# Northern Colorado Legislative Alliance

**NCLA Chairman – Steve Tool**

## **2014-2015 Year in Review**

**2014 – 2015 Guest Speakers & Presenters:**

* **John Hickenlooper: Governor**
* **Don Hunt: Executive Director of CDOT**
* **Gregg Hobbs: Associate Justice, State Supreme Court**
* **Ken Knox: Noble Energy**
* **Todd Saliman: VP Budget and Finance at CU, and Steve Bosley, CU Regent**
* **State Senators John Kefalas, Kevin Lundberg, John Cooke and Vicki Marble**
* **Myron Hora: CDOT Planning and Environmental Manager for Region 4**
* **Scott LaBand: Colorado Succeeds**
* **Henry Sobanet: Director, Governor’s Office of State Planning and Budgeting**
* **J.J. Ament: VP, RBC Capital Solutions**
* **David Flaherty: Magellan Strategies**
* **Stephanie Steffens: Colorado Workforce Development**
* **Sarah Landry, COGA**
* **Dan Schaller, Colorado League of Charter Schools**
* **Shailen Bhatt: Executive Director, CDOT**
* **State Representatives Arndt, Ginal, Del Grosso, Seine, Buck and Young**
* **Brian Werner: Northern Colorado**
* **Joe Frank: GM, Lower South Platte Water Conservancy District**
* **Rich Schweigert: CFO and Governmental Relations, CSU System**

**Events:**

* **Regional Issues Summit at Embassy Suites, December**
* **Legislative Breakfast at the Capitol, January**
* **Fort Collins Community Breakfast, February**
* **Loveland Community Breakfast, March**
* **Dinner in Denver with Legislators, March**
* **Greeley Community Breakfast, April**
* **Legislative Wrap up Luncheon, May**

**2015 NCLA POLICY PRIORITIES:**

Transportation Funding:

* Secure $965 million to widen I-25 to three lanes each direction between US 14 and US 66
* Advocate for improvements to US 85 and US 287
* Protect SB 09-228 to retain dollars for transportation while continuing to pursue additional funds for transportation projects

Support increasing water storage capacity of Northern Colorado, in particular, the development of the Northern Integrated Supply Project and the expansion of Halligan and Seaman Reservoirs.

Support and encourage economic growth in the innovative and traditional energy economy.

Support a strategy to create a stable funding model for education.

Influence key issues that impact business:

* Support elimination of business personal property tax
* Maintain the integrity of the workers compensation system for Colorado businesses
* Maintain the viability of enterprise zones as a job creation tool for Colorado
* Support efforts to find early stage capital for entrepreneurs in Northern Colorado
* Support the creation of affordable housing by supporting legislation to improve the methods for solving disputes between homeowners and contractors

Support reform efforts to streamline state government by eliminating duplicate or unnecessary government regulation.

**Committees:**

* **Fix North I-25 Business Alliance**
* **Events**
* **Relationship**

**NCLA VoteWatch Scorecard 2015:**

**\*SB 272:** Authorized New TRANs Bonds (Highest Priority, Extra Credit). Suppport/Killed

**HB 1065:** Regulations on New Businesses with fewer than 100 employees. Bill would have lowered penalties. Support/Killed

**\*HB 1109:** Dealt with SB 09-228 on GF transfers to CDOT. Current law speaks to 5 consecutive years of transfers. This change would have removed the consecutive requirement and added a year for each year missed. Support/Killed

**HB 1119:** Compensation to royalty owner for a fracking ban in five communities with the bans in place: Boulder, Fort Collins Broomfield, Longmont and Boulder County. Support/Killed

**HB 1172:** Would have repealed of HB 13-1136 regarding punitive damages in cases of employment discrimination in businesses with 15 or fewer employees. Support/Killed

**HB 1221:** Dealt with employee leave for attendance at child’s academic activities in companies with 50 or more employees in non-supervisory roles. Oppose/Killed

**HB 1235:** Colorado Retirement Security Task Force. Would set up a task force of 17 members to study retirement security options. Oppose/Killed

**HB 1258:** FAMLI Insurance program wage replacement: Would create a new insurance division for partial wage replacement in companies with more than 50 employees. 3 states have such a plan. Oppose/Killed

**HB 1300:** Would allow a local government to establish a minimum wage in the community. Oppose/Killed

**HB 1306:** Study to determine if there are disparities in the selection of businesses in the state procurement system. Oppose/Killed

**HB 1382:** Work Force Innovation and Opportunity Act: Conform state law to federal law. Support/Killed

**SB 19:** Health Exchange Audit speaks for itself. Only bill that we supported in this scorecard that passed! All of the Larimer/Weld senators and reps voted in favor of the bill.

**SB 69:** Repeal Job Protection Civil Rights Enforcement Act. Repeals and reenacts provisions of state statute related to remedies for employment discrimination. Support/Killed

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**NCLA VoteWatch Scorecard 2015 – continued:**

**SB 93:** Require local governments to compensate owners with interest in mineral rights when a ban reduces fair market value by at least 60%. Support/Killed

**SB 141:** Income tax credit for property taxes paid eligibility. 2015 – 15k; 2016 – 16K; 17, 18, 2019 – 19K. Support/Killed

**\*SB 177:** Construction Defects. Would have required arbitration and mediation prior to the filing of a law suit. Support/Killed

**SB 223:** Remove penalty when a parent opts a child out of testing. Oppose/Killed

**SB 225:** Deposit Severance Tax Revenues into the General Fund. Diverts the first $20 million of severance tax to the General Fund and not to State and local Severance Tax funds. Oppose/Passed

**Summary:**

* **10 bills we supported were killed**
* **6 bills we opposed were killed Divided Legislature!**
* **1 bill we opposed passed**
* **1 bill we supported passed**

**Action Letters:**

October 22, 2014: Letter to HPTE supporting RAMP funding of the Crossroads Bridge Project at I-25 and Crossroads Boulevard

June 11, 2015: Letter to Governor Hickenlooper supporting the allocation of Presidential Challenge Grant Funds to CDOT Region 4 for the purpose of replacing four aging bridges.