Legislative Report for 2019 Legislative Session

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Affordable Housing

HB19-1228 Increase Tax Credit Allocation Affordable Housing

HB 1228 increases the amount of state income tax credits developers can claim for building qualified affordable housing units from \$5 million/year to \$10 million/year from 2020-2024. The state's affordable housing tax credit helps leverage federal funding. Together these credits have helped build affordable units around the state and were specifically used to develop the Deanza Vista project in Chaffee County and the DMA Plaza project in Larimer County.

Position: Support

Sponsors: Bird & Titone, Zenzinger & Tate Status: Awaiting Governor's Signature.

Lobbyist: Gini Pingenot

HB19-1245 Affordable Housing Funding from Vendor Fee

HB 1245 increases the state vendor fee allowance on sales tax accounts from the current rate of 3.33 percent to 4.0 percent starting on January 1, 2020. The vendor fee allowance is capped at \$1,000 per

month (i.e. per filing period) per retailer. A retailer with multiple locations in the state is counted as one retailer for purposes of the vendor fee allowance cap.

The net revenue increase from the vendor fee change is allocated to support the Reinsurance Program and the Housing Development Grant Fund. The amount appropriated to the Reinsurance Program is as follows: \$15.3m in SFY 2019-2020, \$40m in SFY 2020-2021, and roughly \$1m in SFY 2021-2022 and each state fiscal year. For the funding that is appropriated to the Housing Development Grant Fund, at least one-third will be awarded to affordable housing projects directed towards households with incomes less than or equal to 30 percent of the area median household income.

Colorado has one of the highest vendor fees in the nation and, unlike other states, has no cap on the amount retained by vendors. While CO Retail Counsel is opposed to HB 1245, smaller businesses are in support of the bill because of the increase in vendor fee and because they rarely keep more than \$1,000/month. The fiscal note suggests that \$23.1 million will be generated from this policy change in SFY 2019-2020 and \$47.9m will be generated in SFY 2020-2021.

Position: Support

Sponsor: Weissman, Gonzales & Foote Status: Awaiting Governor's Signature.

Lobbyist: Gini Pingenot

HB19-1309 Mobile Home Park Act Oversight

The bill provides protections for mobile home owners by granting counties the power to enact certain ordinances for mobile home parks; extending the time period between the notice of nonpayment of rent and the termination of any tenancy or other estate at will or lease in a mobile home park; and extending the time a mobile home owner has to vacate a mobile home park after a court enters an eviction order.

The bill also creates the Mobile Home Park Dispute Resolution and Enforcement Program which authorizes the Division of Housing of the Department of Local Affairs to register mobile home parks; collect a registration fee from mobile home parks; collect and annually report upon data related to disputes and violations of the Mobile Home Park Act; produce and distribute educational materials concerning the act and the program; create and maintain a database of mobile home parks; create and maintain a database to manage the program; and take complaints, conduct investigations, make determinations, impose penalties, and participate in administrative dispute resolutions when there are alleged violations of the act.

Position: Support

Sponsors: Hooton & McCluskie, Fenberg Status: Awaiting Governor's Signature. Lobbyists: Bill Clayton & Tony Lombard

HB19-1319 Incentives Developers Facilitate Affordable Housing

HB 1319 requires most state agencies and institutions of higher education to provide an annual inventory of vacant buildings and undeveloped land to the Capitol Development Committee of the State Legislature. The state legislature will publish the list of properties on their website.

In addition, the bill revises the administration of a property tax exemption for low-income housing beginning for property tax year 2019. Under current law, the Property Tax Administrator revokes a low-income property tax exemption when a partnership that owns the building distributes income, has income to distribute to its partners, or when it sells the exempt structure. When the property tax exemption is revoked, the administrator is required to collect property taxes from the date on which the exemption was initially granted.

Position: Support

Sponsor: McKean & Bird, Winter & Hisey Status: Awaiting Governor's Signature.

Lobbyist: Gini Pingenot

HB19-1322 Expand Supply Affordable Housing

HB 1322 requires that \$30 million from the Unclaimed Property Trust Fund be transferred to the Housing Development Grant Fund to fund affordable housing throughout the state from FY 2020-21 through FY 2022-23. Because transfers from the Unclaimed Property Trust Fund to the State General Fund are subject to TABOR, the \$30 million transfer authorized under HB 1322 will only occur if state revenues exceed the Referendum C cap by more than \$30 million.

It has been estimated that the unclaimed property trust fund should maintain a reserve of at least \$156m in order to cover the claims and pay for other services (like adult dental services) which are also paid for out of the trust fund. Even with this reserve level, the balance of the unclaimed property trust fund exceeded \$238m in 2018 and is projected to steadily increase to up to \$455m in 2023.

The unclaimed property trust fund holds assets like unclaimed safe deposit boxes and life insurance policies. Ultimately, if the state sells these holdings and years later they are claimed, the state will always be responsible for paying claimants what they are owed. Even if – however unlikely this is – that means using state general fund to pay for a claim.

Position: Support

Sponsor: Roberts & Will, Coram & Moreno Status: Awaiting Governor's Signature.

Lobbyist: Gini Pingenot

SB19-225 Authorize Local Governments to Stabilize Rents

The bill repeals existing statutory language prohibiting local governments from enacting any ordinance or resolution that would control rent on either private residential property or a private residential housing unit. The bill authorizes local governments to enact and enforce any ordinance, resolution, agreement, deed restriction, or other measure that would stabilize rent on private residential property.

Position: Monitor

Sponsors: Gonzales & Rodriguez, Lontine & Gonzales-Gutierrez

Status: Deemed lost.

Lobbyists: Bill Clayton & Tony Lombard

Agriculture

SB19-038 Agriculture Trailers Port of Entry Clearance

Current law requires motor vehicles having an empty weight of 16,000 or more pounds or a motor vehicle that weighs 26,001 or more pounds fully loaded to clear a port of entry within 5 miles of its route. SB 38 would have exempted motor vehicles hauling trailers used primarily for agricultural commodities, including livestock. After a meeting with Colorado State Patrol (CSP), the sponsors decided to postpone indefinitely the bill. CSP has developed a process that will allow for clients to get the special permits in a much faster way and an app where they can apply on their phone.

Position: No Position

Sponsors: Sonnenberg, Pelton

Status: Postponed Indefinitely in Senate Transportation & Energy Committee.

Lobbyists: Bill Clayton & Tony Lombard

SB19-240 Industrial Hemp Products Regulation

SB 240 authorizes local governments to charge fees for local licenses and adopt ordinances or resolutions regulating the storage, extraction, processing, or manufacturing of industrial hemp or industrial hemp products. Local government regulations may not go beyond state statute, however.

Position: Support

Sponsors: Marble & Fenberg, Saine & McLachlan

Status: Awaiting Governor's Signature

Lobbyist: Eric Bergman

HB19-1091 Conservation Easement Transparency

HB 1091 would have modified the process for donating a conservation easement and required the creation of a publicly accessible map and database of conservation easements. The bill would have increased state and local expenditures on an ongoing basis. This bill caused a lot of groups consternation and several testified in opposition. The costs to local and state governments would have been quite large. The fiscal impact was over \$1 million and would get larger over the years.

Position: Opposed Sponsor: Lewis

Status: Postponed Indefinitely in House Rural Affairs & Agriculture Committee.

Lobbyists: Bill Clayton & Tony Lombard

HB19-1191 Allow Farm Stands on Any Size Principal Use Site

The bill defines farm stand to mean a temporary or permanent structure used for the sale and display of agricultural products resulting from agricultural operations that are conducted on the principal use site on which the farm stand is located. The bill permits a farm stand of any land size located anywhere within the state to undertake agricultural operations on its principal use site regardless of whether the land area on which the farm stand is located has been zoned to conduct agricultural operations. The retail sale of goods to the public by a farm stand must include goods or other agricultural products that are grown or produced on the principal use site on which the farm stand is located. The bill permits a local government to enact an ordinance, resolution, or other form of law within the particular jurisdiction to facilitate the operation of the bill by the local government, but in no way shall any such local law limit or restrict the bill.

The bill was amended in the house to allow a farm stand to be located on a parcel of land of any size. The amendment also allows a local government to require an operator of a farm stand to obtain a valid license or permit from the local government. However, it does not allow the local permitting requirements to deny the use of land as described in the bill.

Position: Monitor

Sponsors: Arndt, Donovan Status: Signed by Governor.

Lobbyists: Bill Clayton & Tony Lombard

Behavioral Health & Treatment

SB19-001 Expand Medication-assisted Treatment Pilot Program

SB 1 expands an existing two-year medication-assisted treatment (MAT) pilot program that was enacted by SB17-074. The original pilot took place in Pueblo and Routt Counties and \$500,000 was appropriated for two years. This bill extends the existing pilot programs for an additional two years and expands the pilot to counties in the San Luis Valley and two additional counties in which a need is demonstrated. It also adds county commissioners or their delegates and a representative from the Colorado Department of Health Care Policy & Financing to the advisory board that assists in administering the program. The bill increases the annual appropriation for the program for the 2019-20 fiscal year to \$2.5 million.

Position: Support

Sponsor: Garcia, Buentello

Status: Awaiting Governor's Signature.

Lobbyist: Alli Daley

SB19-008 Substance Use Disorder Treatment in Criminal Justice System

SB 8 requires jails who receive funding through the Jail-Based Behavioral Health Services Program (JBBS) to develop a policy for providing medication-assisted treatment (MAT) to individuals in jail by January 1, 2020. The bill also creates the Harm Reduction Grant Program that allows nonprofits,

local public health agencies, and law enforcement agencies to apply for funding for harm reduction efforts. These efforts include, but are not limited to, training on how to administer naloxone, purchasing sterile equipment and syringe disposal equipment, providing treatment and recovery services to individuals who come into contact with law enforcement, facilitating training and technical assistance in the community, and coordinating local efforts regarding co-responder and diversion programs.

Position: Support

Sponsors: Pettersen & Priola, Kennedy & Singer

Status: Awaiting Governor's Signature.

Lobbyist: Alli Daley

SB19-195 Child & Youth Behavioral Health System Enhancements

SB 195 requires the Colorado Department of Health Care Policy & Financing (HCPF) to seek federal authorization to provide wraparound services for eligible children and youth who are at risk of out-of-home placement or in an out-of-home placement. Upon receiving federal authorization, HCPF shall require managed care entities to implement wraparound services and provide training and resources to these entities.

Upon implementation of wraparound services, HCPF and the Colorado Department of Human Services (CDHS) shall monitor and report annual cost savings associated with wraparound services during the departments' SMART Act hearings. The departments shall develop a model of sustainable funding for wraparound services in consultation with counties and other departments.

HCPF and CDHS must also consult with counties and stakeholders to select a single standardized assessment tool to facilitate identification of behavioral health issues and other related needs in children and youth and develop a plan to implement the tool. HCPF, CDHS, the Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment (CDPHE), and counties shall also develop a plan for establishing a single statewide referral and entry point for children and youth whose needs are identified through the standardized assessment.

HCPF, CDHS, and counties shall design and recommend a child and youth behavioral health delivery system pilot program that addresses the challenges of fragmentation and duplication of behavioral health services. The program shall integrate funding for intervention and treatment services.

Position: Monitor

Sponsors: Fields & Gardner, Froelich & Landgraf

Status: Awaiting Governor's Signature.

Lobbyist: Alli Daley

SB19-222 Individuals at Risk of Institutionalization

This bill requires HCPF and CDHS to improve access to behavioral health services in several ways.

By March 2020, HCPF must develop measurable outcomes to monitor efforts to prevent Medicaid recipients from becoming involved in the criminal justice system. By July 2021, HCPF must work

with managed care entities to create a way to incentivize behavioral health providers to accept Medicaid recipients. Incentives may include, but are not limited to, higher reimbursement rates, quality payments to regional accountable entities for expanded networks, establishing performance measures and performance improvement plans related to network expansion, and transportation solutions to incentivize recipients to attend appointments.

The bill requires access to inpatient civil beds at the Mental Health Institutes at Pueblo and Fort Logan to be based on the needs of the individual and the inability of the individual to be stabilized in the community. Geographic location, current health care provider, and payer type shall not be used to determine access.

The bill begins the process of creating a comprehensive behavioral health safety net system that may not refuse to treat an individual based on: insurance coverage; the individual's clinical acuity level; the individual's involvement in the criminal or juvenile justice system or child welfare system; the individual's co-occurring mental health and substance use disorders, physical disability, or intellectual or developmental disability; or the individual's displays of or history of aggressive behavior as a result of a symptom of a diagnosed disorder or substance intoxication.

CDHS must develop an advisory body to develop the system that includes counties from various regions of the state, law enforcement, consumers, family members of consumers, and advocates. The advisory board shall not include providers that have a potential financial interest related to providing services in the safety net.

By July 2021, CDHS and the advisory body shall develop a comprehensive safety net system proposal, and a safety net system must implemented by January 1, 2024.

Position: Support

Sponsors: Lee & Story, Esgar & Landgraf Status: Awaiting Governor's Signature.

Lobbyist: Alli Daley

SB19-228 Substance Use Disorders Prevention Measures

This bill includes many provisions related to the prevention of substance use disorders (SUD) at the local level. **Section 9** includes funding for Local Public Health Agencies to assess community health data and trends and to convene local stakeholders to develop plans to address SUD prevention at the local level. **Section 11** provides \$1.5 million per year for five years for a grant program for local pilot programs to prevent and combat SUD. Grantees may include local governments, schools, and nonprofits. **Section 10** provides funding to the Center for Research into Substance Use Disorder Prevention, Treatment, and Recovery Support Strategies (Center) to hire four FTE to assist local communities in applying for grants.

The bill also has several provisions to benefit pregnant and postpartum women. **Section 14** requires the Center to conduct a needs assessment to gather information regarding pregnant and postpartum women and SUD. The bill creates a one-year Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT) pilot program for women's health and prenatal and postpartum care and appropriates funding to train providers on SBIRT in five areas in the state. Finally, **Section 15**

creates a pilot program to integrate Medication Assisted Treatment with OB/GYN health care providers in the state to ensure effective and safe treatment of SUD during pregnancy.

Position: Support

Sponsors: Winter & Moreno, Buentello & Singer

Status: Awaiting Governor's Signature.

Lobbyist: Alli Daley

HB19-1009 Substance Use Disorders Recovery

HB 1009 expands the Department of Local Affairs housing voucher program to include individuals with a SUD and appropriates \$1 million for fiscal year 2019-20 to support the program. The bill also requires recovery residences operating in Colorado to be licensed by the Department of Public Health & Environment. Finally, the bill creates the Opioid Crisis Recovery Fund Advisory Committee to advise and collaborate with the Department of Law on uses of any custodial funds received by the state as a result of opioid-related litigation. The Advisory Committee includes various stakeholders, including county commissioners.

Position: Support

Sponsors: Kennedy & Singer, Priola & Pettersen

Status: Awaiting Governor's Signature.

Lobbyist: Alli Daley

HB19-1193 Behavioral Health Supports for High-Risk Families

HB 1193 expands existing programs that provide access to substance use disorder (SUD) treatment to pregnant and parenting (up to one year postpartum) women. The bill encourages health care providers and county human or social services departments to identify women for a needs assessment for services.

The bill also creates a child care pilot program for parenting women engaged in SUD treatment. The pilot awards grants to enhance existing child care resource and referral programs and increase child care navigation capacity to serve pregnant and parenting women participating in SUD treatment in one urban and one urban site.

Position: Support

Sponsors: Herod & Pelton, Garcia Status: Awaiting Governor's Signature.

Lobbyist: Alli Daley

HB19-1287 Treatment for Opioids and Substance Use Disorders

HB 1287 directs the Colorado Department of Human Services (CDHS) to implement a care navigation system to assist individuals in obtaining access to treatment for substance use disorders (SUD). The bill also creates and appropriates \$5 million per year to the Building Substance Use Disorder Treatment Capacity in Underserved Communities grant program. A grant committee will be created in each Managed Service Organization (MSO) area that consists of two members

appointed by the county commissioners for each county in the service area, two representatives from the MSO, and two members representing CDHS. Grants can be given to local governments, counties, schools, law enforcement agencies, and providers to increase SUD treatment capacity and services in rural and frontier communities.

Position: Support

Sponsors: Esgar & Wilson, Pettersen & Priola

Status: Awaiting Governor's Signature.

Lobbyist: Alli Daley

Child Care

SB19-063 Infant and Family Child Care Action Plan

SB 63 requires the Colorado Department of Human Services and the Early Childhood Leadership Commission, in partnership with other stakeholders (including counties), to develop a strategic action plan related to infant and family child care. Child care experts have noticed a decline in the number of licensed and exempt (think temporary child care providers like at a church or gym and neighbors who may provide care for un-related children) child care providers. In lieu of this decline, experts often see an increase in the volume of children per licensed child care centers. The strategic action plan is intended to better understand why Colorado is losing family child care providers and what can be done to mitigate and reverse the loss.

At CCI's request, SB 63 was amended to ensure that exempt child care providers and the role they play is also considered in the development of the strategic action plan.

Position: Support

Sponsors: Priola & Story, Buentello & Valdez A.

Status: Signed by Governor. Lobbyist: Gini Pingenot

SB19-177 Background Checks Person Who Work with Children

SB 177 specifically authorizes the Colorado Department of Human Services (CDHS) to run background checks in TRAILS if requested by child care providers and others. This is an important safeguard to ensure that prospective employees who wish to work with children do not have a history of known abuse in TRAILS. The bill also requires finger-print based criminal history checks for child care center employees under 18 years of age, out-of-state employees working at a child care center in a temporary capacity and all owners, employees, volunteers and adults residing in a family child care home.

Over the summer, CDHS received an opinion from the Attorney General indicating that CRS 19-1-307 limited the state's ability to perform TRAILS background checks on specifically listed individuals – such as those seeking a license to operate a child care facility and prospective CASA volunteers. This meant that individuals wishing to work with children in unlicensed child care centers, non-profits and mental health centers were not required to have TRAILS background

checks. SB 177 will clarify that CDHS can provide these checks for the above listed entities and others – even when they are not specifically listed in statute – upon written request.

Position: Support

Sponsors: Ginal & Hisey, Singer Status: Awaiting Governor's Signature.

Lobbyist: Gini Pingenot

Child Welfare & Adult Protection

SB19-031 Child Welfare Allocation Committee Composition

SB 31 allows Denver and El Paso Counties (the two counties – currently - with the largest child welfare caseload pursuant to CRS 26-5-103.5) to appoint their representatives to the Child Welfare Allocation Committee (CWAC).

Denver and El Paso Counties – like all other counties – are responsible for protecting vulnerable children from abuse and neglect. In doing so, they contribute local property tax dollars to provide child welfare services in their communities. Currently, the Executive Director of the Colorado Department of Hum1an Services appoints the Representatives of these two counties to the CWAC.

SB 31 ensures that the governing bodies of these two counties determine who is best to represent their communities' interests in the evolving field of protecting vulnerable children and ensure accountability to local taxpayers. It also clarifies that no county can have more than one representative serving on the CWAC.

SB 31 was amended to add two new non-voting members to the CWAC.

Position: Support (CCI Legislative Priority) Sponsors: Gardner, Lontine & Liston

Status: Signed by Governor. Lobbyist: Gini Pingenot

SB19-178 Program to Subsidize Adoption for Children and Youth

SB 178 makes several changes to the state's adoption assistance program that provides cash subsidies and other noncash benefits to families who adopt eligible children and youth who might not otherwise be adopted. The bill outlines eligibility for the program and available benefits that take into consideration the circumstances of the adopting family and the needs of the eligible child. The terms of an adoption assistance agreement are negotiated between all involved parties and may be reviewed sooner at the request of the adoptive parents or the county department of human or social services. Adoptive parents may appeal any decision made pursuant to the provisions of the adoption program with a hearing before an administrative law judge. The bill also outlines the conditions under which the subsidies may be suspended or terminated.

Position: Support Sponsors: Foote, Singer Status: Awaiting Governor's Signature.

Lobbyist: Alli Daley

SB19-185 Protections for Minor Human Trafficking Victims

SB 185 creates immunity for a violation of a prostitution-related offense if probable cause exists to believe that a minor was a victim of either human trafficking of a minor for involuntary servitude or for sexual servitude. The bill establishes an affirmative defense for all criminal violations, except class 1 felonies, if a minor proves that he or she was a victim of human trafficking of a minor for involuntary servitude or sexual servitude and was forced or coerced into engaging in the criminal acts.

The bill also requires a minor who engages in prostitution-related conduct to be referred to the county department of human or social service. If a law enforcement officer encounters such a minor and there is probable cause to believe that the minor was a victim of human trafficking of a minor for sexual servitude, the officer shall report the suspected violation to the county department of human or social services or the child abuse hotline.

Position: Support

Sponsors: Fields & Lundeen, Landgraf & Roberts

Status: Awaiting Governor's Signature.

Lobbyist: Alli Daley

SB19-258 Child Welfare Prevention and Intervention Funding

SB 258 extends the IV-E waiver demonstration project until June 30, 2020. Colorado's federal IV-E waiver will expire on June 30, 2019. The waiver demonstration project has allowed Colorado to implement a variety of prevention and intervention strategies to help keep kids safe in their homes rather than being placed in out of home settings. As Colorado (and all other states) transition to implementing the Federal Families First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA), there was a need to provide one year of 'gap funding' to maintain these services while federal funding for the FFPSA and all of its associated requirements is better understood. SB 258 provides this one year of gap funding via the State's TANF reserve.

Due to its late introduction, CCI did not take a position on SB 258. Staff did, however, engage county experts to ensure that the bill language appropriately allowed counties to continue the important services they provide around the state.

Position: No Position Sponsors: Rankin, Esgar

Status: Awaiting Governor's Signature.

Lobbyist: Gini Pingenot

HB19-1023 Foster Children Driving Licenses

As amended, HB 1023 tasks the Transportation Legislative Review Committee with examining the barriers to foster children meeting the fifty-hour driving requirement while holding an instruction permit and the challenges of obtaining automobile liability insurance. Counties and other subject matter experts will be included in those future, interim discussions. The bill also clarifies that a

minor who is at least 16 years of age can purchase auto insurance on their own if they have proof of financial responsibility, a term defined in CRS 42-7-103 (14)(a). Finally, HB 1023 states that counties can have a program to provide foster youth under the age of 18 with a driver permit if the minor's foster parent consents or the county has consulted with the foster parent for a child 17 years or older. Many counties already offer this sort of assistance but their abilities to help are limited due to lack of resources.

Position: Monitor

Sponsors: Saine & Jackson, Marble & Todd Status: Awaiting Governor's Signature.

Lobbyist: Gini Pingenot

HB 19-1063 At-risk Information Sharing Between County Departments

HB 1063 accomplishes two goals. First, it will allow county department of human services to share information between their child protective services (CPS) and adult protective services (APS) divisions to determine risk in a household. County departments are currently prohibited from sharing information between these county divisions which can result in duplicative investigations and services.

Secondarily, HB 1063 will allow at-risk adults to access their own records without having to secure a court order. At-risk adults need access to their reports so they can self-advocate and be aware of those who may pose risk to them.

Position: Support (CCI Legislative Priority) Sponsors: Kraft-Tharp & Larson, Gardner & Lee

Status: Signed by Governor Lobbyist: Gini Pingenot

HB19-1197 Protect Social Workers' Personal Information on Internet

HB 1197 provides protection for county child welfare workers who often experience threats related to their official duties of investigating reports of abuse and neglect. The bill makes it unlawful to post personal information about caseworkers and their families online. It also allows caseworkers to submit a written request to a state or local government official to remove records that the official makes available on the internet if the personal information in the records poses an imminent and serious threat to their safety.

Position: Support

Sponsors: Carver & Singer, Lee & Gardner

Status: Signed by Governor. Lobbyist: Gini Pingenot

HB19-1219 Child Welfare Permanency Planning

HB 1219 repeals and reenacts the provisions related to child welfare permanency hearings to reorganize the statutes and use consistent terminology related to permanency hearings. The bill clarifies the burden of proof at permanency hearings and requires that ongoing efforts are made to identify kin and relatives to be a permanent placement for the child or youth. The bill requires

counties to submit a permanency plan for each child or youth no later than five days in advance of the permanency planning hearing. The bill also includes recent federal law changes.

Position: Support

Sponsors: Gonzales-Gutierrez, Crowder Status: Awaiting Governor's Signature.

Lobbyist: Alli Daley

HB19-1288 Foster Youth Sibling Bill of Rights

HB 1288 establishes certain rights for sibling youth in foster care unless the rights are not in the best interests of either sibling.

CCI successfully secured amendments to HB 1288 to address workload concerns caseworkers raised with the introduced bill. Currently, caseworkers complete visitation plans with the families they work with and this document can serve as the 'sibling contact plan' that was originally referenced in the bill. This means that caseworkers will continue considering the needs of foster youth and the important bonds the youth have with their siblings through the visitation plan, rather than developing a new plan and taking on a new administrative workload.

Position: Support

Sponsor: Singer & Duran, Fields & Crowder Status: Awaiting Governor's Signature.

Lobbyist: Gini Pingenot

HB19-1307 Clarify Disclosure of a Report to At-Risk Adult

HB 1307 clarifies a concern the Attorney General flagged with HB19-1063 At-risk Information Sharing Between County Departments (which has been signed by the Governor).

Specifically, the bill states that an at-risk individual can request their <u>own</u> records and not the records of another at-risk individual. The Attorney General is confident that without this clarification, there will be foul play.

Position: No Position

Sponsor: Kraft-Tharp & Larson, Gardner & Lee

Status: Awaiting Governor's Signature.

Lobbyist: Gini Pingenot

HB19-1308 Foster Care Prevention Services

HB 1308 will position Colorado to implement the Federal Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA). This federal law was passed in February 2018 and emphasizes supports to children, youth and their families in their homes or with a kin caregiver in order to prevent foster care placements.

Ultimately, the FFPSA will bring new federal funding to the state to help pay for 'foster care prevention services' such as mental health and substance abuse prevention and treatment services, in-home parent skill-based programs and kinship navigator programs. Children and youth and their parents or kin caregivers will be eligible for these services – for up to 12 months per episode of

eligibility - when their needs for services are directly related to the safety, permanent placement or well-being of the child or youth, or to prevent the child or youth from entering the foster care system.

In order to access this new federal funding, states must implement the FFPSA's restrictive residential treatment structure known as 'Qualified Residential Treatment Program' (QRTP). In accordance with federal law (and reflected in HB 1308), a qualified individual determines if the child/youth qualifies for the QRTP placement and treatment results must be presented to the courts within 60 days of placement. The court will then decide whether or not to continue the placement or disapprove the placement. Throughout this process, family engagement is paramount and so too is placing the child in the most effective and least restrictive environment.

The provisions in HB 1308 mirror the requirements in FFPSA and will help Colorado be an early adopter of the new federal law.

Position: Support

Sponsor: Singer & Landgraf, Moreno & Rankin

Status: Awaiting Governor's Signature.

Lobbyist: Gini Pingenot

Courts

SB19-036 State Court Administrator Reminder Program

SB 36 creates a court reminder program in the Office of the State Court Administrator to remind defendants to appear at their scheduled hearings in district, county, and municipal courts that use the Judicial Department's case management system. If a county already operates a sufficient court reminder program, the county may opt out of the state's program. The objective of the program is to significantly reduce the number of defendants who are committed to the custody of a county jail solely as a result of their failure to appear in court.

Position: Support

Sponsors: Lee & Cooke, Benavidez & Carver

Status: Awaiting Governor's Signature.

Lobbyist: Alli Daley

SB19-043 Increasing Number of District Court Judges

SB 43 increases the number of district court judges across the state. The first, eighth, tenth, thirteenth, seventeenth, eighteenth, and twenty-first judicial districts each receive one additional judge. The fourth and nineteenth judicial districts receive two additional judges. The second judicial district receives four additional judges.

Position: Support

Sponsors: Lee, Herod & Carver Status: Signed by Governor.

Lobbyist: Alli Daley

SB19-050 District Attorney Office Salary

Under current law, the salary of the elected district attorney (DA) is set in statute, and any amount in excess is set by the BOCCs comprising the district. The current minimum salary for a DA is \$130,000. The state of Colorado pays for 80% of this salary, and the counties comprising the district pay for 20%. This bill would have increased the DA's salary to match that of a district court judge and would increase it every 4 years to keep up with district court judge salary increases. The minimum salary under this bill would have been \$168,202.

This bill also would have increased the salaries of the assistant district attorney (ADA) and one chief deputy district attorney (CDDA) in the district. These salaries are currently paid for entirely by the county. This bill would have required the state to pay 80% of the salary of the ADA and 50% of the salary of a CDDA. The minimum salary for the ADA would have matched the county court judge salary and be set at \$160,966. The minimum salary for the CDDA would have matched the salary of a district court magistrate and be set at \$143,900. If a county has more than one CDDA, any CDDA beyond the first one would have continued to be funded completely by the county.

The bill also allowed the board or boards of county commissioners of the counties comprising the judicial district, in consultation with the district attorney, to make a one-time irrevocable election to require an ADA to become a member of the public employees' retirement association's defined benefit plan. In that case, the state would have paid 80% and the counties would have paid 20% of the employer contribution.

Position: Monitor Sponsor: Gardner

Status: Postponed Indefinitely in Senate Judiciary Committee.

Lobbyist: Alli Daley

SB19-191 Prompt Pretrial Liberty & Fairness

SB 191 requires that, unless extraordinary circumstances exist, a defendant in custody must be allowed to post bond within 2 hours after the sheriff receives the bond information from the court and the custodian of the jail must release the defendant within 4 hours after the defendant has posted bond (or up to 24 hours when necessary for GPS monitoring equipment). The court has an obligation to provide bond information to sheriffs promptly after setting bond and the release time limit does not begin until the defendant is physically present in the jail. Sheriffs maintain discretion to allow individuals to stay overnight after posting bond when extenuating circumstances exist, including inclement weather, lack of transportation, and lack of shelter.

CCI successfully amended the bill to remove a requirement for courts to hold a bond setting hearing for a defendant within 48 hours after a defendant arrives at a jail. Instead, the chief judge in each judicial district, in conjunction with county commissioners and other stakeholders, is required to prepare a plan for complying with the 48-hour hearing requirement by November 1, 2019.

Sponsors: Bridges & Marble, Herod & Gonzales-Gutierrez

Status: Awaiting Governor's Signature.

Lobbyist: Alli Daley

HB19-1226 Bond Reform

HB 1226 would have required the Chief Judge of each judicial district to work with local stakeholders to develop a pretrial release screening process by March 31, 2020.

The bill would have also required counties to develop a pretrial services program in consultation with the Chief Judge of the Judicial District and a community advisory board. The bill would have prohibited the use of for-profit entities to provide pretrial programs.

CCI secured an amendment to address the concern that insufficient state funding could result in an unfunded mandate to counties. As amended, the bill would have allowed counties to submit a document to the Office of the State Courts Administrator (OSCA) that states they are unable to provide pretrial services for whatever reason, including but not limited to, insufficient funding (despite potential allocation from the pretrial services cash fund described below), insufficient infrastructure, lack of personnel, or lack of program services within the community. These statements would be included in an annual report to the General Assembly along with recommendations regarding methods or funding needed to achieve full statewide pretrial services.

The bill would have created the pretrial services cash fund. Money in the fund would have been used to fund counties that request funds to operate or assist in the operation of a pretrial services program.

Position: Support

Sponsors: Herod & Soper, Lee

Status: Deemed lost. Lobbyist: Alli Daley

HB19-1263 Offense Level for Controlled Substance Possession

Under existing law, possession of schedule I or II drugs is considered a level 4 drug felony and possession of schedule II, IV, or V drugs is considered a level 1 drug misdemeanor. This bill changes the possession of schedule I or II drugs to a level 1 misdemeanor and the possession of schedule I or II drugs to a level 2 misdemeanor. The bill also decreases the maximum potential jail sentence for level 1 misdemeanors from 18 months to 180 days and for level 2 misdemeanors from a year to 120 days.

Currently, 4,600 individuals are serving sentences in the Department of Corrections for a level 4 drug felony, however only 193 of these individuals were convicted solely of this charge. The remaining 4,407 inmates were also convicted of another felony meaning if this bill had been law when those inmates were sentenced, those inmates would still serve their sentence in DOC.

HB 1263 also creates the Community Substance Use and Mental Health Services Grant Program in the Department of Local Affairs. The fund will provide grants to counties that provide substance

use or mental health treatment services to, facilitate diversion programs for, or develop other strategies to reduce jail and prison bed use by, persons who come into contact with the criminal justice system. The grant will be funded beginning in FY20-21 with the estimated savings (\$1.8 million) to the Department of Corrections as a result of the bill.

Position: Monitor

Sponsors: Herod & Sandridge, Marble & Lee

Status: Awaiting Governor's Signature.

Lobbyist: Alli Daley

Economic Development

HB19-1037 Colorado Energy Impact Assistance Grant Program

HB 1037 would have authorized any electric utility to apply to the public utilities commission (PUC) for a financing order that would authorize the utility to issue low-cost Colorado energy impact assistance bonds to lower the cost to electric utility customers when the retirement of a power plant occurs. A portion of bond proceeds would provide transition assistance for Colorado workers and communities directly affected by the retirement of the facilities.

When determining how best to provide transition assistance to a local community, the Authority would have been required to, in conjunction with each board of county commissioners, municipal governing body, and school district that includes all or a portion of the impacted community, establish and take into consideration the advice of a local advisory committee.

Position: Monitor

Sponsors: Hansen & Esgar, Donovan

Status: Postponed Indefinitely in Senate Transportation & Energy Committee.

Lobbyists: Bill Clayton & Tony Lombard

HB19-1314 Just Transition from Coal-Based Electric Energy Economy

The bill creates the Just Transition Office in the Division of Employment and Training in the Department of Labor and Employment. Beginning in 2025, the Office, led by a director, will administer benefits to coal transition workers to enable them to support themselves and their families and to access and complete education and training, resulting in being hired for high-quality jobs. The Office will also grant to eligible entities in coal transition communities that seek to create a more diversified, equitable, and vibrant economic future for those communities.

An electric utility that proposes to retire a coal-fueled electric generating facility shall submit to the Office a workforce transition plan at least 90 days before the retirement of the facility. The bill creates a Just Transition Advisory Committee to advise the director regarding implementation of the bill.

CCI was opposed to the bill unless it was amended to include a county member on the advisory committee and a guarantee of funds for counties as the fund grows. The bill was successfully

amended to add representatives from coal transition communities and representatives of disproportionately impacted communities to the advisory committee. It also clarifies that the Local Government Mineral Impact Fund may be used to assist with planning and mitigation efforts in coal transition communities.

Position: Monitor

Sponsors: Becker & Galindo, Winter & Donovan

Status: Awaiting Governor's Signature. Lobbyists: Bill Clayton & Tony Lombard

SB19-067 Rural Development Grant Program Creation

SB 67 would have created the Rural Development Grant Program in the Colorado Office of Economic Development. Grants would have been awarded to early stage rural businesses that are primary employers in a rural area with the potential to export goods or services outside of the rural area. The businesses must have been at the seed stage of capital financing, have raised less than five hundred thousand dollars of third-party capital, and been able to provide non-state matching funding equal to at least one-third of the grant award. The grants were to be used for developing prototypes, proof of business concepts, or proof of business models.

Position: Support

Sponsor: Coram, McLachlan & Arndt

Status: Deemed lost.

Lobbyists: Bill Clayton & Tony Lombard

Elections

HB19-1195 Restrictions on Communications by a Candidate for County Office

HB 1195 would have prevented county elected officials who are running for reelection from sending out mass communications to citizens that are paid for with taxpayer dollars. The bill provided a number of exemptions, including town hall meeting notices, news releases, and communications that are required by law to be sent out. While well-intentioned, the legislation could have had some unintended consequences such as prohibiting telecasts of county commissioner meetings and reminder notices sent out from the county clerk's office.

Position: No Position Sponsor: Mullica

Status: Postponed Indefinitely in House State, Veterans & Military Affairs Committee.

Lobbyist: Eric Bergman

HB19-1278 Modifications to Uniform Election Code

HB 1278 addresses a wide number of election issues, including the current statutory formula that determines the number of voter service and polling centers (VSPCs) and 24-hour ballot drop boxes

that counties must establish for each election. The bill alters the formula to require more VSPCs and drop boxes in urban counties and counties with college campuses with more than 2,000 students. The bill also reduces the hours of operation for the VSPCs during the first week of voting.

Position: Oppose

Sponsors: Lontine, Fenberg

Status: Awaiting Governor's Signature

Lobbyist: Eric Bergman

Employment

SB19-085 Equal Pay for Equal Work

SB 85 removes the authority of the Department of Labor and Employment to enforce wage discrimination complaints based on an employee's sex and instead allows aggrieved persons to file a civil suit against the employer. The bill allows a wage differential based on sex if the employer can demonstrate that the differential is based on a seniority system, a merit system or a system that measures earnings by quantity or quality of production. The bill also prohibits an employer from inquiring about wage rate history during a job interview or discriminating against a prospective employee who fails to disclose their wage rate history. Finally, the bill requires employers to publicize advancement opportunities and job openings and the pay range for the openings.

Position: Monitor

Sponsors: Danielson & Pettersen, Buckner & Gonzales-Gutierrez

Status: Awaiting Governor's Signature.

Lobbyist: Eric Bergman

SB19-106 Peace Officer Withdrawal from County's Defined Contribution Plan

SB 106 permits the board of county commissioners to allow a vote every four years by the peace officers employed by the county on whether to leave the county's defined contribution plan and move to a retirement plan offered by the fire and police pension association (FPPA). If a county chooses to allow the vote, it only requires a positive vote by 55 percent of all eligible peace officers to leave the plan.

Position: Oppose

Sponsors: Cooke & Zenzinger, Tipper & Larson

Status: Awaiting Governor's Signature.

Lobbyist: Eric Bergman

SB19-188 FAMLI Medical Leave Insurance Program

SB 188 charges a 15-member task force to explore the viability of a paid family and medical leave program between now and the beginning of the next legislative session. Over the interim, it will be explored whether or not a private, third party administrator can run such a program. Additionally,

local and national experts will be tasked with developing potential program structures to help inform which one might work for Colorado.

Sponsors: Winter & Williams, Gray & Duran

Status: Awaiting Governor's Signature.

Lobbyist: Gini Pingenot

HB19-1210 Local Government Authority to Set a Minimum Wage

HB 1210 allows counties and municipalities to set a local minimum wage within their jurisdiction that is higher than the state minimum wage that applies to anyone performing four or more hours of work per week in the jurisdiction. The bill institutes a tip offset for employees that rely on tips and requires a phase-in of minimum wage increases at a rate of no more than \$1.75 or 15% per year, whichever is higher. The bill also require consultation with neighboring jurisdictions, chambers of commerce and other stakeholders prior to enacting a minimum wage increase. Finally, the bill places a 10% cap on the number of local governments that can institute a minimum wage hike. For purposes of calculating the number of jurisdictions under the cap, if a county and its municipalities have an IGA to raise the minimum wage, that only counts as one local government.

Position: Monitor

Sponsors: Galindo & Melton, Danielson & Moreno

Status: Awaiting Governor's Signature.

Lobbyist: Eric Bergman

General Government

SB19-027 Final Disposition of Unclaimed Dead Bodies

Counties are currently required to pay for final disposition of unclaimed dead bodies. SB 27 would have clarified in statute that cremation is an option for final disposition of unclaimed dead bodies.

Position: Support (CCI Legislative Priority) Sponsors: Crowder & Winters, D. Valdez

Status: Postponed indefinitely in House Judiciary Committee.

Lobbyist: Eric Bergman

HB19-1035 County Electrical Inspection Fees

Currently, counties that conduct their own electrical inspections must set their inspection fees within 15% of those of the Colorado Department of Regulatory Agencies, regardless of the actual cost to the county building department to conduct these inspections. HB 1035 decouples the local inspection fees from the state fee schedule, allowing local governments to set their own local fees. However, these fees are capped at \$120 (subject to an annual inflationary adjustment) and a multiplier of eight percent on larger residential and commercial projects.

Position: Support (CCI Legislative Priority)

Sponsors: Rich & Roberts, Woodward & Ginal

Status: Signed by Governor. Lobbyist: Eric Bergman

HB19-1057 Publication Requirements for County Financial Information

Current law requires each county to publish monthly warrants, the salaries of all county employees and the semiannual financial statement in a legal newspaper. HB 1057 would have allowed counties to begin publishing this information on the county website instead of the newspaper.

Position: Support (CCI Legislative Priority)

Sponsor: Pelton

Status: Postponed Indefinitely in House Business Affairs Committee.

Lobbyist: Bill Clayton & Tony Lombard

HB19-1086 Additional Qualifications for Plumbing Inspectors

HB 1086 requires contemporaneous review by county plumbing inspectors to ensure that licensed plumbers performed the work and that apprentices were properly supervised.

Position: Monitor

Sponsor: Duran, Pettersen Status: Signed by Governor. Lobbyist: Eric Bergman

HB19-1087 Local Public Meeting Notices Posted on Website

HB 1087 requires a local government to post public meeting notices on the local government's website if practicable. The notices must be accessible to the public at no charge. The notices shall be searchable, if feasible, by type of meeting, date and time of meeting, and agenda contents. Local governments that publish online no longer have to physically post a meeting notice.

Position: Monitor

Sponsors: Soper & Hansen, Woodward & Bridges

Status: Signed by Governor. Lobbyist: Eric Bergman

HB19-1239 Census Outreach Grant Program

HB 1239 creates the 2020 census outreach grant program in the Department of Local Affairs. The program will provide grants to local governments and others to support efforts that reach hard to count communities and historically undercounted populations.

The bill also convenes a five-member committee to help DOLA develop policies and procedures to implement and administer the grant program, review grant applications and make recommendations about which grants to approve. The committee will convene no later than July 1, 2019. Grants must be awarded no later than November 1, 2019. As amended, the bill appropriates \$6 million to implement the grant program outlined in the bill.

Position: Support

Sponsors: Tipper & Caraveo

Status: Awaiting Governor's Signature.

Lobbyist: Gini Pingenot

HB19-1260 Updates to Minimum Energy Code

HB 1260 requires all counties to notify the Colorado Energy Office as to which version of the International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) they have currently adopted. The bill also mandates that when a county decides to update their energy/building code, they must adopt one of the three most recent versions of the code (2012, 2015 or 2018). There is no timeframe in the bill for when a county must update their code, just a requirement that when they do so they must move to at least the 2012 IECC.

Position: Monitor

Sponsors: Kipp & A. Valdez, Winter & Priola

Status: Awaiting Governor's Signature.

Lobbyist: Eric Bergman

HB19-1295 Transition Public Trustee to County Treasurer

HB 1295 will transition the appointed public trustee function in the big ten counties (Adams, Arapahoe, Boulder, Douglas, El Paso, Jefferson, Larimer, Mesa, Pueblo and Weld) to the county treasurer, aligning them with the other 52 counties in the state where the treasurer already serves as the public trustee. The transition will take place in July 2020.

Position: Support (CCI Legislative Priority) Sponsors: Rich & Becker, Scott & Story Status: Awaiting Governor's Signature.

Lobbyist: Eric Bergman

HB19-1299 Local Government Retirement Plan Contribution Rates

HB 1299 allows for a differentiated contribution rate for employers and employees on retirement plan contributions, as long as neither party goes below 3% of the participant's basic salary or wage.

Position: Support

Sponsors: McCluskie & Rich, Donovan Status: Awaiting Governor's Signature.

Lobbyist: Eric Bergman

HB19-1304 Burial Reimbursement to Counties for Indigent Burials

HB 1304 would have amended statute to allow counties to be reimbursed for the cost of burial for indigents and unclaimed bodies. The bill would have raised the cap on the death reimbursement from \$2500 to \$3000.

Position: Support

Sponsors: Valdez & Will, Crowder & Winter

Status: Deemed lost. Lobbyist: Eric Bergman

Healthcare & Insurance

SB19-004 Address High-Cost Health Insurance Pilot Program

As amended, SB 4 modernizes laws authorizing health care cooperatives and encourages consumers to help control health care costs by negotiating rates on a collective basis directly with providers (think Summit County's community purchasing pool efforts).

Position: Support

Sponsors: Donovan, Roberts & McCluskie Status: Awaiting Governor's Signature.

Lobbyist: Gini Pingenot

SB19-015 Create Statewide Health Care Review Committee

SB 15 creates the Health Care Legislative Review Committee (HCLRC) as an ongoing interim committee of the General Assembly. The HCLRC will study health care issues affecting Colorado residents and includes no more than ten members from the house and senate HHS committees. Specifically, the committee will be tasked with reviewing emerging trends in health care, access to and availability of federal funds and waivers of federal law, ability of consumers to obtain and keep adequate, affordable health insurance coverage and much more. SB 15 received an appropriation of \$13,847 to fund legislative council's support of the committee and its work.

Position: Monitor

Sponsors: Ginal, Beckman & Kipp Status: Awaiting Governor's Signature.

Lobbyist: Gini Pingenot

HB19-1004 Proposal for Affordable Health Coverage Option

HB 1004 tasks the Colorado Department of Health Care Policy and Financing and the Division of Insurance to develop a proposal for a state health care option by November 15, 2019. This could take on many different forms but one example might be Kaiser offering a plan on the marketplace that uses Medicare rates.

In developing the proposal, consideration must be given to the feasibility and cost of implementing a state option that leverages existing infrastructure, such as Connect for Health Colorado (the state's health insurance marketplace). Actuarial research must also be done to identify potential costs of premiums and cost sharing to pay claims in a plan. The proposal must also consider the impact, if any, on the state's budget and the impact on the stability of the individual market, the small group market and the Colorado Health Benefit Exchange.

Under HB 1004, the state health care option will move forward unless a bill is passed in 2020 to redirect efforts elsewhere.

Position: Monitor

Sponsors: Roberts & Catlin, Donovan Status: Awaiting Governor's Signature.

Lobbyist: Gini Pingenot

HB19-1168 State Innovation Waiver Reinsurance Program

HB 1168 requires the Commissioner of Insurance to seek federal approval to establish a reinsurance program to lower health insurance premiums. For health plan years starting on or after January 1, 2020, the Commissioner of Insurance may apply for a two-year state innovation waiver, federal funds for the reinsurance program or a state innovation waiver and federal funds.

Funding for Colorado's reinsurance program will be pieced together and will consist of federal funding (assuming the approval of Colorado's waiver request), a portion of the retained vendor fee (\$15.3 million in SFY 2019-2020, \$40 million in SFY 2020-2021, and roughly \$1 million in SFY 2021-2022 and each state fiscal year thereafter pursuant to HB19-1245), special fees assessed against hospitals and carriers (specifically a fee equal to the existing health insurance tax – HIT – should it be eliminated at the federal level) and any money the general assembly appropriates to the fund. The Commissioner of Insurance may issue revenue bonds to support the reinsurance program.

HB 1168 specifies targeted reduction goals in claim costs for high cost geographic rating areas. Once the program is up and running, eligible carriers can make requests for reinsurance payments.

Position: Monitor

Sponsors: McCluskie & Rich, Donovan & Rankin

Status: Awaiting Governor's Signature.

Lobbyist: Gini Pingenot

HB19-1223 Social Security Disability Application Assistance

HB 1223 creates a program to help persons with disabilities enrolled in the State Aid to Needy Disabled Program navigate the application process for federal disability benefits, including supplemental security income and social security disability insurance. The bill is entirely optional and allows counties wishing to provide this sort of assistance to receive financial support from the general fund. The state is required to develop a formula in conjunction with counties to distribute available state general funds to those counties wishing to provide this service. The state is charged with allocating the funding to those counties with the highest need for assistance based on the number of AND program participants and homeless persons in the county as determined by the state. A county can also contract with a non-profit to provide this service.

HB 1223 is based on successful pilots in Arapahoe, Jefferson and El Paso Counties which ended in 2016. The bill received an appropriation of \$1.3 million from the marijuana tax cash fund to support this service.

Position: Support

Sponsor: Michaelson Jenet & Larson, Winter

Status: Awaiting Governor's Signature.

Lobbyist: Gini Pingenot

Land Use & Natural Resources

HB19-1246 Local Government Regulation of Food Trucks

As introduced, HB 1246 required a local government to grant a business license to a food truck operator that has obtained a license from another local government and prohibits the local government from imposing additional licensing requirements.

CCI worked with the sponsors and Colorado Municipal League (CML) to clarify and protect local authority. After much discussion, the bill was amended into a study to create a system that would work statewide while protecting local authority. CML has agreed to host the group in the interim.

Position: No Position

Sponsors: Van Winkle & Kraft-Tharp, Cooke & Moreno

Status: Awaiting Governor's signature. Lobbyists: Bill Clayton & Tony Lombard

HB19-1274 County Commissioner Board Delegation Subdivision Platting

The process for review and approval by a county of subdivision plats or other plans and agreements affecting certain land use determinations must be conducted pursuant to county resolutions, ordinances, or regulations. The bill provides that such resolutions, ordinances, or regulations may provide for the delegation by a board of county commissioners (BOCC) to one or more county administrative officials the authority to:

- Approve or deny final plats, amendments to final plats, and correction plats;
- Approve subdivision improvement agreements and other agreements required in connection with a final plat, an amendment to a final plat, or correction plat; and
- Review and approve the data, surveys, analyses, studies, plans and designs submitted in connection with a final plat, amendment to a final plat, or correction plat.

Any delegation of authority made pursuant to the bill does not include the approval of any exception to, waiver of, or deviation from any state or county requirement regarding the subdivision of land; the approval of any agreement for the expenditure of public funds; or the waiver or restriction of any appeal process provided by county resolution, ordinance, or regulation.

Any delegation of authority made pursuant to the bill must include procedures for public notice and the submission of written comments prior to the administrative approval or denial of a final plat or amendment to a final plat and for the appeal to a board of such administrative approval or denial.

Position: Support Sponsor: Snyder, Hisey

Status: Awaiting Governor's signature.

Lobbyists: Bill Clayton & Tony Lombard

HB19-1221 Regulation of Electronic Scooters

The bill excludes electric scooters from the definition of "toy vehicle" and includes electric scooters in the definition of "motor vehicle", thus authorizing the use of electric scooters on roadways. The bill affords riders of electric scooters the same rights and duties that riders of electrical assisted bicycles have under the laws of the state. Section 5 of the bill authorizes a local government to regulate the operation of an electric scooter in a manner that is no more restrictive than the manner in which the local government may regulate an electrical assisted bicycle.

Position: Support

Sponsors: Coleman & A. Valdez, Bridges & Pettersen

Status: Awaiting Governor's Signature. Lobbyists: Bill Clayton & Tony Lombard

SB19-141 Entertainment Districts Counties Optional Premises

Current law permits an entertainment district in an area located within a municipality and allows specified types of premises licensed to serve alcohol for consumption on the premises to be included in the entertainment district. The bill allows an entertainment district to be formed in an area located within a city & county or county and adds optional premises licensees to the list of licensed premises permitted to attach to an entertainment district.

Position: Support

Sponsors: Donovan, Roberts

Status: Awaiting Governor's Signature. Lobbyists: Bill Clayton & Tony Lombard

SB19-192 Front Range Waste Diversion Enterprise Grant Program

The bill creates the Front Range Waste Diversion Enterprise. The Enterprise will collect a user fee on each load of waste disposed of at a landfill in the front range and credit it to the new Front Range Waste Diversion Cash Fund to finance the Front Range Waste Diversion Grant Program. The bill sets the user fee at 15 cents per cubic yard per load from January 1, 2020, through December 31, 2020. The fee increases 15 cents per year so that on and after January 1, 2023, the fee is 60 cents per cubic yard per load; except that this amount is adjusted annually by inflation after January 1, 2024. The bill increases the fine for littering on public or private property by inflation and credits the increased fine to the fund.

The front range is defined as the counties of Adams, Arapahoe, Boulder, Douglas, Elbert, El Paso, Jefferson, Larimer, Pueblo, Teller, and Weld and the cities and counties of Broomfield and Denver. The following entities that are located or provide services in the front range are eligible to apply for grants: Municipalities, counties, and cities and counties; nonprofit and for-profit businesses involved in waste disposal or diversion; and institutions of higher education and public or private schools.

The enterprise shall administer the grant program and provide technical assistance to eligible entities to achieve the following municipal waste diversion goals within the front range:

- 32% diversion by 2021;

- 39% diversion by 2026; and
- 51% diversion by 2036.

The board of directors of the enterprise shall submit a report by July 1 of each year to the committees of reference of the general assembly with jurisdiction over the environment regarding the grant program. The enterprise, increased user fee, and increased littering fine are repealed, effective September 1, 2029.

Position: Oppose

Sponsors: Priola & Winter, Jackson & Cutter

Status: Awaiting Governor's Signature. Lobbyist: Bill Clayton & Tony Lombard

Marijuana

HB19-1230 Marijuana Hospitality Establishments

HB 1230 establishes two new state and local marijuana license types: 1) "cannabis hospitality spaces," in which legal cannabis may be consumed on site, and 2) "retail cannabis hospitality and sales establishments," in which retail marijuana and retail marijuana products may be sold and consumed on site. The bill establishes requirements and prohibitions for the new hospitality spaces and permits local governments that choose to allow these businesses to enact standards that are more restrictive than those of the state.

Position: Monitor

Sponsors: Singer & Melton, Marble & Gonzales

Status: Awaiting Governor's Signature

Lobbyist: Eric Bergman

HB19-1234 Regulated Marijuana Delivery

HB 1234 creates both retail and medical marijuana delivery permits at the state and local level for licensed medical marijuana centers and transporters and licensed retail marijuana stores and transporters that allow the centers, stores, and transporters to deliver medical marijuana, medical marijuana-infused products, retail marijuana, and retail marijuana products to customers. The bill clarifies that deliveries shall only occur in jurisdictions that have voted to allow deliveries and that cross-jurisdictional deliveries may only occur if the jurisdictions in question have agreed to it. The bill also places a one-dollar surcharge on each delivery, with the money going to local law enforcement to address marijuana enforcement cost. Under the bill, medical marijuana delivery permitting would begin January 2, 2020, and retail marijuana delivery permitting would begin January 2, 2021.

Position: Monitor

Sponsors: Singer & A. Valdez, Gonzales & Marble

Status: Awaiting Governor's Signature

Lobbyist: Eric Bergman

Public Health

<u>HB19-1014</u> Retail Food Establishments Inspection and Suspensions

HB 1014 is the product of a collective effort by local public health officials, county commissioners, the Colorado Restaurant Association, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment and many others to revamp restaurant inspection activities. Over the years, this collaborative group (originally formed by a CCI initiated bill in 2015 – HB15-1226) has found multiple points of agreement and have helped shape Colorado's food inspection program to what it is today.

Among other provisions, HB 1014 creates a new civil penalty process whereby a restaurant's – or other retail food establishment- license would be suspended and the owner would be assessed a fine of up to \$1,000 upon the failure of three consecutive re-inspections. Very few (1%) restaurants fail their inspection. In fact, the vast majority of violations are non-critical and can be remedied while the inspector is on sight.

Additionally, HB 1014 is the next 'building block' for the new statewide rating system that will roll out soon. Those ratings are still being developed but are likely to include the following categories of 'Pass', 'Reinspect' and 'Fail' and will be tied to an entities' inspection outcome.

Position: Support

Sponsors: Singer & Bird, Ginal Status: Signed by Governor Lobbyist: Gini Pingenot

HB19-1033 Local Governments May Regulate Nicotine Products

HB 1033 creates an optional authority for counties. Specifically, it <u>allows</u> counties to:

- 1. increase the minimum age for possessing cigarettes, tobacco products or nicotine products to 21
- 2. regulate the possession, purchase or sale of such items (which means counties could license businesses that sell such products)
- 3. seek voter approval for a special sales tax (above and beyond a county's general sales tax) on these products

The bill also uses the reference 'cigarettes, tobacco products or nicotine products' which includes ecigs/vaping products. And, as amended, it states that if a county chooses to impose a license or fee on cigarettes, it will NOT forgo its share of the state's cigarette tax. If, however, a local government successfully passes a local taxing measure on cigarette and other tobacco products, they will not receive their share of the state's cigarette tax revenue.

Public health leaders in Colorado initiated HB 1033. They have recognized the efforts some home rule municipalities have embraced to keep nicotine products out of the hands of youth. The struggle, however, is that while communities like Avon and Basalt, have made it harder for youth to buy such products, they quickly realize they can cross the street and buy the same product in the county.

Position: Support

Sponsors: Tipper & Kennedy, Fields & Priola

Status: Signed by Governor Lobbyist: Gini Pingenot

Taxes

SB19-006 Electronic Sales and Use Tax Simplification System

Originating from the Sales and Use Tax Simplification Interim Committee, SB 6 tasks the state with developing a technology solution to allow businesses to file their sales tax returns and remit payments in a 'one-stop' fashion. This solution could also yield additional functionality such as GIS-based location data to help businesses determine the location of their sales and the corresponding sales tax rate with better ease and accuracy.

SB 6 is aspirational in nature. The legislature hopes that the developed solution will be so appealing that home rule municipalities, many of whom require businesses to file and remit taxes directly to them, will choose to join the system. The legislature will use additional sales tax revenue that the STATE receives as a result of the implementation of remote sales tax collections (see *South Dakota v. Wayfair*) to build it. Specifically, \$9.2m will be used in SFY 2019-2020 and \$8.8m will be used in SFY 2020-2021.

Position: Support

Sponsors: Williams, Kraft-Tharp & Van Winkle

Status: Signed by Governor. Lobbyist: Gini Pingenot

HB19-1003 Community Solar Gardens Modernization Act

HB 1003 modifies the definition of 'community solar garden' CSG to mean a solar electric generation facility with a nameplate rating of 5 megawatts. Under current law, the limit is 2 megawatts. Beginning in 2023, the PUC can designate a community solar garden with a nameplate rating of up to 10 megawatts. The local government business personal property tax exemption will end beginning in property tax year 2021. So, this expansion of the community solar garden definition beginning in 2023 will not result in a further reduction in county business personal property taxes.

The bill also modifies the definition of "subscriber" so that customers no longer need to be in the same or adjacent county as the CSG, but only the service territory of the qualifying retail utility.

Position: Support

Sponsors: Hansen & A. Valdez, Foote & Story

Status: Awaiting Governor's Signature.

Lobbyist: Gini Pingenot

HB19-1162 Expand Farm Equipment Sales and Use Tax Exemption

HB 1162 exempts cow identification systems (think ear tags) from the state sales tax base beginning July 1, 2019. HB 1162 was amended to allow this exemption to be optional for local governments.

This change will allow counties who wish to provide this exemption to simply adopt it as a County Commission Board (i.e. no local vote is needed to adopt sales tax exemptions).

Position: Support

Sponsor: Pelton & D. Valdez, Sonnenberg & Garcia

Status: Awaiting Governor's Signature.

Lobbyist: Gini Pingenot

HB19-1240 Sales and Use Tax Administration

HB 1240 seeks to simplify sales and use tax administration in four key areas:

- 1.) Establishes an economic nexus of \$100,000 for retail sales made by <u>out-of-state</u> retailers without physical presence. This nexus applies to sales into the state beginning on *October 1, 2019* and collections must begin on the first of the next month, 90 days after the \$100,000 threshold is met. This provision is consistent with the South Dakota 'de minimus' amount of sales activity that was upheld by the US Supreme Court in the Wayfair decision.
- 2.) Codifies the Colorado Department of Revenue's (CDOR) destination sourcing rule for state collected entities, which include counties. Currently sales tax collections on in-state commerce is based on <u>jurisdictions in common</u>. So, if a product is made in unincorporated Alamosa County and sold to someone living in unincorporated Pueblo County, the jurisdiction in common is the state of Colorado. Neither Alamosa nor Pueblo County would receive sales tax for this sale. CDOR states that there is no statutory justification for this practice which is in part why they are transitioning to destination-based sourcing.
- 3.) Establishes an exemption for <u>in-state</u> small businesses under \$100,000 of revenue to source their sales to the origin rather than destination sourcing until an electronic system is in place. It is important to note that home rule municipalities will still be authorized to collect sales taxes from instate small businesses with sales below this threshold. So, this provision will require collection of the county, state and incorporated towns sales tax at the <u>point of origin</u> (for activity under \$100,000) BUT self-collected home rule municipalities will still be allowed to require <u>destination based</u> sourcing on the same sale. Once sales activity exceeds \$100,000, the retailer will have to use destination based sourcing for all jurisdictions.
- 4.) Requires marketplace facilitators to collect and remit sales tax on behalf of marketplace sellers that enter into a contract with a marketplace facilitator for the sale of an item (think of Amazon which serves as a marketplace for third party entities).

Position: Support

Sponsors: Kraft-Tharp & Van Winkle, Court & Tate

Status: Awaiting Governor's Signature.

Lobbyist: Gini Pingenot

<u>HB19-1257</u> Voter Approval to Retain Revenue For Education & Transportation <u>HB19-1258</u> Allocate Voter-approved Revenue For Education & Transportation

HB 1257 and HB 1258 go hand-in-hand. HB 1257 refers to voters in 2019 the following question: "Without raising taxes and to better fund public schools; higher education; and roads, bridges, and transit, within a balanced budget, may the state keep and spend all the revenue it annually collects after June 30, 2018, but is not currently allowed to keep and spend under Colorado law, with an annual independent audit to show how the retained revenues are spent?" (p. 4, lines 3-8).

HB 1258 is contingent on voters approving the above state debrucing. It specifies that the retained state revenues would be divvied up equally to 1.) public schools, 2.) higher education and 3.) roads, bridges and transit. Of special note to local governments, any new transportation funding resulting from voter approval would flow into the Highway Users Tax Fund and would be allocated through the traditional formula of 60% to the state, 22% to counties and 18% to cities (p. 5, lines 24-27 and p. 6, lines 1-2 of the engrossed bill).

If approved by voters, the state would be allowed to keep – rather than refund – revenues above the state's TABOR cap (which controls state revenue growth year over year by a factor of population growth + inflation). For SFY 2018-2019, \$64.8 million was collected above the cap (thus triggering a refund). For SFY 2019-2020 and SFY 2020-2021, Legislative Council's March 2019 Revenue Forecast shows no TABOR refunds are expected.

Position: Monitor

Sponsors: Becker & McCluskie, Court & Priola (for both bills)

Status: Awaiting Governor's Signature.

Lobbyist: Gini Pingenot

HB19-1323 Occasional Sales By Charitable Organizations

HB 1323 increases the amount of occasional sales by charitable organizations that are exempt from sales tax from \$25,000 to \$45,000/year. It also removes the requirement that occasional sales take place no more than 12 days per year.

Currently, there are 12 counties that have chosen to adopt charitable sales from their COUNTY sales tax base. These counties will be impacted by the increased exemption level but believe the increase is appropriate. They are: Adams, Arapahoe, Douglas, Elbert, Fremont, La Plata, Larimer, Mesa, Park, Rio Blanco, Sedgwick, and Washington.

Position: Support

Sponsor: Herod & Van Winkle, Todd & Lundeen

Status: Awaiting Governor's Signature.

Lobbyist: Gini Pingenot

HB19-1327 Authorize and Tax Sports Betting Refer Under Taxpayer Bill of Rights

HB 1327 seeks voter approval in November 2019 for the legalization of sports betting in Colorado. If approved by voters, Coloradoans can engage in legal sports betting in the limited gaming communities of Cripple Creek, Black Hawk and Central City beginning in May 2020. Additionally, online betting will also be available with those who have contracts with the casinos. In out years,

roughly \$10m is anticipated to be generated. The state's water plan will be the primary recipient of the funding.

CCI does not have a position on HB 1327. Staff did, however, work with the House sponsors to provide hold harmless funding for Gilpin and Teller Counties along with the other constitutional beneficiaries of limited gaming. It is unknown whether the roll out of sports betting will have a positive or negative impact on the foot traffic at physical casinos. In an effort to address this uncertainty, 6% of the sports betting revenue can be used to offset documented losses in revenue these counties or the other constitutional beneficiaries may experience.

Position: No Position

Sponsor: Garnett & Neville, Donovan & Cooke

Status: Awaiting Governor's Signature.

Lobbyist: Gini Pingenot

HB19-1333 Cigarette Tobacco & Nicotine Products Tax

HB 1333 would have asked voters in November 2019 to approve an increase in Colorado's cigarette tax (currently \$0.84/pack., proposed change \$2.59/pack), an increase in the tobacco products tax (currently 40% manufactured listed price – MLP, proposed change 62% MLP) and a new tax on nicotine products (62% MLP).

Had HB 1333 passed, these increased taxes were estimated to generate over \$300 million in new revenues. Half of the new revenue would have been used for educational initiatives — mainly preschool funding and after school programs. The other half would have been used for health-related initiatives. This includes funding for the reinsurance program, behavioral health services, and tobacco prevention efforts.

CCI did not have a position on HB 1333. Staff did, however, secure an amendment to hold harmless the local government share back of the cigarette tax. Collectively, counties and cities receive about \$9 million from our 27% share of the state's cigarette tax. As the price of cigarettes increases, consumers will likely buy less. This amendment would have protected our local share of funding. Additionally, staff secured an amendment to replicate authorizing language in HB19-1033 (see above) to ensure that nothing in HB19-1333 would thwart county taxing authority of cigarettes, tobacco and nicotine products.

Ultimately, HB 1333 failed for a variety of reasons. This included heavy lobbying by the tobacco industry, concerns about the late introduction of the bill, concerns about the ad valorem taxing mechanism on tobacco products, the shift of consumer purchasing patterns to out of state retailers, etc. Readers can expect to see a bill in 2020 that will raise the minimum age for purchasing tobacco and nicotine products to 21 and a state-wide licensing requirement for retailers who sell these products.

Position: No Position Sponsor: Caraveo, Fields Status: Deemed lost. Lobbyist: Gini Pingenot

Telecommunications

SB19-078 Open Internet Customer Protections

SB 78 prohibits an internet service provider (ISP) from receiving funds from the state high-cost fund (including grants from the Broadband Deployment Board) if it engages in blocking lawful Internet content, paid prioritization of Internet content or throttling bandwidth on the basis of Internet content. The bill also mandates that funds received from the high-cost fund by an ISP in the last 24 months must be refunded if any of the aforementioned practices comes to light.

Position: Monitor

Sponsors: Donovan & Bridges, Hansen & Herod

Status: Awaiting Governor's Signature.

Lobbyist: Eric Bergman

SB19-107 Broadband Deployment on Electrical Easements

SB 107 allows rural electric cooperatives around the state to lease existing dark fiber on their electrical utility easements to broadband providers without having to renegotiate the underlying easements. The bill also features a remedy process for landowners who feel their property value has been reduced by the leasing of dark fiber.

Position: Support (CCI Legislative Priority)

Sponsor: Donovan, Roberts

Status: Awaiting Governor's Signature.

Lobbyist: Eric Bergman

Transportation

SB19-032 Routing of Hazardous Materials

SB 32 authorizes a public highway authority or a governmental partner in a public-private partnership to apply to CDOT for changes to hazardous materials route designation. The bill also directs CDOT to conduct a study of the feasibility of hazardous materials transportation through the Eisenhower/Johnson Tunnel.

Position: Monitor

Sponsors: Scott, McCluskie Status: Signed by Governor. Lobbyist: Eric Bergman

SB19-051 Dedication of General Fund Money to Fund Transportation

SB 51 would have increased the transfer from the general fund in 2019 under SB18-001 to \$340 million, to be allocated to transportation needs in the following fashion: 1) \$266.5 million to the

state highway fund; 2) \$51 million to counties and municipalities (split evenly); and 3) \$22.5 million to multimodal transportation options.

Position: Support

Sponsors: Scott & Cooke

Status: Postponed Indefinitely in Senate Transportation & Energy Committee.

Lobbyist: Eric Bergman

HB19-1157 Specific Ownership Tax for Transportation Funding

Currently, specific ownership tax (SOT) is collected (depending on the type of vehicle) by the state or the counties and distributed amongst the local entities (schools, special districts, counties and cities) in proportion to the total mil levy. HB 1157 would increase the SOT rates and direct the additional moneys generated to the Highway Users Tax Fund (HUTF), where it would be shared between the state, municipalities and counties. The bill limits the use of these additional HUTF monies to highway maintenance and construction only – transit and multi-modal projects would not be eligible.

While CCI appreciates creative solutions to increasing transportation funding at the state and local level, concerns were raised over the constitutionality of the measure and possible issues with TABOR.

Position: Oppose Sponsors: Liston

Status: Postponed Indefinitely in House Transportation & Local Government Committee.

Lobbyist: Eric Bergman

Wildfire & Disaster Recovery

SB19-019 Modifying Procedures for Enacting Fireworks Bans

SB 19 provides more flexibility for county governments as they consider whether to ban the sale and use of fireworks during the July 4th holiday. Current statute requires counties to enact an additional ordinance making a finding of high fire danger in order to extend an existing ban through the 4th of July holiday - a process that takes up to a month. This legislation allows the county to make that finding through a resolution instead, a legislative process that allows the county more flexibility in the high fire danger deliberation process. The bill also expands the kinds of predictive information on weather conditions a county can rely on during its considerations on findings of high fire danger.

Position: Support Sponsors: Fields, Gray Status: Signed by Governor. Lobbyist: Eric Bergman

SB19-037 Wildfire Mitigation

SB 37 would have allowed a board of county commissioners to remove wildfire fuel materials from state or federal land within or close to the county's boundary. The bill would have also appropriated \$10 million to the existing Forest Restoration and Wildfire Risk Mitigation grant program. This grant program assists with funding community-level actions to reduce the risk from wildfire in the wildland urban interface. Funds must be used on non-federal land and have supported projects that create defensible space around homes and structures, construct fuel breaks and remove slash through chipping, mulching and/or pile burning.

Commissioners expressed concerns about the constitutionality of allowing counties to do fuels reduction projects on federal lands. These activities are governed by federal laws and regulations and many communities have developed partnership agreements with their federal land neighbors to collaborate on mitigation projects. While CCI supported the \$10 million in additional funding for the wildfire risk mitigation grant program, staff shared concerns with the sponsor about removing the provision that grants counties authority to remove wildfire fuel materials on public lands.

Position: Support with Amendments

Sponsor: Woodward

Status: Postponed Indefinitely in Senate State, Veterans & Military Affairs Committee.

Lobbyist: Gini Pingenot

SB19-040 Establish Colorado Fire Commission

The idea behind SB 40 came from the Division of Fire Prevention and Control (DFPC). Given the growing number of significant fires the state faces each year, the increased cost of fire suppression activities and the fact that Colorado's 'fire season' is now a year-long threat, DFPC is seeking a collaborative way that stakeholders can evaluate funding sources, discuss prevention and mitigation strategies, and develop meaningful solutions to Colorado's evolving fire problems. This desire led to the proposed creation of the Colorado Fire Commission.

The commission created under SB 40 consists of 24 voting members, two of whom are county commissioners (one representing the western slope and one representing the eastern part of the county). The commission is required to meet at least 4 times a year and members serve three-year terms.

SB 40 was also amended to ensure close coordination with the Colorado State Forest Service on one of the Commission's goals – an assessment of fire treatment and mitigation costs. The bill received an appropriation of \$174,183 to help support the work of the commission.

Position: Support Sponsors: Hisey, Carver

Status: Awaiting Governor's Signature.

Lobbyist: Gini Pingenot

HB19-1006 Wildfire Mitigation Wildland-Urban Interface Areas

This bill came out of the Wildfire Matters interim committee. The bill creates a state grant program to be administered by the Colorado State Forest Service to fund proactive forest management fuels reduction projects to reduce the impacts to life, property, and critical infrastructure caused by wildfires. To be eligible for a grant award, a grant recipient must be any one of a group of individual

landowners as specified in the bill whose real property that is the subject of a grant application is located within a land area that is covered by a Community Wildfire Protection Plan.

The bill specifies requirements pertaining to the evaluation of grant proposals. The Forest Service is to select the proposals that will receive funding, administer the grant program, and develop procedures by which applicants are to apply for grants. The bill imposes a monetary limit on the amount of a grant to be awarded and also requires a grant applicant to demonstrate an available amount of matching funds to be awarded a grant. The bill creates the Forest Management Fuels Reduction Projects grant program cash fund. The bill requires the Forest Service to report annually to the General Assembly on the number, location, and benefits of all projects for which a grant award is made.

Position: Support

Sponsors: Carver & McLachlan, Fields

Status: Signed by Governor.

Lobbyists: Bill Clayton & Tony Lombard

HB19-1292 Colorado Resiliency Office Reauthorization Funding

HB 1292 continues the Colorado Resiliency Office in the Department of Local Affairs (DOLA) and repeals the requirement that the Office be grant funded. Instead, the bill provides a general fund appropriation in FY19-20. The Office was created in 2013 in response to the historic floods to implement the state's resiliency framework and integrate resilience and long-term planning that goes beyond flood recovery efforts. The Office was transferred from the Office of the Governor to DOLA in 2018 through HB18-1394 which CCI supported.

Position: Support

Sponsors: Singer & Galindo, Ginal Status: Awaiting Governor's Signature.

Lobbyist: Alli Daley