

STATE OF COLORADO

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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DATE: March 2, 2012

TO: Transportation Commissioners, Executive Director, Executive Management Team, Branch Managers, and Office Directors

FROM: Kurtis Morrison, Office of Policy & Government Relations Office

RE: Weekly Legislative Report – 2012 Session of the Colorado General Assembly

Overview

Today marks the 52nd day of Colorado's 120-day legislative session. 69 days remain until adjournment. As of this week, CDOT is monitoring 103 of the 515 bills that have been introduced to date. Of the 103 bills being monitored, 22 bills have been postponed indefinitely thus far.

Legislation

HB 12-1222 (Becker/Hodge). The CDOT Renovation Fund bill is a department legislative agenda item. The bill would reinstate a cash fund containing frozen Certificate of Participation (COP) proceeds. The bill passed the House on third reading on Monday. The bill now heads to the Senate, its first hearing will occur later this month before the Senate Transportation Committee.

HB 12-1030 (Looper/Williams S.). HB 1030, a Transportation Legislation Review Committee (TLRC)-sponsored bill, would eliminate a number of transportation-related reports required to be submitted to the General Assembly. This week, the measure was approved by the full House on 3rd reading. Having been introduced in the Senate, the bill now awaits a hearing by the Senate Transportation Committee.

SB 12-117 (King S./None). SB 117 seeks to expand DUI offenses to include impairment by certain drugs, including marijuana. On Monday, the bill was heard before the Senate State Affairs Committee in a hearing that went late into the evening. The bill was amended to require blood tests for drivers suspected of being under the influence of marijuana, in order to determine their level of impairment. The proposal passed out of the committee on a 4-1 vote, and now moves to the Senate Appropriations Committee.

HB 12-1119 (Coram/Giron). HB 1119, also referred to as the “SUCCESS Act,” would limit state agency fines. The bill would limit the ability of a state agencies to impose fines for inspection-related or paperwork-related violations that do not harm or threaten public health or safety. Currently the bill is scheduled for consideration on March 8 in the House Economic & Business Development Committee.

SB12-013 (Schwartz/Jones). SB 013, a TLRC-sponsored bill, updates state law pertaining to low-speed electric vehicles (LSEVs). The bill, which originally would have raised the speed limit maximum for LSEVs to 40 miles per hour, was amended to address CDOT’s road safety concerns. As amended, the bill permits LSEVs on 40 mile per hour state highways only when the department determines that doing so poses no significant safety risk to motorists or pedestrians. The bill was approved by the Senate and is now slated to be heard by the House Transportation Committee.

If you have any questions on these or any other legislative issues please feel free to contact Kurt Morrison, Legislative Liaison at 303-757-9077. This memo and a link to the bill tracking chart are available online at: <http://statebillinfo.com/SBI/index.cfm?fuseaction=Public.Dossier&id=16253&pk=251&style=pinstripe>