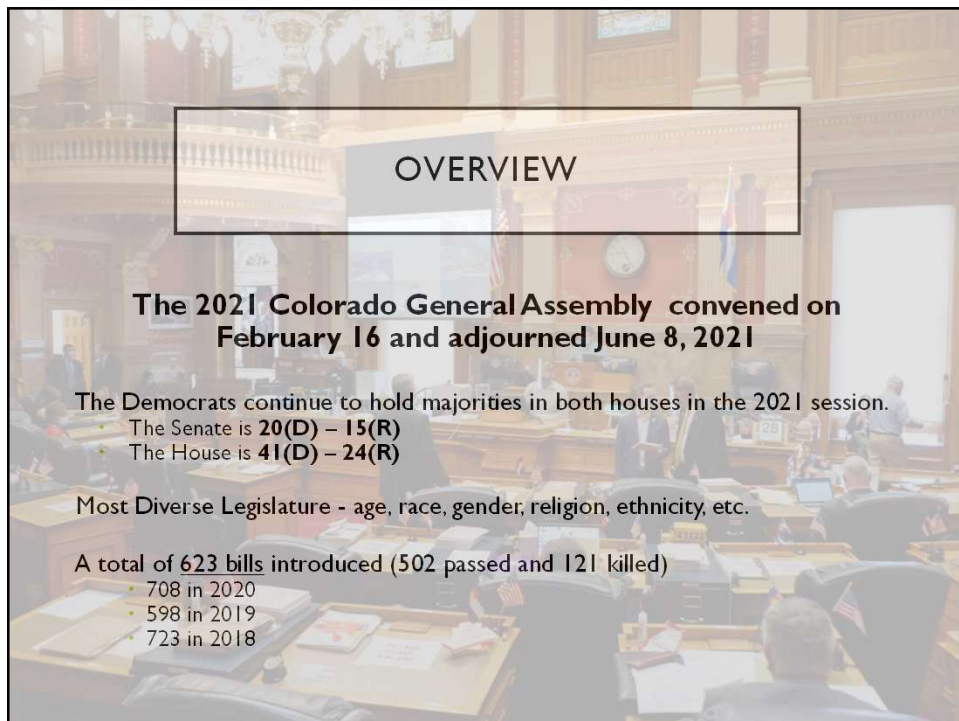
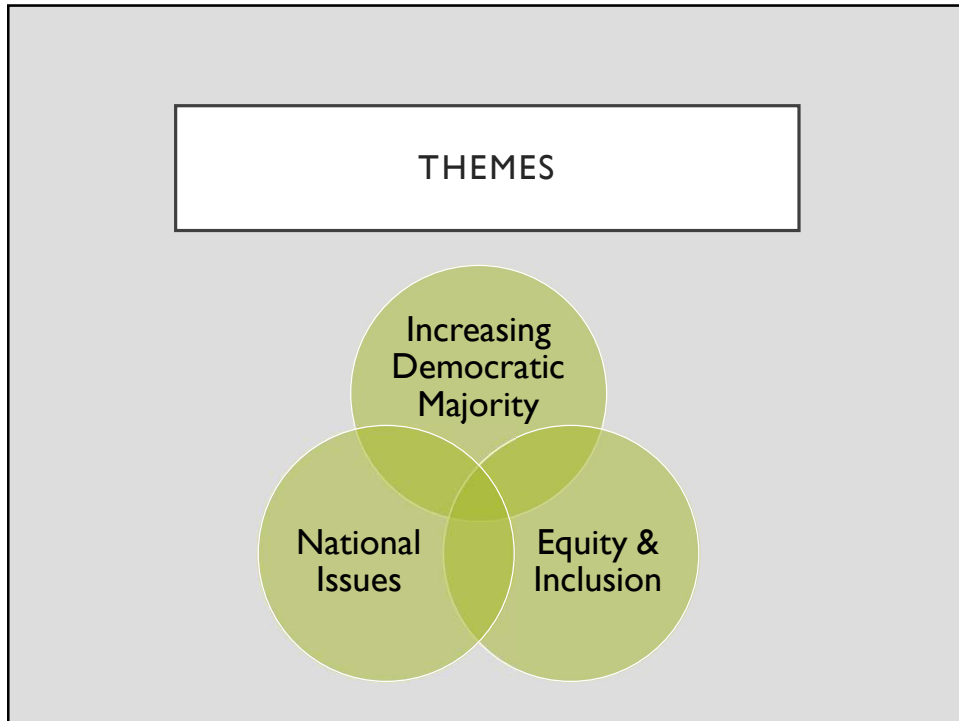




1



2



3

The slide is titled "2021 LEGISLATION" in a white box at the top. Below the title, the sub-section "Major Policy Bills" is written in blue. A bulleted list follows, containing seven items:

- Transportation Funding and Financing
- State "Public Option" Health System
- Gun Control Measures
- Renewable Energy Goals
- Tax Exemptions/Credit Modifications
- Marijuana Regulation
- Agriculture Worker's Rights

4

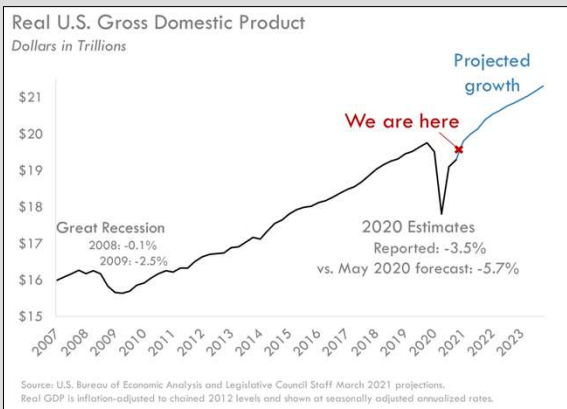
STATE AND FEDERAL STIMULUS PACKAGE

- HB 21-1263 Meeting and Events Incentive Program
- HB 21-1285 Funding to Support Creative Arts Industries
- HB 21-1288 Colorado Start-up Loan Program
- HB 21-1302 Continue COVID-19 Small Business Grant Program
- HB 21-1329 American Rescue Plan Act Money to Invest Affordable Housing
- SB 21-241 Small Business Accelerated Growth Program
- SB 21 -291 Economic Recovery and Relief Cash Fund



5

STATE BUDGET



After a dramatic exercise in budget slashing for FY 2020-21 (aka the COVID Budget), this year the General Fund was much stronger.

6

BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS



- \$480 million to buy down the K-12 Budget Stabilization Factor
- \$160 million in school infrastructure
- \$13.4 million for teacher recruitment
- \$494 million to colleges and universities



- \$460 million to the state's Medicaid program (critical care services and long-term care services)
- \$48 million for hospitals that serve low-income or uninsured patients
- \$60 million in behavioral health programs



- \$327 million in state information technology projects
- \$380 million in one-time payment for PERA
- \$201 million in state reserve fund

7

ROLE OF THE PPC

PPC Goal: EDCC is a *credible* and *respected* voice leading the public policy dialogue on economic development policies and programs across Colorado

- Track and Evaluate Legislation
- Take Positions on Legislation
- Advocate for Legislation
- Propose Legislation
- Collaborate with Partner Organizations
- Provide Legislative Updates to Members
- Develop Relationships with Legislators
- Host Legislative Luncheon at the Capitol

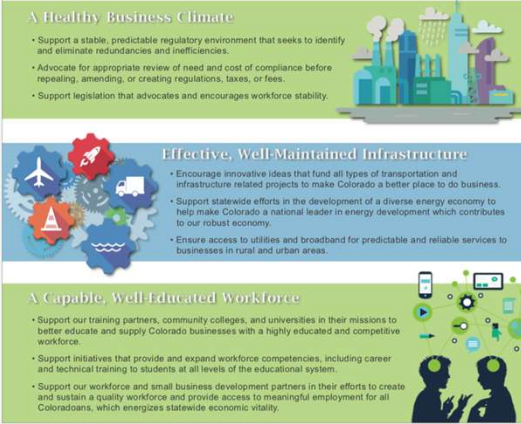


8

EDCC PRIORITY LEGISLATION

2020 and 2021 were big years for our issues of interest

- Tax Reform
- Transportation
- EDO Funding
- Business Regulations



A Healthy Business Climate

- Support a stable, predictable regulatory environment that seeks to identify and eliminate redundancies and inefficiencies.
- Advocate for appropriate review of need and cost of compliance before repealing, amending, or creating regulations, taxes, or fees.
- Support legislation that advocates and encourages workforce stability.

Effective, Well-Maintained Infrastructure

- Encourage innovative ideas that fund all types of transportation and infrastructure related projects to make Colorado a better place to do business.
- Support statewide efforts in the development of a diverse energy economy to help make Colorado a national leader in energy development which contributes to our robust economy.
- Ensure access to utilities and broadband for predictable and reliable services to businesses in rural and urban areas.

A Capable, Well-Educated Workforce

- Support our training partners, community colleges, and universities in their missions to better educate and supply Colorado businesses with a highly educated and competitive workforce.
- Support initiatives that provide and expand workforce competencies, including career and technical training to students at all levels of the educational system.
- Support our workforce and small business development partners in their efforts to create and sustain a quality workforce and provide access to meaningful employment for all Coloradans, which energizes statewide economic vitality.

9

EDCC PRIORITY LEGISLATION

- SB21-130 Local Authority for Business Personal Property Tax Exemption (Support)
- SB 21-176 Protecting Opportunities and Workers' Rights Act (Oppose)
- SB 21-204 Rural Economic Development Initiative Grant Program Funding (Support)
- SB 21-229 Rural Jump-start Zone Grant Program (Support)
- SB 21-260 Sustainability of the Transportation System (Conditionally Support)
- HB 21-1264 Funds Workforce Development Increase Worker Skills (Support)
- HB 21-1285 Funding to Support Creative Arts Industries (Support)

10

EDCC SUCCESSES

Fall of 2020:

- ✓ Gallagher Awareness Month

2021 Legislative Session:

- ✓ Monitored 56 bills, took positions on 24 bills
- ✓ Testified on 4 bills – OEDIT and CWDC
- ✓ Action alerts sent to members to support/oppose legislation
- ✓ Lead partner with business organizations and transportation groups on large policy bills

2021 EDCC Priorities:


- ✓ EDO Funding - \$1.5 million to economic development organizations around the state (SB 21-042)
 - Leadership of the EDCC, the EDO Task Force (both EDCC and non-EDCC members), and OEDIT

11

2021 BALLOT INITIATIVES

Proposition 119

- proposes to increase sales taxes on marijuana and divert funding from the General Fund and State Land Trust to fund afterschool programs.
- The funding will be used to support the Learning Enrichment and Academic Progress (LEAP)
- LEAP allows children (age 5-17) to access and pay for out-of-school learning opportunities.



Proponents:

- The Children’s Campaign
- Arc of Colorado
- Colorado Succeeds

Opponents:

- Colorado Association of School Boards (CASB)
- Colorado Association of School Executives (CASE)

12

2021 BALLOT INITIATIVES

Proposition 120

- Proposes to lower property taxes rates on homes and businesses.
 - Cut residential rate from 7.15% to 6.5%
 - Cut non-residential rate from 29% to 26.4%
 - Could result in a reduction of \$150 million to \$1 billion

Proponents:

- Colorado Rising Action

Opponents:

- No formal opposition



13

WHAT'S TO COME....?

- Legislation that comes from Task Force on Economic Recovery and Relief
- Tax Reform will continue
- State Auditor's Office tax expenditure reports
 - Advance Industries Investment Credit
 - Enterprise Zone Contribution Credit
- EDCC's priorities
- OEDIT's legislative and budgetary requests

14

QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS

Jennifer Cassell

jennifer.cassell@bcpublicaffairs.com
(785) 393-0472

Rich Werner

rwerner@upstatecolorado.org
(970) 371-1081



Bowditch & Cassell
PUBLIC AFFAIRS