



## Senate Majority Leadership Shuffle, UNC DO School *Slurry of Bills Introduced*

### **Farewell Senate President Garcia, Hello Senator Fenberg – A Changing of the Guard**

Following the announced resignation last week of President of the Senate Leroy Garcia of Pueblo, the Senate Majority Caucus elected that current Senate Majority Leader, Steve Fenberg (D) of Boulder, will be the next President of the Senate. Senator Fenberg, giving up his power as the Majority Leader, will bring a different style to the leadership role than his predecessor. Bringing a more reserved approach to the dias, Senator Garcia will pass the gavel to Fenberg who has proven to be a more aggressive leader pushing the Democratic agenda with full force.

Joint Budget Committee Vice Chair Senator Dominick Moreno (D) of Adams County was elected by his caucus to fill the vacancy of Senate Majority Leader and takes a more pragmatic, moderate approach than his predecessor, Fenberg. Moreno's move leaves a hole in the JBC. The caucus selected Senator Rachel Zenzinger (D) of Jefferson County to fill the position reinstating her prior post on the JBC. In previous sessions, Senator Zenzinger has proven to be a friend of the business community and has been known to step out from the majority on important issues. We look forward to and congratulate all the Senators on their new roles in the legislature.

### **Bill to Authorize Doctor Of Osteopathic Medicine School at UNCA Passes First Steps**

The University of Northern Colorado's plans to establish a Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine School passed its first hurdles this week passing the Senate unanimously. The bill authorizing the school moves to the House. The NCLA strongly supports UNC's initiative.

### **Slurry of Bills Introduced in Last Week**

**[HB22-1138](#) Reduce Employee Single-occupancy Vehicle Trips** – NCLA Position: Pending - The ETRP like legislation already has opposition building among the business community as it awaits its first hearing in the House Finance Committee. With sponsors of Rep. Herod, Gray, and Sen. Winters and Hansen, this legislation will move quickly, and a large coalition of business members will do their best to provide helpful amendments.

**[HB22-1152](#) Prohibit Employer Adverse Action Marijuana Use** – NCLA Position: Pending - This measure would prohibit an employer from taking action against an employee who engages in the use of medical marijuana on the premises of the employer during working hours or, retail or medical marijuana off the premises of the employer during nonworking hours. This bill will have its first committee hearing on February 24 in House Business Affairs and Labor.

**[HB22-1196](#) Pay Equity Study** - NCLA Position: Pending - This bill creates a task force created pursuant to the Colorado Partnership for Quality Jobs and Services Act to contract for a pay equity study to assess pay inequities specific to gender, race, and other protected classes, and will recommendations to alleviate pay inequities. The bill has passed through the House and will be introduced in the Senate this week.

**[HB22-1216](#) Uniform Restrictive Employment Agreement Act** – NCLA Position: Pending - This bill proposes to regulate restrictive post-employment agreements, including non-compete agreements, confidentiality agreements, no-business agreements, nonsolicitation agreements, and various other types of business agreements. It will require advance notice and other procedural requirements for an enforceable non-compete agreement or other restrictive agreement. It will also create penalties and enforcement authority by the state. This bill will be initially heard in the House Judiciary Committee on February 22.

### **Release of the National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (NEVI) Formula Program Bipartisan**

## Infrastructure Law (BIL)

On February 10, the Federal Highway Administration released the [National EV infrastructure guidance documents](#). This guidance document will significantly impact the various transportation EV enterprises created by last year's transportation funding/spending measures SB21-260, the Transportation Commission, and the CDOT planning processes. The EV Formula Program provides funding to States to deploy electric vehicle (EV) charging infrastructure strategically and to establish an interconnected network to facilitate data collection, access, and reliability. BIL appropriates \$1.000B in consecutive years from 2022 to 2026. The funding incorporates a federal share of 80% and a matching requirement of 20%. Colorado is anticipated to receive \$56M per year for investment in its EV infrastructure network.

Some highlighted NEVI Requirements:

**Program Goal:** Nationwide network of 500,000 EV chargers by 2030.

- Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) includes a total of up to \$7.5 billion in dedicated funding to help make EV chargers accessible to all Americans for local to long-distance trips. That \$7.5 billion is comprised of a \$5 billion NEVI formula program and a \$2.5 billion discretionary grant program. The discretionary program will be contained to:
  - Corridor Charging Grant Program. This program will strategically deploy publicly accessible EV charging infrastructure and hydrogen, propane, and natural gas fueling infrastructure along designated Alternative Fuel Corridors.
  - Community Charging Grant Program. This program will strategically deploy publicly accessible EV charging infrastructure and hydrogen, propane, and natural gas fueling infrastructure in communities.
- Each state is required to submit an EV Infrastructure Deployment Plan (Plan) that describes how the State intends to use its apportioned NEVI Formula Program funds in accordance with this guidance. No NEVI Formula Program funds shall be obligated by a State until FHWA approves that State's Plan.
- Plans must be submitted to the Joint Office of Energy and Transportation (Joint Office) not later than August 1, 2022, and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) will approve eligible Plans by September 30, 2022. States that submit plans before August 1, 2022, will be approved by FHWA on a rolling basis.

## NCLA Tracking Report

On a bi-weekly basis, the NCLA Board reviews and considers its position on pending legislation. See the [NCLA 2022 Legislative Tracking Report](#) list the measures thus far introduced that the NCLA is monitoring and upon which the NCLA will or has taken a position.