Summary of Legislation

Finance, State Budget, and Taxes

During the 2024 legislative session, the General Assembly passed several bills related to finance, the state budget, and taxes.

Finance

In 2024, several bills related to financial institutions were passed by the General Assembly. House Bill 24-1232, which was recommended by the Colorado Commission on Uniform State Laws, specifies the responsibilities of banks, depositors, and beneficiaries with regards to special deposits. House Bill 24-1381 continues the state regulation of financial services, which was scheduled to repeal on September 1, 2024.

State Budget

In addition to the many supplemental appropriation bills for various state departments that were passed by the General Assembly in 2024, several others were passed that concern the state budget. Most notably, House Bill 24-1430 is the annual Long Bill, which funds the state government for FY 2024-25. Other notable bills concerning the state budget include House Bill 24-1059, which modifies the compensation for state elected officials, and House Bill 24-1428, which changes the process for incorporating evidence-based decision-making into the state budget request process.

If the state exceeds its constitutional fiscal year spending limit, it is required by the

Taxpayer's Bill of Rights (TABOR) in the state constitution to refund the excess state revenues. Senate Bill 24-228 adjusts the state TABOR refund mechanisms, including reimbursements to counties for lost property tax revenue, income tax rate reductions, sales and use tax rate reductions, and sales tax refunds.

Taxes

Several interim committee bills related to taxes were passed by the legislature in 2024, including four bills recommended by the Legislative Oversight Committee Concerning Tax Policy. House Bill 24-1036 repeals several infrequently used tax expenditures. House Bill 24-1052 reinstates a refundable income tax credit for certain senior taxpayers who have not claimed a homestead property tax exemption. House Bill 24-1053 modifies the duties of the State Auditor related to evaluating tax expenditures and requires that the auditor evaluate the use of federal taxable income as the basis for state taxable income and the impact of federal tax law. changes, House Bill 24-1056 changes requirements and processes for issuing treasurer's deeds.

Five other bills recommended by the Sales and Use Tax Simplification Task Force also passed. <u>House Bill 24-1041</u> streamlines the filing of sales and use tax returns. <u>House Bill 24-1050</u> simplifies processes regarding certain local government taxes.

Finance, State Budget, and Taxes

Senate Bill 24-023 holds harmless vendors for an underpayment of a sales or use tax, charge, or fee liability that results from an error or omission in the Colorado Department of Revenue's GIS database.

Senate Bill 24-024 aligns reporting requirements related to remittance of local lodging tax to those of other local taxes.

Senate Bill 24-025 modernizes and revises state laws that govern the state's administration of local sales or use taxes.

In addition, several bills related to tax credits passed, as shown in Table 1.

Table 1 - 2024 Tax Credit Bills

Bill Number	Subject
HB24-1116	Contaminated Land
HB24-1134	Tax Expenditures Reduce Burden
HB24-1157	Employee-Owned Businesses
HB24-1249	Agricultural Stewardship
HB24-1268	Low-Income Individuals
HB24-1311	Family Affordability
<u>HB24-1312</u>	Careworkers
HB24-1314	Preserve Historic Structures
HB24-1316	Middle-Income Housing
HB24-1325	Quantum Industry
HB24-1340	Post-Secondary Education
HB24-1434	Affordable Housing
SB24-016	Contributions via Intermediaries
SB24-126	Conservation Easements

Finally, several bills related to property tax were also enacted in 2024.

House Bill 24-1179 required county assessors to prepare an updated abstract of assessment for the 2023 property tax year and file a copy of that abstract and related information with the Division of Property Taxation. House Bill 24-1302 requires local taxing entities to report information about their mill levies beginning with the 2024 property tax year. House Bill 24-1411

increases the amount of certain fees for filing forms and annual reports related to exemptions of real and personal property from taxation. Senate Bill 24-002 allows counties and municipalities to offer property tax credits and rebates to encourage improvements in areas of specific local concern. Senate Bill 24-111 reduces property tax assessed values for the 2025 and 2026 property tax years for senior homeowners who previously qualified for the senior homestead exemption in 2020 or later years but have since moved, and provides a similar property tax benefit.

Senate Bill 24-233 was the major property tax legislation from the 2024 regular session and includes some recommendations made by the Commission on Property Tax. The bill makes changes to property valuation assessments beginning in the 2024 property tax year. Beginning with the 2025 property tax year, the bill creates two assessed values for each residential property: one for school districts and one for all other local government entities. The bill implements limited reimbursements for certain local governments and limits property tax growth for some local governments. The bill allows local governments to waive the limit with voter approval. Finally, the bill removes a limitation related to the state property tax deferral program, which is managed by the State Treasurer. House Bill 24B-1001, which was passed during the 2024 special session, makes further changes to residential and nonresidential assessment rates beginning in the 2025 property tax year, modifies the local revenue growth limit created in SB24-233, and creates a new statewide property tax limit for school districts.

