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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Summary:** House Bill 23-1169 by Representative Bacon (D-Denver) would create a new state law prohibiting law enforcement officers from making arrests for misdemeanors such as trespassing, indecent exposure, petty theft and loitering. HB 1169 is scheduled for a hearing in House Judiciary committee on Tuesday March 7 at 1:30 PM.

DENVER—The Colorado Association of Chiefs of Police, County Sheriffs of Colorado, Colorado Municipal League, Colorado Retail Council, International Council of Shopping Centers, Building Owners and Managers Association, Colorado Wyoming Petroleum Marketers and the Northern Colorado Legislative Alliance, and its member organizations, have taken a position of Opposed to HB 1169.

"This bill will tie the hands of our state's law enforcement professionals at a crucial time when crime is increasing in Colorado," said Colorado Association of Chiefs of Police President and Estes Park Police Chief Dave Hayes.

"The success of businesses in our cities and towns is vital to the provision of essential services, a strong sense of community, and the economic vitality of CML's 270 member municipalities," said Kevin Bommer, Executive Director of the Colorado Municipal League.

"Our communities are asking law enforcement to get tougher on crime and to protect the public's safety," said Sheriff James Van Beek of Eagle County, president of the County Sheriffs of Colorado. "Legislation like this does just the opposite by requiring law enforcement to look the other way on crimes that impact public safety, hurt local businesses and put employees and customers in harm's way."

"Colorado retailers play an important part in maintaining the vitality of our neighborhoods. They are already experiencing daily challenges with trespassing, product theft, harassment of customers, and illegal drug use in their stores. If House Bill 1169 were to pass and law enforcement could not make arrests, we are certain that these problems would be exacerbated, not improved," said Christopher Howes, President of the Colorado Retail Council.

"Passage of HB 1169 will have further eroding effect on our society," said Sandra Hagen Solin, head of the Northern Colorado Legislative Alliance, the joint public policy arm of the Fort Collins, Loveland and Greeley Chambers of Commerce. "The authority to arrest to intervene in illegal activity, even those deemed 'low level' is critical for law enforcement to keep peace and order across Colorado."

"Small convenience stores are 70 percent owned by Colorado families. These folks take money out of family budgets to buy the products they offer to the communities we serve. This legislation says that a person can willfully disregard the stores that people use to provide for their own families," said Grier Bailey of the Colorado Convenience Store Association. "Taking tools away from our law enforcement partners is the wrong direction for Colorado to go and gives a shop owner no options if someone harming their family business. This proposal harms communities."

## **Offenses Covered Under HB 1169:**

OFFENSE	STATUTE	CLASS	MAXIMUM PENALTIES
Harassment - Obscene Language	18-9-111(1)(b)	PO	\$750; 120 days jail
Prostitution	18-7-201	PO	\$100; 10 days jail
Prostitution - Soliciting	18-7-202	PO	\$100; 10 days jail
Prostitution - Patronizing	18-7-205	PO	\$100; 10 days jail
Public Indecency – Sexual Intercourse	18-7-301(1)(a)	PO	\$100; 10 days jail
Public Indecency – Lewd Exposure	18-7-301(1)(c)	PO	\$100; 10 days jail
Public Indecency – Lewd Fondling	18-7-301(1)(d)	PO	\$100; 10 days jail
Public Indecency – Expose Genital	18-7-301(1)(e)	PO	\$100; 10 days jail
Arson (2 <sup>nd</sup> Degree) – Less than \$300 Damage	18-4-103(1),(2)(a)	PO	\$100; 10 days jail
Criminal Mischief Less than \$300	18-4-501(1),(4)(a)	PO	\$300; 10 days
Disorderly Conduct – Fighting in Public	18-9-106(1)(d)	PO	\$300; 10 days jail
Disorderly Conduct - Noise	18-9-106(1)(c)	PO	\$300; 10 days jail
Disorderly Conduct – Offensive Gesture, Utterance, Display	18-9-106(1)(a)	PO	\$300; 10 days jail (unless re: funeral than M2)
Escape - In Custody but Not Convicted	18-8-208(5)	PO	\$300; 10 days jail
Fraud By Check - Less Than \$300	18-5-205(2),(3)(a.7)	PO	\$100; 10 days jail

Pawnbroker - False Information Less than \$300	29-11.9-103(1);29- 11.9-104(5)(a)	PO	\$100; 10 days jail
Possession/Consumption of Alcohol or Marijuana by Underage Person	18-13-122(3)(a)	Unclass. PO	\$100 fine and mandatory SAET; see statute for second and third convictions
Possession of Forged Instrument Second Degree	18-5-107	PO	\$100; 10 days jail
Possession/Consumption of Marijuana by Underage Person	18-13-122(3)(b)	Unclass. PO	\$100 fine and mandatory SAET; see statute for second and third convictions
Trespass (2 <sup>nd</sup> Degree) – Enclosed or Fenced Premises	18-4- 503(1)(a)	PO	\$100; 10 days jail
Trespass (2 <sup>nd</sup> Degree) – Hotel, Motel, Condo, Apt Building	18-4-503(1)(b)	PO	\$100; 10 days jail
Trespass (3 <sup>rd</sup> Degree) – Premises	18-4-504(1)	PO	\$100; 10 days jail
Unauthorized Use of a Financial Transaction Device Under \$300	18-5-702(1),(3)(c)	PO	\$100; 10 days jail
Dangerous Dog – Damage Property	18-9-204.5(3)(a), (e)(III)(B.5)	PO	\$300; 10 days jail
Dog Offenses – Unregistered Dog	30-15-101(1)(a)(I); 30-15-102(1)	PO	\$300; 10 days jail
Dog Offenses – Dog at Large	30-15-101(1)(a)(II); 30-15-102(1)	PO	\$300; 10 days jail
Dog Offenses – Vicious Dog	30-15-101(1)(a)(III); 30-15-102(1)	PO	\$300; 10 days jail
Dog Offenses – Barking Dog	30-15-101(1)(a)(VI); 30-15-102(1)	PO	\$300; 10 days jail
Possession of Drug Paraphernalia	18-18-428	DPO	\$100