

Zenzinger named as Senate's Chair of Education

ARVADA, Colo. (Dec. 10, 2020) – Sen. Rachel Zenzinger said today she was excited to accept the position as Chair of the Education Committee in Colorado's upper chamber, and she looks forward to steering the group through some exceptionally challenging issues in 2021.

She also accepted appointment to the State Senate's Transportation Committee in a capacity that her previous state and local government experience makes particularly appropriate.

<u>Sen. Zenzinger</u> was previously a member of the Colorado Legislature's Joint Budget Committee; and she said the experience from her work on the JBC will translate effectively to her duties on the Education Committee as the group sorts through school finance issues.

"The coronavirus pandemic will continue to plague our efforts to educate our children, with long-lasting consequences that we will have to try to solve," she said. "We will need to address matters of funding, health, safety, staffing and logistics; and we will have to consider the most effective ways to compensate for any negative impacts that the pandemic has had on learning. I'm so pleased that I will have capable legislators helping me on the committee."

Sen. Zenzinger's background is in education: She has multiple advanced degrees in education, and she is the only certified teacher in the State Senate. She proudly notes that she is a fifth-generation teacher, and she has won several legislative awards in education, including "Legislator of the Year" from the Colorado Community College System in 2014, and the "Rural Schools Champion" from the Rural Schools Alliance in 2018.

Transportation issues have also occupied much of her attention during her time in the Senate in recent years, and she has immersed herself in successful bipartisan efforts to fund roads, bridges and other infrastructure. She won the "Transportation Funding Champion" award from the Colorado Construction Association in 2018. She was a member of two key Denver-area boards with a focus on transportation: the Transit Alliance and the Denver Regional Council of Governments.

"The debate over the most reasonable ways to fund transportation needs in Colorado will probably never disappear, but I look forward to working with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to come up with some workable proposals," she said.

For more information about Sen. Zenzinger, go to www.RachelforColorado.com. She also invites email and phone inquiries at SenatorRachelZ@gmail.com and at 303-748-0770.

About Sen. Rachel Zenzinger

After winning re-election to the Colorado State Senate in November 2020, Sen. Zenzinger has now served continuously since January 2017, on top of a brief term in 2014. She served as the chair of the Senate Appropriations Committee, Vice-Chair of the Statutory Revision Committee, and as a member of the Joint Budget Committee. Her district is SD-19, which encompasses the Jefferson County portion of Westminster and most of Arvada.