



## State Government

During the 2022 legislative session, the General Assembly considered several measures related to State Government including task forces and commissions, payments and fees, compensation, holidays, and daylight savings.

### Task Forces and Commissions

The General Assembly passed several bills related to creating new commissions and task forces as well as updating existing policies.

*Senate Bill 22-011* creates a new commission in History Colorado to prepare for the observance of the 250th anniversary of the founding of the United States of America and the 150th anniversary of Colorado statehood.

*Senate Bill 22-113* establishes a task force to study artificial intelligence and creates accountability procedures for the use of facial recognition services by state and local governments.

*House Bill 22-1408* creates the Film Incentive Task Force to study how to make the performance-based incentive for film production in Colorado more effective.

*House Concurrent Resolution 22-1004* would have repealed the constitutional provision requiring that the insurance commissioner be appointed by the Governor with the consent of the Senate. The resolution was postponed indefinitely by

the House State, Civic, Military, & Veterans Affairs committee.

### Payment and Fees

The state made changes to payment structures, procurement, and repayment.

*Senate Bill 22-217* makes statutory changes to:

- the structure and processes of the Colorado Disability Funding Committee;
- the availability and fees charged for previously retired license plate styles; and
- the services that must be provided to persons with disabilities by the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation in the Department of Labor and Employment.

*Senate Bill 22-1385* bill authorizes the state to enter into one or more financed purchase or certificates of participation agreements for the Colorado Operations Resource Engine (CORE) Upgrade project. CORE is the state's enterprise financial system.

*House Bill 22-1029* makes a direct distribution of \$380 million to the Public Employees' Retirement Association (PERA) in Fiscal Year 2022-23 in order to restore a suspended direct distribution payment of \$225 million that was not made on July 1, 2020, due to pandemic-related budget cuts. The bill also reduces future direct distributions to PERA in FY 2023-24 and FY 2024-25.

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## State Government (cont'd)

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### Compensation

The general assembly passed bills regarding the state's compensation philosophy and pay equity.

*House Bill 22-1266* amends the state's total compensation philosophy to specify that it is the policy of the state to provide innovative total compensation that meets or exceeds total compensation provided by public or private sector employers, or a combination of both. The bill also expands what leave benefits can be provided to state employees to include those specified in statute or policies of the Director of Personnel.

*House Bill 22-1196* requires the Department of Personnel and Administration (DPA) to solicit a contract for a pay equity study focused on protected classes to produce recommendations to alleviate potential pay inequities. *House Bill 22-1397* creates the Statewide Equity Office (office) in DPA to provide best practices, resources, and guidance for state agencies in offering equitable services, and to provide for an accepting and diverse environment for state employees. In addition, *Senate Bill 22-163* creates the State Procurement Equity Program. The program is required to work with stakeholders towards the goal of reducing disparities between the availability of historically underutilized businesses and the utilization of such businesses in state procurement.

### State Programs

Several bills addressed new and existing state programs.

*Senate Bill 22-182* creates the economic mobility program within the Department of Public Health and Environment and directs the Department of Higher Education to facilitate

the use of an online platform to assist students in accessing public benefits.

*Senate Bill 22-215* creates the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act Cash Fund to be used by state and local governments for non-federal matching funds for infrastructure projects allowed under the federal Infrastructure Investment Jobs Act.

*Senate Bill 22-104* requires the inclusion of tribal governments as partners in state operations and as recipients of local government grant programs, where applicable.

### State Holiday

*Senate Bill 22-139* creates a new state holiday for Juneteenth.

### Daylight Savings

*House Bill 22-1297* makes daylight savings time the year-round standard time pending a change in federal law and other states' laws and *Senate Bill 22-135*, which would have exempted the State of Colorado from observing Daylight Savings, was postponed indefinitely by the Senate State, Veterans, and Military Affairs Committee.