



Office of Government Relations Annual Report 2018

Table of Contents	Page
Office of Government Relations Overview	2
Office of Government Relations Contacts	3
State Relations	
◆ CU Initiated Legislation	4
◆ Key Higher Education Legislation	8
◆ Key Health Care Legislation	13
◆ Other Legislation	16
Federal Relations	
◆ Key Research Legislation	21
State and Federal Meetings, Events and Tours	39
Office of Government Relations Team	47



OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT RELATIONS
Overview

This annual report covers work by the Office of Government Relations from January 1 – December 31, 2018.

Mission

The mission of the Office of Government Relations is to support the University of Colorado by building effective partnerships between the University and state and federal governments. This is achieved through representation and advocacy of CU's needs and interests with state and federal elected officials in Colorado and Washington, D.C.

Goals

- Promote the University's interests at the state and federal level.
- Enhance the understanding of the role and value of CU.
- Achieve status as one of the top public university governmental relations offices in the United States.

Strategies

- 1) Maintain visibility at both the state and federal level through testimony, tours, outreach events, Hill visits, and other activities to increase contact with state and federal policy makers.
- 2) Foster relationships between the president, chancellors and designated officers of the university with members of the General Assembly, Colorado Congressional Delegation, and Executive branch of both the state and federal government.
- 3) Engage the business community, CU Advocates, and alumni to help advocate for the university's initiatives.
- 4) Request federal funding for special projects at each campus.
- 5) Lobby for increases in funding by federal agencies. The following agencies are the primary sources of research funding for CU:
 - National Science Foundation (NSF)
 - National Institutes of Health (NIH)
 - National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)
 - Department of Defense (DOD)
 - Department of Energy (DOE)
 - Department of Commerce (DOC)
 - National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)
 - National Institute of Space and Technology (NIST)
- 6) Educate elected officials about the university through contact with faculty, students, and administrators from all three campuses.
- 7) Provide internal communication by:
 - Holding frequent legislative strategy meetings with top university officers;
 - Providing legislative updates at all three campuses and via email to the university community; and
 - Communicating with appropriate university faculty, administrators, and students regarding specific legislation and policy issues.

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OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT RELATIONS
CU Initiated State Legislation

The First Regular Session of the seventieth session of the Colorado General Assembly convened on January 10, 2018 and ended on May 9, 2018.

S.B. 18-086

**Cyber Coding Cryptology for State
Records**

**Sponsors: Lambert,
Williams/Ginal, Rankin**

The chief information security officer in the governor's office of information technology (OIT), the director of OIT, the department of state, and the executive director of the department of regulatory agencies are required to take certain actions to protect state records containing trusted sensitive and confidential information from criminal, unauthorized, or inadvertent manipulation or theft. The chief information security officer is required to: Identify, assess, and mitigate cyber threats to state government; Annually collect information from all public agencies to assess the nature of threats to data systems and the potential risks and civil liabilities from the theft or inadvertent release of such information; In coordination and partnership with specified agencies, boards, and councils, annually assess the data systems of each public agency for the benefits and costs of adopting and applying distributed ledger technologies such as blockchains; Develop and maintain a series of metrics to identify, assess, and monitor each public agency data system for its platform descriptions, vulnerabilities, risks, liabilities, appropriate employee access control, and the benefits and costs of adopting encryption and distributed ledger technologies. The director of OIT is required to consider the annual metrics from the office of the chief information security officer to recommend programs, contracts, and upgrades of data systems that have good cost-benefit potential or return on investment. In addition, OIT and the office of the chief information security officer are required to consider developing public-private partnerships and contracts to allow capitalization of encryption technologies while protecting intellectual property rights. The department of state is required to consider research, development, and implementation for encryption and data integrity techniques, including distributed ledger technologies such as blockchains. The department of state is required to consider using distributed ledger technologies when accepting business licensing records and when distributing department of state data to other departments and agencies. The executive director of the department of regulatory agencies or the director's designee is required to consider secure encryption methods, including distributed ledger technologies, to protect against falsification, create visibility to identify external hacking threats, and to improve internal data security. In addition, the bill specifies that institutions of higher education may include distributed ledger technologies within their curricula and research and development activities. The bill also specifies that the university of Colorado at Colorado Springs and any nonprofit organization with which the university has a partnership may consider: Encouraging coordination with the United States department of commerce and the national institute of standards and technologies to develop the capability to act as a Colorado in-state center of excellence on cybersecurity advice and national institute of standards and technologies standards; Studying efforts to protect privacy of personal identifying information maintained within distributed ledger programs, ensuring that programs make all attempts to follow best practices for privacy, and providing advice to all program stakeholders on the requirement to maintain privacy in accordance with required regulatory bodies and governing standards; and Encouraging the use of distributed ledger technologies, such as blockchains, within their proposed curricula for public sector education.

APPROVED by Governor May 30, 2018

EFFECTIVE May 30, 2018

S.B. 18-206

**Research Institutions Affordability
for Residents**

**Sponsors: Priola, Kerr/Arndt,
Wist**

Under current law, the number of in-state students enrolled at public institutions of higher education is governed by various percentage limits and requirements. The bill standardizes the calculation for public research institutions in the following ways: Requires the university of northern Colorado (UNC) and the Colorado school of mines (CSM), in addition to the university of Colorado (CU) and Colorado state university (CSU), to admit 100% of academically qualified Colorado first-time freshman students; Reduces the various percentages so that in-state students make up no less than 55% of total enrollments at each campus of CU and at CSU, UNC, and CSM, excluding foreign students and students enrolled solely in online courses; and Increases the cap on foreign students enrolled at CU and CSU to 15% of total student enrollment and includes UNC and CSM in the percentage limit. The department of higher education shall submit an annual report to specified committees of the general assembly demonstrating that the institutions included in the bill have met resident admission and enrollment requirements. The department and the public research institutions shall ensure that necessary data is available for the report.

APPROVED by Governor June 6, 2018

EFFECTIVE August 8, 2018

H.B. 18-1003

Opioid Misuse Prevention

**Sponsors: Pettersen/Priola,
Jahn**

Opioid and Other Substance Use Disorders Interim Study Committee. Section 1 of the bill establishes in statute the opioid and other substance use disorders study committee, consisting of 5 senators and 5 representatives from the general assembly, to: Study data and statistics on the scope of the substance use disorder problem in Colorado; Study current prevention, intervention, harm reduction, treatment, and recovery resources available to Coloradans, as well as public and private insurance coverage and other sources of support for treatment and recovery resources; Review the availability of medication-assisted treatment and the ability of pharmacists to prescribe those medications; Examine measures that other states and countries use to address substance use disorders; Identify the gaps in prevention, intervention, harm reduction, treatment, and recovery resources available to Coloradans and hurdles to accessing those resources; and Identify possible legislative options to address gaps and hurdles to accessing prevention, intervention, harm reduction, treatment, and recovery resources. The committee is authorized to meet 6 times in a calendar year and may report up to 6 legislative measures to the legislative council, which bills are exempt from bill limitations and introduction deadlines. The committee is repealed on July 1, 2020. Section 2 requires the governor to direct the Colorado consortium for prescription drug abuse prevention to: Create a process to develop a plan that addresses the full continuum of recovery services; Develop a definition for recovery residences and recommend whether the residences should be licensed; and Report recommendations to the general assembly. Section 3 specifies school-based health care centers may apply for grants from the school-based health center grant program to expand behavioral health services to include treatment for opioid and other substance use disorders and requires the department of public health and environment to prioritize funding to the centers that serve communities with high-risk factors. Section 4 directs the department of health care policy and financing, starting July 1, 2018, to award grants to organizations to operate a substance abuse screening, brief intervention, and referral program. Section 5 creates the Charlie Hughes and Nathan Gauna opioid prevention pilot program in the Tony Grampsas youth services program for preventing opioid use among the youth population and supporting youth whose family members experience addiction. The Tony Grampsas youth services board shall oversee a grant process for the pilot program using specific criteria. The Tony Grampsas youth services program shall award the grants on or before October 1, 2018. The bill creates a fund for the direct and indirect costs associated with the program. The department of human services is required to work with the grant recipients and submit a report to

the general assembly on or before January 1, 2021, regarding the progress of the grant recipients. Section 6 directs the center for research into substance use disorder prevention, treatment, and recovery to develop and implement continuing medical education activities to help prescribers of pain medication to safely and effectively manage patients with chronic pain, and when appropriate, prescribe opioids. Sections 3 through 6 also direct the general assembly to appropriate money to implement those sections. Section 7 appropriates: \$675,00 to the department of health care policy and financing from the marijuana tax cash fund to implement the bill; \$750,000 to the department of higher education from the marijuana tax cash fund for research purposes; \$1,500,000 to the youth opioid and substance use prevention fund from the marijuana tax cash fund; \$500,000 to the department of human services from reappropriated funds for use by the division of child welfare; \$90,928 to the department of humans services from the marijuana tax cash fund for use by the division of child welfare; \$39,249 to the legislative department from the general fund; and \$775,00 to the department of public health and environment from the marijuana tax cash fund for use by the prevention services division.

APPROVED by Governor May 21, 2018

EFFECTIVE May 21, 2018

**H.B. 18-1309 Programs Addressing Educator
Shortages**

**Sponsors: Coleman,
Wilson/Hill**

The bill requires the Colorado department of education and the Colorado department of higher education to create the framework for a grow your own educator program that includes the following provisions: Enrollment in a grow your own educator program at a participating institution of higher education; Employment with a school district or a district or institute charter school (charter school) under a teacher of record license during the student's final year of the grow your own educator program; Payment of tuition by the school district or charter school for up to the student's last 36 credit hours of the grow your own educator program; In exchange for payment of tuition, the student's commitment to work in the same school district or charter school for 3 years after completion of the grow your own educator program; and A state grant to the employing school district or charter school to pay a portion of up to the final 36 credit hours of the student's in-state tuition at the institution of higher education, limited to 50 new students annually, with a limit on the number of grants distributed to each school district and to institute charter schools. Institutions of higher education and participating school districts or charter schools are required to enter into an agreement that includes provisions set forth in the bill. Further, school districts or charter schools and teachers of record employed by the school district or charter school are required to enter into an agreement that includes provisions set forth in the bill. The bill prioritizes the award of grants to participating school districts or charter schools first for graduates of Colorado high schools who commit to teaching in a community that is experiencing a teacher shortage in a grade level or content area and second to students who commit to teach in a rural school with a teacher shortage in a grade level or content area. The department of education shall report to the education committees of the general assembly in any year in which a grant is awarded concerning information on students and school districts or charter schools participating in the program. The bill establishes a teacher of record license for a student who has completed all or substantially all of the course work requirements for a baccalaureate degree, but has not completed teacher field work requirements. A student who holds a teacher of record license may be employed by a school district or charter school through the grow your own educator program or through a teacher of record program established in the bill. The student must work for a school district or charter school that has identified a critical teacher shortage and has a vacant position for which no other qualified applicant has applied. A teacher of record license is valid for 2 years. The bill creates a second program that authorizes local education providers, as defined in the bill, to implement a one- or 2-year teacher of record program. As part of a teacher of record program, a local education provider, as defined in the bill, may employ a person holding a teacher of record license in a vacant position if there are no other qualified, licensed

applicants to fill the position. The department of education shall report annually to the education committees of the general assembly concerning information relating to teacher of record programs. The bill amends the special services intern authorization to allow the authorization to be renewed for a second academic year if the intern is employed by a school district or board of cooperative services and the intern has not completed a program of preparation for a special services provider due to unforeseen circumstances or hardship. The bill amends the school counselor corps grant program to define 'school counselor' to include a person who holds a special services intern authorization. The bill amends the behavioral health care professional matching grant program to include state-certified professionals qualified to provide services to children and adolescents. The bill creates the partnership for rural education (partnership) at the Denver campus of the University of Colorado to collaborate with other institutions of higher education to bring customized solutions to local education providers experiencing teacher shortages. The partnership shall prepare and submit an annual report to the department of education, the department of higher education, and to the general assembly concerning data collected and strategies identified by the partnership to address teacher shortages in the state. The bill make appropriations to implement the bill.

APPROVED by Governor May 29, 2018

EFFECTIVE August 8, 2018

 **OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT RELATIONS**
Key State Higher Education Legislation

S.B. 18-069 **Enforcement Statewide Degree
Transfer Agreements**

**Sponsors: Holbert,
Zenzinger/Garnett, Becker, J.**

If an institution of higher education admits as a junior a transfer student who holds an associate of arts degree, associate of applied science degree, or an associate of science degree that is the subject of a statewide degree transfer agreement, the institution shall not require the student to complete any additional courses to fulfill general education requirements. The institution may require the student to complete additional courses for the major that are not part of the statewide transfer agreement if doing so does not require the student to take more total credit hours or total time to receive the degree than students who started the degree program at the institution. If the institution requires the student to complete additional courses for the baccalaureate degree other than those authorized in the bill, the institution is responsible for the total cost of tuition for any required credit hours that exceed the total credit hours required for students who started the degree program at the institution or that extend the total time to complete the degree.

APPROVED by Governor March 22, 2018

EFFECTIVE August 8, 2018

S.B. 18-085 **Financial Incentives for Education in
Rural Areas**

Sponsors: Todd/McLachlan

Current law allows the department of higher education to provide up to 20 financial stipends annually, not to exceed \$6,000 each, to teachers in rural schools or school districts (rural schools) who are seeking certification as a national board certified teacher, seeking certification as a concurrent enrollment teacher, or furthering their professional development plan through continuing education, and who commit to employment in a rural school for a minimum of 3 years. The bill increases the number of available stipends to 60 and expands it to include teachers completing an approved alternative licensure program leading to initial licensure and full-time employment in a rural school or school district that serves rural schools and individuals completing the required course work leading to certification and employment in a rural school or a rural school district that serves rural schools.

APPROVED by Governor May 24, 2018

EFFECTIVE August 8, 2018

S.B. 18-087 **In-state Tuition Foreign Nationals
Settled in Colorado**

**Sponsors: Fenberg/Michaelson
Jenet, Winter**

The bill contains a legislative declaration about the circumstances facing special immigrants and refugees and the benefit of access to education. The bill grants eligibility for in-state tuition status to refugees and special immigrants admitted to the United States pursuant to federal law who have settled in Colorado.

APPROVED by Governor April 12, 2018

EFFECTIVE August 8, 2018

S.B. 18-101 **Colorado State University Global
Campus Student Admission Criteria**

**Sponsors: Holbert,
Todd/Hammer, Van Winkle**

Under existing law, Colorado state university - global campus is prohibited from admitting first-time freshman baccalaureate students who reside in Colorado and who are under 23 years of age. The bill removes that prohibition.

education provider must be located within an identified area or need a teacher for one of the identified subjects and demonstrate chronic hiring difficulty and financial need; the institution must offer an approved educator preparation program. The agreement must include the commitments of both the rural local education provider and the institution, including the commitments of both the rural local education provider and the institution to jointly design an individualized fellowship plan for each teaching fellow that addresses necessary competencies, the rural local education provider's commitment to extend an offer of employment to the teaching fellow when he or she successfully completes the fellowship year, and the institution's commitment to pay a percentage of a stipend to the teaching fellow during the fellowship year. Each teaching fellow receives a stipend of \$10,000 to use for costs of attendance during the fellowship year. The department of higher education, based on the rural local education provider's demonstrated chronic hiring difficulties and financial need, will annually select up to 100 teaching fellows for which the state will provide 50% of the stipend through the state financial assistance program. For these teaching fellows, the institution must provide the remaining 50% from institutional financial assistance. If the teaching fellow receives an offer of employment from the rural local education provider for the 2 school years following completion of the fellowship and does not work for the rural local education provider for those 2 school years, the teaching fellow must repay the amount of the stipend. The rural local education provider and institution must prepare an annual report concerning implementation of the teaching fellowship program and submit it to the department of higher education. The department must prepare a summary report concerning the implementation and effect of the teaching fellowship programs throughout the state and submit the report to the state board of education, the Colorado commission on higher education, and the joint budget committee and education committees of the general assembly.

APPROVED by Governor May 25, 2018

EFFECTIVE May 25, 2018

H.B. 18-1086 **Community College Bachelor Science
Degree Nursing**

**Sponsors: Buckner,
Lundeen/Neville, Aguilar**

The bill allows, with board approval, a community college that is part of the state system of community and technical colleges (community college) to offer a bachelor of science degree in nursing as a completion degree (nursing degree). In considering a request from a community college to offer a nursing degree, the board shall consider student and workforce demand, cost effectiveness for students, and accreditation and licensing requirements. At least 90 days prior to requesting board approval to offer a nursing degree, a community college shall provide notice of its request to all state institutions of higher education.

A reporting requirement is added providing that each state-supported institution of higher education that offers a nursing degree provide the department of higher education with an annual report concerning its nursing degree program.

APPROVED Became law without Governor's signature March 24, 2018

EFFECTIVE March 24, 2018

H.B. 18-1189 **Expanding Effective Teacher
Residency Programs**

**Sponsors: Pettersen, Sias/Hill,
Todd**

The bill creates the teacher residency expansion program (program) in the department of education (department). The goal of the program is to identify and communicate to school districts, charter schools, and boards of cooperative services that operate public schools (local education providers) the best practices, effective strategies, and critical components of effective teacher residency programs and thereby facilitate expansion of the effective teacher residency programs across the state. To implement the program, the department will contract with an institution of higher education (institution) and an alternative teacher program (alternative program), each of which is currently operating an effective

teacher residency program with a local education provider. The institution and alternative program will expand their respective teacher residency programs with other local education providers as pilot programs that must include specified components. The institution and alternative program will share the specified components with the department, which will share them with other local education providers, institutions, and alternative programs that are not participating in the pilot programs. After the pilot programs have operated for a year, and annually thereafter, the department will evaluate the success of the pilot programs based on specified criteria. The department will submit a report concerning the evaluation to the state board of education, the Colorado commission on higher education, the executive director of the department of higher education, the governor's office, and the education committees of the general assembly. The department will also post the report on its website. The department will distribute to the institution and alternative program that contract with the department an amount to offset a portion of the costs of implementing the pilot program. The institution and alternative program must agree to provide matching funds equal to 100% of the amount distributed to the institution and alternative program by the department. The program is repealed in 5 years.

APPROVED by Governor May 30, 2018

EFFECTIVE May 30, 2018

**H.B. 18-1226 Higher Education Review Degree
Program Costs and Outcomes**

**Sponsors: Everett,
Bridges/Smallwood, Fenberg**

The bill requires the department of higher education (department) to prepare an annual return on investment report of undergraduate degree programs and certificate programs offered at each institution of higher education, as defined in the bill. The bill specifies the information and analysis that must be included in the return on investment report, which includes, in part, the average student loan debt for students in the undergraduate degree program or certificate program, and the average time to completion for students in the degree program or certificate program. The department shall submit the annual return on investment report to the education committees of the general assembly and shall post the report on the department's website.

APPROVED by Governor May 24, 2018

EFFECTIVE August 8, 2018

**H.B. 18-1300 Bachelor Nursing Completion Degree
Local District College**

**Sponsors: Young,
Buck/Marble, Cooke**

The bill allows a local district college (college), such as Aims community college, to offer a bachelor of science degree in nursing program as a completion degree in nursing to students who have or are pursuing an associate degree in nursing, provided that the college's board of trustees determines it is appropriate to address the needs of the communities within its service area, as approved by the Colorado commission on higher education based on existing criteria.

APPROVED by Governor May 29, 2018

EFFECTIVE May 29, 2018

**H.B. 18-1331 Higher Education Open Educational
Resources**

**Sponsors: Young,
Rankin/Lundberg**

Joint Budget Committee. The bill creates the Colorado open educational resources council (council) in the department of higher education (department). The council includes persons appointed by the executive director of the department from public institutions of higher education, including a student; the executive director of the department; the commissioner of education; and the state librarian. The council is directed to: Recommend to the Colorado commission on higher education (commission) statewide policies for promoting the adaptation, creation, and use of open educational resources at public institutions of higher education across the state; Facilitate professional development and the sharing of

knowledge regarding open educational resources for public institutions of higher education, faculty, staff, and students; Implement the open educational resources grant program (grant program) created in the bill; and Submit to the commission, the joint budget committee, and the education committees of the general assembly an annual report concerning the use of open educational resources in public institutions of higher education across the state. The bill creates the grant program to provide grants to public institutions of higher education to develop the use of open educational resources at the institutions and grants to faculty and staff, individually or in groups, to create and adapt open educational resources. Each grant recipient must submit information to the council concerning its use of the grant and the effectiveness of the open educational resources initiative funded by the grant. The council must include a summary of the information received in the annual report. The council and the grant program are repealed, effective November 1, 2021. The bill directs the commission to adopt guidelines requiring public institutions of higher education, beginning in the fall of 2021, to inform students concerning those courses that use open educational resources.

APPROVED by Governor April 30, 2018

EFFECTIVE April 30, 2018

H.B. 18-1332 Collaborative Educator Preparation Program Grant

Sponsors: Hamner, Rankin/Moreno

Joint Budget Committee. The bill creates in the department of higher education (department) the collaborative educator preparation grant program (grant program) to support joint initiatives among educator preparation programs, alternative teacher programs, school districts, boards of cooperative services, and public schools for preparing and placing educators. The department, working with the rural education coordinator, is directed to convene meetings of educator preparation programs, alternative teacher programs, school districts, boards of cooperative services, and public schools to assist them in jointly preparing grant initiatives. The department must review the grant initiatives that are submitted and, taking into account specified criteria, select initiatives to receive one-time grants. Each grant recipient must report specified information to the department concerning the use of the grant money. The department must submit a report to the joint budget committee and the education committees of the general assembly concerning implementation of the grant program and whether it was successful in addressing the teacher shortage in the state. The grant program repeals July 1, 2021.

APPROVED by Governor April 30, 2018

EFFECTIVE April 30, 2018

H.B. 18-1437 Costs of College-level Courses In Corrections Educational Program

Sponsors: Herod/Neville, T.

Under current law, the correctional education program in the department of corrections is required to provide every person in a correctional facility who demonstrates college-level aptitudes with the opportunity to participate in college-level academic programs that may be offered within the correctional facility. However, unless financial assistance for costs of the programs is provided through certain programs or through private or federally funded grants or scholarships, costs associated with such college-level academic programs must be borne entirely by the person participating in the program. The bill removes this stipulation concerning costs and states instead that such costs may be borne through private, local, or federally funded gifts, grants, donations, or scholarships, or by such persons themselves, or through any combination of such funding.

APPROVED May 22, 2018

EFFECTIVE August 8, 2018



OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

Key State Health Care Legislation

S.B. 18-022

Clinical Practice for Opioid Prescribing

**Sponsors: Tate,
Aguilar/Pettersen, Kennedy**

Opioid and Other Substance Use Disorders Interim Study Committee. The bill restricts the number of opioid pills that a health care practitioner, including physicians, physician assistants, advanced practice nurses, dentists, optometrists, podiatrists, and veterinarians, may prescribe for an initial prescription to a seven-day supply and allows each health care practitioner to exercise discretion to include a second fill for a seven-day supply, unless, in the judgment of the practitioner, the patient: Has chronic pain that typically lasts longer than 90 days or past the time of normal healing, as determined by the podiatrist, or following transfer of care from another podiatrist who prescribed an opioid to the patient; Has been diagnosed with cancer and is experiencing cancer-related pain; or Is experiencing post-surgical pain that, because of the nature of the procedure, is expected to last more than 14 days. Additionally, an advanced practice nurse may prescribe a refill if the patient is undergoing palliative or hospice care. The restrictions repeal on September 1, 2021. Current law allows health care practitioners and other individuals to query the prescription drug monitoring program (program). The bill requires health care practitioners to indicate his or her specialty or practice area upon the initial query and to query the program prior to prescribing the second fill for an opioid unless the person receiving the prescription meets certain requirements. The bill requires the department of public health and environment to report to the general assembly its findings from studies regarding the prescription drug monitoring program conducted pursuant to a federal grant program.

APPROVED by Governor May 21, 2018

EFFECTIVE May 21, 2018

S.B. 18-027

Enhanced Nurse Licensure Compact

**Sponsors: Smallwood,
Todd/Kraft-Tharp, McKean**

The bill repeals the current 'Nurse Licensure Compact' and adopts the 'Enhanced Nurse Licensure Compact'. The 'Enhanced Nurse Licensure Compact' makes the following changes to the 'Nurse Licensure Compact': Provides authority to each party state licensing board to obtain and submit criminal background checks for multistate nurse licensure candidates; Allows the Interstate Commission of Nurse Licensure Compact Administrators to adopt rules related to the compact; and Specifies the procedure for states to enter, withdraw from, or amend the compact.

APPROVED by Governor January 18, 2018

EFFECTIVE January 18, 2018 (Section 1 takes effect July 17, 2018)

H.B. 18-1006

Infant Newborn Screening

**Sponsors: Hamner,
Liston/Gardner, Moreno**

The bill updates the current newborn screening program to require more timely newborn hearing screenings. The department of public health and environment (department) is authorized to assess a fee for newborn screening and necessary follow-up services. The bill creates the newborn hearing screening cash fund for the purpose of covering the costs of the program. The bill requires the state board of health to promulgate rules: Concerning the requirements of the newborn screening program for genetic and metabolic disorders; Requiring entities with information pertinent to newborn screening to report to the department; and To establish and maintain appropriate follow-up services for newborns at risk of hearing loss and newborns who fail to receive screening. The bill requires the department to develop and publish materials on its website for education and training on cytomegalovirus. The bill appropriates

money to the department from: The information technology cash fund for use by the center for health and environmental data for an information and technology system for hearing loss screening; The newborn screening and genetic counseling cash fund for use by the laboratory services division; and The newborn hearing screening cash fund for use by the center for health and environmental data.

APPROVED by Governor June 4, 2018

EFFECTIVE July 1, 2018

H.B. 18-1007

Substance Use Disorder Payment and Coverage

Sponsors: Kennedy, Singer, Lambert, Jahn

Opioid and Other Substance Use Disorders Interim Study Committee. The bill requires all individual and group health benefit plans to provide coverage without prior authorization for a five-day supply of at least one of the federal food and drug administration-approved drugs for the treatment of opioid dependence for a first request within a 12-month period. The bill prohibits carriers from taking adverse action against a provider or from providing financial incentives or disincentives to a provider based solely on a patient satisfaction survey relating to the patient's satisfaction with pain treatment. The bill clarifies that an 'urgent prior authorization request' to a carrier includes a request for authorization of medication-assisted treatment for substance use disorders. The bill permits a pharmacy that has entered into a collaborative pharmacy practice agreement with one or more physicians to administer injectable antagonist medication for substance use disorders and receive an enhanced dispensing fee for the administration. The bill requires the Colorado medical assistance program to authorize reimbursement for at least one federal food and drug administration-approved ready-to-use opioid overdose reversal drug without prior authorization. The bill permits a pharmacy that has entered into a collaborative pharmacy practice agreement with one or more physicians to administer injectable opioid antagonist medication for substance use disorders and receive an enhanced dispensing fee under the Colorado medical assistance program for the administration. The bill requires the department of health care policy and financing and the office of behavioral health in the department of human services to establish rules that standardize utilization management authority timelines for the nonpharmaceutical components of medication-assisted treatment for substance use disorders.

APPROVED by Governor May 21, 2018

EFFECTIVE January 1, 2019

H.B. 18-1091

Dementia Diseases and Related Disabilities

Sponsors: Beckman, Ginal/ Smallwood, Todd

The bill updates statutory references to Alzheimer's and other dementia diseases and reflects that dementia diseases have related disabilities impacting memory and other cognitive abilities. Missing persons with a dementia disease and related disability are added to the missing senior citizen and missing person with developmental disabilities alert program, and the program is renamed to reflect this change. The Alzheimer's disease treatment and research center within the university of Colorado school of medicine is renamed the dementia diseases and related disabilities treatment and research center.

APPROVED by Governor March 29, 2018

EFFECTIVE August 8, 2018

H.B. 18-1136

Substance Use Disorder Treatment

Sponsors: Pettersen/Priola, Jahn

Opioid and Other Substance Use Disorders Interim Study Committee. The bill adds residential and inpatient substance use disorder services and medical detoxification services to the Colorado medical assistance program. The benefit is limited to persons who meet nationally recognized, evidence-based level of care criteria for residential and inpatient substance use disorder treatment. The benefit will not be effective until the department of health care policy and financing (department) seeks and receives any

federal authorization necessary to secure federal financial participation in the program. Prior to seeking federal approval, the department shall seek input from stakeholders regarding decisions relating to the benefit. The department shall prepare and submit a performance review report to committees of the general assembly concerning services provided under the benefit and the effectiveness of those services. After considering the performance review report, the general assembly may enact legislation modifying or repealing the benefit. If an enhanced residential and inpatient substance use disorder treatment and medical detoxification services benefit becomes available, managed care organizations shall reprioritize the use of money allocated from the marijuana tax cash fund to assist in providing treatment, including residential treatment, to persons who are not otherwise covered by public or private insurance.

APPROVED by Governor June 5, 2018

EFFECTIVE Upon signature

 **OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT RELATIONS**
Other Legislation

S.B. 18-001

**Transportation Infrastructure
Funding**

**Sponsors: Baumgardner,
Cooke/Buck, Winter**

Concerning transportation infrastructure funding, and, in connection therewith, requiring specified amounts to be transferred from the general fund to the state highway fund, the highway users tax fund, and a new multimodal transportation options fund during state fiscal years 2018-19 and 2019-20 for the purpose of funding transportation projects and to the state highway fund during any state fiscal year from 2019-20 through 2038-39 for state highway purposes and to repay any transportation revenue anticipation notes that may be issued as specified in the bill and, if no citizen-initiated ballot measure that requires the state to issue transportation revenue anticipation notes is approved by the voters of the state at the November 2018 general election, requiring the secretary of state to submit a ballot question to the voters of the state at the November 2019 statewide election, which, if approved, would require the state, with no increase in any taxes, to issue additional transportation revenue anticipation notes for the purpose of addressing critical priority transportation needs in the state by funding transportation projects; would exclude note proceeds and investment earnings on note proceeds from state fiscal year spending limits; and would reduce the amount of lease-purchase agreements required by current law to be issued for the purpose of funding transportation projects.

APPROVED by Governor May 31, 2018

EFFECTIVE The portions of the bill that create FY 2018-19 and FY 2019-20 transfers, establish the Multimodal Fund, require a managed lanes study, and require the PUC to consider alternative vehicle infrastructure take effect upon signature of the Governor, or upon becoming law without his signature. The bill refers a 2019 ballot measure only if a 2018 ballot measure does not appear or is rejected by voters. The portions of the bill that repeal lease-purchase agreements take effect conditional on approval of a 2018 initiated measure that does not increase taxes or the referred 2019 ballot measure in this bill. The portions of the bill authorizing ongoing transfers take effect unless a 2018 ballot measure that does not increase taxes is approve. The portions of the bill that require the issuance of TRANs and increase electric vehicle registration fees take effect conditional on approval of a 2019 ballot measure only.

S.B. 18-002

**Financing Rural Broadband
Deployment**

**Sponsors: Coram, Sonnenberg/
Becker, K., Duran**

Section 1 of the bill amends the definition of 'broadband network' to increase the speed of downstream broadband internet service from at least 4 megabits per second to at least 10 megabits per second and the definition of 'unserved area' to refer to an area that is unincorporated, or within a city with a population of fewer than 7,500 inhabitants, and that is not receiving federal support to construct a broadband network to serve a majority of the households in each census block in the area. Section 2 requires the public utilities commission (commission), in 2019, to allocate 60% of the total amount of high cost support mechanism (HCSM) money that the nonrural incumbent local exchange carrier would receive to the HCSM account dedicated to broadband deployment, and to allocate an additional 10% of the total money that the nonrural incumbent local exchange carrier would receive in each subsequent year until, in 2023, all of the money that the nonrural incumbent local exchange carrier would receive is allocated to the HCSM account dedicated to broadband deployment. Section 2 also removes a requirement that the commission reduce the rate of the HCSM surcharge by a certain percentage of the money transferred from the HCSM to the broadband fund for the deployment of broadband into rural areas. Section 2 requires that the HCSM surcharge rate that existed on January 1, 2018, be maintained; except that, in calendar year 2024, the commission may reduce the rate to ensure that the amount of money collected

does not exceed \$25 million in 2024. For the period of January 1, 2019, through December 1, 2023, section 2 maintains the amount of support received by rural telecommunications providers for basic service at the level of support they received on January 1, 2017. Section 2 also prohibits the commission from making effective competition determinations in 2019 through 2023 with respect to making distributions of high cost support mechanism money. Finally, section 2 requires the commission, on or before December 31, 2018, to establish a plan to eliminate, on an exchange-area-by-exchange-area basis, provider-of-last-resort obligations consistent with the reductions in the high cost support mechanism distributions for basic service. Section 3 makes conforming amendments. Section 4 updates language regarding the use of money from the HCSM for broadband deployment grant applications approved by the broadband deployment board (board) to have money transferred directly from the HCSM to approved broadband deployment grant applicants. Section 4 changes the membership of the board from 16 to 17 members, adding 2 members representing the broadband industry and removing one member representing the public. Section 4 clarifies conflict-of-interest procedures that a board member must follow. Section 4, with regard to the board's grant application process, also: Allows a grant applicant to apply for grants for multiple projects in a single year; Prohibits the board from funding a proposed project that overlaps or overbuilds another broadband project; Clarifies that the board may award a grant for a proposed project that will provide high-speed internet access at measurable speeds of at least 10 megabits per second downstream and one megabit per second upstream or at measurable speeds at least equal to the federal communications commission's definition of high-speed internet access or broadband, whichever is faster; Requires the board to grant an incumbent broadband provider's appeal if the incumbent broadband provider demonstrates, by a preponderance of the evidence, that an area covered by an application does not qualify as an unserved area; and Allows an applicant to amend the applicant's application at any time to remove coverage of an area that does not qualify as an unserved area. Sections 2 and 5 repeal the commission's functions of administering the high cost support mechanism on September 1, 2024, subject to the department of regulatory agencies' review of the functions through its sunset review process.

APPROVED by Governor April 2, 2018

EFFECTIVE August 8, 2018

S.B. 18-200

**Modifications to PERA Public Employees'
Retirement Association To Eliminate
Unfunded Liability**

**Sponsors: Tate,
Priola/Becker, K.,
Pabon**

The public employees' retirement association (PERA) provides retirement and other benefits to employees of the school districts, state, local governments, and other public entities across the state. The bill makes changes to the hybrid defined benefit plan administered by PERA with the goal of eliminating, with a high probability, the unfunded actuarial accrued liability of each of PERA's divisions and thereby reach a 100% funded ratio for each division within the next 30 years. The bill modifies benefits, increases contributions, ensures alignment of contributions, service credit, and benefits, and makes other modifications as follows: Highest Average Salary (HAS): Currently, for a PERA member who is not in the judicial division of PERA, the member's HAS is based on an average of the highest annual salaries associated with 3 periods of 12 consecutive months of service with a base year. For a PERA member who is in the judicial division of PERA, the member's HAS is based on an average of the highest annual salaries associated with 12 consecutive months of service. For all new PERA members hired on or after January 1, 2020, who are not in the judicial division, and for all existing PERA members who do not have 5 years of service credit as of January 1, 2020, who are not in the judicial division, the bill modifies the HAS calculation to be based on an average of the highest annual salaries associated with 7 periods of 12 consecutive months of service with a base year. For all new PERA members hired on or after January 1, 2020, who are in the judicial division, and for all existing PERA members in the judicial division who do not have 5 years of service credit as of January 1, 2020, the bill

modifies the HAS calculation to be based on an average of the highest annual salaries associated with 3 periods of 12 consecutive months of service with a base year. Definition of salary: The bill modifies the definition of salary. Specifically, the bill states that amounts deducted from pay pursuant to a cafeteria plan or a qualified transportation plan are included in the definition of salary. In addition, the bill clarifies that unused sick leave converted to cash payments is included in the definition of salary and that insurance premiums paid by employers are not included in the definition of salary. Termination of affiliation: Current law allows a political subdivision of the state that is an employer associated with PERA and that is assigned to the local government division of PERA to terminate its affiliation with PERA upon application to the PERA board. The bill specifies that any employer that ceases operations or ceases to participate in PERA for any reason is deemed to have terminated its affiliation with PERA. The bill states that any such employer is required to fully fund its share of the unfunded liability of the defined benefit plan and its share of the unfunded liability of the health care trust fund. The bill specifies that the PERA board will determine the amount of such payments and that such determinations may be appealed by the employer through the administrative review process established in the board rules. The bill further specifies that the employees of an employer that terminates its affiliation with PERA will become inactive members of PERA as of the date of the termination. Such members may elect to have their member contributions credited to an alternative pension plan or refunded. In the absence of such election, the member contributions will remain with PERA. Increase in member contributions: Currently, all PERA members with the exception of state troopers contribute 8% of their salary to PERA on a monthly basis. State troopers contribute 10% of their salary to PERA on a monthly basis. On July 1, 2018, and again on January 1, 2019, the monthly member contribution to PERA will increase by .5% of salary. On July 1, 2019, and again on January 1, 2020, the monthly member contribution to PERA will increase by 1% of salary. When all increases are fully implemented, the total contribution will be 11% of salary each month for PERA members who are not state troopers and 13% each month for PERA members who are state troopers. Automatic contribution and annual increase amount changes: The bill specifies the circumstances under which the member contribution rate and the annual increase percentage for retirement benefits can be adjusted so the fund remains within the target of paying off the unfunded liability within 30 years. The bill specifies that the yearly adjustments can be up to one-quarter of one percent on the annual increase percentage and one-half of one percent on the employee contribution percentage. The bill places limits on how much the annual increase and contribution rates can be adjusted. Defined contribution supplement: Beginning January 1, 2021, the bill requires employer contribution rates to be adjusted to include a defined contribution supplement. The defined contribution supplement for each division will be the employer contribution amount paid to defined contribution plan participant accounts that would have otherwise gone to the defined benefit trusts to pay down the unfunded liability, plus any defined benefit investment earnings thereon, expressed as a percentage of salary on which employer contributions have been made. The employer contribution amounts only include contributions made on behalf of eligible employees who commence employment on or after January 1, 2019. Earned service credit for part-time work: Currently, a PERA member earns a full year of service credit for 12 months of employment if the member earns a salary of 80 times federal minimum wage in each month. This applies even if the member does not work full time. In addition, a PERA member earns a full year of service credit if the member's employment pattern covers at least 8 months but less than 12 months in a year, so long as the member worked at least 8 months in the 12-month period. The bill modifies the way service credit is earned for part-time work for any PERA member who was not a member, inactive member, or retiree on or before December 31, 2019. Such members earn a full year of service credit for 12 months of employment if the member works full time or works at least 8 months but less than 12 months in a year. If the member does not work full time, the earned service credit will be determined by the ratio of part-time work to full-time work and the number of months for which contributions are remitted to the number of months required for a year of service credit. Service retirement eligibility for new members: For PERA members who begin employment on

or after January 1, 2020, the bill increases the age and service requirements for full-service retirement benefits for most divisions to age 65 with a minimum of 5 years of service or any age with a minimum of 40 years of service credit. For state troopers who begin employment on or after January 1, 2020, the bill increases the age and service requirements for full-service retirement benefits to age 55 with a minimum of 25 years of service credit or any age with a minimum of 35 years of service credit. State troopers are also eligible for full-service retirement benefits at age 65 with 5 years of service credit. For PERA members who begin employment on or after January 1, 2020, the bill also increases the age and service requirements for a reduced service retirement benefit to 55 years with a minimum of 25 years of service credit; except that, for state troopers, the bill increases the requirements to 55 years with a minimum of 20 years of service credit. Cost of living adjustment (COLA) for all retirees, members, and inactive members: Currently, the annual COLA for benefit recipients who began membership prior to January 1, 2007, is 2%. For the years 2018 and 2019, the bill reduces the COLA to 0%. For each year thereafter, the bill changes the COLA to 1.25%, unless it is adjusted pursuant to the automatic adjustment provisions explained above. In addition, the bill requires benefit recipients whose effective date of retirement is on or after January 1, 2011, and who have not received a COLA on or before May 1, 2018, to receive benefits for at least a 36-month period following retirement before the benefit is adjusted with the COLA. Defined contribution plan: Currently, members in the state division of PERA hired on or after January 1, 2006, may choose to participate in the defined contribution plan administered by PERA rather than the defined benefit plan. A member's participant account receives the monthly employer contribution, and the amortization equalization disbursement (AED) and supplemental amortization equalization disbursement (SAED) payments are used to amortize the unfunded liability of the defined benefit plan. Beginning January 1, 2019, members of the school division, the Denver public schools division, local government division, and judicial division of PERA hired on or after that date may also choose to participate in the defined contribution plan. A new member's participant account will receive the same employer contribution as received by current members of the defined contribution plan. Public pension legislative oversight committee: The bill creates the public pension legislative oversight committee to study and develop proposed legislation relating to the funding and benefit designs of PERA and the fire and police pension association. The committee is comprised of 4 senators appointed by the president of the senate, 4 representatives appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives, and 4 experts in the area of pensions or retirement plan designs appointed by the state treasurer. The bill specifies limitations on the number of appointees that may be from the same political party. The bill also specifies that the state treasurer's appointees are required to have significant experience and competence in investment management, finance, banking, economics, accounting, pension administration, or actuarial analysis and shall not be members, inactive members, or retirees of PERA or the fire and police pension association. The bill repeals the police officers' and firefighters' pension reform commission on January 1, 2019.

APPROVED by Governor June 4, 2018

EFFECTIVE June 4, 2018

S.B. 18-234

**Human Remains Disposition Sale
Businesses**

**Sponsors: Coram, Crowder/
Kraft-Tharp, Catlin**

The bill makes it unlawful under the 'Mortuary Science Code' for a person to own more than a 10% indirect interest in a funeral establishment or crematory while simultaneously owning interest in a nontransplant tissue bank. The bill requires nontransplant tissue banks to: Register with the director of the division of professions and occupations in the department of regulatory agencies; and Make disclosures, keep records and make them available to interested parties and the director, and maintain a standard of practice. The registration of nontransplant tissue banks sunsets on September 1, 2024.

APPROVED by Governor May 30, 2018

EFFECTIVE August 8, 2018

S.B. 18-235

**Colorado Industrial Hemp Research and
Development Authority**

**Sponsors: Coram,
Arndt**

The bill creates the Colorado industrial hemp research and development task force to study whether to develop an industrial hemp research and development authority to develop, fund, and promote educational, research, and development programs and collaborative efforts concerning industrial hemp. The task force consists of 8 members with expertise in the industrial hemp industry or higher education. On or before December 31, 2018, the task force is required to prepare a report on its findings and recommendations and to submit the report to the Colorado office of economic development and the agricultural committees in the house of representatives and the senate.

APPROVED by Governor May 29, 2018

EFFECTIVE August 8, 2018

S.B. 18-280

**Tobacco Litigation Settlement Cash Fund
Transfer**

**Sponsors:
Lambert/Hamner**

The bill requires the state treasurer to transfer \$19,965,068 from the general fund to the tobacco litigation settlement cash fund on July 1, 2018. This money is allocated for the 2018-19 fiscal year to the programs, services, and funds that receive tobacco litigation settlement money to supplement the allocation of settlement money that those programs, services, and funds will otherwise receive.

APPROVED by Governor June 6, 2018

EFFECTIVE June 6, 2018

H.B. 18-1128

Protections for Consumer Data Privacy

**Sponsors: Wist,
Bridges/Lambert, Court**

Except for conduct in compliance with applicable federal, state, or local law, the bill requires covered and governmental entities in Colorado that maintain paper or electronic documents (documents) that contain personal identifying information (personal information) to develop and maintain a written policy for the destruction and proper disposal of those documents. Entities that maintain, own, or license personal information, including those that use a nonaffiliated third party as a service provider, shall implement and maintain reasonable security procedures for the personal information. The notification laws governing disclosure of unauthorized acquisitions of unencrypted and encrypted computerized data are expanded to specify who must be notified following such unauthorized acquisition and what must be included in such notification.

APPROVED by Governor May 29, 2018

EFFECTIVE September 1, 2018

H.B. 18-1322

2018-19 Long Appropriation Act

Sponsors: Hamner/Lambert

Provides for the payment of expenses of the executive, legislative, and judicial departments of the state of Colorado, and of its agencies and institutions, for and during the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2018, except as otherwise noted.

APPROVED by Governor April 30, 2018

EFFECTIVE April 30, 2018



OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

Key Research Federal Legislation

115th Congress, 2nd Session

H.R. 4392 **To provide that the provision of the Medicare Program: Hospital Outpatient Prospective Payment and Ambulatory Surgical Center Payment Systems and Quality Reporting Programs final regulation relating to changes in the payment amount for certain drugs and biologicals purchased under the 340B drug discount program shall have no force or effect, and for other purposes.** **(Rep. McKinley)**

This bill nullifies a rule finalized by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services on November 13, 2017, that modifies payment under Medicare for certain drugs purchased through the 340B discount program.

Expressed support for this bill.

Status: House - 11/17/2017 Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.

H.R. 4508 **PROSPER Act** **(Rep. Foxx)**
To support students in completing an affordable postsecondary education that will prepare them to enter the workforce with the skills they need for lifelong success.

Expressed concerns with the bill

Status: House - 02/08/2018 Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 413.

H.R. 2434 **College Transparency Act** **(Rep. Mitchell)**
This bill amends the Higher Education Act of 1965 to require the National Center for Education Statistics to establish a secure and privacy-protected data system that contains information about postsecondary students. Specifically, the data system must:

- evaluate student enrollment patterns, progression, completion, and post-collegiate outcomes, and higher education costs and financial aid at the student level;
- provide complete and customizable information for students and families making decisions about postsecondary education;
- reduce the requirements for reporting by colleges and universities; and
- link with other federal systems of data.

Expressed support for this bill.

Status: House - 05/16/2017 Referred to the House Committee on Education and the Workforce.

S.1121 **College Transparency Act** **(Sen. Hatch)**
This bill amends the Higher Education Act of 1965 to require the National Center for Education Statistics to establish a secure and privacy-protected data system that contains information about postsecondary students. Specifically, the data system must:

- evaluate student enrollment patterns, progression, completion, and post-collegiate outcomes, and higher education costs and financial aid at the student level;
- provide complete and customizable information for students and families making decisions about postsecondary education;
- reduce the requirements for reporting by colleges and universities; and
- link with other federal systems of data.

Expressed support for this bill

Status: Senate - 05/15/2017 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

H.R. 3086 Space Weather Research and Forecasting (Rep. Perlmutter)
Act

Introduced in House (06/27/2017)

Space Weather Research and Forecasting Act

This bill directs the Office of Science and Technology Policy to:

coordinate the development and implementation of federal government activities to improve the nation's ability to prepare, avoid, mitigate, respond to, and recover from potentially devastating impacts of space weather events;

coordinate the activities of an interagency working group on space weather to be established by the National Science and Technology Council to continue coordination of executive branch efforts to understand, prepare, coordinate, and plan for space weather; and

develop an integrated strategy for space and ground-based space weather observations.

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) shall enter interagency agreements providing for cooperation and collaboration in the development of space weather spacecraft, instruments, and technologies and in the transition of research to operations.

NASA shall: (1) maintain operations of the Solar and Heliospheric Observatory/Large Angle and Spectrometric Coronagraph (SOHO/LASCO) for as long as the satellite continues to deliver quality observations; and (2) prioritize the reception of LASCO data.

NOAA shall: (1) secure reliable secondary capability for near real-time coronal mass ejection imagery; and (2) develop requirements and a plan for follow-on space-based observations for operational purposes.

The National Science Foundation (NSF), the Air Force, and the Navy shall each: (1) maintain and improve ground-based observations of the Sun, and (2) provide space weather data by means of ground-based facilities.

NOAA, the Air Force, and the Navy shall conduct a survey to prioritize the needs of space weather forecast users.

The NSF, NASA, and the Department of Defense (DOD) shall continue to carry out basic research activities on heliophysics, geospace science, and space weather and support merit-based proposals for research, modeling, and monitoring of space weather and its impacts.

The NSF and NOAA shall support basic research activities in the social, behavioral, and economic sciences that will lead to improving national preparedness and encouraging mitigation and protection measures before a space weather event.

The NSF, NOAA, and NASA shall pursue multidisciplinary research in subjects that further our understanding of solar physics, space physics, and space weather.

NASA shall seek to implement missions meeting science objectives identified in National Academy of Sciences (NAS) Solar and Space Physics Decadal surveys.

NASA, the NSF, NOAA, the Air Force, and the Navy shall: (1) develop a mechanism to transition NASA, NSF, Air Force, and Navy research findings, research needs, models, and capabilities to NOAA and DOD space weather operational forecasting centers; and (2) enhance coordination between research modeling centers and forecasting centers.

NASA and the NSF shall: (1) make space weather related data obtained for scientific research available to space weather forecasters and operations centers, and (2) support model development and applications to space weather forecasting.

NOAA shall arrange with the NAS to establish a Space Weather Government-Industry-University Roundtable to facilitate communication and knowledge transfer among government participants in the Space Weather Interagency Group, industry, and academia to facilitate advances in space weather prediction and forecasting, help enable the two-way coordination of research and operations, and improve preparedness for potential space weather events.

The space weather interagency working group shall develop benchmarks for measuring solar disturbances.

NOAA shall inform the Department of Homeland Security about space weather hazards to protect national critical infrastructure from space weather events.

The National Security Council shall develop mechanisms to protect national security assets from space weather threats.

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) shall: (1) assess the safety implications and vulnerability of the nation's airspace system by space weather events, and (2) develop methods to increase the interaction between the aviation community and the space weather research and service provider community.

Expressed support for the Space Weather Research and Forecasting Act.

Status: House - 05/22/2018 Referred to the Subcommittee on Space.

H.R. 5191 **To amend title 38, United States Code, to** **(Rep. Coffman)**
direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to
establish Alzheimer's Disease research,
education, and clinical centers.

To amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish Alzheimer's Disease research, education, and clinical centers.

Expressed support for Medical Improvement of Neurodegenerative Diseases (MIND) Act of 2018

Status: House - 03/07/2018 Referred to the Subcommittee on Health. -

H.R. 2 **Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018** **(Rep. Conaway)**

Passed Senate amended (06/28/2018)

Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018

This bill (commonly known as the farm bill) reauthorizes through FY2023 and modifies Department of Agriculture (USDA) programs that address:

- commodity support,
- conservation,
- trade and international food aid,
- nutrition assistance,
- farm credit,
- rural development,

- research and extension activities,
- forestry,
- energy,
- horticulture, and
- crop insurance.

The bill modifies agriculture and nutrition policies to:

- require farmers to make a new election to obtain either Price Loss Coverage or Agricultural Risk Coverage for the 2019-2023 crop years, which may be changed for the 2021-2023 crop years;
- replace the Dairy Margin Protection Program with Dairy Risk Coverage and modify coverage levels and premiums;
- make Indian tribes and tribal organizations eligible for supplemental agricultural disaster assistance programs;
- reduce the adjusted gross income limitation for receiving benefits under commodity and conservation programs;
- modify funding levels and requirements for several conservation programs,
- consolidate several existing trade and export promotion programs into a new Priority Trade Promotion, Development, and Assistance program;
- legalize industrial hemp and make hemp producers eligible for the federal crop insurance program;
- establish an interstate data system to prevent the simultaneous issuance of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP, formerly known as the food stamp program) benefits to an individual by more than one state;
- increase the loan limits for farm ownership and operating loans;
- modify the experience requirement for farm ownership loans;
- authorize a categorical exclusion from requirements for environmental assessments and environmental impact statements for certain forest management projects with the primary purpose of protecting, restoring, or improving habitat for the greater sage-grouse or mule deer; and
- modify the organic certification requirements for imported agricultural products.

Expressed support for preserving Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program Education (SNAP-ED) in the Farm Bill.

Discussed Hemp Research within Farm Bill.

Status: 12/20/2018 Became Public Law No: 115-334.

S. 3042

Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018

(Sen. Roberts)

Reported to Senate with amendment(s) (06/18/2018)

Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018

This bill (commonly known as the farm bill) reauthorizes through FY2023 and modifies Department of Agriculture (USDA) programs that address:

- commodity support,
- conservation,
- trade and international food aid,
- nutrition assistance,
- farm credit,
- rural development,

- research and extension activities,
- forestry,
- energy,
- horticulture, and
- crop insurance.

The bill modifies agriculture and nutrition policies to:

- require farmers to make a new one-time election to obtain either Price Loss Coverage or Agricultural Risk Coverage for the 2019-2023 crop years;
- replace the Dairy Margin Protection Program with Dairy Risk Coverage and modify coverage levels and premiums;
- make Indian tribes and tribal organizations eligible for supplemental agricultural disaster assistance programs;
- reduce the adjusted gross income limitation for receiving benefits under commodity and conservation programs;
- modify funding levels and requirements for several conservation programs,
- consolidate several existing trade and export promotion programs into a new Priority Trade Promotion, Development, and Assistance program;
- legalize industrial hemp and make hemp producers eligible for the federal crop insurance program;
- establish an interstate data system to prevent the simultaneous issuance of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP, formerly known as the food stamp program) benefits to an individual by more than one state;
- increase the loan limits for farm ownership and operating loans;
- modify the experience requirement for farm ownership loans;
- authorize a categorical exclusion from requirements for environmental assessments and environmental impact statements for certain forest management projects with the primary purpose of protecting, restoring, or improving habitat for the greater sage-grouse or mule deer; and
- modify the organic certification requirements for imported agricultural products.

Expressed support for preserving Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program Education (SNAP-Ed) in the Farm Bill.

Discussed Hemp Research within Farm Bill.

Status: Senate - 06/18/2018 Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 470.

**S. 3014 Rural Physician Workforce Production Act (Sen. Gardner)
of 2018**

Introduced in Senate (06/06/2018)

Rural Physician Workforce Production Act of 2018

This bill allows hospitals and critical access hospitals to receive payment under Medicare for each resident that receives training in a rural training location, in accordance with specified criteria and limitations.

Discussed graduate medical education and the Rural Workforce Production Act.

Status: Senate - 06/06/2018 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.

H.R. 6

**SUPPORT for Patients and Communities
Act**

(Rep. Walden)

Passed House amended (06/22/2018)

Substance Use-Disorder Prevention that Promotes Opioid Recovery and Treatment for Patients and Communities Act or the SUPPORT for Patients and Communities Act

TITLE I--MEDICAID PROVISIONS TO ADDRESS THE OPIOID CRISIS

(Sec. 1001) The bill prohibits termination of Medicaid eligibility for juveniles who are inmates of public institutions.

(Sec. 1003) The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) must establish a demonstration project to increase provider treatment capacity for substance-use disorders.

(Sec. 1004) State Medicaid programs must establish drug management programs and drug-review and utilization requirements for at-risk beneficiaries.

(Sec. 1007) The bill extends the enhanced federal matching rate for expenditures regarding substance-use disorder health-home services under Medicaid.

The bill also temporarily requires coverage of medication-assisted treatment under Medicaid.

TITLE II--MEDICARE PROVISIONS TO ADDRESS THE OPIOID CRISIS

(Sec. 2001) The bill exempts substance-use disorder telehealth services from specified requirements, such as geographic restrictions, under Medicare.

(Sec. 2003) The initial examination for new Medicare enrollees must include an opioid-use disorder screening and prescription history review.

(Sec. 2004) The bill temporarily freezes Medicare payment at 2016 levels for specified spinal surgery outpatient procedures that are conducted in ambulatory surgical centers.

(Sec. 2005) In general, prescriptions for controlled substances that are covered drugs under Medicare must be transmitted through electronic prescription programs.

(Sec. 2006) Medicare prescription drug plan sponsors must establish drug-management programs for at-risk beneficiaries.

(Sec. 2007) The bill also requires coverage for services provided by certified opioid-treatment programs under Medicare.

TITLE III--OTHER HEALTH PROVISIONS TO ADDRESS THE OPIOID CRISIS

(Sec. 3002) The bill establishes and expands programs to support increased detection and monitoring of fentanyl and other synthetic opioids, including a new grant program for public health laboratories and a pilot program for point-of-use drug testing.

H.R. 6 SUPPORT for Patients and Communities Act, continued

(Sec. 3003) The bill increases the maximum number of patients that health care practitioners may initially treat with medication-assisted treatment (i.e., under a buprenorphine waiver).

(Sec. 3007) The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) must survey entities that receive federal funds for substance-use disorder treatment services; the scope of the survey must include the types of services provided, the populations served, and the adequacy of services.

TITLE IV--OFFSETS

(Sec. 4001) The bill temporarily eliminates the enhanced federal matching rate for Medicaid expenditures regarding specified medical services provided by certain managed care organizations.

TITLE V--OTHER MEDICAID PROVISIONS

Subtitle A--Mandatory Reporting with Respect to Adult Behavioral Health Measures

(Sec. 5001) The bill requires certain Medicaid quality health measures to include behavioral health measures.

Subtitle B--Medicaid IMD Additional Info

Medicaid Institutes for Mental Disease Are Decisive in Delivering Inpatient Treatment for Individuals but Opportunities for Needed Access are Limited without Information Needed about Facility Obligations Act or the Medicaid IMD ADDITIONAL INFO Act

(Sec. 5012) The Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) Payment and Access Commission must report on information relating to services for Medicaid enrollees who are patients in institutions for mental diseases (IMDs), including the number and type of IMDs in each sampled state, services offered, and funding sources.

Subtitle C--CHIP Mental Health Parity

CHIP Mental Health Parity Act

(Sec. 5022) CHIP plans must cover mental health and substance-use disorder services. Financial requirements and treatment limitations applicable to such services shall not differ from those applicable to other medical services under CHIP.

Subtitle D--Medicaid Reentry

Medicaid Reentry Act

(Sec. 5032) The CMS must convene a stakeholder workgroup in order to develop best practices for states to help inmates released from public institutions transition to the community with health care (such as by ensuring continuity of health insurance or Medicaid coverage). The CMS must also issue a letter to states outlining opportunities for Medicaid demonstration waivers based on identified best practices.

Subtitle E--Medicaid Partnership

Medicaid Providers Are Required To Note Experiences in Record Systems to Help In-need Patients Act or the Medicaid PARTNERSHIP Act

(Sec. 5042) Each state must establish a qualifying prescription drug monitoring program (PDMP) and require health care providers to check the PDMP for a Medicaid enrollee's prescription drug history before prescribing controlled substances to the enrollee.

H.R. 6 SUPPORT for Patients and Communities Act, continued

TITLE VI--OTHER MEDICARE PROVISIONS

Subtitle A--Testing of Incentive Payments for Behavioral Health Providers for Adoption and Use of Certified Electronic Health Record Technology

(Sec. 6001) The Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation may test models to provide incentive payments to behavioral health providers for adopting electronic health records technology and for using that technology to improve the quality and coordination of care.

Subtitle B--Abuse Deterrent Access

Abuse Deterrent Access Act of 2018

(Sec. 6012) The CMS must report on the adequacy of access to abuse-deterrent opioid formulations for individuals with chronic pain enrolled in a prescription drug plan under Medicare or Medicare Advantage (MA).

Subtitle C--Medicare Opioid Safety Education

Medicare Opioid Safety Education Act of 2018

(Sec. 6022) The CMS must provide Medicare beneficiaries with educational resources regarding opioid use and pain management, as well as descriptions of covered alternative (non-opioid) pain-management treatments.

Subtitle D--Opioid Addiction Action Plan

Opioid Addiction Action Plan Act

(Sec. 6032) The CMS must develop an action plan to provide recommendations on changes to the Medicare and Medicaid programs to enhance the treatment and prevention of opioid addiction, as well as coverage and payment of medication-assisted treatment.

The CMS must also publish a report that includes an evaluation of price trends for opioid overdose-reversal drugs (e.g., naloxone) and recommendations on ways to lower consumer prices for such drugs.

Subtitle E--Advancing High Quality Treatment for Opioid Use Disorders in Medicare

Advancing High Quality Treatment for Opioid Use Disorders in Medicare Act

(Sec. 6042) The CMS must carry out a demonstration program to increase access to opioid-use disorder treatment services for Medicare beneficiaries, improve physical and mental health outcomes for such beneficiaries, and reduce Medicare expenditures.

Subtitle F--Responsible Education Achieves Care and Healthy Outcomes for Users' Treatment

Responsible Education Achieves Care and Healthy Outcomes for Users' Treatment Act of 2018 or the REACH OUT Act of 2018

(Sec. 6052) The CMS must also award grants, contracts, or cooperative agreements to qualifying organizations in order to support efforts to curb outlier prescribers of opioids under the Medicare prescription drug benefit and MA prescription drug plans.

Subtitle G--Preventing Addiction for Susceptible Seniors

Preventing Addiction for Susceptible Seniors Act of 2018 or the PASS Act of 2018

(Sec. 6062) The bill requires electronic prescription programs to be able to securely transmit prior authorization requests for covered drugs under Medicare.

H.R. 6 SUPPORT for Patients and Communities Act, continued

(Sec. 6063) The CMS must also establish a secure online portal to allow data sharing among the CMS, Medicare prescription drug benefit plans, and MA plans. The portal must also support referrals by such plans of substantiated fraud, waste, or abuse.

(Sec. 6064) The bill also establishes individuals who are identified as at-risk beneficiaries for prescription drug abuse as qualifying participants in medication therapy management programs under the Medicare prescription drug benefit.

(Sec. 6065) The CMS must also identify outlier prescribers of opioids under Medicare prescription drug benefit plans and MA plans, based on specialty and geographic area, and annually notify such prescribers of their status.

Subtitle H--Expanding Oversight of Opioid Prescribing and Payment Expanding Oversight of Opioid Prescribing and Payment Act of 2018

(Sec. 6072) The Medicare Payment Advisory Commission must report on Medicare payment for opioid and non-opioid pain management treatments, current incentives for prescribing opioid and non-opioid treatments, and how opioid use is currently tracked and monitored.

Subtitle I--Dr. Todd Graham Pain Management, Treatment, and Recovery Dr. Todd Graham Pain Management, Treatment, and Recovery Act of 2018

(Sec. 6082) The CMS must review payments under Medicare for opioid and non-opioid pain-management procedures, specifically with respect to ambulatory outpatient surgical procedures and hospital outpatient department services. The CMS must ensure that there are no payment incentives for using opioids instead of non-opioid alternatives and must make revisions accordingly.

(Sec. 6083) The bill also requires payment under Medicare to federally qualified health centers and rural health clinics that have health care practitioners who are newly certified to provide medication-assisted treatment (e.g., buprenorphine).

(Sec. 6085) The Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation may test models to help individuals learn about the availability of psychologist services under Medicare, as well as to explore the use of a behavioral health help-line that is available 24-7 to prevent unnecessary hospitalizations and emergency department visits.

Subtitle J--Combating Opioid Abuse for Care in Hospitals Combating Opioid Abuse for Care in Hospitals Act of 2018 or the COACH Act of 2018

(Sec. 6092) The CMS must publish guidance for hospitals on pain management and opioid-use disorder prevention strategies for Medicare beneficiaries.

Technical expert panels must also recommend opioid-use disorder quality measures for hospital reports, methods to reduce opioid use in surgical settings, and pain-management strategies.

Subtitle K--Stop Excessive Narcotics in Our Retirement Communities Protection

Stop Excessive Narcotics in our Retirement Communities Protection Act of 2018 or the SENIOR Communities Protection Act of 2018

H.R. 6 SUPPORT for Patients and Communities Act, continued

(Sec. 6102) The bill authorizes the suspension of payments to a pharmacy under the Medicare prescription drug benefit and MA prescription drug plans pending the investigation of a credible allegation of fraud by the pharmacy.

Subtitle L--Providing Reliable Options for Patients and Educational Resources

Providing Reliable Options for Patients and Educational Resources Act of 2018 or the PROPER Act of 2018

(Sec. 6112) Medicare and MA prescription drug plan sponsors must annually disclose information to enrollees about the risks of prolonged opioid use, as well as coverage of nonpharmacological therapies, devices, and non-opioid medications.

(Sec. 6113) The bill also requires Medicare medication therapy management programs and MA in-home health-risk assessments to include information about the safe disposal of prescription drugs.

(Sec. 6114) The bill prohibits inclusion of pain-management questions in certain health care system surveys, unless the questions address the risks of opioid use and the availability of non-opioid alternatives.

TITLE VII--OTHER HEALTH PROVISIONS

Subtitle A--Synthetic Drug Awareness

Synthetic Drug Awareness Act of 2018

(Sec. 7002) The bill requires the Surgeon General to report on the health effects of new psychoactive substances (also known as synthetic drugs). The report specifically relates to substances used by individuals aged 12 to 18 since January 2010. Examples of synthetic drugs include synthetic marijuana (also known as "spice") and synthetic amphetamines (also known as "bath salts").

Subtitle B--Empowering Pharmacists in the Fight against Opioid Abuse

Empowering Pharmacists in the Fight Against Opioid Abuse Act

(Sec. 7012) HHS must develop training programs and materials on the circumstances under which a pharmacist may refuse to fill a controlled substance prescription suspected to be fraudulent, forged, or indicative of abuse or diversion.

Subtitle C-- Indexing Narcotics, Fentanyl, and Opioids

Indexing Narcotics, Fentanyl, and Opioids Act of 2018 or the INFO Act

(Sec. 7022) HHS must establish a public information dashboard that coordinates programs related to opioid-abuse reduction, allows data sharing between different programs and regions of the country, and recommends alternatives to controlled substances for pain management.

Subtitle D--Ensuring Access to Quality Sober Living

Ensuring Access to Quality Sober Living Act of 2018

(Sec. 7032) The bill amends the Public Health Service Act to require HHS to develop best practices for operating recovery housing (shared living environments free from alcohol and illegal drug use and centered on peer support and connection to services that promote recovery from substance-use disorders).

Subtitle E--Advancing Cutting Edge Research

Advancing Cutting Edge Research Act or the ACE Research Act

H.R. 6 SUPPORT for Patients and Communities Act, continued

(Sec. 7042) The bill expands the National Institutes of Health's unique research initiatives to include cutting-edge research that is urgently required to respond to a public health threat. (Unique research initiatives may be supported through transactions other than contracts, grants, or cooperative agreements.)

Subtitle F--Jessie's Law

Jessie's Law

(Sec. 7052) HHS must develop best practices for health care providers and state agencies regarding the display of a patient's history of opioid addiction in the patient's medical records.

(Sec. 7053) The bill also requires the CMS and the Health Resources and Services Administration to notify annually health care providers about health information that may be disclosed under federal privacy laws to families, caregivers, and health care providers during emergencies, including overdoses.

Subtitle G--Safe Disposal of Unused Medication

Safe Disposal of Unused Medication Act

(Sec. 7062) The bill amends the Controlled Substances Act to allow a hospice employee to handle lawfully dispensed controlled substances of a deceased hospice patient to assist with disposal of the controlled substances, so long as such disposal occurs onsite in accordance with applicable law.

Subtitle H--Substance Use Disorder Workforce Loan Repayment

Substance Use Disorder Workforce Loan Repayment Act of 2018

(Sec. 7072) The bill creates a loan repayment program for individuals who complete a period of service in a substance-use disorder treatment job in a mental health professional shortage area or a county where the drug overdose death rate is higher than the national average.

Subtitle I--Preventing Overdoses While in Emergency Rooms

Preventing Overdoses While in Emergency Rooms Act of 2018

(Sec. 7082) HHS must establish a grant program to develop protocols for discharging patients who are treated for a drug overdose and to enhance the integration and coordination of postdischarge care for individuals with a substance-use disorder.

Subtitle J--Alternatives to Opioids in the Emergency Department

Alternatives to Opioids in the Emergency Department Act or the ALTO Act

(Sec. 7092) HHS must also establish a demonstration program through which hospitals and emergency departments receive grants to support alternative pain-management protocols and treatments that limit the use and prescription of opioids in emergency departments.

Subtitle K--Stop Counterfeit Drugs by Regulating and Enhancing Enforcement Now

Stop Counterfeit Drugs by Regulating and Enhancing Enforcement Now Act or the SCREEN Act

(Sec. 7102) The bill amends the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to expand the authority of the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to destroy illegally imported or hazardous drugs.

(Sec. 7103) The bill requires the FDA to halt the distribution of a drug that is found to be a public hazard and, if appropriate, order the drug to be recalled.

H.R. 6 SUPPORT for Patients and Communities Act, continued

(Sec. 7104) The FDA may consider all drugs from a single manufacturer, distributor, or importer as adulterated or misbranded if a pattern emerges, unless otherwise shown.

(Sec. 7105) The bill establishes a fund to support efforts by the FDA to address the opioid epidemic, including educational campaigns and inspections of imported drugs.

(Sec. 7106) The FDA must deny an application for a new drug that contains a controlled substance and that is found to be unsafe due to a potential for misuse or abuse.

Subtitle L--Treatment, Education, and Community Help to Combat Addiction

Treatment, Education, and Community Help to Combat Addiction Act of 2018 or the TEACH to Combat Addiction Act of 2018

(Sec. 7112) The bill requires the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) to designate Regional Centers of Excellence in Substance Use Disorder Education. Such centers must improve pain-management and substance-use disorder education through the distribution of evidence-based curricula for health care professional schools.

Subtitle M--Guidance from National Mental Health and Substance Use Policy Laboratory

(Sec. 7121) The National Mental Health and Substance Use Policy Laboratory within SAMHSA must issue guidance for SAMHSA grant applicants in order to encourage funding of evidence-based practices and to help applicants properly articulate funding rationales.

Subtitle N--Comprehensive Opioid Recovery Centers

Comprehensive Opioid Recovery Centers Act of 2018

(Sec. 7132) The bill also requires SAMHSA to award grants to establish or operate at least 10 comprehensive opioid recovery centers across the country. Such centers must conduct outreach and provide specified treatment and recovery services, including approved drug treatments (e.g., methadone), counseling, residential rehabilitation, and job-placement assistance.

Subtitle O--Poison Center Network Enhancement

Poison Center Network Enhancement Act of 2018

(Sec. 7142) The bill reauthorizes through FY2023 and revises the national toll-free phone number, public-awareness campaign, and grant program relating to poison-control centers, including provisions that specifically address the role of poison-control centers in combating opioid misuse.

Subtitle P--Eliminating Opioid Related Infectious Diseases

Eliminating Opioid Related Infectious Diseases Act of 2018

(Sec. 7152) HHS must expand its grant program for combating hepatitis C infections to include other infections associated with illicit drug use (e.g., HIV). The bill also includes Indian tribes in the program.

Subtitle Q--Better Pain Management through Better Data

Better Pain Management Through Better Data Act of 2018

(Sec. 7162) The FDA must develop guidance regarding alternative methods for collecting data on opioid sparing (i.e., the use of drugs that reduce pain while also allowing reduced use or avoidance of oral opioids) and using such information in product labels.

Subtitle R--Special Registration for Telemedicine Clarification

H.R. 6 SUPPORT for Patients and Communities Act, continued

Special Registration for Telemedicine Clarification Act of 2018

(Sec. 7172) The bill establishes a deadline for the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) to promulgate regulations for the special registration of practitioners to practice telemedicine.

Subtitle S--Peer Support Communities of Recovery

Peer Support Communities of Recovery Act

(Sec. 7182) SAMHSA may award grants to nonprofits that focus on substance-use disorder in order to establish regional technical-assistance centers. Such centers must implement peer-delivered addiction-recovery support services and establish recovery community organizations and centers.

Subtitle T--Stop Illicit Drug Importation

Stop Illicit Drug Importation Act of 2018

(Sec. 7192) The bill prohibits the importation of drugs containing substances that have been requested, or are under review, to be scheduled as controlled substances.

(Sec. 7194) The FDA may prohibit a person from importing drugs or controlled substances under specified circumstances, including if the person has shown a pattern of importing adulterated or misbranded drugs that pose a serious health threat.

Subtitle U--Creating Opportunities that Necessitate New and Enhanced Connections that Improve Opioid Navigation Strategies

Creating Opportunities that Necessitate New and Enhanced Connections That Improve Opioid Navigation Strategies Act of 2018 or the CONNECTIONS Act

(Sec. 7202) The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention may provide technical assistance and award grants in order to improve PDMPs, promote new approaches for responding to emerging public health crises, and improve overdose data reporting.

(Sec. 7203) The bill also alters requirements relating to PDMPs. Among other changes, the bill authorizes federal support for specific PDMP improvements regarding use, data reporting, and intrastate and interstate interoperability.

Subtitle V--Securing Opioids and Unused Narcotics with Deliberate Disposal and Packaging

Securing Opioids and Unused Narcotics with Deliberate Disposal and Packaging Act of 2018 or the SOUND Disposal and Packaging Act

(Sec. 7212) The FDA may require certain packaging and disposal technologies, controls, or measures to mitigate the risk of abuse or misuse of a drug or a class of drugs.

Subtitle W--Postapproval study requirements

(Sec. 7221) The FDA may also require a post-approval study for certain drugs that contain controlled substances in order to assess potential reduced effectiveness.

TITLE VIII--MISCELLANEOUS

Subtitle A--Synthetics Trafficking and Overdose Prevention

Synthetics Trafficking and Overdose Prevention Act of 2018 or STOP Act of 2018

(Sec. 8002) The bill increases shipment-tracking responsibilities and coordination between the U.S. Postal Service and the U.S. Customs and Border Protection regarding international

H.R. 6 SUPPORT for Patients and Communities Act, continued

shipments of controlled substances, such as through communication requirements and the development of technology to detect illicit fentanyl.

Subtitle B--Recognizing Early Childhood Trauma Related to Substance Abuse
Recognizing Early Childhood Trauma Related to Substance Abuse Act of 2018
(Sec. 8012) HHS must provide resources to early childhood care and education providers and other professionals working with young children on ways to recognize and respond to children who may be affected by a family member's or other adult's substance abuse.

Subtitle C--Assisting States' Implementation of Plans of Safe Care
Assisting States' Implementation of Plans of Safe Care Act
(Sec. 8022) HHS must also provide states with guidance and technical assistance regarding their plans under the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act for assuring the safe care of infants affected by prenatal substance use.

Subtitle D--Improving the Federal Response to Families Impacted by Substance Use Disorder
Improving the Federal Response to Families Impacted by Substance Use Disorder Act
(Sec. 8032) The bill establishes the Interagency Task Force to Improve the Federal Response to Families Impacted by Substance Use Disorders to recommend ways to better coordinate the responses of federal agencies to substance-use disorders and the opioid crisis.

Subtitle E--Establishment of an Advisory Committee on Opioids and the Workplace
(Sec. 8041) The Department of Labor must establish an Advisory Committee on Opioids and the Workplace to recommend ways to address the impact of opioid abuse on the workplace and to support workers who abuse opioids.

Subtitle F--Veterans Treatment Court Improvement
Veterans Treatment Court Improvement Act of 2018
(Sec. 8052) The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) must hire at least 50 Veterans Justice Outreach Specialists under the Veterans Justice Outreach Program. Each of these specialists must serve as part of a justice team in a veterans treatment court or other veteran-focused court.

Subtitle G--Peer Support Counseling Program for Women Veterans
(Sec. 8061) The VA must also emphasize appointing peer-support counselors for women veterans. The VA shall recruit women peer-support counselors with expertise in gender-specific issues and services, VA services and benefits, and employment mentoring.

Subtitle H--Treating Barriers to Prosperity
Treating Barriers to Prosperity Act of 2018
(Sec. 8072) The bill allows the Appalachian Regional Commission to support projects and activities addressing drug abuse, such as infrastructure development for telemedicine.

Subtitle I--Supporting Grandparents Raising Grandchildren
Supporting Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Act
(Sec. 8083) The bill establishes an Advisory Council to Support Grandparents Raising Grandchildren. The council must develop resources to help older relatives meet the needs of the children in their care and maintain their own health and emotional well-being.

Subtitle J--Reauthorizing and Extending Grants for Recovery from Opioid Use Programs

H.R. 6 SUPPORT for Patients and Communities Act, continued

Reauthorizing and Extending Grants for Recovery from Opioid Use Programs Act of 2018 or the REGROUP Act of 2018

(Sec. 8092) The bill reauthorizes through FY2023 the comprehensive opioid abuse grant program administered by the Department of Justice.

TITLE IX--SITSA ACT

Stop the Importation and Trafficking of Synthetic Analogues Act of 2017 or the SITSA Act

(Sec. 9002) The bill establishes a new, sixth schedule of controlled substances--schedule A. A drug or substance in schedule A has a chemical structure that is similar to a controlled substance in schedule I, II, III, IV, or V, and has a similar or greater depressive, stimulant, or hallucinogenic effect than a controlled substance in one of those schedules.

The bill also authorizes, and establishes procedures for, the DEA to place a drug or substance in schedule A.

The bill also establishes registration and labeling requirements, as well as criminal penalties, relating to schedule A substances.

(Sec. 9012) The bill also sets forth factors that may be considered to determine whether a controlled substance analogue is intended for human consumption. Under current law, a controlled substance analogue that is intended for human consumption is treated as a schedule I controlled substance and is subject to certain regulatory controls.

TITLE X--THRIVE ACT

Transitional Housing for Recovery in Viable Environments Demonstration Program Act or the THRIVE Act

(Sec. 10002) The bill amends the United States Housing Act of 1937 to require the Department of Housing and Urban Development to establish a five-year demonstration program for nonprofit organizations and tribally designated housing entities to provide low-income rental-assistance vouchers to individuals recovering from an opioid- or other substance-use disorder.

TITLE XI--IMD CARE ACT

Individuals in Medicaid Deserve Care that is Appropriate and Responsible in its Execution Act or the IMD CARE Act

(Sec. 11002) The bill temporarily allows states to apply to receive federal Medicaid payment for services provided in IMDs and for other medically necessary services for enrollees (aged 21 to 64) with opioid-use or cocaine-use disorders. Services may be covered for a total of up to 30 days in a 12-month period for an eligible enrollee. States must include specified information in their applications, including plans to improve access to outpatient care.

Current law generally prohibits federal payment under Medicaid for services provided in IMDs for individuals under the age of 65 (although states may receive payment through certain mechanisms, such as through a Medicaid demonstration waiver).

Expressed support for opioid abuse prevention legislation.

Status: 10/24/2018 Became Public Law No: 115-271.

H.R. 6082 **Overdose Prevention and Patient Safety Act** **(Rep. Mullin)**
Introduced in House (06/13/2018)
Overdose Prevention and Patient Safety Act

This bill amends the Public Health Service Act to align federal privacy standards for substance use disorder (SUD) patient records more closely with standards under the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA). Specifically, the bill authorizes the disclosure of SUD patient records without a patient's written consent to: (1) a covered entity for the purposes of treatment, payment, and health care operations, as long as the disclosure is made in accordance with HIPAA; and (2) a public health authority, as long as the content of the disclosure meets HIPAA standards regarding de-identified information. Current law authorizes disclosure of SUD patient records without a patient's written consent only to medical personnel in a medical emergency, to specified personnel for research or program evaluations, or pursuant to a court order.

The bill also repeals and replaces criminal penalties for certain violations involving SUD patient records with the HIPAA civil penalty structure. It also applies HIPAA criminal penalties to wrongful disclosures of SUD patient records. In addition, the bill expands the current prohibition against using SUD patient records in criminal proceedings to include any use in specified federal, state, and local criminal and civil actions.

The bill prohibits certain discrimination based on the release of SUD information under this bill.

Expressed support for opioid abuse prevention legislation.

Status: Senate - 06/21/2018 Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

H.R. 5797 **Individuals in Medicaid Deserve Care that** **(Rep. Walters)**
is Appropriate and Responsible in its
Execution Act

Passed House amended (06/20/2018)

Individuals in Medicaid Deserve Care that is Appropriate and Responsible in its Execution Act or the IMD CARE Act

(Sec. 2) This bill temporarily allows states to apply to receive federal Medicaid payment for services provided in institutions for mental diseases (IMDs) and for other medically necessary services for enrollees (aged 21 to 64) with opioid-use or cocaine-use disorders. Services may be covered for a total of up to 30 days in a 12-month period for an eligible enrollee. States must include specified information in their applications, including plans to improve access to outpatient care.

Current law generally prohibits federal payment under Medicaid for services provided in IMDs for individuals under the age of 65 (although states may receive payment through certain mechanisms, such as through a Medicaid demonstration waiver).

(Sec. 3) Additionally, the bill temporarily eliminates the enhanced federal matching rate for Medicaid expenditures regarding specified medical services provided by certain managed care organizations.

Expressed support for opioid abuse prevention legislation.

Status: Senate - 06/21/2018 Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.

H.R. 5767 Teachers Are Leaders Act (Rep. Polis)
Introduced in House (05/10/2018)
Teachers Are Leaders Act

This bill amends the Higher Education Act of 1965 to authorize grants for the establishment of professional development programs for teachers who remain in the classroom while also carrying out formalized leadership responsibilities.

Expressed support for the Teachers are Leaders Act

Status: House - 05/10/2018 Referred to the House Committee on Education and the Workforce.

H.R. 2810 National Defense Authorization Act for (Rep. Thornberry)
Fiscal Year 2018

Introduced in House (06/07/2017)

National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2018

This bill authorizes FY2018 appropriations and sets forth policies for Department of Defense (DOD) programs and activities, including military personnel strengths. It does not provide budget authority, which is provided in subsequent appropriations legislation.

The bill authorizes appropriations to DOD for: (1) Procurement, including aircraft, missiles, weapons and tracked combat vehicles, ammunition, shipbuilding and conversion, space procurement, and other procurement; (2) Research, Development, Test, and Evaluation; (3) Operation and Maintenance; (4) Working Capital Funds; (5) the Joint Urgent Operational Needs Fund; (6) Chemical Agents and Munitions Destruction; (7) Drug Interdiction and Counter-Drug Activities; (8) the Defense Inspector General; (9) the Defense Health Program; (10) the Armed Forces Retirement Home; (11) Overseas Contingency Operations; and (12) Military Construction.

The bill also authorizes the FY018 personnel strength for active duty and reserve forces and sets forth policies regarding compensation and other personnel benefits, the Ready Reserve Force and Military Sealift Command surge fleet, and matters relating to foreign nations.

Discussed provisions in the National Defense Reauthorization Act related to university collaboration with national security agencies to protect US scientific research.

Status: 12/12/2017 Became Public Law No: 115-91.



OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

State and Federal Meetings, Events and Tours

As a service to the University of Colorado, the Office of Government Relations coordinates and staffs many state and federal meetings, events and tours on the Hill in Washington, DC, at the Colorado State Capitol, and on each of the university's four campuses. Highlighted below are a few of the many activities we participated in during the year.

State Relations

The State Relations team met with many university groups to give legislative updates during the state session and during the interim. The activities for these meetings included securing state elected and appointed officials and legislators to speak with the groups; providing tours of the State Capitol; and talking with them about advocacy on behalf of the university and higher education; and providing legislative updates at their meetings on campus.

- These groups included, but were not limited to: Staff Council from all four campuses and system; Excellence in Leadership Program; School of Medicine Faculty Senate; UCB Student Government

Highlighted below are some of the meetings and events we helped facilitate or where we staffed legislators:

- On January 18th, Director of CU Innovations, Kim Muller presented "Unlocking the Promise of Science and Technology" to the House Business Affairs and Labor Committee.
- On January 19th, over 50 scientists from 11 research institutions presented their research at the State Capitol for a special poster session.
- On January 22nd, CU School of Medicine Rural Track Students visited the Capitol where they presented to the House Agriculture, Livestock and Natural Resources Committee and had an engaging lunch with several legislators.
- On March 15th, The University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus Marcus Institute for Brain Health (MIBH) hosted a luncheon near the Capitol for state legislators. Legislators in attendance included Senators Larry Crowder (R-Alamosa), Chris Holbert (R-Parker), Cheri Jahn (U-Wheatridge), Kevin Priola (R-Adams), Nancy Todd (D-Aurora), and Representatives Phil Covarrubias (R-Brighton), Tony Exum, Sr. (D-Colorado Springs), Edie Hooton (D-Boulder), Pete Lee (D-Colorado Springs), Susan Lontine (D-Denver), Paul Lundeen (R-Monument), Dafna Michaelson Jenet (D-Commerce City), Bob Rankin (R-Carbondale), Kim Ransom (R-Littleton), Paul Rosenthal (D-Denver), Lori Saine (R-Dacono), Lang Sias (R-Arvada), Jonathan Singer (D-Boulder), Donald Valdez (D-La Jara), Kevin Van Winkle (R-Highlands Ranch).
- On March 19th, students heard from Representatives Paul Rosenthal (D-Denver) and Chris Hansen (D-Denver) as part of Aerospace Day at the Capitol.
- On July 27th, legislators and business leaders from the Business Base Camp Program sponsored by the Colorado Competitive Council (C3) visited the University of Colorado Colorado Springs campus. The tour included the Osborne Center, Engineering building and the Ent Center for the Arts as well as the National Cybersecurity Center (NCC). Representative Larry Liston (R-Colorado Springs), who helped set the tour up was joined by his fellow law makers, Senator Kevin Priola (R-Adams), Representatives Susan Beckman (R-Littleton), Jeff Bridges (D-Greenwood Village), Marc Catlin (R-Montrose),

Donald Valdez (D-La Jara), Dominique Jackson (D-Aurora), and Dylan Roberts (D-Steamboat Springs).

- At the September 15th CU football game, State Senators Owen Hill (R-Colorado Springs), Chris Holbert (R-Parker) and State Representative Chris Hansen (D-Denver) were honored as 2018 Legislators of the Year.
- In September, Senator Owen Hill (R-Colorado Springs) attended the Veterans in Higher Education Summit at CU Boulder.
- On October 23rd, Representative Edie Hooton (D-Boulder) and candidates for HD 34 Kyle Mullica, HD 35 Shannon Bird, HD 12 Sonya Jacquez Lewis attended the Buffalo Belles luncheon.
- On November 16th, Senator-elect Pete Lee (D-Colorado Springs) and Representative Terri Carver (R-Colorado Springs) served on a Criminal Justice Reform Panel at UCCS.
- On December 7th, Senators Rhonda Fields (D-Aurora), Kevin Priola (R-Adams), Representatives James Coleman (D-Denver), Kim Ransom (R-Littleton), Donald Valdez (D-La Jara), Kevin Van Winkle (R-Highlands Ranch), Representatives-elect Shannon Bird (D-Westminster), Kyle Mullica (D-Northglenn), Bri Buentello (D-Pueblo), Matt Soper (R-Grand Junction), and Tom Sullivan (D-Centennial) attended a Cancer Center Luncheon on the Anschutz Medical Campus. Lt. Governor-elect Dianne Primavera gave opening remarks at the lunch.
- On December 10th, we helped organize a Title IX Symposium. Almost 100 stakeholders from across the state were in attendance including Senator Nancy Todd (D-Arapahoe).
- Legislative Delegation Luncheons were held with campus leaders and legislators serving near their respective campuses.

2018 CU Advocates Events

- CU Advocacy Day at the Capitol was held on January 30, 2018. There were more than 150 attendees at the event including CU Advocates, alumni, donors, legislators, regents and friends. The program included remarks from Governor John Hickenlooper, CU President Bruce Benson, CU Denver Chancellor Dorothy Horrell, CU Boulder Chancellor Phil DiStefano, and Vice President of Government Relations Tanya Kelly-Bowry, among others. Following the event at the Capitol, legislators and advocates attended a reception where Lt. Governor Donna Lynne made remarks. The events were attended by 21 legislators! Legislators in attendance included Senators Jack Tate (R-Centennial), Vicki Marble (R-Fort Collins), Randy Baumgardner (R-Cowdry), Bob Gardner (R-Colorado Springs), Andy Kerr (D-Lakewood), Tim Neville (R-Littleton), Nancy Todd (D-Aurora), Chris Holbert (R-Parker), Leroy Garcia (D-Pueblo), Jerry Sonnenberg (R-Sterling), John Cooke (R-Greeley), Beth Martinez-Humenik (R-Thornton), and Representatives Yeulin Willett (R-Grand Junction), Chris Hansen (D-Denver), Jonathan Singer (D-Boulder), Jeff Bridges (D-Greenwood Village), Larry Liston (R-Colorado Springs), Bob Rankin (R-Carbondale), Edie Hooton (D-Boulder), Kevin Van Winkle (R-Highlands Ranch), Cole Wist (R-Arapahoe).
- In July, CU Advocates hosted “CU Celebration” events in Grand Junction, Pueblo and Weldona to welcome new and incoming students from the Western Slope, southern, and northeastern Colorado who plan to attend a CU campus. Representatives Yeulin Willett (R-Grand Junction) and Bob Rankin (R-Carbondale) and HD 54 candidate Matt Soper (R-Grand Junction) attended the Grand Junction event.

CU Leadership Outreach Trips

- Several leaders from the University of Colorado, including Regent Chair Sue Sharkey, Regent Glen Gallegos, CU Colorado Springs Chancellor Venkat Reddy, CU Colorado Springs Dean of Education Dean Conley, VP of Government Relations Tanya Kelly-Bowry and Associate VP of Federal and Corporate Relations Dave Sprenger, embarked on an outreach trip to the San Luis Valley in September. The delegation made stops in Alamosa and Durango where they met with local legislators, education leaders, health care leaders, members of the Southern Ute tribe and CU alumni.
- In Alamosa, the delegation met with leadership from San Luis Valley Health, Conejos County Hospital, the Area Health Education Center, as well as with legislators Senator Larry Crowder, Representative Donald Valdez (D-La Jara), former Representative Ed Vigil and Brenda Felmlee, aide for Rep. Scott Tipton. Topics of discussion included health care issues, potential partnerships and issues that may surface in the 2019 session of the Colorado General Assembly. There was a particular emphasis on rural clinical placements for CU students working to become physicians, pharmacists and dentists.
- In Durango, the delegation was joined by CU Boulder Senior Vice Chancellor and CFO Kelly Fox, CU Boulder AVC Public Policy and Advocacy Kirsten Schuchman, CU Boulder Education Dean Kathy Schultz, CU Boulder Law School Dean James Anaya, CU Boulder Law Assistant Dean Jessica Helzer, and CU Boulder Alumni Director Ryan Christ. The delegation met with members of the Southern Ute tribe, Fort Lewis leadership, Representative Barbara McLachlan (D-Durango), Representative Marc Catlin (R-Montrose), former Sen. Ellen Roberts and congressional staff members. Topics of discussion included teacher education (in particular teacher shortages), potential partnerships and issues that may surface in the 2019 session of the Colorado General Assembly. The trip concluded at the Durango Arts Center with an alumni lunch featuring a special screening of *The Light Shines On: A Celebration of CU Boulder*.
 - Please follow this link from the Valley Courier for event coverage:
<https://www.alamosanews.com/article/cu-officials-meet-with-local-leaders>
- In August, CU Regent Glen Gallegos hosted a reception at his home in Grand Junction. Representatives Yeulin Willett (R-Grand Junction) and HD 54 candidate Matt Soper (R-Grand Junction) along with other community leaders, elected officials and candidates from the Western Slope were in attendance.

Federal Relations

The Federal Relations team arranged, facilitated and staffed meetings with congressional members, federal agency officials, and staffers both in Washington, DC and on all four CU campuses throughout the year. We also set up and staffed Hill visits for University of Colorado leadership including CU Boulder Provost Russ Moore and UCCS Chancellor Venkat Reddy as well as Regent Sue Sharkey. In addition, we set up and staffed Hill visits for key campus professionals including Terri Fiez, Vice Chancellor for Research at CU Boulder; Jim Kelly, director of the Marcus Institute for Brain Health at CU Anschutz Medical Campus; Bobby Braun, Dean of the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences at CU Boulder; John Sunnygard, Executive Director at the Office of International Affairs at CU Denver; and other key faculty from all four campuses. We set up and staffed meetings and tours at the four campuses throughout the year for staff from various congressional committees and from the Colorado congressional delegation. Tanya Kelly-Bowry, David Sprenger, Jack Waldorf, Kent Springfield, and Heather Bené represented CU at several of these events in DC and Colorado throughout the year.

Heather and Kent actively participated in federal relations briefings and conferences hosted by the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities (APLU) and the Task Force on American Innovation (TFAI). Heather attended the APLU Annual meeting in New Orleans. Kent attended the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) and the American Hospital Association (AHA) Government Relations meetings, including the AAMC Annual trip in Austin. Heather attended National Humanities Alliance (NHA), Consortium of Social Science Association (COSSA), The Science Coalition (TSC), Association of American Universities (AAU), NAFSA: Association of International Educators, and Compete America meetings.

The Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2018 (H.R. 1625) was approved by Congress and signed into law by President Trump to fund the federal government through September 30, 2018. The law was enacted on March 23, 2018, 6 months overdue, but includes some of the largest increases to research and student aid programs in a decade. In total, the bill boosts federal research and development spending by 12.8% to \$176.8 billion.

Big winners of interest to CU include the National Institutes of Health, which received a \$3 billion increase rather than a \$7.2 billion cut proposed by the Trump administration; NASA, which was boosted by \$1.1 billion; and Department of Energy (DOE) research programs, which were increased by nearly \$1 billion despite a \$1.7 billion proposed cut. The omnibus also boosts funding for several programs targeted for elimination by the White House, including DOE's Advanced Research Projects Agency - Energy, which received a \$47 million increase and the National Endowment for the Humanities, which received a \$2 million bump. The legislation also provides \$14.9 billion (+ 6.1%) for Department of Defense Science & Technology programs; \$7.8 billion (+ 4%) for the National Science Foundation; \$507.5 billion (+ 6.3%) for NOAA Oceanic and Atmospheric Research; and \$1.2 billion (+ 26%) for the National Institutes of Standards and Technology.

The bill also rejects reforms proposed by the White House and incorporated in House legislation to reauthorize the Higher Education Act, which would shrink or eliminate essential student aid programs such as Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants, Federal Work Study, and Public Service Loan Forgiveness.

Finally, the White House sent Congress a rescission package (H.R. 3) which was rejected by nay votes. The package proposed \$15.2 billion in spending cuts across 10 federal departments. Nearly half of the proposed cuts would come from the Children's Health Insurance Program. The rescissions package also called for cuts to programs that combat infectious diseases like the Ebola virus.

The federal team successfully lobbied for increases to federal research and education budgets in Fiscal Year 2018, in addition to lifting the Budget Control Act's non-defense discretionary budget caps, which paved the way for these increases. The Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2018 (H.R. 1625) included some of the largest increases to research and student financial aid accounts in a decade, including a \$3 billion increase for NIH, \$1.1 billion increase for NASA, \$1 billion increase for DOE research programs, and \$175 annual increase to the maximum Pell Grant award, among other priority investments.

The team also successfully helped prevent the PROSPER Act (H.R. 4508), legislation to reauthorize the Higher Education Act that would have cut nearly \$15 billion in federal student aid over ten years, from reaching a House floor vote by mobilizing our House Republican members against the bill.

The federal team successfully lobbied Representative Coffman to support language in the National Defense Authorization Act to reconstitute a forum for national security agencies and universities to collaborate on effective ways to address emerging national security threats. This approach was adopted in lieu of language that would have restricted access to DOD research funding for any university faculty who have participated in foreign talent recruitment programs from China, and which would have been difficult to comply with and created additional administrative burden for universities.

The team successfully lobbied in support of research priorities for all CU campuses including space weather and appropriations report language for Down syndrome research and cybersecurity.

The federal team worked throughout the year with the Colorado congressional delegation in an effort to support programmatic requests through the annual appropriations process that would enable CU to best serve their many interests. For FY2019 and FY2020 some of the letters that were signed by our delegation include:

- National Institutes of Health (NIH) –Representatives Mike Coffman, Diana DeGette, Ed Perlmutter, and Jared Polis
- National Science Foundation (NSF) and National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) – Senator Cory Gardner
- National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) –Representatives Mike Coffman, Diana DeGette, Ed Perlmutter, and Jared Polis
- National Space Grant College and Fellowship Program - Senator Cory Gardner, Representatives Diana DeGette, Jared Polis, Scott Tipton, Ken Buck, Doug Lamborn, Mike Coffman, and Ed Perlmutter
- Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Science - Representatives Diana DeGette, Jared Polis, and Ed Perlmutter
- Advanced Research Projects Agency–Energy (ARPA-E) - Representatives Diana DeGette and Jared Polis
- Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Relations Agencies Institute of Education Sciences (IES) – Senator Michael Bennet

Highlighted below are just a few of the many events our office helped to arrange and/or participated in in 2018:

- Senator Cory Gardner, Representative Mike Coffman, and Danielle Radovich Piper, Chief of Staff to Representative Ed Perlmutter, joined CU President Bruce Benson, CU Anschutz Medical Campus Chancellor Don Elliman, and Fitzsimons Redevelopment Authority (FRA) Executive Director Steve VanNurden on April 3 for the groundbreaking of the Bioscience 3 Building. This is a new Biosciences Incubator located just north of the CU Anschutz Medical Campus. CU School of Medicine Dean John J. Reilly, Jr. and CU Vice President for Health Affairs Lilly Marks were also in attendance. The planned Fitzsimons Innovation Community will stretch the CU Anschutz Medical campus' reach northward across the old Fitzsimons Golf Course. In addition to the bioscience incubators, it will include science-and math-focused elementary, middle and high schools, apartments, hotels, and more. The three level, 115,000 GSF Biosciences 3

Building is designed to host a diverse concentration of companies and will contain wet labs, research bays designed to minimize vibration, open offices, office suites, flexible warehouses and distribution space. Amenities will include a 100-seat flexible auditorium, shared conference facilities, a café with outdoor seating, and covered parking. The building is scheduled for completion in 2019.

- Representative Coffman joined an April 30 roundtable of medical experts to discuss women's health. Panel members were Judith G. Regensteiner, Ph.D., Professor of Medicine and Director, Center for Women's Health Research, Director Women in Medicine and Science at the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus; Jane E. B. Reusch, M.D., Professor of Medicine in the Division of Endocrinology, Metabolism and Diabetes and Associate Director with the Center for Women's Health Research, University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus, Attending Physician and Merit Investigator, Denver V.A. Medical Center, and 2018 President of Medicine and Science for the American Diabetes Association; Jennifer Broderick Engleby, Deputy Director, Center for Women's Health Research; Michael Bristow, M.D., Ph.D., Founder, President & CEO, ARCA biopharma; and Rusty Montgomery, Ph.D., Director of Research, miRagen Therapeutics, Inc.
- On May 3, Senator Bennet toured the CU Boulder BioFrontiers facility.
- Acting Veteran's Administration (VA) Secretary Robert Wilkie met with the Marcus Institute for Behavioral Health on May 3.
- Mark Rentschler and Xinlin Li, from the College of Engineering and Applied Science, and Dan Baker, Director of the Laboratory for Atmospheric and Space Physics, represented CU Boulder at the Coalition for National Science Funding (CNSF) annual exhibition in Washington, DC on May 9. Their participation was supported by CU Boulder's Research and Innovation Office, as well as the Geological Society of America. While they were in DC, Drs. Rentschler and Li met with Colorado Senator Cory Gardner and staff for Colorado Rep. Jared Polis to discuss their research. Dr. Rentschler also joined fellow researchers from across the country for meetings with professional staff for the House and Senate's respective science committees, where the importance of NSF-sponsored research, as well as programs to support student research, were both discussed. Also that day, several CU Boulder graduate students participated in NASA's annual Technology Day on the Hill, which showcases cutting edge space technologies. The students are members of CU Boulder's Earth Escape Explorer (CU-E3) project. CU-E3 is attempting to launch a CubeSat that can communicate beyond Earth orbit at more than 10 times the distance to the Moon. Senior staff from Colorado's congressional delegation attended both events.
- On May 14, Representative Coffman joined CU Anschutz Medical campus Chancellor Don Elliman, Regent Sue Sharkey, and staff from the offices of Representative Coffman and Representative Buck at the Cohen Military Family Clinic opening.
- On May 22, U.S. Department of State Secretary Edmund Ramotowski joined a roundtable discussion at CU Denver.
- On June 14, Chris Fall, Principal Deputy Director of ARPA-E, and nominee for Director of DOE's Office of Science, toured CU Boulder's Renewable & Sustainable Energy Institute (RASEI) and College of Engineering and Applied Science (CEAS) and met with CU Boulder leadership from the Research and Innovation Office, RASEI and CEAS.

- On July 18, CU Boulder Vice Chancellor for Research and Innovation, Terri Fiez, was selected to represent leading research universities at a press roundtable in Washington, D.C. VC Fiez was among ten senior research officers, who in addition to CU, represented Texas A&M, University of Oregon, Rutgers, Vanderbilt, Penn State and several other leading research universities at the event which was sponsored by the Association of American Universities (AAU) and The Science Coalition (TSC). The distinguished panel met with national press for an on-the-record conversation about the benefits of university research to U.S. economic competitiveness.
- National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Director Walter Copan joined a Federal Lab Breakfast at CU Boulder with CU Boulder and Federal Lab partners on June 28.
- Representative Coffman visited the Alzheimer’s Association, Colorado Chapter & Rocky Mountain Alzheimer’s Disease Center (RMADC) on July 2 to learn about the BOLD Infrastructure for Alzheimer’s Act, the Palliative Care and Hospice Education and Training Act (PCHETA), and the MIND Act. He was joined by CU Anschutz Medical Campus Chancellor Don Elliman, CU School of Medicine Dean John Reilly, Jr., RMADC Director Dr. Huntington Potter, as well as representatives from the CU Department of Neurology and the Alzheimer’s Association, Colorado Chapter.
- Representative DeGette visited the CU Anschutz Medical Campus to learn more about the Barbara Davis Center and the Center for Women’s Health Research, and the Colorado Clinical & Translational Sciences Institute (CCTSI). CU Anschutz Medical Campus Chancellor Don Elliman, CU School of Medicine Dean John Reilly, Jr., and Robert Valuck, PhD., were among those who attended the tour on July 2.
- David Sprenger helped to coordinate regent outreach and engagement trips to Grand Junction, Alamosa and Durango to meet with legislators, CU advocates, partner universities and community leaders in August.
- Representative Coffman joined CU Anschutz Medical Campus Chancellor Don Elliman and the Colorado Consortium on Prescription Drug Abuse Prevention for an event on Overdose Awareness Day titled “Prevention, Harm Reduction, & Treatment: How Colorado is Confronting the Opioid Crisis”. The August 31 panel brought together campus leadership, community members, and organizations invested in fighting the battle against prescription drug abuse.
- Congressional candidates Joe Neguse and Peter Wu were hosted on the CU Boulder campus prior to the mid-term elections for meetings with Chancellor Phil DiStefano, Provost Russ Moore and others, to establish good relationships before the election. As follow up, we provided Representative Neguse with advice on strategic committee assignments and connected him with key contacts to help staff his Washington, DC office.
- Congressional staff from the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science Staff and the House Science, Space and Technology Committee, Senate Commerce Committee, toured CU Boulder on different dates in August to visit the Boulder National Snow Ice Data Center, and INSTAAR, LASP, CIRES, respectively.
- Senator Bennet attended a roundtable on Weather Change and Health in Colorado on the CU Anschutz Medical Campus on September 14. Colorado School of Public Health Dean Jon Samet, MD, MS served as the moderator. Attendees included experts from the School of Public Health; the Denver Department of Public Health & Environment, City and County of Denver; Grand County Public Health, Home Care, & Senior Nutrition

Services; Department of Atmospheric Science, Colorado State University; Institute of Behavioral Science, University of Colorado Boulder; and the CU Consortium on Climate Change and Health, University of Colorado.

- National Endowment for the Humanities Chairman Jon Parrish Peed met with Provost Russell Moore and the Humanities Faculty on September 18.
- Senator Gardner met with Marshall Thomas, MD, Executive Director and Matt Mishkind, PhD, Executive Director of Operations, both of CU Johnson Depression Center and the Cohen Clinic, along with other top staff at the Steven A. Cohen Military Family Clinic on September 21.

2018 Colorado Capital Conference

The 2018 Colorado Capital Conference was held June 12-14. UCCS Chancellor Venkat Reddy served as the host for the University of Colorado along with our partners U.S. Senators Cory Gardner and Michael Bennet, and Colorado Mesa University. This year, we were pleased to add a third partner, Colorado State University and their host President Tony Frank. 106 participants heard from a number of outstanding speakers including Matt Bai, from Yahoo! News; Senator Lindsey Graham (R-SC); Senator Doug Jones (D-AL); Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-NY); Congresswoman Cheri Bustos (D-IL); and crowd favorite, American Political Consultant, Frank Luntz. Participants attended a lecture at the United States Supreme Court and also participated in a guided tour of the National Memorials, to wrap up the week. If you are interested in attending a future Colorado Capital Conference, please contact Connie Johnson (connie.johnson@cu.edu) for more information.



OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

Office of Government Relations Team



Tanya Kelly-Bowry **Vice President**

Tanya Kelly-Bowry was selected by President Benson and confirmed in October, 2008 by the Board of Regents, as vice president of government relations. She was chosen to lead the university's efforts to increase funding at the state and federal levels. Kelly-Bowry has more than 20 years of advocacy experience, having lobbied on behalf of higher education, human services and health care issues in both Colorado and Washington, D.C. She earned bachelor's degrees in international affairs and political science at CU-Boulder and a master's degree in nonprofit management from Regis University as a Colorado Trust Fellow. Kelly-

Bowry also studied at Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government as a member of the senior executives in state and local government.



Heather Bené **Assistant Vice President of Federal Relations & Outreach**

Heather Bené is the Assistant Vice President of Federal Relations & Outreach for the University of Colorado and represents CU in Washington, DC. Bené specializes in higher education policy, which encompasses issues such as student financial aid, accreditation, campus safety, graduate education, etc. Other policy focuses in her portfolio include immigration, humanities, and the National Institutes of Health (NIH). Bené currently serves as co-chair on immigration issues for the

Association of American Universities' (AAU) Council on Federal Relations (CFR). Previously, Bené worked for eight years in the Government Relations Office at her alma mater Oregon State University (OSU) on state and federal policy and advocacy. Bené managed legislative affairs for Oregon's Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC) during the 2014 legislative session and served as administrator to two HECC subcommittees. Bené has a master of public policy degree from OSU. Her graduate thesis analyzed university student voting behavior over six diverse election cycles. She also has bachelor of arts degrees from OSU in English and Political Science. As an undergraduate, Bené was recognized as student employee of the year by both OSU and the State of Oregon. She is the recipient of numerous scholastic awards for academic excellence, most notably the Waldo-Cummings Outstanding Student Award and the Oregon Laurels Graduate Scholarship.



Natalie Ellis **Executive Assistant of Federal Relations**

Natalie Ellis is the Executive Assistant of Federal Relations. She supports a broad range of administrative, research, writing, and analytical duties that are designed to support CU's federal relations efforts. She prepares and sends out the quarterly Government Relations department newsletter. She also works closely with each congressional office to schedule Hill visits and assists with constituent requests

regarding issues on campus. Natalie helps plan and coordinate federal events on CU campuses. Additionally, she makes travel arrangements, drafts correspondence, and prepares department expense system reports. Natalie has a Bachelor of Arts in Communications from University of Nevada, Las Vegas.



Connie Johnson
Chief of Staff

In 2007, Connie Johnson joined the Office of Government Relations as the Senior Policy Analyst and Assistant Director. She is responsible for managing the day-to-day office operations, managing the department's budget and website, providing support to the Vice President and supporting state and federal activities. She monitors the healthcare legislation during the State session, and coordinates the Colorado Capital Conference for CU. Prior to CU, Connie served for over 18 years in higher education in Washington State. She has a B.S. in Accounting from Central Washington University, a Master of Public Administration from the Daniel J. Evans School of Public Affairs at the University of Washington, and was a fellow in the 2008 CU Emerging Leaders Program.



Allison Kohn
Assistant Director of State Relations and Policy Analysis

Allison Kohn is the Assistant Director of State Relations and Policy Analysis. She is responsible for analyzing and tracking legislation during the state session, as well as preparing fact sheets for use with legislators. She also organizes state legislator tours and events and works with state legislative offices on constituent issues. Additionally, helps prepare correspondence and updates to the university community on legislation. She assists the lobby team with coverage of committee hearings and stakeholder meetings. Allison previously worked as the State Scheduler in the Denver office for U.S. Senator Cory Gardner. She has a Master's in Public Policy from the University of Denver. She has a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and a Bachelor of Science in Journalism from the University of Kansas.



Angela Rennick
Executive Assistant of State Relations

Angela Rennick is the Executive Assistant for State Relations. She supports a broad range of administrative duties that are designed to support CU's state relations efforts. She also assists with the state legislative session by drafting and updating legislator biographies, running reports on legislation being tracked, filing lobby reports and assisting with research requests. Angela has a Bachelor of Arts in International Studies from Colorado State University and a Master in Public Administration from the University of Colorado Denver School of Public Affairs.



Heather Retzko
Assistant Vice President of State Relations

Heather Retzko is the Assistant Vice President of State Relations. She serves all four institutions in the CU system by lobbying many pieces of legislation affecting CU. She also takes special interest in CU's issues related to Title IX, research, academic programs and administration. Heather annually staffs the Colorado Capital Conference in Washington DC. Heather worked in the office as a student assistant for three years. She also served as Executive Assistant to our state and federal lobbyists, and Special Assistant to the Executive Director and Policy Analyst of State Relations. She has a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from the University of Colorado at Boulder and a Master in Public Administration from the University of Colorado Denver School of Public Affairs. In FY 2012, Heather was a fellow in the CU Emerging Leaders Program.



David Sprenger
Associate Vice President of Federal & Corporate Relations

David Sprenger, Associate Vice President of Federal & Corporate Relations, brings over fifteen years of firsthand professional experience in Washington, D.C. from both Capitol Hill and as a seasoned lobbyist prior to relocating to Colorado in 2017. David has extensive policy and political strategy knowledge having represented a wide variety of organizations. He has expanded the presence of the University of Colorado by developing strong and effective relationships with legislative staff, professional organizations, industry, and key advocacy groups. David supports the University of Colorado at both the system and campus levels both in federal affairs and as a corporate engagement officer for UCCS, CU Denver, and CU South Denver. David is highly motivated and engages efforts on behalf of the university to develop and pursue creative, effective and tailored solutions to fit the university's advocacy objectives. He brings a solid track record of close collaboration, project management, advancing exciting initiatives and delivering measurable successes. David, a Colorado native, holds a Masters in Public Policy from George Mason University and a Bachelor degree in Political Science and History from Regis University. In his free time, David enjoys traveling with his wife, Katie and finding time to fly fish the Rocky Mountain West.



Kent Springfield
Associate Vice President of Federal Policy

Kent serves as Associate VP of Federal Policy. He is the lead on all federal issues for the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus and the University of Colorado Hospital. Kent represents Anschutz and UCH on issues including biomedical and healthcare research funding and policy, student financial aid, healthcare workforce issues, and healthcare delivery. He represents the University of Colorado System on issues related to intellectual property. Kent is active in the AAMC Government Relations Representatives, the AAU Council on Federal Relations, the AAHC Steering Committee and the American Association of Cancer Institutes. Kent serves at the Biomedical Task Force lead for the APLU Council on Governmental Affairs. Prior to joining the University of Colorado, he spent five years as the Director of Government Relations for the

George Washington University. He has a Bachelor of Arts in Political Communications and Master of Business Administration from GW.



Jack Waldorf

Assistant Vice President of Federal Relations & Outreach

Jack Waldorf serves as Assistant Vice President of Federal Relations & Outreach. Based in Denver, Jack is responsible for federal activities here locally and works with our Washington, DC-based team on federal policy issues impacting the University of Colorado System and its campuses, as well as the hospital. Prior to joining CU, Jack worked in both the United States House of Representatives and the United States Senate serving as a policy advisor for both education and health care issues, and comes to CU with a deep understanding in public policy and the legislative process at the federal level. Jack holds a Bachelor's degree in Political Science from the University of Colorado at Boulder. A Colorado native, Jack enjoys spending time with his wife, enjoying Colorado's outdoors, and cheering on Colorado's sports teams.