

2014 End-of-Session Report

Representative Millie Hamner, House District 61



House Bill 14-1007: Prohibit Agricultural Burning During Fire Danger and Restrict Fireworks Use

Under this bill, counties may restrict agricultural burning on "red flag" days, when a red flag warning or high wind warning have been issued by the National Weather Service or other evidence supports a finding of high fire risk.

Killed in the senate.

House Bill 14-1008: Allow CWRPDA to Provide Private Entities Forest Health Project Loans

This bill allows the Colorado Water Resources and Power Development Authority (CWRPDA) to make loans to private entities, including any person, for forest health projects. The bill also specifies the priority of liens filed by CWRPDA.

Signed by the governor on May 12, 2014.

House Bill 14-1010: Corrections to Prescribed Burning Program Laws

This bill, as recommended by the Wildfire Matters Review Committee, renames "prescribed burn manager" as "certified burner" and removes persons with this credential from the list of persons who may attend a prescribed burn in a supervisory role. The bill also clarifies that suppression actions will be taken to control an escaped prescribed fire.

Signed by the governor on May 12, 2014.

House Bill 14-1018: Tax Profile & Expenditure Report Opt Out Elimination

This bill eliminates the option for the Department of Revenue to "opt out" of preparing the biennial tax profile and expenditure report required by current law, beginning with the report due on January 1, 2017.

Signed by the governor on March 14, 2014.

House Bill 14-1021: Highway 82 Length Restriction Violation Penalties

This bill raises the fine from \$500 to \$1,000 for an operator of a motor vehicle or vehicle combination over 35-feet in length, both commercial and recreational, on State Highway 82 between mile markers 47 and 72. If a violation results in the closure of a lane, the penalty is increased to \$1,500.

Signed by the governor on May 15, 2014.

House Bill 14-1089: 10th Mountain Division License Plate Qualifications

This bill requires that applicants for a first-time issuance of a 10th Mountain Division group special license plate provide certification issued by the 10th Mountain Division Foundation, Inc. showing they meet the qualifications established by the foundation for the plate.

Signed by the governor on May 15, 2014.

House Bill 14-1182: Public Education Accountability for School Year 2015-16

For the 2015-16 school year, this bill authorizes the Colorado Department of Education (CDE) to assign accreditation ratings and recommend performance plan types based on the school district's, State Charter School Institute's, or public school's accreditation rating or type of performance plan for the preceding school year, compliance with the accreditation contract for a school district or the institute, participation in statewide testing, and performance in meeting the Colorado academic standards and local performance targets.

Signed by the governor on April 4, 2014.

House Bill 14-1208: Authorization of Multi-district Administrative Units

This bill defines a "multi-district administrative unit" as a group of school districts that did not form a BOCES, but were parties to an agreement existing on January 1, 2011, to jointly provide special education services, and were recognized by the department as an administrative unit as of January 1, 2011.

Signed by the governor on March 27, 2014.

House Bill 14-1292: The Student Success Act

This bill changes how school districts are funded for school finance purposes and provides additional funding for specific educational programs. In particular, the bill reduces the value of the negative factor in the school finance

formula by \$152 million in FY 2014-15 relative to the amount required under current law, and it provides ongoing funding for the following:

- \$20 million per year for early literacy programs;
- \$6.5 million for charter school capital construction in FY 2014-15; and
- \$13 million per year for charter school capital construction in FY 2015-16 and subsequent years.

Signed by the governor on May 21, 2014.

House Bill 14-1298: Financing of Public Schools

This bill changes the "Public School Finance Act of 1994" by modifying the funding for K-12 public schools in FY 2014-15. Among many other things, the bill increases base per pupil funding to \$6,121, to reflect a 2.8 percent inflation rate.

Signed by the governor on May 21, 2014.

House Bill 14-1334: Petroleum Cleanup & Redevelopment Cash Fund Limit Exemption and Appropriations

This bill specifies that revenue in the Petroleum Cleanup and Redevelopment Fund is exempt from the cash fund uncommitted reserves limit imposed by current law, and continuously appropriates revenue in the fund to the Division of Oil and Public Safety (division) within the Department of Labor and Employment (CDLE).

Signed by the governor on June 6, 2014.

House Bill 14-1365: Junior College Officers & Attorney General as Legal Advisor to Colorado Mtn. College

This bill allows junior college board boards-of-trustees 60 days from the close of polls to select its officers. The bill also directs the state Attorney General, upon request, to serve as legal advisor to Colorado Mountain College (CMC). The board of CMC also has the authority to select and retain legal counsel.

Signed by the governor on June 5, 2014.

Senate Bill 14-018: Extension of Prohibition of Nicotine Product Distribution to Minors

Under current law it is illegal to provide or sell cigarettes or tobacco products to persons under the age of 18. This bill expands that prohibition to include all nicotine products, including electronic cigarettes and products that allow nicotine to be delivered, ingested, inhaled, or applied to the skin.

Signed by the governor on April 11, 2014.

Senate Bill 14-097: Immunity for Public Agencies from Private Insurance Action During Wildfire Mitigation

The bill, recommended by the Wildfire Matters Review Committee, provides that public agencies are not liable for the actions of private insurance companies and their agents.

Signed by the governor on March 21, 2014.

Senate Bill 14-114: Student Access to CSU Global Campus

This bill permits CSU Global to offer comprehensive online bachelor's degree programs.

Signed by the governor on May 2, 2014.

Senate Bill 14-150: School Counselor Corps Grant Program

House Bill 08-1370 created the School Counselor Corps Grant Program in the Colorado Department of Education (CDE) to improve and increase counseling services to students in secondary schools. This bill provides clarification and guidelines for the program, and changes the funding period and award amounts.

Signed by the governor on May 16, 2014.

Senate Bill 14-186: Efficient School & Community Performance Contract

This bill is intended to facilitate the financing and development of energy efficiency projects in rural Colorado. The bill defines efficiency projects as projects of a community entity (a school district, special district, county, or municipality in a small or rural community) that results in the more efficient use of energy or resources.

Signed by the governor on June 6, 2014.

Senate Bill 14-221: Statewide Social Studies Test Administration

This bill delays administration of the social studies assessment in high school until the 2015-16 school year.

Postponed indefinitely.