

BUSINESS & GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS (BGA) COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes 3.28.18

BGA Chair Brad Harvey called the meeting to order at 7:30 a.m.

Special guest Rep. Faith Winter, Chair of the House Transportation Committee, began her remarks with “today is budget day.” She said \$495-million has been earmarked for transportation, to be allocated as it was in HB-1340 last year: 35% for CDOT; 25% for counties; 25% for municipalities; and 15% for multi-modal transit.

Rep. Winter said SB-1, now in her Committee, also allocates \$495-million for transportation but only 10% for multi-modal. Winter said the bill moves any public bonding vote to 2019 and “nearly prohibits tolling” in future measures. She said SB-1 will be “held until after the budget debate” so two transportation bills will ultimately be moving forward.

As for other potential distributions of the \$1.2-billion in “new” revenue, Winter said education will likely receive (in the vicinity of) \$575-million, \$150-million to budget stabilization, and \$114-million to colleges and universities.

Upon Rep. Winter’s departure, Chair Harvey led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by guest Jennifer Jones from the Colorado BioScience Association. She spoke in opposition to pharma bills HB-1260 (prescription drug pricing transparency) and HB-1009 (diabetes drug pricing transparency). She said her organization supports the transparency feature of each measure but opposes both bills due to their lack of CORA protection and their potential impact on confidential and private information. In addition, 12 chambers of commerce have come out in opposition to both measures.

Transportation was then revisited via the Sen. Rachel Zenzinger amendment that “promotes discussion of SB-1” in the House. Her amendment drops the general fund bond repayment commitment to \$248-million, the actual annual bond payment, until its 20-year sunset.

Regarding overall funding numbers, lobbyist Kathy Oatis said that of the \$28.7-billion budget, only \$10.7-billion are discretionary dollars. She said PERA would likely receive an estimated \$225-million, prisons \$11-million, and \$6.5-million for the opioid crisis.

Bill Review:

HB-1009 – Diabetes Drug Pricing Transparency Act - Kaiser Permanente opposes; most chambers either oppose or are neutral. More information was requested by the group; **MONITOR** was adopted.

HB-1260 – Prescription Drug Price Transparency - Kaiser Permanente supports; mixed responses from the group – a **MONITOR** position was approved.

HB-1297 – Climate Change Preparedness and Resiliency – called a statement bill from Democrats, sponsored in part by Rep. Winter, would lower greenhouse gases by 25% by 2025. **MONITOR** was adopted.

HB-1298 – Colorado Secure Savings Plan – a Democrat-sponsored bill, called a “qualified retirement plan.” Motion was made and seconded to **OPPOSE**.

HB-1308 – Worker’s Compensation Out-of-State Workers Temporarily in Colorado – focused on the trucking industry. Motion was made and seconded to **SUPPORT**.

SB-200 – Modifications to PERA – lobbyist Steve Balcerovich said “don’t expect anything to happen on PERA.” Bill includes no COLA’s for two years. Bill co-sponsor Sen. Kevin Priola will be invited to the next meeting to discuss this in detail.

SB-206 – Research Institutions Affordability for Residents – pertains to four-year research institutions. CU-Boulder’s Kim Calomino spoke in support of the bill which, she said, would rectify two current, conflicting state statutes: the schools’ 55% in-state/45% non-resident mandate and the two-thirds rolling average in-state and one-third out-of-state students. The measure has bi-partisan support and stipulates that no qualified Colorado student can be turned away. The motion was made and seconded to **SUPPORT**.

Special guest legislator at the April 11th meeting will be Senator Kevin Priola.

Chair Harvey adjourned the meeting at 8:55 a.m.