

February 9, 2015

Colorado General Assembly 200 East Colfax Avenue Denver, CO 80203

Senate President Bill Cadman Speaker of the House Dickey Lee Hullinghorst Senate Minority Leader Morgan Carroll House Minority Leader Brian DelGrosso

RE: Open Meetings

Common Cause is a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization that is dedicated to restoring the core values of American democracy, and empowering ordinary people to make their voices heard in the political process. Transparency in government has been a core issue for Colorado Common Cause since our founding more than 40 years ago; in fact, our first campaign was working to adopt the Sunshine Laws.

At the start of the Seventieth Colorado General Assembly, we would like to take the opportunity to request that open meetings materials be made more widely available to legislators. We received a copy of the portion of a presentation that was presented at the November 7th orientation from Legislative Legal Services for new legislators. It is a simple distillation of the most important pieces of C.R.S. 24-6-402. We believe the public would benefit from knowing these materials were widely available for lawmakers, in particular by seeing a guide posted online. The General Assembly's website includes (under the section "General Legislative Information") both the Open Records Policy & Requests and the Ethics Tutorial. Like those topics, we believe that an overview of open meetings would be appropriate.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Katie Fleming Dahl Associate Director kdahl@commoncause.org