

**Colorado Legislative Report
Second Regular Session
Seventy-second General Assembly**

May 18, 2021

Bill: <u>HB21-1008</u>	
Title:	Forest Health Project Financing
Description	Concerning increased options for financing forest health projects, and, in connection therewith, financing wildfire mitigation treatments.
Summary	<p>The bill provides additional options for financing forest health projects by authorizing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A separate legal entity created by a combination of local governments as authorized by current law to establish special improvement districts within the boundaries of the combination and levy special assessments on property specially benefited by improvements, functions, services or facilities, including forest health projects, that the separate legal entity is authorized to provide; • Counties, municipalities, special districts, water conservancy districts, the Colorado river water conservation district, and the southwestern water conservation district to conduct or participate in and finance forest health projects; and • Authorizing a forest improvement district to use its sales tax revenue for forest health projects. <p>The bill also postpones the scheduled repeal of the statute that authorizes the Colorado water resources power and development authority to issue bonds to fund watershed protection projects and forest health projects from July 1, 2023, to July 1, 2033.</p>
Comment	
Position	Monitor
Full Text	Full Text of Bill
Fiscal Notes	Fiscal Notes (02/17/2021)
House Committee	Agriculture, Livestock, and Water
Senate Committee	Agriculture and Natural Resources
Sponsors (House and Senate)	Senate: J. Cooke (R) C. Hansen (D) House:

	M. Catlin (R)
Status	Sent to the Governor (05/11/2021)
Lobbyists	Lobbyists
Votes	Votes all Legislators
Hearing Date	

Bill: HB21-1011	
Title:	Multilingual Ballot Access For Voters
Description	Concerning the expansion of multilingual ballot access for electors in the state, and, in connection therewith, making an appropriation.
Summary	<p>The bill requires the secretary of state (secretary) and county clerk and recorders (county clerk) of certain counties to provide multilingual ballot access.</p> <p>The secretary is required to establish a multilingual ballot hotline (hotline) to provide access to qualified translators or interpreters in each of the languages in which the most recent decennial census was offered to assist electors in translating ballot language. The secretary is required to establish the hotline for use during the general election held in November 2022, and for every general election and statewide odd-year election thereafter. The secretary is also required to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide notice of the hotline to electors through election day; • Ensure that the translators who provide translations for the multilingual hotline are qualified translators or interpreters; <p>and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promulgate rules as may be necessary to create and administer the hotline. <p>The county clerk of any county that satisfies specified criteria is required to create, in coordination with the secretary, a minority language sample ballot (sample ballot) in any minority language spoken in the county that satisfies the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The minority language is spoken by at least 2,000 citizens in the county age 18 years or older, who speak English less than very well, and who speak the minority language at home; or • The minority language is spoken by at least 2.5% of citizens in the county age 18 years or older, who speak English less than very well, and who speak the minority language at home. <p>The bill specifies that the sample ballot must include all of the same content that is on the English language ballot and also specifies the format of the sample ballot. In addition, the bill requires that the sample ballots be available for the general election held in November 2022, and for each general election and statewide odd-year election thereafter. The county clerk of any county that satisfies specified criteria is</p>

	<p>required to provide, upon the request of an elector, an in-person minority language ballot (in-person ballot) in any minority language spoken in the county that satisfies the same criteria specified for sample ballots. An in-person ballot can be a ballot on demand, a ballot from a printed stock of ballots, or a ballot via an electronic voting device.</p> <p>The bill specifies that the in-person ballot must include all of the same content that is on the English language ballot and specifies that in-person ballots are required to be available for the general election held in November 2022, and for each general election and statewide odd-year election thereafter.</p> <p>The secretary is required to determine, pursuant to specified criteria, which counties in the state are required to provide multilingual ballot access by creating a sample ballot and providing an in-person ballot, and to notify the county clerk of any county that is required to provide such multilingual ballot access.</p> <p>The secretary is required to provide each county clerk that is required to provide multilingual ballot access with a translation in the applicable minority language or languages of all content that is certified to the county clerks by the secretary of state for use by the county clerk in creating the multilingual ballot access.</p>
Comment	
Position	Monitor
Full Text	Full Text of Bill
Fiscal Notes	Fiscal Notes (03/19/2021)
House Committee	State, Civic, Military and Veterans Affairs
Senate Committee	State, Veterans and Military Affairs
Sponsors (House and Senate)	Senate: D. Moreno (D) J. Gonzales (D) House: Y. Caraveo (D)
Status	House Considered Senate Amendments - Result was to Laid Over Daily (05/14/2021)
Lobbyists	Lobbyists
Votes	Votes all Legislators
Hearing Date	05/19/2021

Bill: HB21-1025	
Title:	Nonsubstantive Emails And Open Meetings Law

Summary	<p>Concerning a clarification under the Colorado open meetings law of the relate to the substance of public business. Under current provisions of the Open Meetings Law (OML), if elected officials use electronic mail to discuss pending legislation or other public business among themselves, the electronic mail constitutes a meeting that is subject to the OML's requirements.</p> <p>The bill substitutes the word exchange for the word use in describing the type of electronic mail communication that triggers the application of the OML.</p> <p>The bill also clarifies existing statutory provisions to specify that electronic mail communication between elected officials that does not relate to the merits or substance of pending legislation or other public business is not a meeting for OML purposes. Under the bill, the type of electronic communication that also does not constitute a meeting for OML purposes includes electronic communication regarding scheduling and availability as well as electronic communication that is sent by an elected official for the purpose of forwarding information, responding to an inquiry from an individual who is not a member of the state or local public body, or posing a question for later discussion by the public body.</p>
Comment	
Position	Monitor
Full Text	Full Text of Bill
Fiscal Notes	Fiscal Notes (02/18/2021)
House Committee	State, Civic, Military and Veterans Affairs
Senate Committee	State, Veterans and Military Affairs
Sponsors (House and Senate)	Senate: J. Ginal (D) House:
Status	Governor Signed (04/07/2021)
Lobbyists	Lobbyists
Votes	Votes all Legislators
Hearing Date	

Bill: HB21-1042	
Title:	Water Storage Tanks Grant Program
Description	Concerning the creation of the water storage tank wildfire mitigation grant program.
Summary	The bill establishes the water storage tank wildfire mitigation grant

	<p>program (grant program) within the forest service. Grant recipients may use grant money to purchase water storage tanks for wildfire firefighting efforts. The grant program only awards grants to entities that are an agency of local government, a county, a municipality, a special district, a tribal agency or program, or a nonprofit or not-for-profit organization that is registered and in good standing with the secretary of state's office.</p> <p>In awarding grants, the forest service considers the potential impact of additional water storage tanks in the applicant's jurisdiction or area. Grant recipients are required to report to the forest service, and the forest service is required to annually report on the grant program to the wildfire matters review committee.</p> <p>The bill also creates the water storage tank wildfire mitigation cash fund. Money in the fund is used to implement the grant program. The general assembly is required to transfer \$5 million into the fund beginning September 1, 2021, through and including the 2024-25 fiscal year.</p>
Comment	
Position	Monitor
Full Text	Full Text of Bill
Fiscal Notes	Fiscal Notes (02/24/2021)
House Committee	Agriculture, Livestock, and Water
Senate Committee	
Sponsors (House and Senate)	Senate: House: R. Hanks (R)
Status	House Committee on Agriculture, Livestock, & Water Postpone Indefinitely (03/01/2021)
Lobbyists	Lobbyists
Votes	Votes all Legislators
Hearing Date	

Bill: HB21-1043	
Title:	Study Underground Water Storage Maximum Beneficial Use
Description	Concerning a study of underground water storage to maximize the beneficial use of water within Colorado.

Summary	<p>The bill directs the Colorado water conservation board (board), in consultation with the state engineer, to contract with a Colorado institution of higher education (institution) to conduct a study to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluate ways to maximize the beneficial use of water within Colorado and implement the storage recommendations of the Colorado water plan by storing water underground when water is available; • Evaluate ways to minimize the amount of water that flows out of Colorado to downstream states, without risking noncompliance with applicable interstate compacts, United States supreme court rulings, other federal law, decreed absolute and conditional water rights, the prior appropriation system, and Colorado's anti-speculation doctrine; • Identify: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specific aquifers that are hydrologically and legally available to be used for underground storage and subsequent beneficial use; • Sources of revenue that could be used to pay for the underground storage projects; and • Planned potential or existing underground storage projects that would meet the objectives identified in the study; • Examine the role that various water entities might play in financing and implementing underground storage projects; and • Recommend legislative changes needed to implement managed underground storage projects in the identified aquifers. <p>The bill directs the board or the institution to submit a report summarizing the results of the study to the water resources review committee by August 1, 2022, which shall either have legislation drafted to implement the study's recommendations or submit the study along with its own recommendations to the committees of the general assembly with jurisdiction over water resources by January 1, 2023.</p>
Comment	
Position	Monitor
Full Text	Full Text of Bill
Fiscal Notes	Fiscal Notes (03/03/2021)
House Committee	Agriculture, Livestock, and Water
Senate Committee	
Sponsors	Senate:

(House and Senate)	J. Sonnenberg (R) House: R. Holtorf (R)
Status	House Committee on Finance Refer Unamended to Appropriations (04/01/2021)
Lobbyists	Lobbyists
Votes	Votes all Legislators
Hearing Date	

Bill: HB21-1050	
Title:	Workers' Compensation
Description	Concerning the "Workers' Compensation Act of Colorado", and, in connection therewith, making changes that affect the timely payment of benefits, guardian ad litem and conservator services, benefit offsets related to the receipt of federal disability or retirement benefits, the reduction of benefits based on apportionment, the selection of independent medical examiners, limits on temporary disability and permanent partial disability payments, the withdrawal of admissions of liability, mileage expense reimbursement, the authority of prehearing administrative law judges, the reopening of permanent total disability awards, and petitions for review and appeals of orders.
Summary	<p>The bill:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adds guardian ad litem and conservator services to the list of medical aid that an employer is required to furnish to an employee who is incapacitated as a result of a work-related injury or occupational disease (section 1 of the bill); • Requires an injured worker who is claiming mileage reimbursement for travel related to obtaining compensable medical care to submit a request to the employer or insurer within 120 days after the expense is incurred, and requires the employer or insurer to pay or dispute mileage within 30 days after submittal and to include in the brochure of claimants' rights an explanation of rights to mileage reimbursement and the deadline for filing a request (sections 1 and 7); • Clarifies that offsets to disability benefits granted by the federal Old-Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance Amendments of 1965 only apply if the payments were not already being received by the employee at the time of the work-related injury (section 2); • Prohibits the reduction of an employee's temporary total disability, temporary partial disability, or medical benefits based on apportionment under any circumstances; limits apportionment of permanent impairment to specific situations; and declares that the employer or insurer bears the burden of proof, by a preponderance of the evidence, at a hearing regarding apportionment of permanent <p>impairment or permanent total disability benefits (section</p>

	<p>3);</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adds the following conditions that must be met for an employer or insurer to request the selection of an independent medical examiner when an authorized treating physician has not determined that the employee has reached maximum medical improvement (MMI): An examining physician must have examined the employee at least 20 months after the date of the injury, have determined that the employee has reached MMI, and have served a written report to the authorized treating physician specifying that the examining physician has determined that the employee has reached MMI; and the authorized treating physician must have responded that the employee has not reached MMI or must have failed to respond within 15 days after service of the report (section 4); • Changes the whole person impairment rating applicable to an injured worker from 25% to 19% for purposes of determining the maximum amount of combined temporary disability and permanent partial disability payments an injured worker may receive (section 5); • Clarifies when benefits and penalties payable to an injured worker are deemed paid (section 6); • Prohibits an employer or insurer from withdrawing an admission of liability when 2 years or more have passed since the date the admission of liability on the issue of compensability was filed, except in cases of fraud (section 7); • Prohibits the director of the division of workers' compensation or an administrative law judge from determining issues of compensability or liability unless specific benefits or penalties are awarded or denied at the same time (section 8); • Clarifies the scope of authority of prehearing administrative law judges (section 9); • Increases the threshold amount that an injured worker must earn in order for permanent total disability payments to cease and allows for annual adjustment of the threshold amount starting in 2022 (section 11); and • Clarifies the orders that are subject to review or appeal (sections 10 and 12).
Comment	
Position	Monitor
Full Text	Full Text of Bill
Fiscal Notes	Fiscal Notes (02/16/2021)
House Committee	Business Affairs and Labor
Senate Committee	Business, Labor and Technology

Sponsors (House and Senate)	Senate: J. Cooke (R) J. Bridges (D) House: K. Van Winkle (R) M. Gray (D)
Status	Senate Committee on Business, Labor, & Technology Refer Unamended to Appropriations (05/10/2021)
Lobbyists	Lobbyists
Votes	Votes all Legislators
Hearing Date	05/19/2021

Bill: HB21-1052	
Title:	Define Pumped Hydroelectricity As Renewable Energy
Description	Concerning the inclusion of pumped hydroelectric energy generation in the definition of "eligible energy resources" for purposes of meeting Colorado's renewable energy standard.
Summary	The bill removes the existing restriction on pumped hydroelectric facilities as a source of recycled energy, which is included in the definition of an eligible energy resource under the renewable energy standard statute.
Comment	
Position	Monitor
Full Text	Full Text of Bill
Fiscal Notes	Fiscal Notes (03/24/2021)
House Committee	Energy and Environment
Senate Committee	Agriculture and Natural Resources
Sponsors (House and Senate)	Senate: R. Woodward (R) House: H. McKean (R)
Status	Governor Signed (04/22/2021)
Lobbyists	Lobbyists
Votes	Votes all Legislators
Hearing Date	

Bill: HB21-1061
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Title:	Residential Land Property Tax Classification
Description	Concerning the definition of residential land for the purpose of property tax classification.
Summary	<p>The bill modifies the definition of the term residential land for the purpose of property tax classification. Currently, a parcel of land without a residential improvement is classified as residential land if it is contiguous with a parcel of land under common ownership upon which a residential improvement is located and if it is used as a unit in conjunction with the residential improvements located thereon. The bill</p> <p>modifies classification for this type of parcel by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requiring the parcel to have the identical owner as the adjacent parcel based on the record title; • Requiring the parcel to have a related improvement that is essential to the use of a residential improvement located on the identically owned contiguous residential land; and • Specifying that contiguity in this instance is not interrupted by an intervening local service street, alley, or common element in a common-interest community. <p>The bill also removes from the definition parcels of land in a residential subdivision, the exclusive use of which land is established by the ownership of such residential improvements.</p>
Comment	
Position	Monitor
Full Text	Full Text of Bill
Fiscal Notes	Fiscal Notes (02/16/2021)
House Committee	Transportation and Local Government
Senate Committee	Local Government
Sponsors (House and Senate)	Senate: C. Hansen (D) House: M. Gray (D)
Status	Governor Signed (04/27/2021)
Lobbyists	Lobbyists
Votes	Votes all Legislators
Hearing Date	

Bill: HB21-1071	
Title:	Ranked Choice Voting In Nonpartisan Elections
Description	Concerning the use of ranked choice voting in nonpartisan elections, and, in connection therewith, making an appropriation.

Summary	<p>Beginning in 2023, the bill allows a municipality to refer a municipal election using instant runoff voting to be conducted as part of a coordinated election. The secretary of state is required to promulgate rules establishing the minimum system requirements and specifications for a voting system to be used in an election using instant runoff voting by March 31, 2022. After March 31, 2022, a system that has been tested</p> <p>and satisfies the standards promulgated by the secretary of state may be submitted for certification for use in an election using instant runoff voting. If the secretary of state certifies a system, the secretary is required to negotiate and purchase, if possible, a single annual statewide license with the provider to allow each county that uses the voting system to conduct elections using instant runoff voting.</p> <p>On and after January 1, 2023, a statutory city or town or home rule municipality that has taken formal action to conduct an election using instant runoff voting may refer the election to be conducted as part of a coordinated election by providing written notice to the county clerk and recorder. If the county uses a voting system that is certified for use in an election using instant runoff voting, the county clerk and recorder must conduct the election as part of the coordinated election. The municipality referring the election is responsible for any reasonable additional costs the county incurs as a result of conducting an instant runoff voting election. If the referring municipality is located in more than one county, the counties are required to conduct the election using instant runoff voting only if each county receives timely notice, each county uses a voting system certified for such use, and the data from all the counties' voting systems can be tabulated together in accordance with rules promulgated by the secretary of state for conducting instant runoff elections across multiple counties. The counties and the municipality are required to enter into an agreement for the conduct of the election, which must specify the procedures for the county canvass boards to canvass the election. For any instant runoff voting election conducted as part of a coordinated election, the secretary of state is the designated election official responsible for tabulating and reporting the results. The secretary of state is required, by December 31, 2022, to promulgate rules related to instant runoff voting elections including the procedures for conducting logic and accuracy tests and risk limiting audits, and for the tabulation, reporting, and canvassing of results.</p>
Comment	
Position	Monitor
Full Text	Full Text of Bill
Fiscal Notes	Fiscal Notes (03/19/2021)

House Committee	State, Civic, Military and Veterans Affairs
Senate Committee	State, Veterans and Military Affairs
Sponsors (House and Senate)	Senate: F. Winter (D) S. Fenberg (D) House: C. Kennedy (D)
Status	Senate Committee on State, Veterans, & Military Affairs Refer Unamended to Finance (05/11/2021)
Lobbyists	Lobbyists
Votes	Votes all Legislators
Hearing Date	05/19/2021

Bill: HB21-1077	
Title:	Legislative Oversight Committee Concerning Tax Policy
Description	Concerning the creation of the legislative oversight committee concerning tax policy, and, in connection therewith, making an appropriation.
Summary	<p>The bill creates the legislative oversight committee concerning tax policy (committee) and the associated task force (task force). The committee is required to review the policy considerations contained in the tax expenditure evaluations prepared by the state auditor and is responsible for the oversight of the task force. The committee may recommend legislative changes that are treated as bills recommended by</p> <p>an interim legislative committee.</p> <p>The task force is required to study tax policy and develop and propose for committee consideration any modifications to the current system of state and local taxation.</p> <p>The task force is also authorized, upon request by a committee member, to provide evidence-based feedback on the potential benefits or consequences of a legislative or other policy proposal not directly affiliated with or generated by the task force, including any bill or resolution introduced by the general assembly that affects tax policy.</p>
Comment	
Position	Monitor
Full Text	Full Text of Bill
Fiscal Notes	Fiscal Notes (02/24/2021)
House	Finance

Committee	
Senate Committee	Finance
Sponsors (House and Senate)	Senate: D. Moreno (D) J. Gonzales (D) House: A. Benavidez (D) S. Bird (D)
Status	Introduced In Senate - Assigned to Finance (05/13/2021)
Lobbyists	Lobbyists
Votes	Votes all Legislators
Hearing Date	05/24/2021

Bill: HB21-1086	
Title:	Voter Proof Of Citizenship Requirement
Description	Concerning requirements to provide proof of citizenship to vote.
Summary	<p>The bill provides that only an elector who has provided proof of citizenship can vote in an election. Registered electors who have presented a county clerk and recorder with proof of citizenship receive regular mail ballots. All other registered electors receive provisional mail ballots. Electors who receive provisional mail ballots must present those ballots at the county clerk and recorder's office and must provide proof of</p> <p>citizenship at the county clerk and recorder's office.</p> <p>The bill also ensures that only voters who have provided proof of citizenship can cast a regular in-person ballot.</p> <p>Finally, the bill requires the computerized statewide voter registration list maintained by the secretary of state to note whether an elector has shown proof of citizenship.</p>
Comment	
Position	Monitor
Full Text	Full Text of Bill
Fiscal Notes	Fiscal Notes (02/24/2021)
House Committee	State, Civic, Military and Veterans Affairs
Senate Committee	
Sponsors (House and	Senate:

Senate)	House: S. Luck (R)
Status	House Committee on State, Civic, Military, & Veterans Affairs Postpone Indefinitely (03/29/2021)
Lobbyists	Lobbyists
Votes	Votes all Legislators
Hearing Date	

Bill: HB21-1095	
Title:	811 Locate Exemption For County Road Maintenance
Description	Concerning excavation notification requirements for underground facility location in connection with county road maintenance.
Summary	<p>Current law requires an individual or entity to notify the statewide notification association of all owners and operators of underground facilities of its intent to engage in excavation so that any underground facilities that the excavation might affect, such as water and sewer pipes, gas lines, and electric or cable lines, can be located and marked before excavation begins. Underground facilities are often located beneath county gravel and dirt roads, normally at a depth of at least 18 inches below the road surface. Counties maintain the profile and surface condition of such county roads and county road rights-of-way by engaging in routine and emergency maintenance activities that do not disturb more than 6 inches in depth. These maintenance activities currently trigger the excavation notification requirement, and the related requirement that the location of underground facilities be marked, even though they occur above the levels where underground facilities are located. To prevent such activities from triggering the excavation notification requirement, the bill specifies that excavation does not include routine or emergency maintenance of right-of-way on county-owned gravel or dirt roads performed by county employees that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does not lower the existing grade or elevation of the road, shoulder, and ditches; and • Does not disturb more than 6 inches in depth during maintenance operations.
Comment	
Position	Monitor
Full Text	Full Text of Bill
Fiscal Notes	Fiscal Notes (03/05/2021)
House Committee	Transportation and Local Government
Senate Committee	Local Government

Sponsors (House and Senate)	Senate: J. Ginal (D) R. Woodward (R) House: M. Baisley (R) C. Kipp (D)
Status	Sent to the Governor (05/11/2021)
Lobbyists	Lobbyists
Votes	Votes all Legislators
Hearing Date	

Bill: HB21-1100	
Title:	Electronic Filing Of Documents With Governmental Entities
Description	Concerning the ability to file documents electronically with governmental entities.
Summary	<p>The bill requires a governmental entity to establish an electronic filing option by January 1, 2022, for each document required or allowed to be filed with the governmental entity. A governmental entity includes each principal department of the state and each county, and any agency, department, board, or division thereof. The electronic filing option may include accepting a scanned copy of the original document by email or</p> <p>through a secure file transfer system. The electronic filing option must comply with existing requirements for a governmental entity to have reasonable security practices in place if the governmental entity receives or maintains personal identifying information. The governmental entity is not authorized to require a filing to be made only by electronic filing if the department does not have authority under other law to require electronic filing.</p>
Comment	
Position	Monitor
Full Text	Full Text of Bill
Fiscal Notes	Fiscal Notes (04/14/2021)
House Committee	Finance
Senate Committee	Finance
Sponsors (House and Senate)	Senate: P. Lundeen (R) J. Bridges (D)

	House: S. Gonzales-Gutierrez (D) M. Soper (R)
Status	Senate Third Reading Passed - No Amendments (05/04/2021)
Lobbyists	Lobbyists
Votes	Votes all Legislators
Hearing Date	

Bill: HB21-1105	
Title:	Low-income Utility Payment Assistance Contributions
Description	Concerning utility customers' financial contributions for low-income utility assistance, and, in connection therewith, making an appropriation.
Summary	<p>Section 1 of the bill removes the low-income energy assistance program administered by Energy Outreach Colorado (EOC) from the grant program reserve funded by tier 2 severance tax operational fund money.</p> <p>Section 2 clarifies that the definition of a low-income utility customer, with regard to the public utilities commission's (PUC) consideration of a preference or advantage that a gas or electric utility grants a low-income utility customer, means a utility customer who meets the Colorado department of human services' income eligibility criteria.</p> <p>Sections 3 and 4 make modifications to the legislative commission on low-income energy assistance, wherein section 3 expands the commission's scope to include water utility assistance and section 4 reduces the composition of the commission from 11 members to 7 members. Section 4 also requires the commission to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advise the Colorado energy office (office) on grants awarded from the federal department of energy regarding the office's weatherization assistance program; • Advise water utilities that provide their customers with utility assistance and efficiency programs; and • Review EOC's annual budget that it submits to the PUC regarding the use of funding for utility bill payment assistance. <p>Sections 5, 6, and 8 to 10 concern the creation of an energy assistance system benefit charge, which is a mandatory monthly charge that investor-owned electric and gas utilities are required to collect from their customers. The initial amount of the charge per customer is \$1 for electric service provided and \$1 for natural gas service provided, but the PUC may adopt rules to modify the amount of the charge, so long as the charge is at least \$1 per service provided. Investor-owned utilities are required to remit the charges collected to EOC to help finance the direct utility bill payment assistance and energy retrofit programs that EOC administers for low-income households.</p> <p>Sections 7 and 11 concern voluntary, opt-in charges that a water utility may offer its customers to help finance the water utility bill</p>

	<p>payment assistance program that EOC administers. Alternatively, a water utility may implement its own water utility bill payment assistance program.</p> <p>Section 12 requires EOC and the office, when installing energy retrofits for low-income households, to prioritize customer savings, emission reductions, and improving indoor air quality.</p> <p>Section 13 governs reporting requirements for EOC regarding the mandatory monthly energy assistance system benefit charge and voluntary, opt-in monthly water utility bill payment assistance collections.</p> <p>Sections 14 to 17 make conforming amendments.</p>
Comment	
Position	Support
Full Text	Full Text of Bill
Fiscal Notes	Fiscal Notes (04/16/2021)
House Committee	Finance
Senate Committee	
Sponsors (House and Senate)	Senate: C. Hansen (D) House: C. Kennedy (D)
Status	House Committee on Appropriations Refer Amended to House Committee of the Whole (05/14/2021)
Lobbyists	Lobbyists
Votes	Votes all Legislators
Hearing Date	05/19/2021

Bill: HB21-1111	
Title:	Consent Collection Personal Information
Description	Concerning the possession of certain personal information by governmental entities.
Summary	<p>The bill requires a governmental entity that maintains, owns, or licenses computerized data that includes certain personal information about any Colorado residents, or a governmental entity that uses a third-party service provider to maintain computerized data that includes certain personal information, to give notice to those Colorado residents every 90 days.</p> <p>The notice must give Colorado residents the option to either assent to the governmental entity possessing the Colorado resident's personal information or request that the governmental entity dispose of any</p>

	paper or electronic documents containing the Colorado resident's personal identifying information.
Comment	
Position	Monitor
Full Text	Full Text of Bill
Fiscal Notes	Fiscal Notes (03/16/2021)
House Committee	State, Civic, Military and Veterans Affairs
Senate Committee	
Sponsors (House and Senate)	Senate: House: H. McKean (R)
Status	House Committee on State, Civic, Military, & Veterans Affairs Witness Testimony and/or Committee Discussion Only (03/18/2021)
Lobbyists	Lobbyists
Votes	Votes all Legislators
Hearing Date	05/20/2021

Bill: HB21-1168	
Title:	Historically Underutilized Businesses Local Government Procurement
Description	Concerning historically underutilized businesses in local government procurement.
Summary	<p>The bill requires local governments, including school districts, with a procurement budget of a certain size to collect data regarding the participation of historically underutilized businesses in local government procurement for a 5-year period and requires the local government to annually report that data to the secretary of state. The bill requires the secretary of state to share summarized data with the department of local</p> <p>affairs. The bill further requires the department of local affairs to annually include the summarized data received from the secretary of state as part of the department's presentation to its committee of reference at a hearing held pursuant to the State Measurement for Accountable, Responsive, and Transparent (SMART) Government Act. The bill defines a historically underutilized business as a business</p> <p>that is at least 51% owned and controlled, in both the management and day-to-day business decisions, by one or more individuals who are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Members of a racial or ethnic minority group;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non-Hispanic Caucasian women; • Persons with physical or mental disabilities; • Members of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender community; or • Veterans.
Comment	
Position	Monitor
Full Text	Full Text of Bill
Fiscal Notes	Fiscal Notes (04/16/2021)
House Committee	Transportation and Local Government
Senate Committee	Finance
Sponsors (House and Senate)	Senate: C. Kolker (D) House: N. Ricks (D) J. Bacon (D)
Status	Senate Third Reading Passed - No Amendments (05/11/2021)
Lobbyists	Lobbyists
Votes	Votes all Legislators
Hearing Date	

Bill: HB21-1170	
Title:	Advisement Committee On Elections And Information Technology
Description	Concerning the creation of the information technology and infrastructure advisement committee on Colorado elections.
Summary	<p>The bill creates the information technology and infrastructure advisement committee on Colorado elections (committee). The committee's purpose is to evaluate and make recommendations to the secretary of state on the following issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The standards for certification of electronic voting systems; • Any issues involving electronic voting systems that have arisen in the state; • The security, reliability, and integrity of electronic voting systems; and • Other information technology issues related to the accuracy and transparency of electronic voting systems in the state. <p>The committee is required to submit an initial report by March 1, 2022, and annual follow-up reports with its findings and recommendations to the secretary of state. The committee is required to</p>

	meet at least 2 times each year and is scheduled for sunset review before September 1, 2025.
Comment	
Position	Monitor
Full Text	Full Text of Bill
Fiscal Notes	Fiscal Notes (03/25/2021)
House Committee	State, Civic, Military and Veterans Affairs
Senate Committee	
Sponsors (House and Senate)	Senate: House: T. Geitner (R)
Status	House Committee on State, Civic, Military, & Veterans Affairs Postpone Indefinitely (03/29/2021)
Lobbyists	Lobbyists
Votes	Votes all Legislators
Hearing Date	

Bill: HB21-1176	
Title:	Election Integrity And Voter Accuracy
Description	Concerning measures to promote integrity in elections in the state, and, in connection therewith, creating the Colorado bipartisan election commission to make recommendations to the secretary of state and the general assembly on how best to conduct a comprehensive audit of the state's election processes.
Summary	<p>The bill creates the Colorado bipartisan election commission</p> <p>(commission) in the department of state, a 5-member panel whose main function is to make recommendations to the secretary of state (secretary) and the general assembly concerning the manner in which a comprehensive audit of the state's election processes is to be conducted.</p> <p>The bill specifies requirements relating to the qualifications of persons appointed to the commission and the operation of the commission. The commission is to determine such matters as the scope of the audit, the matters to be audited, and the procedures that will</p> <p>guide the audit.</p> <p>The bill also requires the commission to consider whether an audit</p>

	<p>should consider additional issues specified in the bill.</p> <p>The commission is required to prepare a report summarizing its findings and conclusions by December 1, 2021. The report must include the commission's recommendation on the manner in which a comprehensive audit of the state's election processes must be conducted.</p> <p>The commission may also include in its report any recommendations for changes in the Colorado Revised Statutes or the election rules of the secretary of state that will facilitate the administration of secure and fair elections in the state. The commission is required to submit its report to the secretary, the legislative audit committee, and the general assembly.</p> <p>The commission is repealed September 1, 2022.</p>
Comment	
Position	Monitor
Full Text	Full Text of Bill
Fiscal Notes	Fiscal Notes (03/25/2021)
House Committee	State, Civic, Military and Veterans Affairs
Senate Committee	
Sponsors (House and Senate)	Senate: House: R. Holtorf (R)
Status	House Committee on State, Civic, Military, & Veterans Affairs Postpone Indefinitely (03/29/2021)
Lobbyists	Lobbyists
Votes	Votes all Legislators
Hearing Date	

Bill: HB21-1212	
Title:	Diversity Of Governor's Appointments To Boards
Description	Concerning the diversity of members appointed by the governor to boards authorized by the general assembly.
Summary	The bill requires the governor to appoint members of diverse groups to statewide boards, commissions, committees, and task forces authorized by the general assembly.
Comment	
Position	Monitor
Full Text	Full Text of Bill

Fiscal Notes	Fiscal Notes (03/30/2021)
House Committee	State, Civic, Military and Veterans Affairs
Senate Committee	State, Veterans and Military Affairs
Sponsors (House and Senate)	Senate: R. Fields (D) D. Coram (R) House: D. Esgar (D) M. Soper (R)
Status	Sent to the Governor (05/14/2021)
Lobbyists	Lobbyists
Votes	Votes all Legislators
Hearing Date	

Bill: HB21-1242	
Title:	Create Agricultural Drought And Climate Resilience Office
Description	Concerning the creation of an agricultural drought and climate resilience office in the department of agriculture.
Summary	<p>Section 1 of the bill creates in the department of agriculture the agricultural drought and climate resilience office (office). The office may provide voluntary technical assistance, nonregulatory programs, and incentives that increase the ability to anticipate, prepare for, mitigate, adapt to, and respond to hazardous events, trends, or disturbances related</p> <p>to drought or the climate. The office may accept gifts, grants, and donations for these purposes. On July 1, 2021, the state treasurer shall transfer all unobligated money in the agriculture value-added cash fund to the newly created agriculture drought and climate resiliency cash fund.</p> <p>The commissioner of agriculture shall appoint the head of the office and may promulgate rules necessary for the administration of the office's assistance, programs, and incentives.</p> <p>Section 2 annually transfers \$500,000 from tier 2 of the severance tax operational fund to the new cash fund until July 1, 2029.</p>
Comment	
Position	Monitor
Full Text	Full Text of Bill
Fiscal Notes	Fiscal Notes (05/04/2021)
House Committee	Agriculture, Livestock, and Water

Senate Committee	Agriculture and Natural Resources
Sponsors (House and Senate)	Senate: K. Donovan (D) House: B. McLachlan (D)
Status	Senate Committee on Agriculture & Natural Resources Refer Amended to Appropriations (05/13/2021)
Lobbyists	Lobbyists
Votes	Votes all Legislators
Hearing Date	05/21/2021

Bill: HB21-1260	
Title:	General Fund Transfer Implement State Water Plan
Description	Concerning transfers of money from the general fund to implement the state water plan, and, in connection therewith, making an appropriation.
Summary	The bill allocates \$20 million from the general fund to the Colorado water conservation board (CWCB) to be spent to implement the state water plan as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$15 million, which is transferred to the water plan implementation cash fund for expenditures and grants administered by the CWCB to implement the state water plan; and • \$5 million, which is transferred to the water supply reserve fund for CWCB to disperse to the basin roundtables.
Comment	
Position	Monitor
Full Text	Full Text of Bill
Fiscal Notes	Fiscal Notes (04/13/2021)
House Committee	Agriculture, Livestock, and Water
Senate Committee	Agriculture and Natural Resources
Sponsors (House and Senate)	Senate: K. Donovan (D) C. Simpson (R) House: A. Garnett (D) M. Catlin (R)
Status	Senate Committee on Agriculture & Natural Resources Refer Amended to Appropriations (05/12/2021)
Lobbyists	Lobbyists

Votes	Votes all Legislators
Hearing Date	

Bill: HB21-1266	
Title:	Environmental Justice Disproportionate Impacted Community
Description	Concerning efforts to redress the effects of environmental injustice on disproportionately impacted communities, and, in connection therewith, making an appropriation.
Summary	<p>Section 3 of the bill defines disproportionately impacted community.</p> <p>Section 4 requires the air quality control commission to promote outreach to and engage with disproportionately impacted communities by creating new ways to gather input from communities across the state, using multiple languages and multiple formats, and transparently sharing information about adverse effects resulting from its proposed actions.</p> <p>Section 5 creates the environmental justice action task force (task force) in the department of public health and environment (department), the goal of which is to propose recommendations to the general assembly regarding practical means of addressing environmental justice inequities.</p> <p>The task force will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hold meetings to solicit public comment concerning the development of a state agency-wide environmental justice strategy and a plan to implement that strategy, including ways to address data gaps and data sharing between state agencies and the engagement of disproportionately impacted communities; • Evaluate and propose recommended revisions to the definition of disproportionately impacted community and the state agencies and their proposed actions that are subject to section 3; and • File a final report by November 14, 2022, regarding its recommendations. <p>The department will report on the task force during the department's SMART Act presentations.</p>
Comment	
Position	Monitor
Full Text	Full Text of Bill
Fiscal Notes	Fiscal Notes (04/16/2021)
House Committee	Energy and Environment
Senate Committee	Finance

Sponsors (House and Senate)	Senate: J. Buckner (D) F. Winter (D) House: D. Jackson (D)
Status	Introduced In Senate - Assigned to Finance (05/13/2021)
Lobbyists	Lobbyists
Votes	Votes all Legislators
Hearing Date	

Bill: HB21-1267	
Title:	County Authority To Delegate Mill Levy Certification
Description	Concerning a board of county commissioners' optional delegation of the administrative duty to certify mill levies.
Summary	After receipt of the amounts to be levied against taxable property in the county, the board of county commissioners or other taxing authority (BOCC) is required to hold a formal hearing and to certify such levies to the county assessor. The bill gives the BOCC the option to authorize the levies by written approval rather than by formal hearing and to delegate the certification process to staff or other authorized parties.
Comment	
Position	Monitor
Full Text	Full Text of Bill
Fiscal Notes	Fiscal Notes (04/16/2021)
House Committee	Transportation and Local Government
Senate Committee	Local Government
Sponsors (House and Senate)	Senate: T. Story (D) D. Hisey (R) House: S. Lontine (D) C. Larson (R)
Status	Senate Committee on Local Government Refer Unamended to Senate Committee of the Whole (05/18/2021)
Lobbyists	Lobbyists
Votes	Votes all Legislators
Hearing Date	05/20/2021

Bill: [HB21-1268](#)

Title:	Study Emerging Technologies For Water Management
Description	Concerning a requirement that Colorado institutions of higher education study potential uses of emerging technologies to more effectively manage Colorado's water supply, and, in connection therewith, making an appropriation conditioned on the receipt of matching funds from gifts, grants, and donations.
Summary	<p>The bill declares that new technologies, such as blockchain, telemetry, improved sensors, and advanced aerial observation platforms, can improve monitoring, management, conservation, and trading of water and enhance confidence in the reliability of data underlying water rights transactions. To advance the potential use of these new technologies, the bill:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Authorizes and directs the university of Colorado and Colorado state university, in collaboration with the Colorado water institute at Colorado state university, to conduct feasibility studies and pilot deployments of these new technologies to improve water management in Colorado; and• Appropriates \$20,000 to each university from the general fund, contingent on the universities' receipt of a matching \$40,000 in gifts, grants, and donations, for the purpose of funding the feasibility studies and pilot deployments.
Comment	
Position	Monitor
Full Text	Full Text of Bill
Fiscal Notes	Fiscal Notes (04/16/2021)
House Committee	Agriculture, Livestock, and Water
Senate Committee	Agriculture and Natural Resources
Sponsors (House and Senate)	Senate: C. Hansen (D) C. Simpson (R) House: B. Titone (D) P. Will (R)
Status	Introduced In Senate - Assigned to Agriculture & Natural Resources (05/13/2021)
Lobbyists	Lobbyists
Votes	Votes all Legislators
Hearing Date	05/19/2021

Bill: [HB21-1278](#)

Title:	Special District Meeting Requirements
Description	Concerning meeting requirements for the boards of special districts.
Summary	The bill clarifies what qualifies as a meeting and a location for purposes of the meeting of a board of a special district. The bill also prohibits a challenge to the method of conducting any special district board meeting that was held virtually before the effective date of the bill.
Comment	
Position	Monitor
Full Text	Full Text of Bill
Fiscal Notes	Fiscal Notes (04/28/2021)
House Committee	Transportation and Local Government
Senate Committee	Local Government
Sponsors (House and Senate)	Senate: J. Sonnenberg (R) House: T. Exum Sr. (D)
Status	Introduced In Senate - Assigned to Local Government (05/12/2021)
Lobbyists	Lobbyists
Votes	Votes all Legislators
Hearing Date	

Bill: [HB21-1308](#)

Title:	Property Tax Administrative Procedures
Description	Concerning the administrative procedures related to property taxation, and, in connection therewith, increasing public participation related to modifications of the property tax manuals, requiring a notice of valuation to include a range of possible property tax values, requiring the assessor to correct systematic errors, and extending the deadlines for taxpayers to protest and appeal valuations of real and personal property.
Summary	The property tax administrator is required by law to prepare and publish manuals, appraisal procedures, instructions, and guidelines (property tax materials) concerning the administration of the property tax. Beginning January 1, 2022, section 1 of the bill requires the administrator to conduct a public hearing on a proposed change to the

	<p>property tax materials prior to submitting the proposed change to the advisory committee to the property tax administrator (advisory committee). The administrator must publish notice of the hearing and mail notice to those people who so request. At the hearing, interested persons may submit information and the administrator is required to consider these submissions. Any interested person may also petition the administrator for the issuance, amendment, or repeal of any property tax material. At least 2 weeks prior to the advisory committee reviewing a proposed change to the property tax materials, section 2 requires the property tax administrator to publish notice about the proposed change. Under current law, an assessor may, with the permission of the board of county commissioners, include an estimate of property taxes owed in a notice of valuation. Section 3 requires an assessor to include this estimate and allows the assessor to include a range of values. If in the consideration of a protest an assessor finds that he or she made a systematic error and the valuations of other similar properties are incorrect, section 4 requires the assessor to correct the error for the other similar properties. Sections 4 through 9 extend all deadlines related to protests of the valuation of real or personal property and for appeals to the county board of equalization to the same day of the following month. The deadline for a county assessor to report the total valuation for assessment of land and improvements within a county is likewise delayed.</p>
Comment	
Position	Monitor
Full Text	Full Text of Bill
Fiscal Notes	Fiscal Notes (05/17/2021)
House Committee	Transportation and Local Government
Senate Committee	
Sponsors (House and Senate)	Senate: K. Priola (R) D. Moreno (D) House: M. Gray (D) C. Larson (R)
Status	Introduced In House - Assigned to Transportation & Local Government (05/07/2021)
Lobbyists	Lobbyists
Votes	Votes all Legislators
Hearing Date	05/19/2021

Bill: [HB21-1319](#)

Title:	Temporary Modifications To Prevailing Wage Requirements
Description	Concerning temporary modifications to general prevailing rate requirements for certain state contracts for public projects.
Summary	<p>Senate Bill 19-196, enacted in 2019, requires that a state agency (agency) specify a general prevailing rate of wages and other payments provided to employees (prevailing rate) in certain contracts for public projects, and it applies to state solicitations issued for projects (solicitations) on or after July 1, 2021.</p> <p>For solicitations issued on July 1, 2021, through December 31, 2021, only, the bill requires that the agency obtain the general prevailing rate directly from the United States department of labor. For solicitations issued on or after January 1, 2022, the agency must obtain the general prevailing rate from the director of the Colorado department of personnel and administration (department).</p> <p>For solicitations issued on July 1, 2021, through December 31, 2021, only, the bill requires that the agency keep a schedule of the prevailing rate on file for the life of the project. Beginning on January 1, 2022, the director of the department is required to keep a schedule of the customary prevailing rate in his or her office.</p> <p>The bill also permits the department to include only solicitations issued on or after January 1, 2022, rather than solicitations issued on or after July 1, 2021, in its annual reports detailing the amount of apprenticeship training contributions paid.</p>
Comment	
Position	Monitor
Full Text	Full Text of Bill
Fiscal Notes	
House Committee	Business Affairs and Labor
Senate Committee	
Sponsors (House and Senate)	Senate: House: M. Duran (D)
Status	Introduced In House - Assigned to Business Affairs & Labor (05/14/2021)
Lobbyists	Lobbyists
Votes	Votes all Legislators

Hearing Date	05/20/2021
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Bill: <u>HB21-HJR1002</u>	
Title:	Water Projects Eligibility Lists
Description	Concerning approval of water project revolving fund eligibility lists administered by the Colorado water resources and power development authority.
Summary	CONCERNING APPROVAL OF WATER PROJECT REVOLVING FUND ELIGIBILITY LISTS ADMINISTERED BY THE COLORADO WATER RESOURCES AND POWER DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY.
Comment	
Position	Monitor
Full Text	Full Text of Bill
Fiscal Notes	
House Committee	Agriculture, Livestock, and Water
Senate Committee	Agriculture and Natural Resources
Sponsors (House and Senate)	Senate: K. Donovan (D) House:
Status	Governor Signed (03/21/2021)
Lobbyists	Lobbyists
Votes	Votes all Legislators
Hearing Date	

Bill: <u>SB21-006</u>	
Title:	Human Remains Natural Reduction Soil
Description	Concerning the conversion of human remains to basic elements within a container using an accelerated process, and, in connection therewith, making an appropriation.
Summary	<p>The bill authorizes human remains to be converted to soil using a container that accelerates the process of biological decomposition, also known as natural reduction. The bill prohibits the following when done in the course of business:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Selling or offering to sell the soil; • Commingling the soil of more than one person without the

	<p>consent of the person or persons with the right of final disposition unless the soil is abandoned;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commingling the human remains of more than one person without the consent of the person or persons with the right of final disposition within the container wherein natural reduction produces soil; or • Using the soil to grow food for human consumption. <p>Current law has various provisions that deal with burial, cremation, interment, and entombment. In connection with authorizing natural reduction, the bill replaces these terms with the phrase final disposition, which term is defined to include natural reduction. The following types of provisions are updated to reflect the option to use natural reduction:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Life insurance statutes; • Preneed funeral insurance contracts; • The Mortuary Science Code; • Funeral picketing statutes; • Litigation damages; • The Colorado Probate Code; • The Disposition of Last Remains Act; • The Revised Uniform Anatomical Gift Act; • Missing person reports for unidentified human remains; • Public peace and order statutes; • Vital statistics statutes; • The Colorado Public Assistance Act; and • Firefighter pension plans. <p>Natural reduction is added to the statutes that regulate funeral establishments, and this addition will result in the regulation of the natural reduction process. But the definitions of cremation and mortuary science practitioner are amended so that a practitioner of natural reduction is not regulated as a cremationist or mortuary science practitioner.</p> <p>Current law has a provision that governs the disposal of abandoned cremated remains. The soil from natural reduction is added to this provision, with an option to return the soil to the earth in a respectful manner.</p>
Comment	
Position	Monitor
Full Text	Full Text of Bill
Fiscal Notes	Fiscal Notes (02/16/2021)
House Committee	Energy and Environment
Senate Committee	Local Government
Sponsors (House and Senate)	Senate: R. Rodriguez (D) House:

	B. Titone (D) M. Soper (R)
Status	Governor Signed (05/10/2021)
Lobbyists	Lobbyists
Votes	Votes all Legislators
Hearing Date	

Bill: SB21-034	
Title:	Water Resource Financing Enterprise
Description	Concerning the creation of an enterprise that is exempt from the requirements of section 20 of article X of the state constitution to administer a fee-based water resources financing program.
Summary	<p>The bill creates the water resources financing enterprise (enterprise). The board of the enterprise (board) consists of the board of directors of the Colorado water resources and power development authority and the board members of the Colorado water conservation board. The enterprise will provide financing to water providers, defined to include drinking water suppliers, wastewater treatment suppliers, and raw water suppliers. Raw water suppliers are limited to those that provide raw water for treatment and use as drinking water. Customers of a drinking water supplier will pay a fee to the supplier, who will transmit it to the enterprise to be used for the financing. The fee for each individual metered connection in a drinking water supplier's public water system is 25 cents per 1,000 gallons of drinking water delivered per month in excess of the first 4,000 gallons of drinking water delivered in that month to the individual metered connection. The board may adjust the fee based on inflation and equity concerns for large nonresidential customers and customers who pay tiered rates that start higher than 4,000 gallons per month. The enterprise can provide financing for grants, loans, and in-kind technical assistance in arranging third-party financing. In determining whether to provide financing, the board shall consider the following factors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A water provider's ability to pay, including whether the water provider has sought or received other financial assistance; • Whether a water provider has been found to be noncompliant with requirements, or is subject to increased requirements, related to the provision of raw water, drinking water, or wastewater treatment; • Whether the proposed use of financing relates to a project identified in and in furtherance of the state water plan; and • The geographic location and demographic characteristics of the water provider and its customers. <p>The enterprise shall provide, and a water provider may use, the</p>

	financing only: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In connection with the provision of raw water, drinking water, or wastewater treatment; and • For feasibility studies, consulting, planning, permitting, and construction of infrastructure and water conservation projects and related recreational, hydroelectric, and flood control facilities, including necessary enlargement and rehabilitation of facilities but excluding maintenance and operation of facilities.
Comment	
Position	Monitor
Full Text	Full Text of Bill
Fiscal Notes	Fiscal Notes (03/01/2021)
House Committee	
Senate Committee	Agriculture and Natural Resources
Sponsors (House and Senate)	Senate: D. Coram (R) House:
Status	Senate Committee on Agriculture & Natural Resources Postpone Indefinitely (03/11/2021)
Lobbyists	Lobbyists
Votes	Votes all Legislators
Hearing Date	

Bill: SB21-064	
Title:	Retaliation Against An Elected Official
Description	Concerning criminalizing retaliation against an elected official, and, in connection therewith, making an appropriation.
Summary	Under current law, there is a crime of retaliation against a judge if an individual makes a credible threat or commits an act of harassment or an act of harm or injury upon a person or property as retaliation or retribution against a judge. The crime is a class 4 felony. The bill adds elected officials and their families to the crime.
Comment	
Position	Monitor
Full Text	Full Text of Bill
Fiscal Notes	Fiscal Notes (03/24/2021)

House Committee	Judiciary
Senate Committee	Judiciary
Sponsors (House and Senate)	Senate: L. Garcia (D) J. Cooke (R) House: K. Mullica (D)
Status	Sent to the Governor (05/17/2021)
Lobbyists	Lobbyists
Votes	Votes all Legislators
Hearing Date	

Bill: SB21-130	
Title:	Local Authority for Business Personal Property Tax Exemption
Description	Concerning authorization for local governments to exempt business personal property from taxation.
Summary	The bill allows counties, municipalities, and special districts to exempt up to 100% of business personal property from the levy and collection of property taxation for the 2021 property tax year.
Comment	
Position	Monitor
Full Text	Full Text of Bill
Fiscal Notes	Fiscal Notes (03/03/2021)
House Committee	Transportation and Local Government
Senate Committee	State, Veterans and Military Affairs
Sponsors (House and Senate)	Senate: C. Holbert (R) B. Pettersen (D) House: K. Van Winkle (R) S. Bird (D)
Status	Governor Signed (04/29/2021)
Lobbyists	Lobbyists
Votes	Votes all Legislators
Hearing Date	

Bill: [SB21-136](#)

Title:	Sunset Forest Health Advisory Council
Description	Concerning the continuation of the forest health advisory council, and, in connection therewith, implementing the recommendation contained in the 2020 sunset report by the department of regulatory agencies to continue the advisory council and continuing it for five years.
Summary	Sunset Process - Senate Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee. The bill implements the recommendation of the department of regulatory agencies' sunset review and report to continue the forest health advisory council and continues it 5 years until 2026.
Comment	
Position	Monitor
Full Text	Full Text of Bill
Fiscal Notes	Fiscal Notes (03/09/2021)
House Committee	Agriculture, Livestock, and Water
Senate Committee	Agriculture and Natural Resources
Sponsors (House and Senate)	Senate: D. Coram (R) J. Ginal (D) House: T. Carver (R) L. Cutter (D)
Status	Signed by the President of the Senate (05/18/2021)
Lobbyists	Lobbyists
Votes	Votes all Legislators
Hearing Date	

Bill: [SB21-160](#)

Title:	ModificationTo Local Government Election Codes
Description	Concerning certain administrative clarifications to local government election codes.
Summary	The bill makes the following changes to the local government and special district election codes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revises statutory citations to clarify that the Colorado local government election code is the portion of the election

	<p>code applicable to special district elections;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides additional statutory citations to specify all instances in which a county assessor provides a list of property owners for an election; • Clarifies that, when computing time for any designated period of days for a local government election, the first day from which the period of days runs is excluded and the last day from which the period of days runs is included; • Specifies that the candidate self-nomination form for special district elections must contain the county where the special district is located; • Clarifies that a candidate's and witness's respective addresses and telephone numbers and a candidate's current e-mail address need to be provided but do not need to be printed by the candidate and witness on the self-nomination form for special district elections; • Specifies that an eligible elector of a local government who is a covered voter must reside within the boundaries of the local government to receive a mail ballot; • Clarifies that local government ballots may be automatically sent to eligible electors who are qualified under contracts to purchase taxable property; and • Eliminates provisions governing a self-affirming oath or affirmation of an elector in the statutes governing special districts that are covered by similar provisions in the election code. <p>The board of directors of a special district currently consists of 5 or 7 directors elected at large. The bill provides a process for dividing a special district into separate director districts and for members to be elected from each director district at large or by the electors within each director district.</p>
Comment	
Position	Monitor
Full Text	Full Text of Bill
Fiscal Notes	Fiscal Notes (03/18/2021)
House Committee	State, Civic, Military and Veterans Affairs
Senate Committee	State, Veterans and Military Affairs
Sponsors (House and Senate)	Senate: R. Gardner (R) House: M. Snyder (D)
Status	Governor Signed (05/13/2021)
Lobbyists	Lobbyists
Votes	Votes all Legislators
Hearing Date	

Bill: SB21-170

Title:	Wildland Fire Mitigation Cooperative Electric Association
Description	Concerning standards applicable to cooperative electric association wildland fire mitigation, and, in connection therewith, requiring wildland fire protection plans, providing authority for vegetation management, and limiting cooperative electric association liability.
Summary	<p>The bill requires a cooperative electric association (association) to adopt a wildland fire protection plan. The plan must include information on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Areas where the association has powerline facilities that may have an increased risk of wildland fires;• The procedures and standards that the association will use to inspect and operate its powerline facilities and perform vegetation management around those facilities;• The modifications or upgrades that the association will implement to reduce risks of wildland fires;• The procedures for de-energizing powerline facilities to mitigate potential wildland fires;• Community outreach efforts during the wildland fire season; and• The potential for coordination with other wildland fire protection plans. <p>An association must file its wildland fire protection plan with the public utilities commission every 3 years and must submit an annual report to the commission detailing its compliance with the plan.</p> <p>The bill allows, but does not require, an association to remove or partially remove vegetation outside of a powerline facility easement as necessary following a major weather event or other emergency situation.</p> <p>In addition, an association may designate vegetation as hazard vegetation if the association finds that the vegetation is dead, likely to fail, or likely to fall, sway, or grow into a powerline facility and finds that the vegetation is likely to cause substantial damage, disrupt service, or come within a minimum clearance distance of the powerline facility. An association may, but is not required to, remove or partially remove hazard vegetation outside of an easement after providing notice to the landowner.</p> <p>The association is not required to provide notice if removal of the hazard vegetation is necessary to continue safe operation of its facilities or if the removal is done as part of trimming or removing vegetation after a storm or other emergency event.</p> <p>If vegetation outside of a powerline facility easement dies as the result of being trimmed or partially removed by an association, the landowner may request that the association remove the vegetation at the association's expense. The association is required to remove the</p>

	<p>vegetation within ninety days; except that the association may offer and the landowner may accept payment for the reasonable cost of removal instead of the association removing the vegetation.</p> <p>An association is not liable for personal injury, property damage, or fire suppression costs resulting from a wildland fire if any of the following apply:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The association filed a wildland fire protection plan and completed the activities described in it; • A landowner failed to control vegetation outside of a powerline facility easement on the landowner's land; • The association requested and was denied access to perform vegetation management in a right-of-way on land owned by a local government, the state, a federal agency, or a tribal agency; or • A landowner prevented the association from maintaining its powerline facility easement or from removing hazard vegetation outside the easement. <p>If none of those circumstances apply and an association is found liable for a wildland fire, the prevailing plaintiff is limited to actual damages and cannot recover noneconomic, punitive, or exemplary damages.</p>
Comment	
Position	Monitor
Full Text	Full Text of Bill
Fiscal Notes	Fiscal Notes (04/05/2021)
House Committee	
Senate Committee	Transportation and Energy
Sponsors (House and Senate)	<p>Senate: J. Ginal (D) D. Hisey (R)</p> <p>House: M. Lynch (R)</p>
Status	Senate Committee on Transportation & Energy Postpone Indefinitely (04/06/2021)
Lobbyists	Lobbyists
Votes	Votes all Legislators
Hearing Date	

Bill: SB21-176	
Title:	Protecting Opportunities And Workers' Rights Act
Description	Concerning protections for Colorado workers against discriminatory employment practices.

Summary	<p>For purposes of addressing discriminatory or unfair employment practices pursuant to Colorado's anti-discrimination laws, the bill:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allows an employment discrimination claim to be brought in any court of competent jurisdiction in the county or district where the alleged discriminatory or unfair employment practice occurred and allows an individual to file a civil action, without otherwise exhausting administrative proceedings and remedies, as long as the individual either files a charge with the Colorado civil rights commission (commission) or serves a written demand for the relief on the individual's employer and allows the employer 14 days to respond; • Expands the definition of employee to include individuals in domestic service; individuals who perform a service for a price, including independent contractors, subcontractors, and their employees; and individuals who offer services or labor without pay; • Adds new definitions of caregiver, care recipient, child, minor child, harassment, hostile work environment, and independent contractor; • Adds protections from discriminatory or unfair employment practices for individuals based on their marital status or caregiver status; • Specifies that it is a discriminatory or unfair employment practice for an employer to fail to initiate an investigation of a complaint or fail to take prompt remedial action if appropriate; • Prohibits certain preemployment medical examinations, imposes limitations on inquiries and examinations about an employee's disability during employment, and specifies that violations of these prohibitions and limitations constitute discriminatory or unfair employment practices; • Expands the time limit to file a charge with the commission from 6 months to 300 days after the alleged discriminatory or unfair employment practice occurred; • Repeals the limits on remedies in cases involving age discrimination; and • Limits the ability of an employer to require confidentiality of claims once a charge is filed with the commission.
Comment	
Position	Monitor
Full Text	Full Text of Bill
Fiscal Notes	Fiscal Notes (03/25/2021)
House Committee	
Senate Committee	Judiciary
Sponsors	Senate:

(House and Senate)	B. Pettersen (D) F. Winter (D) House: S. Lontine (D) M. Gray (D)
Status	Senate Committee on Judiciary Refer Amended to Appropriations (05/06/2021)
Lobbyists	Lobbyists
Votes	Votes all Legislators
Hearing Date	05/21/2021

Bill: SB21-189	
Title:	Colorado Water Conservation Board Construction Fund Project
Description	Concerning the funding of Colorado water conservation board projects, and, in connection therewith, making an appropriation.
Summary	<p>The bill appropriates the following amounts from the Colorado water conservation board (CWCB) construction fund to the CWCB or the division of water resources in the department of natural resources for the following projects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuation of the satellite monitoring system, \$100,000 <p>(section 1 of the bill);</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuation of the Colorado floodplain map modernization program, \$500,000 (section 2); • Continuation of the weather modification permitting program, \$350,000 (section 3); and • Continuation of technical assistance for federal cost-share programs, \$300,000 (section 4). <p>Section 5 directs the state treasurer to transfer up to \$2,000,000 from the CWCB construction fund to the litigation fund on July 1, 2021.</p> <p>Section 6 authorizes the CWCB to make a loan in an amount up to \$3,000,000 from the CWCB construction fund or the severance tax perpetual base fund to the Colorado Rio Grande Restoration Foundation in furtherance of the San Luis valley confined aquifer recovery project.</p> <p>Section 7 reinstates severance tax funding of the water efficiency grant program by authorizing a transfer of \$550,000 in each state fiscal year commencing on or after July 1, 2021, from the grant program reserve of the severance tax operational fund, which reserve is part of the tier 2 funding that is used only if the general assembly chooses not to spend 100% of the money in the operational fund on core departmental programs, to the water efficiency grant program cash fund. The Reinstated funding is repealed on July 1, 2030, when the water efficiency grant program is scheduled to repeal.</p>
Comment	
Position	Monitor

Full Text	Full Text of Bill
Fiscal Notes	Fiscal Notes (05/05/2021)
House Committee	Agriculture, Livestock, and Water
Senate Committee	Agriculture and Natural Resources
Sponsors (House and Senate)	Senate: K. Donovan (D) House: M. Catlin (R) K. McCormick (D)
Status	House Committee on Agriculture, Livestock, & Water Refer Unamended to Appropriations (05/17/2021)
Lobbyists	Lobbyists
Votes	Votes all Legislators
Hearing Date	

Bill: SB21-197	
Title:	Workers' Compensation Physician
Description	Concerning the treating physician in workers' compensation cases.
Summary	The bill provides injured workers control over the selection of the primary treating physician in workers' compensation cases, allowing them to choose from any level I or level II accredited physician through the division of workers' compensation. The bill creates the mechanism by which the injured worker may select the treating physician, and requires the employer or insurer to choose the physician when an injured worker is unable or unwilling to select the treating physician.
Comment	
Position	Monitor
Full Text	Full Text of Bill
Fiscal Notes	Fiscal Notes (05/17/2021)
House Committee	Business Affairs and Labor
Senate Committee	Business, Labor and Technology
Sponsors (House and Senate)	Senate: R. Rodriguez (D) House: S. Woodrow (D)

	A. Boesenecker (D)
Status	Introduced In House - Assigned to Business Affairs & Labor (05/10/2021)
Lobbyists	Lobbyists
Votes	Votes all Legislators
Hearing Date	05/27/2021

Bill: SB21-199	
Title:	Remove Barriers To Certain Public Opportunities
Description	Concerning measures to remove barriers to certain public opportunities, and, in connection therewith, making an appropriation.
Summary	<p>The bill repeals existing provisions that require a person to demonstrate the person's lawful presence in the United States to be eligible for certain public benefits and requires that lawful presence is not a requirement of eligibility for state or local public benefits, as defined by 8 U.S.C. sec. 1621.</p> <p>The bill amends statutory provisions that still require lawful presence to clarify acceptable documents to demonstrate eligibility. The general assembly shall not allocate additional funding to any state or local public benefit program for this purpose for fiscal year 2021-22. However, starting for fiscal year 2022-23, any additional funding required for a state or local public benefit program for this purpose is subject to the standard budget process for the applicable program.</p> <p>Current law prohibits a state agency or political subdivision from entering into or renewing a public contract with a contractor who knowingly employs or contracts persons who are undocumented. The bill repeals that requirement and associated statutory provisions.</p> <p>Current law requires that state agencies and local governments use secure and verifiable identity documents when providing services or issuing official documents. The bill repeals that requirement and associated statutory provisions.</p>
Comment	
Position	Monitor
Full Text	Full Text of Bill
Fiscal Notes	Fiscal Notes (05/13/2021)
House Committee	
Senate	State, Veterans and Military Affairs

Committee	
Sponsors (House and Senate)	Senate: F. Winter (D) S. Jaquez Lewis (D) House: D. Esgar (D) S. Gonzales-Gutierrez (D)
Status	Senate Second Reading Passed with Amendments - Committee, Floor (05/18/2021)
Lobbyists	Lobbyists
Votes	Votes all Legislators
Hearing Date	05/19/2021

Bill: SB21-220	
Title:	Reverse Transfers From Severance Tax Operational Fund
Description	Concerning the stabilization of revenue in the severance tax operational fund by returning money that was transferred to natural resources and energy grant programs.
Summary	<p>Joint Budget Committee. Money in the severance tax operational fund (operational fund) is primarily used for 2 purposes. The general assembly annually appropriates money from the operational fund for several core departmental programs. If money remains after these appropriations and after a reserve requirement for the core departmental programs is satisfied, then the state treasurer transfers money to several funds that support natural resources and energy grant programs (grant programs). On August 15, 2020, the state treasurer made these transfers to the grant programs based on revenue that was available for the fiscal year 2019-20.</p> <p>Based on recent forecasts, however, there will be insufficient revenue in the operational fund for the core departmental programs. To avoid a fund deficit in the operational fund, the bill reverses 5 transfers made in the following amounts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$1,998,205 for the species conservation trust fund; • \$1,600,964 for the parks and wildlife aquatic nuisance species fund; • \$219,803 for the water efficiency grant program cash fund; • \$297,759 for the interbasin compact committee operation fund; and • \$3,996,410 for the water supply reserve fund.
Comment	
Position	Monitor
Full Text	Full Text of Bill

Fiscal Notes	Fiscal Notes (04/05/2021)
House Committee	Appropriations
Senate Committee	Appropriations
Sponsors (House and Senate)	Senate: B. Rankin (R) C. Hansen (D) House: L. Herod (D)
Status	Governor Signed (04/30/2021)
Lobbyists	Lobbyists
Votes	Votes all Legislators
Hearing Date	

Bill: SB21-234	
Title:	General Fund Transfer Agriculture And Drought Resiliency
Description	Concerning creation of the agriculture and drought resiliency fund, and, in connection therewith, transferring money from the general fund to the fund and making an appropriation.
Summary	The bill creates the agriculture and drought resiliency fund and directs the state treasurer to transfer \$3 million from the general fund to the fund. The department of agriculture will use the fund to engage in activities that promote the ability of the state to anticipate, prepare for, mitigate, adapt to, or respond to any event, trend, or climatological disturbance related to drought or climate. The fund is repealed, effective September 1, 2022.
Comment	
Position	Monitor
Full Text	Full Text of Bill
Fiscal Notes	Fiscal Notes (04/20/2021)
House Committee	
Senate Committee	Agriculture and Natural Resources
Sponsors (House and Senate)	Senate: J. Sonnenberg (R) S. Jaquez Lewis (D) House: L. Cutter (D)

	R. Holtorf (R)
Status	Senate Committee on Agriculture & Natural Resources Refer Amended to Appropriations (05/13/2021)
Lobbyists	Lobbyists
Votes	Votes all Legislators
Hearing Date	05/21/2021

Bill: SB21-237	
Title:	Create Forest Health Council In Department Of Natural Resources
Description	Concerning creation of the Colorado forest health council in the department of natural resources, and, in connection therewith, repealing the forest health advisory council within the state forest service.
Summary	<p>Under current law, the forest health advisory council was created within the state forest service, which is within Colorado state university. Section 4 of the bill repeals the forest health advisory council and section</p> <p>2 creates the Colorado forest health council within the division of forestry within the department of natural resources and specifies the new council's membership and duties. Section 1 schedules the new council for sunset review in 2026.</p>
Comment	
Position	Monitor
Full Text	Full Text of Bill
Fiscal Notes	Fiscal Notes (04/27/2021)
House Committee	
Senate Committee	Agriculture and Natural Resources
Sponsors (House and Senate)	Senate: K. Donovan (D) House: J. McCluskie (D) M. Lynch (R)
Status	House Committee on Legislative Council Refer Unamended to Agriculture, Livestock, & Water (05/10/2021)
Lobbyists	Lobbyists
Votes	Votes all Legislators
Hearing Date	05/20/2021

Bill: SB21-262

Title:	Special District Transparency
Description	Concerning transparency for special districts.
Summary	<p>The bill makes various changes to statutory provisions to promote transparency for special districts. Specifically:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Under current law, the designated election official is required to provide notice by publication of a call for nominations for a regular local government election. Section 1 of the bill eliminates the requirement that notice be made exclusively by publication and allows the notice to be made by any 2 of 5 means, including publication, specified in the bill.• Section 2 exempts inactive special districts from new requirements under the bill concerning maintenance of a district's website and a district's annual report;• Section 3 requires a metropolitan district, by a certain date, to establish, maintain, and annually update an official website in a form that is readily accessible to the public that contains information that is specified in the bill;• Section 4 adds to existing statutory requirements regarding the annual report to be filed by a special district and, among other things, supplements the type of information to be included in the annual report;• In the case of any contracts or agreements entered into by the special district with a person or private entity for the person or private entity's advance of funds on behalf or for the benefit of the special district for the design or construction of public improvements that is anticipated to result in a future reimbursement of the person or private entity by the special district for the costs associated with the design or construction, section 5 requires that, prior to payment or reimbursement of the advance of funds by the special district, a professional engineer registered in the state of Colorado prepares a written certification attesting to various statements enumerated in the bill;• Section 6 prohibits a metropolitan district from exercising its power of dominant eminent domain within a municipality or the unincorporated area of a county, other than within the boundaries of the jurisdiction that approved its service plan, without a written resolution approving the exercise of dominant eminent domain by the governing body of the municipality in connection with property that is located within an incorporated area or by the board of county commissioners of the county in connection with property that is located within an unincorporated area; and• Section 7 requires, on and after January 1, 2022, each owner of real property that sells real property that includes a newly constructed residence that is located within a metropolitan district, concurrently with or prior to the

	<p>execution of a contract to sell the property, to provide to the purchaser of the property certain information or statements specified in the bill relating to the finances of the metropolitan district, including information about the debt obligations of the district and an estimate of property taxes applicable to the property at the time of the sale.</p> <p>1</p>
Comment	
Position	Monitor
Full Text	Full Text of Bill
Fiscal Notes	Fiscal Notes (05/12/2021)
House Committee	
Senate Committee	Local Government
Sponsors (House and Senate)	<p>Senate: R. Zenzinger (D) R. Gardner (R)</p> <p>House: H. McKean (R) S. Bird (D)</p>
Status	Senate Second Reading Laid Over to 05/19/2021 - No Amendments (05/17/2021)
Lobbyists	Lobbyists
Votes	Votes all Legislators
Hearing Date	05/19/2021