


**CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE MEMORANDUM**  
**#37-2022**

**DATE:** June 13, 2022  
**TO:** Honorable Mayor Meredith Leighty and City Council Members  
**FROM:** Heather Geyer, City Manager   
**SUBJECT:** 2022 Legislative Session Recap

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**PURPOSE**

To provide City Council with a 2022 Legislative Session recap by the City's lobbying team, Bowditch & Cassell.

**BACKGROUND**

Jennifer Cassell and Ed Bowditch will present an end-of-session update to City Council. They will review important things to know as a result of the legislative session, the current political environment and their advocacy work on behalf of Northglenn. This end-of-session report is a required deliverable per the City's lobbying agreement and their work with the Legislative Policy Committee.

**BUDGET/TIME IMPLICATIONS**

There are no financial or time impacts to the City.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

This is for informational purposes only.

**STAFF REFERENCE**

If Council members have any questions, please contact Heather Geyer, City Manager, at [hgeyer@northglenn.org](mailto:hgeyer@northglenn.org) or 303.450.8706.

**ATTACHMENT**

1. Presentation

CITY OF  
NORTHGLENN

2022 LEGISLATIVE  
SUMMARY

JUNE 13, 2022



# COLORADO LEGISLATIVE SESSION





# OVERVIEW

## The 2022 Colorado General Assembly convened on January 12 and adjourned May 11, 2022

The Democrats continue to hold majorities in both chambers in the 2022 session.

- The Senate is **20 (D)** – **15 (R)**
- The House is **41 (D)** – **24 (R)**
- Governor Polis **(D)**

Most Diverse Legislature - age, race, gender, religion, ethnicity, etc.

Total of 716 bills introduced (143 were killed)

- 678 in 2021
- 748 in 2020
- 654 in 2019

Shift in attitudes: anti-lobbyist and stakeholder engagement



# THEMES

2022 Election

Federal Stimulus

National Issues

Governor vs. Legislature



# THEMES

However...

after the Virginia Election and the national swing against Democrats, leadership changed their tune...



## "SAVING PEOPLE MONEY"

- [HB 22-1351](#) Temporarily Reduce Road User Charges
- [HB 22-1406](#) Qualified Retailer Retain Sales Tax
- [SB 22-001](#) Reduce Fees for Business Filings
- [SB 22-233](#) TABOR Refund Mechanism for FY 21-22
- [SB 22-234](#) Unemployment Compensation
- [SB 22-238](#) 2023 and 2024 Property Tax



## STIMULUS DOLLARS

Colorado received roughly \$2 billion in federal stimulus dollars. These dollars were prioritized for:

- Affordable housing
- Behavioral health services
- Childcare
- Homelessness
- Workforce development
- Air quality

GRANTS!!!



**The American  
Rescue Plan  
Act of 2021**



# MAJOR POLICY BILLS

- **HB 22-1279 Reproductive Health Equity Act**
- **HB 22-1295 Department of Early Childhood**
- **HB 22-1326 Fentanyl Accountability and Prevention**
- **SB 22-230 Collective Bargaining for Counties**



## NORTHGLENN LEGISLATION OF INTEREST

We took positions on 18 bills (tracked over 60 bills)

- 15 we supported (all but 2 passed)
- 3 we opposed (2 were killed, and 1 passed)

Followed CML discussions and positions

# NORTHGLENN LEGISLATION OF INTEREST

## Environment

HB 22-1026: Alternative Transportation Options Tax Credit (Support)

- Awaiting Governor Signature

HB 22-1151: Turf Replacement Program (Support)

- Awaiting Governor Signature

# NORTHGLENN LEGISLATION OF INTEREST

## Housing

HB 22-1051: Modify Affordable Housing Tax Credit (Support)

- Awaiting Governor Signature

HB 22-1083: Homeless Contribution Tax Credit (Support)

- Governor Signed

HB 22-1304: State Grants Investments Local Affordable Housing (Support)

- Governor Signed

SB 22-159: Revolving Loan Fund Investment Affordable Housing (Support)

- Awaiting Governor Signature

# NORTHGLENN LEGISLATION OF INTEREST

## General Government

HB 22-1152: Prohibit Employer Adverse Action Marijuana Use (Oppose)

- Postponed Indefinitely

SB 22-001: Crime Prevention Through Safer Streets (Support)

- Governor Signed

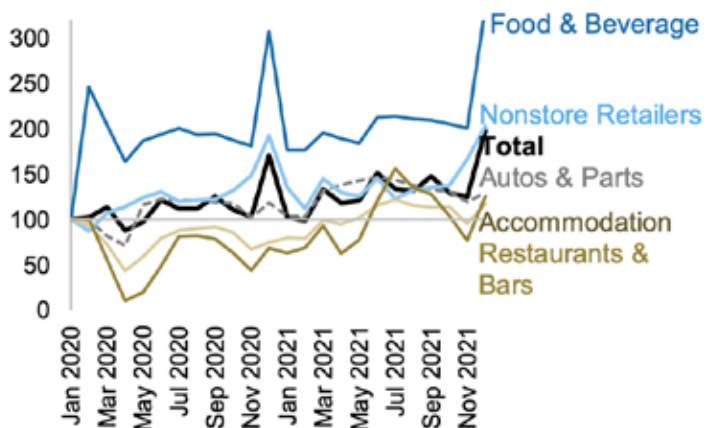
# STATE ECONOMY AND BUDGET

The background of the slide is a collage of various US dollar bills, including \$100, \$20, and \$10 bills, some of which are partially obscured or overlapping. The bills are in grayscale, except for the green ink on the \$20 bill in the lower right.

**State Budget**

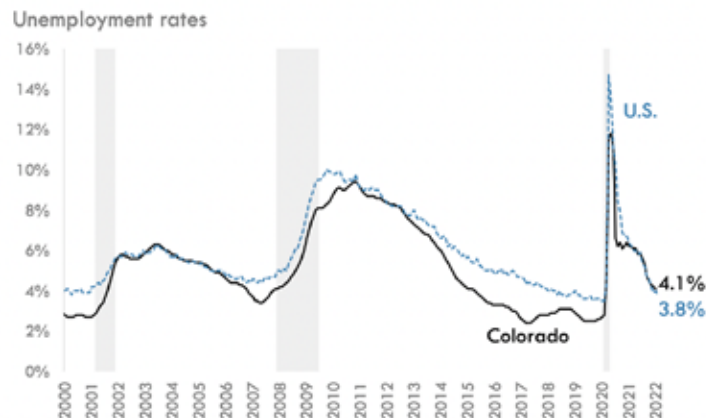
# COLORADO ECONOMY

**Figure**  
**Colorado Retail Sales**  
Index January 2020 = 100



Source: Colorado Department of Revenue. Data are not seasonally adjusted or adjusted for inflation and are through December 2021.

**Colorado's unemployment rate fell to 4.1 percent in January 2022**



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. Data are seasonally adjusted.

**Figure 18**  
**Denver-Aurora-Lakewood Consumer Price Index (CPI-U) Inflation**  
Percent Change in Prices, Year-over-Year



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. A bi-monthly series of Denver-Aurora-Lakewood CPI data became available starting in 2018. \*Headline inflation includes all products and services. \*\*Core inflation excludes food and energy prices.

# STATE GENERAL FUND

## Gross General Fund Revenue

Billions of Dollars

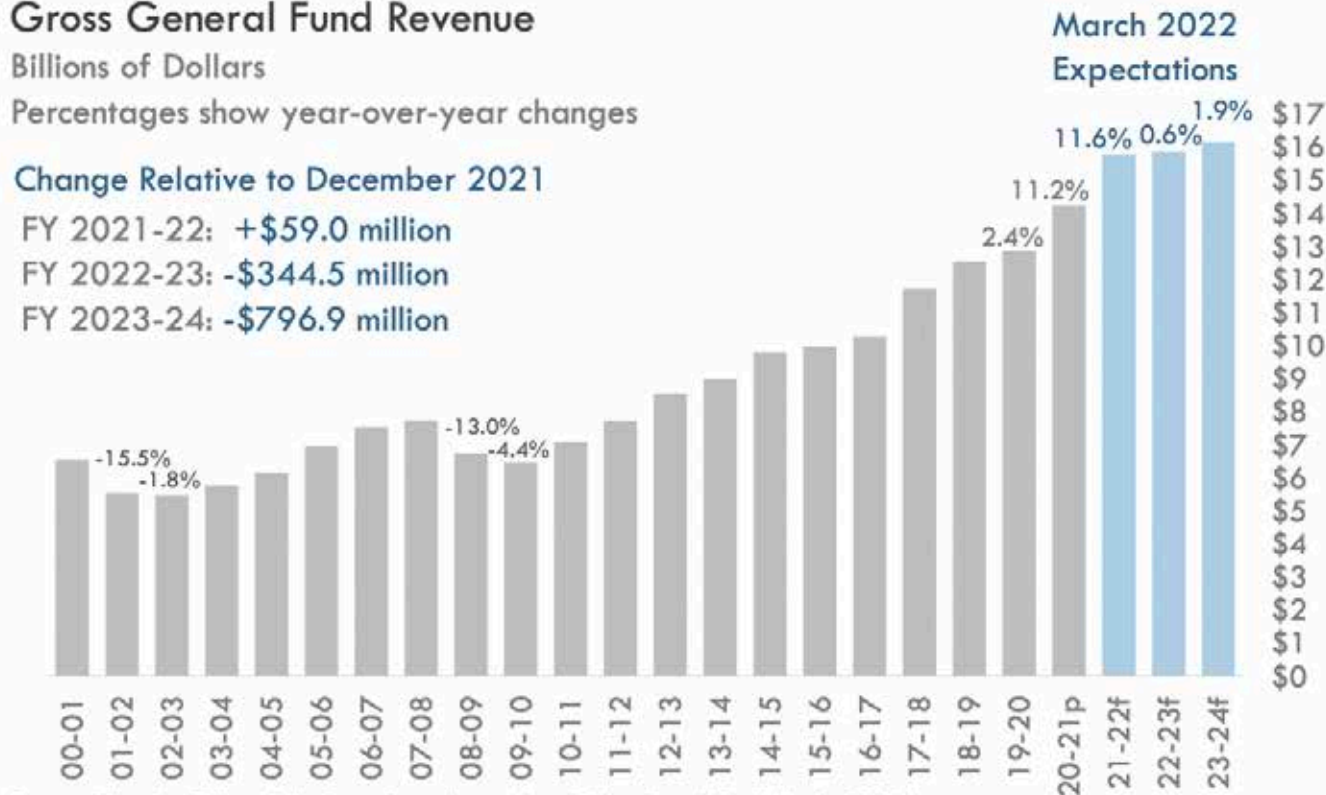
Percentages show year-over-year changes

### Change Relative to December 2021

FY 2021-22: +\$59.0 million

FY 2022-23: -\$344.5 million

FY 2023-24: -\$796.9 million



Source: Colorado Office of the State Controller and Legislative Council Staff March 2022 forecast.

22

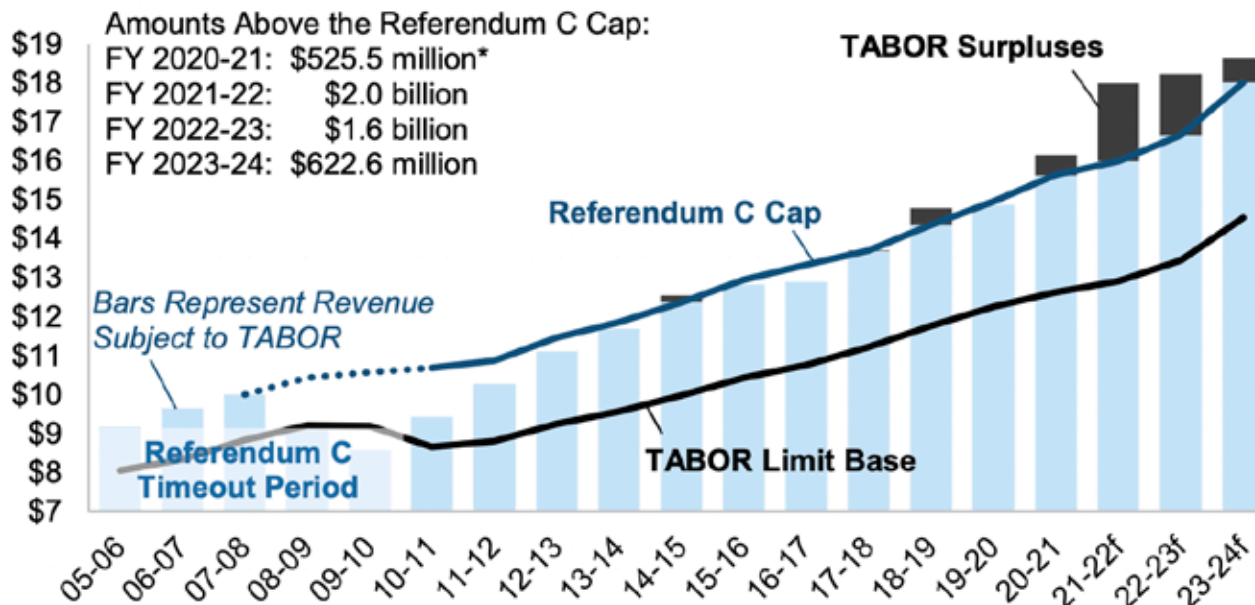
After a dramatic exercise in budget slashing for FY 2020-21 (aka the COVID Budget), this year the General Fund was much stronger.



# TABOR

## "TAXPAYER BILL OF RIGHTS"

**Figure 2**  
**TABOR Revenue, TABOR Limit Base, and the Referendum C Cap**  
*Dollars in Billions*



Source: Office of the State Controller and Legislative Council Staff. f = Forecast.

\*The refund amount for FY 2020-21 differs from surplus amount because it includes \$22.4 million in under-refunds from prior TABOR surpluses.

# TABOR "TAXPAYER BILL OF RIGHTS"

## A TABOR Simile



# HISTORY OF TABOR REFUNDS

Fiscal year	Refund (millions)	Fiscal year	Refund (millions)	Fiscal year	Refund (millions)
FY 93-94	0	FY 03-04	0	FY 13-14	0
FY 94-95	0	FY 04-05	\$41	FY 14-15	\$170
FY 95-96	0	FY 05-06	0	FY 15-16	0
FY 96-97	\$139	FY 06-07	0	FY 16-17	0
FY 97-98	\$563	FY 07-08	0	FY 17-18	\$18
FY 98-99	\$679	FY 08-09	0	FY 18-19	\$428
FY 99-00	\$941	FY 09-10	0	FY 19-20	\$0
FY 00-01	\$927	FY 10-11	0	FY 20-21	\$548
FY 01-02	0	FY 11-12	0	FY 21-22	\$2,003
FY 02-03	0	FY 12-13	0	FY 22-23	

*Dollars above in millions*

**Remember your \$400-\$500 refund – cha-ching!!**  
 (Per SB 22-233)



# 2022 ELECTION



# STATEWIDE RACES

## U.S. Senate

- Senator Michael Bennet

## Statewide Races

- Governor Polis
- Treasurer, Secretary of State, Attorney General



# BALLOT INITIATIVES AND REFERENDA

## REFERRED BY THE LEGISLATURE

- Free lunch for public school students (HB 22-1414)

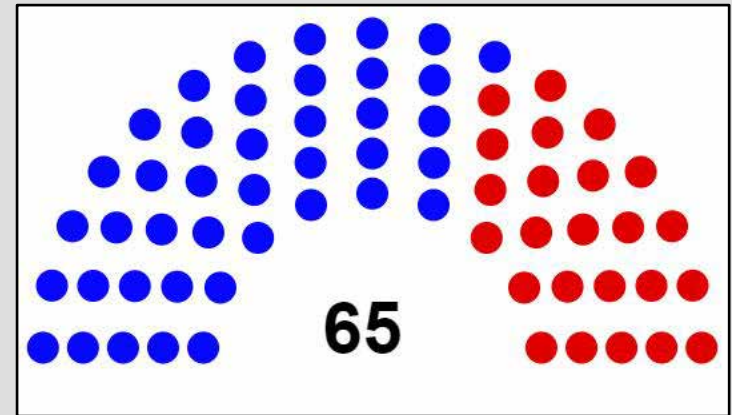
## REFERRED BY THE VOTERS

- Income tax reduction
- Sales tax reduction
- Legalize psychedelic mushrooms
- TABOR refunds go to schools



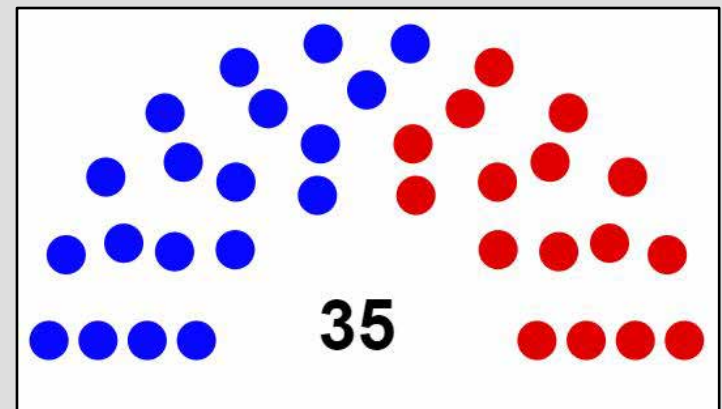
# COLORADO LEGISLATURE

A TOSS UP??



The House is 41 (D) – 24 (R)

The Senate is 20 (D) – 15 (R)



# 2021 REDISTRICTING

## Senate

9 open seats

1 safe Republican seat, 5 safe Democratic seats, 3 toss up seats

2 Republicans and 2 Democrats live in same district as an incumbent

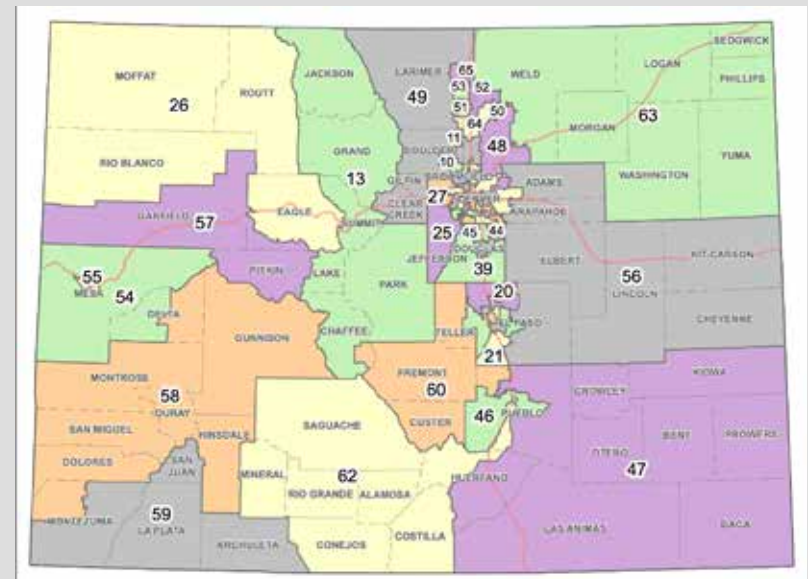
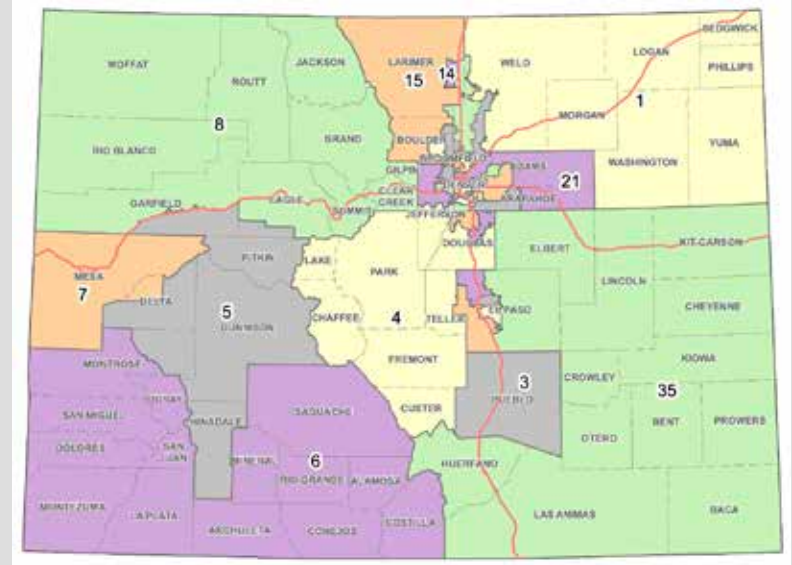
## House

16 seats open

19 safe Republican seats, 31 safe Democrat seats, 9 toss up seats

5 Republicans and 3 Democrats living in same district as an incumbent

More competitive districts





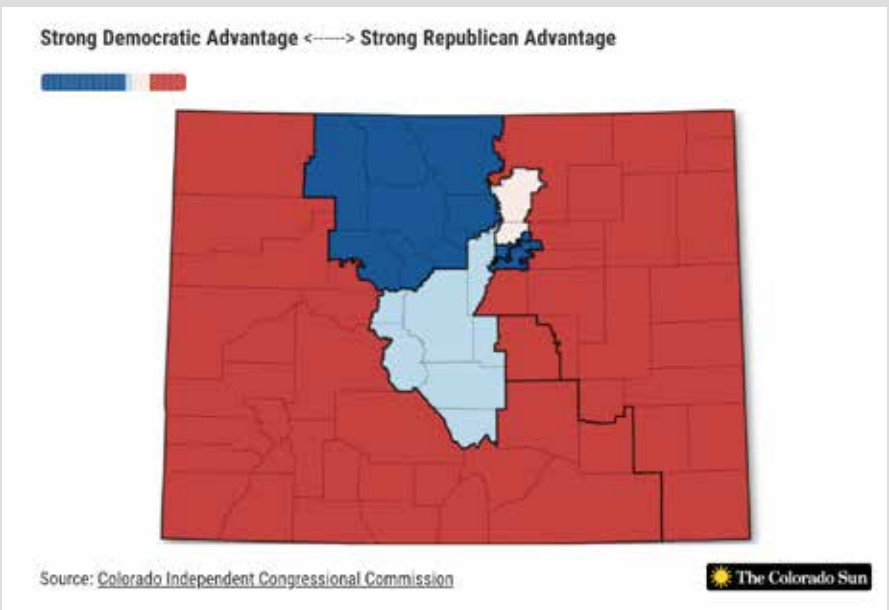
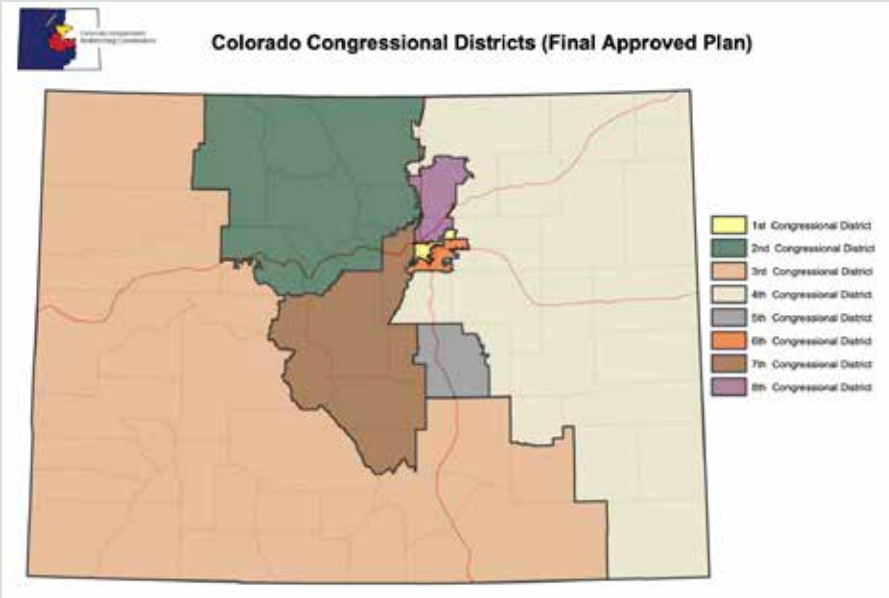
# 2021 REDISTRICTING

## Colorado now has 8 CDs

All incumbents remain in their districts

4 Democratic seats, 3 Republican seats,  
1 toss-up

New 8<sup>th</sup> CD will be heavily Hispanic,  
and have +1.8 lean for Democrats



## LOOKING AHEAD

- **Rise of the advocacy organization**
- **Decreasing democratic majority**
- **Tensions with executive branch**
- **Role of the ballot process**

**2023 Legislative Session?!**

# QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS

## **Ed Bowditch**

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## **Jennifer Cassell**

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**Bowditch & Cassell**  
PUBLIC AFFAIRS