



Colorado  
Legislative  
Council  
Staff

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MEMORANDUM

May 4, 2012

**TO:** Members of the Legislative Council Committee

**FROM:** Christie Lee, Research Associate, 303-866-2756;  
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**SUBJECT:** Prioritization of Interim Study Proposals

The Legislative Council serves as the committee of reference for all bills and joint resolutions that create or authorize interim studies or that allocate additional legislative staff resources during the interim.

The legislature is budgeted with resources to support five interim committees during the 2012 interim. However, two interim studies authorized during the 2011 legislative session will carry on through FY 2012-13. These multi-year studies were authorized by Senate Bill 11-111 (Educational Success Task Force) and Senate Bill 11-200 (Legislative Health Benefit Exchange Implementation Review Committee). As a result, funding is available in FY 2012-13 for three additional interim committees or task forces that require legislative staff support. The following page lists the current Legislative Service Agency Committees and Table 1 shows the Ongoing Statutory Committees.

Table 2 lists six bills currently making their way through the legislative process that could or have been referred to the Legislative Council Committee. As of Friday, May 4, 2012, three of these bills have been referred and three bills have yet to be referred. The Legislative Council Committee will review any referred bills at its **May 4, 2012, meeting at 8:00 a.m., in House Committee Room 0112**. Of the six bills, four bills would need to be prioritized as interim studies. Table 2 includes the enacting legislation of each study, along with a summary of each study and its repeal date.

The following committees and studies are authorized for the 2012 interim.

**Legislative Service Agency Committees**

- Legislative Council/Executive Committee (Section 2-3-301, C.R.S.)
- Joint Budget Committee (Section 2-3-201, C.R.S.)
- Committee on Legal Services (Section 2-3-502, C.R.S.)
- Legislative Audit Committee (Section 2-3-101, C.R.S.)

**Table 1**  
**Ongoing Statutory Committees**

Committee	Citation	Repeal
Capital Development Committee (CDC)	Section 2-3-1302, C.R.S.	July 1, 2014 (Section 2-3-1308, C.R.S.)
Capitol Building Advisory Committee	Section 24-82-108, C.R.S.	The section of law that requires the advisory committee to review, advise, and make recommendations to the CDC regarding fund-raising efforts for the repair of the state capitol dome repeals July 1, 2012.
Transportation Legislation Review Committee	Section 43-2-145, C.R.S.	N/A
Police Officers' and Firefighters' Pension Reform Commission	Section 31-31-1001, C.R.S.	N/A
Water Resources Review Committee	Section 37-98-102, C.R.S.	N/A
Study of the Mentally Ill in the Criminal Justice System	Section 18-1.9-103, C.R.S.	January 15, 2015
Educational Success Task Force	Section 22-7-1101, C.R.S.	July 1, 2013
Legislative Health Benefit Exchange Implementation Review Committee	Section 10-22-107, C.R.S.	N/A

**Table 2**  
**Bills Assigned or Expected to be Assigned to the Legislative Council Committee**

Bill Number	Short Title	Summary	Repeal	Status
<b>Bills Requesting to be Funded as an Interim Study</b>				
<b>House Bill 12-1218</b> <i>Representative Peniston</i> <i>Senator Hudak</i>	Early Childhood & School Readiness Commission	<p>Continues the Early Childhood and School Readiness Legislative Commission. The commission was created by House Bill 09-1343 to examine issues related to school readiness and early childhood education, including: health care; mental health; parental involvement; family support; and early learning. The commission consists of 10 members, 5 of whom are Senators and 5 of whom are Representatives. The commission has previously operated without staff support from the legislative service agencies, and members have served without compensation or reimbursement. Under current law, the commission is scheduled to expire on July 1, 2012.</p> <p><b>Staffing:</b> The Legislative Council Staff and the Office of Legislative Legal Services are required provide staff support to the committee.</p>	July 1, 2015	Senate Legislative Council
<b>Senate Bill 12-083</b> <i>Senator Scheffel</i> <i>Representative DelGrosso</i>	Dynamic Modeling for Fiscal Impact of Bills	<p>Creates the Dynamic Model Advisory Committee to: conduct research on the dynamic models available to the state; analyze the dynamic models used in other states; assess the availability of data for the state and local governments to be used with the dynamic model; identify any issues related to using a dynamic model to analyze the direct and indirect or secondary economic effects of bills; estimate the annual costs of using the dynamic model to analyze bills making a tax policy change and for all bills; and make recommendations regarding the acquisition and use of a dynamic model. The committee consists of four members, including representatives of Legislative Council Staff, the Office of State Planning and Budgeting, and two economists. The committee must submit a status report to the Executive Committee of the Legislative Council by September 1, 2012, and a final report by January 31, 2013.</p> <p><b>Staffing:</b> The Legislative Council Staff and the Office of Legislative Legal Services are required to provide staff support to the committee. The committee is authorized to accept gifts, grants, or donations from private or public sources to fund the committee's costs, including staffing costs.</p>	July 1, 2013	Senate Appropriations

**Table 2  
Bills Assigned or Expected to be Assigned to the Legislative Council Committee (Cont.)**

Bill Number	Short Title	Summary	Repeal	Status
<b>Bills Requesting to be Funded as an Interim Study</b>				
<b>Senate Bill 12-086</b> <i>Senator Cadman</i> <i>Representative Szabo</i>	Study Cost of Regulatory Compliance	<p>Creates a legislatively appointed task force to study the cost of regulatory compliance for businesses in Colorado. The task force consists of nine non-legislative members including representatives from private industry, academia, small or medium business, research and advocacy groups, individuals with expertise in the cost of regulatory compliance, and a Colorado citizen. The task force is required to review the state's regulatory system and determine the annual cost of compliance by businesses in the state. The task force must make a written interim report to the General Assembly by August 6, 2014.</p> <p><b>Staffing:</b> The bill specifies that Legislative Council Staff, the Office of Legislative Legal Services, and the State Auditor may supply staff assistance as deemed appropriate within existing appropriations. If staff assistance is not available within existing appropriations, the staff assistance may only be supplied if money becomes available to the Legislative Department Cash Fund through gifts, grants, or donations from the private sector. In addition, the task force may accept staff support from the private sector.</p>	Sept. 1, 2015	House Legislative Council
<b>House Bill 12-1352</b> <i>Representative Gardner</i> <i>and Representative Gerou</i> <i>Senator Cadman</i>	Lower North Fork Wildfire Commission	<p>Creates the Lower North Fork Wildfire Commission to develop recommendations for the compensation of individuals who suffered personal or property damage or loss of life as a result of the Lower North Fork Wildfire. The committee consists of six members, including the chairs of the Judiciary Committees, one minority-party member from each Judiciary Committee, the State Treasurer, and the Executive Director of the Colorado Department of Public Safety.</p> <p><b>Staffing:</b> Any staff assistance must be performed by existing employees of the legislative staff agencies or the Department of Treasury or the Department of Public Safety within existing appropriations.</p>	July 1, 2014	Senate State Veterans and Military Affairs

Table 2  
Bills Assigned or Expected to be Assigned to the Legislative Council Committee (Cont.)

Bill Number	Short Title	Summary	Repeal	Status
<b>Other Bills</b>				
<p><b>House Bill 12-1099</b> Representative McKinley Senator Tochtrop and Senator Williams</p>	<p>Pilot Project for Hemp Remediation Pilot Program</p>	<p>Creates the Industrial Hemp Remediation Pilot Program Committee to oversee a pilot program of how contaminated soils and water can be cleaned through the growth of industrial hemp. The committee is required to: design the pilot program; solicit funding; select a secure, indoor growing site; and complete a final report for the Executive Director of the Department of Public Health and Environment after the conclusion of the pilot program. The committee consists of seven members who are appointed jointly by the chair of the House Agriculture, Livestock, and Natural Resources Committee and the Senate Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Energy Committee.</p> <p><b>Staffing:</b> The bill does not specify who would staff the committee.</p>	<p>July 1, 2022</p>	<p>Senate Legislative Council</p>
<p><b>House Bill 12-1278</b> Representative Fischer</p>	<p>South Platte Groundwater Study Augmentation</p>	<p>Requires the Colorado Water Conservation Board, in consultation with the State Engineer and the Colorado Water Institute, to conduct a comprehensive study to compile and evaluate available historical hydrologic data in the South Platte River Basin. The bill directs the board to contract with the Colorado Water Institute, which will conduct the study independently. The results of the study must be reported to the General Assembly by December 31, 2013.</p> <p><b>Staffing:</b> The study will be completed by the Colorado Water Institute.</p>	<p>Dec. 31, 2013</p>	<p>House Second Reading</p>