

CCTPTA Legislation

Committee Policy Statement

Purpose

The Colorado County Treasurer and Public Trustee Association Legislative Committee is designated to determine the types of legislative items that should be supported or opposed by the CCTPTA.

The CCTPTA generally supports legislative matters that:

- 1) Add to administrative simplicity
- 2) Reduce the cost of administration
- 3) Improve administrative efficiency
- 4) Clarify existing statutes
- 5) Update existing statutes to reflect current practice
- 6) Supplement existing statutes
- 7) Benefit the majority but preferably the whole organization
- 8) Add to fairness
- 9) Improve general equity

The CCTPTA generally does not support legislative matters that:

- 1) Increase or decrease the tax base - these are matters that should be left to the County Commissioners or the State Legislators
- 2) Are posited to achieve a political purpose
- 3) Increase administrative costs
- 4) Decrease efficiency

Who may represent CCTPTA at the State for Purposes of Legislation

Only the Chair, Co-Chair or their duly appointed representatives from within the CCTPTA can speak on behalf of the organization. Members of CCTPTA may always represent their own opinions and can personally support or work against any legislation just as any private citizen.

CCTPTA's Legislative Process

Presentation to the CCTPTA Legislative Committee

Presentations can be made at any time to the Committee. The Legislators must have their bill titles reserved by early December for the next session. The Committee may meet to consider multiple proposals at the call of the Chair or in the Chair's absence the Co-Chair. Members of CCTPTA should present proposals in the following fashion:

- 1) Statement of the problem
- 2) Possible solution
- 3) Draft language for the bill along with any and all references in statute that will be affected
- 4) Statement of what the intended legislation should accomplish
- 5) Statement of both pro and con issues on the potential legislation

Committee's Responsibilities

Only the Chair or Co-Chair may circulate proposals. The Committee will be sent proposed legislation via email as soon as possible from the time of proper receipt to the Chair. The Committee shall comment or signify by email whether they support the proposal or not. If not, then they will state what the problem is from their perspective. The Committee's majority vote shall rule in accordance with the above guidelines. The Chair or in their absence the Co-Chair may rule items out of order if they are not in accordance with the mission of the CCTPTA's Legislative Committee - effectively killing support from the CCTPTA for the measure. The Committee shall assist in the legislative efforts that are supported by the Committee. The Committee shall also use all of its power and persuasion to actively work against legislation that the Committee deems detrimental to the goals of the CCTPTA.

Appeal Process

Members may appeal a ruling on their proposed legislation which is considered to be out of order by the Chair of the Legislative Committee to the Executive Committee who will decide the matter by a majority vote.

Member Responsibility

Members that bring forth legislative items must also be prepared to:

- 1) Bring the items listed in the presentation to the Committee
- 2) Work with the drafting office of the State Legislator
- 3) Find a legislative sponsor
- 4) Be prepared to testify on behalf of the measure
- 5) Line up others that may testify on behalf of the measure
- 6) Evaluate and determine fiscal notes

Chair and Co-Chair Responsibilities

The Chair and the Co-Chair shall actively work during the session on behalf of the Committee supporting or working against legislative issues. They shall use their best efforts to assist any of the members in bringing legislation supported by the Committee. They shall use their best efforts to notify members that are bringing legislation of the time and place designated for testimony. It is the ultimate responsibility of the member to watch the legislative calendar and be present at the Legislative Committee hearings on their Bills at the State Capitol.

Single Issue

In Colorado the bill title must reflect the intent of the bill and the bill must address a single issue.

Opening a Can of Worms

Whenever we open up a legislative issue you can never tell who will get involved. People come out of the woodwork to attach amendments and/or create all sorts of unintended consequences. The vultures are hovering looking for ways to get their small issues into somebody's bill.