



by Jennifer Jones, CBSA Vice President

COLORADO STATE BUDGET — RECENT FORECAST & UPDATE

The governor's budget office released its latest state revenue forecast last week. The good news is state revenues are strong and with our growing economy, we expect to see solid revenue growth. With new dollars and revenue coming into the state it provides the ability to fund critical priorities such as transportation, K-12 education, etc.



The Governor's offices expect to see a TABOR surplus for the coming budget year due to the growing economy. TABOR revenue is expected to exceed the cap by \$260.5 million in FY 2018-19 and \$381.3 million in FY 2019-20. TABOR surplus dollars will be spent through the senior property and disabled veteran's property tax exemption. In 2019-20, a six-tier sales tax refund will be triggered and dollars in excess of the senior and disabled veteran's property tax exemption amounts varying from \$30-75 per taxpayer will be issued based on income.

CBSA and the team will continue to follow the state of the budget and will keep you updated accordingly.

HOSTED THE GUBERNATORIAL RUNNING MATES AT 2018 COLORADO LIFE SCIENCE INNOVATION FORUM

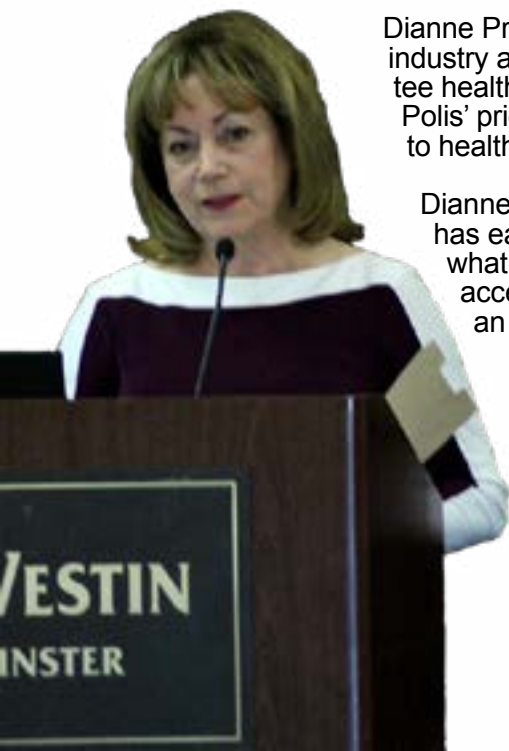
This month we hosted the Colorado Life Science Innovation Forum and during the keynote lunch we welcomed Dianne Primavera, running mate for Jared Polis, Democrat Candidate for Governor, and Lang Sias, running mate for Walker Stapleton, Republican Candidate for Governor. The candidates followed a luncheon keynote by Patty Silverstein, President & Chief Economist, Development Research Partners on maintaining Colorado's economic momentum. It was an appropriate lead in to the messages from both candidates, who spent much of their time on both business and health care issues.

Dianne Primavera spoke about her personal experience with the health care industry as a cancer survivor. Her history led to her to a passion to guarantee health care access for all Colorado citizens. She also talked about Jared Polis' priorities of education and economy in addition to health care.

Dianne Primavera recognized where the state is now saying, "Colorado has earned a reputation as an innovation hub." She also acknowledged what the industry needs for future growth expressing that "Expanding access to capital is important. We also need to make sure Colorado is an attractive place to live, work and recreate."

"Colorado has earned a reputation as an innovation hub... Expanding access to capital is important. We also need to make sure Colorado is an attractive place to live, work and recreate."

-Dianne Primavera





Primavera was followed by State Representative Lang Sias, who gave an overview of how he has supported Colorado business and the bioscience industry in the past and offered a plan for data driven policy that is a foundation for Walker Stapleton’s platform. Sias addressed the industry’s need to access capital by stating, “I am aware of the numbers, how much capital is coming here versus going to the coasts and other emerging hubs.” And he offered assistance to local businesses, including those in the bioscience sector saying, “We will help you sell Colorado and tell people we are open for business.”

“I am aware of the numbers, how much capital is coming here versus going to the coasts and other emerging hubs...We will help you sell Colorado and tell people we are open for business.”

-Lang Sias



Both candidates addressed access to capital concerns, direct and indirect supports for the local bioscience industry, and continuing the AI Grant program.

MEDICARE PART D

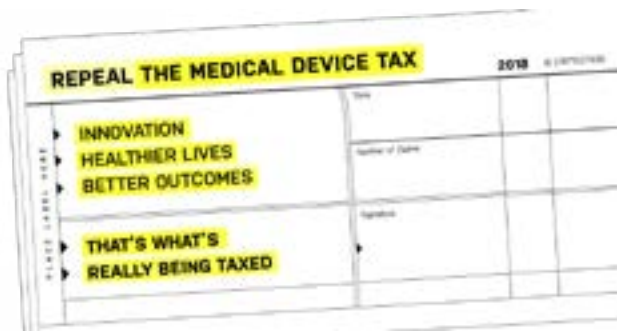
The Colorado Bioscience Association along with We Work for Health Colorado, Epilepsy Foundation, Colorado Gerontological Society, Scleroderma Foundation, Rocky Mountain Stroke Center and the Colorado Business Roundtable sent a **letter** to the Colorado delegation regarding Medicare Part D. We voiced our concern about recent changes to Medicare Part D, contained in the Bipartisan Budget Act (BBA) of 2018, that risk destabilizing the carefully aligned incentives of the program.



The Medicare Part D program remains an essential success story, providing approximately 44 million seniors and individuals with disabilities with access to affordable prescription drug coverage. In Colorado alone, the Part D program covers 622,279 with the lowest monthly premium for a plan totaling \$20.40. The success of Part D is owed to its market-based

structure that fosters competition to keep costs low, while providing coverage for a wide range of medications and treatments.

To learn more about Medicare Part D and our letter click [here](#).



ADVOCATING FOR FULL REPEAL OF THE MEDICAL DEVICE TAX

Repealing the medical device excise tax continues to be a top priority for CBSA and Colorado’s medtech innovators. CBSA is engaged in ongoing advocacy for the full repeal before the end of the year.

We look forward to working closely with Senator Bennet and Senator Gardner to quickly take up

this measure and ensure the medical technology industry continues to bring innovation to patient care. To learn more about repealing medical device excise tax, view AdvaMed’s [infographic](#). We will continue to keep you updated on our advocacy efforts. To thank Congress and your Representative for voting to repeal the medical device excise tax click [here](#). And if you are interested in getting engaged, please [contact](#) CBSA Vice President Jennifer Jones.

U.S. – CHINA TARIFFS

CBSA continues to advocate to the CO Delegation our concern with the recent USTR announcement to impose tariffs on almost \$3 billion worth of medical technology as well as pharmaceutical ingredients and products that could impact manufacturing costs for affordable, FDA-approved generic and biosimilar medicines as part of the Section 301 list. The decision to impose tariffs on medical technology could hurt U.S. manufacturing, negatively impact our ability to compete globally, and potentially increase healthcare costs; resulting in limits on patient access to life-saving technology.

Recently, the trade discussions between the U.S. and China has grown in both size and scope—with Chinese retaliatory tariffs now reaching nearly every U.S. medical device exported to the country. The President’s administration imposed 10% tariffs on \$200 billion worth of imports. At the same time, China returned with 5% to 10% tariffs on \$60 billion of U.S. goods, including \$3.5 billion in medtech-related trade. Added to tariffs levied this past summer, the latest round totals nearly all U.S. medtech exports to China in 2017, or about \$4.75 billion, according to AdvaMed, the industry’s trade association.

We will continue to work with our national industry partners to ensure our industry’s voice is heard and protected and will keep you updated you as the process unfolds.

JOIN CBSA, THE DENVER METRO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND BUSINESS PARTNERS FOR THE 2018 GUBERNATORIAL CANDIDATE FORUM ON FRIDAY, OCTOBER 5th!

This business-focused forum, moderated by the Denver Business Journal, will engage Colorado’s major party gubernatorial candidates — Democrat Congressman Jared Polis and Republican Treasurer Walker Stapleton. Join to hear their plans for ensuring a strong Colorado business climate.



For more information the event, the other business partners and to register click [here](#).