

CCI LEGISLATIVE ISSUE FORM

for 2018 Legislative session

CCI is soliciting potential legislative issues for the 2018 legislative session. Please answer each of the questions below for each of your county's legislative issues. If your county submits multiple issue forms, please prioritize your issues. Submitted issues are discussed during the summer steering committees and district meetings. We encourage you to confer with your county managers or administrators and department heads, as well as other elected officials, to determine what issues are the most pressing in your county and have implications for other counties. All submitted issues forms must have the support of the Board of County Commissioners or the Mayor/City and County Council.

In accordance with the Legislative Principles that are part of CCI's Policy Statement, "...initiated legislation should be realistic and closely related to the conduct of our members' responsibilities if we are to retain a high level of credibility. Local elected officials groups, county and otherwise, as well as other interest groups, should be encouraged to find sponsors for and initiate their own proposals, allowing our members and CCI to take a supportive role when the bill is introduced."

Please fax or email your issue forms to Jeanne DeHaven at 303.861.2818 or jdehaven@ccionline.org. Please feel free to use more than one page when submitting issues and to submit additional documentation or background information related to the issue. Legislative Issue Forms should be returned by **Friday, June 30, 2017** in order to be discussed during the summer legislative review and steering committee meetings.

Name: BEN TISDEL Title: COMMISSIONER

County: OURAY Phone: 970.318.1037 E-mail: btisdel@ouraycountyco.gov

1.) Issue: Cell Phone Use While Operating Motor Vehicle / Distracted Driving

2.) Background We are observing an increasing number of deaths on rural highways due to center-line cross over. While Colorado State Patrol includes mandatory reporting regarding suspected causes of either 1) Alcohol/Drugs or 2) Excessive Speed, the report blotter does not include reporting of suspected cause of accident due to distracted driving.

3.) Proposed Solution/Legislative Remedy (Please provide the specific statutory citation your board is requesting to modify AND the proposed language you are requesting.)

Increasing data gathering due to suspected causes of center-line crossover fatalities will help determine whether more severe penalties for distracted driving should be imposed. Current fines imposed by CRS 42-4-239 limit the fine amount to \$50. This section was introduced in 2005 and last amended in 2009. Penalty is only a Class A penalty under CRS 42-4-17-1. Due to the increasing use of cell phones, and the increasing number of accidents possibly caused by this use, we suggest that the penalty be changed to a Class 1 Penalty under 42-4-1701.

5.) Proponents/Opponents (Please indicate if your board has had conversations with proponents/opponents to date and their perspective on this proposal):

Likely additional proponents are Coronors for both Ouray and neighboring counties.

6.) Have you visited with your legislator(s) about their reaction to this proposal? Are members of your delegation likely to sponsor, support, or oppose this proposal?

Yes. I have spoke with Senator Coram regarding this issue.

7.) Anticipated Fiscal Impact:

Possible positive fiscal impact to State due to possible increased penalties assessed for violations.

8.) Please list the subject matter experts CCI staff can follow-up with for more information on this proposal:

Colorado State Patrol. Montrose County Coronor. Ouray County Coronor. Colorado Department of Transportation.

9.) Priority Ranking (If multiple issues submitted):

1.