



140 Sheridan Blvd. Denver, CO 80226 Phone:303-433-2100 Fax: 303-433-1260 Web: www.coaflcio.org

Dwayne Stephens, President

Cindy Kirby, Secretary/Treasurer

Mike Cerbo, Executive Director

# Member Legislative Update

Monday, March 8, 2010

#7

## PRIORITY BILLS

**HB 1001** CONCERNING INCENTIVES FOR THE INSTALLATION OF NEW DISTRIBUTED RENEWABLE ENERGY GENERATION FACILITIES IN COLORADO, AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, INCREASING THE TARGET PERCENTAGES UNDER THE ELECTRIC UTILITY PORTFOLIO STANDARD TO ENCOURAGE COLORADO UTILITIES TO GENERATE FIVE PERCENT OF THEIR RETAIL ELECTRICITY SALES FROM DISTRIBUTED RENEWABLE SOURCES BY THE YEAR 2020, AND ADOPTING STANDARDS FOR THE INSTALLATION OF DISTRIBUTED SOLAR ELECTRIC GENERATION EQUIPMENT. **Support** AFL-CIO

*Hse. Sponsor:* Tyler *House Status:* 3-8 Considered Senate Amemndments- Concur- Repass

*Sen. Sponsor:* Schwartz *Senate Status:* 3-5 Third Reading Passed

**Notes:** This is a centerpiece bill for Gov. Ritter and Legislative Leaders. It contains "best value" language that is an important issue for the Building trades. The bill excludes the rural electrical cooperatives from the expansion of the renewable energy standard, which has been a concern for some affiliates. The bill has solar certification language that improves training and competency for workers in the solar industry.

**HB 1009** CONCERNING THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF PINNACOL ASSURANCE. **Support** AFL-CIO

*Hse. Sponsor:* Miklosi *House Status:* 3-2 Second Reading Laid Over to 3-8

*Sen. Sponsor:* Hodge *Senate Status:*

**Notes:** This bill would add non-employer members to the Pinnacol Board. Small, but good change to help had additional transparency and oversight to Colorado's largest Workers Comp Insurer.

**HB 1012** CONCERNING LIMITATIONS ON THE USE OF SURVEILLANCE OF EMPLOYEES WHO HAVE SUBMITTED A WORKERS' COMPENSATION CLAIM. **Support** AFL-CIO

*Hse. Sponsor:* Pace *House Status:* 3-8 Third Reading Passed

*Sen. Sponsor:* Carroll *Senate Status:*

**Notes:** Bill would allow increased protections for workers who are under surveillance by their workers comp insurer. Good bill to add protections for workers in the system.

**HB 1038** CONCERNING A BROCHURE TO DESCRIBE THE PROCESS FOR WORKERS' COMPENSATION CLAIMS. **Support** AFL-CIO

*Hse. Sponsor:* Miklosi *House Status:* 2-22 Third Reading Passed

*Sen. Sponsor:* Carroll *Senate Status:* 2-24 Assigned to Judiciary

**Notes:** Good idea! Every worker who files a comp claim would have a uniform brochure informing them of the process, their rights and a list of resource information.

Calendar information presented in this alert can change at any time, so please check the actual legislative calendar.

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# PRIORITY BILLS

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HB 1333 CONCERNING THE CREATION OF THE GREEN JOBS COLORADO TRAINING PROGRAM IN THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR, AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, CREATING THE GREEN JOBS COLORADO ADVISORY COUNCIL AND THE GREEN JOBS COLORADO TRAINING FUND. **Support** AFL-CIO

*Hse. Sponsor:* Vigil *House Status:* 3-3 Third Reading Passed

*Sen. Sponsor:* Schwartz *Senate Status:*

**Notes:** This legislation creates a pilot program within the Governor's energy office to provide training grants for solar, wind and other "green job" training. It sets up a review of programs in the state to measure their effectiveness and prioritizes programs that have a demonstrated history of actual job placement and on-the-job training.

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HB 1350 CONCERNING REQUIREMENTS FOR RECIPIENTS OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INCENTIVES. **Support** AFL-CIO

*Hse. Sponsor:* Pace *House Status:* 2-17 Assigned to Finance

*Sen. Sponsor:* Carroll, M *Senate Status:*

**Notes:** The bill requires any entity that receives public moneys for the purpose of economic development to file an annual report, along with a filing fee, to the Colorado economic development commission (commission). The also bill specifies the contents of the report and requires the commission to include any reports received in its annual presentation to the general assembly. If the commission finds, in its discretion, that a recipient of an economic incentive has not complied with the requirements of the incentive, the commission has the authority to recapture any public moneys expended on the economic incentive

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HB 1351 CONCERNING THE MAXIMUM AUTHORIZED INTEREST RATE FOR A PAYDAY LOAN. **Support** AFL-CIO

*Hse. Sponsor:* Ferrandino *House Status:* 2-22 Assigned to Judiciary

*Sen. Sponsor:* Romer *Senate Status:*

**Notes:** This legislation refers a measure to the ballot in 2010 that would limit interest on payday loans to 36% (currently predatory lenders can charge almost 500%). This would protect working families from predatory interest rates when they need an emergency loan.

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SB 11 CONCERNING MEASURES TO REDUCE CONFLICTS OF INTEREST IN WORKERS' COMPENSATION CASES. **Support** AFL-CIO

*Hse. Sponsor:* Miklosi *House Status:*

*Sen. Sponsor:* Carroll *Senate Status:* 1-13 Assigned to Judiciary

**Notes:** This bill would require doctors who conduct independent medical exams to disclose their financial interests and would prohibit insurance companies from giving bonuses to employees for denials of claims.

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SB 12 CONCERNING INCREASED PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS OF THE WORKERS' COMPENSATION LAWS. **Support** AFL-CIO

*Hse. Sponsor:* Pace *House Status:*

*Sen. Sponsor:* Tochtrop *Senate Status:* 1-13 Assigned to Judiciary

**Notes:** Expands penalties for knowingly preventing delivery of medical care related to workers comp benefits.

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SB 13 CONCERNING ACCOUNTABILITY FOR WORKERS' COMPENSATION INSURERS. **Support** AFL-CIO

*Hse. Sponsor:* Ryden *House Status:*

*Sen. Sponsor:* Hodge *Senate Status:* 1-13 Assigned to Judiciary

**Notes:** Requires more transparency and reporting about what types of claims are accepted/denied from Pinnacol, Colorado's largest Workers Comp Insurer

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# PRIORITY BILLS

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SB 28 CONCERNING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE COLORADO "WORK SHARE PROGRAM" TO ALLOW PAYMENT OF UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION BENEFITS TO ELIGIBLE EMPLOYEES WHO HAVE RECEIVED A REDUCTION IN WORK HOURS. **Support** AFL-CIO

*Hse. Sponsor:*

*House Status:*

*Sen. Sponsor:* Heath

*Senate Status* 3-5 Third Reading Passed

**Notes:** Bill would allow employers to mutually agree to reduce employees to a part-time status instead of laying employees off. As a result, worker would be able to claim partial UI benefits. Employers would still have to respect collective bargaining agreements to make such arrangements.

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SB 45 CONCERNING INCREASING THE RIGHTS OF HOMEOWNERS, AND, **Support** AFL-CIO  
IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, ENACTING THE "HOMEOWNER PROTECTION ACT OF 2010".

*Hse. Sponsor:* Kerr, A.

*House Status:*

*Sen. Sponsor:* Morse

*Senate Status* 1-13 Assigned to State, Vet & Mil Affairs

**Notes:** A great bill that would provide very real protections and recourse for working families facing the foreclosure of the home.

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HB 1207 CONCERNING MODIFICATIONS TO THE PUBLIC EMPLOYEES' **Oppose** AFL-CIO  
RETIREMENT ASSOCIATION.

*Hse. Sponsor:* Lambert

*House Status:* 2-23 State, Vet & Mil Affairs P.I.

*Sen. Sponsor:* King, K

*Senate Status*

**Notes:**

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## OTHER LEGISLATION

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HB 1197 CONCERNING A DECREASE IN THE MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF A STATE INCOME TAX CREDIT THAT MAY BE CLAIMED FOR THE DONATION OF A CONSERVATION EASEMENT IN GROSS **Support** AFL-CIO

*Hse. Sponsor:* Ferrandino *House Status:* 2-12 Third Reading Passed

*Sen. Sponsor:* Heath *Senate Status:* 2-19 Assigned to Finance

**Notes:**

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HB 1241 CONCERNING REQUIRED REGISTRATION FOR PERSONS WHO WORK ON FIRE SUPPRESSION SYSTEMS. **Support** AFL-CIO

*Hse. Sponsor:* Casso *House Status:* 2-24 Business Affairs & Labor Refer Amended to Approp

*Sen. Sponsor:* Tochtrop *Senate Status:*

Newly Added Bill

**Notes:**

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HB 1068 CONCERNING THE DELIVERY OF PAPER DOCUMENTS TO A PERSON'S PROPERTY. **Oppose** AFL-CIO

*Hse. Sponsor:* Ferrandino *House Status:* 1-13 Assigned to Transportation & Energy

*Sen. Sponsor:* *Senate Status:*

**Notes:**

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HB 1160 CONCERNING THE ABILITY OF HEALTH INSURANCE CARRIERS TO OFFER INCENTIVES FOR PARTICIPATION IN WELLNESS PROGRAMS BASED ON SATISFACTION OF A STANDARD RELATED TO A HEALTH FACTOR. **Oppose** AFL-CIO

*Hse. Sponsor:* Rice *House Status:* 2-26 Second Reading Laid Over to 3-8

*Sen. Sponsor:* Mitchell *Senate Status:*

**Notes:**

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SB 29 CONCERNING THE CREATION OF EFFICIENCIES IN GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES THAT PROVIDE SERVICES TO THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE. **Oppose** AFL-CIO

*Hse. Sponsor:* *House Status:*

*Sen. Sponsor:* Penry *Senate Status:* 1-13 Assigned to State, Vet & Mil Affairs

**Notes:**

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# OTHER LEGISLATION

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SB 50 CONCERNING THE LIABILITY LIMITS APPLICABLE TO THE LIFE AND **Oppose** AFL-CIO  
HEALTH INSURANCE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION, AND, IN  
CONNECTION THEREWITH, INCREASING THE LIABILITY LIMITS  
FOR ANNUITY BENEFITS, STRUCTURED SETTLEMENT ANNUITIES,  
AND LONG-TERM CARE BENEFITS.

*Hse. Sponsor:*

*House Status:*

*Sen. Sponsor:* Spence

*Senate Status* 1-13 Assigned to Education

**Notes:**

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## LEGISLATION TO MONITOR

HB 1008 CONCERNING A PROHIBITION AGAINST CONSIDERATION OF GENDER IN SETTING RATES FOR INDIVIDUAL HEALTH INSURANCE POLICIES. **Monitor** AFL-CIO

*Hse. Sponsor:* Schafer *House Status:* 2-18 Third Reading Passed *Priority*

*Sen. Sponsor:* Carroll *Senate Status:* 3-4 Health & Human Services Refer Amended to Sen Cmte of W

**Notes:** Health Care Task Force. The bill prohibits carriers from using gender as a basis for varying premium rates for individual health insurance policies and declares premium rates based on gender to be unfairly discriminatory.

HB 1047 CONCERNING THE FORM OF A STATEWIDE BALLOT TITLE. **Monitor** AFL-CIO

*Hse. Sponsor:* Court *House Status:* 2-9 Third Reading Passed *Priority*

*Sen. Sponsor:* White *Senate Status:* 2-17 Assigned to State, Veterans & Mil Affairs

**Notes:**

HB 1072 CONCERNING THE CONVERSION OF THE GENERAL FUND RESERVE INTO A STATE BUDGET STABILIZATION RESERVE FUND, AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, INCREASING THE AMOUNT OF THE RESERVE FUND IN CERTAIN FUTURE FISCAL YEARS ABOVE THE AMOUNT OF THE GENERAL FUND RESERVE CURRENTLY REQUIRED FOR SUCH YEARS, REQUIRING RESERVE FUND INTEREST AND INCOME TO BE CREDITED TO THE RESERVE FUND, AND REDUCING THE PERCENTAGE OF ESTIMATED RESERVE FUND DEPLETION THAT WILL REQUIRE THE GOVERNOR TO FORMULATE A PLAN FOR REDUCING GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES FROM THE PERCENTAGE OF ESTIMATED GENERAL FUND RESERVE DEPLETION THAT CURRENTLY

*Hse. Sponsor:* Court *House Status:* 1-13 Assigned to Finance *Priority*

*Sen. Sponsor:* Heath *Senate Status:*

**Notes:**

HB 1076 CONCERNING THE CLASSIFICATION OF A PARTICIPANT IN A PROPERTY TAX WORK-OFF PROGRAM FOR PURPOSES OF LABOR BENEFITS. **Monitor** AFL-CIO

*Hse. Sponsor:* DelGrosso *House Status:* 2-9 Third Reading Passed *Priority*

*Sen. Sponsor:* Heath *Senate Status:* 2-17 Assigned to Business, Labor & Technology

**Notes:**

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# LEGISLATION TO MONITOR

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HB 1098 CONCERNING INCREASED TRANSPARENCY IN THE GOVERNANCE OF COOPERATIVE ELECTRIC ASSOCIATIONS. **Monitor** AFL-CIO

*Hse. Sponsor:* Levy *House Status:* 3-8 Third Reading Passed *Priority*   
*Sen. Sponsor:* *Senate Status*

**Notes:**

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HB 1116 CONCERNING THE REVISION OF CERTAIN ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS RELATING TO THE CONDUCT OF ELECTIONS, AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, AMENDING OR REPEALING OBSOLETE, INCONSISTENT, AND CONFLICTING PROVISIONS OF LAW. **Monitor** AFL-CIO

*Hse. Sponsor:* Todd *House Status:* 2-8 Third Reading Passed *Priority*   
*Sen. Sponsor:* *Senate Status* 2-9 Assigned to State, Vet & Mil Affairs

**Notes:**

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HB 1204 CONCERNING THE INCLUSION OF CONSERVATION STANDARDS IN THE PLUMBING CODE. **Monitor** AFL-CIO

*Hse. Sponsor:* Soper *House Status:* 2-18 Third Reading Passed *Priority*   
*Sen. Sponsor:* Tochtrop *Senate Status* 3-3 Business, Labor & Technology Refer Unamended to Sen C

**Notes:**

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HB 1206 CONCERNING THE GRANTING OF VOTING RIGHTS TO STUDENT MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM. **Monitor** AFL-CIO

*Hse. Sponsor:* Fischer *House Status:* 3-3 Third Reading Passed *Priority*   
*Sen. Sponsor:* Bacon *Senate Status*

**Notes:**

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HB 1210 CONCERNING THE REDISTRICTING PROCESS **Monitor** AFL-CIO

*Hse. Sponsor:* Weissman *House Status:* 3-5 Approp Refer Amended to Hse Cmte of Whole *Priority*   
*Sen. Sponsor:* Morse *Senate Status*

**Notes:**

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HB 1272 CONCERNING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF CONTRIBUTION LIMITS UNDER THE "FAIR CAMPAIGN PRACTICES ACT" FOR CANDIDATES FOR CERTAIN ELECTED DIRECTOR POSITIONS, AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, ESTABLISHING CONTRIBUTION LIMITS FOR CANDIDATES FOR BOARDS OF EDUCATION AND THE BOARD OF THE REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION DISTRICT AND SPECIFYING REQUIREMENTS AFFECTING THE DISCLOSURE OF SUCH CONTRIBUTIONS. **Monitor** AFL-CIO

*Hse. Sponsor:* McCann *House Status:* 3-4 State, Veterans & Mil Affairs Refer Unamended to Approp *Priority*   
*Sen. Sponsor:* Steadman *Senate Status*

**Notes:**

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SB 2 CONCERNING THE DENIAL OF BENEFITS BY HEALTH COVERAGE PLANS, AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, INCREASING RECOVERIES TO THE MEDICAID PROGRAM AND ESTABLISHING A LONG-TERM CARE OMBUDSMAN OFFICE. **Monitor** AFL-CIO

*Hse. Sponsor:* Looper *House Status:* *Priority*   
*Sen. Sponsor:* Steadman *Senate Status* 3-3 Health & Human Services Refer Ameded to Approp

**Notes:**

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# LEGISLATION TO MONITOR

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SB 3 CONCERNING HIGHER EDUCATION FLEXIBILITY. **Monitor** AFL-CIO  
Hse. Sponsor: Ferrandino House Status: Priority   
Sen. Sponsor: Morse Senate Status 1-13 Assigned to Education

**Notes:**

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SB 33 CONCERNING THE VERIFICATION OF THE WORK ELIGIBILITY STATUS OF NEW EMPLOYEES THROUGH THE FEDERAL ELECTRONIC VERIFICATION PROGRAM. **Monitor** AFL-CIO  
Hse. Sponsor: Baumgardner House Status: Priority   
Sen. Sponsor: Schultheis Senate Status 3-3 State, Vet & Mil Affairs P.I.

**Notes:**

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SB 39 CONCERNING SCHOLARSHIPS FOR JOB TRAINING, AND MAKING AN APPROPRIATION THEREFOR. **Monitor** AFL-CIO  
Hse. Sponsor: Gagliardi House Status: Priority   
Sen. Sponsor: Carroll Senate Status 2-25 Education Refer Ameded to Approp

**Notes:**

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SB 41 CONCERNING TECHNICAL MODIFICATIONS TO STATUTORY PROVISIONS GOVERNING CAMPAIGN FINANCE. **Monitor** AFL-CIO  
Hse. Sponsor: Nikkel House Status: 2-4 Assigned to State, Vet & Mil Affairs Priority   
Sen. Sponsor: Bacon Senate Status 2-3 Third Reading Passed

**Notes:**

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SB 49 CONCERNING THE LIABILITY LIMITS APPLICABLE TO THE LIFE AND HEALTH INSURANCE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION, AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, INCREASING THE LIABILITY LIMITS FOR ANNUITY BENEFITS, STRUCTURED SETTLEMENT ANNUITIES, AND LONG-TERM CARE BENEFITS. **Monitor** AFL-CIO  
Hse. Sponsor: Benefield House Status: 2-26 Signed by the Speaker of the House Priority   
Sen. Sponsor: Sandoval Senate Status 2-26 Signed by the President of the Senate

**Notes:**

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SB 76 CONCERNING UNREASONABLE INSURANCE CLAIMS SETTLEMENT PRACTICES. **Monitor** AFL-CIO  
Hse. Sponsor: House Status: Priority   
Sen. Sponsor: Carroll Senate Status 3-8 Second Reading Passed with Amendments

**Notes:**

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SB 84 CONCERNING THE CREATION OF A COLORADO PEACE OFFICERS' BILL OF RIGHTS. **Monitor** AFL-CIO  
Hse. Sponsor: Gagliardi House Status: Priority   
Sen. Sponsor: Tochtrop Senate Status 1-20 Assigned to Judiciary

**Notes:**

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SB 112 CONCERNING RATE SETTING FOR WORKERS' COMPENSATION INSURANCE. **Monitor** AFL-CIO  
Hse. Sponsor: Swalm House Status: 2-26 Assigned to Business Affairs & Labor Priority   
Sen. Sponsor: Kopp Senate Status 2-24 Third Reading Passed

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# LEGISLATION TO MONITOR

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SB 116 CONCERNING THE REIMBURSEMENT OF COSTS INCURRED ON CHANGE ORDERS IN PUBLIC WORKS CONTRACTS. **Monitor** AFL-CIO

*Hse. Sponsor:* Rice *House Status:* 3-2 Assigned to Business Affairs & Labor  
*Sen. Sponsor:* Kopp *Senate Status:* 2-26 Third Reading Passed

Priority

**Notes:**

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SB 120 CONCERNING THE INCLUSION OF PREPAID WIRELESS TELEPHONE SERVICE AMONG THE SERVICES SUBJECT TO THE SURCHARGE THAT FUNDS ENHANCED 911 EMERGENCY SERVICES. **Monitor** AFL-CIO

*Hse. Sponsor:* Rice *House Status:*  
*Sen. Sponsor:* White *Senate Status:* 3-5 Appropriations Refer Amended to Sen Cmte of Whole

Priority

**Notes:**

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SB 146 CONCERNING A TEMPORARY MODIFICATION TO THE CONTRIBUTION RATES FOR CERTAIN DIVISIONS OF THE PUBLIC EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT ASSOCIATION. **Monitor** AFL-CIO

*Hse. Sponsor:* Pommer *House Status:* 2-26 Assigned to Appropriations  
*Sen. Sponsor:* Keller *Senate Status:* 2-24 Third Reading Passed

Priority

**Notes:**

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SB 163 CONCERNING WORKERS' COMPENSATION PROCEDURES. **Monitor** AFL-CIO

*Hse. Sponsor:* Kerr, A. *House Status:* 2-23 Assigned to Business Affairs & Labor  
*Sen. Sponsor:* Tochtrop *Senate Status:* 2-22 Third Reading Passed

Priority

**Notes:**

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