAL POLICY

Christine Watson

Two major tax policy changes we followed both failed to find strong support – for better and for worse. **SB 61 Reduce State Income Tax** passed the Senate, but, as expected, did not live long in the House State Affairs Committee. It was postponed indefinitely on May 2 by a vote of [5-3-1](#). Keeping the income tax rate steady has raised revenue because of the way the federal tax reduction interacts with Colorado's flat tax based on federal

adjusted gross income. This created a small windfall for 2018-19 that is allowing some extra funding for K-12, PERA, and transportation.

That was for better. The “for worse” was the demise of **HB 1201 Severance Tax Voter Approved Revenue Change**, which would have asked voters vote to remove the severance tax from the revenue limitations of TABOR. Since severance tax receipts can be volatile, the bill would have enabled communities most impacted by mining, drilling, etc. activities to build reserves or plan for longer term projects when tax receipts are strong, carrying them over in times when receipts are weak. Other restrictions in the measure (like making it null and void if the legislature raided severance tax for general funds in a recession), as well as the prospect of a transportation tax measure on the 2018 ballot, combined to doom this change.

**HB 1298 Colorado Secure Savings Plan** was not a tax policy change, but did propose to help people access tax advantaged retirement savings accounts. It met its demise in a State Affairs Committee, this time in the Senate. It was postponed indefinitely by a vote of [3-2](#).

## **GUN SAFETY**

**Jean Grattet**

There was little new in the gun safety area this year. Multiple bills to repeal gun safety measures passed in previous years or to allow more possession and use of guns were introduced and defeated in the House. Bills in these categories included: **SB 52 Repeal Ammo Magazine Prohibition; SB 97 Concealed Handgun Carry With No Permit; SB 185 Deadly Force Against Intruder at A Business; HB 105 Repeal Ammo Magazine Prohibition; HB 1037 Concealed Handguns on School Grounds; and HB 1074 Deadly Force Against Intruder At A Business.**

Bills that League viewed as reasonable measures to improve gun safety were defeated in the Senate. These included: **SB 51 Prohibit Multi-burst Trigger Activators** and **HB 1436 Extreme Risk Protective Orders.**

The only bill that related to gun safety and passed was **HB 1077 Penalty for Burglary of Firearms**, which increased the penalties for stealing guns.

## **HEALTH CARE**

**Carol Pace**

This year there were health care bills that addressed behavioral health, transparency, cost and delivery systems. Although several opioid bills passed the legislature, there was little progress in other key health care legislation which addressed consumer interests.

Bills were introduced in both houses to stem the effects of an opioid crisis that is resulting in high rates of prescription and illicit opioid addiction and overdose deaths in Colorado.

Health care bills that passed:

In spite of significant opposition, these bills which League supported passed late in the session:

**HB 1003 Opioid Misuse Prevention**, a bill which commits funding to prevention programs and ongoing solutions to this epidemic;

**HB 1007 Substance Abuse Disorder & Payment Coverage**, a bill to streamline coverage for those seeking medical help;

**SB 022 Clinical Practice for Opioid Prescribing**, a bill limiting initial opioid prescriptions;

**SB 024 Expand Access to Behavioral Health Care Providers**, a bill addressing the shortage of behavioral health care professionals in rural and other underserved areas.

After prior years' efforts had failed to curb spiraling health care costs in free standing emergency rooms (FSERs), which affected consumers and insurers alike, a lone transparency bill passed:

**SB 146 Freestanding Emergency Departments Required Consumer Notices**, requiring FSERs to inform patients of costs and alternatives when they are receiving care.

Health care bills that League supported which failed:

Consumer voice:

**HB 1149 Sunset Continue Consumer Insurance Council**, a bill to continue a 15-year-old statewide consumer input committee to the Division of Insurance (DOI) was postponed indefinitely in the Senate Business Committee [5-2](#) without DOI support for this consumer voice, which included League representation.

Organizational legislation:

**HB 1118 Create Health Care Legislative Review Committee**, a bill to provide systematic review and organization to bills coming before the next legislative session was postponed indefinitely in Senate State Affairs on a vote of [3-2](#).

Health Care transparency:

**HB 1009 Diabetes Drug Pricing Transparency Act 2018** was postponed indefinitely in Senate State Affairs on a [3-2](#) vote.

**HB 1179 Prohibit Price Gouging of Prescription Drug** also failed, as Second Reading for this bill was laid over to August 31, 2018.

Health Care costs:

**SB 80 Wholesale Canadian Drug Importation Program** was a bill to provide competition to monopolistic profiteering in the prescription drug industry; **HB 1205 Financial Relief Defray Individual Health Care Costs**, would have provided premium relief to Colorado areas lacking insurer options and competition; and **HB 1212 Free Standing Emergency Room Licensure**, would have provided modest standards and regulation to the high healthcare cost driver of FSERs. All three of these bills were postponed indefinitely by the Senate State Affairs committee on a [3-2](#) vote.

## JUSTICE SYSTEM

**Lucinda Schneller and Carla Bennett**

We followed and supported four bills that make improvements to our criminal justice system. Two bills passed with bipartisan support and two were defeated.

**HB 1089** would have eliminated monetary bail for certain misdemeanors and made other changes related to bond hearing requirements and procedures. Far too many poor people remain in jail while awaiting their day in court just because they cannot afford bail. Unfortunately, the bill was postponed indefinitely in the Senate Committee of State, Veterans & Military Affairs on a [3-2](#) vote.

**HB 1029** lowers the length of mandatory parole for a class 3 felony and a nonviolent class 2 felony. Lowering the mandatory parole from five to three years will reduce parole caseloads resulting in a cost savings starting in 2027. The bill was signed by the Governor.

**SB 018** required the Colorado Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice (CCJJ) to contract for a study on best practices in criminal sentencing. The bill was postponed indefinitely in the Senate Appropriations Committee on a vote of [4-3](#).

We supported **HB 1287**, and it passed in the final days of the session. It extends the repeal date for the Colorado Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice until July 1, 2028. The commission was created by statute in 2007 and given the task of making recommendations for reform in our state’s criminal and juvenile justice systems. Many of its recommendations have been enacted, but more work remains to be done.

## **JUVENILE JUSTICE**

**Carla Bennett**

We followed and supported three juvenile justice bills this session. All of them passed and have been signed by the governor.

**HB 1050 Competency to Proceed Juvenile Justice System** creates a juvenile-specific definition of competency to proceed in the Colorado Children’s Code for youth involved in the juvenile justice system and clarifies the procedures for establishing incompetency as well as restoration of competency. It also creates definitions for “developmental disability,” “mental disability,” and “mental capacity.” The definition of “mental capacity” is important because it concerns the ability of the youth to understand the court process.

This bill is important because the Children’s Code does not have a definition of competency to proceed that is specific to juveniles. It simply refers to the adult definition in the criminal code. That fails to take into account the differences between children and adults.

**HB 1010 DHS Report Data & Add Members to Working Group** requires the Department of Human Services to annually calculate the recidivism rate and educational outcomes for juveniles who were committed to the Division of Youth Services (DYS) and have completed their sentences and have been discharged from DHS supervision. This data should help measure how successful the system is at rehabilitating the youth it serves. The bill also adds two important voices to the Youth Restraint and Seclusion Working Group – the Colorado Child Protection Ombudsman and a parent of a person who was once committed to the custody of DHS.

**SB 154 Juvenile Planning Committee Crossover Youth Plans** requires local juvenile services planning committees to create a plan for managing youth involved in the juvenile justice system who are also involved with or have been involved with the child welfare system. These crossover youth can present added challenges in terms of placement as well as a need for better coordination between the two systems.

## **TRANSPORTATION**

**Andrea Wilkins**

**SB 001 Transportation Infrastructure Funding** was the focus of intense debate and compromise until the final days of the legislative session. From the outset, support for transportation projects was identified as a top priority of the session by Democrats and Republicans alike. There was far less agreement over how much money, its source, and how it is allocated. The Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) estimates that there are \$9 billion in transportation infrastructure needs over the next several years and that \$20 billion is needed to keep up with the pace of growth in Colorado over the next 20 years.

In the end, the bill provides a total of \$645 million for transportation projects over the next two years--\$495 million this year and \$150 million the following year. Of this, 70 percent will be allocated for CDOT projects, 15 percent will be allocated for local projects and 15 percent will be allocated for multi-modal projects.

The bill also authorizes a referred measure that will ask the voters to approve \$2.33 billion in transportation bonds in 2019. If approved, 85 percent would be allocated to CDOT projects and the remainder would support multimodal projects. The bonds would be paid back over a 20 year period through the state general fund totaling \$122.6 million per year, \$50 million of which is new money, and the remainder is money that was authorized through previous legislation and through existing tax revenue. The referred measure could be cancelled if other ballot measures being considered by outside groups for the 2018 ballot, which would generate additional transportation funding, are passed.

## NATURAL RESOURCES

Jeannette Hillery, Amy Sherwood, and Sigrid Higdon

The hot topic bills dealt with oil & gas and additional industry regulation to protect the public (**HB 1071**), to provide disclosure around wellhead integrity (**HB 1419**), to increase distances of drilling operations from schools and other public places (**HB 1352**), and to increase reporting of oil & gas incidents (**HB 1157**). All of these bills, which the League supported, were killed in the Senate. All attempts to have more regulation in the oil and gas arena or in the climate arena were killed in the Senate. One Senate bill to restrict the governor from joining other alliances related to climate change, which the League opposed, was killed in the House. The arena is set for more bills next year, but with a new group of elected officials.

There were two significant energy bills passed this year. **SB 3** restored funding for the Colorado Energy Office after the funding for the office had failed in the 2017 session. **HB 1270** directs the Public Utilities Commission to establish rules for investor-owned utilities to file applications for rate-based energy storage systems of up to 15 megawatts. There has been much interest in Colorado in building large battery systems that will allow the storage of energy from renewable sources.

Among the energy bills that failed this year was **HB 1281** which would have set ethics standards for members of the Public Utilities Commission. **HB 1428** was a late bill that also failed. It would have allowed communities to collaborate with investor-owned utilities and would have created means for communities to negotiate their own energy resource mix. The bill was complex and in the words of the Senate sponsor, Senator Cooke, it was "Not ready for prime time." Sen. Cooke said it would be back next year after there has been time to rework it.

Climate Change legislation bills increased with a wider recognition of the problem this year. The House called for a Select Committee on Climate Responsibility. Emission reductions, renewable energy, resiliency, sustainability, and affordability were all topics covered in bills this year.

Significant bills included a bipartisan bill, **SB 9 Allow Electric Utility Customers Install Energy Storage Equipment**, which we supported, that was successful. However, **HB 1107 Prewire Residence for Electric Vehicle Charging Port**, which had our support, passed the House, but failed in the Senate.

**SB 47 Repeal Tax Credit Innovative Vehicles**, opposed by League again, failed in the House. Another bill we opposed, **SB 181**, lengthened the motor vehicle inspection cycle from 2 to 4 years. The bill increased emissions

enough that the state would need to update its plan to comply with the Federal Clean Air Act of the EPA. The bill never passed out of the Senate.

Three bills related to Climate Change had our support: **SB 64 Require 100% Renewable Energy by 2035** (postponed indefinitely in Senate Agriculture); **HB 1297** that would reduce greenhouse gas emissions to 25% of 2005 levels, which also included other deadlines for climate preparedness and resiliency; and **HB 1274 Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions by 2050** to 20% of 2005 levels, both which we supported in part, were postponed indefinitely in the Senate State Affairs on [3-2](#) votes.

In the world of water it was a fairly good year. The major bills, which dealt with reusing water for a variety of uses such as toilet flushing (**HB 1069**), use on industrial hemp (**SB 38**) and edible crops (**1093**) made it through both chambers and one has been signed. Marijuana cultivation (**HB 1053**) was killed. The ability to reuse water in a water-scarce state is necessary with the growing population and stretched resources.

## SOCIAL POLICY

### CHILDREN'S ISSUES

Carla Bennett

We followed and supported two child welfare bills this session and the results were mixed. **HB 1044 Colorado Children's Trust Fund Act** did not pass. It was sent to Senate State, Veterans, and Military Affairs where it was postponed indefinitely. It would have expanded the Children's Trust Fund Act by increasing the number of board members and expanding the duties of the board. It would have also allowed the grants from the trust fund to be used for programs to reduce the incidence of child abuse, child abuse deaths, and other adverse childhood experiences.

**HB 1319 Serv Successful Adulthood Former Foster Youth** did pass and has been sent to the Governor. It allows county departments of human or social services to provide supportive services to foster youth between the ages 18 and 21 who have exited the foster care system. It also requires the state Department of Human Services to create a former foster care youth steering committee which will be responsible for recommending a long-term implementation plan to support services that will help former foster youth transition successfully into adulthood. These youth often exit foster care into the real world without any support and many struggle with issues such as housing, education, employment, mental health care and substance abuse. With support they are more likely to become successful adults and contribute to the community. The steering committee will allow them to have a voice regarding the services they need.

### EDUCATION

Sally Augden

The big news items for education in the 2018 legislative session are the increase in funding for public schools and our legislators' restraint on mandating how districts will use their funding. **HB 1379 Public School Finance** sets total program funding for 2018-19 at \$7,088,776,230, an almost \$500 million increase over last year. The bill increases per-pupil funding \$222.57 to \$6,768.77, to reflect a 3.4% inflation rate. The budget stabilization factor (negative factor) is reduced by \$150 million from the 2017-18 level to \$672,396,894.

Changes to each district's funding can be found in Appendix A of the fiscal note:

[http://leg.colorado.gov/sites/default/files/documents/2018A/bills/fn/2018a\\_hb1379\\_r1.pdf](http://leg.colorado.gov/sites/default/files/documents/2018A/bills/fn/2018a_hb1379_r1.pdf).

A bill created by 171 of the state's 178 school superintendents to update the School Finance Formula and more equitably distribute state funds, **HB 1232 New School Funding Distribution Formula**, was postponed indefinitely early on in House Education Committee. The bill would have only gone into effect if Initiative #93 (Great Schools/Thriving Communities—supported by LWVCO) is passed by the voters in November and sufficient funds exist. Should the initiative pass, the 2019 legislature will have the opportunity to refine the distribution of those funds..

Two bills to provide state funding for all day kindergarten bit the dust once again. **SB 4 Funding for Full-day Kindergarten** and **HB 1088 Funding for Full-day Kindergarten** were both repeat efforts by the sponsors to support early childhood resources.

One out of three bills relating to contributions to 529 education savings accounts managed to pass. **HB 1217 Income Tax Credit for Employer 529 Contributions** gives employers a tax credit for contributions to employees' 529 accounts, in actuality giving the employers a double tax advantage (credit for the contribution and deduction for salary) and the employee would have to pay taxes on the contribution. An amendment to limit the credit to families with below median incomes to target the effort to the neediest families failed to come to a vote. The bill will sunset in 2020, and will be looked at again.

Neither **HB 1209 No 529 Acct Income Tax Deduction for K-12 Expenses** nor **HB 1221 Income Tax Deduction for 529 Acct K-12 Expenses** passed. These bills would have dealt with Congress's recent allowance of the use of 529 savings account funds for private K-12 education expenses as well as for higher education. HB 1209 would have disallowed the deduction in Colorado; HB 1221 supported that use. As it stands, Colorado Department of Revenue does not have clear direction on aligning state and federal deductions on these contributions .

An effort to give local school boards more control over charter schools in their districts **SB 118 Local School Board Authority over Charter Schools (support)** was postponed indefinitely early on. It took longer for the annual **SB 83 Education Income Tax Credits for Nonpublic School (oppose)** to be lost ( postponed indefinitely on a [7-6](#) vote in House Education Committee).

## EQUAL OPPORTUNITY

Andrea Wilkins

**HB 1256 Continue Civil Rights Division & Commission** was the subject of much debate and partisan bickering since the JBC initially failed to provide FY 2018-19 funding for the Division and Commission, which is responsible for enforcing the state's anti-discrimination laws. The bill was the subject of hearings in the House Judiciary Committee on February 13 and 20 during which the recommendations of the sunset review conducted by the Colorado Department of Regulatory Agencies were presented. The review concluded that the Commission and Division be reauthorized and should continue its functions through September 1, 2027. Democrats favored a clean reauthorization and passed the bill, without amendments, out of the House Judiciary Committee on a vote of 10-1. Republicans sought to make changes to the Commission's composition and although Democrats voted against amendments proposed by Republicans, an amended version of the bill ultimately passed out of the Senate Judiciary Committee on a vote of 5-0. The bill passed Third Reading in the Senate on April 30. The Senate amendments were rejected by the House and a conference committee was requested. The differences were resolved on the last day of the legislative session with both the Senate and House adopting the conference committee report and voting to repass the bill on May 9.

Under the compromise, the bill provides that the Commission's seven members will be appointed by the governor (which is consistent with the current appointment process), but requires that one member be a state or

local government representative, one member a majority owner of a business with five to fifty employees, one member a majority owner of a business with more than fifty employees, and one member represent a statewide chamber or organization. In addition, no more than three members can be from the same political party and one member must be unaffiliated with any political party or be a member of a minor political party. Performance audits of the Commission are permitted, and the bill provides that when the Senate rejects a nominee, that person is deemed ineligible to hold the office for the next two years.

## **HEALTH CARE**

### **Carol Pace**

This year there were health care bills that addressed behavioral health, transparency, cost and delivery systems. Although several opioid bills passed the legislature, there was little progress in other key health care legislation which addressed consumer interests.

Bills were introduced in both houses to stem the effects of an opioid crisis that is resulting in high rates of prescription and illicit opioid addiction and overdose deaths in Colorado.

### **HEALTH CARE BILLS THAT PASSED**

In spite of significant opposition, these bills which League supported passed late in the session:

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**HB 1007 Substance Abuse Disorder & Payment Coverage**, a bill to streamline coverage for those seeking medical help;

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**HB 1212 Free Standing Emergency Room Licensure**, a bill to provide modest standards and regulation to the high health-care cost driver of FSERs, was postponed indefinitely in Senate State Affairs [3-2](#).

## HIGHER EDUCATION

**Barbara Whinery**

Four bills were followed and supported by the LAC during the 2018 Legislative session. Three out of the four passed with bipartisan support, and one bill was postponed indefinitely.

Two bills that passed addressed the desperate need for teachers and support personnel in rural Colorado schools; both were an attempt to assist in retention and attraction of educators. **HB 1002 Rural School District Teaching Fellowship Programs** allows a rural school district and a public or private institution to enter into an agreement to provide a \$10,000 teaching fellowship program for students enrolled in the fourth year of their teacher education program. This “Grow Your Own Teacher” program pertains only to rural teachers wishing to complete a teacher education or alternative teacher education program. **SB 085 Financial Incentives for Education in Rural Areas** expands an existing program by the Department of Higher Education by increasing the number of financial stipends of \$6,000 each from 20 to 60 for teachers who are seeking national board certification, seeking certification through a concurrent enrollment teacher, or furthering their professional development plan and who commit to teach in a rural school for a minimum of three years. It expands the stipends to teachers in an alternative teacher licensure program leading to initial licensure and employment in a rural school district as well. Teachers currently teaching in a rural school district will be given priority when applying for stipends.

A third bill that passed gave higher education instate tuition benefits to refugees and special immigrants. **SB 087 In-State Tuition Foreign National Settled in Colorado** allows refugees or special immigrants admitted to the United States under certain federal laws who have settled in Colorado to be eligible for instate tuition thus waiving the one year waiting period for residency.

And finally, another area of desperate need across the state was addressed by **HB 1034 Career and Technical Education Capital Grant Program**. It proposed to create a career and technical capital grant program that would award grants through program areas in technical colleges, school districts, and community colleges to use for equipment, construction or maintenance of buildings related to career and technical education. The fiscal note was an appropriation of \$10 million for each year 2018-20 and was too much, and the House Appropriations Committee postponed the bill indefinitely on a vote of [8-5](#). This proposal may return in future legislative sessions.

## INCOME ASSISTANCE

**Andrea Wilkins**

Several bills were considered this session that were aimed at providing income supports and mitigating the rising cost of living in Colorado. Included among them was **HB 1001 Family and Medical Leave Insurance Program** which would have provided partial wage replacement benefits to eligible employees who take leave from work to care for a new child or family member with a serious health condition, or who are unable to work

due to their own serious health condition. Ultimately the bill failed when it was postponed indefinitely by the Senate State, Veterans & Military Affairs Committee on April 30 on a [3-2](#) vote. **HB 1004 Continue Child Care Contribution Tax Credit** extends the child care contribution tax credit five years to January 1, 2025, supporting the availability of child care in Colorado. The bill passed Third Reading in the Senate on May 4 and will be sent to the Governor for signature. Finally, **SB 007 Affordable Housing Tax Credit** extends the period during which the Colorado Housing & Finance Authority may allocate affordable housing tax credits to developers of qualified projects from December 31, 2019 to December 31, 2024. The bill also changes the name of the existing low-income housing tax credit to the affordable housing tax credit. The Senate concurred with amendment made in the House and re-passed the bill on April 27. It now awaits signature by the Governor.

## **REPRODUCTIVE FREEDOM**

### **Leslie Chomic**

It was a quiet session for reproductive rights bills. We opposed Rep. Humphrey's annual **HB 1225 Protect Human Life at Conception** measure, which would have created a class 1 felony charge for abortion providers. We also opposed Rep. Saine's **HB 1082 A Woman's Right to Accurate Health Care Information**, another yearly attempt to restrict access to reproductive health care. Both were postponed indefinitely in their first committee.

We chose not to follow two bills that attempted to restrict specific medical activities of abortion providers but did not focus on the rights of individuals. They were **HB 1120 The Prohibition of Dismemberment Abortions**, by Rep. P. Neville, and **HB 1121 No Funding Trafficking Aborted Body Parts**, by Rep. Leonard. (Editor's note: Both were postponed indefinitely.)

In the last days of the session Rep. Esgar introduced **HB 1438 Health Care Coverage Reproductive Health Care**. The bill would have required health care plans to cover the full range of reproductive health care at little or no cost to individuals. It also would have created a reimbursement program for eligible people and extended children's Medicaid health plans. It seemed like policy we would like, but due to its late arrival, no senate sponsor, and little likelihood of passage in this session, we decided not to weigh in. We hope to see it again next year when Rep. Esgar will have worked out its kinks, in particular the cost issue, which was a surprise even to her. The bill was postponed indefinitely at her request.

## **REDISTRICTING**

### **Jean Fredlund & Andrea Wilkins**

For over a year and a half, LWVCO has been working in partnership with a broad coalition of groups from across the political spectrum to develop legislation and ballot initiatives that vest authority over redistricting the state's Congressional and legislative districts in an independent commission that includes balanced representation by Democrats, Republicans and unaffiliated voters. As part of this effort, LWVCO engaged in ongoing and extensive outreach and coalition-building efforts, developed communications strategies, shared information and secured support from local leagues, and assisted in drafting the Congressional and legislative redistricting initiatives. These efforts lead to the introduction of **SCR 004 (Congressional Redistricting)** and **SCR 005 (Legislative Redistricting)** on April 18. After introduction of the resolutions, LWVCO and coalition members participated in direct lobbying efforts which resulted in the unanimous passage of SCR 004 and SCR 005 in the Senate and House State Affairs Committees, the Legislative Council, the Senate and House Appropriations Committees, and both chambers of the General Assembly. The resolutions were signed by the President of the Senate and Speaker of the House during a signing ceremony on May 16.

Because the measures seek amendments to the Colorado Constitution, they will be referred to the voters on the November 2018 ballot. LWVCO and coalition partners, in a campaign referred to as Fair Maps Colorado, will continue work over the summer and fall to educate the public on these measures and generate support among Colorado voters.

Currently, the maps for Congressional districts are drawn by the legislature, and maps for the General Assembly are drawn by a political commission. The largest sector of the state's electorate—unaffiliated voters—have no representation on the political commission. There is no prohibition on Congressional or legislative maps being drawn to favor a party, incumbent or candidate, nor is there a prohibition on drawing maps to dilute the voting rights of racial or language minority groups.

That will change with voter approval of these initiatives. Through the use of neutral criteria and reliance on nonpartisan staff to draw the maps, these measures will make the redistricting process fair and less partisan and make our elections more competitive, with candidates that are responsive to all Colorado citizens.

## **LEGISLATIVE LETTER #9**

### **GOVERNMENT**

#### **ELECTIONS**

##### **CLEAN-UP BILL PASSES CLEANLY**

**SB 233 Elections Clean-Up (Sens. Marble & Fenberg; Reps. Foote & P. Neville) (support)** makes technical modifications to various provisions of the “Uniform Election Code of 1992.” After going through House Appropriations with the addition of “an appropriation would be made,” the bill passed on a [12-0](#) vote on May 2<sup>nd</sup>. On May 3<sup>rd</sup> it passed Third Reading in the House unanimously with no amendments. The Senate concurred with the House amendment and repassed the bill unanimously the same day.

Previously reported: [LL#7](#), p. 3; [LL#8](#), p. 3.

Carol Tone 303.884.8429

##### **REDISTRICTING RESOLUTIONS PASS**

**SCR 004 Congressional Redistricting (Sens. Grantham & Fenberg; Reps. Duran & Neville) and SCR 005 Legislative Redistricting (Sens.**

**Grantham & Fenberg; Reps. Duran & Neville) (support)** had a rapid and successful run through the General Assembly. Both pieces of legislation were introduced in the Senate on April 18 and assigned to Senate State Affairs. From there they went to the Legislative Council and Senate State Affairs and passed through both without a single no vote. They unanimously passed Third Reading in the Senate on April 30 and were introduced in the House that same day. From there they passed House State Affairs and the House Committee on Appropriations, also without a single no vote. They then unanimously passed Third Reading in the House on May 7. The measures will be included on the November 2018 ballot.

The resolutions will place responsibility for redistricting the state's Congressional and legislative districts in an independent commission that includes balanced representation by Democrats, Republicans and unaffiliated voters.

Previously reported: [LL#8](#), p.1

Andrea Wilkins 303.521.1759

## **GUN SAFETY**

### **GUN SAFETY MEASURE SHOT DOWN**

#### **NEW HB 1436 Extreme Risk Protection Orders (Reps. Garnett & Wist; Sen. Court) (support)**

Extreme Risk Protection Orders (Red Flag) would permit family members or police to get a judge’s order that guns be legally removed from possession of a person in crisis whose behavior indicates the person is in danger of harming him/herself or others. HB 1436 went through a fast and furious life being passed by House Judiciary Committee on May 1<sup>st</sup> on a [7-4](#) vote. Heard on the House floor on May 4, HB 1436 passed 36-19. (Two Republicans supported.) Assigned to Senate State, Veterans and Military Affairs, the bill quickly met its demise on May 7<sup>th</sup> on a [3-2](#) vote. The bill was introduced and heard in committee on the same day. Supporting the bill were police chiefs, sheriffs, district attorneys, mental health leaders, and survivors. Polls show 81% of Coloradans support ERPO, 77% of gun owners, 73% of Republicans. One person testifying asked the committee, “How did guns come to be more precious than lives?”

Committee Chair, Vicki Marble, in a summary statement stated that ten of her family members have committed suicide, three in the past year. She voted against the bill.

Jean Grattet 303.573.7942

#### House Vote

YES	37	NO	23	EXCUSED	5	ABSENT	0
Arndt	Y	Foote	Y	Lewis	E	Saine	N
Becker J.	N	Garnett	Y	Liston	N	Salazar	Y
Becker K.	Y	Ginal	Y	Lontine	Y	Sandridge	N
Beckman	N	Gray	Y	Lundeen	N	Sias	N
Benavidez	Y	Hamner	E	McKean	N	Singer	Y
Bridges	Y	Hansen	Y	McLachlan	Y	Thurlow	Y
Buck	N	Herod	Y	Melton	Y	Valdez	Y
Buckner	Y	Hooton	Y	Michaelson Jenet	Y	Van Winkle	N
Carver	E	Humphrey	N	Neville P.	N	Weissman	Y
Catlin	E	Jackson	Y	Pabon	Y	Willett	N
Coleman	Y	Kennedy	Y	Pettersen	Y	Williams D.	N
Covarrubias	N	Kraft-Tharp	Y	Rankin	N	Wilson	E
Danielson	Y	Landgraf	N	Ransom	N	Winkler	N
Esgar	Y	Lawrence	N	Reyher	N	Winter	Y
Everett	N	Lee	Y	Roberts	Y	Wist	Y
Exum	Y	Leonard	N	Rosenthal	Y	Young	Y
				Speaker			Y

## **JUSTICE SYSTEM**

### **COMMISSION BILL GOES TO GOVERNOR**

**HB 1287 Re-Authorize Commission Criminal & Juvenile Justice (Rep. Weissman; Sens. Cooke & Kagan) (support)** extends the repeal date for the commission, increases the size of the board, and requires the Governor to suggest topics for it to consider.

The bill moved quickly through the Senate with no amendments during the last days of the session. It passed Senate State, Veterans, & Military affairs, Senate Appropriations and Third Reading all by unanimous votes with Sen. Baumgardner excused for the Third Reading vote. It has been sent to the Governor.

Previously reported: [LL#5](#), p. 3; [LL#7](#), p. 5; [LL#8](#), p. 5.

Carla Bennett 303.757.2930

## **TRANSPORTATION**

**SB 001 Transportation Infrastructure Funding (Sens. Baumgardner & Cooke; Rep. Buck) (watch)** having passed Third Reading in the Senate on March 28, was introduced in the House on April 3. The bill was heavily amended as it made its way through the legislature, with differences between the House and Senate version of the bill being debated until the final days of the legislative session. The bill passed Third Reading in the House on May 8. That same day the Senate concurred with the House amendments and re-passed the bill on a vote of 35-0.

Previously reported: [LL#2](#), p.5; [LL#4](#), p.5; [LL#5](#), p.3; [LL#6](#), p.4; [LL#7](#), p.2

Andrea Wilkins 303.521.1759  
(for House vote, see next page)

House Vote

YES	36	NO	29	EXCUSED	0	ABSENT	0
Arndt	Y	Foote	Y	Lewis	N	Saine	N
Becker J.	N	Garnett	Y	Liston	N	Salazar	Y
Becker K.	Y	Ginal	Y	Lontine	Y	Sandridge	N
Beckman	N	Gray	Y	Lundeen	N	Sias	N
Benavidez	Y	Hamner	Y	McKean	N	Singer	Y
Bridges	Y	Hansen	Y	McLachlan	Y	Thurlow	N
Buck	N	Herod	Y	Melton	Y	Valdez	Y
Buckner	Y	Hooton	Y	Michaelson Jenet	Y	Van Winkle	N
Carver	N	Humphrey	N	Neville P.	N	Weissman	Y
Catlin	N	Jackson	Y	Pabon	Y	Willett	N
Coleman	Y	Kennedy	Y	Pettersen	Y	Williams D.	N
Covarrubias	N	Kraft-Tharp	Y	Rankin	N	Wilson	N
Danielson	Y	Landgraf	N	Ransom	N	Winkler	N
Esgar	Y	Lawrence	N	Reyher	N	Winter	Y
Everett	N	Lee	Y	Roberts	Y	Wist	N
Exum	Y	Leonard	N	Rosenthal	Y	Young	Y
						Speaker	Y

**VOTING RIGHTS**

**FACILITATING REGISTRATION**

**SB 150 Voter Registration Individuals in Criminal Justice System (Sen. Fenberg & Lundberg; Rep. Lee & McKean) (support)** facilitates voter registration of individuals in the criminal justice system. The bill passed Third Reading in the House on April 30<sup>th</sup> on a 37-26 vote.

Previously reported: [LL#2](#), p. 6; [LL#3](#), p. 4; [LL#7](#), p. 5; [LL#8](#), p. 5.

Carol Tone 303.884.8429

House Vote

YES	37	NO	26	EXCUSED	2	ABSENT	0
Arndt	Y	Foote	Y	Lewis	E	Saine	N
Becker J.	N	Garnett	Y	Liston	N	Salazar	Y
Becker K.	Y	Ginal	Y	Lontine	Y	Sandridge	N
Beckman	Y	Gray	Y	Lundeen	N	Sias	N
Benavidez	E	Hamner	Y	McKean	Y	Singer	Y
Bridges	Y	Hansen	Y	McLachlan	Y	Thurlow	N
Buck	N	Herod	Y	Melton	Y	Valdez	Y
Buckner	Y	Hooton	Y	Michaelson Jenet	Y	Van Winkle	N
Carver	N	Humphrey	N	Neville P.	N	Weissman	Y
Catlin	N	Jackson	Y	Pabon	Y	Willett	N
Coleman	Y	Kennedy	Y	Pettersen	Y	Williams D.	N
Covarrubias	N	Kraft-Tharp	Y	Rankin	N	Wilson	N
Danielson	Y	Landgraf	N	Ransom	N	Winkler	N
Esgar	Y	Lawrence	N	Reyher	N	Winter	Y
Everett	N	Lee	Y	Roberts	Y	Wist	N
Exum	Y	Leonard	N	Rosenthal	Y	Young	Y
						Speaker	Y

**NATURAL RESOURCES**

**ENERGY**

**ENERGY STORAGE**

**HB 1270 PUC EVALUATION OF ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEMS (Reps. Hansen & J. Becker; Sen. Tate) (support)** directs the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) to consider the adoption of rules setting up a process for investor owned electric utilities to acquire energy storage systems. After passing the House, the bill was amended in the Senate, passed Third Reading 26-9 and then was sent to a conference committee when the House did not concur. The committee report which was accepted by both chambers included amendments requiring that the storage systems show that they offer systemic benefits and providing that required information provided to the PUC by utilities be treated as confidential. Also, it mandated that the PUC establish this rule rather than just consider it.

Previously reported: [LL#5](#).

Sigrig Higdon 303.233.8111

Senate Vote

YES	26	NO	9	EXCUSED	0	ABSENT	0
Aguilar	Y	Garcia	N	Kerr	N	Scott	Y
Baumgardner	Y	Gardner	Y	Lambert	Y	Smallwood	Y
Cooke	Y	Guzman	N	Lundberg	Y	Sonnenberg	Y
Coram	Y	Hill	Y	Marble	N	Tate	Y
Court	Y	Holbert	Y	Martinez Humenik	Y	Todd	N
Crowder	Y	Jahn	Y	Merrifield	N	Williams A.	Y
Donovan	Y	Jones	N	Moreno	Y	Zenzinger	N
Fenberg	Y	Kagan	Y	Neville T.	Y	President	Y
Fields	N	Kefalas	Y	Priola	Y		

**WATER**

**MOST WATER BILLS PASS**

Of the four water-reuse bills that the League supported, three made it through both houses. **SB 38 Reclaimed Water Use on Industrial Hemp (Sens. Donovan & Coram; Reps. Esgar & Willett)** passed the House on Third Reading unanimously on May 3<sup>rd</sup>. **HB 1069 Reclaimed Water Use for Toilet Flushing (Reps. Arndt & Thurlow; Sen. Coram)** was signed by the

Governor on April 30<sup>th</sup>. **HB 1093 Reclaimed Water Use for Edible Crops (Rep. Arndt; Sen. Coram)** passed the Senate on Third Reading on April 5<sup>th</sup> and has been sent to the Governor. **HB 1053 Reclaimed Water for Marijuana Cultivation (Reps. Arndt & Hansen; Sen. Donovan)** is the only bill that failed and was postponed indefinitely in Senate Finance on May 2<sup>nd</sup>. There was discussion that there needed to be better regulation from the state health department.

Previously reported: [LL#2](#), p. 2.

Jeannette Hillery 303.494.7718

## SOCIAL POLICY

### CHILDREN'S ISSUES

#### FOSTER YOUTH BILL TO GOVERNOR

**HB 1319 Serv Successful Adulthood Former Foster Youth (Rep. Singer & Young; Sen. Gardner) (support)** allows the county departments of human or social services to provide supportive services to former foster youth. It also requires the state Department of Human Services to create a former foster care youth steering committee.

It passed quickly through the Senate unamended during the last days of the session. It passed out of Senate State, Veterans & Military Affairs unanimously and then passed Senate Appropriations by a vote of [6-1](#) with Sen. Lambert voting No. On May 4<sup>th</sup> it passed Third Reading by a vote of 27-7-1 and has been sent to the Governor.

Previously reported: [LL#6](#), p. 6; [LL#7](#), p. 7; [LL#8](#), p. 9.

Carla Bennett 303.757.2930

#### Senate Vote

YES	27	NO	7	EXCUSED	1	ABSENT	0
Aguilar	Y	Garcia	Y	Kerr	Y	Scott	N
Baumgardner	E	Gardner	Y	Lambert	N	Smallwood	N
Cooke	Y	Guzman	Y	Lundberg	Y	Sonnenberg	N
Coram	Y	Hill	Y	Marble	Y	Tate	Y
Court	Y	Holbert	N	Martinez Humenik	Y	Todd	Y
Crowder	N	Jahn	Y	Merrifield	Y	Williams A.	Y
Donovan	Y	Jones	Y	Moreno	Y	Zenzinger	Y
Fenberg	Y	Kagan	Y	Neville T.	N	President	Y
Fields	Y	Kefalas	Y	Priola	Y		

### EDUCATION

#### “KIDS JUST WANT TO HAVE FUNDS”

...sign at teachers' march

The House voted to concur with Senate amendments on May 8 and thus passed **HB 1379 Public School Finance (Reps. Pettersen & Wilson; Sen. Hill)(watch)**. Given the funding for schools is the best it has been in 10 years, because there is more money in the state coffers, there was little dissent as it moved speedily through the legislative process. The amendment that did pass removed the stipulation that any extra funds in next year's general fund be swept into the Education Fund.

Representative Wilson was particularly happy that the additional \$30M allotted to hard-hit rural school districts effectively doubles their funding. While nowhere near funding full-day kindergarten, a project he has been working on for years, the increase in ECARE slots will provide some relief for districts unable to provide that for their students.

The bill passed House Education on April 16 on an [11-2](#) vote; House Appropriations on April 19 on a [12-1](#) vote; the House on a vote of 54-7-4 on April 20; Senate Education by a [7-0](#) vote on April 26; Senate Appropriations on a [7-0](#) vote on April 27; the Senate on a vote of 35-0 on May 8.

Previously reported: [LL#8](#), p. 8.

Sally Augden 303.455.5800

#### House Vote

	YES	54	NO	7	EXCUSED	4	ABSENT	0
Arndt	Y	Foot	Y	Lewis	Y	Saine	Y	
Becker J.	Y	Garnett	Y	Liston	Y	Salazar	E	
Becker K.	Y	Ginal	E	Lontine	Y	Sandridge	N	
Beckman	Y	Gray	Y	Lundeen	Y	Sias	Y	
Benavidez	E	Hamner	Y	McKean	Y	Singer	Y	
Bridges	Y	Hansen	Y	McLachlan	Y	Thurlow	Y	
Buck	N	Herod	Y	Melton	Y	Valdez	Y	
Buckner	Y	Hooton	Y	Michaelson Jenet	Y	Van Winkle	Y	
Carver	Y	Humphrey	N	Neville P.	N	Weissman	Y	
Catlin	Y	Jackson	Y	Pabon	Y	Willett	Y	
Coleman	Y	Kennedy	Y	Pettersen	Y	Williams D.	N	
Covarrubias	E	Kraft-Tharp	Y	Rankin	Y	Wilson	Y	
Danielson	Y	Landgraf	Y	Ransom	Y	Winkler	Y	
Esgar	Y	Lawrence	Y	Reyher	Y	Winter	Y	
Everett	N	Lee	Y	Roberts	Y	Wist	Y	
Exum	Y	Leonard	N	Rosenthal	Y	Young	Y	
						Speaker	Y	

## HIGHER EDUCATION

### TWO BILLS SUCCESSFUL

**HB 1002 Rural School District Teaching Fellowship Programs (Reps. Hamner & Rankin; Sens. Todd & Coram (Support))** The bill allows a rural school district and a public or private institution to enter into an agreement to provide a \$10,000 teaching fellowship program for students enrolled in the fourth year of their teacher education program. This program will only pertain to rural teachers wishing to complete a teacher education or alternative teacher education program.

On May 4 the bill passed Senate Appropriations unamended by a vote of 5-2 to the full Senate. The unamended bill passed Third Reading in the Senate on May 8 by a vote of 30-5.

Previously reported: LL#1, p. 11; LL#2, p. 9; LL#7, p. 8; LL#8, p. 10.

#### Senate Vote

YES	30	NO	5	EXCUSED	0	ABSENT	0	Y
Aguilar	Y	Garcia	Y	Kerr	Y	Scott	Y	Y
Baumgardner	Y	Gardner	Y	Lambert	N	Smallwood	N	N
Cooke	Y	Guzman	Y	Lundberg	N	Sonnenberg	Y	Y
Coram	Y	Hill	N	Marble	N	Tate	N	Y
Court	Y	Holbert	N	Martinez Humenik	Y	Todd	Y	Y
Crowder	Y	Jahn	Y	Merrifield	Y	Williams A.	Y	Y
Donovan	Y	Jones	Y	Moreno	Y	Zenzinger	Y	Y
Fenberg	Y	Kagan	Y	Neville T.	N	President	N	Y
Fields	Y	Kefalas	Y	Priola	Y		Y	Y

### **SB 85 Financial Incentives for Education in Rural Areas (Sen. Todd; Rep. McLachlan)**

**(support)** This bill expands an existing program by the department of higher education by increasing the number of financial stipends of \$6,000 each from 20 to 60 for teachers who are furthering their education and who commit to teach in a rural school for a minimum of three years. It expands the stipends to teachers in an alternative teacher licensure program leading to initial licensure and employment in a rural school district.

The bill passed Third Reading in the House on April 26 by a vote of 48-17. The bill went to conference committees to resolve issues around who should be given priority for the applicants competing for the stipends. On May 7, the first conference committee result was to adopt an

## ANOTHER TAX CREDIT

Employers have been granted a tax credit for contributions to employee's 529 savings accounts with the passage of **HB 1217 Income Tax Credit for Employer 529 Contributions (Reps. Van Winkle & Garnett; Sen. Gardner) (watch)**. This credit has a three year sunset, so it will be revisited and its fiscal impact considered. This is particularly important, as the fiscal note had some discrepancy in the potential impact on state revenues. A major concern with the bill is the lack of a cap placed on the incomes of the recipients, thus offering tax support to those in least need of help funding education expenses, rather than focusing help on those most in need.

Previously reported: LL#5, p. 6; LL#8, p. 9.

Sally Augden 303.455.5800

#### Senate Vote

YES	27	NO	7	EXCUSED	1	ABSENT	0	Y
Aguilar	Y	Garcia	Y	Kerr	Y	Scott	Y	Y
Baumgardner	E	Gardner	Y	Lambert	Y	Smallwood	N	N
Cooke	N	Guzman	Y	Lundberg	Y	Sonnenberg	Y	Y
Coram	Y	Hill	N	Marble	N	Tate	N	Y
Court	N	Holbert	N	Martinez Humenik	Y	Todd	Y	Y
Crowder	Y	Jahn	Y	Merrifield	Y	Williams A.	Y	Y
Donovan	Y	Jones	Y	Moreno	Y	Zenzinger	Y	Y
Fenberg	Y	Kagan	Y	Neville T.	N	President	N	Y
Fields	Y	Kefalas	Y	Priola	Y		Y	Y

## EQUAL OPPORTUNITY

The differences between the House and Senate version of **HB 1256 Continue Civil Rights Division & Commission (Reps. Duran & Herod; Sen. Gardner) (support)** have been resolved via conference committee and the bill passed on the last day of the legislative session. On May 9 both the House and the Senate adopted the conference committee report and voted to repass the bill with a vote of 30-5 in the Senate and a 43-21 vote in the House. The bill will be sent to the Governor for signature.

Previously reported: LL#4, p.7; LL#5, p.7; LL#6, p.6; LL#8, p.10.

Andrea Wilkins 303.521.1759

amendment to give teachers who were already employed in a rural school district to be given priority when applying for stipends. Both houses accepted the conference committee report.

Previously reported: [LL#1](#), p. 11; [LL#4](#), p. 8; [LL#7](#), p. 8; [LL#8](#), p. 10.

Both reported by Barbara Whinery 970.353.6731

**House Vote**

YES	48	NO	17	EXCUSED	0	ABSENT	0
Arndt	Y	Foote	Y	Lewis	N	Saine	N
Becker J.	N	Garnett	Y	Liston	Y	Salazar	Y
Becker K.	Y	Ginal	Y	Lontine	Y	Sandridge	N
Beckman	N	Gray	Y	Lundeen	Y	Sias	Y
Benavidez	Y	Hamner	Y	McKean	Y	Singer	Y
Bridges	Y	Hansen	Y	McLachlan	Y	Thurlow	Y
Buck	N	Herod	Y	Melton	Y	Valdez	Y
Buckner	Y	Hooton	Y	Michaelson Jenet	Y	Van Winkle	N
Carver	N	Humphrey	N	Neville P.	N	Weissman	Y
Catlin	Y	Jackson	Y	Pabon	Y	Willett	Y
Coleman	Y	Kennedy	Y	Pettersen	Y	Williams D.	N
Covarrubias	N	Kraft-Tharp	Y	Rankin	Y	Wilson	Y
Danielson	Y	Landgraf	N	Ransom	N	Winkler	N
Esgar	Y	Lawrence	Y	Reyher	Y	Winter	Y
Everett	N	Lee	Y	Roberts	Y	Wist	Y
Exum	Y	Leonard	N	Rosenthal	Y	Young	Y
				Speaker			Y

**HEALTH CARE**

**OPIOID BILLS PASS TO GOV**

Only the group of opioid bills, which League followed, finally passed the legislature in the waning days, showing attention to this national and statewide health crisis. All other health care bills that lasted late into the session were postponed indefinitely or laid over beyond the session end.

Bills that passed in the last few days of the session and were still awaiting the Governor’s signature included:

**HB 1003 Opioid Misuse Prevention (Rep. Pettersen; Sens. Jahn, Priola) (support)** passed the Senate on May 2 on a 28-7 vote and the House concurred with the Senate amendments on May 4;  
**HB 1007 Substance Abuse Disorder & Payment Coverage (Reps. Singer & Kennedy; Sens. Jahn & Lambert) (support)** passed the Senate on May 3 on a 28-5-2 vote;  
**SB 22 Clinical Practice for Opioid Prescribing (Sens. Aguilar & Tate; Reps. Pettersen & Kennedy) (support)** passed the House on May 7 on a vote of 40-25; and

**SB 24 Expand Access to Behavioral Healthcare Providers (Sens. Jahn & Tate; Rep. Singer) (support)** passed the House on May 3 on a vote of 41-24.

Previously reported [LL#1](#), p. 9; [LL#3](#), p. 5; [LL#5](#), p. 5.

All reported by Carol Pace 303.863.0437

**HB 1003 Senate Vote**

YES	28	NO	7	EXCUSED	0	ABSENT	0
Aguilar	Y	Garcia	Y	Kerr	Y	Scott	Y
Baumgardner	N	Gardner	Y	Lambert	Y	Smallwood	N
Cooke	N	Guzman	Y	Lundberg	Y	Sonnenberg	Y
Coram	Y	Hill	N	Marble	N	Tate	Y
Court	Y	Holbert	N	Martinez Humenik	Y	Todd	Y
Crowder	Y	Jahn	Y	Merrifield	Y	Williams A.	Y
Donovan	Y	Jones	Y	Moreno	Y	Zenzinger	Y
Fenber	Y	Kagan	Y	Neville T.	N	President	Y
Fields	Y	Kefalas	Y	Priola	Y		Y

**HB 1007 Senate Vote**

YES	28	NO	5	EXCUSED	2	ABSENT	0
Aguilar	Y	Garcia	Y	Kerr	Y	Scott	Y
Baumgardner	E	Gardner	Y	Lambert	Y	Smallwood	N
Cooke	Y	Guzman	Y	Lundberg	Y	Sonnenberg	E
Coram	Y	Hill	N	Marble	N	Tate	Y
Court	Y	Holbert	N	Martinez Humenik	N	Todd	Y
Crowder	Y	Jahn	Y	Merrifield	Y	Williams A.	Y
Donovan	Y	Jones	Y	Moreno	Y	Zenzinger	Y
Fenber	Y	Kagan	Y	Neville T.	Y	President	Y
Fields	Y	Kefalas	Y	Priola	Y		Y

**SB 22 House Vote**

YES	40	NO	25	EXCUSED	0	ABSENT	0
Arndt	Y	Foote	Y	Lewis	N	Saine	N
Becker J.	N	Garnett	Y	Liston	N	Salazar	Y
Becker K.	Y	Ginal	Y	Lontine	Y	Sandridge	N
Beckman	N	Gray	Y	Lundeen	N	Sias	N
Benavidez	Y	Hamner	Y	McKean	N	Singer	Y
Bridges	Y	Hansen	Y	McLachlan	Y	Thurlow	Y
Buck	N	Herod	Y	Melton	Y	Valdez	Y
Buckner	Y	Hooton	Y	Michaelson Jenet	Y	Van Winkle	N
Carver	N	Humphrey	N	Neville P.	N	Weissman	Y
Catlin	N	Jackson	Y	Pabon	Y	Willett	N
Coleman	Y	Kennedy	Y	Pettersen	Y	Williams D.	N
Covarrubias	N	Kraft-Tharp	Y	Rankin	Y	Wilson	Y
Danielson	Y	Landgraf	Y	Ransom	N	Winkler	N
Esgar	Y	Lawrence	N	Reyher	N	Winter	Y
Everett	N	Lee	Y	Roberts	Y	Wist	N
Exum	Y	Leonard	N	Rosenthal	Y	Young	Y
				Speaker			Y

**SB 24 House Vote**

YES	41	NO	24	EXCUSED	0	ABSENT	0
Arndt	Y	Foote	Y	Lewis	N	Saine	N
Becker J.	N	Garnett	Y	Liston	N	Salazar	Y
Becker K.	Y	Ginal	Y	Lontine	Y	Sandridge	N
Beckman	N	Gray	Y	Lundeen	N	Sias	N
Benavidez	Y	Hamner	Y	McKean	N	Singer	Y
Bridges	Y	Hansen	Y	McLachlan	Y	Thurlow	Y
Buck	N	Herod	Y	Melton	Y	Valdez	Y
Buckner	Y	Hooton	Y	Michaelson Jenet	Y	Van Winkle	N
Carver	N	Humphrey	N	Neville P.	N	Weissman	Y
Catlin	Y	Jackson	Y	Pabon	Y	Willett	Y
Coleman	Y	Kennedy	Y	Pettersen	Y	Williams D.	N
Covarrubias	N	Kraft-Tharp	Y	Rankin	Y	Wilson	Y
Danielson	Y	Landgraf	N	Ransom	N	Winkler	N
Esgar	Y	Lawrence	N	Reyher	N	Winter	Y
Everett	N	Lee	Y	Roberts	Y	Wist	N
Exum	Y	Leonard	N	Rosenthal	Y	Young	Y
				Speaker			Y

**INCOME ASSISTANCE**

Previously reported: [LL#2](#), p. 11; [LL#3](#), p.7; [LL#8](#), p. 11.

**HB 1004 Continue Child Care Contribution Tax Credit (Reps. Coleman & Wilson; Sens. Kefalas & Tate)** passed out of the Senate Appropriations Committee and was referred to the committee of the whole on a vote of [5-2](#). It passed Second Reading on May 3 and Third Reading the following day on a vote of 28-6-1. It will now be sent to the Governor for signature.

Andrea Wilkins 303-521.1759

**Senate Vote**

YES	28	NO	6	EXCUSED	1	ABSENT	0
Aguilar	Y	Garcia	Y	Kerr	Y	Scott	Y
Baumgardner	E	Gardner	Y	Lambert	N	Smallwood	N
Cooke	N	Guzman	Y	Lundberg	Y	Sonnenberg	N
Coram	Y	Hill	Y	Marble	N	Tate	Y
Court	Y	Holbert	N	Martinez Humenik	Y	Todd	Y
Crowder	Y	Jahn	Y	Merifield	Y	Williams A.	Y
Donovan	Y	Jones	Y	Moreno	Y	Zenzinger	Y
Fenberg	Y	Kagan	Y	Neville T.	Y	President	Y
Fields	Y	Kefalas	Y	Priola	Y		Y

**STATUS SHEET**

The Status Sheet is a regularly 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	LL#	Status
Behavioral Health	SB	22	Clinical Practice For Opioid Prescribing	W	1,3,5,9	To Gov
Behavioral Health	SB	24	Expand Access Behavioral Health Care Providers	S	1,3,5,9	To Gov
Behavioral Health	HB	1003	Opioid Misuse Prevention	S	1,5,9	To Gov
Behavioral Health	HB	1007	Substance Use Disorder Payment & Coverage	S	1,5,9	To Gov
Children's Issues	HB	1044	Colorado Children's Trust Fund Act	S	1,2,4	Pl'd
Children's Issues	HB	1319	Serv Successful Adulthood Former Foster Youth	S	6,7,8,9	To Gov
Education	SB	4	Funding For Full-day Kindergarten	S	1,2	Pl'd
Education	SB	83	Education Income Tax Credits For Nonpublic School	O	4,8	Pl'd
Education	SB	118	Local School Board Authority Over Charter Schools	S	2,4	Pl'd
Education	HB	1088	Funding For Full-day Kindergarten	S	1	Pl'd
Education	HB	1209	No 529 Acct Income Tax Deduction For K-12 Expenses	S	4,6,8	Pl'd
Education	HB	1217	Income Tax Credit for 529 Contributions	W	5,8,9	To Gov
Education	HB	1221	Income Tax Deduction For 529 Acct K-12 Expenses	O	4,6	Pl'd
Education	HB	1232	New School Funding Dist. Formula	S	3,7	Pl'd
Education	HB	1379	Public School Finance	W	8,9	Signed
Elections	SJM	5	Free & Fair Elections	O	7,8	Pl'd
Elections	SCR	4	Congressional Redistricting	S	8,9	Approved
Elections	SCR	5	Legislative Redistricting	S	8,9	Approved
Elections	SB	233	Elections Clean-up	S	7,8,9	To Gov

Elections	HJR	1015	Free & Fair Elections	O	7,8	Pl'd
Elections	HCR	1001	Judicial Retention Ballot Format	S	5,7	Approved
Elections	HB	1033	Employee Leave To Participate In Elections	S	1,2,3	Pl'd
Elections	HB	1039	Change Date Of Regular Special District Elections	S	1,2,3,4	Signed
Elections	HB	1318	Require Presidential Candidate Disclose Tax Return	W	7,8	Pl'd
Elections	HB	1403	Stand by Your Ad Act	S	8	Pl'd
Energy	SJM	2	Eliminate Energy Subsidies	S	2,4	Pl'd
Energy	SB	3	Colorado Energy Office	SIP	2,4	To Gov
Energy	SB	9	Allow Elec Util Cust Install Energy Storage Equip	S	1,3,4,5	Signed
Energy	SB	47	Repeal Tax Credits Innovative Vehicles	O	1,3,5,6,8	Pl'd
Energy	SB	64	Require 100% Renewable Energy By 2035	S	1,2,6	Pl'd
Energy	HB	1107	Prewire Residence For E-vehicle Charging Port	S	2,4,6,9	Pl'd
Energy	HB	1157	Increased Reporting of Gas and Oil Incidents	S	3,5,7,8	Pl'd
Energy	HB	1270	PUC Evaluation Of Energy Storage Systems	S	5	To Gov
Energy	HB	1281	PUC Ethics & Improved Public Info Reporting	S	6	Pl'd
Energy	HB	1352	Oil & Gas Facilities Distance From School Property	S	7,8	Pl'd
Energy	HB	1419	Oil Gas Operators Disclosures Wellhead Integrity	S	8	Pl'd
Energy	HB	1428	Authorize Utility Community Collaboration Contract	W	8	Pl'd
Environmental Quality	SB	48	Protect Act Local Gov Auth Oil & Gas Facilities	S	2	Pl'd
Environmental Quality	SB	181	4-year Motor Vehicle Emissions Inspection Cycle	W	5,8	Pl'd
Environmental Quality	SB	226	Prohibit CO Involvement Climate Alliance	O	7,8	Pl'd
Environmental Quality	HB	1071	Regulate Oil Gas Operations Protect Public Safety	S	2,4,5	Pl'd
Environmental Quality	HB	1274	Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions by 2050	S	5,6,7	Pl'd
Environmental Quality	HB	1297	Climate Change Preparedness & Resiliency	SIP	6,8	Pl'd
Equal Opportunity	HB	1256	Sunset Continue Civil Rights Division & Commission	S	4,5,6,8,9	To Gov
Fiscal Policy	SB	61	Reduce The State Income Tax Rate	O	2,7,8	Pl'd
Fiscal Policy	HB	1322	2018-19 Long Appropriation Act	W	6,7	Signed
Fiscal Policy	HB	1201	Severance Tax Voter-approved Revenue Change	S	3,7	Pl'd
Fiscal Policy	HB	1298	Colorado Secure Savings Plan	S	7,8	Pl'd
Gun Safety	SB	51	Prohibit Multi-burst Trigger Activators	S	2,4,5,6	Pl'd
Gun Safety	SB	52	Repeal Ammo Magazine Prohibition	O	2,4,5,6,7	Pl'd
Gun Safety	SB	97	Concealed Handgun Carry With No Permit	O	4,5,6	Pl'd

Gun Safety	SB	185	Deadly Force Against Intruder At A Business	O	5,6,8	Pl'd
Gun Safety	HB	1015	Repeal Ammo Magazine Prohibition	O	2,4,5	Pl'd
Gun Safety	HB	1037	Concealed Handguns On School Grounds	O	1,2,4,5	Pl'd
Gun Safety	HB	1074	Deadly Force Against Intruder At A Business	O	4	Pl'd
Gun Safety	HB	1077	Penalty For Burglary Of Firearms	SIP	2,4,5	To Gov
Gun Safety	HB	1436	Extreme Risk Protection Orders	S	9	Pl'd
Health Care	SB	80	Wholesale Canadian Drug Importation Program	S	1,3	Pl'd
Health Care	SB	146	Freestanding Emer Depts Required Consumer Notices	S	2,5	Signed
Health Care	HB	1179	Prohibit Price Gouging of Prescription Drugs	S	3,5	Deemed lost
Health Care	HB	1009	Diabetes Drug Pricing Transparency Act 2018	S	1,5	Pl'd
Health Care	HB	1118	Create Health Care Legislative Review Committee	S	2,3,5	Pl'd
Health Care	HB	1149	Sunset Continue Consumer Insurance Council	S	2,3,5	Pl'd
Health Care	HB	1205	Financial Relief Defray Individual Health Care Costs	S	3,5	Pl'd
Health Care	HB	1212	Freestanding Emergency Departments Licensure	S	3,5	Pl'd
Higher Ed	SB	85	Financial Incentives For Education In Rural Areas	S	1,4,7,8,9	To Gov
Higher Ed	SB	87	In-state Tuition Foreign Nationals Settled In CO	S	4,6,7	Signed
Higher Ed	HB	1002	Rural School District Teaching Fellowship Programs	S	1,2,7,8,9	To Gov
Higher Ed	HB	1034	Career & Technical Ed Capital Grant Program	S	4	Pl'd
Income Assistance	SB	7	Affordable Housing Tax Credit	S	2,3,4,8	To Gov
Income Assistance	HB	1001	FAMLI Family Medical Leave Insurance Program	S	2,3,8	Pl'd
Income Assistance	HB	1004	Continue Child Care Contribution Tax Credit	S	2,3,8,9	To Gov
Justice System	SB	18	CCJJ Criminal Sentencing Study	S	2	Pl'd
Justice System	HB	1029	Lowering Mandatory Parole From 5 Years To 3 Years	S	1,2,4,5,8	Signed
Justice System	HB	1089	No Monetary Conditions Of Bond For Misdemeanors	S	3,5,6	Pl'd
Justice System	HB	1287	Reauthorize Commn Crim & Juv Jus	S	5,7,8,9	To Gov
Juvenile Justice	SB	154	Juvenile Planning Committee Crossover Youth Plans	S	2,4,7	Signed
Juvenile Justice	HB	1010	DHS Report Data & Add Members To Working Group	S	2,4	Signed
Juvenile Justice	HB	1050	Competency to Proceed Juvenile Justice System	S	1,3,5	Signed
Reproductive Freedom	HB	1082	A Woman's Right To Accurate Health Care Info	O	4	Pl'd
Reproductive Freedom	HB	1225	Protect Human Life At Conception	O	4	Pl'd
Sustainability	SB	142	Pilot Project For Sustainable Communities	W	2	Pl'd
Transportation	SB	1	Transportation Infrastructure Funding	W	2,4,5,6,7,9	To Gov

Voting Rights	SB	76	Ban Vote Trading	W	2,3,5,6,7,8	Signed
Voting Rights	SB	150	Voter Regis Individuals Criminal Justice System	S	2,3,7,8,9	To Gov
Water	SB	38	Reclaimed Water Use On Industrial Hemp	S	2,9	To Gov
Water	HB	1053	Reclaimed Water Use For Marijuana Cultivation	S	2,9	Pl'd
Water	HB	1069	Reclaimed Water Use For Toilet Flushing	S	2,9	Signed
Water	HB	1093	Reclaimed Water Use For Edible Crops	S	2,9	Became law

**The Legislative Letter is written by the members of the Legislative Action Committee, edited by Frank Bennett and Andrea Wilkins, and published by the Colorado League of Women Voters every two weeks during the Legislative Session. To subscribe, please contact the League Office at [info@lwvcolorado.org](mailto:info@lwvcolorado.org) or 303-863-0437 for information about rates and delivery.**