



Colorado
Legislative
Council
Staff

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MEMORANDUM

February 13, 2009

TO: Members of the Legislative Council

FROM: Legislative Council Staff

SUBJECT: Legislative Council Planning for 2009

As a new legislative session gets underway, this memorandum seeks to provide both background and a preview of the Legislative Council year ahead. The Legislative Council must meet at least once quarterly during the calendar year, but may meet as often as it deems necessary. The following Legislative Council work plan for 2009 sets forth proposed quarterly meetings and agenda items based on statutory requirements and Legislative Council rules. In addition, it indicates potential items that may require Legislative Council action at different points throughout the year.

Proposed Legislative Council Calendar

Friday, February 13, 2009

- ***Election of chair and vice-chair.*** The Council elects a chair and vice-chair annually from among its membership (*Section 2-3-302, C.R.S.*).
- ***Review of the Legislative Council Staff budget.*** In its role as the oversight committee for the Legislative Council Staff, the Legislative Council reviews and approves the staff budget for the upcoming fiscal year. The Legislative Council's review typically takes place in January so that the legislative budget bill can be introduced in February. After review by the Legislative Council, the staff's budget is submitted to the Executive Committee, along with the budget requests of the House and Senate and other staff agencies, for its approval. The Executive Committee prepares and introduces the legislative appropriation bill each year.

Week of April 20, 2009

- **Review and prioritization for the interim process.** The Legislative Council reviews and prioritizes interim study committees each spring, with the Executive Committee authorized to create any additional study committees after adjournment of the legislative session. Any bill or resolution that creates a committee, commission, or task force that operates during the interim and requires funding from the legislative budget or legislative staff resources must be sent from the committee of reference to the Legislative Council for review and prioritization (*Section 2-3-303.3, C.R.S.*).

Thursday, September 3, 2009

- **Review of ballot information booklet.** Following preparation of the ballot information booklet by Legislative Council Staff each summer, the Legislative Council is directed to review the booklet at a public hearing (*Section 2-3-303 (1)(g), C.R.S.*). In addition to the statutory and constitutional provisions requiring the Legislative Council Staff to prepare and distribute the booklet to all registered voter households in the state, the Legislative Council has adopted its own rule regarding preparation, approval, and distribution of the ballot booklet (*Legislative Council Rule XIV*).

Friday, November 13, 2009

- **Review of interim committee recommendations.** The Legislative Council has responsibility for approving bills recommended by interim committees each fall (*Section 2-3-303 (1)(f), C.R.S.*). Joint Rule 24 (b) (1) (D) requires that the Legislative Council approve interim committee bills no later than November 15 in odd-numbered years.

Other Potential Legislative Council Action Items

- **Review of State Implementation Plans (SIPs).** The Legislative Council is required to review modifications to State Implementation Plans (SIPs) if a member of the General Assembly submits a written request for such a review to the chair of the Legislative Council (*Section 25-7-133, C.R.S.*). By January 15 of each year, the Air Quality Control Commission's proposed modifications to SIPs must be submitted to the chair of the Legislative Council (and made available to all members of the General Assembly). Copies of the proposed modifications are available from Legislative Council Staff. **In order for a SIP modification to be on the**

Legislative Council agenda, a member of the General Assembly must submit a request for Legislative Council review by February 15. Once a request is submitted, the chair of the Legislative Council must schedule a hearing to conduct the review. The purpose of the Legislative Council review is to determine whether the SIP modification accomplishes the results intended by law.