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Arapahoe County

Board Summary Report

File #: 24-058 **Agenda Date:** 3/5/2024 **Agenda #:**

To: Board of County Commissioners

Through: Michelle Halstead, Director, Commissioners' Office

Prepared By:
Cody O'Brien, Management Analyst I, Commissioners' Office

Presenter: Ed Bowditch and Jennifer Cassell, Bowditch and Cassell Public Affairs

Subject:
1:00 PM *Legislative Update

Purpose and Request:
The purpose of this meeting is to provide information on the status of Colorado's state legislative session, including potential impacts to Arapahoe County, and seek Board direction on legislative positions or specific advocacy activities.

Background and Discussion: As a constitutional subdivision of Colorado state government, Arapahoe County can only exercise those powers specifically expressed in statute or in the constitution. Arapahoe County contracts with Bowditch and Cassell Public Affairs for state advocacy activities. The Director of the Commissioners' Office coordinates federal and state intergovernmental relations, in partnership with the Director of Human Services, the County Attorney, the Director of Community Resources, the Director of Public Works and Development, and the Director of Public Health (staff legislative team).

Staff reviews proposed legislation through the lens of operational and fiscal impacts to the county, in the context of the County's legislative guide (attached for reference).

This week, the lobbyist team will provide updates on the following bills that could impact Arapahoe County as well as other topics deemed appropriate:

Housing/Land Use
- HB24-1304, Minimums Parking Requirements

Energy & Environment
- SB24-159, Mod to Energy & Carbon Management Process

General Government
- HB24-1280, Welcome, Reception, & Integration Grant Program
- HB24-1260, Prohibition Against Employee Discipline

- SB24-139, Creation of 911 Services Enterprise

Additionally, the lobbyist and staff legislative team will provide updates on the following bills and topics:

- SB24-106, Right to Remedy Construction Defects
- HB24-1235, Reduce Aviation Impacts on Communities
- Testimony on HB24-1266, Local Government Utility Relocation in Right-of-Way
- Strategic Growth Bills
  - State Support for Sustainable Affordable Housing bill (Kirkmeyer, Zenzinger, Bird, Pugliese, Bridges)
  - Sustainability Local Government Community Planning (Froelich, Brown)
- Race Equity and Equity in the Child Welfare System
- HB24-1229, Presumptive Eligibility for Long Term Care

Please note that this report was amended on Friday in advance of the Legislative Update as information became available.

Fiscal Impact: Please refer to the attached 2024 Internal Legislative Report.

Alternatives: The Board could decide to not move forward with staff recommendations.

Alignment with Strategic Plan:

☒Be fiscally sustainable
☒Provide essential and mandated service
☒Be community focused

Staff Recommendation: Please refer to the attached reference documents.

Concurrence: The staff legislative team will be in attendance to answer questions as needed.