



HB 18- 1360 – History Colorado Board Increase

Representatives Winter and Lawrence and Senators Martinez-Humenik and Todd

April 18, 2018

Purpose

HB 18-1360 increases the number of board members on the Board of Directors of the State Historical Society from nine members to thirteen members.

Background

- Senate Bill 15-225, an Audit Committee bill made changes to the organizational structure of the State Historical Society to ensure greater accountability and strengthen financial reporting requirements. Among the changes made in the legislation, the Board of Directors of the State Historical Society was reduced from a 27 member board elected by members of the State Historical Society to a nine-member board appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate. The statute requires the board members to possess skills in “state financial, legal, and regulatory expertise required to oversee the State Historical Society.”
- Since their appointments, these nine members have focused on improving the economic status of the organization. In 2015, the State Historical Society, through the work of the Board of Directors, established a new leadership team, who in conjunction with the Board, have corrected and improved the financial future of the organization. The Board is currently addressing the next growth phase which focuses on revenue enhancement to ensure long term financial sustainability.
- The sustainability phase includes an emphasis on philanthropic outreach with the goal of increasing fundraising revenue to \$2.4 million by FY 2021-22. In FY 2016-2017, fundraising revenue totaled \$1.2 million. To accomplish this goal, the Board believes that expanding the skill bank from a nine-member unpaid board to a thirteen member unpaid board will result in increasing their capacity to work with the philanthropic community to generate additional revenue.
- The House amendment removed the safety clause and changed the effective date to October 1, 2018.

What HB 18-1360 Accomplishes

- Changes the number of Board of Directors members from nine members to thirteen to increase overall capacity to assist in the philanthropic outreach.

**HISTORY COLORADO and the DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION
REQUEST YOUR SUPPORT on HB 18-1360**

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