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Small business gears up

By Gail L. Pitts, Denver Post Business Writer

Organizers of Colorado's small business conference to be held Tuesday hope the state's delegation can take some fresh ideas to the National White House Conference on Small Business next year.

The conference is designed to establish an action agenda for small business interests as well as legislative platforms to present to Congress. And unlike the first conference in 1980, the August 1986 session in Washington, D.C., will address the pressing issues of taxation, regulation, economic policy and procurement.

"I'm working to inject into the conference addressing long-term needs of small business," said Thomas Brock, Longmont accountant who sat on the 1984 Small Business National Issues Conference representing the American Institute of CPAs.

Sense of role

"I'd like to wrap around the White House Conference a sense of the role of small business in the 20th century. You have to remember that the major contribution of the 1980 conference was to demonstrate that we were all playing from the same music."

The 1980 White House conference developed 60 recommendations, of which 38 have been wholly or partially implemented by Congress or federal agencies.

Colorado's conference will elect 16 delegates to the White House Conference. Gov. Dick Lamm and members of the state's congressional delegation will each appoint a delegate to bring Colorado's representation to 25 out of 1,823 delegates.

More than 300 participants are expected at Tuesday's meeting and officials said that about 75 percent of participants who have pre-registered have indicated that they