



2020 STATE LEGISLATION CONCERNING ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY AND POVERTY REDUCTION

For a similar list on health related issues, go to www.cclponline.org to the legislative page

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Table with 5 columns: Bill#, Sponsor, Title, Com*, Position**. It lists various bills under 'LAW' and 'KILLED' categories, including details like 'Expand Adult Education Grant Program' and 'Reduce the State Income Tax Rate'.

*S= Senate; H=House . Ag=Agriculture; app= Appropriations; bus= Business; ed=Education; ene=energy + environment; fin=Finance; jud=Judicial; lg=Local Government; PHC= Public Health; raa=Rural and Agricultural Affairs; sa=State Affairs; tra=Transportation; tlg= transportation and local government

To read the text of any bill or its fiscal impact or its current status, go to www.leg.colorado.gov. Legislator contact information is also at

www.leg.colorado.gov For questions, corrections, more information, or to add your organization's positions to the list, contact Chaer Robert crobert@cclponline.org

BUDGET

The public health emergency related to the Corona virus has created a sudden budget crisis with a \$3.3 billion gap in the budget. The federal CARES act provided Colorado with a one time supplement of \$1.7 Billion to help address expenses created by the COVID19 pandemic. Additional federal help is not certain. The current focus was just balancing the state budget. Long term is the question of how Colorado we pay for recovery and moving forward.

CCLP and its partners supported HB1203-an expansion of tax credits than benefit struggling families like the EITC and the Child Tax Credit, as the poorest Coloradans pay the highest portion of their income in state taxes- sales, excise, and indirectly property tax, etc. This would be paid for by closing a corporate loophole. This bill was folded into HB 1420 which reduced a couple federal tax loopholes to provide relief for school funding. It will also fund an increase in the State EITC from 10%-15% effective Tax Year 2022, and adds EITC eligibility for taxfilers who file with an ITIN vs a social security number beginning in Tax Year 2021.

At a personal budget level, SB200 would finally, after years of attempts, implement an opt-out system of retirement savings for the many workers, particularly low wage workers, workers of color and part time workers who do not otherwise have access through their work to a retirement savings vehicle.

CHILD CARE

To address the severe shortage and underpayment of early childhood educators, HB1053 proposes a number of fixes from credit for previous work experience, paid apprenticeship, and letting workers be in the classroom as they work toward their required credential. Last year legislation passed to offer a refundable income tax credit or those entering early childhood work. But a technical fix -HB1043-regarding funding source is needed to trigger it on. HB1112 would expand the tax credit available to donors by allow the credit for donations to organizations serving teens up to age 18. It would also allow donations to certain child welfare organizations.

EDUCATION

Colorado has a goal of 66% credential completion rate for post-secondary education. Many of those who leave prior to completion do so because of pressing financial need. HB1110 would have provide up to \$500 for emergency financial assistance for low income college student in the final year of their studies.

SB9 allows adult education programs serving Coloradans with low level of literacy and numeracy, including English language learners to partner with a K-12 school to apply for state funding along with programs who are partnering with post-secondary institutions and job placement programs.

HOUSING

A number of bills address the rights of tenants. HB1009 would not allow dismissed eviction filing to go on a person's court records- only evictions which are court ordered. HB1141 caps fees charged by landlords. SB108 blocks landlords from using a tenant's immigration status against them as a tenant. 1332 bans discrimination based on source of income.

Manufactured Housing represents the largest pool of private sector affordable housing. HB1196 protect tenants from losing their homes. HB1201- helps tenants with the possibility of purchasing the mobile home park in which they live when the owner wants to sell. HB1410 allocates federal COVID Relief dollars to help struggling renter and homeowners impacted by the COID pandemic. It also adds funding to eviction legal defense. HB1412 allocates federal COVID Relief dollars for help with utility payments.

HEALTH

HB1236 would alert tax filers of potential eligibility for subsidize health insurance coverage, and create new open enrollment periods around tax filing deadlines. SB205 would have every employee earn paid sick days, up to 48 hours per year. SB217 uses a premium tax and hospital fee to fund the reinsurance pool & subsidies for some left out because of immigration status. SB205 creates a state earned paid sick leave policy, in which employees can earn up to 48 hours per year of paid sick leave.