



LEGISLATIVE FAX

January 23, 2008

General Assembly Website Helps Advocates:

With the flurry of bills that are introduced each year, tracking legislation and effectively advocating can be a daunting task. The [General Assembly website](#) can help as it provides a plethora of legislative information available online. Some useful information available the language for all House and Senate bills, House and Senate Committee Assignments and schedules, and general calendars for the House and Senate. At the [Colorado Legislative Council](#) website, you can also get information on how to contact your legislators, how to testify before a legislative committee, how a bill becomes a law and miscellaneous information about term limits, legislative compensation and other items of interest.

Three Weeks and Almost 300 Bills:

After three weeks of legislative activity a total of 296 bills have been introduced – 97 in the Senate and 199 in the House...and only one reporter has been hurt. As in the past, we will continue to update our [bill tracking sheet](#) on those bills pertaining to the business interests of our members. The tracking sheet will be updated weekly throughout the session. At its next Governmental Affairs Committee meeting, the Chamber will look to take formal positions on several bills that could have considerable effects on the business and economic interests of our state and community, including:

[HB-1020](#), which would give plaintiffs in lawsuits all of their pre-offer costs going back to the beginning of a lawsuit, even if he or she rejects a better settlement offer

[HB-1140](#), which would allow local governments to impose rent controls

[HB-1141](#), which would require local governments to make determinations on sufficient water supplies for development applications

[HB-1183](#), which would extend job incentives to six months for employers to create new jobs

[HB-1169](#), which would help community colleges develop renewable energy curricula and job training

[HB-1189](#), which would prohibit strikes for state employees

[SB-086](#), which would repeal the Governor's Executive Order

Legislative Fax Given a New Look/Name:

Starting in the next week or so the Chamber's weekly Legislative Fax will look quite different than it has in years past, while offering the same service of updates on state and federal legislation and issues, local issues and political activity, and updates on Chamber activities, committee efforts and legislative events. "Legislative Links" will be more user-friendly and offer more availability on news, legislation and links to important sites. Starting this year, sponsorships of Legislative Links will be made available on a quarterly or annual basis. Contact Ryan at 263-2917 for more on being a Legislative Link sponsor.

Governmental Affairs Videoconference:

[Bank of the West](#) will sponsor our next videoconference, scheduled for Tuesday, January 29 at 7:00 a.m. The meeting will be held at the Western Colorado Community College campus in Building B, in the KRMJ-TV Studio. Bills dealing with rent controls, water supplies, labor and unions, tax credits and renewable energy are among many that will be discussed. To prepare, review our latest bill tracking sheet [online](#).