

## **House Democrats Caucus Meeting**

Date/Time: Monday, January 21, 2025 at 9:00am

**Location:** First Baptist Church, 1373 N Grant St, Denver, CO 80203

## Agenda:

- 9:00-9:30am: Presentation from One Colorado, followed by Q&A

- 9:30am: Updates from members of the Leadership team

- 9:40am: Opportunity for members to share updates on legislation

**Attendance:** House Majority caucus members, House Majority caucus staff, Guest presenter One Colorado

**9:02am:** Caucus chair Rep. Joseph brought the meeting to order, introducing special guest speakers from One Colorado (Dr. Jax Gonzales and Nadine Bridges).

**9:05am:** Dr. Gonzales began the presentation that focused on the need for change, and the current landscape in Colorado and what One Colorado is focused on during this legislative session.

**9:09am-9:26am:** Dr. Gonzales explained One Colorado's goals. TransForming the Narrative: Defending Equality in Colorado and outlined priorities for legislative advocacy, changemaker cohort, media training.

Dr. Gonzales invited members to join One Colorado at their lobbying day on Monday, Feb 3, 2025 at the First Baptist Church.

**9:26 am:** Rep. Rydin asked about a recent Trump executive order (redefines sex and gender throughout federal level policies). Dr. Gonzales explained that there is not a lot to do statewide, but it's important that we protect the progress made in Colorado & that decisions at the federal level will not impact LGBTQIA+ communities as of now.

**9:28am:** Rep. Phillips asked if there is a new path to protect LGBTQIA+ communities (title 9 example) and if there is room to strengthen CODA. Dr. Gonzales said work was done in the past, but there is room to expand, encouraging connecting afterward.

**9:29am:** Dr.Gonzales wrapped the presentation and thanked members.

**9:30am:** Speaker McCluskie highlighted the Colorado Democratic Alliance event & encouraged members to join at Champagne Tiger this evening. She also mentioned that the executive committee will meet today at 4:00 PM to vote on the updated workplace harassment policy. A copy of the policy can be found on the website. Speaker McCluskie mentioned legislative budgeting has begun. Speaker McCluskie explained the budget timeline and late bill approvals.

**9:34am:** ML Duran thanked members for their kind messages and support over the weekend. Also prepped members about upcoming floor work.

**9:35am:** AML Bacon brought up the COW sign up sheet, AML Bacon said will reach out to individuals to help support floor work.

**9:35am:** Rep. Martinez mentioned the need to bring phones when members leave the floor and encouraged members to be timely/on the floor when their bills are up.

**9:37am:** Rep. Sirota mentioned that she emailed members a memo about appropriations to ensure members received it.

**9:38am:** AML Bacon said LCS will be doing a presentation on TABOR cash funds, date not yet secured (Feb 14 tentative date).

**9:40am:** Co-Caucus Chair Rep. Lindsay shared that this location (First Baptist) will be the location for future caucus lunches, not for coffee. Reminded members about the yearbook/legislative photos happening this week.

**9:42am:** Rep. Garcia said she will be requesting a moment of personal privilege later this week.

**9:43am:** Rep. Ferret asked why the House prays every morning before gaveling in. Speaker McCluskie said that it is a long standing tradition, it is not required and it is not state business before we gavel in.

**9:45am:** Rep. Garcia wanted to know who to talk to about giving the prayer, ML Duran responded with Kathy Hahn.

**9:46am:** Rep. Joseph adjourned the meeting and thanked members for showing up on time.