



COLORADO

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

District 1 - John Justman 970-244-1605
 District 2 - Scott McInnis 970-244-1604
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April 22, 2015

House Local Government Committee
 Rep. Rhonda Fields, Chair
 Rep. Steve Lebsock, Vice-Chair
 Colorado State Capitol
 200 East Colfax
 Denver CO 80203

RE: SB15-207

Dear Chairwoman Fields, Vice Chairman Lebsock, and distinguished committee members,

Mesa County supports SB15-207, the measure to allow the state to enter into a lease-purchase agreement for the refinancing of the Colorado Bureau of Investigation building and forensic laboratory located in Grand Junction.

The Mesa County Board of Commissioners believes it makes sense for the financing of this facility to be handled by the State Treasurer. The special purpose entity created and established as an economic development tool to issue the initial \$12,665,000 in start-up bonds has served its purpose. Allowing the State Treasurer to enter into a refinancing agreement will relieve the local entity of the burden of administering this note, and, as demonstrated in the Fiscal Note, will save the state money. The savings to the General Fund from reduced lease payments alone is estimated to be roughly \$85,000 in FY 2015-16, and \$85,850 in FY 2016-17.

The Grand Junction CBI facility provides a critical public safety service to much of the Western Slope, and furnishes a crucial forensic and investigative support role to our local law enforcement agencies, including the Mesa County Sheriff's Office. We wish to see this facility continue to provide the citizens of our county as well as the State with this essential, core government service, and we believe that refinancing through the State Treasurer's office is not only appropriate, but a key step in ensuring financial viability of the facility long into the future. We strongly support this bill, and ask the House Local Government Committee to approve it.

Respectfully,
 Mesa County Board of Commissioners

Rose Pugliese, Chair
 Board of Commissioners

John Justman
 Commissioner

Scott McInnis
 Commissioner

cc: Senator Ray Scott
 Representative Yeulin Willett
 Representative Dan Thurlow
 State of Colorado Treasurer Walker Stapleton