

Representative Lois Court 2014 Bill and HCR Synopsis

HCR14-1002 – This was my attempt this year to refer a measure to the voters to change the threshold for constitutional versus statutory change. We passed it out of the House, but it was defeated in the Senate. I will continue to work on this next session if I'm re-elected this fall.

HB14-1269 – I was the prime co-sponsor with Rep. Angela Williams, and Senator Mike Johnston was our Senate sponsor on this bill to help level the playing field for our small businesses versus internet companies. Our bill establishes the presumption that if a company has a nexus in Colorado that already exists in our laws, that company is required to collect and remit sales tax. Previously, the state had to prove that the nexus exists. Now the company will have to prove that it doesn't. This is not a new tax. It is the sales tax that all Coloradan's owe, but which many of us don't pay when we shop on-line because the company from which we're buying doesn't collect it from us. By passing this law, we hope to help our small local businesses compete a little more evenly with on-line retailers. This bill is awaiting the governor's signature.

All the bills listed below passed and have been signed by the governor.

SB14-176 (Johnston-Murray and Court) defined a **chop shop** in statute and made operating or knowingly contributing to a chop shop illegal. Specifically, it made operating a chop shop a Class 4 Felony and contributing to chop shop operations a Class 5 Felony.

- The bill defines a chop shop as any building, lot, facility, or other structure where: 1) person or persons receive, store, or disassemble an illegally obtained car or car part, or 2) where 2 or more illegally obtained vehicles are for sale, alteration, or disposal, or 3) where 6 or more illegally obtained car parts are for sale, alteration, or disposal

SB14-039 (Balmer-McCann and Court) allows emergency medical service providers to provide **emergency veterinary care** in certain circumstances (to be determined by fire district, city, etc), providing the provider has completed the needed training to provide such care.

HB14-1074 (Court and DelGrosso-Johnston) allows **nonprofit organizations** that lease real property to collect, without accruing any tax liability, expenses for the depreciation of the leased property, its long-term maintenance expenses, capital expenses dedicated to refurbishing the property, and expenses incurred to allow the property to conserve energy, water, or other natural resources. This will encourage non-profit organizations that own property to invest in renewable energy.

House Bill 14-1347 (Court-Newell) slightly changes the **timing periods in certain court proceedings** so that proceedings are not required by law to take place on a weekend.