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## **State Representative Sal Pace to address PCC graduates, guests**

**PUEBLO** – First-year State Representative Sal Pace, a Pueblo Democrat who represents House District 46, will deliver the keynote address at Pueblo Community College’s commencement this spring. Graduates of the Pueblo and Fremont campuses will be recognized at the ceremony that will begin at 7 p.m. Friday, May 1, at the Colorado State Fair Events Center.



Pace currently serves on the House Majority leadership team as the Majority Assistant Caucus Chair and sits on three committees – the influential Appropriations Committee, the Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee and the Judiciary Committee. His primary focus at the legislature has been to help stimulate the economy and create new jobs in Pueblo.

While Pace is a freshman in the State House, his experience is extensive in the legislative process. He has been working on legislation and policy that support Pueblo for the better part of a decade as a chief aide in both the Colorado State House and in the U.S. Congress.

Previously, he served as Director of U.S. Congressman John Salazar's district offices across the state, managing issues important to Southern Colorado including water, education, health care, job creation, Pinon Canyon, renewable energy, transportation and economic development.

Pace has strong Colorado roots. The youngest of nine children, he has been a resident of Southern Colorado since he was a teenager. At the age of 17, he saved money for college by working at his family's car repair shop in San Miguel County.

Then he attended Fort Lewis College, where he majored in Political Science and was a campus leader, being involved in student government and organizing the “Get Out the Vote” campaigns each November. He was later appointed by the State Board of

Agriculture to serve on the Presidential Search Committee to name the new college president at Fort Lewis College.

After completing his bachelor's degree studies, Sal went on to graduate school at Louisiana State University, where he received a master's degree in American Political Theory. He paid for his school costs by tutoring students and being a teaching assistant.

He has used his leadership skills in the Pueblo community by being a member of:

- The Sons of Italy of Southern Colorado
- The Knights of Columbus
- La Familia, a Pueblo Italian organization
- The Pueblo Chicano Democratic Caucus
- The Pueblo Latino Chamber of Commerce
- The Cathedral of the Sacred Heart parish

He also is a former organizer of Enable America, which empowers the disabled community.

Sal also has a connection to local education by being:

- An adjunct professor at CSU-Pueblo
- A former professor at PCC's Southwest Campus
- A member who served on Pueblo City Schools' Strategic Plan Core Team

Pace, his wife Marlene and their son Wyatt live in central Pueblo. They are expecting another baby this month.

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*Founded in 1933, Pueblo Community College is a premier teaching institution focused on providing academic and service excellence to help its students acquire the 21<sup>st</sup> Century skills needed to better their lives. An educational and technological leader, PCC fosters economic development and utilizes strong partnerships in the communities it serves through its Pueblo, Fremont and Southwest campuses.*