



IECRM MEMBER FORUM

What a Contractor Needs to Know about Electrification & This Week's COVID-19 Updates

Wednesday, December 2, 2020

7:30 AM - 8:30 AM

Hosted by IECRM

IECRM is honored to help you navigate through these unprecedented times during the COVID-19 pandemic. Below you will find a bulleted recap of the discussion and helpful links to resources mentioned in today's Member Forum.

Upcoming Member Forums: December 9. [Register now to join the upcoming live discussions.](#)

If you have any questions to ask of our subject matter experts or suggestions for future Member Forums, please contact IECRM CEO Marilyn Akers Stansbury at marilyn@iecrm.org or 303.853.4886. [Sign up for our Weekly Online Member Forums here.](#)

Watch the [VIDEO RECORDING](#) of this week's forum.

SUBJECT MATTER EXPERTS

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www.electrification.us.abb.com/showcase



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- ABB's comprehensive one-line construction package.
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- New ReliaGear™ family of products introduction.



Entertain

- Compete in our virtual trivia game for a chance to win valuable prizes.
- Featured showcase entertainment: Kevin Viner, world-renowned mentalist.

COVID Updates

As a reminder, [Colorado is now under new orders](#) by counties. Please see the new orders and [COVID Dial](#) to see where your county is at.

Here is the [link to the bill tracker](#) to follow along with a summary of legislation introduced in the Special Session from our lobby team at Hicks & Associates. Please contact Marilyn if you have any questions.

<https://coloradocapitolwatch.com/bill-tracker-votes/0/5998/2020/0/>

Colorado Legislative Special Session: Update from Hicks & Associates

The 2020 Special Session is underway. The session will move quickly, as it is expected to last three days. As of now, there have been 37 bills/resolutions introduced and 11 that have come out of committee. It seems that seven bills have the majority approval and should move forward. The seven bills are listed below as well as have a link to the legislation.



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SB20B-001- Relief Small And Minority Businesses Art Organizations

Sponsors: Sen. Faith Winter (D), Sen. Kevin Priola (R), Rep. Leslie Herod (D)

Cost: \$57 million

What it does: The bill will assist small businesses, largely restaurants, bars, gyms, and movie theaters.

- Direct relief payment to small businesses that comply with "severe" county capacity restrictions: \$37 million.
- Direct relief payments to arts, culture, artists, crew members, and organizations through the creative industries division of the Colorado office of economic development: \$7.5 million
- \$6.8 million to the Department of Public Health and Environment to contract with county or other local boards of health to cover the costs of license fees for retail food establishments
- \$1.8 million to the Department of Revenue to offset liquor license fees
- \$4 million to the minority business office in the Colorado Office of Economic Development to provide direct relief, grants, loans and technical assistant to minority-owned businesses.

SB20B-002- Housing And Direct COVID Emergency Assistance

Sponsors: Sen. Julie Gonzales (D), Sen. Chris Holbert (R), Rep. Tony Exum Sr (D), Rep. Kerry Tipper (D)

What it costs: \$50 million

What it does: \$44.5 million would be put into the housing development grant fund within the Department of Local Affairs, to be spent by June 30, 2021.

According to the bill, an additional \$500,000 will be added to the eviction legal defense fund to provide legal representation "to indigent tenants to resolve civil legal matters arising on and after March 1, 2020, concerning an eviction or impending eviction related to the public health emergency caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. The state court administrator must use the money by June 30, 2021.

The bill also sets up a new program, an emergency direct assistance grant program in the division of housing within DOLA, with \$5 million in funding. It will provide grants to individuals who have experienced financial need due to the COVID-19 pandemic or second-order effects of the COVID-19 pandemic and are ineligible for certain other types of assistance. Grants must be distributed by June 30, 2021.

SB20B-003- Money for Energy Utility Bill Payment

Sponsors: Sen. Rhonda Fields (D), Sen. Larry Crowder (R), Rep. Monica Duran (D), Rep. Lois Landgraf (R)

What it costs: \$5 million

Money goes to the nonprofit [Energy Outreach Colorado](#) Low-Income Assistance Fund, to meet a 25% increase in applications this year. Dollars must be spent by June 30, 2021.

SB20B-004- Transfer To Make Money Available For COVID-19 Emergency

Sponsors: Sen. Dominick Moreno (D), Rep. Julie McCluskie (D)

What it costs: \$100 million.

What it does: Appropriates money to the state's disaster emergency fund to help pay for continuing state costs to manage the COVID-19 pandemic.

HB20B-1001 Grants To Improve Internet Access In P-12 Education

Sponsors: Rep. Mary Young (D), Rep. Matt Soper (R), Sen. Kerry Donovan (D), Sen. Don Coram (R)

What it costs: \$20 million

What it does: Creates another new program, the "connecting Colorado students grant program" in the Department of Education. Money would go to local education providers, with a Feb. 1, 2021, deadline for distributing grants. The bill notes almost 66,000 Colorado K-12 students lack internet access and could lose



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seven months of instruction due to the pandemic. Grants would be used to increase access to broadband service for students, educators and other staff who lack stable, reliable internet access for online learning.

HB20B-1002- Emergency Relief Programs For Child Care Sector

Sponsors: Rep. Cathy Kipp (D), Rep. Lois Landgraf (R), Sen. Brittany Pettersen (D), Sen. Jerry Sonnenberg (R)

What it costs: \$45 million

What it does: The bill sets up two new programs in the Colorado Department of Human Services to assist child care providers. The bill creates two emergency relief grant programs: the child care sustainability grant program and the emerging and expanding child care grant program. The first would provide between \$500 to \$35,000, based on capacity. Grant awards would be made no later than Feb. 28, 2021.

The second grant program ranges from \$3,000 to \$50,000 and may be used for costs associated with expanding an existing provider or opening a new one. The provider can use the money for staff training, background check fees, cleaning supplies, educational supplies, and capital or facility improvement costs. CDHS is required to start the grant award process on or before January 31, 2021.

HB20B-1003- Food Pantry Assistance Grant Program

Sponsors: Rep. Lisa Cutter (D), Rep. Rod Bockenfeld (R), Sen. Tammy Story (D)

What it costs: \$3 million

The money goes to the food pantry assistance program, which was set up with CARES Act money through [House Bill 20-1422](#). This bill extends the expiration date from Dec. 30, 2020, to Feb. 28, 2021, using the additional \$3 million in state funds. Families can use the money to buy food through June 30, 2021, with grants starting at \$2,500.

HB20B-1004- Qualified Retailer Retain Sales Tax For Assistance

Sponsors: Rep. Alex Valdez (D), Rep. Kevin Van Winkle (R), Sen. Jeff Bridges (D), Sen. Jack Tate (R)

Cost: Between \$39.3 million and \$52.8 million

What it does: Provides bars that offer food, restaurants, and food trucks with sales tax of between \$2,000 to \$10,000 per month. Establishments will still collect the state's 2.9% sales tax but will be allowed to keep the money to help pay rent and other business expenses.

Updates from Governor Polis:

Governor Polis shared on Tuesday that there are **4,405 new positive cases** and **1,847 Coloradans currently hospitalized**, and noted that **the state would begin to see the impacts of the Thanksgiving holiday in the coming days.**

This means a surge of cases on top of the already high numbers in the weeks leading up to the holiday. Additionally, with **1 out of every 41 Coloradans** infected with the virus, and 40% of those cases being asymptomatic, it cannot be assumed that you have not been exposed if you celebrated the holiday with people who live outside of your home.

Here are some precautions Coloradans can take now to mitigate the impacts:

- **If you celebrated with anyone outside your house or traveled**, please make sure to quarantine for 14 days after exposure to those outside your home.
- **If you believe you were exposed to COVID-19**, get tested 7 days after exposure.
- If you are experiencing any symptoms, get tested and isolate for at least 10 days until you are fever free and symptoms are improving.



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- **If you were exposed to someone who has tested positive for COVID-19**, a negative test should not release you from quarantine because symptoms might not appear for up to 14 days after exposure.
- **Anyone who tests positive** should immediately contact those they came into close contact with over Thanksgiving.

Find a testing site near you at covid19.colorado.gov/testing. [Read the latest update in its entirety from Governor Polis.](#)

Additional COVID Information

- It looks like the CDC is planning to drop the quarantine phase from 14 days down to 7. IECRM will send out an alert if something official comes out so companies can update their policies.
- OSHA is starting to do drive-by inspections to see if companies are following COVID protocols. Be sure you have your COVID Protocol Standard available.

COVID Resources

- [Families First Coronavirus Response Act: Employee Paid Leave Rights](#)
For someone who gets COVID or has childcare issues due to COVID, 80 hours of pay is required to be available. Resets to 80 hours again in January 2021.
- [Sick Leave For Employees](#) - Colorado's "Families First Coronavirus Response Act"
- [Healthy Families Workplace Act](#)
- [COVID-19 Resources to Support Small Businesses](#)