

## Conservation Community's Supported Bills for 2010

### Priority Bills for 2010

#### Global Warming Pollution/Clean Energy

##### **Increase Renewable Energy Standard to 30% by 2020 ([fact sheet](#))**

[HB 10-1001](#)

**Position:** Support

**Summary:** Creates a renewable energy standard (RES) requiring industry-owned utilities to generate 30% of their electricity from renewable sources by 2020 through annual incremental increases. Under current law such companies must increase their renewable generation to only 20% by 2020.

**Sponsors:**

Senate: Whitehead

House: Tyler

02/12/2010 House Third Reading Passed

03/05/2010 Senate Third Reading Passed

#### Water

##### **Concerning The Long-Term Funding Of The Water Efficiency Grant Program**

[SB 10-025](#)

**Position:** Support

**Summary:** The water efficiency grant program provides resources to water providers for efficiency and conservation programs. It is currently scheduled to be sunset on July 1, 2012. The bill would change the sunset date to July 1, 2020, and authorizes up to \$550,000 for the program.

**Sponsors:**

Senate: Whitehead

House: Baumgardner

02/26/2010 Senate Third Reading Passed

03/25/2010 House Third Reading Passed

##### **Mandatory Efficiency Reporting For Water Providers ([fact sheet](#))**

[HB 10-1051](#)

**Position:** Support

**Summary:** The bill creates a statewide water data collection system by requiring the state's largest water providers to annually report to the Colorado Water Conservation Board how much water was provided to major sectors of water customers, and more data collection, including how many customers and what conservation efforts the water provider is undertaking.

**Sponsors:**

Senate: Whitehead

House: Pommer

04/13/2010 House Third Reading Passed

04/28/2010 Senate Third Reading Passed

##### **Water-Smart Homes ([fact sheet](#))**

[HB 10-1358](#)

**Position:** Support

**Summary:** Requires sellers of new homes to offer water-smart features, including low-flow faucets and shower heads, Energy Star-rated washing machines and water-efficient landscaping.

**Sponsors:**

Senate: Johnston

House: Fischer

04/13/2010 House Third Reading Passed  
05/07/2010 Senate Third Reading Passed

## Land Preservation

### Preventing Urban Renewal Fees From Developing Rural Lands ([fact sheet](#))

[HB 10-1107](#)

**Position:** Support

**Summary:** Prohibits any area that has been designated as an urban renewal area from containing any agricultural land unless it meets specific requirements.

**Sponsors:**

Senate: Carroll M.

House: Fischer

02/08/2010 House Third Reading Passed

03/16/2010 Senate Third Reading Passed

### 3 Year Cap on Conservation Easement Tax Credit ([fact sheet](#))

[HB 10-1197](#)

**Position:** Support

**Summary:** Maintain the Conservation Easement Tax Credit capped for 3 years at 26 million. The CETC is one of the only meaningful tools available in Colorado to incentivize private land conservation, help reduce the impact of population growth on priority habitats and species and enable ranching, farming and other rural families to retain their land in traditional uses.

**Sponsors:**

Senate: Heath

House: Ferrandino

02/12/2010 House Third Reading Passed

03/29/2010 Senate Third Reading Passed

## Mining/Drilling

### Increase Oversight of Radioactive Materials ([fact sheet](#))

[HB 10-1348](#)

**Position:** Support

**Summary:** Ensures that uranium operators take action and clean-up existing problems before they can apply to increase or expand onsite activities. Protects taxpayers by allowing local government, stakeholders, and the public to submit written comments as part of CDPHE's annual review of financial assurance for clean-up. Protects Colorado homeowners by requiring uranium companies to notify residents with registered water wells in close proximity to known groundwater contamination.

**Sponsors:**

Senate: Kester

House: McFadyen

04/05/2010 House Third Reading Passed

04/28/2010 Senate Third Reading Passed

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## Other Conservation Community Supported Bills

### Global Warming/Pollution/Clean Energy

#### Cross-boundary Energy Improvement Districts for Renewables and Installations

[SB 10-100](#)

**Position:** Support

**Summary:** Allows local improvement districts (LIDs) to band together for energy efficiency projects and renewables. Allows such a district to include multiple counties or municipalities. Also allows for

installations to made at a community location, rather than on a residential or commercial building.

**Sponsors:**

Senate: Schwartz

House: Miklosi

02/15/2010 Senate Third Reading Passed

04/12/2010 House Third Reading Passed with Amendments

**Biomass Bill**

[SB 10-177](#)

**Position:** Support

**Summary:** Defines biomass and biosolids for purposes of renewable energy generation. Sets taxes for biomass energy facilities equal to taxes for solar and wind and exempts property taxes for forestry equipment used in producing biomass.

**Sponsors:**

Senate: Schwartz

House: Scanlan

03/18/2010 Senate Third Reading Passed

04/19/2010 House Third Reading

**Smart Grid Bill**

[SB 10-180](#)

**Position:** Support

**Summary:** Creates a 9-member smart grid task force to report to the General Assembly about implementation of Colorado's smart grid. Funds task force through gifts, grants and donations.

**Sponsors:**

Senate: Williams

House: Kerr

04/27/2010 Senate Third Reading Passed

05/07/2010 House Third Reading Passed

**Improve Energy Efficiency of State Buildings**

[SB 10-207](#)

**Position:** Support

Bill would allow the treasurer to fund, through the Governor's Energy Office and by selling lease-purchase agreements, energy efficiency projects at state buildings.

**Sponsors:**

Senate: Johnston

House: None

05/07/2010 Senate Committee on Appropriations Refer Amended to Senate Committee of the Whole

**Increase Waste Tire Regulation**

[HB 10-1018](#)

**Position:** Support

**Summary:** Consolidates authority over waste tire fees collected upon the sale of new motor vehicle tires. The bill all such authority in the department of public health and environment (department) and adds requirements for fire prevention planning, registration, decals, and manifests for certain waste tire haulers and waste tire facilities.

**Sponsors:**

Senate: Gibbs

House: Looper

03/23/2010 House Third Reading Passed

05/04/2010 Senate Third Reading Passed with Amendments

**Extending The Recycling Resources Economic Opportunity Fund**

[HB 10-1052](#)

**Position:** Support

**Summary:** Makes the fee permanent. Names the recycling resources economic opportunity program “RREOP”, eliminates the July 1, 2010, repeal dates for the existing statutory section creating the solid waste user fee, the recycling resources economic opportunity fund and the recycling resources economic opportunity program.

**Sponsors:**

Senate: Newell

House: Solano

02/01/2010 House Third Reading Passed

03/25/2010 Senate Third Reading Passed

**Rural Electric Association Transparency**

[HB 10-1098](#)

**Position:** Support

**Summary:** Creates more transparency for REA's. Requires member input on board meeting matters to be decided by the board at meetings, and requires the posting of meeting minutes on the association's web site. Requires REA Web sites to include election dates, written policy and campaign contributions by persons employed by the board.

**Sponsors:**

Senate: (None)

House: Levy

03/08/2010 House Third Reading Passed

04/05/2010 Senate Third Reading

**Expanding Financing Abilities for the Clean Development Authority to Fund Renewable Transmission Projects**

[HB 10-1182](#)

**Position:** Support

**Summary:** The bill expands the types of loans and financing agreements the Colorado clean energy development authority may make to facilitate electric power interconnection projects.

**Sponsors:**

Senate: Schwartz

House: Solano

03/09/2010 House Third Reading Passed

04/05/2010 Senate Third Reading Passed

**Property Tax on Residential Solar Generation Facility**

[HB 10-1267](#)

**Position:** Support

**Summary:** Considers solar installations on homes a household furnishing. The installation will not be considered an income producer unless the facility produces income for the owner of the residential real property on which the facility is located. Also, rebates, offsets, credits, and reimbursements made available by a utility shall not constitute the production of income.

**Sponsors:**

Senate: Romer

House: Kerr

03/15/2010 House Third Reading

04/28/2010 Senate Third Reading Passed

**New Energy Jobs Creation Act of 2010**

[HB 10-1328](#)

**Position:** Support

**Summary:** Creates the Colorado new energy improvement district as an independent public body corporate and a public instrumentality performing an essential public function.

**Sponsors:**

Senate: Schwartz

House: Miklosi

03/29/2010 House Third Reading Passed  
04/21/2010 Senate Third Reading Passed

#### **Solid Waste User Fee**

[HB 10-1329](#)

**Position:** Support

**Summary:** Establishes and imposes a solid-waste user fee and requires 100% of fees collected by attended solid waste disposal sites are credited to those sites. The fee funds a hazardous waste unit within the Attorney General's office.

**Sponsors:**

Senate: Boyd

House: Peniston

03/03/2010 House Third Reading Passed

05/03/2010 Senate Third Reading Passed

#### **Green Jobs Training Pilot**

[HB 10-1333](#)

**Position:** Support

**Summary:** Creates — in the office of the governor — the green jobs Colorado training program, which is a 2-year pilot program. The program will offer grants to applicants who train individuals for jobs in the wind, solar, renewable energy, and energy efficiency industries.

**Sponsors:**

Senate: Schwartz

House: Vigil

03/03/2010 House Third Reading Passed

04/28/2010 Senate Third Reading Passed

#### **Community Solar Gardens Utility Electric Standard**

[HB 10-1342](#)

**Position:** Support

**Summary:** The bill directs the PUC to adopt new rules under which standard offers can apply to solar generation facilities that are beneficially owned by 10 or more customers at a shared location, called a "community solar garden".

**Sponsors:**

Senate: Williams

House: Levy

03/25/2010 House Third Reading Passed

04/27/2010 Senate Third Reading Passed

#### **Re-energize Colorado, Renewable Electricity for Parks**

[HB 10-1349](#)

**Position:** Support

**Summary:** Creates the re-energize Colorado program, encourages the division of parks and outdoor recreation undertake renewable energy generation projects on state land to supply or offset all of its electrical energy needs by the year 2020. Authorizes a qualifying retail utility to waive some of the existing statutory limits placed on net metering and customer-sited generation projects for purposes of meeting this goal.

**Sponsors:**

Senate: Schwartz

House: Fischer

04/26/2010 House Third Reading Passed

05/06/2010 Senate Committee on Appropriations Refer Unamended to Senate Committee of the Whole

#### **Regarding Taxation of Renewable Facilities and Transmission Line**

[HB 10-1431](#)

**Position:** Support

**Summary:** Would limit taxation on renewables to the value of the land they use and the costs of the equipment.

**Sponsors:**

Senate: Penry

House: McKinley

05/06/2010 House Third Reading Passed with Amendments

05/06/2010 Introduced In Senate - Assigned to Local Government and Energy

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## Water

### **Fines For Unauthorized Diversion Of Surface Water.**

[SB 10-027](#)

**Position:** Support

**Summary:** The bill subjects a person who illegally diverts surface water to the same \$500-per-day fine that currently applies to illegal diversions of groundwater.

**Sponsors:**

Senate: Sandoval

House: Roberts

02/15/2010 Senate Third Reading Passed

03/17/2010 House Third Reading Passed

### **Plumbing Code Water Conservation Standards**

[HB 10-1204](#)

**Position:** Support

**Summary:** Requires the plumbing code to include a standard for water conservation that meets federal standards. And include water-efficient devices and fixtures and locally produced materials when practicable.

**Sponsors:**

Senate: Soper

House: Tochtrop

02/18/2010 House Third Reading Passed

03/15/2010 Senate Third Reading Passed

### **Funding Colorado Water Conservation Board Projects**

[HB 10-1250](#)

**Position:** Support

**Summary:** Appropriates from the Colorado water conservation board construction fund \$250,000 for continuation of satellite monitoring system maintenance; \$50,000 for instream flow engineering and technical support services; \$175,000 for continuation of the weather modification program; \$500,000 for continuation of the Colorado floodplain map modernization program; \$250,000 for continuation of the watershed restoration program; and up to \$300,000 to restore the unencumbered balance in the flood response fund to \$300,000.

**Sponsors:**

Senate: Hodge

House: Fischer

03/15/2010 House Third Reading Passed

05/07/2010 Senate Second Reading Special Order - Passed with Amendment

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## Growth/Transportation

### **Increasing Safety of Roads for Non-Motorized Vehicles**

[HB 10-1147](#)

**Position:** Support

**Summary:** Takes numerous steps to increase the safety of non-motorized transportation on roads throughout Colorado. Codifies the existing bicycle and pedestrian policy directive of the department of transportation (CDOT) into law and makes legislative declarations.

**Sponsors:**

Senate: Bacon

House: Kefalas

03/03/2010 House Third Reading Passed

04/19/2010 Senate Third Reading Passed

### **Railroad Right-of-Way Sale for Public Passenger Service**

[HB 10-1276](#)

**Position:** Support

**Summary:** Allows a railroad company to sell its right-of-way for a public passenger service.

**Sponsors:**

Senate: Mitchell

House: Levy

03/16/2010 House Third Reading Passed

04/05/2010 Senate Third Reading Passed

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## **Oil & Gas/Severance Tax**

### **Severance Tax Withholding Penalty**

[HB 10-1060](#)

**Position:** Support

**Summary:** The bill establishes a penalty for producers or purchasers that fail to make the 1% severance tax payment that is equal to 10% of the payment owed or \$50, whichever is the greater amount, plus interest on the payment owed. The bill also establishes a penalty for failing to file the annual report required by the department that is equal to 30% of the amount of withholding that should have been reflected in the report or \$5,000, whichever is the lesser amount.

**Sponsors:**

Senate: Steadman

House: Kagan

04/05/2010 House Third Reading Passed

04/27/2010 Senate Third Reading Passed

### **Severance Tax Funding for Parks and Recreation**

[HB 10-1326](#)

**Position:** Support

**Summary:** Decreases the authorization to the Colorado oil and gas conservation commission from up to 40% to up to 35% of the account. Increases the authorization to the division of parks and outdoor recreation from up to 5% to up to 10% of the account; and allows the increased appropriation to supplant moneys that would otherwise be available to the parks division. Decreases the 2009 long bill general fund appropriation to the parks division by \$2,147,415 and increases its cash fund appropriation by the same amount.

**Sponsors:**

Senate: Tapia

House: Pommer

02/19/2010 House Third Reading Passed

02/26/2010 Senate Third Reading Passed

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## Wildlife/Public Lands

### Creating the Colorado Kids Outdoors Grant Program for Environmental Education

[HB 10-1131](#)

**Position:** Support

**Summary:** Creates the Colorado kids outdoors grant program in the department of natural resources to provide grants for programs that allow children to participate in outdoor activities in the state, including but not limited to programs that emphasize the environment and experiential, field-based learning.

**Sponsors:**

Senate: Gibbs

House: Scanlan

03/03/2010 House Third Reading Passed

05/04/2010 Senate Second Reading

### Wildlife Crossing Zones

[HB 10-1238](#)

**Position:** Support

**Summary:** The bill allows the department of transportation, in consultation with the division of wildlife in the department of natural resources, to establish areas within the public highways of the state as wildlife crossing zones.

**Sponsors:**

Senate: Schwartz

House: Curry

04/14/2010 House Third Reading Passed

05/06/2010 Senate Second Reading Laid Over Daily

### Species Conservation Trust Fund

[HB 10-1398](#)

**Position:** Support

**Summary:** Appropriates money from the species conservation trust fund to conserve native species listed as threatened under state or federal law. Moves money from the fund's capital account to its operation and maintenance for river recovery.

**Sponsors:**

Senate: Whitehead

House: Fischer

04/22/2010 House Third Reading Passed

05/07/2010 Senate Third Reading Passed