

B 2010-009

EXECUTIVE ORDER

Creating the Governor's Advisory Committee on Venture Capital Investment in Aerospace, Bioscience, Renewable Energy, and Information Communication Technology

Pursuant to the authority vested in the Office of the Governor of the State of Colorado, and in particular, pursuant to Article IV, section 2, of the Colorado Constitution, I, Bill Ritter, Jr., Governor of the State of Colorado, hereby issue this Executive Order creating the Governor's Advisory Committee on Venture Capital Investment in Aerospace, Bioscience, Renewable Energy, and Information Communication Technology.

I. Background and Purpose

Colorado is known for its entrepreneurial spirit. Many of Colorado's successful companies began in the state as small and innovative companies and have remained in the state due to their connections here. However, because Colorado is home to only a small number of venture capital and investment firms, these early stage companies are stretched for homegrown investment capital. In order to grow the key industries within the state, Colorado needs to motivate investors and venture capital firms to locate offices and invest resources in Colorado.

The Governor's Advisory Committee on Venture Capital Investment in Aerospace, Bioscience, Renewable Energy, and Information Communication Technology (hereinafter "the Advisory Committee") will assist the state in attracting capital for the targeted industries in Colorado by providing open communication between the venture capital community, key leaders in the target industries, and the Governor's Office of Economic Development and International Trade.

The Advisory Committee will focus on the following four targeted industries.

A. Aerospace

Approximately 171,250 Coloradans are employed in aerospace related jobs. Colorado is the home to Air Force and Army Space Command, NORAD, and USNORTHCOM. Further, seven of the nation's top aerospace contractors have significant operations in Colorado. Colorado is also home to NASA's \$8.2 billion Orion Crew Exploration Vehicle. The U.S. Air Force Academy boasts the number two aerospace engineering program in the country, and in 2007, the

University of Colorado ranked second among public institutions for receipt of NASA research expenditures. Finally, space employment in Colorado grew 13.1 percent between 2004 and 2009, compared to 10.1 percent nationally, establishing aerospace as a key growth market for Colorado.

B. Bioscience

The bioscience industry is widespread and thriving across Colorado. The sector employs over eighteen thousand Coloradans. From 2002 to 2006, bioscience employment grew 5.5 percent, and academic research and development grew more than 72 percent in Colorado. Of medium sized metros nationwide, Boulder ranks 1st in the size of its medical device sector. Fort Collins has added 37 percent to its bioscience employment base since 2001. In addition, University of Colorado research and technology has spawned thirty-eight bioscience companies. Overall, Colorado ranked eleventh in bioscience venture capital investments between 2002 and 2007, and could advance higher in the rankings with the assistance of the Advisory Committee.

C. Renewable Energy

In 2007, Colorado was ranked fourth nationwide in renewable energy and energy research employment. There are approximately 1,380 renewable energy and energy companies in Colorado, and Colorado is fifth in the number of science and engineering graduate students. In addition, Golden is home to the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (“NREL”).

Coloradans are heavily invested in multiple sectors of the renewable energy market. The State ranks eleventh in the U.S. for wind energy potential. The southwest portion of the state offers solar quality potential of 26 gigawatts. And Colorado could produce an estimated 5.2 billion kWh from biomass fuel. As one of the fastest growing industries in the nation, it is in Colorado’s best interest to continue to grow its local renewable energy industry.

D. Information Communication Technology

Colorado has more than 5,000 small software and hardware companies – the highest density of such companies anywhere in the United States. The State is also home to over 500,000 entrepreneurs and small businesses – a number that is continually growing. Furthermore, Colorado's high-tech industry added 5,100 net jobs to its economy, totaling 166,300 in 2008

II. Mission and Scope

The mission of the Advisory Committee is to provide support and encourage the growth of investments in four targeted industries: aerospace, bioscience, renewable energy, and information communication technology. In support of this mission, the Advisory Committee shall:

- A. Serve at the direction of the Governor's Office of Economic Development and International Trade as an advisory group supporting Colorado's efforts to engage the venture capital and investment community.
- B. Meet with the Governor on a quarterly basis to create a strategic plan on how to engage new investors, encourage investment, and grow both industry clusters.
- C. Develop and assist in the execution of any action items or plans to facilitate the growth of the investment within the state.

III. Membership

- A. The Advisory Committee will convene local venture capitalists involved in the targeted industries and key industry leaders from the state to discuss strategies to improve access to capital for companies and grow the investment community in the state.
- B. The Advisory Committee shall consist of seventeen members, appointed by and serving at the pleasure of the Governor, as follows:
 - 1. Three members from the aerospace industry, selected with the advice of the Office of Economic Development and International Trade;
 - 2. Three members from the bioscience industry, selected with the advice of the Colorado Bioscience Association;
 - 3. Three members from the renewable energy industry, selected with the advice of the Colorado Clean Industry Association;
 - 4. Three members from the information communication technology industry, selected with the advice of the Office of Economic Development and International Trade;
 - 5. Three venture capital investors from Colorado-based venture capital firms; and
 - 6. Two at-large members with expertise in finance.

- C. The Governor shall appoint one member of the Advisory Committee to serve as Chair of the Advisory Committee.
- D. The Advisory Committee may establish working groups, task forces, or other structures from within its membership or outside its membership as needed to address specific issues or to assist it in its work.
- E. The Advisory Committee shall meet regularly at the direction of its chair. Working groups, task forces or other structures established by the Advisory Committee shall determine their own meeting schedules.

IV. Staffing and Resources

The Advisory Committee shall have the power to accept money and in-kind contributions from private entities and persons only to the extent such donations are necessary to cover its expenses. Any money contributed to the Advisory Committee shall be directed to the Office of the Governor and deposited with the Treasurer of the State of Colorado in an account within the Office of the Governor's budget. Members of the Advisory Committee shall serve without compensation, but may, at the discretion of the chair and approval of the Office of the Governor, be reimbursed for any actual expenses incurred.

V. Directive

The Governor's Advisory Committee on Venture Capital Investment in Aerospace, Bioscience, Renewable Energy, and Information Communication Technology is hereby created.

VI. Duration

This Executive Order shall remain in force until modified or rescinded by a subsequent Executive Order.

GIVEN under my hand and the
Executive Seal of the State of
Colorado this twenty-seventh of
May, 2010.

Bill Ritter, Jr.
Governor