

# Working For You

*Representative Angela Williams*



## **2014 Legislation**

### **Measures Expand Deployment Communication Networks (HB 14-1327)**

This streamlines permitting, construction, modification maintenance and operation of cell towers, fiber-optic lines and other infrastructure. Speedier technology upgrades will have their biggest payoff in rural areas benefitting from increased broadband coverage.

### **Connect Colorado Broadband Act (HB 14-1328)**

This bill reallocates the High Cost Support Mechanism, a subsidy for rural carriers, in areas where increased competition makes it unnecessary. Those subsidies would be repurposed to fund the rural broadband buildout, a major boost for rural Colorado's economic competitiveness with no additional cost to ratepayers.

### **Deregulate Internet Protocol for Emerging Tech Telecom (HB 14-1329)**

This bills which deregulates voice over internet protocol (VoIP) and other advanced telephone services, but preserves the Public Utilities Commission's regulation of the 911 system.

### **Updating Telecommunications Technology Language (HB 14-1330)**

This will update telecommunications terminology and definitions in statute to keep up with the technological changes of the last 20 years.

### **Regulate Basic Local Exchange (HB 14-1331)**

It deregulates basic telephone service but retains the PUC's authority to set maximum rates and to reregulate basic service if the need arises. It also makes substantial reductions in the High Cost Support Mechanism. A portion of the savings are to be passed on to consumers

### **Workers Compensation Physician Choice (HB 14-1383)**

This bill changes the number to 4 providers for an injured employee to choose from when picking a treating physician from that list. In rural areas with between 3 and 9 providers within 30 miles of the place of business, the employer/insurer can instead designate 2 providers.

### **Wine Packaging Permits (HB 14-1034)**

This bill cuts red tape by creating a wine packaging permit to allow wineries to package wine from another manufacturer as long as the federal excise tax has been paid on the wine.

### **Marketplace Fairness and Small Business Protection (HB 14-1269)**

This legislation puts Colorado's brick-and-mortar and small businesses on equal footing with online retailers, and supports job creation in our local communities. HB 14-1269 takes an important step toward ensuring that Colorado's small businesses are competing on a level playing field with large online retailers.

### **Procurement Analysis and Utilization Report (HB 14-1316)**

This bill will have both economic and moral benefits to Colorado. It will investigate the equity with which state contracts have been previously awarded and will take a positive step in ensuring that historically underutilized groups are being utilized going forward.

### **Consumer Goods Service Contracts Regulations Changes (HB 14-1199)**

This bill provides for the limited regulation of consumer goods service contracts, in which a consumer pays a premium for the repair, replacement, or maintenance of, or indemnification for a tangible product with a value of at least \$100.

### **Ask Congress to Restore Voting Rights Act (HJR 14-1009)**

This resolution is requesting that Congress restore the Federal "Voting Rights Act of 1965". This was one of the greatest achievements of the Civil Rights Movement and helped to not only allow equal access at the ballot box, but to also facilitate advancement in other areas of life for minorities across the country.

### **CDOT Training for Flagpersons (SB 14-060)**

This bill authorizes the Colorado Department of Transportation to certify public and private entities in flagperson training.

#### **Insurance Fraud Crime (SB 14-092)**

This bill creates the crime of insurance fraud and identifies fraudulent actions for person applying for insurance or renewal of insurance policies, insurance claimants, agents and brokers. A person who intentionally commits insurance fraud by providing false information on an application for the issuance or renewal of an insurance policy, commits a class 1 misdemeanor. A class 5 felony is committed when a person intentionally commits fraud related to a claim, or an insurance agent or broker commits insurance fraud of any kind.

#### **Palisade Peach State Fruit (HB 14-1304)**

This bill would designate the Palisade peach as the official state fruit of Colorado.

#### **Mandatory Review of State Agency Rules (SB 14-1126)**

This bill codifies and expands upon an existing executive order requiring each agency to periodically review it rules.

#### **Dense Breast Tissue Notification (HB 14-1126)**

Dense breast tissue in women is common, but can make cancer detection difficult. Under the bill, women will receive a notice of their dense breast tissue classification with their mammography report to raise their awareness and prompt discussions with their health care provider.

#### **Continue Foreclosure Deferment Program (HB 14-1312)**

This bill is an effort to reduce the number of foreclosures in Colorado, and continues the foreclosure deferment program.