



## **HB21-1095**

### **Exempt County Road Maintenance from 811 Locate Requirements**

**Sponsors: Reps. Baisley & Kipp, Sens. Ginal & Woodward**

County road and bridge departments are responsible for maintaining over 100,000 miles of unpaved roads across Colorado. Maintenance grading activities are required regularly to keep the roads' surface and adjacent roadside drainage in safe condition and usable by all sectors of the traveling public. Under the current 811 "Call Before You Dig" law, counties are required to submit every mile of road for verification of the location of underground utilities (aka "locates") before they can begin grading – even though this grading activity does not disturb more than a few inches of soil. This locate requirement is time-consuming and cumbersome for counties to comply with and results in costly delays at the local level – at a time when transportation dollars are becoming scarcer.

HB21-1095 would exempt counties from the 811 utility locate requirements when performing routine maintenance on county roads, provided that the maintenance activities do not lower the grade of the road or disturb more than six inches of soil. The bill represents a compromise agreement between CCI, Colorado 811, the Colorado Contractors Association, Xcel Energy and the Colorado Association of Road Supervisors and Engineers (CARSE). It is worth noting that 29 other states have an exemption from 811 requirements for county road maintenance, and the PUC's pipeline safety managers do not think this legislation will have any impact on the state's rating under PHMSA (Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration).

HB21-1095 will save valuable time and resources without endangering infrastructure or public safety. While county road maintenance is exempted, any road construction activities that involve actual excavation would still require a formal locate request by the county to Colorado 811.

**CCI asks for your "YES" vote on HB21-1095**

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