
<u>HB15-1002</u>	Modifications To Economic Gardening Pilot Project
-------------------------	--

Sponsors: LEE

Summary: The bill modifies the economic gardening project by: * Increasing, from \$750 to \$1500, the fee * Replacing the cap of 12 months of services that participating companies may use with a range of between 40 and 100 hours of services; * Extending the reporting requirements and future repeal date of the program 2 years from 2016 to 2018; and * Requiring \$200,000 to be appropriated from the general fund for the economic gardening pilot project for each of the additional 2 years that the program is extended.

Status: 01/07/2015 Introduced In House - Assigned to Business Affairs and Labor + Appropriations

BGA Member:

Position: **Support**

**Reasons For
Position:**

MNCC Priority:

<u>HB15-1056</u>	Disclosure Information Asset Recovery
-------------------------	--

Sponsors: CORAM / HODGE

Summary: The bill allows collection agencies to file a petition in court to compel the department of labor and employment to disclose contact information for a debtor's employer.

Status: 02/05/2015 House Committee on Judiciary Refer Unamended to Finance

BGA Member:

Position: **Monitor**

**Reasons For
Position:**

MNCC Priority:

<u>HB15-1063</u>	Prohibited Communications Concerning Patents
-------------------------	---

Sponsors: PABON / BALMER

Summary: The bill prohibits a person from making a written or electronic communication with another concerning a patent if: The communication falsely states that litigation has been commenced against the recipient; The communication threatens litigation; or * The allegations in the communication lack a reasonable basis.

Status: 01/29/2015 House Committee on Business Affairs and Labor Refer Unamended to Appropriations

BGA Member:

Position: **Monitor**

**Reasons For
Position:**

MNCC Priority:

<u>HB15-1065</u>	Regulatory Reform Act Of 2015
---	--------------------------------------

Sponsors: SZABO / NEVILLE T.

Summary: The bill enacts the "Regulatory Reform Act of 2015" giving allowances to small businesses under 100 employees when it comes to compliance with new administrative rules. Small businesses will be given warnings and the state will be required to make information more readily available.

Status: 01/09/2015 Introduced In House - Assigned to State, Veterans, & Military Affairs + Appropriations

BGA Member:

Position:

**Reasons For
Position:**

MNCC Priority:

<u>HB15-1098</u>	Red Light Camera
---	-------------------------

Sponsors: HUMPHREY / NEVILLE T.

Summary: The bill repeals the authorization for the state, a county, a city and county, or a municipality to use automated vehicle identification systems to identify violators of traffic regulations and issue citations based on photographic evidence, and creates a prohibition on such activity. The bill repeals the authorization for the department of public safety to use an automated vehicle identification system to detect speeding violations within a highway maintenance, repair, or construction zone.

Status: 01/15/2015 Introduced In House - Assigned to Transportation & Energy + Appropriations

BGA Member:

Position:

**Reasons For
Position:**

MNCC Priority:

HB15-1102 **CO Cottage Foods Act Expansion**

Sponsors: HAMNER / DONOVAN

Summary: The "Colorado Cottage Foods Act" exempts sellers of certain foods from state inspection standards. The bill expands the permitted foods to include fruit empanadas, tortillas, and pickled vegetables that have an equilibrium pH value of 4.6 or lower.

Status: 01/15/2015 Introduced In House - Assigned to Public Health Care & Human Services

BGA Member:

Position: **Monitor**

**Reasons For
Position:**

MNCC Priority:

HB15-1109 **Additional SB09-228 Transfers To HUTF & Cap Constr**

Sponsors: DELGROSSO

Summary: The bill specifies the percentage of general fund revenues transferred by the state treasurer to the capital construction fund and the highway users tax fund in a state fiscal year.

Status: 01/15/2015 Introduced In House - Assigned to Finance + Appropriations

BGA Member:

Position: **Support**

**Reasons For
Position:**

MNCC Priority:

<u>HB15-1119</u>	Local Government Fracking Ban Liable Royalties
---	---

Sponsors:	BUCK
Summary:	The bill specifies that a local government that bans hydraulic fracturing of an oil and gas well is liable to the royalty owner for the value of the lost royalties.
Status:	02/11/2015 House Committee on State, Veterans, & Military Affairs Witness Testimony and/or Committee Discussion Only
BGA Member:	
Position:	Monitor
Reasons For Position:	
MNCC Priority:	

<u>HB15-1148</u>	Transfer Gen Fund Surplus To State Highway Fund
---	--

Sponsors:	BROWN
Summary:	The bill requires the state treasurer to transfer the general fund surplus for the 2014-15 state fiscal year to the state highway fund.
Status:	01/28/2015 Introduced In House - Assigned to State, Veterans, & Military Affairs + Finance + Appropriations
BGA Member:	
Position:	Monitor
Reasons For Position:	
MNCC Priority:	

<u>HB15-1154</u>	No Credit Card Fee On Tax Portion Of Sale
---	--

Sponsors:	BECKER J. / HILL
Summary:	The bill prohibits the collection of an interchange fee, defined as a fee established by a payment card network for the purpose of compensating the issuer of a credit or debit card for its involvement in an electronic payment transaction, on the portion of the total price that represents taxes imposed by the state or a local government. A 2-year grace period allows for the continuation of existing contracts and software that do not

separately account for taxes, but the bill applies to all transactions on and after July 1, 2017.

Status: 01/29/2015 Introduced In House - Assigned to Finance

BGA Member:

Position: **Oppose**

**Reasons For
Position:**

MNCC Priority:

<u>HB15-1157</u>	Working Group For Econ Dev In Distressed Regions
---	---

Sponsors: WILLETT / HEATH

Summary: The bill creates the economic development working group for highly distressed rural and urban regions of the state. The bill requires the working group to: * Establish the regions and post their names and boundaries on the office's web site; * Discuss and evaluate other economic development efforts in the regions and their best practices; * Discuss and evaluate the possibility of creating tax-free zones or other economic development tools for the regions; and * Make detailed legislative recommendations to the general assembly in order to quickly improve the economic vitality of those regions.

Status: 01/29/2015 Introduced In House - Assigned to Business Affairs and Labor + Appropriations

BGA Member:

Position:

**Reasons For
Position:**

MNCC Priority:

<u>HB15-1158</u>	Sales & Use Tax Refund For Data Centers
---	--

Sponsors: DELGROSSO / HOLBERT

Summary: Beginning January 1, 2016, the bill allows a sales and use tax refund to the owner, operator, or tenant of a facility that is a qualified data center or a qualified refurbished data center for the state sales or use tax paid on information technology equipment (IT equipment) that is used and maintained in the qualified data center or qualified refurbished data center for at least one year. The refund also applies to IT equipment that

is purchased to replace or upgrade IT equipment and IT equipment that is relocated to the state.

Status: 01/29/2015 Introduced In House - Assigned to Business Affairs and Labor + Finance + Appropriations

BGA Member:

Position: **Support**

Reasons For Position:

MNCC Priority:

HB15-1180

Sales & Use Tax Refund Med & Clean Technology

Sponsors: KRAFT-THARP / HEATH

Summary: The bill recreates and reenacts a refund for state sales and use tax paid by a qualified medical technology or clean technology taxpayer. A qualified taxpayer is a business entity that: * Employs 35 or fewer full-time employees in Colorado; * Is headquartered in Colorado or has more than 50% of its employees in Colorado; and * Conducts research and development of medical technology or clean technology.

Status: 02/12/2015 House Committee on Business Affairs and Labor Refer Unamended to Finance

BGA Member:

Position: **Support**

Reasons For Position:

MNCC Priority:

HB15-1190

Assistance To Public Schools For Career Pathways

Sponsors: WINDHOLZ

Summary: The bill requires the state work force development council (state council) in the department of labor and employment and the department of education to coordinate efforts to: * Provide technical assistance to schools regarding federal and state programs and statutory requirements relating to career and workforce opportunities; * Identify local industry and workforce needs; * Identify existing apprenticeship and training programs; * Develop resources for public schools to partner with industry sector partnerships; * Facilitate industry engagement in middle school

and high school classrooms; * Work with other state agencies and industry to develop industry internships and opportunities for high school students; * Identify and share best practices for implementing career pathways and career-ready skills for students; and * Strengthen relationships with state agencies to be an effective point of contact for information and assistance to maximize opportunities for students. The bill requires the department of education and the state council to report annually on progress in the Colorado talent report.

Status: 01/29/2015 Introduced In House - Assigned to State, Veterans, & Military Affairs + Education + Appropriations

BGA Member:

Position: **Monitor**

**Reasons For
Position:**

MNCC Priority:

<u>HB15-1197</u>	Indemnity In Public Construction Contracts
---	---

Sponsors: TATE / JAHN

Summary: Currently, public entities in construction-related contracts are prohibited from being indemnified for the public entity's own negligence. The bill clarifies this provision by specifying that: * It also applies to a design contract and to an obligation to pay for the defense of the public entity; * The contractor's obligation is limited to the amount of negligence attributable to the contractor and its agents, representatives, subcontractors, and suppliers; and * The obligation only arises when the amount of its liability for the losses of the third party are adjudicated.

Status: 02/02/2015 Introduced In House - Assigned to Judiciary

BGA Member:

Position:

**Reasons For
Position:**

MNCC Priority:

<u>HB15-1206</u>	Sales & Use Tax Refund For Recycling Equipment
---	---

Sponsors: SINGER

Summary: For each of the calendar years 2015 through 2019, the bill allows a

taxpayer to apply for a refund of any state sales tax or use tax paid for machinery or equipment used directly and primarily in the recycling or reprocessing of waste products. The bill specifies the types of machinery or equipment to which the refund applies and specifies procedures for applying to the department of revenue to receive the refund.

Status: 02/19/2015 House Committee on Business Affairs and Labor Refer Amended to Finance

BGA Member:

Position: **Support**

Reasons For Position:

MNCC Priority:

<u>HB15-1210</u>	GA Review Env'tl Rules Required In Lieu Fed Law
---	--

Sponsors: DORE

Summary: The bill requires the air quality control commission, water quality control commission, and solid and hazardous waste commission to submit an annual report to the general assembly regarding all new and amended Winkle rules that are required by new or amended regulations proposed or adopted by the federal environmental protection agency (EPA) pursuant to the federal clean air, clean water, and hazardous waste laws to maintain state primacy regarding the enforcement of state environmental law operating in lieu of federal environmental law.

Status: 02/03/2015 Introduced In House - Assigned to State, Veterans, & Military Affairs

BGA Member:

Position: **Monitor**

Reasons For Position:

MNCC Priority:

<u>HB15-1227</u>	Tax Credit For Employers That Pay Student Loans
---	--

Sponsors: BECKER K. / HEATH

Summary: The bill creates an income tax credit for a limited number of years for employers doing business in Colorado who hire and retain new employees for a 12-month period and during that period make payments

directly to a lender on behalf of each new employee for the new employee's student loan that he or she incurred while earning an approved degree.

Status: 02/17/2015 Introduced In House - Assigned to Finance + Appropriations

BGA Member:

Position:

**Reasons For
Position:**

MNCC Priority:

<u>HB15-1230</u>	Innovative Industry Workforce Development Program
---	--

Sponsors: LEE / HEATH

Summary: The bill creates the innovative industries workforce development program in the department of labor and employment to be jointly administered by the state work force development council and the division of employment and training. The purpose of the program is to reimburse a business for one-half of its expenses related to a qualifying internship.

Status: 02/17/2015 Introduced In House - Assigned to Business Affairs and Labor

BGA Member:

Position:

**Reasons For
Position:**

MNCC Priority:

<u>HB15-1231</u>	Enhanced Unemployment Compensation Benefits
---	--

Sponsors: ESGAR

Summary: The bill reenacts the implementation of enhanced unemployment insurance compensation benefits for eligible unemployment insurance claimants that expired in accordance with a self-repealer clause in 2014.

Status: 02/19/2015 Introduced In House - Assigned to Business Affairs and Labor + Appropriations

BGA Member:

Position:

**Reasons For
Position:**

MNCC Priority:

[HB15-1236](#)

Tax Credit For Improving Energy Efficiency

Sponsors:

WINTER

Summary:

The bill creates income tax credits for a limited number of years for: * An owner of an existing multi-family home if the owner makes energy efficiency improvements that result in at least a 20% reduction in energy consumption; * An owner of a new multi-family home if the building achieves at least a specified percentage of energy savings relative to energy consumption and either achieves LEED or green globes certification for the construction or renovation; and * An owner, or multiple owners prorated according to ownership shares, of a new affordable housing project if the building achieves at least a specified percentage of energy savings relative to energy consumption and meets enterprise green community energy efficiency standards for the construction or renovation.

Status:

02/19/2015 Introduced In House - Assigned to Transportation & Energy + Finance

BGA Member:

Position:

**Reasons For
Position:**

MNCC Priority:

[HB15-1237](#)

Prepay Postage For Mail Ballots

Sponsors:

RYDEN

Summary:

The bill requires return envelopes sent to eligible electors for any mail ballot election to be postage prepaid. The secretary of state must reimburse the county clerk and recorder, other designated election officials, or municipal clerks conducting the election for the costs of providing postage prepaid return envelopes.

Status:

02/19/2015 Introduced In House - Assigned to State, Veterans, & Military Affairs + Appropriations

BGA Member:

Position:

**Reasons For
Position:**

MNCC Priority:

[SB15-001](#)

Excess State Revenues Refund Mechanism

Sponsors: CADMAN

Summary: The bill would create a three-tier sales tax refund based on federal adjusted gross income levels, tweaked from its typical definition to include Social Security payments and lump-sum pension or stock option payments. The rebate keys off the Department of Revenue's determination of a "single percentage" that factors in the taxpayers in each tier and how much is available for the refund. (I told you this was complicated.) The three tiers for the sales tax refund, which adjust over time by the consumer price index, are: "For taxpayers whose AGI is \$36,000 or less, the rebate is equal to \$36,000 times the single percentage" "For those between \$36,000 and \$117,000, the rebate is their adjusted AGI multiplied by the single percentage" "For those over \$117,000 the rebate amount is \$117,000 times the single percentage."

Status: 01/07/2015 Introduced In Senate - Assigned to Finance

BGA Member:

Position: **Monitor**

**Reasons For
Position:**

MNCC Priority:

[SB15-008](#)

Promote Water Conservation In Land Use Planning

Sponsors: ROBERTS / VIGIL

Summary: The bill directs the Colorado water conservation board (CWCB) to: * Develop and provide free training programs, on a recurring basis, for local government water use, water demand, and land use planners regarding best management practices for water demand management and water conservation. Amendment being proposed by CML that removes concerns.

Status: 02/20/2015 Senate Second Reading Passed with Amendments -

Committee, Floor

BGA Member:

Position: **Monitor**

**Reasons For
Position:**

MNCC Priority:

[SB15-018](#)

Repeal Late Vehicle Registration Fee

Sponsors: NEVILLE T. / NEVILLE P.

Summary: Under current law, if the owner of a motor vehicle fails to register the vehicle when required, the owner must, upon registering the vehicle and subject to a \$100 cap, pay a late fee of \$25 for each month or portion of a month for which the registration was late. The bill repeals the late fee.

Status: 02/19/2015 Senate Third Reading Passed - No Amendments

BGA Member:

Position: **Oppose**

**Reasons For
Position:**

MNCC Priority:

[SB15-044](#)

Electric Renewable Energy Standard Reduction

Sponsors: SCOTT / THURLOW

Summary: The bill reduces the minimum percentage of renewable energy required of investor-owned utilities from 20% to 15% for the years 2015 through 2019 and from 30% to 15% for the years 2020 and thereafter. The bill also reduces the minimum amounts for cooperative electric associations from 20% to 15% for the years 2020 and thereafter.

Status: 02/10/2015 Introduced In House - Assigned to State, Veterans, & Military Affairs

BGA Member:

Position: **Monitor**

**Reasons For
Position:**

MNCC Priority:

SB15-046	Renewable Energy Std Adjust REAs Distributed Gen
---------------------------------	---

Sponsors: GRANTHAM

Summary: The bill allows these utilities to count each kilowatt-hour of electricity obtained through retail distributed generation as 3 kilowatt-hours for purposes of meeting the 2020 standard. In addition, the bill allows cooperative electric associations to use purchases from community solar gardens to meet the retail distributed generation component of the renewable energy standard.

Status: 01/07/2015 Introduced In Senate - Assigned to Agriculture, Natural Resources, & Energy

BGA Member:

Position: **Support**

**Reasons For
Position:**

MNCC Priority:

SB15-069	Repeal Job Protection Civil Rights Enforcement Act
---------------------------------	---

Sponsors: WOODS / SZABO

Summary: With the exception of the expansion of age-based discrimination claims to individuals who are 70 years of age or older, the bill repeals all components of the "Job Protection and Civil Rights Enforcement Act of 2013" and restores the equitable relief remedies that were available to employment discrimination victims making claims under state law prior to the passage of the act.

Status: 02/09/2015 Senate Committee on Business, Labor, & Technology Refer Unamended to Appropriations

BGA Member:

Position: **Monitor**

**Reasons For
Position:**

MNCC Priority:

SB15-079	Doc Recording Fee To Fund Affordable Housing
---------------------------------	---

Sponsors: ULIBARRI

Summary: The bill modifies the recording fee collected by each county clerk and recorder. Out of each \$2 collected, the bill requires the clerk to retain one dollar to be used to defray the costs of an electronic or core filing system in accordance with existing law. The bill requires the clerk to transmit the other dollar collected to the state treasurer, who is to credit the same to the statewide affordable housing investment fund.

Status: 01/14/2015 Introduced In Senate - Assigned to State, Veterans, & Military Affairs

BGA Member:

Position: **Monitor**

**Reasons For
Position:**

MNCC Priority:

<u>SB15-082</u>	County Workforce Development Prop Tax Incentives
--	---

Sponsors: MARBLE / MORENO

Summary: The bill authorizes a county to establish a workforce development program to provide financial assistance to high school graduates in the county who pursue post-secondary education or training from an accredited institution of higher education or certified training program.

Status: 02/18/2015 House Committee on Local Government Refer Unamended to House Committee of the Whole

BGA Member:

Position: **Support**

**Reasons For
Position:**

MNCC Priority:

<u>SB15-085</u>	Small Business Cottage Foods Act
--	---

Sponsors: MARTINEZ HUMENIK

Summary: The bill increases the amount of net revenue a producer selling under the "Colorado Cottage Foods Act" may earn per eligible product from \$10,000 each calendar year.

Status: 02/19/2015 House Committee on Business Affairs and Labor Refer
Amended to House Committee of the Whole

BGA Member:

Position: **Support**

**Reasons For
Position:**

MNCC Priority:

<u>SB15-091</u>	Reduce Statute Of Limitations Construction Defects
--	---

Sponsors: SCOTT

Summary: The bill reduces the maximum statutory limitation period for an action against an architect, contractor, builder or builder vendor, engineer, or inspector performing or furnishing the design, planning, supervision, inspection, construction, or observation of construction of any improvement to real property from 8 years to 4 years.

Status: 01/14/2015 Introduced In Senate - Assigned to State, Veterans, & Military Affairs

BGA Member:

Position: **Support**

**Reasons For
Position:**

MNCC Priority:

<u>SB15-093</u>	Compensate Owners Min Interests Extraction Regs
--	--

Sponsors: SONNENBERG

Summary: Whenever a local government adopts or implements an ordinance, resolution, rule, regulation, or other form of official policy concerning mineral extraction operations that has the effect of reducing the fair market value of the owner's mineral interest by at least 60%, the bill specifies that the owner's interest is deemed to have been taken for a public use. In such circumstances, the bill allows the owner to obtain compensation from the local government for the full diminution in the fair market value of the owner's interest caused by the regulatory impairment of the local government.

Status: 02/20/2015 Senate Second Reading Passed with Amendments - Floor

BGA Member:

Position: **Monitor**

**Reasons For
Position:**

MNCC Priority:

SB15-101 **Electronic Wage Payment**

Sponsors: BALMER / PABON

Summary: The bill allows employers, at their discretion, to pay wages by electronic credit transfer to an employee's account in a financial institution or to deposit wages on a paycard if: * The employee has the option of electronic credit transfer to a financial institution account in lieu of credit to a paycard; * The employee has 7 days after receiving notice of the option to designate an account for electronic credit transfer; * The employer provides the employee with a written or electronic explanation of any fees associated with both electronic credit transfer and paycard; * The employer provides the employee with one withdrawal either by check, automated teller machine withdrawal, or electronic transfer per pay period with no fees; * The employer offers a program to the employee that does not charge a monthly maintenance fee to use the prepaid paycard; and * The employer allows the employee to always have the option to be paid by electronic credit transfer in lieu of credit to a paycard.

Status: 02/20/2015 Senate Second Reading Passed with Amendments - Committee, Floor

BGA Member:

Position: **Support**

**Reasons For
Position:**

MNCC Priority:

SB15-117 **Prohibit Discrimination In Higher Ed Funding**

Sponsors: LAMBERT / JOSHI

Summary: The bill prohibits the general assembly and the Colorado commission on higher education (commission) from appropriating or distributing state moneys to or for the benefit of students or state or private institutions of higher education based solely on the race, color, national origin, or sex of

a student.

Status: 02/19/2015 Introduced In House - Assigned to Education

BGA Member:

Position:

**Reasons For
Position:**

MNCC Priority:

<u>SB15-127</u>	Tax Incentives For Agritourism-related Activities
--	--

Sponsors: GARCIA / DORE

Summary: An agency that donates a portion of the advertising or marketing services provided for advertising or marketing an agritourism activity and receives compensation from the local government for a portion of such services provided may deduct 50% of only the costs that were donated. An agency is prohibited from deducting more than \$10,000 in any income tax year for which the deduction is claimed. In addition, for income tax years commencing on or after January 1, 2015, but before January 1, 2020, the bill allows a taxpayer who purchases equipment to be used for agritourism purposes to claim an income tax credit in an amount equal to the purchase price of the equipment. A taxpayer is not allowed to claim more than \$500 in any income tax year.

Status: 02/19/2015 Senate Committee on Finance Refer Unamended to Appropriations

BGA Member:

Position: **Support**

**Reasons For
Position:**

MNCC Priority:

<u>SB15-135</u>	Public Bodies & Urban Renewal
--	--

Sponsors: MARTINEZ HUMENIK

Summary: The bill makes the following modifications to the "Urban Renewal Law" (URL): * Increases the maximum number of allowable commissioners on an urban renewal authority from 11 to 13. * The bill requires all moneys remaining in the special fund that have not previously been rebated and that originated as property tax increment generated based on the mill levy

of a taxing body within the boundaries of the urban renewal area to be repaid to each taxing body, other than the municipality, based on the pro rata share of the total mill levy attributable to each taxing body's mill levy in the last year in which property taxes were divided. Any funds remaining in the special fund not generated by property tax increment are excluded from any such repayment requirement. * Allows a commissioner of the authority to be appointed by the board of county commissioners where the governing body of the municipality is the authority.

Status: 02/20/2015 Senate Second Reading Laid Over to 02/27/2015 - No Amendments

BGA Member:

Position: **Support**

Reasons For Position:

MNCC Priority:

<u>SB15-177</u>	HOA Construction Defect Lawsuit Approval Timelines
--	---

Sponsors: SCHEFFEL / DELGROSSO

Summary: The bill states that when the governing documents of a common interest community require mediation or arbitration of a construction defect claim and the requirement is later amended or removed, mediation or arbitration is still required for a construction defect claim.

Status: 02/10/2015 Introduced In Senate - Assigned to Business, Labor, & Technology

BGA Member:

Position: **Support**

Reasons For Position:

MNCC Priority:

<u>SB15-180</u>	Regulatory Reform Act 2015
--	-----------------------------------

Sponsors: NEVILLE T. / NEVILLE P.

Summary: The bill enacts the "Regulatory Reform Act of 2015". The act acknowledges the difficulty businesses under 100 employees have in complying with new administrative rules. "New rules" is defined as any

regulatory requirement in existence for less than one year prior to its enforcement by a state agency. For the first minor violation of a new rule by a business of 100 or fewer employees, section 4 of the bill requires a state agency to issue a written warning and engage the business in educational outreach as to the methods of complying with the new rule.

Status: 02/17/2015 Introduced In Senate - Assigned to Business, Labor, & Technology

BGA Member:

Position:

**Reasons For
Position:**

MNCC Priority: