



## 2019 Legislative Session Report for BOMA

The 2019 legislative session was widely reported on as being the most contentious and challenging in over a decade. An usually large class of first-year legislators (30 of the 100) as well as a new executive branch led to predictable growing pains and adjustments. In addition, Democratic leadership in both chambers expressed a desire to advance an ambitious legislative agenda – which was met with a variety of attempts to slow or stall bills on the part of Republican legislators.

### **Key Issues at the State Legislature**

598 bills were introduced this year, of which 460 (77%) passed. This is noteworthy compared to the 60% of bills which passed through the legislature with divided control in 2018. While not all of the key Democratic-initiated proposals were successful, the legislative leaders did succeed in accomplishing a significant number of the goals they set for this session.

One of the primary areas of focus was local control, with several bills succeeding in (or attempting to) repeal state preemption. This tactic was seen in the areas of energy development, minimum wage and rent control.

BOMA's Legislative Affairs Committee monitored and took positions on nearly 30 pieces of legislation. This report will highlight the key bills that BOMA actively took positions on and engaged.

### **2019 Legislative Session Key Bills:**

#### **SB 19-181 – Protect Public Welfare Oil & Gas Operations**

Easily one of the most contentious and impactful bills of the session, SB 181 made several significant changes to the way energy production is regulated in the state. A key element of the bill is the dismantling of state preemption of energy development, giving local governments the ability to set their own rules. The bill also reprioritized the focus of the state's oil and gas regulatory board, emphasizing health and safety (a shift from the previous mission which required a balance with also fostering energy development).

- **BOMA Position - OPPOSE – Bill Passed / Signed by Governor Polis**



### **SB 19-188 – FAMLI Family Medical Leave Insurance Program**

Senator sponsor Faith Winter (D-Westminster) had proposed FAMLI during each of the last four sessions, only to see the bill die in the Republican-controlled Senate. After concerns from the business community, the bill was turned in to a study with an aggressive timeline and will be an issue again in the 2020 legislative session.

- **BOMA Position - OPPOSE – Bill Passed / Signed by Governor Polis**

### **HB19-1096 – Right to Rest**

Representatives Melton (D-Denver) has continued to introduce this bill that would create the 'Colorado Right to Rest Act', which establishes basic rights for persons experiencing homelessness, including, but not limited to, the right to use and move freely in public spaces, to rest in public spaces.

- **BOMA Position - OPPOSE – Bill was Defeated**

### **HB19-1175 – Property Tax Valuation Appeal Process**

The CO Assessors Association and bill sponsors Representative Matt Gray and Senator Julie Gonzales worked with BOMA members on this bill.

- **BOMA Position – SUPPORT – Bill Passed / Signed by Governor Polis**

## **Full BOMA 2019 Legislative Bill Tracking:**

For a full list of legislation that BOMA monitored and took positions on during the 2019 Legislative Session and Links to the bills, please [click here](#).

## **2019 Interim Committees**

Various interim committees were approved for the 2019 interim in addition to standing interim committees that BOMA will be monitoring and reporting on throughout the interim. 2019 Interim Committees of note to BOMA include:

[Energy Legislation Review Interim Study Committee](#)

[Tax Expenditure Evaluation Interim Study Committee](#)

[Zero Waste and Recycling Interim Study Committee](#)

[Regular interim committees](#) (such as the Transportation Legislation Review Committee, Water Resources Review Committee) will also be holding hearings and considering potential 2020 legislation during the interim.