

UPDATED: March 2, 2020

UVC State Legislation Watch

This Week's Big Picture by Dan Jablan, UVC Lobbyist

As reported by local and national news outlets, the major Colorado legislative action this past week was passage by both chambers of SB20-100 Repeal the Death Penalty. The bill is now headed to the Governor's desk for likely signature. The Electronic Vehicle (EV) bill passed the Senate, with an amendment that made the auto dealers neutral. It should get through the House without too much trouble. The big news at the Capitol is the expected introduction of the Governor's bill for a public health option. With the budget Long Bill - which will be debated in March - and the public health option, the next couple of weeks should be full of drama.

The UVC is now tracking 13 bills with one position still "pending." The UVC Executive Committee, at their Feb. 25 meeting, voted to take Support position on seven additional introduced bills for a total of 12 bills supported. There currently are no "oppose" or "monitor" positions on introduced bills.

This past week (Feb. 24-28) the number of introduced bills grew from 490 to 549. Two bills - SB20-178 Woman Veteran Disability License Plate and SB20-022 Increase Medical Providers for Senior Citizens - were added to "Bills Directly Impacting Veterans/Military." HB20-1329 Department SMART Act Report Unfunded Programs was added to the "may impact" list.

Any action updates from the past week are in green.

To read the full bills go to: <https://leg.colorado.gov> Click on "Bills".

Bills Directly Impacting Veterans/Military

HB20-1051

Identification of Veteran Remains for Proper Military Burial

Concerning final disposition of the abandoned cremated remains of persons eligible for interment in a national cemetery.

Last Action: 02/25/2020 | Senate Third Reading Passed - No Amendments

Sponsors: [Rep. J. Rich](#) | [Rep. M. Duran](#) | [Sen. R. Scott](#) | [Sen. L. Crowder](#)

Session:
2020 Regular Session

UVC Position:
SUPPORT
Jan 21, 2020 Executive Cmte.

Subject: Military & Veterans

HB20-1190

Disabled Veteran Registration Fees and Ownership Tax

Concerning clarifying whether a veteran with a disability needs to obtain a disabled veteran license plate to qualify for the current exemption from paying vehicle assessments.

Last Action: 02/24/2020 | House Committee on Finance **Refer Amended to Appropriations**

Sponsors: [Rep. D. Valdez](#) | [Rep. L. Landgraf](#)

Session:
2020 Regular Session

UVC Position:
SUPPORT
Feb. 25, 2020 Executive Cmte.

Subjects: Military & Veterans; Transportation & Motor Vehicles

HB20-1220

Veterans Community Living Center Services Assessment

Concerning a statewide needs assessment of services provided by veteran's community living centers.

Last Action: 02/25/2020 | House Committee on State, Veterans, & Military Affairs **Refer Amended to Appropriations**

Sponsors: [Rep. M. Snyder](#) | [Rep. T. Carver](#) | [Sen. P. Lee](#)

Session:
2020 Regular Session

UVC Position:
SUPPORT
Feb. 25, 2020 Executive Cmte.

Subjects: Human Services; Military & Veterans

HB20-1222

Veterans Hiring Preference

Concerning the authority of a private employer to adopt a veteran's preference employment policy when hiring new employees.

Last Action: 01/31/2020 | Introduced in House - Assigned to State, Veterans, & Military Affairs

Sponsors: [Rep. T. Carver](#) | [Sen. D. Hisey](#) | [Sen. N. Todd](#)

UPDATED: March 2, 2020

Session: 2020 Regular

UVC Position:

SUPPORT

Feb. 25, 2020 Executive Cmte.

Subject: Labor & Employment

HB20-1275

[In-state Tuition at Community College for Military](#)

Concerning providing in-state tuition status at a community college for military families regardless of whether Colorado domicile status is satisfied.

Last Action: 02/27/2020 | [House Third Reading Passed](#) - No Amendments

Sponsors: [Rep. B. Buentello](#) | [Sen. D. Hisey](#)

Session:

2020 Regular Session

UVC Position:

SUPPORT

Feb. 25, 2020 Executive Cmte.

Subject: Higher Education

SB20-022

[Increase Medical Providers for Senior Citizens](#)

Concerning modifications to the Colorado health service corps program administered by the department of public health and environment to expand the availability of geriatric care providers in shortage areas in the state.

Last Action: 01/30/2020 | Senate Committee on Health & Human Services [Refer Unamended to Appropriations](#)

Session:

2020 Regular Session

UVC Position:

SUPPORT

Feb. 25, 2020 Executive Cmte.

Sponsors: [Sen. J. Danielson](#) | [Rep. B. Titone](#) | [Rep. M. Duran](#)

SB20-041

[National Guard Parks and Wildlife Benefits](#)

Concerning parks passes for active members of the National Guard.

UPDATED: March 2, 2020

Last Action: 01/22/2020 | Senate Committee on State, Veterans, & Military Affairs Refer Unamended to Appropriations

Sponsors: [Sen. J. Cooke](#) | [Rep. S. Beckman](#)

Session:
2020 Regular Session

UVC Position: j
SUPPORT
Feb. 25, 2020 Executive Cmte.

Subjects: Military & Veterans; Natural Resources & Environment

SB20-069

[Disabled Veterans Free State Park Access](#)

Concerning the documentation required for a disabled veteran to receive a free transferable annual park pass.

Last Action: 02/21/2020 | [House Third Reading Passed - No Amendments](#)

Sponsors: [Sen. L. Garcia](#)

Session:
2020 Regular Session

UVC Position:
SUPPORT
Jan 21, 2020 Executive Cmte.

Subjects: Military & Veterans; Natural Resources

SB20-082

[Department of Military and Veterans Affairs Awards](#)

Concerning awards issued by the department of military and veterans affairs.

Last Action: 02/28/2020 | House Second Reading Special Order - [Passed - No Amendments](#)

Sponsors: [Sen. D. Hisey](#) | [Sen. N. Todd](#) | [Rep. L. Landgraf](#) | [Rep. S. Lontine](#)

Session:
2020 Regular Session

UVC Position:
SUPPORT
Jan 21, 2020 Executive Cmte.

Subject: Military & Veterans

SB20-091

[Minimum Pay for State Military Forces](#)

UPDATED: March 2, 2020

Concerning increasing the minimum pay for state military forces called into service by the governor.

Last Action: 02/28/2020 | House Second Reading Special Order - [Passed - No Amendments](#)

Sponsors: [Sen. R. Zenzinger](#) | [Sen. J. Sonnenberg](#) | [Rep. T. Exum](#)

Session:
2020 Regular Session

UVC Position:
SUPPORT
Jan 21, 2020 Executive Cmte.

Subject: Military & Veterans

SB20-122

[Mobile Veteran Support Unit Grant Program](#)

Concerning establishing a mobile veteran support unit grant program.

Last Action: 02/5/2020 | Senate Committee on State, Veterans, & Military Affairs [Refer Unamended to Appropriations](#)

Sponsors: [Sen. K. Donovan](#)

Session:
2020 Regular Session

UVC Position:
SUPPORT
Feb. 25, 2020 Executive Cmte.

Subject: Military & Veterans

SB20-148

[Property Tax Exemption Value Adjustments](#)

Concerning the amount of actual value of residential real property owned and occupied by a qualifying senior or a qualifying disabled veteran that is partly exempt from property taxation.

Last Action: 02/27/2020 | Senate Committee on Finance [Postpone Indefinitely](#)

Sponsors: [Sen. V. Marble](#) | [Rep. L. Saine](#)

Session:
2020 Regular Session

UVC Position:
SUPPORT
Feb. 25, 2020 Executive Cmte.

Subject: Fiscal Policy & Taxes

SB20-178

[Woman Veteran Disability License Plate](#)

Concerning a license plate to honor women veterans who have disabilities.

Last Action: 02/27/2020 | Senate Committee on Transportation & Energy [Refer Amended to Appropriations](#)

Sponsors: [Sen. R. Zenzinger](#) | [Sen. J. Danielson](#) | [Rep. T. Carver](#) | [Rep. D. Michaelson Jenet](#)

Session:
2020 Regular Session

UVC Position:
PENDING

Subjects: Military & Veterans; Transportation & Motor Vehicles

[Introduced Bills that may Impact Some UVC Goals but are not Directly Related to Veterans, Military](#)

SB20-020

[Reduce the State Income Tax Rate](#)

Concerning a reduction of the state income tax rate.

Last Action: 01/22/2020 | Senate Committee on State, Veterans, & Military Affairs [Postpone Indefinitely](#)

Sponsors: [Sen. J. Sonnenberg](#) | [Rep. R. Pelton](#)

SB20-049

[Senior Property Tax Exemption Medical Necessity](#)

Concerning the preservation of the senior property tax exemption of a senior who changes primary residences due to medical necessity.

Last Action: 01/29/2020 | Senate Committee on State, Veterans, & Military Affairs [Postpone Indefinitely](#)

Sponsors: [Sen. B. Gardner](#) | [Rep. T. Carver](#) | [Rep. S. Beckman](#)

SB20-161

Pretrial Release

Concerning pretrial release, and, in connection therewith, requiring a pretrial release assessment process, an administrative order for immediate pretrial release without monetary conditions, and a pretrial services program.

Last Action: 02/24/2020 | Senate Committee on Judiciary [Refer Amended to Appropriations](#)

Sponsors: [Sen. P. Lee](#) | [Sen. B. Gardner](#) | [Rep. L. Herod](#) | [Rep. M. Soper](#)

HB20-1002

College Credit for Work Experience

Concerning a statewide plan for awarding college credit for work-related experience.

Last Action: 01/28/2020 | House Committee on Education [Refer Amended to Appropriations](#)

Sponsors: [Rep. B. McLachlan](#) | [Rep. M. Baisley](#) | [Sen. R. Zenzinger](#) | [Sen. T. Story](#)

HB20-1017

Substance Use Disorder Treatment in Criminal Justice System

Concerning treatment of individuals with substance use disorders who come into contact with the criminal justice system, and, in connection therewith, making an appropriation.

Last Action: 02/12/2020 | House Committee on Public Health Care & Human Services [Refer Amended to Appropriations](#)

Sponsors: [Rep. L. Herod](#) | [Rep. C. Kennedy](#) | [Sen. K. Donovan](#) | [Sen. K. Priola](#)

HB20-1169

Prohibit Discrimination Labor Union Participation

Concerning the prohibition of discrimination against employees based on labor union participation.

Last Action: 02/25/2020 | House Committee on State, Veterans, & Military Affairs [Postpone Indefinitely](#)

Sponsors: [Rep. K. Ransom](#) | [Rep. P. Neville](#) | [Sen. B. Gardner](#) | [Sen. V. Marble](#)

UPDATED: March 2, 2020

HB20-1329

[Department SMART Act Report Unfunded Programs](#)

Concerning a departmental report to the general assembly about unfunded programs that have not received any money for at least six fiscal years.

Last Action: 02/25/2020 | [Introduced in House - Assigned to State, Veterans, & Military Affairs](#)

Sponsors: [Rep. C. Kipp](#) | [Rep. L. Saine](#) | [Sen. N. Todd](#) | [Sen. P. Lundeen](#) 7