

## Summary of 2025 CCI Priority Legislation Voting Position Suggestions

CCI membership will vote on the 2025 legislative agenda during the October 4<sup>th</sup> membership meeting. During the meeting, members will consider the collective political capital and staff resources of CCI for the 2025 legislative agenda. CCI will identify six to eight legislative priorities from the list of proposal below and work with legislators to run bills in alignment with these priorities. A 65% vote is required for priority adoption (1 county = 1 vote).

The table below outlines the suggested voting positions based on staff analysis of the [2025 CCI priority proposals](#), organized by CCI steering committee. Click on the hyperlinked name of each idea to read the full proposal submitted to CCI.

### Positions

- Support – support CCI dedicating staff time to run the bill as priority legislation
- Oppose – do NOT support CCI running the bill as priority legislation
- Abstain – not taking a position
- N/A – does not apply to Arapahoe County, therefore no need for position

LEGISLATIVE PRIORITY	POSITION	REASONING/IMPACT
<b>Agriculture, Wildlife, &amp; Rural Affairs</b>		
<a href="#">Treatment of Agriculture land in Urban Renewal Authorities (Larimer County)</a>	Support	Closes a statutory loophole that allows agricultural land to be moved from an existing TIF district into a newly created TIF district, restarting the 25-year TIF Clock. This would allow counties to more easily recoup TIF tax revenue they are owed by ensuring said revenue cannot be further diverted by moving ag land from one URA to another.
<b>General Government</b>		
<a href="#">Flexibility to decrease county salaries (Delores County)</a>	N/A	Does not apply to Arapahoe County as we are in a separate salary category within CRS 30-2-102. Applies to smaller counties and provides flexibility in determining elected official salaries.
<a href="#">Eliminate fee on paper carryout bags (El Paso County)</a>	Oppose	Appears to address a problem unique to El Paso County. Our finance department is neutral on this proposal, as we collect very little revenue from plastic and paper bag fees.

Health & Human Services		
<p><a href="#"><u>Retail food establishment fees (Eagle County)</u></a></p>	<p>Support</p>	<p>Public Health is recommending support of option two: Remove restaurant inspection fees setting authority from the state legislature and place this authority with the state Board of Health. Would help keep fees in line with inflation. There is a companion bill being advanced through CRA/CALPHO regarding updating fees; this proposal is complimentary to address the inspection fee process moving forward.</p>
Justice & Public Safety		
<p><a href="#"><u>Minimum sentencing for child prostitution offenses (Douglas County)</u></a></p>	<p>Support</p>	<p>Requires a mandatory minimum period of imprisonment for persons convicted of an offense related to child prostitution. Bill would resemble HB24-1092, which was Pl'd.</p> <p>Public defenders were opposed to 1092, as the bill did not afford an affirmative defense to traffickers who were also victims of human trafficking themselves.</p> <p>Our Sheriff's Office testified in favor of 1092 last year. County Attorney's Office does not see any significant issues with this bill.</p>
<p><a href="#"><u>Responsibilities of employer in civil judgements for civil rights violations (Fremont County)</u></a></p>	<p>Support</p>	<p>Mitigates insurance/claim risk for the County. Clarifies that no employer or insurance indemnification is required, nor does the employer or insurance company have to satisfy any judgment or settlement, for criminal conduct of the peace officer, regardless of whether a civil judgment for civil rights violation is collectible from the peace officer.</p>

<a href="#">County courthouse funding (El Paso County)</a>	Support	<p>Counties are responsible for courthouses, but the state determines how many judges are housed within our courthouses. This causes space issues and requires funding for additions/renovations and other construction projects. States should have some responsibility in providing funding for these courthouse capital costs as state employees primarily occupy these buildings. Given our own courtroom space and funding challenges, recommending we support this bill.</p>
<b>Land Use &amp; Natural Resources</b>		
<a href="#">Improvements to water sampling for impaired stream segments (Mesa County)</a>	Support	<p>Ensures that CDPHE is equipped with accurate and up-to-date scientific data to support the Total Maximum Daily Loads enforcement program.</p>
<b>Taxation &amp; Finance</b>		
<a href="#">Increase cap of county lodging tax (La Plata County)</a>	N/A	<p>Expands county authority to raise lodging taxes from 2% up to 6% to keep counties in line with municipalities. Arapahoe County does not currently have a lodging tax, so the proposal does not apply. Generally, mirroring municipal authority for revenue generation is supported, but lodging tax could fit within the Clear Creek/Summit County revenue diversification proposal. Recommending deeper support for the revenue diversification proposal over this one.</p>
<a href="#">Electric vehicle charging station tax collection (Yuma County)</a>	Abstain/ Oppose	<p>This proposal has tradeoffs. Imposing a tax at EV charging stations would increase revenue for road maintenance to account for dwindling gas tax revenue but could also disincentivize further adoption of EVs.</p>

<p><a href="#"><u>County revenue diversification (Clear Creek &amp; Summit Counties)</u></a></p>	<p>Support</p>	<p>Expands county authority to tailor taxes in similar fashion to municipalities to meet unique needs (resort vs. industry vs. agricultural economies). Would allow counties to adopt and collect occupational tax, sales tax only in unincorporated areas, and business licensing fees. Permissive and requires local voter approval. This would potentially help increase our revenue. Finance Department says that sales tax proposal would be a beneficial adjustment. Occupational tax and business licensing fees would require the County to incur some costs to administrate and collect revenue, so would negate some of the positive revenue impact.</p>
<p><a href="#"><u>Property Tax Proceedings (Eagle County)</u></a></p>	<p>Support</p>	<p>Assessor’s Office says tax appeal process could benefit from some ideas in this proposal. Petitioners are not currently held to the same standard as county appraisers and often lead to less than optimal outcomes. Additionally, tax agents do not file in a timely manner. County Attorney’s Office agrees that this proposal could help curb perverse incentives and better regulate conduct of tax agents, who are currently not required to be licensed.</p>
<p><a href="#"><u>Ability for local governments to implement a Real Estate Transfer Tax with voter approval (Pitkin County)</u></a></p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>This proposal would provide an optional Real Estate Transfer Tax (RETT) contingent on voter approval. Not likely to benefit Arapahoe but could be a boon to smaller resort counties to support affordable housing. Would require TABOR to be amended. Proposal calls for a statewide ballot measure in 2025 to allow local RETTs, but might be better to push back until 2026.</p>

<p><a href="#">Construction defect reform (El Paso County)</a></p>	<p>Abstain</p>	<p>Limited <a href="#">evidence</a> to suggest construction defect laws are responsible for lack of affordable housing. Questions around how the right to remedy for builders will be structured and how the rights of homeowners are impacted.</p> <p>Based on last year’s conversations and given that we don’t know what specific language will be in the bill until the start of session, recommending we engage strategically with this issue and abstain for now.</p>
<p><a href="#">Tax credit incentives for Sustainable Aviation Fuel (Pitkin County)</a></p>	<p>Abstain</p>	<p>Create legislation, or amendments to existing legislation, which would provide more robust tax credit incentives for the production/consumption of Sustainable Aviation Fuel designed to be competitive with other states. Recommending Abstain, as CCI may not be the best avenue for this bill.</p>
<p><b>Transportation &amp; Telecommunications</b></p>		
<p><a href="#">Permissive authority to collect roadway maintenance fee</a></p>	<p>Support</p>	<p>It’s our CCI priority.</p>
<p><a href="#">Create additional Transportation Planning Region (Las Animas County)</a></p>	<p>Abstain</p>	<p>Would increase TPRs from 15 to 16. Recommending we spend our political capital elsewhere and abstain. Seem to be a larger issue.</p>
<p><a href="#">Redistribute HUTF funding tiers (Yuma and Elbert Counties)</a></p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>Would remove tier 2 and enable the HUTF funds in the current Tier 3 to be distributed to all counties. This would limit the amount of HUTF Arapahoe County receives.</p>
<p><a href="#">Responsibility for railroad maintenance projects (Logan County)</a></p>	<p>Support</p>	<p>Impacts us if our railroad crossings need future repair or upgrades. This proposal would make sure we are not being required to help railroads pay for their maintenance and upgrades.</p>