



# 2025 Legislative Update

CML Advocacy and Legal Teams



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# Presenters

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# Budget

- The state faced a \$1.2 billion budget shortfall for FY 2025-2026.
- Municipalities saw approximately \$140 million in local government grant funding swept to balance the budget.
- Depending on Federal actions, there may be a special session called to re-balance the budget.
- The budget outlook is similarly bleak for FY 2026-2027.

# Accessibility

- HB25-1030 - Accessibility Standards in Building Codes
  - IBC and ADA standards
  - At adoption or amendment of new building code (not energy code)
- HB25-1152 - Tech Accessibility Liability Contractor
  - Mandatory contract provisions for digital accessibility compliance

# Beer & Liquor

- SB25-033 - Prohibit New Liquor-Licensed Drug Stores
- ~~SB25-132 - Spirituous Liquor Manufacturer Tastings Conducted~~

# Building Codes

- HB25-1060 - Electronic Fence Detection Systems
  - Alarm system permitting
  - Residential limits
- HB25-1077 - Backflow Prevention Devices Requirements
- HB25-1273 - Residential Building Stair Modernization
  - Jan. 1, 2027 in cities with 100,000+
  - 5 stories, 4 units per story

# Criminal Justice

- HB25-1087 – Confidentiality Requirements Mental Health Support
- HB25-1112 - Local Authorities Enforce Vehicle Registration
- HB25-1114 – Defense Review of Tangible Object for Criminal Trial
  - Defense counsel right to view tangible criminal evidence
  - Prohibits use of body-worn cameras by law enforcement

# Criminal Justice

- HB25-1136 – Peace Officer Conduct Database
- SB25-009 – Recognition of Tribal Court Orders
- SB25-310 - Proposition 130 Implementation
  - 10-year funding formula
  - Certification requirements to obtain funding
  - Reporting via annual audit or separate report if exempt from audits



# Elections

- SB25-001 - Colorado Voting Rights Act
  - Voter suppression
    - “Material disparity”
    - Burden-shifting framework
  - Voter dilution
    - “Polarized voting” or “totality of the circumstances”
  - Gender and confinement protections

# Elections

- SB25-001 - Colorado Voting Rights Act
  - Process
    - Standing
    - Pre-suit notice & option to modify practices
    - Judicial authority
      - To modify state or local law
      - No deference to local solution
  - Reporting
- Multi-lingual ballot options in municipal elections

# Elections

- HB25-1225 - Freedom from Intimidation in Elections Act
  - Similar to Federal Voting Rights Act
  - Firearm presumption of intimidation and law enforcement exception

# Employment

- HB25-1031 - Law Enforcement Whistleblower Protection
  - New cause of action for law enforcement whistleblowers
  - Exhaustion of internal administrative procedures
  - Training or notice
- HB25-1300 - Workers' Compensation Benefits Proof of Entitlement
- SB25-144 - Changes Paid Family Medical Leave Insurance Program

# Finance

- HB25-1224 - Revised Uniform Unclaimed Property Act Modifications
  - Eliminates local government exemption option
- SB25-023 - Local Government Audit Exemption Thresholds
- SB25-268 – Changes to Money in the Marijuana Cash Tax Fund

# Housing

- HB25-1272 - Construction Defects & Middle Market Housing
  - Fast track process (like Prop 123) for affordable condos
- SB25-002 - Regional Building Codes for Factory-Built Structures
  - Preemptive state regulation of construction and inspection
  - All structure types
  - Limit on more “restrictive standards” than comparable structures
- SB25-313 - Proposition 123 Revenue Uses

# Immigration

- SB25-276 - Protect Civil Rights Immigration Status
  - Prohibitions on state employees extended to political subdivision employees
  - Injunction and civil penalty for violations
  - Requirements for other entities including public libraries

# Land Use

- HB25-1056 - Local Government Permitting Wireless Telecommunications Facilities
  - 90 & 150 day “shot clocks” for all wireless facilities
  - Unpermitted non-substantial changes
- HB25-1093 – Limitations on Local Anti-Growth Land Use Policies
- HB25-1096 - Automated Permits for Clean Energy Technology
- ~~HB25-1169 - Housing Developments on Faith and Educational Land (YIGBY - Yes In God's Back Yard)~~



# Misc. Governmental Operations

- HB25-1029 - Municipal Authority Over Certain Land
- HB25-1208 - Local Governments Tip Offsets for Tipped Employees
- HB25-1295 - Food Truck Operations
- SB25-050 - Racial Classifications on Government Forms
- SB25-146 - Fingerprint-Based Criminal History Record Checks

# Municipal Courts

- SB25-062 - Failure to Appear Charges in Municipal Court
- ~~HB25-1147 - Fairness & Transparency in Municipal Court~~

# Municipal Liability

- HB25-1239 - Colorado Anti-Discrimination Act
  - Equalized damages include actual & non-economic damages
  - \$50,000 cap on non-economic damages with corrective action
- HB25-1312 - Legal Protections for Transgender Individuals
  - Discriminatory deadnaming or misgendered publication by place of public accommodation

# Special Districts

- HB25-1219 - Requirements for Better Understanding Metropolitan Districts
- HB25-1289 - Metropolitan District Leases & Property Tax Exemptions

# Taxation

- HB25-1247 - County Lodging Tax Expansion
- SB25-046 - Local Government Tax Audit Confidentiality Standards

# Transportation

- HB25-1039 - Commercial Vehicle Muffler Requirements
- HB25-1110 - Railroad Crossing Maintenance Costs
- SB25-030 - Increase Transportation Mode Choice Reduce Emissions
- SB25-069 - Tire Chain Traction Control Device Permit
- SB25-161 - Transit Reform

# Utilities

- HB25-1292 - Transmission Lines in State Highway Rights-of-Way
- SB25-031 - Single Point of Contact Wireless Services
- SB25-037 - Coal Transition Grants
- SB25-068 - Municipal Utility Unclaimed Utility Deposit Program

# Water

- HB25-1113 - Limit Turf in New Residential Development
- SB25-040 - Future of Severance Taxes & Water Funding Task Force
- SB25-305 - Water Quality Permitting Efficiency



# THANK YOU!



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## Questions?

**Contact CML anytime!**

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