



HB19-1057

Online Publication of County Financials

Sponsor: Rep. Pelton

Under an antiquated state law adopted in 1901, county governments are required to publish a variety of financials in the local newspaper of reference. Counties are the **only** governmental entities that are required to publish their financials (monthly expenditures, employee salaries and semi-annual financial reports) in the newspaper. This statutory requirement does not apply to cities or school districts or even state government. **This requirement costs Colorado counties hundreds of thousands of taxpayer dollars every year.**

It is widely acknowledged that most public information is available to everyone, at any time, on the Internet. Every county in Colorado has a website that provides a wealth of information to its citizens. The greatest transparency is that which allows information to be accessed easily, at no cost, through broadly available Internet access.

HB 1057 gives counties the option to publish their financial reports on a county website as an alternative to paying to publish in the local newspaper. This bill will greatly enhance transparency of local government and reach the greatest number of citizens.

It is time to move into the information age at the local government level, just as the state and federal government have done – there should be no double standard based on the size or level of the government.

CCI strongly urges your support of this important modernization of government transparency that protects our counties from costly and ineffective mandates.

CCI asks for your YES vote on HB 1057

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