



Please vote YES on SB18-156

Online Publication of County Financials

Sponsor: Sen. Cooke/Rep. Kennedy

Under an antiquated state law, county governments are still required to publish a variety of financials in the local newspaper of reference. Counties are the **only** local 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 any other governmental entity in Colorado. **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 county government website that provides a wealth of information to its citizens. The greatest transparency is the one which can be accessed easily, at no cost, through broadly available Internet access.

Beginning in 2020, SB18-156 would allow 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 increase and enhance transparency of local government to 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 SB18-156

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