April 1, 2020

The Honorable Colorado General Assembly
State Capitol
200 E. Colfax Ave.
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Honorable Members of the Colorado General Assembly:

Today I signed into law House Bill 20-1044, “Concerning modifications to the pension plans administered by the fire and police pension association.”

House Bill 20-1044 (“HB 20-1044”) modifies various pension plans administered by the Fire and Police Pension Association (“FPPA”). The major changes of the bill increase employer contributions to the Statewide Death and Disability and Statewide Defined Benefit Plans.

I appreciate the sponsors’ and stakeholders’ efforts to pass HB 20-1044. During this novel coronavirus-2019 (“COVID-19”) state of emergency, we are especially aware of the important contributions that our firefighters and law enforcement officers make to our communities. For that, we are incredibly grateful.

In addition, I have learned about the future budgetary implications this bill may have on municipalities around Colorado. This impact is not lost on me, especially in the coming months as we recover from the economic disruption that COVID-19 has caused. We encourage the General Assembly for the next several years to monitor the impact of new employer contributions to the FPPA as it relates to municipal budgets, and make any necessary changes in the future. However, at this time, I feel it is prudent that we invest in the future of our firefighters and police.

We thank the sponsors and stakeholders for their hard work on this topic and appreciate their consideration for the safety and health outcomes of Coloradans.

Sincerely,

Jared Polis
Governor