

Take A Look At What Is Happening In Colorado State Policy News During The 2016 Legislative Session

Axiom Newsletter



March 21, 2016

"Growth is never by mere chance; it is the result of forces working together."

-

J.C. Penney, entrepreneur

Days Til Sine Die: 51

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CEOs, lawmakers in Cuba for historic visit

[Miami Herald](#)

As President Barack Obama visits Cuba this week he'll have long coattails. Business leaders, CEO's and almost 40 lawmakers will be along for the ride. Here's a list of the delegates, most of them traveling independently, provided by the White House.

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Rep. Dan Pabon offers tearful apology for last week's DUI

arrest

[Denver Post](#)

Rep. Dan Pabon wept as he apologized on the state House floor Monday following his arrest last week on suspicion of drunken driving and improper registration.

After the remarks in which he vowed to win back the confidence of his family and community, Pabon was consoled with hugs from Democrats and Republicans in the House chamber.

"I plan on wholeheartedly accepting the penalties that come from my actions," said Pabon, a north Denver Democrat who is the House speaker pro tempore. "As a legislator I've worked to contain the damage from the mistakes like the ones I made last week."

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National Cyber Intelligence Center at UCCS has interim director

[The Gazette](#)

Retired Army Lt. Gen. Ed Anderson has been named interim executive director for the National Cyber Intelligence Center while the national search finds a permanent leader for the Colorado Springs facility scheduled to begin operation April 1.

Anderson, 72, has spent the past five years as executive director of strategic, military, science, space and security initiatives for University of Colorado at Colorado Springs Chancellor Pam Shockley-Zalabak. He previously spent five years as a principal at Booz Allen Hamilton in Colorado Springs for military programs, cybersecurity and missile defense.

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Senate bill would commission study on impact of privatizing DMV services

[ABC Denver](#)

One lawmaker says he has the answer to end the dreaded DMV wait and it could involve privatization, and it comes in the form of a senate bill that would fund a \$200,000 study to look at the impact of privatizing DMV services.

"As we all know, there's a lot of DMV offices around the state that are just overwhelmed with customers and people have extremely long waits, so it just makes sense to look at this," said Senator Ray Scott, R-Grand Junction.

The study would review and make recommendations regarding DMV services including issuing and renewing driver's licenses, vehicle registration and titles.

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Colorado House passes four police-reform bills with bipartisan support

[Colorado Springs Gazette](#)

The Colorado House passed four police reform bills Thursday with broad bipartisan support, suggesting that similar policies floated last year and shot down by Republicans in the Senate

might become law in 2016.

"A lot of the anxiety around these issues - police mistrust, the killings that have happened across the country, some of our own issues here like the Marvin Booker case - some of that has subsided," said Rep. Angela Williams, D-Denver, a longtime advocate for improved relations between police and disadvantaged communities. "It allowed, particularly our colleagues on the other side of the aisle, to really focus on what's good policy for the people of Colorado and I think that has helped us a lot this year and the ability to work together on a very sensitive subject."

Marvin Booker died in Denver's downtown jail in 2010 after being shocked with a Taser and put in a chokehold.

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Legal marijuana sales may hit \$23B in 4 years

9 News

Marijuana is rapidly becoming a big, semi-legal business across the country, with \$5.7 billion in sales last year and tens of thousands of people working and paying taxes as they cultivate, package and sell cannabis.

Colorado, Alaska, Oregon, Washington state and Washington, D.C. have all legalized adult recreational use, and 23 states and the District of Columbia permit some form of medical use. That's despite the fact that marijuana remains an illegal drug and Schedule 1 controlled substance at the federal level.

Across the country, thousands of people are rushing into the industry, struggling to work within a conflicting patchwork of state laws and local regulations, all the while operating largely without accounts at banks, which are fearful of running afoul of federal drug-trafficking laws.

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Supreme Court throws out states' challenge to Colorado marijuana law

KDVR

The U.S. Supreme Court on Monday threw out a move by Nebraska and Oklahoma to have Colorado's legalization of recreational marijuana use be declared unconstitutional.

The justices did not comment is dismissing the lawsuit by the neighboring states. Nebraska has said it wants Colorado to pay for local drug enforcement in its state because of Amendment 64, which was passed in 2012 and went into effect in 2014.

"Colorado has created a system that legalizes, promotes and facilitates distribution of marijuana," Nebraska Attorney General Jon Bruning said when the lawsuit was filed in December 2014.

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Gov. Hickenlooper signs bills into law

Office of the Governor

Wednesday, March 9, 2016 - Gov. John Hickenlooper signed these bills into law today.

Number	Title	Sponsors	Summary
HB 16-1012	Clerk File Copy Of Municipal Election Results With DOLA	Rep. Ryden / Sen. Scott	Concerning a requirement that a municipal clerk file a copy of each statement of election results with the division of local government in the department of local affairs rather than the secretary of state.
HB 16-1025	Renewal Property Casualty Insurance	Rep. Arndt / Sen. Tate	Concerning statutory recognition that an insurance policy may be subject to renewal by an admitted insurer within the same insurance group as the insurer that issued the insurance policy.
HB 16-1076	Retired Architects	Rep. Hamner / Sen. Tate	Concerning the status of a retired architect.
SB 16-008	Municipal State Highway Off-highway Vehicles	Sen. Crowder / Rep. Vigil	Concerning the use of an off-highway vehicle to cross state highways within the jurisdiction of a municipality.
SB 16-014	Mortgage Loan Originators Conform To TILA & RESPA	Sen. Holbert / Rep. Williams	Concerning the alignment of state mortgage originator disclosure laws with recent changes in federal law.

Friday, March 18th

Number	Title	Sponsors	Summary
HB 16-1013	School Districts Crime Insurance In Lieu Of Bonds	Rep. Garnett/ Sen. Marble	Concerning authorizing school districts to purchase crime insurance coverage in lieu of surety bonds.
HB 16-1028	FPPA Statewide Death & Disability Plan Modifications	Rep. Van Winkle/ Sen. Cooke	Concerning modifications to the statewide Death and Disability Plan administered by the Fire and Police Pension Association.
HB 16-1042	Liquor License Exemption Higher Ed Brewing Program	Rep. Arndt/ Sen. Sonnenberg	Concerning an exemption from liquor licensing laws for a brewing program offered by a state institution of higher education.
HB 16-	JTC Authority	Rep. Brown/	Concerning the Joint Technology

1043	To Approve Requests For Waivers	Sen. Baumgardner	Committee's authority to approve the request for a waiver of certain deadlines after moneys for a project have been appropriated.
HB 16-1057	Seven Day Court Time Intervals	Rep. Ransom/ Sen. Merrifield	Concerning statutorily established time periods that are multiples of seven days.
HB 16-1081	Obsolete Reporting Dept Health Care Policy & Finance	Reps. Ransom and Esgar/ Sens. Lundberg and Newell	Concerning removing obsolete reporting provisions in Title 25.5 of the Colorado Revised Statutes.
HB 16-1084	Home Brewing By Adult For Personal Use	Rep. Lebsock/ Sen. Holbert	Concerning a modification to the exemption from the "Colorado Liquor Code" for home brewers to permit an adult other than the head of a family to engage in home brewing activities for personal use without obtaining a liquor license.
HB 16-1086	Performance Audit Of DPA & State Personnel Board	Reps. Ryden and Nordberg/ Sen. Holbert	Concerning a modification of the dates on which the required performance audits of certain governmental entities are due.
HB 16-1284	Divest From Co With Prohibitions Against Israel	Reps. Nordberg and Moreno/ Sens. Hill and Garcia	Concerning divestment by the Public Employees' Retirement Association from companies that have economic prohibitions against the State of Israel.
SB 16-022	Child Care Assistance Cliff Effect Pilot Program	Sen. Martinez Humenik/ Rep. Pettersen	Concerning removing certain limitations on the pilot program to mitigate cliff effect for low-income families who are working and receiving child care assistance.
SB 16-029	Insurance Comply With Model Acts	Sen. Scheffel and Heath/ Rep. Duran and Lawrence	Concerning changes to Colorado insurance laws necessary to maintain accreditation with the National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC), and, in connection therewith, adopting a new Own Risk and Solvency Assessment law (ORSA) in a form substantially similar to the NAIC model and enhancing Colorado's insurance holding

			company system law by adding a required NAIC model provision specifying the insurance commissioner's power to issue subpoenas and examine witnesses.
SB 16-031	Authority Of OLLS Director To Sign Vouchers	Sen. Steadman / Rep. Dore	Concerning authority of the Director of the Office of Legislative Legal Services to sign vouchers for expenditures of the office.
SB 16-050	Retailer Hold Harmless For Assigned Location Code	Sen. Neville T. and Jahn / Rep. Saine and Ryden	Concerning a hold harmless provision for retailers liable for any money payable as a result of an incorrect location code assigned by the Department of Revenue.
SB 16-066	Recreating School Finance Contingency Reserve Fund	Sen. Steadman/ Rep. Hamner	Concerning creation of the contingency reserve fund for school districts.

Gov. Hickenlooper statement on nomination of Judge Merrick Garland for Supreme Court Justice

Office of the Governor

Wednesday, March 16, 2016 - Gov. John Hickenlooper issued the following statement following the nomination of Chief Judge Merrick Garland for Supreme Court Justice: "Today, President Obama nominated Chief Judge Merrick Garland to the Supreme Court. Judge Garland has had a distinguished career as a judge and prosecutor, and has more federal judicial experience than any other Supreme Court nominee in history. He earned strong bipartisan support for his appointment to the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit and throughout his career. He deserves to be considered, and I hope the Senate will honor its constitutional responsibilities. The United States Supreme Court has serious legal challenges before it. A fully functioning Supreme Court is of vital importance to this country."

Gov. Hickenlooper announces Boards and Commissions appointments

Office of the Governor

The State Emergency Medical and Trauma Services Advisory Council advises the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment on matters relating to emergency medical and trauma services programs. The Council's duties include developing curricula for the training of emergency medical personnel, establishing requirements for ambulance vehicles and services, and determining the eligibility of facilities to receive trauma center designation.

For a term expiring July 1, 2016:

- Pamela Jo Howes, BSN of Fort Lupton, Colorado to serve as a flight nurse of an emergency medical service air team or unit, and occasioned by the resignation of Jimmy Dwayne Taylor, RN, CFRN of Castle Rock, appointed;

For a term expiring July 1, 2019:

- Pamela Jo Howes, BSN of Fort Lupton, to serve as a flight nurse of an emergency medical service air team or unit, reappointed.

The Colorado Coroners Standards and Training Board develops a curriculum for a forty-hour training course for new coroners and approves the qualifications of the instructors who teach the course; approves training providers to certify coroners in basic medical-legal death investigations; and approves training providers and programs used to fulfill the annual sixteen-hour in-service training requirement.

For a term expiring March 1, 2019:

- Daniel Bruce Keuning of Pagosa Springs, a coroner of a county with a population of fifteen thousand or less, reappointed.

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

For terms expiring March 17, 2020:

- Emily H. Webb, DPM of Fort Collins, to serve as a representative of podiatrists, appointed;
- Benjamin K. Marble, DPM of Pueblo West, to serve as a representative of podiatrists, reappointed.

The Juvenile Parole Board grants, denies, modifies, suspends or revokes parole for juvenile delinquents committed to the Colorado Department of Human Services.

For a term expiring November 15, 2018:

- Margaret Brewington Wright, PhD, MFA of Pueblo, to serve as a public member not employed by state government, and occasioned by the resignation of David Owen Sleigh of Grand Junction, appointed.

Senate Bills Introduced: 165
Number of Bills Pl'd: 101
Bills Signed by the Governor: 43

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