

Colorado Water Congress
State Affairs Committee Meeting
Report prepared by the Southwestern Water Conservation District

April 22, 2019 Water Legislation Report #14 (2019 Legislative Session)

The State Affairs Committee of the Colorado Water Congress met on Monday, April 22, 2019. Since the last meeting, [HB19-1327 \(Authorize and Tax Sports Betting Refer Under Taxpayers' Bill Of Rights\)](#) was introduced. The proposed legislation would decriminalize sports betting at Central City, Black Hawk, and Cripple Creek and refer a ballot measure to Colorado voters in November 2019 to authorize the collection of a 10% tax on sports betting proceeds. The 10% tax would provide additional funding for the water plan implementation grant program, Colorado's compliance with interstate compacts, and projects related to a voluntary demand management program.

All the bills SWCD is currently supporting, along with recent reports, can be found at <https://swgcd.org/resources/legislative-updates/>. The table below provides a detailed summary of water-related legislation introduced during the current session. The format of each bill includes five columns and a following **Summary** cell. The 1st, 2nd, 4th, & 5th column each contain two information items as follows: 1st column has both the **Bill No.** and the **Short Title**. The 2nd column has both the **Sponsors** and the assigned **Committee**. The 3rd column contains only the **Concerning** statement, copied directly from the bill. The 4th column will show important **Amendments** and **Comments** provided by SWCD staff. The 5th column shows both **When Introduced**, **CWC Action**, and **SWCD Position**. Once a bill no longer requires SA Comm action I will include it in a summary table, which will also show its progress. Until CWC takes action, the bill will remain in this format. I will however, **highlight in yellow** changes in any of the cells, compared to the prior report. Once, CWC has acted on a bill, I will move it to the **Status table**, where its progress can be more easily monitored.

If you are aware of other entities that would like to receive these reports, please contact the Southwestern Water Conservation District office at 970-247-1302 with e-mail contact information. Once introduced, copies of bills are available at www.leg.state.co.us. Additional info is available at the CWC web site: <http://www.cowatercongress.org/stateaffairs/>.

FYI: Legislator Contact Information

Senator Don Coram (SD 6):	303-866-4884	don.coram.senate@state.co.us
Representative Barbara McLachlan (HD 59):	303-866-2914	barbara.mclachlan.house@state.co.us
Representative Marc Catlin (HD 58):	303-866-2955	marc.catlin.house@state.co.us

Bill No. Title	Sponsors Committee	Concerning	Amendments Comments	When Introduced CWC Action / SWCD Position
<p>HB19 1327</p> <p><u>Authorize And Tax Sports Betting Refer Under Taxpayers' Bill Of Rights</u></p>	<p>H Garnett/Neville S Donovan/Cooke</p> <p>Finance</p>	<p>CONCERNING SPORTS BETTING, AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, SUBMITTING TO THE REGISTERED ELECTORS OF THE STATE OF COLORADO A BALLOT MEASURE AUTHORIZING THE COLLECTION OF A TAX ON THE NET PROCEEDS OF SPORTS BETTING THROUGH LICENSED CASINOS AND DIRECTING THE REVENUES GENERATED THROUGH COLLECTION OF THE SPORTS BETTING TAX TO SPECIFIED PUBLIC PURPOSES, INCLUDING THE STATE WATER PLAN THROUGH CREATION OF THE WATER PLAN IMPLEMENTATION CASH FUND.</p>		<p>04/18/2019</p> <p>SUPPORT WATER PLAN FUNDING ELEMENT</p> <p>SWCD Position: DISCUSSION</p>
<p>SUMMARY: In 2018, the United States supreme court held in <i>Murphy v. National Collegiate Athletic Association</i>, 138 S. Ct. 1461, that a federal law prohibiting states from authorizing sports betting violated the tenth amendment of the United States constitution. States may now authorize sports betting. The bill decriminalizes sports betting in Colorado, effective May 1, 2020, under the following conditions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The collection of a tax on the net proceeds of sports betting must be approved by the registered electors of Colorado at the November 2019 general election; • Sports betting will be regulated by the department of revenue, subject to supervision by the existing limited gaming control commission; • A limited number of licenses will be issued. Persons or entities currently licensed to conduct limited gaming (i.e., the owners of casinos in Central City, Black Hawk, and Cripple Creek) are the only persons or entities eligible to hold a "master license" to conduct sports betting upon paying a license fee and submitting to background checks. A master license entitles the licensee to contract with a licensed "sports betting operator" or a licensed "internet sports betting operator", or both, for the operation of sports betting; and • <u>The state will collect a tax of 10% on the net proceeds of sports betting activity to fund implementation of the state water plan and other public purposes.</u> 				