



## House Democrats Caucus Meeting

**Date/Time:** Monday, January 13, 2025 at 9:00am

**Location:** Colorado Education Association, 1500 Grant St, Denver, CO 80203

### Agenda:

- Updates from members of the Leadership team
- Discussion on legislation pending before the General Assembly

**Attendance:** Members of the House Majority caucus and House Majority caucus staff

### Minutes:

- **9:02am:** Caucus chair Rep. Lindsay brought the meeting to order, noting we'd be adjourning by 9:30am for the Business committee's SMART Act hearing.
- **9:03am:** Speaker McCluskie highlighted the importance of engaging in the SMART Act hearings and previewed an upcoming discussion about potential changes to House rules with the minority.
- **9:05am:** Majority Leader Duran reviewed the calendar for the week. Today there will be two resolutions and swearing in of staff, as well as confirmations of appointments to Leg Audit, Leg Council and COLS. The State of the Tribes will be on Thursday at 11am and the Dr. MLK Jr. resolution will be on Friday.
- **9:06am:** Assistant Majority Leader Bacon discussed another COW chair training and the opportunity to chair the COW once floor work is underway.
- **9:07am:** Whip Rep. Martinez reminded members to let the whips know if they're stepping off the floor at any time.
- **9:08am:** Caucus chair Rep. Joseph reminded the caucus that the first caucus lunch will take place next Thursday 1/23, location TBD.
- **9:09am:** JBC vice chair Rep. Bird shared an update about the discussions occurring at the JBC. To maintain a 15% reserve requirement, the estimated cuts amount to \$672M. The briefings from all executive branch departments and the Governor's office have concluded and they have begun the "hearings," where the departments make their budget requests of the committee. Supplementals week is coming up February 10-14. Figure setting will get underway after the hearings and the budget will close by the end of March. She asked members to read Carl's daily memos and make their budget priorities known now.

- Rep. Espenozza: Does the \$672M include the \$350M from Proposition 130? Rep. Bird: No, it's in addition to that, plus Props JJ and KK.
- Rep. Garcia: Are we considering paying for Prop 130 out of reserves? Rep. Bird: That is on the table but no decisions have been made.
- **9:15am:** Speaker McCluskie reminded the caucus that these meetings are noticed to the public if they include discussion of public business, which they often will. Rep. Story asked if any guests who join can be introduced.
- **9:17am:** Caucus chair Rep. Lindsay opened it up for member announcements.
  - Rep. Brown asked members of Health & Human Services to submit questions for agencies for the SMART Act hearing. He also mentioned the HHS committee meeting tomorrow, Tuesday 1/14 to hear 4 bills.
  - Rep. Titone provided an overview about the work of the Joint Technology Committee which resumes regular meetings this week.
  - Rep. Story provided an overview of the work of the Capital Development Committee.
  - AML Bacon asked Chairs when they anticipate their first committee hearing with bills on the calendar. She also asked for an update on the progress of the working groups that were created at the retreat.
    - AML Bacon is transitioning out of her role as Chair of the Black caucus. Senator Coleman is the Chair and Rep. English is the Vice Chair. AML Bacon reminded members about the Martin Luther King Jr. resolution on Friday and the state holiday observed on Monday, which hosts the country's largest Parade from the Dr. King statue in City Park in Denver. She also shared information about a meeting of the Racial Equity Commission this Thursday.
  - Rep. Willford introduced her best friend Lindsey who is a guest at our coffee this morning, who is here to support Rep. Willford this week.
- **9:27am** Caucus chair Rep. Lindsay adjourned the meeting.