

2026

LAWS ENACTED

AFFECTING COLORADO MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENTS





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CML ADVOCACY TEAM



LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY MANAGER

BEVERLY STABLES

Beverly leads CML's advocacy team. She is responsible for advocating municipal interests before the state legislature. Her issues include public health; substance abuse; affordable housing; land use and annexation; air quality; transportation and transit; and sustainability. She also assists in training and answering inquiries for other municipal officials on various topics. Beverly joined CML in October 2023.



LEGISLATIVE & POLICY ADVOCATE

OWEN BRIGNER

Owen is responsible for advocating municipal interests before the state legislature. His issues include criminal justice, public safety, governmental immunity, municipal courts, immigration, telecom/broadband/IT, artificial intelligence (AI), and utilities. He also assists in training and answering inquiries for municipal officials on various topics. Owen joined CML in August 2025.



LEGISLATIVE & POLICY ADVOCATE

EMMA DONAHUE

Emma is responsible for advocating municipal interests before the state legislature. Her issues include elections, natural resources and environment, oil and gas, open meetings and open records, severance tax, water, and wildfires. She also assists in training and answering inquiries for municipal officials on various topics. Emma previously worked for the National Endowment for Financial Education as well as high profile legislative, city council, and state level candidates across the state. Emma joined CML in August 2025.



LEGISLATIVE & POLICY ADVOCATE

ELIZABETH HASKELL

Elizabeth is responsible for advocating municipal interests before the state legislature. Her issues include beer & liquor; employment & labor; retirement/pensions; taxation & fiscal policy; lottery & gaming; historic preservation; municipal debt & finance; marijuana and regulated substances; and purchasing. She also assists in training and answering inquiries for other municipal officials on various topics. Elizabeth joined CML in October 2023.

New Laws of SPECIAL INTEREST

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GLOSSARY

BHA	Behavioral Health Administration
CDPHE	Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment
CEO	Colorado Energy Office
CHFA	Colorado Housing and Finance Authority
DCJ	Division of Criminal Justice
DOLA	Department of Local Affairs
DOR	Department of Revenue
DORA	Department of Regulatory Agencies
DPS	Department of Public Safety
OEDIT	Office of Economic Development and International Trade
PACFA	Pet Animal Care and Facilities Act
POST	Peace Officer Standards and Training
PUC	Public Utilities Commission

2026 Colorado Laws Enacted Affecting Municipal GOVERNMENTS

to intervene to expend funds to maintain and operate a failing water system when abandonment proceedings have begun.
Effective: May 26, 2026. Lobbyist: Bev Stables

ACCESSIBILITY

HB26-1417

Colorado Anti-Discrimination Act Testing Entities

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/HB26-1417>

The act expands the definition of a “testing entity” for the purposes of professional licensing to include private businesses. The act requires testing entities to provide accommodations to individuals with a disability taking an exam for professional licensing. Local governments and the state were already subject to this requirement. **Effective: Aug. 12, 2026.** Lobbyist: Bev Stables

See also: **BUILDING CODES** (SB26-109: Building Code Accessibility); **HOUSING** (HB26-1045: Disabilities Housing Protections)

ANNEXATION

HB26-1253

Disconnection from Statutory Municipality

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/HB26-1253>

The act prohibits the disconnection from a statutory municipality by judicial decree when the land is included in an urban renewal area under an urban renewal plan or, pursuant to a service plan or intergovernmental agreements, receives or will receive services from a special district. The act also provides affected urban renewal authorities and special districts with notice of proposed disconnection application to a governing body and an opportunity to discuss the impacts with the governing body. **Effective: Aug. 12, 2026.** Lobbyist: Bev Stables

SB26-157

Determination of Town Abandonment

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/SB26-157>

The act removes the five-year waiting period for abandonment for towns that lack a governing body and town clerk, have no capacity to have an election, and own or operate critical water or wastewater infrastructure. A county, landowner, or registered elector can apply to the secretary of state for a determination of abandonment. The act removes liability for preexisting conditions of the infrastructure and permits the CDPHE and DPS

Artificial INTELLIGENCE

HB26-1263

Conversational Artificial Intelligence Service Operator Requirements

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/HB26-1263>

The act regulates conversational artificial intelligence service that simulates human conversation to address concerns regarding sexually explicit conduct or depictions or suicidal ideation or self-harm. The act applies to any entity that develops and makes publicly available a conversational artificial intelligence service that simulates human conversation or offers such a service to a consumer. The act does not apply to applications that primarily related to assisting commerce or transactions, provide outputs on narrow and discrete topics, are used internally, or meet other exceptions. **Effective: Aug. 12, 2026.** Lobbyist: Bev Stables

SB26-189

Automated Decision-Making Technology

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/SB26-189>

The act replaces Colorado’s original artificial intelligence statute (enacted by SB24-205). The act requires developers to provide deployers with information regarding the intended uses, known limits, and known harms of “automated decision-making technology” (ADMT), the type of data on which the ADMT was trained, instructions for appropriate use, monitoring, and meaningful human review, and information for the deployer to comply with statutory requirements. **Effective: May 14, 2026.** Lobbyist: Bev Stables

Beer & LIQUOR

SB26-114

Spirituous Liquor Manufacturer Sales Rooms & Other Alcohol

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/SB26-114>

The act allows a manufacturer of spirituous liquors to apply for a local permit and, if approved, a state permit, to serve and sell alcohol acquired from wholesalers at the manufacturer’s licensed premises and each permitted sales room. The

act authorizes local licensing authorities to conduct a full investigation and consider the factors typically considered for issuance of a local liquor license; local licensing authorities can also charge fees as authorized in the act. If a manufacturer obtains the local and state permit, it must serve sandwiches and light snacks, and the sale of alcohol acquired from wholesalers cannot account for more than 50% of the gross annual revenue from alcohol sales. Local permits are valid for one year and are subject to revocation or suspension like any other local liquor license. **Effective: Aug. 12, 2026.** Lobbyist: Elizabeth Haskell

Broadband & TELECOM

HB26-1115

Prepaid Wireless Telecom Service Modifications

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/HB26-1115>

The act corrects a DORA rule that would have cut a combined \$21,000,000 from 911 and 988 behavioral crisis hotline services. The act opens communication channels between the three enterprise funds governing these services, which include the 911 services enterprise, 988 behavioral crisis enterprise, and the telephone disability access enterprise to prevent underpayment, ensuring full collection of service charges. The act also modifies the definition of “prepaid wireless” service to include all forms of payment for telephone services that is paid in advance, sold in predetermined units of time or money that decline with use or provides unlimited use of the service for a fixed time, and allows a user to make 911 calls. **Effective: March 27, 2026.** Lobbyist: Owen Brigner

BUILDING CODES

SB26-109

Building Code Accessibility

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/SB26-109>

The act modifies standards for accessible housing constructed using either public or private funds. Updated definitions include the repeal of “ground story level” and the addition of “accessible story” “dwelling unit,” and updated building code references. The act updates requirements for implementation plans for private developments. **Effective: May 5, 2026.** Lobbyist: Bev Stables

Criminal JUSTICE

CRIMINAL & TRAFFIC OFFENSES

HB26-1101

Criminal Offenses Related to Critical Infrastructure Metals

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/HB26-1101>

The act defines critical infrastructure material and regulates the sale and possession of such material in the same manner as commodity metals. Owners of junk stores and salvage yards must comply with specific requirements when conducting transactions involving critical infrastructure material, including making their book or register available to law enforcement upon request. The act prohibits a buyer from possessing critical infrastructure material without the requisite affidavit; a violation is a class 2 misdemeanor if the amount is less than \$1,000, a class 1 misdemeanor if between \$1,000 and \$2,000, and a class 6 felony if above \$2,000. If a buyer unknowingly takes possession of critical infrastructure material, they must notify law enforcement or a municipal code enforcement agency; failure to report such stolen materials ranges from a class 2 misdemeanor to a class 6 felony depending on the value of the materials. The act also modifies criminal classifications for theft of commodity metals so that theft of any metals of \$2,000 or more constitutes a class 6 felony. **Effective: July 1, 2026.** Lobbyist: Owen Brigner

HB26-1144

Prohibit Three-Dimensional Printing Firearms & Components

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/HB26-1144>

The act defines three-dimensional (3D) printing and prohibits a person from knowingly manufacturing or producing a firearm or firearm component using a 3D printer or similar device. A violation is a class 1 misdemeanor; a second or subsequent violation is a class 5 felony. The act sets forth exclusions for federally licensed firearm manufacturers and institutions, instructors, and students of an accredited gunsmithing program. **Effective: July 1, 2026.** Lobbyist: Owen Brigner

HB26-1342

Negligently Luring Bears

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/HB26-1342>

The act lowers the mental state for unlawfully luring wild bears to food from intentional to knowing. The act removes the requirement to issue a warning for a first violation and raises the fine for a third or subsequent violation from \$2,000 to \$5,000. **Effective: Aug. 12, 2026.** Lobbyist: Owen Brigner

HB26-1422

Security Measures for Certain Government Entities

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/HB26-1422>

Among other things, the act makes doxxing of an elected official (including a local elected or appointed official) or their immediate family a class 1 misdemeanor if it poses an imminent and serious threat to their safety and the person knew or reasonably should know of the risk. The act allows the official to request that a state or local government redact their personal information from records made available on the internet.

Effective: June 2, 2026. Lobbyist: Owen Brigner

SB26-013

Exclude Cohabitation from Elements of Bigamy

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/SB26-013>

The act eliminates cohabitation as an element of the criminal offense of bigamy. **Effective: Aug. 12, 2026.** Lobbyist: Owen Brigner

SB26-015

Commercial Sexual Activity with a Child Offenses

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/SB26-015>

The act changes child prostitution terminology to commercial sexual activity terminology for enumerated crimes and makes other changes to the elements of those crimes. The act also makes internet luring of a child a class 3 felony when the offense is committed with the intent to meet for the purpose of engaging in commercial sexual activity. Finally, the act establishes sentencing requirements for these types of crimes. **Effective: July 1, 2026.** Lobbyist: Owen Brigner

SB26-035

Increase of Traffic Violation Penalties

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/SB26-035>

The act increases penalties for illegally overtaking a vehicle on the left in a no-passing zone; for multiple speeding violations over 75 miles per hour or in excess of 20 miles per hour over the speed limit with a one-, two-, or five-year period; for drivers driving 100 miles per hour or faster; and for violating regulations regarding transporting hazardous materials by motor vehicle. If a driver has multiple speeding violations within a one-, two-, or five-year period, a peace officer must issue a summons and complaint rather than a penalty assessment. **Effective: Aug. 12, 2026.** Lobbyist: Owen Brigner

SB26-072

Increased Penalty for Vehicular Homicide & Assault

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/sb26-072>

The act adds driving a motor vehicle with criminal negligence and proximately causing the death of another person to criminally negligent homicide, which is a class 5 felony.

Effective: Aug. 12, 2026. Lobbyist: Owen Brigner

See also: **ELECTIONS** (HB26-1113: Modifications to Elections); **EMPLOYMENT** (HB26-1283: Protections Regarding Seizures of Identification Documents)

LAW ENFORCEMENT GRANT FUNDING

HB26-1138

Retail Theft Prevention Program

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/HB26-1138>

The act creates a Retail Theft Prevention Advisory Board in the Division of Criminal Justice under DPS with the task of analyzing ways to combat felony-level retail theft and gift card fraud and to administer a grant program to fund those counter measures. Membership of the advisory board includes one representative from local government and two representatives from local law enforcement agencies. The act also extends the crime prevention through safer streets grant program through November 1, 2029, and allows awarded funds from the retail theft grant program to be used for the safer streets grant program. **Effective: Aug. 12, 2026.** Lobbyist: Owen Brigner

HB26-1405

Cash Fund Transfers to General Fund

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/HB26-1405>

The act reduced funding for various programs, including: DOLA's Peace Officers Mental Health Support Grant Program (a one-time reduction of \$400,000 for the 2026-27 state budget cycle); CBI's Identification Unit Fund (a one-time reduction of \$1,000,000 for the 2026-27 state budget cycle); DCJ's Multidisciplinary Crime Prevention and Crisis Intervention Grant Program (a one-time reduction of \$427,113 for the 2026-27 budget cycle); DCJ's Law Enforcement Workforce Recruitment, Retention, and Tuition Grant Program (a one-time reduction of \$111,191 for the 2026-27 state budget cycle); and DCJ's SMART Policing Grant Program (a one-time reduction of \$686,890).

Effective: June 4, 2026. Lobbyist: Emma Donahue

HB26-1410

2026-27 Long Appropriations Bill

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/HB26-1410>

The Colorado State Patrol's Colorado Auto Theft Prevention Authority (CATPA) received a permanent cut of \$7,225,616 for the 2026-27 state budget cycle, effectively eliminating the program. **Effective: May 8, 2026.** Lobbyist: Owen Brigner

LAW ENFORCEMENT OPERATIONS

HB26-1009

Colorado Mandatory Lethality Assessment Act

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/HB26-1009>

Beginning July 1, 2027, a peace officer must conduct a lethality assessment to include with the incident report when responding to a domestic violence incident unless it is impossible or

impracticable to do so. If the assessment indicates or a peace officer determines that the victim is high risk, the officer must immediately contact a community-based victim's advocate and give the victim the opportunity to speak with the advocate. The act directs the Attorney General's Office to develop training by June 1, 2027, for peace officers to learn how to administer this process; beginning July 1, 2027, law enforcement agencies must ensure each officer completes the mandatory training unless the officer was previously trained on lethality assessments. Law enforcement agencies must annually report certain data to the Attorney General's Office for inclusion in an annual report. The act disclaims liability for individuals acting in good faith in administering a lethality assessment. **Effective: June 3, 2026.** Lobbyist: Owen Brigner

HB26-1020

Colorimetric Field Drug Tests in Drug Possessions

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/HB26-1020>

The act provides that if a colorimetric field drug test is used and the person is suspected of solely a level 1 drug misdemeanor for possession or a municipal drug possession charge, a peace officer cannot arrest the person and, instead, must issue a summons and complaint. Additionally, when a colorimetric field drug test has been used, before accepting a plea from a person charged with a level 4 drug felony possession or lower, including a municipal drug possession offense, the court must issue a specific advisement about the known error rates for such tests and the right to enter a not guilty plea and to request drug testing from an accredited forensic laboratory. **Effective: March 26, 2026.** Lobbyist: Owen Brigner

HB26-1039

Adding Municipal Jails to County Jail Oversight Requirements

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/HB26-1039>

The act defines municipal jails and requires these facilities to meet county jail standards beginning July 1, 2027. In addition, municipal jails must adhere to stricter reporting and release requirements when a pregnant person is in custody in the jail and is in labor. The act also adds a non-voting municipal representative to the Jail Standards Advisory Committee. **Effective: Aug. 12, 2026.** Lobbyist: Owen Brigner

HB26-1052

Rights for Victims of Certain Crimes

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/HB26-1052>

The act creates new rights under the Victim Rights Act related to wrongful actions by a crime laboratory employee; use of an abbreviation, pseudonym, initials, or another preferred name during hearings; and the right to be heard at a restitution assessment hearing. The act also prohibits a defendant or alleged offender in the underlying case from being the lawful representative of a victim if the victim is a child or at-risk adult. **Effective: Aug. 12, 2026.** Lobbyist: Owen Brigner

HB26-1103

Report Child Sexual Assault & Courtroom Testimony

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/HB26-1103>

The act requires law enforcement agencies and peace officers to provide certain notifications after taking a report of an alleged unlawful sexual offense (C.R.S. § 18-3-411(1)) and conducting a "minimal facts interview" with the child. Notification must be provided to a child advocacy center in the judicial district where the crime occurred or, if reported in a different jurisdiction than where the offense occurred, the "appropriate jurisdiction" in the agency's or officer's discretion. The agency or peace officer must coordinate a forensic interview, if necessary and appropriate, in collaboration with the child advocacy center. **Effective: May 4, 2026.** Lobbyist: Owen Brigner

HB26-1110

Vulnerable Adult Financial Exploitation Banking

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/HB26-1110>

The act creates the Adults' Security and Safeguards from Exploitation in Transactions Act (ASSET Act), which requires certain individuals with financial institutions to take certain steps when they reasonably suspect that a vulnerable adult is the victim of financial exploitation. One of the required steps is notifying appropriate local law enforcement or the county agency that handles adult protective services where the eligible adult resides. Financial institutions must also provide law enforcement access to or copies of records relevant to the suspected financial exploitation, which records are not considered public records. **Effective: Aug. 12, 2026.** Lobbyist: Owen Brigner

HB26-1123

Preventing Sexual Abuse in Jails

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/HB26-1123>

The act imposes requirements for strip searches of inmates detained in a local detention facility, which includes a county or municipal jail, but not a temporary holding facility. The act limits access to body-worn video recordings of strip searches. Local detention facilities must have specified written policies in place, inform prisoners of their rights under the act and resources available to them, designate a Prison Rape Elimination Act of 2003 coordinator and make their contact information available to the public, and submit an annual report with specified data on strip searches. Finally, the act implements whistleblower protections for detention facility staff and requires revocation of POST certification from an officer found to have sexually abused an inmate. **Effective: May 27, 2026.** Lobbyist: Owen Brigner

HB26-1185

Sunset Cold Case Task Force

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/HB26-1185>

The act extends the Cold Case Task Force through 2039 and permits the addition of members with knowledge and

experience in emerging technologies. **Effective: Aug. 12, 2026.**
Lobbyist: Owen Brigner

HB26-1237

Transportation Safety Modifications

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/HB26-1237>

The act modifies state parking laws to prohibit stopping, standing, or parking in bike lanes. The act also clarifies authorization to move attended or unattended vehicles, cargo, or debris when it impedes traffic or highway operations. The act limits the use of four-wheel drive or all-wheel drive vehicles when travel is restricted for ice or snow-packed conditions. The act also changes statutory references to “accident” to “crash” or “incident.” **Effective: Aug. 12, 2026.** Lobbyist: Bev Stables

HB26-1250

Procedures Related to Civil Asset Forfeiture

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/HB26-1250>

The act narrows one of the exceptions that allows a civil asset forfeiture case to proceed without a criminal conviction to require a criminal conviction of the nonowner in the underlying criminal offense related to the property subject to the forfeiture. The act also establishes a right to forfeiture defense counsel, creating a fund to pay for such counsel with money coming from a portion of the forfeiture proceeds and by shifting any unexpended and unencumbered money in the law enforcement community services grant program to the forfeiture defense counsel fund. Up to \$55,000 per year of forfeiture proceeds must go to DOLA for civil asset forfeiture grant and portal administration. **Effective: July 1, 2026.** Lobbyist: Owen Brigner

HB26-1265

Law Enforcement National Electronic Tracing System & Share Program

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/HB26-1265>

The act requires every local law enforcement agency to register for the United States bureau of alcohol, tobacco, firearms, and explosives national electronic tracing system by Sept. 1, 2026, and to transmit information about each firearm it recovers or confiscates to the system within 90 days, subject to certain exceptions. **Effective: Aug. 12, 2026.** Lobbyist: Owen Brigner

HB26-1276

Protect Safety of Individuals Who Are Immigrants

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/HB26-1276>

The act authorizes a public health agency to inspect a facility that houses or detains individuals who are noncitizens for purposes of civil immigration proceedings and expands CDPHE’s inspection authority, including authorization to set inspection fees and to impose a civil penalty of up to \$50,000 if a facility refuses to allow inspection. CDPHE is authorized to impose other requirements on such facilities; failure to

comply is subject to a civil penalty of up to \$50,000. The act also requires the POST board to establish training standards related to peace officer compliance with current laws concerning immigration detainees; officers as of July 1, 2026, must complete such training before Dec. 31, 2027. The attorney general must develop and make available a policy regarding current laws protecting personal identifying information. **Effective: June 4, 2026.** Lobbyist: Owen Brigner

HB26-1312

Peace Officers Standards & Training Board Changes

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/hb26-1312>

The act requires the attorney general to submit a proposal to POST by Dec. 30, 2030, to update law enforcement training academy programs. The act also changes the membership of the POST board by reducing the number of law enforcement head officials, reducing non-law-enforcement members, increasing the number of line officers, and adding representatives from training academies and reserve officers. Under the act, a person must be at least 21 years of age to be a certified peace officer. **Effective: Aug. 12, 2026.** Lobbyist: Owen Brigner

HB26-1426

Department of Law Legislative Report

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/HB26-1426>

Amongst other changes, the act modifies pattern-and-practice investigations by the attorney general’s office to specify that the attorney general may apply for an order from a district court when a governmental entity fails to obey a subpoena issued as part of an investigation. If the court finds that reasonable grounds exist, it may require the attendance of the person, the production of documents by the person, or both. **Effective: Aug. 12, 2026.** Lobbyist: Owen Brigner

SB26-011

Search Warrants Provided to Covered Platforms

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/SB26-011>

The act requires covered online or mobile platforms to comply with a search warrant within 72 hours of receiving the warrant under specified conditions. A court can extend the time to respond for good cause so long as there would not be an adverse result; failure to comply supports a finding of contempt. The act also requires covered platforms to establish a streamlined process to allow law enforcement agencies to contact the platform at all times, which must include a staffed hotline to receive and respond to questions about search warrants, acknowledge receipt of search warrants, and provide status updates on warrants. The attorney general or a district attorney can enforce the act. **Effective: Aug. 12, 2026.** Lobbyist: Owen Brigner

SB26-085

Military Protection Orders

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/SB26-085>

When a peace officer has reasonable suspicion that a crime of domestic violence has occurred, the act requires the officer to search the National Crime Information Center (NCIC) database to determine whether there is a military protection order against one of the parties. If such an order exists, the officer must notify the military law enforcement agency that entered the protection order into NCIC. **Effective: Aug. 12, 2026.** Lobbyist: Owen Brigner

SB26-095

Measures to Support Victim-Survivors of Crimes

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/SB26-095>

Among other things, the act requires that annual peace officer in-service training programs (to be completed every five years by officers) include a two-hour training regarding impacts of trauma on victim-survivors and officer responses to victim-survivors experiencing or responding to trauma. Funding through the peace officer training and support fund can be used for training on these subjects. The act also voids pre-dispute arbitration agreements and joint-action waivers upon the request of an individual alleging conduct that results in a sexual harassment dispute or sexual misconduct dispute. **Effective: May 19, 2026.** Lobbyist: Owen Brigner

SB26-104

Require Key Boxes at Schools

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/SB26-104>

The act requires schools to install an exterior key box at a location to give law enforcement emergency access to each building and room. The location is determined in consultation with law enforcement. Key boxes must include keys or other access control devices and maps; their contents are not public records. **Effective: Aug. 12, 2026.** Lobbyist: Owen Brigner

SB26-120

Missing Person Training & Higher Education Reporting

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/SB26-120>

Among other changes, the act requires peace officer certification or renewal programs to include training on missing persons alerts. DPS is required to create, but not administer, this training program. Additionally, the act requires institutions of higher education to notify law enforcement of a missing student under certain circumstances and to make certain related records available to law enforcement agencies upon request. **Effective: Aug. 12, 2026.** Lobbyist: Owen Brigner

SB26-132

Voluntary Alcohol Breath Test

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/SB26-132>

If a driver is involved in a collision resulting in death or suspected serious bodily injury, a peace officer must offer the driver the opportunity to voluntarily submit to a breath test when (1) there is reasonable suspicion that the individual is the driver and is at fault; (2) the suspected driver is not significantly injured or in need of medical attention; and (3) the officer does not have probable cause for the expressed consent requirements. The act provides for exceptions to this requirement and details what must be included in the advisement to the driver. **Effective: Aug. 12, 2026.** Lobbyist: Owen Brigner

SB26-190

Release Information About Peace Officer Use of Force

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/SB26-190>

The act requires a law enforcement agency or multi-agency team investigating a peace officer use of force resulting in death to provide certain notifications to each person in a decedent's immediate family known to the agency within 24 hours after the scene of the incident is cleared. The act also requires law enforcement agencies to make reasonable efforts to identify the immediate family of an individual who dies as a result of a peace officer's use of force, and provide the immediate family and a person designated by the family, all unedited audio and video recordings of the incident within 21 days after the incident regardless of whether there is a complaint of misconduct; recipients can decline to receive the recordings. Such audio and video recordings cannot be released to the public until after the 21-day period for providing the recordings to the family, and only if there is a complaint of misconduct. The act ensures that the decedent's immediate family can also obtain any withheld audio and video recordings following the completion of an internal investigation and criminal case. Finally, the act establishes requirements around extrajudicial statements made by law enforcement agencies regarding investigations into criminal matters involving the use of force by a peace officer that results in death and standards for community or critical incident briefing videos. **Effective: June 3, 2026.** Lobbyist: Owen Brigner

See also: **PUBLIC SAFETY** (SB26-004: Expand List of Petitioners for Protection Order); **TRANSPORTATION** (HB26-1318: Traffic Safety Near Schools; SB26-152: Changes Automated Vehicle Identification System Usage)

ELECTIONS

HB26-1113

Modifications to Elections

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/HB26-1113>

Among other things, the act:

- Permits the governor to declare a disaster emergency based on the actual or imminent threat of inability to strictly comply with the Uniform Election Code for any natural or human cause. The act permits the secretary of state to establish rules to conduct elections under such a declaration and establishes an advisory group.
- Modifies provisions of the Uniform Election Code without making similar changes to Title 31 elections and initiatives and referenda (including requirements for petition signature, voter challenges, and timing for issuing mail ballots).
- May increase the frequency of determinations regarding the coverage multilingual ballot requirements.
- Modifies Title 1 election offenses to limit interference within 100 feet of polling locations or drop-off locations (as opposed to while inside a voting area); to prohibit recklessly impeding or threatening electors dropping off up to 10 mail ballots; and to confirm that a peace officer carrying a firearm at a polling location or drop box must be doing so in the performance of lawful duties and not interfering or intimidating voters in violation of statutes.
- Permits employees to be absent for two hours for the purpose of voting on any day when voter service centers and polling centers are open (as opposed to only the day of the election).

Effective: June 1, 2026. Lobbyist: Emma Donahue

EMPLOYMENT

HB26-1272

Extreme Temperatures Worker Protections

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/HB26-1272>

The act indicates a need to establish statewide protections for workers from extreme heat and requires the Division of Labor Standards and Statistics in CDLE to collect data regarding workers' temperature-related injury, illnesses, and emergencies. The division must create a model TRIIP (temperature-related injury and illness prevention plan) by July 1, 2027. **Effective: Aug. 12, 2026.** Lobbyist: Elizabeth Haskell

HB26-1283

Protections Regarding Seizures of Identification Documents

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/HB26-1283>

The act prohibits employers from demanding, confiscating, retaining, or requiring the surrender of the government-issued identification card of an employee, applicant, or other person performing work for the employer in any capacity, except when permitted by law or a judicial warrant. The act allows temporary retention for verifying employment eligibility, with a prescribed notice to the individual that must be acknowledged and retained by the employer. The act modifies the crime of criminal possession of an identification document and bias-motivated crimes related to retaining identification cards and providing or threatening to provide an identification card to federal immigration authorities, except when required or permitted by law. The act permits a civil action for damages related to the criminal possession of an identification card. **Effective: June 3, 2026.** Lobbyist: Owen Brigner

HB26-1413

Sick & Military Leave for Certain Public Servants

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/HB26-1413>

The act expands the required amount of paid, protected leave that must be granted to public employees for military service from three to four weeks (or its equivalent). **Effective: July 1, 2026.** Lobbyist: Elizabeth Haskell

SB26-039

Fire and Police Pension Association Disability and Survivor Benefits

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/SB26-039>

The act modernizes the Fire and Police Pension Association's (FPPA) Statewide Death & Disability Plan through reorganization, removal of outdated provisions, and clarified language. Key changes include:

- Replacing the three-exam requirement with a board-appointed medical advisor process tailored to each applicant
- Authorizing the board to streamline disability appeals and mental health claim administration
- Requiring occupationally disabled members to participate in rehabilitation programs, and clarifying when cost-of-living adjustments begin and who may apply for disability retirement
- Repealing employer liability for pre-employment disabilities, replacing it with a required health history disclosure form

The act does not alter benefit amounts, eligibility requirements, or funding obligations. **Effective: Aug. 12, 2026.** Lobbyists: Elizabeth Haskell

SB26-047

Colorado Firefighter Safety Act Petition Elections

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/SB26-047>

The act allows a ballot question requiring collective bargaining with firefighters under the Colorado Firefighter Safety Act to be held in a coordinated election, among other times. The act also corrects terminology regarding municipal elections. **Effective: Aug. 12, 2026.** Lobbyist: Elizabeth Haskell

FINANCE

HB26-1397

Multiple Employer Health Trust Funding

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/HB26-1397>

The act repeals state appropriations in 2026 for the multiple employer health trusts for volunteer firefighters (\$650,000) and for peace officers (\$350,000). The state's appropriations reduce employer contributions to the trusts. The act leaves intact future scheduled appropriations, subject to later legislation. **Effective: June 2, 2026.** Lobbyist: Elizabeth Haskell

HB26-1409

Marijuana Tax Cash Fund Distributions

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/HB26-1409>

The act eliminates the distribution to local governments of 3.5% of gross state retail marijuana sales tax revenue. **Effective: June 4, 2026.** Lobbyist: Elizabeth Haskell

SB26-052

Coal Transition Community Investment

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/SB26-052>

The act permits public entities to deposit or invest payments or settlements received to offset the socioeconomic impacts to a community or government from a coal mine or coal power generating station closure. The act also creates a hiring preference requirement that is not applicable to government. **Effective: March 9, 2026.** Lobbyist: Elizabeth Haskell

SB26-064

Modify Colorado Agricultural Future Loan Program

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/SB26-064>

The act adds districts (including municipalities) authorized to conduct water activities to the list of entities eligible for grants from the Colorado agricultural future loan program. **Effective: Aug. 12, 2026.** Lobbyist: Emma Donahue

SB26-080

Cradle to Career Grant Program Creation

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/SB26-080>

The act creates the Cradle to Career Grant Program in the State Department to provide funding to entities (including local governments) to promote community-based supports and services to open opportunities for economic mobility, including assistance housing, childcare, early childhood programs, health care, nutrition, disability-related assistance, and other purposes. The program is funded only by gifts, grants, and donations. **Effective: Aug. 12, 2026.** Lobbyist: Bev Stables

See also: **HOUSING & HOMELESSNESS** (HB26-1202: Strategy to Reduce & Prevent Homelessness); **TAXATION** (HB26-1289: Modification of Certain Tax Expenditures); **TRANSPORTATION** (HB26-1065: Transit and Housing Investment Zones; HB26-1102: Funding for Colorado DRIVES Account; HB26-1398: Retail Delivery Fee Revenue Allocation; HB26-1399: Eliminate General Fund Transfer to Multimodal Transportation Fund; HB26-1430: Transportation Funding Adjustments)

GAMING

SB26-117

Permissible Methods of Selling Lottery Tickets

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/SB26-117>

The act requires that lottery rules prohibit the sale of lottery and scratch game tickets on credit. **Effective: May 29, 2026.** Lobbyist: Elizabeth Haskell

SB26-163

Regulation of Gaming & Sports Betting

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/SB26-163>

The act transfers authority to permit certain games from the Colorado Limited Gaming Control Commission to the Division of Gaming. The act authorizes gaming inspectors to inspect and impound premises where the inspector believes unlicensed gaming or sports betting is conducted. The act permits individuals to voluntarily exclude themselves from sports betting. The act modifies requirements for licensing of pari-mutuel wagering and racing. **Effective: May 29, 2026.** Lobbyist: Elizabeth Haskell

Government Liability & IMMUNITY

See: **ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE** (SB26-189: Automated Decision-Making Technology); **EMPLOYMENT** (HB26-1283: Protections Regarding Seizures of Identification Documents).

Housing & HOMELESSNESS

HB26-1013

Ratio Utility Billing Systems

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/HB26-1013>

The act requires that residential premises constructed with permits applied for on or after July 1, 2027, metering for gas, electric, or water utilities must be directly by a utility or a submeter. The act establishes requirements for allocating utility costs among tenants of the same residential premises using a ratio billing system. **Effective: March 26, 2026.** Lobbyist: Owen Brigner

HB26-1045

Disabilities Housing Protections

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/HB26-1045>

The act establishes that for a housing provider, permitting an assistance animal is presumed to be a reasonable accommodation. The housing provider may request reasonable documentation supporting a claim of disability related to the need for an assistance animal. A complete prohibition of assistance animals in housing is presumed to be discriminatory. **Effective: Aug. 12, 2026.** Lobbyist: Bev Stables

HB26-1196

Tenant Data Information

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/HB26-1196>

Among other things, the act requires a landlord to include notices in rental applications regarding factors to be considered when evaluating rental applications and the use of third-party screening services. **Effective: June 2, 2026.** Lobbyist: Bev Stables

HB26-1202

Strategy to Reduce & Prevent Homelessness

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/HB26-1202>

The act permits municipalities and counties to create a “multijurisdictional homelessness response authority” (in addition to any existing authority to create such entities through intergovernmental agreements). The act includes requirements for an authority’s formation by intergovernmental agreement and funding through taxes imposed by participating local governments. An authority’s powers include planning, coordinating, and implementing regional strategies and working with DOLA and a continuum of care organization (which could be designated as administrator of an authority). In addition, DOLA will create a proposal for statewide strategy on homelessness prevent and resolution. **Effective: Aug. 12, 2026.** Lobbyist: Bev Stables

HB26-1313

Adjust Requirements Statewide Affordable Housing Fund

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/HB26-1313>

The act modifies the requirements for affordable housing commitments made under Proposition 123. For commitments made in 2026 and later, local governments must commit to growth of new and converted affordable housing units and units with affordability restrictions will increase beyond a “target increase number.” The target increase number is determined by averaging the annual number of permits for new units over the prior three years in the jurisdiction, multiplied by the number years included in the commitment, then again multiplied by a local job growth factor when compared to state growth (0.10 if significantly lower, 0.15 if close, and 0.20 significantly higher).

The act expands the number of housing units that can be counted toward a commitment, including units in a large development project with average rental prices below a certain threshold. Local governments are entitled to count units from collaborative efforts, in the absence of a formal agreement, according to the percentage of the funding provided by a local government.

The act establishes a good faith effort waiver process for jurisdictions that cannot achieve their commitment from the 2024 cycle but achieve at least 65% of their increase, achieve an increase that would have been set if the “target increase number” had been used, or would have achieved at least a 65% increase but for funding for units that were counted to another local government’s increase. Waivers for the 2024 cycle must be filed between June 15, 2026, and Oct. 31, 2026. The act includes adjustment waivers for commitments beginning in the 2027 cycle. **Effective: May 26, 2026.** Lobbyist: Bev Stables

HB26-1360

Affordable Housing Financing Fund

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/HB26-1360>

The act removes \$130 million from the Affordable Housing Financing Fund created by Proposition 123. For the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026, the act permits OEDIT to modify percentages of funding allocated within the Affordable Housing Financing Fund through Proposition 123 in the following order of priority: concessionary debt, affordable housing equity, and land banking. **Effective: May 28, 2026.** Lobbyist: Bev Stables

SB26-001

Workforce Housing & Housing Tax Credit

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/SB26-001>

The act permits counties and municipalities to dispose of property without an election if the property will be used to develop affordable housing or housing identified in a housing needs assessment. The act repeals the prohibition on using long-term rental or leasehold agreements to develop affordable housing or housing identified in a housing needs assessment. Other parts of the act expand county use of property tax revenue for housing, modify income tax credits, and clarify that a county's workforce housing qualifies as a government capacity for purposes of the sales and use tax exemption in C.R.S. § 39-26-708. **Effective: Aug. 12, 2026.** Lobbyists: Elizabeth Haskell & Bev Stables

SB26-040

Affordable Home Ownership Program

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/SB26-040>

The act creates flexibility in the provisions of the affordable home ownership program established through 2023's Proposition 123. The act increases the percentage of household income that qualifies housing payments for direct funding to first-time homebuyers. The act allows nonprofits, local governments, and other entities to support affordable home ownership for households based on comparison to statewide area median income (instead of just local area median income). The act increases the percentage of household income that qualifies housing payments for direct funding to first-time homebuyers and allows for waivers of the percentage for projects by eligible organizations. The act also allows eligible organizations to seek waivers of maximum monthly housing cost limits for residential units constructed as part of a funded project, if the unit has not been purchased in six months. **Effective: July 1, 2026.** Lobbyist: Bev Stables

SB26-053

Colorado Housing and Finance Authority Mortgage POST Officers First Responders

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/SB26-053>

The act allows income-qualified first responders to obtain CHFA mortgage loans. First responders include peace officers,

firefighters, emergency medical technicians, noncertified deputy sheriffs, emergency communications specialists, corrections officers, port of entry officers, and wildlife officers. **Effective: Aug. 12, 2026.** Lobbyist: Bev Stables

LAND USE

HB26-1001

Housing Developments on Qualifying Properties

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/HB26-1001>

The act adds a part 5 to the article 35 of title 29 (the "State Land Use Criteria for Strategic Growth Act") to require that, by Dec. 31, 2027, certain "subject jurisdictions" administratively approve residential development on a "qualifying property" that is owned by a qualifying entity, regardless of the underlying zoning, the jurisdiction's comprehensive plan, or other local laws. A "subject jurisdiction" is any local government with a population of more than 2,000 as of the last census, but only includes unincorporated properties within census designated places with a population of 5,000 that is within three miles of a municipality. Jurisdictions can delay implementation until "June 31, 2028" [sic], if the jurisdiction is actively updating local laws to comply with all of part 5.

A "qualifying property" can be up to five acres but cannot include an "exempt parcel" or adjacent to another qualifying property that was part of a subdivision process in the "past five years." Properties can be owned by government entities (school districts, state colleges and universities, housing authorities, boards of cooperative services, transit districts or authorities) and nonprofit organizations "with a demonstrated history of providing affordable housing" (or another nonprofit that has an agreement with them). Jurisdictions can verify nonprofit status at the time of an initial application, but the act includes several ways for a nonprofit to qualify. DOLA will provide guidance for verifying nonprofit status.

The act restricts certain site development standards to those applicable to "similar housing" in the jurisdiction and prohibits restrictions on the number of dwelling units except when permitted under acceptable standards. Height limits are substantially restricted and must permit the higher of up to three stories or 38 feet (except for fire safety or historic district limitations), the height limit "of the zoning district" of the qualifying property, or the height limit for any contiguous residential parcel.

Jurisdictions can enforce a broad range of development-related laws, infrastructure standards, life safety codes, impact fees, water and wastewater standards, inclusionary zoning, short-term rental regulations, transferable development rights, and "regulations related to human and environmental health and safety." Child care and recreational, social, or economic services provided by community organizations must be allowed if allowed in the property's zone district. **Effective: March 25, 2026.** Lobbyist: Bev Stables

SB26-020

Child Care Provider Licensing & Quality

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/SB26-020>

The act amends existing provisions regarding local zoning regulation for child care facilities at C.R.S. § 26.5-5-310(a). The act requires that a local government that exceeds state-level licensing standards related to inspection, permitting, licensing, or approval of child care facilities must prioritize the completion of local processes “to the extent reasonably practicable” when there is a dispute or delay. Such local governments must limit fees for additional local inspections, permits, licenses, or approvals to an amount to be set by regulation; this excludes health and sanitation inspections and public health plan reviews. The act declares that “the availability of safe, affordable, and licensed family child care homes and licensed child care centers is a matter of statewide concern.” **Effective: June 1, 2026.** Lobbyist: Bev Stables

HB26-1147

Host Home for People with Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/HB26-1147>

Among other things, the act provides that “individual residential services and supports settings” must be treated as residential properties in the application of local regulations, including zoning, land use development, fire and life safety, sanitation, and building codes. Such settings are unlicensed community living residential settings in which individual residential services and supports are provided to no more than three persons with intellectual and development disabilities, as contrasted with licensed “community residential homes” that can provide services to 4-8 persons and require notice to the local government. **Effective: June 3, 2026.** Lobbyist: Bev Stables

HB26-1420

Wind Energy Facilities Light-Mitigating Technology

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/HB26-1420>

The act amends existing statutes requiring wind-powered energy facilities to install light-mitigating technology to require that local governments grant extensions of at least 24 months based on delays in federal agency approvals. Further extensions must be provided if certain criteria are met. The act requires approvals from the Federal Communications Administration in addition to the Federal Aviation Administration. **Effective: June 4, 2026.** Lobbyist: Bev Stables

SB26-113

Require Recovery Residences to Obtain Behavioral Health Administration License

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/SB26-113>

The act requires the state licensure through BHA for recovery residences as of July 1, 2027, rather than certification by a third-party. The act establishes standards for recovery residence owners, employees, and managers and requires rulemaking to establish minimum operational standards, including physical residence standards and compliance with building and property maintenance codes. Licensees must report incidents, including unlawful physical, sexual, or verbal abuse.

BHA must publicly post a list of all recovery residences. Licensees must provide notice to the local government with zoning and land use authority including contact information for a person to address questions and concerns. **Effective: Aug. 12, 2026.** Lobbyist: Bev Stables

SB26-177

Access Adjoining Property to Repair or Maintain

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/sb26-177>

The act creates a court to grant limited access to another person’s property by the owner of a single-family residence to complete repairs or maintenance to the single-family residence. Public property is excluded. Access cannot be granted that would negatively affect an easement. **Effective: Aug. 12, 2026.** Lobbyist: Bev Stables

See also: **SUSTAINABILITY** (HB26-1268: Renewable Energy Development on Disturbed Lands)

Miscellaneous Governmental OPERATIONS

HB26-1011

Transfers of Certain Pet Animals

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/HB26-1011>

Beginning Jan. 1, 2028, the act prohibits a pet store from selling, leasing, or otherwise transferring ownership of a dog or cat, but such a store can provide space for pet adoption if certain requirements are met. The act also defines broker and prohibits a broker from selling, leasing, or otherwise transferring ownership of a dog or cat; certain exceptions apply. Local governments maintain their authority to enact more stringent laws. **Effective: April 29, 2026.** Lobbyist: Owen Brigner

HB26-1095

Digital Publication for Legal Notice

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/HB26-1095>

The act requires that a newspaper make any legal notice available on its website without charge to publish or view the notice. The act also requires that the statewide public notice website (www.publicnoticecolorado.com) include a list of newspapers by county that qualify for legal notice publication.

Effective: Aug. 12, 2026. Lobbyist: Emma Donahue

HB26-1257

Local Regulation of Massage Facilities

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/HB26-1257>

The act removes limitations on local regulation of massage facilities, including limits on regulation and grounds for licensing actions. Local governments may establish licensing fees that are reasonably related to the cost of administering the regulatory and licensing program; fees over \$500 (adjusted for inflation) are presumed to be unreasonable unless the government establishes a need for a greater fee. The act requires a government to consider the impacts of regulation on legitimate massage therapy businesses and conduct outreach to the industry when enacting new regulations. The act removes the requirement that a background check be conducted at least 30 days before licensing but does not modify the unfunded requirement to establish background check procedures in communities where massage facilities exist. **Effective: Aug. 12, 2026.** Lobbyist: Elizabeth Haskell

HB26-1339

Change Cesar Chavez Day to Farm Workers Day

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/HB26-1339>

The act changes the name of the voluntary legal holiday on March 31 to “Farm Workers Day.” **Effective: March 31, 2026.** Lobbyist: Bev Stables

SB26-059

Multiple Elected Offices Prohibited for General Assembly

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/SB26-059>

The act prohibits members of the General Assembly from holding any other elected office while serving as a member of the General Assembly. Special district elected offices and senators in the middle of their term in January 2027. The act does not apply to offices where the member has less than one year left in the term when the oath of office is taken. **Effective: May 4, 2026.** Lobbyist: Emma Donahue

SB26-061

Publication Counties Without Legal Newspapers

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/SB26-061>

The act clarifies the order of priority for newspapers for the publication of legal notices and allows counties greater flexibility

in publishing notices when no newspaper is published in the county. The act retains broad flexibility for municipalities when no newspaper is published in the municipality. **Effective: Aug. 12, 2026.** Lobbyist: Emma Donahue

SB26-093

Workers' Compensation Insurance Coverage Verification

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/SB26-093>

The act requires a building or construction permit applicant to submit a signed declaration regarding the applicant's and its subcontractors' workers compensation coverage. The act applies only to projects of \$1 million or more. The act does not require that municipalities do anything with the records.

Effective: May 29, 2026. Lobbyist: Elizabeth Haskell

Municipal COURTS

HB26-1017

Criminal Restitution Prohibited for Insurers

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/hb26-1017>

To the extent any municipal court follows state restitution laws, the act modifies the definition of restitution to exclude losses for which a victim is compensated through a private insurance policy, except for worker's compensation. However, a victim can obtain restitution for an insurance deductible. The act also excludes insurance companies from the definition of “victim” unless it is a victim of a scheme to defraud the insurance company or when the company's property is damaged or stolen through a criminal act. Insurance companies can still maintain a civil action to recover any other losses suffered. **Effective: Aug. 12, 2026.** Lobbyist: Owen Brigner

HB26-1134

Fairness & Transparency in Municipal Court

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/HB26-1134>

The act modifies the requirements for livestreaming criminal court proceedings to require the livestreaming of municipal court proceedings involving an in-custody defendant who is charged with a municipal violation for which the municipal code allows a possible jail sentence. Municipal courts are not permitted to rely on the exceptions for insufficient technology or staffing when a defendant is in custody and facing potential jail time for the municipal violation; the other livestreaming exceptions in C.R.S. § 13-1-132(3.5)(a) still apply. Additionally, the act's livestreaming requirements supersede any judicial guidance limiting livestreaming. The act codifies the right to criminal defense counsel when a defendant appears in municipal court for a violation for which the municipal code allows for a possible jail sentence, including notice

and information to be provided to defense counsel and the opportunity for defense counsel to meet with their clients. Municipalities are prohibited from paying indigent defense counsel using a fixed or flat-fee payment structure and instead must use rates that are the same as or higher than the rates paid by the state under Chief Justice Directive 04-04. There is an exception to allow the payment of a flat fee for initial in-custody appearances so long as the amount is the same as or higher than a resulting fee based on hourly compensation. Finally, any municipality that has a municipal court not of record is prohibited from imposing any jail time as a penalty for a municipal violation. **Effective: April 27, 2026.** Lobbyist: Owen Brigner

HB26-1288

Jury Selection Requirements

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/HB26-1288>

The act creates a “jury selection working group,” including a representative of the statewide association of municipal judges appointed by June 15, 2026, to identify best practices relating to jury selection. **Effective: May 28, 2026.** Lobbyist: Owen Brigner

See also: **CRIMINAL JUSTICE: LAW ENFORCEMENT OPERATIONS** (HB26-1020: Colorimetric Field Drug Tests in Drug Possessions)

Public & Behavioral HEALTH

HB26-1069

Availability of Emergency Medical Services

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/hb26-1069>

Beginning Jan. 1, 2027, the act requires the Department of Health Care Policy and Financing to reimburse the following services under Medicaid at office or outpatient rates: ground transportation to a hospital or other appropriate destination, treatment provided on the scene of a medical emergency that does not result in transport, and telemedicine evaluations used to prevent transport to a hospital. The act makes other clarifying changes such as specifying what is included in emergency services and adding a definition of first responder. **Effective: June 2, 2026.** Lobbyist: Owen Brigner

See: **LAND USE** (HB26-1147: Host Home for People with Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities; SB26-113: Require Recovery Residences to Obtain Behavioral Health Administration License); **PUBLIC SAFETY** (SB26-004: Expand List of Petitioners for Protection Order)

Public SAFETY

SB26-004

Expand List of Petitioners for Protection Order

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/SB26-004>

The act expands the list of community members and institutions that can petition for an extreme risk protection order to include co-responders, health-care facilities, behavioral health treatment facilities, K-12 schools, and institutions of higher education. **Effective: April 6, 2026.** Lobbyist: Owen Brigner

Regulated SUBSTANCES

HB26-1077

Average Market Rate of Unprocessed Retail Marijuana

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/HB26-1077>

Under current law, both state and local excise tax on the first sale or transfer of unprocessed retail marijuana is based on the average market rate of all unprocessed retail marijuana. This act updates how DOR calculates and classifies the average market rate — the price used to tax unprocessed retail marijuana moving between cultivation facilities, manufacturers, and stores — by recognizing different cultivation types and improving public transparency around how tax rates are determined. **Effective: July 1, 2026.** Lobbyist: Elizabeth Haskell

HB26-1325

Natural Medicine

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/HB26-1325>

The act establishes an ibogaine research pilot program under the BHA to examine the safety and effectiveness of using ibogaine to treat mental health and substance use disorders. A committee established by the BHA would select up to five ibogaine pilot sites. The state licensing authority for natural medicine may adopt rules related to the administration, manufacturing, and use of ibogaine. The act also makes changes to the regulation of natural medicine including modifying the natural medicine advisory board, establishing limited immunity for facilitators of natural medicine, setting requirements for prioritization of state application review, adding additional unauthorized activities, and creating a temporary premises permit for healing centers to operate temporarily at a separate location. **Effective: Aug. 12, 2026.** Lobbyist: Elizabeth Haskell

See also: **FINANCE** (HB26-1409: Marijuana Tax Cash Fund Distributions)

SUSTAINABILITY

HB26-1268

Renewable Energy Development on Disturbed Lands

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/HB26-1268>

The act allows local governments to designate “renewable energy reinvestment areas” for the siting renewable energy projects and related work on brownfield sites, terminated mining operations, closed landfills, reclaimed oil and gas sites, and other areas. CEO must publish guidance for siting, permitting, and developing renewable energy projects in designated areas. Utilities must provide information regarding designated areas to local governments upon request.

The act allows urban renewal authorities and county revitalization authorities to use tax increment revenue to finance costs of projects. Plans or substantial modifications to plans must include maps of the boundaries of any renewable energy reinvestment area and a description of the eligible projects and costs to be financed with tax increment revenue. **Effective: Aug. 12, 2026.** Lobbyist: Bev Stables

SB26-021

Clean Fleet Enterprise Replace Aging Diesel Trucks

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/SB26-021>

The act expands the categories of trucks for which potential recipients can obtain grants through Dec. 31, 2031, to replace aging heavy-duty diesel trucks with new heavy-duty trucks. Public and private owners and operators of motor vehicle fleets are eligible for such grants, with certain requirements and limitations. **Effective: Aug. 12, 2026.** Lobbyist: Bev Stables

See also: **LAND USE** (HB26-1420: Wind Energy Facilities Light-Mitigating Technology); **UTILITIES** (HB26-1007: Improve Customer Use Distributed Energy Resources; SB26-142: Development of Thermal Energy Resources; SB26-182: Updated Clean Energy Plan Municipally Owned Utility)

TAXATION

HB26-1223

Modifying Certain Tax Expenditures

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/HB26-1223>

Amongst other changes, effective Jan. 1, 2027, the act broadens the statutory definition of computer software as tangible personal property for purposes of sales and use tax to include all downloadable software except for custom software developed for use by a particular user and software governed by a negotiable license agreement. This definition change applies to the state and all local governments for which the state collects sales tax. At the state level, the revenue increase from this definition change is being used to create a new expanded family affordability income tax credit and to provide retail food establishments with a sales tax deduction for gas and electricity. **Effective: June 3, 2026.** Lobbyist: Elizabeth Haskell

HB26-1289

Modification of Certain Tax Expenditures

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/hb26-1289>

Among other things, the act exempts from use tax imposed pursuant to Title 29 any construction and building materials used, stored, or consumed by or for a common carrier by rail acting in interstate or foreign commerce when the use, storage, or material is pursuant to a contract with the state or a state institution or political subdivision that allows the use of railroad property or tracks for public passenger rail service. The exemption begins July 1, 2027. The act also changes the deduction for motor and special fuel tax filers to cover losses in transit and in unloading gasoline or special fuel from 2% to 1.5% beginning Jan. 1, 2027, which will result in increased revenue to the Highway Users Tax Fund (HUTF) to offset the HUTF losses resulting from HB26-1102. **Effective: June 3, 2026.** Lobbyist: Elizabeth Haskell

SB26-010

Agricultural Property Tax Definitions

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/SB26-010>

The act expands the definitions of “ranch” and “farm” for property tax purposes. “Ranch” now includes a parcel of land that is predominantly used for grazing livestock for the primary purpose of obtaining a monetary profit through a pasture-based operation. “Farm” includes a parcel of land that is predominantly used to produce agricultural products that originate from the land’s productivity for the primary purpose of obtaining a monetary profit. **Effective: Jan. 1, 2027.** Lobbyist: Elizabeth Haskell

SB26-116

Property Tax Modifications

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/sb26-116>

Amongst other changes, the act sets the business personal property tax exemption at \$58,000 beginning Jan. 1, 2027, and sets the local government reimbursement for property tax losses due to the exemption at the reimbursement amount for the 2026 property tax year, beginning in the 2027 property tax year. **Effective: Aug. 12, 2026.** Lobbyist: Elizabeth Haskell

SB26-128

Sales & Use Tax Destination Management Company

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/SB26-128>

The act defines destination management company (DMC) and, beginning July 1, 2027, exempts the sale, storage, use or consumption of tangible personal property, commodities, or services sold by a DMC from sales and use tax imposed under Article 26 of Title 39 if the DMC has paid applicable sales or use tax to the state on such items when the DMC acquired them. **Effective: Aug. 12, 2026.** Lobbyist: Elizabeth Haskell

SB26-193

Local Ordinances & State Employees

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/SB26-193>

The act excludes the state from local regulation of minimum wages, except to the extent the state has no collective bargaining agreement as to employee wage rates. The act also asserts that, as of Jan. 31, 2028, the state is not an occupation or business subject to occupation or business taxes imposed pursuant to C.R.S. § 31-15-501(1)(c). **Effective: June 2, 2026.** Lobbyist: Elizabeth Haskell

See also: **HOUSING & HOMELESSNESS** (HB26-1202: Strategy to Reduce & Prevent Homelessness); **REGULATED SUBSTANCES** (HB26-1077: Average Market Rate of Unprocessed Retail Marijuana)

TRANSPORTATION

HB26-1065

Transit and Housing Investment Zones

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/HB26-1065>

The act creates a mechanism for local governments and transit agencies' use of state sales tax increment revenue to finance investments in transit station projects in designated transit investment areas. The act allows for financing entities (like urban renewal authorities, county revitalization authorities, and metropolitan districts) or transit investment authorities to receive and use the revenue. Projects must be approved by

OEDIT and the Colorado Economic Development Commission. Only six total projects can be approved (only three per calendar year). No more than \$75 million can be dedicated in any fiscal year. **Effective: Aug. 12, 2026.** Lobbyist: Elizabeth Haskell

HB26-1102

Funding for Colorado DRIVES Account

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/hb26-1102>

Beginning July 1, 2027, the act redirects \$2 of each late vehicle registration fee from the Highway Users Tax Fund (HUTF) to the Colorado DRIVES vehicle services account and, beginning July 1, 2026, redirects fees for special vehicle registrations for personalized license plates from the HUTF to the DRIVES account. **Effective: June 3, 2026.** Lobbyist: Bev Stables

HB26-1269

Transit Access

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/HB26-1269>

The act requires covered transit agencies to do the following by June 30, 2027: ensure transit system maps are displayed at all stations and stops; post specified information online and at all stations and stops with a covered shelter; and ensure certain public information is translated into each language spoken by at least 5% of the population of any county in which it operates. The act does not require agencies to replace existing signage to comply but must update such signage when it is replaced. Covered transit agencies must report specific information to the Governor and legislature beginning Jan. 31, 2028, but are not required to collect additional data beyond that which is currently collected. **Effective: May 27, 2026.** Lobbyist: Bev Stables

HB26-1318

Traffic Safety Near Schools

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/hb26-1318>

The act requires all roads within at least 1,000 feet of a school to be designated as a school zone for purposes of posting the required signage. State highways and existing school zones that are at least 200 feet from a school are exempt from this requirement. Additionally, a local government with jurisdiction over the school zone may reduce the size of a school zone to not less than 200 feet, only after holding a public hearing. The act authorizes the use of automated vehicle identification systems in a school zone or along a safe route to school, which the act defines. The act also allows local governments to designate a roadway as a school street, which provides for additional regulation of such streets. **Effective: Aug. 12, 2026.** Lobbyist: Bev Stables

HB26-1398

Retail Delivery Fee Revenue Allocation

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/HB26-1398>

The act reallocates revenue derived from the state's retail delivery fee by decreasing the amount available for local multimodal projects (from 85% to 70%) and increasing the funding available for state projects (from 15% to 30%). **Effective: May 28, 2026.** Lobbyist: Bev Stables

HB26-1399

Eliminate General Fund Transfer to Multimodal Transportation Fund

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/HB26-1399>

The act eliminates the scheduled 2026 state funding for multimodal transportation and mitigation options (\$10.5 million), leaving intact future scheduled transfers subject to later legislation. **Effective: June 4, 2026.** Lobbyist: Bev Stables

HB26-1430

Transportation Funding Adjustments

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/hb26-1430>

Contingent upon voter approval of proposed ballot initiative 175, the act temporarily reduces: the excise tax on gas and special fuel, certain vehicle registration fees, and the road usage fee. If the proposed ballot initiative passes, House Bill 26-1430 will negate the increased transportation funding from the initiative. **Effective: June 4, 2026.** Lobbyist: Bev Stables

SB26-150

Modernizing Regional Transportation District

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/SB26-150>

The act reorganizes the board of the Regional Transportation District in 2029 to include 5 members elected from new districts and 4 members appointed by the governor. The new districts are to be drawn based on population. One appointee is to be selected from a list provided by DR-COG. The act requires a study of paratransit services and reporting to General Assembly committees on various issues. **Effective: Aug. 12, 2026.** Lobbyist: Bev Stables

SB26-152

Changes Automated Vehicle Identification System Usage

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/SB26-152>

The act makes numerous changes to the use of automated vehicle identification systems (AVIS). For implementation of a new AVIS, the act adds signage requirements for at least 30 days before using the AVIS, requires that the warnings issued in the first 30 days be sent to the vehicle owner, and clarifies that the new AVIS requirements do not apply to a mobile AVIS (as defined in the act) that is moved within the same AVIS corridor. The act provides a process for a vehicle owner to prove that they were not the driver under certain circumstances and avoid the

civil penalty. The act also modifies when a warning for a violation must be issued as well as the maximum penalties for different violations detected by an AVIS, including capping penalties for speeding 25 miles per hour or more over the speed limit at \$120. Penalties will increase by specified amounts in 2035. Finally, the act adds additional requirements around compensation for AVIS vendors. **Effective: Aug. 12, 2026.** Lobbyist: Bev Stables

SB26-172

Front Range Passenger Rail District

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/SB26-172>

In advance of an anticipated tax election, the act reduces the area of the Front Range Passenger Rail District to specific Front Range municipalities, Sterling Ranch Colorado metropolitan districts, and those others that specifically seek to be included. The act also allows the creation of subdistricts. **Effective: May 26, 2026.** Lobbyist: Bev Stables

See also: **CRIMINAL JUSTICE: TRAFFIC & CRIMINAL OFFENSES** (SB26-035: Increase of Traffic Violation Penalties); **CRIMINAL JUSTICE: LAW ENFORCEMENT OPERATIONS** (HB26-1237: Transportation Safety Modifications); **SUSTAINABILITY** (SB26-021: Clean Fleet Enterprise Replace Aging Diesel Trucks); **TAXATION** (HB26-1289: Modification of Certain Tax Expenditures)

Urban RENEWAL

See: **SUSTAINABILITY** (HB26-1268: Renewable Energy Development on Disturbed Lands)

UTILITIES

HB26-1007

Improve Customer Use Distributed Energy Resources

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/hb26-1007>

The act prohibits a utility from requiring a customer to obtain approval before installing a plug-in solar device. A utility provider is not liable for any damage caused by the device and requires installation to be in accordance with applicable fire and building codes pertaining to health and safety. Municipal-owned utilities must maintain a public list of at least one approved meter collar adapter, have a process for approving new meter collar adapters, provide estimate of costs to move a meter collar adapter if necessary, and include a process for a customer to request and install a meter collar adapter. **Effective: Aug. 12, 2026.** Lobbyist: Bev Stables

HB26-1051

Continue Microgrid Community Resilience Grant Program

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/HB26-1051>

The act continues the Microgrids for Community Resilience grant program benefiting municipally-owned utilities. **Effective: May 29, 2026.** Lobbyist: Bev Stables

HB26-1225

Distributed Energy Resources Requirements

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/HB26-1225>

The act prohibits a public utility from requiring an interconnection customer to pay costs associated with interconnection facilities and upgrades until 30 days before the public utility incurs said costs. Public utilities with more than 500,000 customers must convene a working group to accelerate distributed generation interconnection. **Effective: Aug. 12, 2026.** Lobbyist: Bev Stables

HB26-1226

Manage Emissions from Electric Generating Units

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/HB26-1226>

The act requires CDPHE to establish limits on coal power plants by July 2029. By December 2034, existing coal power plants must install certain pollution controls and comply with emission limits set forth by CDPHE. **Effective: June 4, 2026.** Lobbyist: Bev Stables

HB26-1326

Sunset Public Utilities Commission

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/HB26-1326>

The act implements recommendations from the 2025 sunset review of the PUC and extends the PUC for 11 years to Sept. 1, 2037. The act authorizes electronic service of certain PUC documents and notices, modifies restrictions on commissioner communications in adjudicatory proceedings after the emendatory record closes, applies certain PUC fee assessments to intrastate telecommunications and voice service providers, updates statutes regarding railroad safety to conform with federal law, and increases the annual cap to access the Colorado no-call list from \$500 to \$1,000 and authorizes the PUC to create a separate fee via rule for companies to sell that list to other companies. The act further requires studies regarding joint utility procurement of advanced generation resources and the regulation of intrastate contract and common carriers. **Effective: Aug. 12, 2026.** Lobbyist: Owen Brigner

SB26-142

Development of Thermal Energy Resources

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/SB26-142>

The act permits local governments and special districts to aggregate thermal energy demand to facilitate service from

a thermal energy network. The local government or a private entity on its behalf that operates, maintains, or manages a thermal energy network is not a public or municipal utility and is not subject to regulation by the PUC. Local governments may issue bonds payable from revenue generated by the thermal energy network. The act addresses extraterritorial thermal energy service, including providing for the exclusive right of a public electrical utility with a certificate of public convenience and necessity to provide electric service. A public utility can count emission reductions associated with the thermal energy network within its service territory toward its emission reduction calculations related to its clean heat plan. Local governments must provide notice of their construction, development, or operation of a thermal energy network to the public utility for an area to coordinate related to the utility's clean heat plan, to the extent practicable. The sale or disposal of thermal energy networks must be approved by voters similar to other real property held for governmental purposes. **Effective: Aug. 12, 2026.** Lobbyist: Emma Donahue

SB26-182

Updated Clean Energy Plan Municipally Owned Utility

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/SB26-182>

The act allows a municipal utility to submit, by Dec. 31, 2026, an updated clean energy plan if the utility has encountered challenges in achieving the greenhouse gas emission reductions in a previously filed plan. The new plan must be approved by the utility's governing body and must demonstrate how the utility will achieve an 80% reduction in emissions caused by its retail electricity sales (compared to 2005 levels) by Dec. 31, 2029 and not later than Dec. 31, 2032. The establishes requirements for the new plan and requires annual reporting and public posting of progress. The act requires that the utility cease burning coal by Dec. 31, 2032, and the utility's governing body must seek a 95% reduction by Dec. 31, 2039, and interim reductions by Dec. 31, 2035. **Effective: May 21, 2026.** Lobbyist: Bev Stables

See also: **SUSTAINABILITY** (HB26-1268: Renewable Energy Development on Disturbed Lands)

WATER

HB26-1340

Revegetate or Dry Farm Formerly Irrigated Ag Land

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/HB26-1340>

The act imposes recovery requirements for water rights changes in the Arkansas River Valley after Jan. 1, 2027, from agricultural to other uses. The act requires revegetation or conversion to dryland farming with a 5-year maintenance period, subject to limits on the new use during that period. **Effective: Aug. 12, 2026.** Lobbyist: Emma Donahue

YOUTH

SB26-060

Mental Health Training in Concussion Education

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/SB26-060>

The act requires that schools, private and public recreation facilities, and athletic leagues require coaches of youth athletic activities to complete a biennial mental health education course. If a youth athlete is removed from play for a suspected concussion, the coach or the facility's designated person must notify the athlete's parent or guardian and advise that they seek medical and behavioral health evaluation. **Effective: Aug. 12, 2026.** Lobbyist: Bev Stables

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