## COLORADO HOUSE DEMOCRATS 2025 End of Session Report



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#### INCREASING ACCESS TO MORE AFFORDABLE HEALTH CARE

## <u>AHB25-1002 Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act</u>, Rep. Kyle Brown, Rep. Lindsay Gilchrist, Sen. Judy Amabile, Sen. Byron Pelton

This bill codifies the federal Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act into state law, requiring the same level of coverage for mental health services as physical health services. The goal of HB24-1002 is to ensure that insurance providers are determining whether to cover mental health care based on necessity and not cost and to limit gaps in insurance coverage for Coloradans.

### ^HB25-1003 Support for Children with Complex Health Needs, Rep. Rebekah Stewart, Rep. Max Brooks, Assistant Majority Leader Lisa Cutter

HB25-1003 creates the Children with Complex Health Needs waiver to improve quality of life for eligible children by streamlining access to home- and community-based services, such as respite care, palliative care, and bereavement services.

#### ^SB25-071 Prohibit Restrictions on 340B Drugs, Rep. Matthew Martinez, Rep. Rick Taggart, President Pro Tempore Dafna Michaelson Jenet, Sen. Janice Rich

The goal of this legislation is to preserve access to affordable prescription medication across Colorado, especially in rural and underserved communities, by ensuring prescription drug manufacturers do not impose restrictions on facilities, such as pharmacies and clinics, that utilize 340B prescription drug pricing. This will help preserve no-cost clinics and vaccines to keep Coloradans healthy.

#### <u>SB25-118 Prenatal Care Insurance Coverage</u>, Rep. Katie Stewart, Rep. Jamie Jackson, Sen. Jeff Bridges, Sen. Iman Jodeh

Prenatal care is critical health care for mothers who might experience pregnancy-related complications and access to this care can prevent emergencies. SB25-118 would save expecting parents money on prenatal care by ensuring that state-regulated insurance plans cover three prenatal care office visits and prohibit them from imposing cost-sharing requirements, such as co-pays, on the first three prenatal visits.

#### SB25-144 Expanding Paid Family Medical Leave Insurance, Rep. Jenny Willford, Rep. Yara Zokaie, Sen. Faith Winter, Sen. Jeff Bridges

For parents of babies born prematurely or who have intensive medical needs, their family leave benefits can be exhausted before their babies even come home from the hospital. SB25-144 allows parents of children who are receiving inpatient care in a neonatal intensive care unit to receive paid family leave and medical insurance benefits for up to an additional twelve weeks while their child is receiving care.

### SB25-196 Insurance Coverage Preventive Health-Care Services, Rep. Sheila Lieder, Rep. Jamie Jackson, Sen. Iman Jodeh, Sen. Kyle Mullica

Routine health screenings can save a life, which is why it's crucial that we ensure Coloradans have access to preventive health care. SB25-196 proactively protects insurance coverage for preventive health care in the event federal action removes or modifies protections so Coloradans don't lose this life-saving care.

#### <u>ASB25-290 Stabilization Payments for Safety Net Providers</u>, Rep. Shannon Bird, Rep. Kyle Brown, Sen. Kyle Mullica, Sen. Barbara Kirkmeyer

Higher costs and workforce shortages are making it increasingly difficult for safety net providers to keep their doors open. SB25-290 provides immediate financial support to a broad cross-section of safety net health care providers, including rural hospitals, community health centers and behavioral health clinics, to protect access to health care for thousands of vulnerable communities.

SB25-296 Insurance Coverage for Breast Cancer Examinations, Rep. Shannon Bird, Rep. Katie Stewart, President Pro Tempore Dafna Michaelson Jenet While breast cancer screenings are available to patients at no cost, follow-up visits and additional diagnostics are often not. This bill builds on existing law to ensure that follow-up diagnostic and supplemental exams are covered by insurance at no cost.

AHB25-1016 Occupational Therapists to Prescribe Medical Equipment, Rep. Katie Stewart, President Pro Tempore Dafna Michaelson Jenet, Sen. Janice Rich This bill streamlines access to essential medical equipment for Coloradans by allowing occupational therapists to prescribe durable medical equipment, like ventilators and wheelchairs, without requiring a prescription from a physician.

AHB25-1088 Transparency of the Costs for Ambulance Services, Rep. Karen McCormick, Rep. Kyle Brown, Sen. Mark Baisley, Sen. Kyle Mullica

No one should hesitate dialing 9-1-1 during an emergency because they're concerned about cost. This bill protects patients from surprise, and typically expensive, ambulance billing by expanding existing consumer protections for the use of private ambulance services to now include public ambulance services as well.

### SB25-295 Proposition KK Money, Rep. Shannon Bird, Rep. Emily Sirota, Sen. Judy Amabile, Sen. Jeff Bridges

This legislation implements the voter-approved measure Proposition KK by transferring \$8 million of new, sustainable funding to provide necessary mental and behavioral health treatment. Five million would go toward veterans' mental health services, as allocated by HB25-1132, and three million would support crisis services for children and youth.

## <u>HB25-1132 Military Family Behavioral Health Grant Program</u>, Rep. Sean Camacho, Rep. Rebekah Stewart, Sen. Nick Hinrichsen, Sen. Jeff Bridges

Military members, veterans, and their families deserve quality health care. HB25-1132 allows voter-approved funds from excise taxes on firearms to expand community behavioral health programs for military service members, veterans, and their families. The non-profit organizations using this boost in funding provide lifesaving behavioral health support for Colorado heroes and their loved ones.

#### ^<u>HB25-1063 Regulating FDA-Approved Psilocybin Use</u>, Rep. Kyle Brown, Rep. Anthony Hartsook, President Pro Tempore Dafna Michaelson Jenet

This bill prepares Colorado's medical field to prescribe psilocybin as medication upon its approval by the FDA. Research shows that medicine containing psilocybin can

have positive long-term impacts on people suffering from treatment-resistant depression or post-traumatic stress disorder, both of which disproportionately impact veterans.

#### <u>AHB25-1184 Community-Based Continuing Care for Seniors</u>, Rep. Amy Paschal, Rep. Anthony Hartsook, Sen. Dylan Roberts, Sen. John Carson

From accessible transportation and nutrition support to socialization opportunities, community-based services contribute to the quality of life for older Coloradans. This bill allows certain senior living facilities to offer community-based programs and services to seniors waiting to be admitted, leading to healthier, stronger lives.

# AHB25-1222 Preserving Access to Rural Independent Pharmacies, Rep. Meghan Lukens, Assistant Minority Leader Ty Winter, Sen. Dylan Roberts, Assistant Minority Leader Cleave Simpson

HB25-1222 aims to preserve access to pharmacies and health care in rural communities by establishing fair reimbursement rates, allowing more flexibility in the delivery of drugs by rural independent pharmacies to underserved communities. It also permits telehealth for rural pharmacies to improve patient access to care.

#### ^<u>SB25-010 Electronic Communications in Health Care</u>, Rep. Kyle Brown, Sen. Kyle Mullica, Sen. Bryon Pelton

This bill allows consumers to opt in to receive and respond to electronic communications from their health insurance providers. It also allows employers providing insurance coverage to opt their employees in to receive electronic communications, in which case employees would be allowed to opt out.

# ^SB25-042 Behavioral Health Crisis Response Recommendations, Rep. Regina English, Rep. Mary Bradfield, Assistant Majority Leader Lisa Cutter, Sen. Judy Amabile

All Coloradans benefit when our communities have the tools they need to provide life-saving behavioral health care. SB25-042 aims to improve Colorado's behavioral health crisis response by increasing the number of covered days for inpatient behavioral health care and requiring the state to report on shortages and gaps within the continuum of care and funding opportunities.

#### SAVING PEOPLE MONEY ON HOUSING, PROTECTING RENTERS & HOMEOWNERS

## HB25-1004 No Pricing Coordination Between Landlords, Rep. Steven Woodrow, Rep. Javier Mabrey, Sen. Julie Gonzales, Sen. Nick Hinrichsen

A recent study found that rent algorithm software has increased rent prices by \$136 per month in Denver, making Denver the second highest expensive place to rent of any metro area in the nation. This bill saves Coloradans money on housing by prohibiting landlords from colluding to set prices using rent algorithm software.

#### ^HB25-1006 School District Leases for Housing and Solar Garden, Rep. Meghan Lukens, Rep. Anthony Hartsook, Sen. Jeff Bridges, Sen. Chris Kolker

Under current law, school districts can only lease their land for up to ten years, which can hinder bids from investors or developers looking for longer-term leases to build housing or solar projects. HB25-1006 provides school districts flexibility in their leases to pursue solar fields, energy storage systems and affordable housing projects to save people money on housing and energy costs.

HB25-1090 Protections Against Deceptive Pricing Practices, Rep. Emily Sirota, Rep. Naquetta Ricks, Sen. Mike Weissman, Assistant Majority Leader Lisa Cutter Too often, bad-acting businesses use 'junk fees' to discreetly jack up their prices at the last minute, blindsiding consumers and competitively pushing honest business owners out of the market. This bill improves transparency in pricing to save Coloradans money and make honest businesses more competitive in the market.

# HB25-1272 Construction Defects Reform, Rep. Shannon Bird, Speaker Pro Tempore Andy Boesenecker, President James Coleman, Sen. Dylan Roberts This bill will create new homeownership opportunities by establishing the Multifamily Construction Incentive Program, which homebuilders can opt into if they offer a warranty for defects and damage and hire a third-party inspector to periodically review the construction throughout the building process. In exchange for providing these additional safeguards upfront, participating builders would receive protections against construction defect claims, which are costly for both

HB25-1273 Residential Building Stair Modernization, Speaker Pro Tempore Andy Boesenecker, Rep. Steven Woodrow, Sen. Matt Ball, Sen. Nick Hinrichsen Cities that have allowed for single-stairwell apartment buildings have benefited from decreased building costs while continuing to protect the safety of their residents from building fires. This bill requires municipalities of 100,000 or more residents to ensure that their building code allows certain multi-family residential buildings to be served by a single exit as long as they fulfill certain safety requirements.

# SB25-002 Regional Building Codes for Factory-Built Structures, Speaker Pro Tempore Andy Boesenecker, Rep. Rebekah Stewart, Sen. Jeff Bridges, Sen. Tony Exum

SB25-002 increases the stock of affordable housing by reducing regulatory barriers to the construction, installation, and inspection of factory-built structures like tiny homes and modular housing. Modular housing is already 10-20 percent less

sides to litigate and discourage condo development.

expensive than traditional, stick-built homes constructed on-site and can be assembled faster. This bill will drive the cost down even further and help expand permanent housing opportunities and build more affordable housing options.

#### ^<u>SB25-006 Investment Authority of State Treasurer for Affordable Housing</u>, Rep. Manny Rutinel, Rep. Mary Bradfield, Sen. Dylan Roberts

This bipartisan bill allows the state treasurer to invest up to \$50 million to buy down the construction and mortgage costs of affordable for-sale housing that would otherwise not be built. These funds give low interest rates to builders in exchange for long-term affordability restrictions and low mortgage rates to low- and moderate-income homebuyers to make homeownership attainable for more Coloradans.

#### HB25-1043 Owner Equity Protection in HOA Foreclosure Sales, Rep. Naquetta Ricks, Assistant Majority Leader Jennifer Bacon, Sen. Tony Exum

If a homeowner suffers from a medical emergency, loses their job, or experiences other financial hardships that impact their HOA payments, their home can be foreclosed and sold for just cents on the dollar, and the owner's hard-earned equity disappears instantly. This bill creates critical safeguards to ensure better notice, transparency, and accountability around HOA foreclosures to protect Coloradans' equity in the event of an HOA foreclosure.

# AHB25-1182 Wildfire Risk Model Use in Property Insurance Policies, Rep. Brianna Titone, Rep. Kyle Brown, Assistant Majority Leader Lisa Cutter, Assistant Minority Leader Cleave Simpson

This bill helps Coloradans save money on their property insurance policies by requiring transparency in wildfire mitigation risk models and how they impact an individual's insurance policy. Colorado Democrats have passed numerous fire mitigation laws, and this bill provides clarity on how Coloradans can reduce their property insurance costs from fire mitigation strategies.

#### **AB25-1219 Requirements for Better Understanding Metropolitan Districts, Rep. Jacque Phillips, Rep. Carlos Barron, Sen. Kyle Mullica, Sen. Lisa Frizell**

The vast <u>majority</u> of new homes sold in Colorado are located in metro districts, and this legislation improves the transparency and accountability of metro districts for residents and prospective homebuyers. The bill ensures meaningful opportunity for homeowner participation in metro district governance by strengthening notice requirements for annual meetings and requires additional disclosures regarding the property's future tax liability to homebuyers in real estate transactions.

#### <u>HB25-1236 Residential Tenant Screening</u>, Rep. Mandy Lindsay, Rep. Yara Zokaie, Sen. Mike Weissman, Sen. Iman Jodeh

This bill builds upon 2023 legislation allowing renters to utilize a single tenant screening report for all housing applications, expanding savings and protections for Colorado renters who receive housing subsidies. HB25-1236 streamlines the use of these portable reports by removing the current requirement that tenants provide screening reports directly from consumer reporting agencies or third-party websites and instead empowers prospective tenants to provide their own copy.

#### HB25-1240 Protections for Tenants with Housing Subsidies, Rep. Junie Joseph, Rep. Meg Froelich, Sen. Faith Winter, Sen. Katie Wallace

This legislation adds protections for Coloradans who receive housing subsidy support by making it an unfair housing practice for landlords to refuse to cooperate with rental assistance administrators or delay the delivery of information necessary for rental assistance. The bill also enhances eviction protections by requiring certain landlords to adhere to the federal CARES Act, including a 30-day notice before initiating an eviction proceeding.

#### SB25-020 Tenant and Landlord Law Enforcement, Rep. Mandy Lindsay, Rep. Javier Mabrey, Sen. Mike Weissman, Sen. Julie Gonzales

This legislation expands the Attorney General's and local governments' authority to initiate and enforce landlord-tenant laws, ensuring safe housing and strengthening renter protections. Every Coloradan deserves access to safe, stable housing, and SB25-020 helps hold neglectful landlords accountable for side-stepping Colorado's tenant protection laws.

## ^<u>SB25-058 Consumer Protections for Insurance Rebates</u>, Rep. Gretchen Rydin, Rep. Ryan Gonzales, Sen. Marc Snyder

This bill aims to save Coloradans money on insurance by allowing insurance companies to extend certain discounts or rebates to consumers. Under current law, discounting the price of insurance below what is stated in the contract is considered a deceptive trade practice. This bill updates the regulatory framework to extend specific discounts while maintaining critical consumer protections.

#### ^<u>HB25-1108 Prohibitions in Rental Agreements Due to Death</u>, Rep. Javier Mabrey, Rep. Ron Weinberg, Sen. Barbara Kirkemeyer, Sen. Jeff Bridges

When someone is grieving the loss of their loved one, they shouldn't be on the hook for covering outstanding costs associated with their friend or family member's lease. This bill prohibits a rental agreement from requiring payment for certain costs if a rental agreement is terminated early due to the death of a tenant.

#### PREPARING STUDENTS FOR SUCCESS

#### AHB25-1320 2025 School Finance Act, Speaker Julie McCluskie, Rep. Meghan Lukens, Minority Leader Paul Lundeen, Sen. Jeff Bridges

The 2025 School Finance Act drives \$256.7 million more to Colorado's public schools than last school year, bringing the 2025-26 school funding total to a record \$10 billion despite Colorado facing a declining student enrollment environment. HB25-1320 acknowledges unique challenges for rural and remote districts, increases education funding to keep up with inflation and prioritizes sustainable funding for years to come. HB25-1320 will increase average per-pupil funding by \$412, bringing the total per-pupil funding to \$11,863 and creates the Kids Matter Fund to protect per pupil funding and programs like special education in future years.

#### AHB25-1135 Limiting Cell Phone Use in Schools, Rep. Meghan Lukens, Rep. Mary Bradfield, Sen. Janice Marchman, Sen. Lisa Frizell

HB25-1135 encourages local control by allowing districts to consider their own guidelines when creating their district-level cell phone policy, reducing cell phone-related distractions in classroom settings while promoting mental health among Colorado students. Research shows that students' use of cell phones in schools can have <u>negative effects</u> on performance, including lower test scores and smaller learning gains. Additionally, excessive cell phone use is associated with <u>higher levels</u> of depression and anxiety.

### HB25-1149 Comprehensive Black History & Culture Education in K-12, Rep. Regina English, Sen. Tony Exum

This bill develops a standard curriculum for Black History and Cultural Studies to improve students' understanding of Black American history.

#### HB25-1274 Healthy School Meals for All, Rep. Lorena García, President Pro Tempore Dafna Michaelson Jenet, Sen. Katie Wallace

The bill refers two ballot measures to Colorado voters in the November 2025 election to determine whether or not to continue the Healthy School Meals for All program or scale it back. One ballot measure would ask voters if they want the state to be able to retain state revenue for the Healthy School Meals for All Program that otherwise would need to be refunded to taxpayers. The second measure would expand the program by limiting tax deductions for those who earn over \$300,000 a year.

# Likeness, Rep. Lesley Smith, President James Coleman, Sen. Judy Amabile Due to the recent House vs NCAA ruling, the NCAA will soon require colleges and universities to pay student athletes for the use of their name, image and likeness (NIL). HB25-1041 aligns Colorado law with this ruling to allow higher education institutions or an athletic association to compensate a student athlete for the use of the athlete's NIL and prevent schools from blocking student athletes from entering a contract that conflicts with a team contract.

# <u>AHB25-1131 Eliminate the Student Cap at Colorado State University's Veterinary Program</u>, Speaker Pro Tempore Andy Boesenecker, Rep. Dusty Johnson, Sen. Cathy Kipp, Sen. Byron Pelton

This bill increases access to veterinary care, especially in rural and underserved communities, by eliminating the cap on the number of veterinary students admitted to the veterinary program at Colorado State University (CSU).

AHB25-1221 Expanding Access to Apprenticeship Programs Rep. Eliza Hamrick, Rep. Lori Garcia Sander, Sen. Jeff Bridges, Minority Leader Paul Lundeen
To meet workforce needs and break down barriers for students, this bill allows the Emily Griffith Technical College to offer an associate's degree of applied science for students participating in qualified apprenticeship programs.

# AHB25-1293 Drug Overdose Education & Opioid Antagonists in Schools, Rep. Jamie Jackson, Minority Leader Rose Pugliese, Sen. Byron Pelton, Sen. Marc Snyder

The goal of HB25-1293 is to standardize Colorado's public school response to drug overdose, spread prevention awareness and save students' lives. If signed into law, the bill requires the adoption of health education standards for 9th through 12th grades in public schools on drug overdose identification, risks, prevention, and response.

## ^<u>SB25-154 Access to Educator Pathways</u>, Rep. Eliza Hamrick, Rep. Matt Soper, Sen. Cathy Kipp

SB25-154 aims to expand access to educator pathways to address the teacher workforce shortage. The bill reduces excessive barriers to becoming an educator by amending and clarifying assessment requirements for early childhood special education, elementary education, and special education candidates.

#### SB25-164 Opioid Antagonist Availability in Schools, Rep. Jamie Jackson, Rep. Jenny Willford, Sen. Faith Winter, Sen. Janice Marchman

This legislation will save lives and prevent overdoses by allowing anyone to administer opioid antagonists, such as Naloxone, to someone experiencing an overdose at a Colorado public school. To increase access to Naloxone during an emergency, this bill allows it to be placed inside AED defibrillator cabinets located in schools and on school buses. This bill also streamlines the Naloxone Bulk Fund to make it more accessible and efficient.

#### ^SB25-200 Dyslexia Screening for Elementary School Students, Rep. Eliza Hamrick, Rep. Matt Soper, Sen. Chris Kolker, Sen. Kyle Mullica

According to the Colorado Department of Education, dyslexia affects about 15 to 20 percent of the population, making it the most commonly diagnosed learning disability. This bipartisan legislation will jumpstart early identification, support and notification to parents or guardians for elementary school students with dyslexia.

#### PROTECTING OUR ENVIRONMENT AND SUPPORTING AGRICULTURE

HB25-1009 Vegetative Fuel Mitigation to Prevent Wildfires, Rep. Tisha Mauro, Rep. Junie Joseph, Assistant Majority Leader Lisa Cutter, Sen. Nick Hinrichsen Dry plant materials, such as leaves, grass, shrubs, dead leaves, and fallen pine needles, can accelerate wildfires. This bill encourages local governments to create programs for property owners to reduce dead vegetation from their property, improving community safety.

**^SB25-007** Increase Prescribed Burns, Rep. Elizabeth Velasco. Rep. Ron Weinberg, Assistant Majority Leader Lisa Cutter, Sen. Janice Marchman SB25-007 strengthens Colorado's wildfire mitigation efforts by encouraging controlled, prescribed burns, which are a cost-effective way to reduce fuel for destructive wildfires. The bill also addresses workforce shortages that are a barrier to wildfire mitigation efforts by allowing interstate reciprocity in the certified burner program.

#### HB25-1113 Limit Turf in New Residential Development, Rep. Lesley Smith, Rep. Karen McCormick, Sen. Dylan Roberts

Smart landscaping choices play a big role in conserving our precious water resources. HB25-1113 aims to promote water-wise landscaping by prohibiting non-functional turf, non-functional artificial turf, or invasive plant species on certain multi-family housing properties, specifically condominiums or apartment complexes with more than twelve units.

### ^HB25-1115 Water Supply Measurement & Forecasting Program, Speaker Julie McCluskie, Rep. Matt Soper, Sen. Dylan Roberts, Sen. Marc Catlin

This bill helps protect and preserve Colorado's fresh water resources in the face of uncertain water conditions ahead by expanding the power and responsibilities of the Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB) to oversee a statewide water supply measurement and forecasting program.

# AHJR25-1004 Water Project Eligibility Lists to Conserve Water Resources, Rep. Karen McCormick, Assistant Minority Leader Ty Winter, Sen. Dylan Roberts, Assistant Minority Leader Cleave Simpson

This bill updates the Drinking Water Project Eligibility List and the Water Pollution Control Project Eligibility List to better preserve, protect and conserve water resources in Colorado. The resolution also aims to create and preserve jobs and protect public health and economic welfare.

#### **^HB25-1311 Sports Betting Proceeds for Water Conservation and Protection,**

Speaker Julie McCluskie, Rep. Matt Soper, Sen. Dylan Roberts

HB25-1311 aims to protect Colorado's water future by bringing sports betting companies closer to the voter-approved effective tax rate of 10 percent by prohibiting sports betting operators from deducting "free bets" as a tax write-off.

#### ^HB25-1163 Free Access to State Parks for Colorado Ute Tribes, Rep. Katie Stewart, Rep. Rick Taggart, Sen. Dylan Roberts, Assistant Minority Leader Cleave Simpson

This bipartisan bill provides free state park entry to the Ute Mountain Ute and Southern Ute Indian Tribe members, reducing barriers to accessing outdoor spaces for the original stewards of these lands.

#### <u>AB25-1166 Efforts to Reduce Food Waste</u>, Rep. Lisa Feret, Rep. Ron Weinberg, Sen. Cathy Kipp, Assistant Majority Leader Lisa Cutter

More than one-third of the food in our state ends up in our landfills. This bill encourages businesses, grocers, and local governments to reduce food waste by expanding available training and liability protections for food donors. HB25-1166 encourages local businesses to donate leftover food instead of throwing it away and adds food waste reduction in the state's voluntary sustainability program.

#### <u>HB25-1267 Support for Statewide Energy Strategies</u>, Rep. Amy Paschal, Rep. Karen McCormick, Sen. Faith Winter, Sen. Judy Amabile

This bill aims to protect electric vehicle (EV) drivers by improving charging infrastructure and oversight of retail EV charging stations to ensure consumers receive the energy they pay for. The state already monitors gas pumps to ensure consumers receive the amount of gas they are paying for – this bill extends the same consumer protections for EV drivers.

#### <u>HB25-1280 Advanced Natural Gas Leak Detection</u>, Rep. Tammy Story, Rep. Lesley Smith, Sen. Faith Winter, Sen. Matt Ball

HB25-1280 works to prevent and mitigate natural gas pipeline leaks to keep Coloradans and the environment safe. Advanced leak detection involves the use of sophisticated technologies and methods to detect, locate, and quantify leaks in real-time or with high sensitivity. Under the bill, the Public Utilities Commission must adopt rules on advanced leak detection by November 1, 2025.

## HB25-1292 Transmission Lines in State Highway Rights-of-Way, Speaker Pro Tempore Andy Boesenecker, Rep. Junie Joseph, Sen. Faith Winter

HB25-1292 aims to create a sustainable pathway for installing and upgrading our state's electric transmission infrastructure that reduces environmental impact. This bill streamlines processes for transmission developers that are considering installing essential high-voltage transmission lines along state highways to protect habitats and wildlife while also accommodating growing demand for electricity.

#### HB25-1332 State Trust Lands Conservation & Recreation Working Group, Rep. Karen McCormick, Sen. Dylan Roberts, Sen. Katie Wallace

Currently, the Colorado State Land Board (SLB) oversees most of Colorado's trust lands, including state parks. This bill identifies opportunities to improve and enhance conservation, agricultural operations, and outdoor recreation on state trust lands.

SB25-161 Transit Reform, Rep. William Lindstedt, Rep. Meg Froelich, Sen. Faith Winter, Sen. Iman Jodeh

This bill makes changes to the Regional Transportation District (RTD) to expand access to transit and improve the district's accountability and transparency. The bill requires RTD to develop an ambitious 10-year strategic plan to expand and improve transit in the Front Range, aligning with state climate goals and enhancing partnerships with local governments. It also aims to increase ridership by directing RTD to expand access to affordable EcoPasses and establishes the RTD Accountability Committee to thoroughly evaluate RTD's governance structure and develop recommendations to improve it.

**SB25-030 Increase Transportation Choices to Reduce Emissions, Rep. Meg Froelich, Rep. William Lindstedt, Sen. Faith Winter, Sen. Nick Hinrichsen**SB25-030 aims to increase transportation options, making sustainable transportation more accessible, convenient, and reliable for everyday Coloradans. The bill directs the Colorado Department of Transportation and local governments to efficiently identify gaps and opportunities in transit, bicycle, and pedestrian infrastructure in state and regional transportation systems.

# ^SB25-038 Protection of Personal Information for Wildlife Damage, Speaker Julie McCluskie, Assistant Minority Leader Ty Winter, Sen. Dylan Roberts, Sen. Marc Catlin

Given the political landscape surrounding wolf reintroduction in our state, we must ensure that Coloradans can file wildlife compensation claims without fear of retaliation or trespassing on their property. This bill ensures that the cell phone numbers, addresses, or any other personal information of those filing a wildlife damage compensation claim are kept confidential.

**^SB25-049** Wildlife Habitat Stamp Program, Rep. Matthew Martinez, Assistant Minority Leader Ty Winter, Sen. Janice Marchman, Sen. Dylan Roberts
The Wildlife Habitat Stamp Program offers funding opportunities for landowners who want to protect wildlife habitats, provide wildlife-related recreational access to the public or sell their property to Colorado Parks and Wildlife. This bill continues the Wildlife Habitat Stamp Program indefinitely.

**^SB25-176 Commodity Handler & Farm Products Act, Rep. Matthew Martinez, Assistant Minority Leader Ty Winter, Sen. Rod Pelton, Sen. Marc Snyder**SB25-176 aims to keep perishable food safe, while protecting the livelihood of farmers and ranchers. The bill continues the regulation of commodity and farm products and increases the limit on the amount of farm products or commodities that a person could buy.

#### PROMOTING ECONOMIC SECURITY, CREATING JOBS AND BOOSTING COLORADO'S WORKFORCE

#### <u>HB25-1001 Preventing Wage Theft</u>, Majority Leader Monica Duran, Rep. Meg Froelich, Sen. Jessie Danielson, Sen. Chris Kolker

This bill aims to protect workers who make wage theft claims and prevent wage theft occurrences by holding bad-acting employers accountable and increasing the wage theft claim cap.

#### AHB25-1005 Tax Incentive for Film Festivals, Majority Leader Monica Duran, Rep. Brianna Titone, Sen. Judy Amabile, Sen. Mark Baisley

These new tax credits successfully brought the Sundance Film Festival to Boulder – which will boost economic growth, tourism and Colorado's reputation as a destination for the arts. This tax credit will also encourage other smaller film festivals to call Colorado home beginning in 2027.

#### HB25-1010 Prohibiting Price Gouging in Sales of Necessities, Rep. Yara Zokaie, Rep. Kyle Brown, Sen. Mike Weissman

This bill protects Colorado consumers during times of crisis by prohibiting price gouging on essential goods and services, like groceries and toiletries, by more than 10 percent during a declared emergency. It ensures access to necessities that are critical to the health and welfare of Coloradans.

#### <u>HB25-1090 Prohibiting Junk Fees</u>, Rep. Emily Sirota, Rep. Naquetta Ricks, Sen. Mike Weissman, Assistant Majority Leader Lisa Cutter

Too often, bad-acting businesses use 'junk fees' to discreetly jack up their prices at the last minute, blindsiding consumers and pushing honest business owners out of the market. This bill improves transparency in pricing to save Coloradans money and allow for honest businesses to stay competitive in the market.

## <u>SB25-004 Reigning In Child Care Fees</u>, Rep. Jenny Willford, Rep. Lorena García, Sen. Faith Winter, Sen. Janice Marchman

Child care waitlist fees, application fees, and deposits can cost families thousands of dollars, yet families rarely get their money back if they don't admit their child to a child care center. SB25-004 requires child care centers to provide a transparent fee schedule upon registration, when joining a waitlist, or at the request of a family. The bill also requires application fees, waitlist fees, or deposits to be refundable after six months if a child is not admitted and remains on the waitlist.

## <u>SB25-005 Worker Protection Act</u>, Rep. Javier Mabrey, Assistant Majority Leader Jennifer Bacon, Majority Leader Robert Rodriguez, Sen. Jessie Danielson

The Worker Protection Act empowers workers to negotiate for a better life for themselves and their families. The bill eliminates the unique requirement in Colorado law that unions must win a second election with a 75 percent threshold in order to collect dues from members and negotiate on their behalf.

### SB25-145 Easier Online Cancellation of Automatic Subscriptions, Rep. Mandy Lindsay, Rep. Yara Zokaie, Sen. Cathy Kipp

From Netflix and Amazon Prime to gym memberships, subscription services are prevalent in our daily lives. This legislation prohibits making it purposefully difficult to cancel subscriptions and requires sellers of goods and services to implement simple mechanisms for consumers to cancel automatic renewal contracts and trial periods, especially by providing an online option. This will save Coloradans time and money on cancelling services they no longer find useful or didn't know they subscribed to.

## HB25-1328 Direct Care Worker Stabilization and Support, Majority Leader Monica Duran, Rep. Emily Sirota, Sen. Jessie Danielson, Sen. Jeff Bridges

HB25-1328 implements recommendations from the Direct Care Workforce Stabilization Board to boost the incomes and working conditions for home care workers and increase access to quality in-home care.

#### HB25-1117 Vehicle Booting Company Regulation, Rep. Junie Joseph, Speaker Pro Tempore Andy Boesenecker, Sen. Julie Gonzales, Sen. Mike Weissman

This bill aims to protect drivers from predatory practices by strengthening oversight of companies that utilize vehicle immobilization practices, commonly known as booting. HB25-1117 improves transparency and fairness by giving the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) additional oversight to deny, suspend, revoke or refuse to review a permit to a vehicle booting company if the company is violating specific guidelines.

# <u>HB25-1130 Labor Requirements for Government Construction Projects</u>, Rep. Michael Carter, Majority Leader Monica Duran, Sen. Jessie Danielson, Sen. Chris Kolker

This law would allow public projects to use Project Labor Agreements to ensure worker protection. A project labor agreement serves as a collective bargaining agreement between a lead contractor for a public project and construction labor organizations to establish the terms and conditions of employment of the construction workforce on the public project.

# AHB25-1083 Driver Licenses for Deployed Military Families, Rep. Eliza Hamrick, Rep. Mary Bradfield, Sen. Lisa Frizell, President Pro Tempore Dafna Michaelson Jenet

If a Coloradan's driver license expires while they are on active military duty outside of Colorado, current state law allows the expiration date to be extended for three years. Beginning January 1, 2027, HB25-1083 also allows dependents of these service members to benefit from this three-year extension.

## <u>HB25-1153 Statewide Government Language Access</u>, Rep. Elizabeth Velasco, Rep. Junie Joseph, Sen. Iman Jodeh

HB25-1153 increases language access by requiring a statewide language access assessment to be conducted of certain state government functions. This helps identify existing language services and recommend improvements to ensure Coloradans can access government services, regardless of English proficiency.

^HB25-1177 Reducing Utility Rates for Businesses, Rep. Tisha Mauro, Assistant Minority Leader Ty Winter, Sen. Nick Hinrichsen, Sen. Byron Pelton

The Economic Development Rate allows utilities to offer competitive electric rates to industrial and commercial utility customers and can be a powerful tool to help drive employers to Colorado and create more jobs. This bill expands eligible project size and reduces application review timelines to increase the number of projects that can benefit from these lower rates.

#### ^<u>SB25-037 Coal Transition Grants</u>, Rep. Tisha Mauro, Rep. Rick Taggart, Sen. Dylan Roberts, Sen. Barbara Kirkmeyer

As Colorado's economy shifts toward renewable energy, we're stepping up to ensure we create jobs and support communities that are moving away from coal-based economies. This bill makes existing funding available for coal transition workforce assistance programs for an additional three years and directs the Just Transition Office to also prioritize investments in tier two communities, which are communities that are indirectly impacted by coal closures.

#### SB25-166 Incentives to Reduce Health-Care Workplace Violence, Rep. Lisa Feret, Sen. Kyle Mullica

Health care and social service workers experience the highest rates of workplace violence-related injuries and are five times more likely to be injured on the job compared to other industries. SB25-166 aims to reduce workplace violence for health care workers by adding safety to the state's quality incentive program.

## ^<u>SB25-282 Protections for Veterans Seeking Benefits</u>, Rep. Lisa Feret, Rep. Ryan Armagost, Sen. Matt Ball, Sen. Byron Pelton

SB25-282 protects veterans from unaccredited consultants, often called "claim sharks," who charge money to help navigate the application process to receive state and federal benefits that veterans have already earned. This legislation creates guidelines in this unregulated space to better protect veterans with disabilities and address the backlog of disability claims.

#### PROTECTING OUR RIGHTS AND FREEDOMS AND THE COLORADO WAY OF LIFE

## SB25-001 Colorado Voting Rights Act, Assistant Majority Leader Jennifer Bacon, Rep. Junie Joseph, Sen. Julie Gonzales

In anticipation of efforts to dismantle the national Voting Rights Act of 1965, which prohibits discriminatory election practices, SB25-001 protects and strengthens the right to vote in Colorado. The bill also prohibits discriminatory election practices, even if federal protections are rolled back.

#### SB25-276 Protect Civil Rights of Immigrants, Rep. Elizabeth Velasco, Rep. Lorena García, Sen. Julie Gonzales, Sen. Mike Weissman

The Trump administration's attacks on civil liberties have sparked chaos among immigrant communities. SB25-276 seeks to protect the civil rights of all Coloradans and Colorado's immigrant communities by strengthening existing data privacy protections and clarifying constitutional protections for immigrants.

HB25-1309 Protect Access to Gender-Affirming Health Care, Rep. Kyle Brown, Rep. Brianna Titone, Assistant Majority Leader Lisa Cutter, Sen. Julie Gonzales The Trump administration continues to target essential gender-affirming care. To protect this life-saving health care, new legislation will codify gender affirming health care coverage requirements in state law and exempt testosterone prescriptions from certain tracking requirements to reduce stigmas.

#### <u>HB25-1312 Legal Protections for Transgender Individuals</u>, Rep. Lorena García, Rep. Rebekah Stewart, Sen. Faith Winter, Sen. Chris Kolker

This bill creates the "Kelly Loving Act" to protect and uphold the rights of transgender Coloradans. The legislation would deem it a discriminatory act to intentionally not refer to a transgender person by their chosen name. Additionally, schools must create inclusive policies around names and dress codes. The bill also removes barriers for transgender individuals to change their driver's licenses or state IDs to match their gender identity.

#### <u>HB25-1321 Colorado Defense Fund</u>, Speaker Julie McCluskie, Rep. Shannon Bird, Sen. Jeff Bridges, Sen. Judy Amabile

In the wake of recent adverse action by the Trump administration, including federal funding freezes, disruptions to essential services, and mass lay-offs of federal workers, the Defending Against DOGE Act sets aside \$4 million to Musk-proof Colorado from federal actions that threaten our Colorado way of life.

HB25-1239 Colorado Anti-Discrimination Act, Rep. Yara Zokaie, Speaker Pro Tempore Andy Boesenecker, Sen. Lindsey Daugherty, Sen. Mike Weissman HB25-1239 strengthens the Colorado Anti-Discrimination Act to protect Colorado's most vulnerable communities, especially Coloradans with disabilities, so they can seek appropriate compensation for the harm they experience. With anti-discrimination safeguards and federal programs under attack by the current federal administration, Democrats are securing critical protections against discrimination for Coloradans.

#### SB25-014 Protecting the Freedom to Marry, Rep. Lorena García, Rep. Brianna Titone, Sen. Jessie Danielson

SB25-014 implements the will of the voters by repealing a provision in Colorado statute that states that marriage is valid only if it is between a man and a woman. This provision, which has been unenforceable since the United States Supreme Court's landmark 2015 decision in *Obergefell v. Hodges*, conflicted with the Colorado Constitution as amended by voters with the passage of Amendment J in 2024.

# SB25-063 Library Resource Decision Standards for Public Schools, Rep. Lorena García, Rep. Jenny Willford, Assistant Majority Leader Lisa Cutter, President Pro Tempore Dafna Michaelson Jenet

This bill creates safeguards against authoritarian-style book bans in public schools by requiring school boards to establish a policy on the acquisition, use, and removal of library resources. The policy ensures that any removal follows a clear, fair, and consistent process and protects librarians from retaliation.

#### HB25-1225 Freedom from Intimidation in Elections Act, Rep. Steven Woodrow, Rep. Elizabeth Velasco, Sen. Nick Hinrichsen, Sen. Lindsey Daugherty

The Freedom From Intimidation In Elections Act expands protections for voters, election judges, canvassers, and other election workers by allowing them to seek civil recourse if they are a victim of firearm intimidation. This is a crucial step in ensuring Colorado voters can make their voices heard at the ballot free of intimidation.

# AHB25-1023 Local Government Review of Fencing Projects, Rep. Matthew Martinez, Assistant Majority Leader Jennifer Bacon, Sen. Julie Gonzales, Assistant Minority Leader Cleave Simpson

Recent fence construction on one of the Sangre de Cristo land grant properties has limited wildlife migration and caused other environmental damage, including land erosion, while preventing local residents with legal access to the land from entering the property. This bill takes aim at future, unauthorized fencing construction projects to protect the natural habitats in the San Luis Valley by requiring individuals to submit an application to local government officials before constructing or installing a contiguous fence of a certain size in the Sangre de Cristo Land Grant lands.

HB25-1030 Building Codes Accessibility Standards, Rep. Junie Joseph, Rep. Rebekah Stewart, Assistant Majority Leader Lisa Cutter, Sen. Faith Winter This bill improves accessibility in new and renovated buildings and facilities for Coloradans with disabilities and addresses gaps in compliance with the federal Americans with Disabilities Act.

### ^HB25-1159 Child Support Commission Recommendations, Rep. Regina English, Rep. Junie Joseph, Sen. Kyle Mullica, Sen. Scott Bright

This bill updates and clarifies Colorado's child support guidelines to reflect today's economic realities and ensure children receive the financial support they need. It implements recommendations by the Colorado Child Support Commission to adjust the amount of child support divorced or separated parents are required to pay based on their income.

### <u>AHB25-1315 Vacancies in the General Assembly</u>, Rep. Emily Sirota, Minority Leader Rose Pugliese, Sen. Mike Weissman, Sen. Barbara Kirkmeyer

HB25-1315 increases transparency in the vacancy committee process and broadens voter participation when a legislative vacancy occurs. The bill outlines the election requirements for a seat filled by a vacancy committee, with no scenario allowing a legislator to serve longer than one year before having to run in an election.

#### SB25-008 Necessary Document Program, Rep. Meg Froelich, Sen. Nick Hinrichsen, Sen. Cathy Kipp

This bill would make it easier for Colorado residents who are victims of domestic violence, impacted by a natural disaster, low-income, disabled, experiencing homelessness, or elderly to obtain government IDs, which are often necessary for accessing essential services such as health care and housing. SB25-008 streamlines and removes administrative barriers to the Necessary Document Program so that more Coloradans can benefit from this program.

ASB25-143 Extend Prohibition on School Facial Recognition, Rep. Michael Carter, Rep. Ryan Armagost, Sen. Lindsey Daugherty, Minority Leader Paul Lundeen This bill reaffirms guardrails already in place to prevent biometric data from facial recognition technology from being used or shared freely in schools. The goal of SB25-143 is to maintain student privacy in an era where technology keeps advancing while permitting facial recognition software in limited school safety scenarios.

#### PROTECTING YOUR REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS

#### SB25-129 Legally Protected Health-Care Activity, Rep. Junie Joseph, Rep. Karen McCormick, Assistant Majority Leader Lisa Cutter, Sen. Faith Winter

With increased attacks on reproductive rights throughout the country, Colorado took action once again to ensure access to reproductive health care by strengthening Colorado's shield law that protects patients and health care providers from out-of-state investigations. The law allows a health care practitioner to have their name excluded from prescribed medication abortion labels.

#### SB25-130 Providing Emergency Medical Services, Rep. Meg Froelich, Rep. Yara Zokaie, Sen. Julie Gonzales, Sen. Mike Weissman

This bill safeguards emergency care for pregnant patients in the wake of the Trump Administration's decision not to enforce the federal Emergency Medical Treatment and Labor Act. Specifically, this bill ensures emergency access for pregnant people who need abortion or miscarriage care without discrimination based on financial need or the type of care required.

SB25-183 Coverage for Pregnancy-Related Services, Rep. Lorena García, Speaker Julie McCluskie, Majority Leader Robert Rodriguez, Sen. Lindsey Daugherty Colorado voters overwhelmingly approved Amendment 79 to enshrine the right to abortion in the Colorado constitution. This law implements Amendment 79 by allowing Coloradans with publicly-funded insurance, like state employees or Medicaid recipients, to access abortion care with their insurance.

#### IMPROVING PUBLIC SAFETY AND REDUCING RECIDIVISM

#### <u>HB25-1013 Visitation Rights</u>, Rep. Regina English, Assistant Majority Leader Jennifer Bacon, President James Coleman, Sen. Tony Exum

Visitation is an important part of rehabilitation, and it allows Coloradans who are incarcerated to stay connected with their support system. Studies show that visitation in prison results in a <u>26 percent</u> decrease in post-release criminal activity. This bill creates the right to visitation for incarcerated Coloradans to ensure they can stay connected with their family, friends, and loved ones and be set up for success after they serve time and re-enter the community.

AHB25-1116 Search Court Records Before Offender Release, Assistant Majority Leader Jennifer Bacon, Rep. Ryan Armagost, Sen. Rod Pelton, Sen. Matt Ball The bill requires the Department of Corrections (DOC) to search for and notify relevant parties of any outstanding warrants for a person in custody before they are released. By helping identify outstanding warrants, we can reduce recidivism and enhance community safety.

#### <u>HB25-1294 Court Costs Assessed to Juveniles</u>, Rep. Jamie Jackson, Rep. Junie Joseph, Sen. Tony Exum, Sen. Julie Gonzales

In 2021, the General Assembly passed a <u>law</u> to eliminate certain court fees and fines for youth who are in the juvenile justice system while removing outstanding juvenile fee debt. HB25-1294 extends this law permanently to alleviate the financial burden on justice-involved youth and their families, helping break cycles of incarceration and reduce recidivism.

# ^<u>SB25-041 Competency to Stand Trial in the Criminal Justice System</u>, Rep. Regina English, Rep. Mary Bradfield, President Pro Tempore Dafna Michaelson Jenet, Sen. Judy Amabile

To create safer communities, we need to ensure Coloradans in the criminal justice system with behavioral health disorders receive the care they need to effectively stand trial. This legislation allows the state to provide inpatient services for those in the criminal justice system for an additional 90 days after an individual's case is dismissed due to being deemed "incompetent to proceed," to help reduce recidivism and prioritize justice for crime victims.

## <u>SB25-197 Tony Grampsas Youth Services Program</u>, Assistant Majority Leader Jennifer Bacon, Sen. Tony Exum

After-school and in-school programming provided by non-profit organizations are essential to keeping our kids safe and helping them thrive. SB25-197 simplifies the Tony Grampsas Youth Services Program to reduce administrative barriers to Colorado non-profits that provide essential intervention and prevention for at-risk youth.

#### ^SB25-310 Proposition 130 Implementation, Rep. Shannon Bird, Rep. Rick Taggart, Sen. Barbara Kirkmeyer, Sen. Jeff Bridges

Last year, Colorado voters approved Proposition 130 to better support the recruitment and training of peace officers and ensure families of first responders can receive death benefits after the loss of a loved one. SB25-310 responsibly implements

Proposition 130 by creating a funding mechanism of \$350 million to local police departments for office recruitment, retention and training. The bill also creates the Death Benefit Fund of \$1 million to support surviving loved ones of first responders who have died as a result of injuries or an occupational disease related to their job.

#### <u>HB25-1291 Ride Share Consumer Protection</u>, Rep. Jenny Willford, Rep. Meg Froelich, Sen. Faith Winter, Sen. Jessie Danielson

This bill takes a multi-faceted approach to improve rideshare safety by enhancing background checks, strengthening driver vetting, establishing clear disqualifications, requiring audio and video recording of all rides and improving transparency and accountability.

#### ^SB25-069 Tire Chain Traction Control Device Permit, Rep. Meghan Lukens, Rep. Elizabeth Velasco, Sen. Dylan Roberts, Sen. Marc Catlin

To improve winter road safety, especially on the highly frequented Interstate 70, SB25-069 allows third-party vendors and companies to set up roadside stations to help install or remove tire chains or other traction devices on commercial and passenger vehicles.

#### SB25-162 Railroad Safety Requirements, Rep. Javier Mabrey, Rep. Elizabeth Velasco, Assistant Majority Leader Lisa Cutter, Sen. Marc Snyder

SB25-162 centralizes the inspection and regulation of Colorado's class I and passenger railroads, outlines communication requirements for emergency response and protects railroad employees from being civilly liable for damages for actions taken in good faith when responding to an emergency situation. This is a crucial bill to protect Colorado communities, our recreational economy and access to clean water by avoiding preventable rail accidents.

#### <u>AHB25-1065 Jury Duty Opt-Out for Certain Seniors</u>, Rep. Bob Marshall, Rep. Carlos Barron, Sen. Lisa Frizell

This legislation allows Coloradans aged 72 years and older to temporarily or permanently opt out of jury service, aligning with the retirement age for judges.

#### **REDUCING GUN VIOLENCE**

SB25-003 Semiautomatic Firearms & Rapid-Fire Devices, Speaker Pro Tempore Andy Boesenecker, Rep. Meg Froelich, Sen. Tom Sullivan, Sen. Julie Gonzales This legislation aims to save lives by prohibiting the purchase and sale of all rapid fire conversion devices, commonly known as "bump stocks", and by creating a permit with training requirements to purchase dangerous, semi-automatic military style firearms that can accept high capacity magazines.

**HB25-1133** Age Requirements for Purchase of Firearms Ammunition, Majority Leader Monica Duran, Rep. Lindsay Gilchrist, Sen. Judy Amabile, Sen. Cathy Kipp This bill raises the minimum age to purchase rifle or shotgun ammunition to 21 years old and requires sellers to verify that the buyer is at least 21 years old using a valid government-issued photo identification. It also requires sellers to store ammunition in a place where an employee must assist the buyer, such as in an enclosed display case or behind a counter, to help prevent theft. This bill aims to prevent senseless gun violence, saving countless Colorado lives.

#### <u>HB25-1238 Tightening Gun Show Regulations</u>, Rep. Junie Joseph, Rep. Sean Camacho, Sen. Cathy Kipp, Sen. Jessie Danielson

HB25-1238 helps enforce and strengthen gun show rules to reduce firearm theft and illegal firearm sales. The bill also outlines requirements for gun show promoters, including creating a security plan and increasing security camera coverage.

# <u>HB25-1250 Educating Students and Parents on Gun Violence Prevention</u>, Rep. Eliza Hamrick, Majority Leader Monica Duran, Assistant Majority Leader Lisa Cutter

We know that increasing awareness of gun violence prevention better equips parents and guardians to intervene and communicate with their child about this topic. HB25-1250 takes a public health approach, requiring the Office of Gun Violence Prevention to accessibly list gun violence prevention materials on their website so schools can distribute these materials to parents at the beginning of each school year.

#### SB25-059 Supports for State Response to Mass Shootings, Rep. Steven Woodrow, Rep. Michael Carter, Sen. Tom Sullivan

The bill directs the Division of Criminal Justice to apply for, accept, and utilize federal grant money or other grant funds to improve Colorado's mass shooting response. The bill also defines "mass shooting" as a shooting where at least four people, other than the perpetrator, are injured or killed with a firearm.

#### SB25-205 Firearm Serial Number Checks, Rep. Cecelia Espenoza, Rep. William Lindstedt, Sen. Nick Hinrichsen

SB25-205 will reduce gun violence in our communities by helping firearm dealers identify individuals who are trying to sell a firearm that has been reported lost or stolen or involved in a criminal investigation.

#### **EXPANDING SERVICES AND ACCESS TO JUSTICE FOR VICTIMS OF CRIME**

AHB25-1031 Whistleblower Protections for Law Enforcement, Assistant Majority Leader Jennifer Bacon, Rep. Chad Clifford, Sen. Dylan Roberts, Sen. Byron Pelton HB25-1031 strengthens protections for whistleblowers in the law enforcement field by expanding the definition of retaliatory actions, requiring disclosures to be made to external oversight agencies, and ensuring confidentiality for reporting officers. It also establishes penalties for employers who engage in retaliation, allowing peace officers to seek reinstatement, back pay with interest, attorney fees, and other remedies.

AHB25-1138 Protect Victims in Civil Sex Misconduct Suits, Rep. Meghan Lukens, Minority Leader Rose Pugliese, Sen. Barbara Kirkmeyer, Sen. Lindsey Daugherty Currently, Colorado law allows for evidence of a victim's past sexual activity to be considered if it involves the defendant. This bill eliminates this exception, protecting victims of sexual assault in civil court by making their hairstyle, speech, lifestyle, and clothing related to an alleged sexual offense inadmissible as evidence of consent, credibility, or harm.

### <u>HB25-1168 Housing Protections for Victim-Survivors</u>, Rep. Mandy Lindsay, Rep. Cecelia Espenoza, Sen. Mike Weissman

Housing instability is a significant threat to people who experience gender-based violence, with <a href="https://linear.com/linear.

### HB25-1185 Child Conceived from Sex Assault Court Proceedings, Rep. Meg Froelich, Rep. Jenny Willford, Sen. Mike Weissman

Despite a law to protect survivors from being forced to co-parent with their assailant, current gaps have made it difficult for assailants to relinquish their parental rights. This legislation aims to protect survivors by creating an easier and clearer process for survivors of sexual assault to terminate their assailant's parental rights, creating a system that prioritizes Colorado survivors and children's best interests.

#### <u>AHB25-1275 Forensic Science Integrity</u>, Rep. Yara Zokaie, Rep. Matt Soper, Sen. Mike Weissman, Sen. Lisa Frizell

In response to the CBI backlog crisis, HB25-1275 establishes clear procedures for reporting misconduct in Colorado crime laboratories to address intentional and wrongful misconduct by previous crime laboratory workers. Additionally, the bill requires defendants and victims to be notified if there was misconduct in their case so they can take the proper steps to seek justice.

^<u>SB25-024 Increasing the Number of Judicial Officers</u>, Rep. Michael Carter, Rep. Matt Soper, Sen. Dylan Roberts, Sen. Lisa Frizell

In order to cut down on wait times and improve access to justice, this legislation increases the number of judges across Colorado by 15 and allocates funds for additional public defenders, deputy district attorneys, sheriff deputies, behavioral health court professionals, and support staff.

#### ^<u>SB25-170 Sexual Assault Kit Backlog Testing & Data</u>, Rep. Shannon Bird, Rep. Emily Sirota, Sen. Judy Amabile, Sen. Barbara Kirkmeyer

Due to a backlog of over 1,400 sexual assault evidence kits waiting to be completed, SB25-170 allows the Colorado Bureau of Investigations to invest \$3 million to accelerate the testing of these kits. The bill allows CBI to contract with outside labs to speed up testing and requires the Colorado Department of Public Safety to provide regular and detailed updates to the General Assembly on its forensic testing progress.

#### SB25-304 Measures to Address CBI Backlog, Rep. Jenny Willford, Rep. Meg Froelich, Sen. Mike Weissman

The "Miranda Gordon Justice for Survivors Act of 2025" aims to address the CBI backlog of DNA tests by creating a review board to monitor the effectiveness of current protocols, standards, and training practices when responding to sexual assault. The bill also requires survivors to be notified every 90 days if they have not received test results, requires crime labs to provide results within 60 days and creates a public dashboard with reports on the backlog within 90 days.