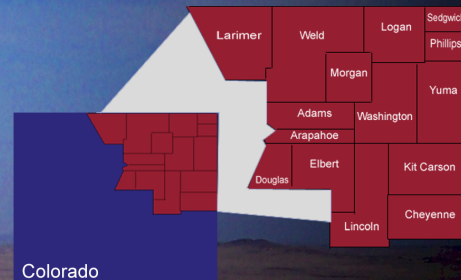


# Progressive 15

Providing A Voice for Northeast Colorado



## The Briefing

May 12, 2011

### Board of Directors

Adams: Barry Gore, Vice Chair

Arapahoe: Chuck Rech

Cheyenne: Open

Douglas: Bill Schroeder

Elbert: Open

Kit Carson: Bob Churchwell

Larimer: Open

Lincoln: Del Beattie

Logan: Judy Giacomini, Past Chair

Morgan: Kari Linker, Treasurer

Phillips: Nancy Berges, Secretary

Sedgwick: Lisa Ault

Washington: David Foy, Chair

Weld: Perry Buck

Yuma: Carol Boden

Executive Director: Cathy Shull

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### Progressive 15 Updates

- The legislative session is over and we will have a Briefing on the entire session in the next couple of weeks
- Colorado State Freight and Passenger Rail Plan Steering Committee met in April started work on this required plan. Your Executive Director sits on this committee representing rural interests as the designee for Progressive 15, Action 22 and Club 20.
  - If you have an interest in being part of the larger stakeholder group, let us know and we will get you on the list
  - Watch for continued updates as goals and visions are refined
  - Watch for meetings in your communities
  - Check out current rail map on our website at [www.progressive15.org](http://www.progressive15.org)

### From Spring Conference



### Follow Us



[www.progressive15.org](http://www.progressive15.org)

## **Other Updates**

### **Lieutenant Governor Garcia Announces Education Priorities**

With Colorado's economy at the forefront, Lieutenant Governor Garcia announced the state's education priorities as the key to creating a strong, competitive workforce. Unanimously confirmed as the Executive Director of the Department of Higher Education, the Lieutenant Governor is now leading the implementation of a seamless public education system for Colorado's youngest learners through high school graduation and beyond.

Lt. Gov. Garcia discussed the three education priorities for the state:

- Implementation of the Educator Effectiveness Bill
- Engaging the Public in a Third Grade Reading Initiative
- Advancing Higher Education

For the entire press release from the Lieutenant Governor's Office: <http://1.usa.gov/jAdEiM>

### **Joshua Epel receives Senate confirmation as Chair of the Public Utilities Commission**

Governor John Hickenlooper applauded the Colorado Senate today for confirming Joshua Epel as the Chair of the Public Utilities Commission. The Senate confirmed Epel unanimously.

Epel was the Assistant General Counsel at DCP Midstream, where he oversaw all environmental, public health and safety matters for the company. He was responsible for multiple areas of operations and helped to develop the company's climate change strategy. DCP Midstream is the largest midstream natural gas gathering and processing company in the United States.

For the entire press release from the Governor's Office: <http://1.usa.gov/iYzVd5>

### **Governor Hickenlooper signs Senate Bill 128 "Child-Only Health Insurance Plans"**

Governor John Hickenlooper signed Senate Bill 11-128, "Child-Only Health Insurance Plans," sponsored by Sen. Linda Newell and Reps. Beth McCann and Ken Summers. The legislation requires all insurance carriers selling individual health benefit plans in Colorado provide at least one-child-only health benefit plan for children.

For a complete list of Hickenlooper's 2011 legislation decisions, visit [www.colorado.gov/governor](http://www.colorado.gov/governor).

### **Governor Hickenlooper announces several Board and Commission appointments**

Governor John Hickenlooper today announced appointments to the Charter School Institute Board, the Colorado Wildlife Habitat Stamp Committee, the State Agricultural Commission, the State Board of Health and the State Board of Stock Inspection Commissioners.

The Charter School Institute Board members appointed are:

- Patricia Mae Chlouber of Leadville, with a term to expire July 1, 2013.
- Wayne D. Eckerling of Denver, with a term to expire July 1, 2014.
- Steven Richard Schneider of Colorado Springs, with a term to expire July 1, 2014.

The Colorado Wildlife Habitat Stamp Committee members appointed are:

- Bryan J. Martin of Westminster with a term to expire Dec. 31, 2011.
- Michelle Zimmerman of Denver, with a term to expire Dec. 31, 2014.

- Gary C. Miller of Fort Collins, with a term to expire Dec. 31, 2014.

The State Agricultural Commission member appointed is:

- Joanne Marilyn Stanko of Steamboat Springs, with a term to expire March 1, 2015.

The State Board of Health members appointed are:

- Commissioner Crestina Maria Martinez of Pueblo, with a term to expire on March 1, 2013.
- Laura J. Davis of Westminster, with a term to expire on March 1, 2015.
- Dr. Christine Rose Nevin-Woods of Pueblo, with a term to expire on March 1, 2015.
- Susan L. Warren of Denver, with a term to expire on March 1, 2015.
- Dr. Christopher Scott Stanley of Arvada, with a term to expire on March 1, 2015.

The State Board of Stock Inspection Commissioners members appointed are:

- Tim E. Thatcher of Pueblo, with a term to expire May 1, 2015.
- Tracy Lungwitz of Yuma, with a term to expire on May 1, 2015.

For the entire press release from the Governor's Office: <http://1.usa.gov/luzg2F>

### **Independent Ethics Commissioner Appoints New Commissioner**

The Colorado Independent Ethics Commission (IEC) has appointed Estes Park Mayor William C. Pinkham to its fifth commissioner position, replacing outgoing IEC Commissioner Larry Lasha, of Fremont County. Pinkham has more than 40 years experience in the private sector, having worked in a variety of roles for Weyerhaeuser Company where he helped develop a company-wide ethics program. As Mayor of Estes Park, Pinkham made the implementation of a code of conduct for the Estes Park Town Board a top priority following his election.

Pinkham is immediately filling the vacancy on the IEC created by the retirement of Commissioner Lasha. Pinkham's appointment is for the remaining months of Lasha's current IEC term. His first meeting as a commissioner is scheduled for May 19, 2011. Pinkham is filling the role of the local government representative on the commission as required by the constitution; he is registered as an independent voter.

### **Center for Colorado's Economic Future Releases Phase 1 Report**

The Phase 1 report of the Center for Colorado's Economic Future "Financing Colorado's Future - An Analysis of the Fiscal Sustainability of State Government, Phase 1 Findings" has been posted on their website. They are currently updating all of their models with the most recent data and national forecasts. They are also working on Phase 2 options. Plans are to release the Phase 2 report this summer.

You can find their website at: <http://www.du.edu/economicfuture/>

### **Progressive 15 gets Thanks for help on HB11-1072**

On behalf of the Denver Metro Chamber our deepest thanks to each of you and your organizations for your support and commitment to the passage of HB11-1072. The bill re-passed the House last night and will proceed to the Governor for his consideration. With your help we have ensured greater transparency and accountability in the Title Board process. A special thank you to our sponsors, Speaker McNulty and Senator Morse for their time and effort. Also, deep gratitude to Doug Friednash of Greenberg Traurig who provided us with pro bono legal counsel. We look forward to working together again on issues of importance to Colorado.

## Governor Hickenlooper Signs Several Bills Into Law

<b>Bill Number</b>	<b>Bill Title</b>	<b>Sponsors</b>	<b>Description</b>
HB11-1156	Extend Repeal Date Conservation District Grant Fund	Becker/Hodge	Extension of Conservation Grant Funding with Severance Tax Revenues
HB11-1004	Farm Truck Registration	Baumgardner/Harvey	Registration of a Vehicle used for Agricultural Production
HB11-1258	Forensic Autopsy Requirements	Baumgardner/Newell	Guidelines for Autopsy practices
HB11-1042	Class of Res Land When Res Imp Removed	Levy/Nicholson	Concerning the Classification of Residential Land When the Residential Improvement is Temporarily Removed
HB11-1201	Streamlining Educator Licensing	Hamner/Nicholson & White	Concerning Measures to Facilitate the Issuance of Educator Licenses
HB11-1097	Goodwill Industries Tax Check-off	Barker/Guzman	Voluntary Contribution Designation Benefitting the Goodwill Industries Fund that Appears on the Individual State Income Tax Form
HB11-1234	Taxicab Vehicle License Plates	Vaad/Spence & Williams S.	Creation of a Taxicab License Plate for Vehicles Authorized to Provide Taxicab Services
HB11-1160	Governor Appointment Terms to UNC Board	Todd/Renfroe	Concerning Term Limits for Governor Appointees to the Board of Trustees at the University of Northern Colorado
HB11-1251	Window Tinting Public Safety Vehicles	Conti/Tochtrop	Exemption from the Restrictions on Window Tinting for Public Safety Vehicles
HB11-1286	Clarify State Engineer Non-tributary Rule Authority	Sonnenberg & Becker/Schwartz	State Engineer's Rule-Making Authority in Dewatering of Geologic Formations by Withdrawing Non-tributary Ground Water to Facilitate the Mining of Minerals
HB-1291	Approve Regional Haze Air Quality Plan	McNulty/Morse	Legislative Approval of the Regional Haze Element of the State Implementation Plan
HB11-1200	Substance Abuse Assessment At Intake	Baker/Roberts	Conducting a Substance Abuse Assessment At Probation Intake When Pre-sentence Report is Waived
SB11-211	Tobacco Revenues Offset Medical Services	Hodge/Ferrandino	Concerning the Use of the Tobacco Tax for Health-Related Purposes During a State Fiscal Emergency
SB11-212	Use Provider Fee Offset GF Medicaid	Hodge/Gerou	Additional Permissible Uses for the Hospital Provider Fee Cash Fund for State Medicaid Expenditures to Offset State General Fund Expenditures for the Next Two Fiscal Years
SB11-214	Decommission Fort Lyons Prison	Hodge/Becker	Decommission Fort Lyons Prison

<b>Bill Number</b>	<b>Bill Title</b>	<b>Sponsors</b>	<b>Description</b>
SB11-215	2011 Nursing Facility Rate Reduction	Hodge/Becker	Reduction in the General Fund Portion of Per Diem Rates Paid to Nursing Care Facilities in 2011-12 Fiscal Year
SB11-216	Children's Basic Health General Fund Appropriations	Hodge/ Ferrandino	Reduction in the General Fund Appropriations for the Children's Basic Health Plan by Reallocating Tobacco-Related Revenue Streams
SB11-217	Reduction Juvenile Detention Bed Cap	Hodge/ Ferrandino	Reduction in the Juvenile Detention Bed Caps
SB11-218	Cash Fund Transfers to State Ed Funds	Hodge- Ferrandino	Transfer of Money from Certain Cash Funds to State Education Fund
SB11-221	Old Hire FPPA State Plans Contributions	Hodge/Becker	Contributions to Pay the Unfunded Accrued Liability of Old Hire Pension Plans that are Affiliated with the Fire and Police Pension Association
SB11-222	Capitol Construction Transfers	Hodge/Gerou	Concerning Transfers of Money Related to Capitol Construction
SB11-223	Sales Tax Vendor Fee	Hodge/Gerou	State Sales Tax Revenues Retained by the Vendor as Compensation for Expenses Incurred by the Vendor for Collection and Remittance of such Revenues to the State
SB11-224	Suspends Nurse Home Visit Program Fund Increase	Hodge/ Ferrandino	Suspension of Annual Increases in the Percentage of Tobacco Litigation Settlement Moneys Received by the State that are Allocated to the Nurse Home Visitor Program
SB11-228	County Tax Base Relief Formula	Steadman/ Gerou	The Formula by which Moneys Shall be Advanced to the County from the County Tax Base Relief Fund in the Event that Appropriations are Insufficient
SB11-229	Expense School Counselor Grant Program	Steadman/ Ferrandino	Increasing the Statutory Cap on Administrative Expenses for the School Counselor Corps Grant Program
HB11-1026	Storm Water Management Sys Administrators	Gerou/Jahn	Designation of Storm Water System Administrators and Appropriations
HB11-1100	Military Experience License Certificate	Looper/Morse	Consideration of Military Expense Toward Qualification for Personal Licensure and Certification
HB11-1145	Availability Background Check Child Care	McCann/ Tochtrop	Requirements Surrounds Background Checks for Child Care Facilities
HB11-1196	Flexibility in Funding Family Services	Summers/ Foster	Measure to Increase Flexibility in Fund for Family Services
HB11-1283	Extend Bioscience Grant Program	Gerou & Riesberg/ Steadman	Extension of the Bioscience Discovery Evaluation Program
HB11-1289	Water Supply Structure Historic Register	Sonnenberg/ Hodge	Concerning the Manner in which the State Historical Society Acts with Regard to Water Supply Structures

Bill Number	Bill Title	Sponsors	Description
HB11-1146	Definition of Ag Land For Property Tax	Massey/ Steadman	Requirement that a Residence be Integral to an Agricultural Operation in Determining Whether Two Acres or Less Associated with the Residence Satisfies the Definition of Agricultural Land for Property Tax Purposes
HB11-1209	OED Small Business Navigator	Jones/Heath	Creation of Small Business Navigator by the Small Business Assistance Center Under the Office of Economic Development
HB11-1218	County Creation of Fed Mineral lease Dist	Baumgardner/ White	Concerning the Power to Create a Federal Mineral Lease District for Purposes of Receiving Moneys Distributed by the Department of Local Affairs
HB11-1274	Water Conservation Board Construction Fund	Sonnenberg/ Schwartz	Concerning the Funding of Colorado Water Conservation Board Projects
HB11-1230	Consolidate Housing Assist in DOLA	Duran/Boyd	Consolidation of State Programs that Distribute Federal Moneys to Persons Needing Assistance in Obtaining Housing into the Division of Housing within the Department of Local Affairs
SB11-231	Colorado Channel Authority Operation	Nikkel/ Steadman	Allowing the Channel Authority to Make Available via the Internet Audio Recordings of Proceedings of the General Assembly, Requiring Certain Members of the Board of Directors to Serve on the General Assembly and to Represent the Major Political Parties in each House

## **Membership Investments**

### **Renew:**

Colorado Association of Realtors

COGA—Northeast Chapter

East Central Council of Governments

## **2011 Calendar**

**(Progressive 15 events in Blue)**

### **May**

- 19 NISP Business Rally— Budweiser Events Center, Fort Collins, CO For More Info: Brian Werner, 970.622.2229

### **June**

- 13-14 Symposium on Mileage-Based User Fees—Breckenridge, CO For More Info: <http://utcm.tamu.edu/mbuf/>

## **July**

- 21 - Progressive 15 Standing Committee Meetings - Fort Morgan

## **August**

## **September**

- 15-16 Progressive 15 Fall Conference - Wiggins

## **October**

- 17 Progressive 15 member caucus Phillips County
- 24 Progressive 15 member caucus Kit Carson County
- 31 Progressive 15 member caucus Weld County

## **November**

- 7 Progressive 15 member caucus Logan County
- 14 Progressive 15 member caucus Morgan County

## **December**

- 5 Progressive 15 Board Retreat - Fort Morgan