

**PRELIMINARY DIGEST**

**May 11, 2026**

**SENATE AND HOUSE BILLS ENACTED  
BY THE  
SEVENTY-FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
OF THE  
STATE OF COLORADO**

**2026 - Second Regular Session**

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Includes 57 digests of the 156 bills  
that have been passed by  
the General Assembly and acted on by the Governor

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The first date appearing after each digest entry is the date on which the Act was approved by the Governor or, if noted, became law without his signature; the second date is the effective date of the Act. At the time of publication, some measures that do not contain a safety clause will appear with a notation that it is effective on the 91st day after sine die. The official date for these bills will appear in the final digest that is published in June. Vetoed bills are designated and marked "VETOED".

Bills are in categorical order. This digest is intended to direct the user to the text of specific bills and does not purport to be exhaustive of the contents of the bills.

Compiled by the  
**Office of Legislative Legal Services**

## **AGRICULTURE**

**S.B. 26-010** Agricultural property - property taxation - definitions of ranch and farm - pasture-based operation. The act broadens the definition of "ranch" for purposes of property taxation to mean a parcel of land that is predominantly used for grazing livestock for the primary purpose of obtaining a monetary profit. A ranch must operate through a pasture-based operation, which is newly defined as a method of livestock management where pasture-grazed livestock have regular access to open pasture and derive a majority of their diet through grazing.

The act also broadens the definition of "farm" for purposes of property taxation to mirror the predominant use language in the definition of "ranch". With this change, a farm means 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.

**APPROVED** by Governor March 9, 2026

**EFFECTIVE** January 1, 2027

**NOTE:** This act was passed without a safety clause.

**S.B. 26-064** Department of agriculture - Colorado agricultural future loan program - eligible entities - acquisition and conservation of agricultural land - irrigation districts - ditch and reservoir companies. The act modifies the Colorado agricultural future loan program (program) to permit certain eligible entities to receive funding from the program. An eligible entity is defined as an entity that is certified by the division of conservation (division) or an entity that:

- Is a district that has authority to conduct water activities, an irrigation district, or a ditch and reservoir company; and
- Has a letter of support from an entity certified by the division.

The act directs the commissioner of agriculture to adopt rules that prioritize awarding loans to eligible entities that seek to acquire and conserve agriculturally productive land and to transfer ownership of that land to an eligible farmer or rancher who qualifies for a loan from the program.

**APPROVED** by Governor March 24, 2026

**EFFECTIVE** August 12, 2026

**NOTE:** This act was passed without a safety clause and takes effect 90 days after sine die.

**H.B. 26-1031** Agricultural products - falsely identifying an agricultural product as being grown in the state - unauthorized use of Colorado proud designation or logo - deceptive trade practice. The act prohibits a person from:

- Identifying an agricultural product as being produced in the state when selling, marketing, advertising, or distributing the product unless the product is grown

- in the state; and  
Using the Colorado proud designation or logo unless authorized by the department of agriculture.

A violation of these prohibitions constitutes a deceptive trade practice. There is no private right of action to enforce a violation of the prohibitions.

**APPROVED** by Governor April 8, 2026

**EFFECTIVE** August 12, 2026

**NOTE:** This act was passed without a safety clause and takes effect 90 days after sine die.

## **CHILDREN AND DOMESTIC MATTERS**

**H.B. 26-1024** Voluntary relinquishment of child - maximum age - reunification rules. Under current law, a parent can voluntarily relinquish their child to a firefighter or hospital or community clinic emergency center staff member if the child is less than 72 hours old. The act allows a parent to voluntarily relinquish their child if the child is 30 days old or younger and requires the department of human services to adopt rules establishing a process for either parent of child who was relinquished to reunify with the child.

**APPROVED** by Governor April 27, 2026

**EFFECTIVE** August 12, 2026

**NOTE:** This act was passed without a safety clause and takes effect 90 days after sine die.

**H.B. 26-1142** Child advocacy centers - civil immunity - information sharing relevant to the protection of a child. The act establishes civil immunity for a board member, staff member, or volunteer of a child advocacy center that arises from the performance of the board member's, staff member's, or volunteer's duties if the board member's, staff member's, or volunteer's acts are in good faith.

The act allows certain entities to share information under certain circumstances that is relevant to the protection of a child that is the subject of a child maltreatment case.

**APPROVED** by Governor April 13, 2026

**EFFECTIVE** August 12, 2026

**NOTE:** This act was passed without a safety clause and takes effect 90 days after sine die.

## **CORRECTIONS**

**H.B. 26-1039** Jails - municipal jails - jail requirements. Beginning July 1, 2027, the act requires municipal jails to comply with existing jail data collection requirements, standards, and oversight.

The act requires a keeper of a municipal jail to release a pregnant person charged with a violation of a municipal ordinance from custody if jail staff have a reasonable belief the person is in labor unless remaining in custody is necessary for the health or welfare of the person. If the pregnant person in labor is not released, the use of restraints is prohibited during the labor, delivery, and postpartum recovery, and the jail staff shall make a written record that the labor, delivery, and postpartum recovery occurred at the jail and record the reason the pregnant person was not released from custody.

The act requires council members of a city that has a city jail to examine the jail's management and sufficiency at least once a year and allows the attorney general to conduct assessments of municipal jails to identify gaps and deficiencies based on the jail standards.

The act adds a nonvoting member who represents a municipality to the jail standards advisory committee.

**APPROVED** by Governor April 27, 2026

**EFFECTIVE** August 12, 2026

**NOTE:** This act was passed without a safety clause and takes effect 90 days after sine die.

## COURTS

**S.B. 26-004** Extreme risk protection orders - petitioners. The act adds a co-responder who is part of a co-responder community response to the list of community members who may petition the court for an extreme risk protection order. Health-care facilities, behavioral health treatment facilities, school districts, the state charter school institute, K-12 charter schools, private schools, and institutions of higher education are established as institutional petitioners that may petition a court for an extreme risk protection order.

**APPROVED** by Governor April 6, 2026

**EFFECTIVE** April 6, 2026

**S.B. 26-018** Automatic suppression of court record for minor's name change. Beginning July 1, 2026, if a petitioner is under 18 years old at the time of filing a petition seeking to change the petitioner's name, the act requires the court to suppress the record unless the petitioner was previously convicted of a felony. The act authorizes the court to use the suppressed court record for administrative purposes, but the court is prohibited from publishing the petitioner's name or the petitioner's new name online. A petitioner who is under 18 years old is not required to give public notice of the name change. The act authorizes an individual to access a suppressed court record without a court order if the individual obtains verbal consent from a party to the case and submits an affidavit to the court, upon penalty of perjury, that the individual has obtained the verbal consent.

**APPROVED** by Governor April 20, 2026

**EFFECTIVE** April 20, 2026

**S.B. 26-037** Bond - evaluation for bond hearing officers. The act requires that the state court administrator create a process for evaluating bond hearing officers. An evaluation must include input from the district attorney and regional public defender and allow the opportunity for input from court staff and other interested parties within each judicial district in which a bond hearing officer presides.

**APPROVED** by Governor April 2, 2026

**EFFECTIVE** April 2, 2026

**H.B. 26-1134** Municipal courts - right to counsel same as state court - prohibit flat fee indigent counsel - open to public observation. The act clarifies that municipal court defendants have a right to counsel and that municipal defense counsel have the same notice requirements, case information, and opportunity to meet with their clients as do state-level defense counsel. Current law prohibits paying indigent municipal defense counsel on a fixed or flat-fee payment structure if the municipality prosecutes domestic violence cases. The act applies the prohibition to all municipalities and allows a flat fee arrangement if the flat fee is the same or higher than a resulting fee based on hourly compensation.

Current law requires municipal court proceedings to be open to public observation.

The act requires virtual observation for all in-custody proceedings and prompt resolution of municipal cases.

**APPROVED** by Governor April 27, 2026

**EFFECTIVE** April 27, 2026

## **CRIMINAL LAW AND PROCEDURE**

**S.B. 26-011** Law enforcement agencies - websites and online platforms - search warrants provided to covered platforms - enforcement. The act requires operators of certain websites, online services, online applications, or mobile applications (covered platforms) to ensure that each covered platform provides a streamlined process to allow Colorado law enforcement agencies to contact the covered platform at all times. The process must, at a minimum, make available a staffed hotline for Colorado law enforcement agencies for the purposes of:

- Receiving and responding to questions about search warrants;
- Acknowledging the receipt of a search warrant within 8 hours after receipt; and
- Providing status updates on search warrant compliance to a requesting Colorado law enforcement agency.

An operator must comply with a search warrant within 72 hours after receiving the search warrant if certain conditions apply. A court may reasonably extend this time if the court makes a written finding that the operator or covered platform has shown good cause for the extension and that an extension would not cause an adverse result. The failure of an operator or a covered platform to comply with the requirements of a court-ordered search warrant supports a finding of contempt of court.

The attorney general or a district attorney with jurisdiction may enforce the act.

**APPROVED** by Governor March 30, 2026

**EFFECTIVE** August 12, 2026

**NOTE:** This act was passed without a safety clause and takes effect 90 days after sine die.

**S.B. 26-013** Bigamy - elements - cohabitation. The act excludes cohabitation as a possible element of bigamy.

**APPROVED** by Governor March 26, 2026

**EFFECTIVE** August 12, 2026

**NOTE:** This act was passed without a safety clause and takes effect 90 days after sine die.

**S.B. 26-014** Affirmative defenses - not guilty by reason of insanity. Current law requires the defense to furnish a copy of any report of examination of the defendant that is made at the instance of the defense to the prosecution in a reasonable amount of time in advance of trial. The act requires a copy of the report to also be furnished to the court who, upon receipt of the copy, shall provide a copy to the department of human services.

The act authorizes community placement of a defendant for treatment and rehabilitation.

For a defendant who was charged with a crime allegedly committed on or after July

1, 2026, the act clarifies the legal standard for a defendant's conditional or unconditional release from the department. The standard for unconditional release is that the defendant has no abnormal mental condition that would be likely to cause the defendant to be dangerous to the defendant's self or others or to the community in the reasonably foreseeable future, is capable of distinguishing right from wrong, and has substantial capacity to conform their conduct to the law. The standard for conditional release is that the defendant can satisfy the standard for unconditional release but with the imposition of and compliance with conditions. At an unconditional release hearing for a defendant who is on conditional release, if any evidence is introduced that shows the defendant is ineligible for unconditional release, the defendant has the burden of proving that the defendant meets the applicable test for unconditional release.

**APPROVED** by Governor April 20, 2026

**EFFECTIVE** April 20, 2026

**S.B. 26-031** Controlled substances - schedule I controlled substance exemptions - federally approved prescription drug containing schedule I controlled substance - natural medicine - marijuana. The act exempts from schedule I a prescription drug product containing a schedule I controlled substance (product) if the product is:

- Approved for prescription use by the United States food and drug administration;
- Designated or rescheduled by the United States drug enforcement agency (DEA);
- Dispensed by a pharmacy or prescription drug outlet, or administered by an authorized practitioner; and
- Possessed by a person who is authorized to possess a controlled substance.

The exemption applies upon the DEA's designation or rescheduling.

The act requires that the product be controlled in Colorado in the same manner as the product is controlled by the DEA and state law.

The act clarifies that its provisions do not apply to or affect the regulation of or lawful actions or conduct concerning natural medicine, natural medicine product, marijuana, or marijuana concentrate.

**APPROVED** by Governor April 20, 2026

**EFFECTIVE** August 12, 2026

**NOTE:** This act was passed without a safety clause and takes effect 90 days after sine die.

**H.B. 26-1017** Criminal restitution for insurance company prohibited - exception. For the purpose of criminal restitution, the act excludes from the definition of "restitution" losses for which a victim may be compensated through a private insurance policy, except for worker's compensation insurance. Current law defines a "victim" as any person who has suffered

losses because of a contractual relationship, including an insurance company. The act excludes a person from the definition of "victim" because of a contractual relationship but clarifies that an insurance company is a "victim" if the insurance company is a victim of a scheme to defraud the insurance company or when the insurance company's property is damaged or stolen through a criminal act. The act authorizes the court to award a victim restitution for a deductible amount under the victim's insurance policy. The act does not prohibit an insurance company from filing a civil action or pursuing any other civil action against a defendant to recover losses the insurance company has suffered.

**APPROVED** by Governor April 2, 2026

**EFFECTIVE** August 12, 2026

**NOTE:** This act was passed without a safety clause and takes effect 90 days after sine die.

**H.B. 26-1020** Drug possession - use of colorimetric field drug test - summons issued instead of arrest and detention - mandatory advisement. Under current law, a person may be arrested and detained for level 1 drug misdemeanor possession.

The act requires that when a colorimetric field drug test was used to test for the presence of a controlled substance and a person is solely suspected of a level 1 drug misdemeanor for possession or solely suspected of a municipal drug possession charge, a peace officer shall not arrest the person and instead shall issue a summons.

The act also requires that when a colorimetric field drug test was used, before accepting a plea from a person charged with a drug possession for level 4 drug felony possession and lower, the trial court is required to issue an advisement with specified language, including language stating that colorimetric field drug tests have known error rates and that the defendant has the right to enter a not guilty plea and to request drug testing from an accredited forensic laboratory.

**APPROVED** by Governor March 26, 2026

**EFFECTIVE** March 26, 2026

**H.B. 26-1064** Sentencing - youthful offender system - system participant treatment and programming - report. Current law establishes the youthful offender system (system) in the department of corrections (department) as a sentencing option that provides a continuum of services. The act:

- Updates references to the juveniles and young adults who are eligible for or participating in the system;
- Revises certain legislative intent provisions to emphasize lasting behavioral changes in preparation for reentry, trauma-informed care, addressing criminogenic risk, accountability, healthy relationship building, and system participant and staff safety;
- Expresses the general assembly's intent that juveniles and young adults with physical, intellectual, mental, or behavioral health disabilities or conditions

receive equitable treatment in sentencing to the system and reasonable accommodations once in the system;

- Adds certain data related to system completion rates to an existing annual reporting requirement for the department;
- Adds requirements for evidence-informed rehabilitative treatment and life skills programming and for individual therapy, family therapy, or substance use disorder treatment;
- Establishes requirements for system participant evaluations, plans for addressing participants' needs and skills, and case manager duties;
- Requires the department, in consultation with relevant experts, to make and publish on its website recommendations for integrating a trauma-informed standard of care with current system practices to promote the health and safety of system participants; and
- Expands certain procedural protections for system participants with mental or behavioral health conditions or intellectual and developmental disabilities.

**APPROVED** by Governor March 26, 2026

**EFFECTIVE** August 12, 2026

**NOTE:** This act was passed without a safety clause and takes effect 90 days after sine die.

## **EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAMS AND SERVICES**

**S.B. 26-050** Child care centers - disclosure - policies and procedures - mandatory reporters - video recording equipment. The act requires a child care center to disclose the following information in its policies and procedures to the parents or guardians of children being served at the child care center:

- A statement that child care center workers are mandatory reporters of child abuse or neglect under state law; and
- For a child care center that utilizes video recording equipment, a disclosure of the presence of video recording equipment and the child care center's policies and procedures regarding the use of the video recording equipment and the generated video footage.

**APPROVED** by Governor April 6, 2026

**EFFECTIVE** August 12, 2026

**NOTE:** This act was passed without a safety clause and takes effect 90 days after sine die.

## EDUCATION - PUBLIC SCHOOLS

**S.B. 26-126** Teacher licensure - out-of-state teachers - temporary licensing process. The act allows the state department of education (CDE) to issue a professional teacher license to a teacher with at least 3 years of successful teaching experience in another state or country for which CDE has granted reciprocity. The act eliminates the requirement that an applicant have the successful teaching experience within the previous 7 years.

The act creates a temporary licensing process for teachers from states that participate in the "Interstate Teacher Mobility Compact" (Compact). The process requires that CDE:

- Issue an initial teacher license within 30 days of receiving a complete teacher license application from a person licensed by a Compact state when the applicant passes a criminal history record check and holds an unencumbered eligible license issued by a Compact state that is equivalent to an eligible license in Colorado; and
- Publish an annual table showing how out-of-state licenses correspond to Colorado endorsement areas.

The act repeals the temporary licensing process when CDE begins issuing licenses pursuant to the Compact.

**APPROVED** by Governor April 20, 2026

**EFFECTIVE** August 12, 2026

**NOTE:** This act was passed without a safety clause and takes effect 90 days after sine die.

**H.B. 26-1090** Teacher licensure - license applicants - misdemeanor conviction disclosure requirements. The act requires that an applicant for a teacher license disclose misdemeanor convictions that occurred in the last 7 years, except traffic misdemeanors, unless:

- The misdemeanor was committed against an at-risk person or a child; or
- The department of education has specified that the misdemeanor is grounds for denial, annulment, suspension, or revocation of a license, certificate, endorsement, or authorization.

The act requires that an applicant for a teacher license disclose any misdemeanor conviction in the 2 above categories, regardless of the date of conviction.

**APPROVED** by Governor April 20, 2026

**EFFECTIVE** August 12, 2026

**NOTE:** This act was passed without a safety clause and takes effect 90 days after sine die.

**H.B. 26-1174** School finance - total program - 2025-26 mid-year adjustment - appropriation reduced. Compared to what was anticipated when appropriations were established in the 2025 regular legislative session for the 2025-26 budget year, the general assembly finds that

for the 2025-26 budget year the actual funded pupil count and the at-risk pupil count are lower than anticipated; the local share of total program funding is higher than anticipated; and therefore, the general assembly intends to decrease the state share of districts' total program funding by \$103,472,508 for the 2025-26 budget year.

Under current law, there are 2 total program formulas to finance public schools, commonly referred to as the old formula and the new formula. For the 2025-26 budget year, a district's total program is the greater of:

- The district's total program amount for the 2024-25 budget year; or
- The amount calculated for the 2025-26 budget year under the old formula plus an amount equal to 15% of the difference between the amounts calculated between the old formula and the new formula.

The act clarifies that for the 2025-26 budget year, if the calculation under the new formula is less than the calculation under the old formula, then that district's total program for the 2025-26 budget year is the greater of:

- The district's total program amount for the 2024-25 budget year; or
- The amount calculated for the 2025-26 budget year under the old formula.

The act reduces appropriations to the department of education for the 2025-26 budget year by \$103,472,508.

**APPROVED** by Governor March 26, 2026

**EFFECTIVE** March 26, 2026

**H.B. 26-1175** State education fund - transfers - Colorado teacher of the year program appropriations - Colorado READ Act required appropriations. The act discontinues the annual transfers from the state education fund to the Colorado teacher of the year fund for the Colorado teacher of the year program and to the early literacy fund for specified purposes in support of the "Colorado READ Act". The Colorado teacher of the year fund and the early literacy fund are repealed, effective September 1, 2027.

The act permits the general assembly to appropriate money from the state education fund for the Colorado teacher of the year program and requires the general assembly to annually appropriate at least \$34 million from the state education fund for the same specified purposes in support of the "Colorado READ Act".

**APPROVED** by Governor March 26, 2026

**EFFECTIVE** March 26, 2026

## EDUCATION - POSTSECONDARY

**S.B. 26-034** Auraria higher education center - board of directors - student and faculty advisory committees - membership. Under current law, the members of the Auraria board of directors (board) who are the representatives of the student advisory committee and faculty advisory committee are nonvoting members.

The act makes the student board member and the faculty board member voting members of the board. Concerning the student board member, the act repeals the requirement that the student be a full-time student and reduces the Colorado residency requirement from 3 years prior to the member's election to one year prior to the member's election. The faculty advisory committee is expanded from 6 to 9 members. One of the additional members is elected from each constituent institution of the Auraria higher education center.

The act states that board members are fiduciaries of the Auraria higher education center and requires board members to recuse themselves from a vote or executive session of the board when they have a conflict of interest.

**APPROVED** by Governor March 27, 2026

**EFFECTIVE** October 1, 2026

**H.B. 26-1176** Student financial assistance - fourth-year innovation pilot program - appropriation reduced. Under the fourth-year innovation pilot program (program), each year the general assembly appropriates an amount to the department of education (department) for the department to distribute to local education providers from which an eligible graduate graduated early. The act:

- Discontinues the requirement to appropriate money for distribution to eligible local education providers for eligible graduates who graduate during the 2025-26 school year; and
- Requires the department to prorate the amount distributed from the appropriation, if any.

Under the program, an eligible graduate may receive funding for tuition, fees, books, transportation, and other costs of attendance associated with their postsecondary program if, among other requirements, the eligible graduate commences their postsecondary program within 18 months after graduating early. The act requires an eligible graduate who graduates early in the 2025-26 school year to commence their postsecondary program by December 31, 2026.

Under current law, the department of higher education is required to submit a final program evaluation report, including the impacts and outcomes of the program on the student cohorts that participated in the program and recommended next steps for the program. The act repeals this requirement.

The act reduces an appropriation to the department of higher education for the 2025-26 budget year by \$30,958.

**APPROVED** by Governor March 26, 2026

**EFFECTIVE** March 26, 2026

## GENERAL ASSEMBLY

**S.B. 26-084** Office of the state auditor - fraud hotline - protection of legal privilege. The act protects certain legal privileges for state entities related to disclosures to the state auditor, legislative audit committee, or governor for purposes of an investigation by the state auditor that is related to the state's fraud hotline.

**APPROVED** by Governor April 20, 2026

**EFFECTIVE** August 12, 2026

**NOTE:** This act was passed without a safety clause and takes effect 90 days after sine die.

**H.B. 26-1068** Legislators - remote participation in joint committee meetings - executive committee policies. The executive committee of the legislative council (executive committee) is authorized to adopt policies regarding the ability of members of the general assembly to remotely participate in interim committee meetings and in legislative proceedings during a disaster emergency. The act expands the executive committee's authority to adopt policies to allow remote participation in meetings of any joint committees comprised of members from both chambers that are held at any time of the year.

**APPROVED** by Governor March 26, 2026

**EFFECTIVE** March 26, 2026

**H.B. 26-1178** State controller - expenditures in excess of appropriations - spending restrictions. Under current law, the controller may allow any state department, institution, or agency of the state, including any institution of higher education, to make an expenditure in excess of the amount authorized by an item of appropriation for the fiscal year if certain conditions are satisfied. One of those conditions is that the overexpenditure is necessary due to unforeseen circumstances arising while the general assembly is not meeting in a regular or special session. The act modifies that condition to also allow an overexpenditure when it is necessary due to a lapse in a federal appropriation that the joint budget committee determines is reasonably likely to occur while the general assembly is not meeting in regular or special session during which such overexpenditure can be legislatively addressed.

The act also makes a conforming amendment to the process by which the general assembly can remove the spending restriction that the controller attaches to an overexpenditure. If a supplemental appropriation is enacted for the overexpenditure or a portion of it:

- The controller's spending restriction is released in full; and
- The department, institution, or agency of the state's overexpenditure authority ends.

**APPROVED** by Governor March 26, 2026

**EFFECTIVE** March 26, 2026

## **GOVERNMENT - LOCAL**

**S.B. 26-039** Fire and police pension association - new hire pension plans - disability and survivor benefits. The fire and police pension association (association) provides disability retirement and survivor benefits (disability and survivor benefits) for eligible members of the association (members) who become disabled or die. The act recodifies and reorganizes the disability and survivor benefits statutes, removes outdated provisions, and clarifies ambiguous language. In addition, the act makes the following modifications to the disability and survivor benefits statutes:

- Removes the current requirement that the association require every member who applies for disability retirement benefits to have 3 independent medical exams and instead authorizes the board of the association (board) to appoint a medical advisor to assess the needs of each applicant for disability retirement benefits;
- Authorizes the board to adopt rules to streamline the appeal process for disability retirement benefit applicants who are denied benefits;
- Allows the association to require a member who is occupationally disabled to participate in a rehabilitation and retraining program to help the member gain additional skills and knowledge so the member can earn a wage doing a job other than being a police officer or firefighter;
- Clarifies that a member who is a total disability retirement benefit recipient will begin receiving a cost of living adjustment when the member starts receiving a total disability retirement benefit;
- Clarifies eligibility for a member to apply for disability retirement benefits;
- Repeals the statute that makes an employer liable for the payment of disability retirement benefits if a member's disability existed at the commencement of employment, the employment was not ordered by a court, and the employer failed to require the member to complete and file a health history form prior to commencing employment; and
- Requires members to fill out a health history form, which notifies the association of any preexisting health conditions, prior to employment.

The act does not change the amounts of disability retirement and survivor benefits or the length of time a member must be employed to be eligible for a benefit, nor does it require additional money from the state, employers, or members.

**APPROVED** by Governor April 6, 2026

**EFFECTIVE** August 12, 2026

**NOTE:** This act was passed without a safety clause and takes effect 90 days after sine die.

**S.B. 26-047** Colorado Firefighter Safety Act - election to obligate public employer to engage in collective bargaining - applicable elections. Existing law allows voters to circulate a petition for a ballot question requiring a local government to engage in collective bargaining with the fire department for the local government and extend coverage of the "Colorado

Firefighter Safety Act" to firefighters employed by the local government (question). The question may be added to the ballot for any general election, as defined in the "Colorado Firefighter Safety Act". The act changes the definition of a general election for the purpose of determining when a question may be added to the ballot to include a coordinated election as defined in the "Uniform Election Code of 1992". The act also changes the definition of a general election to refer to a regular municipal election rather than a general municipal election to align the language with other municipal elections law.

**APPROVED** by Governor April 20, 2026

**EFFECTIVE** August 12, 2026

**NOTE:** This act was passed without a safety clause and takes effect 90 days after sine die.

**S.B. 26-052** Office of just transition - coal transition worker hiring preference - investment of coal transition settlement money. The act establishes a first and preferred opportunity for available employment for coal transition workers in coal transition communities (hiring preference). A business entity located in a coal transition community that is engaged in the business of constructing or operating railroads, utilities, energy generation facilities, or advanced manufacturing facilities (covered business) is required to comply with the hiring preference. A covered business does not include the state government or a local government.

A covered business is required to make good faith efforts to provide a hiring preference to a coal transition worker who meets the qualifications for an employment position (qualified coal transition worker). A covered business may hire an individual who is not a qualified coal transition worker only if a qualified coal transition worker did not apply for employment with the covered business, each qualified coal transition worker declined a job offer from a covered business, or a qualified coal transition worker's qualifications did not meet the qualifications of other candidates for the same job.

If a qualified coal transition worker applies for employment with a covered business, the covered business is required to report specified information annually to the just transition office. The executive director is required to adopt policies and procedures to implement the act. A hiring preference does not apply if a covered business places an existing employee in another employment position with the covered business or to the extent that a hiring preference conflicts with the terms of a collective bargaining agreement that applies to the relationship between a covered business and its employees.

Currently, a public entity is not allowed to invest public funds in certain types of investments, such as equity instruments, instruments convertible to equity, or equity interests, or to deposit public funds with any person except certain depository institutions, which are primarily banks. The act authorizes a public entity to deposit or invest, either directly or through an investment firm or other third party authorized by the public entity, public funds from a payment or settlement that the public entity has received to offset the socioeconomic impacts to a community or government from the closure of a coal mine or coal power

generating station in any investment permitted by an investment policy approved by the public entity.

**APPROVED** by Governor March 9, 2026

**EFFECTIVE** March 9, 2026

**S.B. 26-053** Colorado housing and finance authority - first responders eligible for mortgages. The act expands eligibility for mortgage loans through the Colorado housing and finance authority to first responders. The act also defines the term "first responder" to include peace officers, firefighters, and emergency medical technicians, and defines the term "peace officer" to include a noncertified deputy sheriff, an emergency communications specialist, a corrections officer, a port of entry officer, or a wildlife officer.

The act also sets an income limit for families made eligible for mortgage loans by the act.

**APPROVED** by Governor April 17, 2026

**EFFECTIVE** August 12, 2026

**NOTE:** This act was passed without a safety clause and takes effect 90 days after sine die.

**H.B. 26-1115** Prepaid wireless telecommunications service charges - modifications - 911 charge - 988 charge - telephone disability access charge. Colorado imposes 3 charges on all retail sales of prepaid wireless telecommunications services: A prepaid wireless 911 charge, a prepaid wireless 988 charge, and a prepaid wireless telephone disability access (TDA) charge, which, effective January 1, 2026, replaced the former telecommunications relay service charge. The act makes the following modifications to the laws implementing the 3 prepaid wireless telecommunications services:

- Corrects erroneous cross references in connection with the prepaid wireless telecommunications services;
- Modifies the definition of "prepaid wireless telecommunications service" (prepaid wireless definition) in the statute that implements the prepaid wireless 911 charge to include a wireless telecommunications service 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. In addition, the act harmonizes the prepaid wireless definition for all 3 of the prepaid wireless telecommunication services.
- Adds providers of prepaid wireless telecommunications services (providers) to the definition of "retail transaction" and to surcharge remittance procedures for the prepaid wireless 911 charge;
- Includes the prepaid wireless 988 charge in the list of taxes or fees that are administered by the department of revenue (department);
- Consistent with the treatment of confidential tax information regarding the prepaid wireless 911 charge, allows the department to disclose confidential tax information regarding the prepaid wireless TDA charge and the prepaid

wireless 988 charge to their respective enterprises and to the public utilities commission;

- Consistent with the requirement for electronic filing and payment for the prepaid wireless 911 charge and the TDA charge, allows the department to require electronic filing and payment for the prepaid wireless 988 charge;
- Consistent with the prepaid wireless 911 charge, clarifies that telecommunications services that are not subject to the prepaid wireless TDA charge are subject to other TDA charges imposed by law and makes the same clarification regarding the prepaid wireless 988 charge; and
- Consistent with the prepaid wireless 911 charge, imposes the prepaid wireless 988 charge on providers that use federally supported services to provide free prepaid wireless telecommunications services.

**APPROVED** by Governor March 26, 2026

**EFFECTIVE** March 26, 2026

## **GOVERNMENT - STATE**

**H.B. 26-1136** Public Service - state government - academic course work - employee qualifications. The act creates the pathways to public service program (program) in the department of personnel (department) using existing resources. The purpose of the program is for the department to work with academic and workforce entities to identify existing curriculum and course work that would qualify students for positions within state government. Participation by academic and workforce entities is voluntary.

**APPROVED** by Governor April 13, 2026

**EFFECTIVE** August 12, 2026

**NOTE:** This act was passed without a safety clause and takes effect 90 days after sine die.

**H.B. 26-1179** Capital construction fund - information technology capital account - transfer. The act transfers \$3,646,420 from the general fund to the information technology capital account of the capital construction fund on April 1, 2026.

**APPROVED** by Governor March 26, 2026

**EFFECTIVE** March 26, 2026

**H.B. 26-1180** Business Intelligence Center Advisory Board - repeal under sunset law. The act implements the recommendation of the department of regulatory agencies' 2025 sunset review and report on the business intelligence center advisory board (advisory board) by repealing the advisory board.

**APPROVED** by Governor April 13, 2026

**EFFECTIVE** August 12, 2026

**NOTE:** This act was passed without a safety clause and takes effect 90 days after sine die.

**H.B. 26-1185** Cold case task force - continuation under sunset law. The department of regulatory agencies (DORA) conducted a sunset review of the cold case task force (task force) in the department of public safety (department) and recommended:

- Authorizing the executive director of the department to appoint additional task force members;
- Extending the task force until September 1, 2039; and
- Changing the type of sunset review that is performed by DORA.

The act implements DORA's recommendations.

**APPROVED** by Governor April 13, 2026

**EFFECTIVE** August 12, 2026

**NOTE:** This act was passed without a safety clause and takes effect 90 days after sine die.

**H.B. 26-1339** State holidays - Farm Workers Day. March 31 is currently known as "Cesar Chavez Day" and may be voluntarily observed as a state legal holiday. The act repeals "Cesar Chavez Day" and changes this voluntary legal holiday for March 31, 2026, and March 31, 2027, to instead be known as "Farm Workers Day".

**APPROVED** by Governor March 31, 2026

**EFFECTIVE** March 31, 2026

## HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT

**S.B. 26-032** Immunization access - recommending entity for vaccines or other immunizing agents - cervical cancer vaccine - school entry immunizations - infant immunization program - limitation on liability for vaccine injury and repeal - pharmacists independent prescriptive authority for vaccines - adult immunization act - creation - limitation on liability and partial repeal - schedule of adult immunizations - creation - purchase of vaccines for children's basic health plan. The act amends the law and adds new provisions to law relating to access to vaccines as follows:

- For the cervical cancer vaccine: (Sections 3 and 14)
  - Updates insurance coverage statutes to refer to the vaccine as the human papillomavirus vaccine, rather than the cervical cancer vaccine;
  - Recognizes coverage for both women and men;
  - Authorizes the commissioner of insurance to adopt coverage rules for the vaccine if the advisory committee on immunization practices to the centers for disease control in the federal department of health and human services (ACIP) no longer recommends the vaccine; and
  - Updates language in the cervical cancer immunization program to define the cervical cancer vaccine as the human papillomavirus vaccine and to refer in the program to underinsured minors, rather than just uninsured female minors, since both male and female minors receive the vaccine;
- Under Colorado law, a naturopathic doctor must provide a parent or legal guardian with a copy of the most recent schedule of immunizations recommended by the ACIP. The act removes references to ACIP and requires a naturopathic doctor to refer patients to a schedule of immunizations established by rule of the state board of health (board of health) (Sections 4 and 5);
- The act authorizes pharmacists to exercise independent prescriptive authority for vaccines and requires the state board of pharmacy to review and repeal record-keeping rules for vaccines (Sections 6 and 7);
- In the context of vaccines required for school entry, updates vaccine-related liability limitation provisions to limit liability for injuries if the vaccine was administered to a child of any age according to the schedule of immunizations established by the board of health or to ACIP's schedule referenced in Colorado law (Section 8);
- The act also does the following:
  - Directs the board of health, in adopting rules addressing which vaccines are to be administered to infants, to consider the recommendations of ACIP, as well as the recommendations of the American Academy of Pediatrics and other similar entities (Section 9);
  - Removes the prohibition on the use of state money for infant immunization programs if the state does not receive federal money for the infant immunization programs, and requires any additional general fund money for the programs to be appropriated through the annual

- state budget process or emergency supplemental process (Section 10);
- For claims brought on or before January 30, 2029, adds pharmacies, manufacturers, and wholesalers to liability limitation provisions for hospitals, clinics, and other providers relating to the handling, storage, and distribution of vaccines for infants. Manufacturer and wholesaler liability limitation provisions are removed from the law for claims brought on or after January 31, 2029 (Section 11).
- Authorizes the department of public health and environment to consider vaccines adopted by the board of health by rule, recommendations of the American Academy of Pediatrics and other similar entities, in addition to ACIP, in recommending the purchase of vaccines, sending notifications concerning overdue vaccines and vaccine-preventable disease outbreaks, and when considering equivalent vaccines (Section 12).

The act creates the "Adult Immunization Act" (act), which applies to individuals at least eighteen years old. A person that administers a vaccine or other immunizing agent to an adult is not liable for civil damages for injury or death of an adult caused by a vaccine or immunizing agent if:

- The vaccine or immunizing agent was administered according to the schedule of immunizations established by the board of health by rule, after considering recommendations from ACIP, the American Academy of Pediatrics, and other similar entities;
- There were no medical contraindications; and
- The vaccine or immunizing agent was administered in accordance with generally accepted clinical methods.

For claims brought on or before January 30, 2029, against a hospital, clinic, pharmacy, manufacturer, wholesaler, or provider arising from injuries resulting from the handling, storage, or distribution of vaccines, there is no liability unless the injuries are the result of the negligent failure of an employee of the hospital, clinic, pharmacy, or manufacturer, wholesaler, or provider to conform to recognized standards to protect public health. Manufacturer and wholesaler liability protections are removed from the law for claims brought on or after January 31, 2029 (Section 15).

The act authorizes the department of health care policy and financing to purchase for the children's basic health plan vaccines that are recommended by the American Academy of Pediatrics and other similar entities, in addition to those recommended by ACIP (Section 16).

**APPROVED** by Governor March 27, 2026

**EFFECTIVE** March 27, 2026

## HEALTH CARE POLICY AND FINANCING

**H.B. 26-1040** Persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities - prohibition on sterilization - informed consent required. The act prohibits sterilization of a person with an intellectual and developmental disability without the person's informed consent if the person has decision-making capacity. The act prohibits sterilization of a person with an intellectual and developmental disability without the person's informed consent if the person does not have decision-making capacity, except in accordance with processes in existing law that allow another person with legal authority to make medical decisions for the person to consent on the person's behalf.

The act repeals provisions that:

- Explain what happens when there is a disagreement about whether an adult with an intellectual and developmental disability is capable of consenting to sterilization;
- Set forth a process for a person to petition a court for, and a court to order, sterilization of a person with an intellectual and developmental disability who either cannot consent or is a minor; and
- Require all records, hearings, and proceedings related to a decision to sterilize a person with an intellectual and developmental disability to remain confidential.

**APPROVED** by Governor March 27, 2026

**EFFECTIVE** August 12, 2026

**NOTE:** This act was passed without a safety clause and takes effect 90 days after sine die.

**H.B. 26-1177** Nursing facility provider reimbursements - appropriation. The act prohibits the department of health care policy and financing (department) from making a wage enhancement supplemental payment to an eligible nursing home provider regardless of when the services were provided. The act reduces the 2025-26 state fiscal year appropriation to the department for medical and long-term care services for medicaid eligible individuals by \$4,359,961.

**APPROVED** by Governor February 27, 2026

**EFFECTIVE** February 27, 2026

## **HUMAN SERVICES - SOCIAL SERVICES**

**S.B. 26-110** Public assistance - funeral or final disposition expenses for public assistance or medical assistance recipients - terminology. The act changes the term "death reimbursement" to "death benefit" and changes the term "maximum death reimbursement" to "combined reasonable charges" related to county payments for the reasonable funeral expenses or reasonable final disposition expenses of a deceased public assistance or medical assistance recipient if the decedent's estate is insufficient to pay and the persons legally responsible for the support of the deceased are unable to pay the reasonable expenses.

**APPROVED** by Governor April 20, 2026

**EFFECTIVE** August 12, 2026

**NOTE:** This act was passed without a safety clause and takes effect 90 days after sine die.

**H.B. 26-1192** Homeless prevention activities program - restructure. The act eliminates the homeless prevention activities program advisory committee and gives the division of housing within the department of local affairs the power to administer the homeless prevention activities program, to establish and enforce standards for all homeless prevention activities covered by the program, and to establish standards that assure program funds are properly allocated.

**APPROVED** by Governor April 13, 2026

**EFFECTIVE** August 12, 2026

**NOTE:** This act was passed without a safety clause and takes effect 90 days after sine die.

## INSURANCE

**H.B. 26-1002** Access to behavioral health providers - mental health provider - substance use disorder provider - psychiatric nurse - health insurance provider participation - reimbursement for prelicensed providers - clinical hour requirement for licensed clinical social workers. If a mental health provider, substance use disorder provider, or psychiatric nurse (provider) has not submitted a claim for a period of at least 12 months, the act requires a commercial insurance carrier (carrier) to contact the provider to confirm the provider's participation in the carrier's provider network and to determine whether the provider is accepting new patients.

The act includes mental health providers, substance use disorder providers, and psychiatric nurses as providers who may participate in a carrier's provider network.

The act requires carriers to admit prelicensed providers into the carrier's network and to reimburse prelicensed providers for services rendered when provided under the supervision of a mental health provider, substance use disorder provider, or psychiatric nurse.

The act requires a clinical social worker to complete 3,000 hours of practice prior to licensure.

**APPROVED** by Governor April 27, 2026

**EFFECTIVE** August 12, 2026

**NOTE:** This act was passed without a safety clause and takes effect 90 days after sine die.

**H.B. 26-1070** Dental care coverage - contracts between an insurance carrier and a third party - contract terms - affirmative consent required - cancellation of contracts - exemptions. The act imposes requirements regarding a contract or agreement between an insurance carrier (carrier) and a third party concerning access to dental care services, including:

- Prohibiting a carrier from entering into a third-party network lease agreement to provide access to dental care services or contractually agreed-upon discounts provided by a dental provider who is contracted as a participating provider (provider) with the carrier, unless the provider gives affirmative consent to allow the third party to access the provider's dental care services and contractually agreed-upon discounts;
- Prohibiting a carrier from canceling or entering into a contract with a provider on the grounds that the provider refuses to allow access by a third party to the dental care services and contractually agreed-upon discounts provided by the provider; and
- If a provider allows a third party to access the provider's dental care services and contractually agreed-upon discounts through a contract between a carrier and a third party, requiring the carrier to comply with specified obligations.

The act creates exemptions from the prohibitions on specified contract provisions in contracts between carriers and dental providers, including if:

- A provider network contract for dental services is provided to beneficiaries of programs for medical assistance sponsored by the state of Colorado; or
- Access to a provider network contract is granted to a dental carrier or an entity operating in accordance with the same brand licensee program as the contracting entity, and a list of the carriers or entities with the same brand licensee program as the contracting entity is made available to a provider on the contracting entity's website.

**APPROVED** by Governor April 13, 2026

**EFFECTIVE** August 12, 2026

**NOTE:** This act was passed without a safety clause and takes effect 90 days after sine die.

## **MOTOR VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC REGULATION**

**S.B. 26-026** Child restraint system requirements - passenger vehicles - gross vehicle weight rating. The act increases the gross vehicle weight rating limit from less than 10,000 pounds to less than 16,000 pounds for a passenger vehicle for which the use of a child restraint system is required.

**APPROVED** by Governor April 20, 2026

**EFFECTIVE** August 12, 2026

**NOTE:** This act was passed without a safety clause and takes effect 90 days after sine die.

**H.B. 26-1200** Motor vehicle registration - taxes and fees - exemptions for members of the armed forces serving outside Colorado. Colorado law exempts the owner of a motor vehicle who is a member of the United States armed forces (member) from motor vehicle registration fees and sets the specific ownership tax at \$1 while the member is serving outside the United States. This applies to personal motor vehicles and intrastate trucks, truck tractors, trailers, and semitrailers used to transport property. To qualify, the member must show the military order or evidence acceptable to the department of revenue (department) demonstrating that the member served outside the United States. The act repeals a requirement that the member sign an affidavit to qualify for the \$1 specific ownership fee or to be exempt from the motor vehicle fee.

Colorado law exempts members from paying late fees for failing to renew a registration for a vehicle if the member was serving outside the state when the registration period expired. The act sets the requirement to qualify for a late fee exception by requiring the member to show the military order or evidence acceptable to the department demonstrating that the member served outside of the state.

The department will notify the member that the vehicle or motor vehicle must not be driven during deployment.

**APPROVED** by Governor April 20, 2026

**EFFECTIVE** August 12, 2026

**NOTE:** This act was passed without a safety clause and takes effect 90 days after sine die.

## **PROBATE, TRUSTS, AND FIDUCIARIES**

**S.B. 26-118** Nonprobate transfers upon death - payment of designated benefits to charitable organizations - timeline - affidavits - conditional requirements prohibited - enforcement. The act requires a bank, broker-dealer, depository institution, credit union, or financial or institutional investor (covered entity) that holds benefits that are designated by a donor to a charitable organization to pay the designated benefits no later than 60 calendar days after the charitable organization submits an affidavit attesting to the death of the donor and other information to the covered entity, except as described in federal law.

If a covered entity that holds designated benefits is unable to pay the designated benefits to a charitable organization because federal law requires the covered entity to take certain actions or satisfy certain criteria in order to pay the designated benefits, the covered entity must take the actions or satisfy the criteria that are required by federal law and comply with the act no less than 120 calendar days after the charitable organization submits the affidavit to the covered entity.

If a charitable organization receives designated benefits that concern a creditor claim, statutory allowance, or the unsatisfied balance of an elective-share or a supplemental elective-share claim (outstanding claim) for which the charitable organization may be liable, the charitable organization must return to the donor's estate a portion or all of the designated benefits in order to satisfy the outstanding claim within 60 days after receiving written notice of the liability, with certain exceptions. If the charitable organization fails to comply, it must pay statutory interest to the donor's estate for each day the unreturned amount remains outstanding. Upon receiving notice of the outstanding claim from the personal representative of the donor's estate, the charitable organization must hold all or a portion of the designated benefits in a constructive trust pending a determination of the outstanding claim. Moreover, the charitable organization may be subject to one or more court actions.

A covered entity that holds benefits that are designated to a charitable organization shall not:

- Require the charitable organization to establish an account with the covered entity as a condition of receiving the designated benefits; or
- Require an individual employed by, or serving on the board of, the charitable organization to submit personal information as a condition of receiving designated benefits.

The act may be enforced by the division of banking, the financial services board, or the division of securities, as appropriate.

**APPROVED** by Governor April 17, 2026

**EFFECTIVE** August 12, 2026

**NOTE:** This act was passed without a safety clause and takes effect 90 days after sine die.

**H.B. 26-1189** Community property spouse - Uniform Community Property Disposition at

Death Act. The act clarifies what property, held by a community property spouse, the "Uniform Community Property Disposition at Death Act" applies to.

**APPROVED** by Governor April 13, 2026

**EFFECTIVE** August 12, 2026

**NOTE:** This act was passed without a safety clause and takes effect 90 days after sine die.

## PROFESSIONS AND OCCUPATIONS

**H.B. 26-1042** Occupational therapists - authorization to perform dry needling - rules. The act authorizes an occupational therapist to perform dry needling on and after September 1, 2027, if the occupational therapist:

- Has the knowledge, skill, ability, and documented competency to perform the act;
- Has successfully completed a dry needling course of study that meets supervisorial, educational, and clinical prerequisites to be established by rule; and
- Obtains a written informed consent from each patient for dry needling, including information concerning the potential benefits and risks of dry needling and a statement that the occupational therapist performing dry needling is not an acupuncturist.

The act requires the director of the division of professions and occupations within the department of regulatory agencies to adopt rules to implement the authorization for an occupational therapist to perform dry needling. At a minimum, the rules must establish requirements for dry needling performed by an occupational therapist that are equivalent to the requirements in rules adopted by the state physical therapy board for dry needling performed by a physical therapist.

**APPROVED** by Governor April 2, 2026

**EFFECTIVE** August 12, 2026

**NOTE:** This act was passed without a safety clause and takes effect 90 days after sine die.

**H.B. 26-1198** Veterinary medicine - license requirements - license by endorsement - compounding and dispensing veterinary drugs - credentialing veterinary technicians - veterinary drug donation program. The act requires the state board of veterinary medicine (board) to review and update the existing process by which an individual who has a license to practice veterinary medicine in another state may be licensed by endorsement to practice veterinary medicine in Colorado. The board shall adopt rules with the intent to expedite the licensure by endorsement process, including eliminating duplicative requirements and streamlining the pathway to licensure.

The act clarifies that a veterinarian who administers, dispenses, distributes, or prescribes medicine to a patient in an emergency situation is not acting as a pharmacist or conducting the practice of pharmacy, and, as such, is not subject to discipline by the state board of pharmacy.

The act relocates certain provisions specific to the practice of veterinary medicine from regulation by the state board of pharmacy to regulation under Colorado's veterinary practice act.

Under current law, the board must approve a credentialing organization for the

purpose of credentialing veterinary technicians, which credentialing organization must require the completion of an American Veterinary Medical Association accredited program for veterinary technicians. The act updates the requirement to require the completion of an accredited program for veterinary technicians offered by other associations.

The act also establishes a veterinary prescription drug donation program. An owner of an animal may donate unused veterinary drugs that have been prescribed to the owner to a licensed veterinarian or an animal shelter. A licensed veterinarian may use any drugs accepted through donation if the veterinarian and drugs meet certain conditions.

**APPROVED** by Governor April 29, 2026

**EFFECTIVE** January 1, 2027

**NOTE:** This act was passed without a safety clause.

**H.B. 26-1277** Department of regulatory agencies - sunset law - kidney disease prevention and education task force. The act implements the recommendation of the department of regulatory agencies in its 2025 sunset review and report to sunset the kidney disease prevention and education task force.

**APPROVED** by Governor April 20, 2026

**EFFECTIVE** September 1, 2026

**NOTE:** This act was passed without a safety clause.

## PROPERTY

**S.B. 26-054** Tenants and landlords - security deposits - maximum amount - exception for post-closing occupancy agreements. Current law prohibits a landlord from requiring a tenant to submit a security deposit in an amount that exceeds 2 monthly rent payments. The act creates an exception to this prohibition for cases in which a buyer and a seller of residential real property have executed a post-closing occupancy agreement in connection with the sale. The exception takes effect January 1, 2027.

**APPROVED** by Governor April 20, 2026

**EFFECTIVE** August 12, 2026

**NOTE:** This act was passed without a safety clause and takes effect 90 days after sine die.

**H.B. 26-1013** Housing - landlords and tenants - utility billing - ratio utility billing system - rental agreements - metering. The act authorizes landlords to use a ratio utility billing system to allocate utility charges for a residential premises to individual tenants. The landlord may charge tenants a utility bill using a ratio utility billing system if the landlord meets certain requirements, such as:

- The aggregate amount billed to all tenants does not exceed the amount charged by the utility provider for service to the entire residential premises;
- The landlord does not apply a fee or other charge to the tenant in addition to the actual charges from the utility;
- The utility costs for common areas or shared facilities are excluded from the charges to the tenant; and
- The landlord clearly discloses the method of allocation for the dwelling unit in the tenant's rental agreement.

For residential premises constructed with permits applied for on or after July 1, 2027, utility service must be metered directly by the utility provider or by a submeter.

**APPROVED** by Governor March 26, 2026

**EFFECTIVE** March 26, 2026

**H.B. 26-1089** Real property - mortgages - modifications - uniform law. The act enacts the "Uniform Mortgage Modification Act", drafted by the Uniform Law Commission. The act provides that, in the event that a mortgage is modified:

- The mortgage continues to secure the obligation as modified;
- The modification does not affect the priority of the mortgage;
- A mortgage retains its priority regardless of whether a modification agreement

- is recorded; and  
The modification is not a novation.

**APPROVED** by Governor April 27, 2026

**EFFECTIVE** August 12, 2026

**NOTE:** This act was passed without a safety clause and takes effect 90 days after sine die.

**H.B. 26-1099** Homeowner's associations - new planned community or condominium - declarant requirement to conduct a reserve study prior to transfer to the association - requirement to timely deliver association property and records upon change in association management - penalties for failure to comply. The act requires the declarant of a new planned community or condominium, prior to transfer of control from the declarant to the association of a planned community or condominium, to obtain and pay for a reserve study for the planned community or condominium. The study must estimate the projected costs of maintaining, repairing, or replacing the common elements or property of the planned community or condominium over a 30-year period. The reserve study must be conducted by an independent reserve study professional or other qualified professional with knowledge of industry standards and that has no business relationship with or financial interest in the declarant and is not a affiliate of the declarant.

When an association, other than a self-managed association, changes association management companies, the former association management company shall, within 45 days, deliver to the new association management company or the association, at no charge to the association, all association property, records, money, accounts, information, and other items or information specified in the act (property and records).

Unless otherwise agreed in writing, the former association management company shall pay the association \$250 for each business day that it fails to timely return the association's property and records and is liable for all interest and late fees on late payments made by the association due to the former association management company's failure to turn over the property and records, as well as any other damages incurred by the association. In a civil action to recover the property and records or the payments owed to the association for the former association management company's failure to turn over the property and records, if the court finds that the former association management company's violation was willful, the former association management company shall be liable for treble the association's actual damages, plus reasonable attorney fees and court costs.

**APPROVED** by Governor April 13, 2026

**EFFECTIVE** August 12, 2026

**NOTE:** This act was passed without a safety clause and takes effect 90 days after sine die.

## **REVENUE - ACTIVITIES REGULATION**

**S.B. 26-007** Department of public health and environment - health facilities - medical marijuana. The act permits a health facility to allow patients who are terminally ill and who are registered in the state's medical marijuana program to use medical marijuana within the health facility, subject to certain parameters. The act requires a health facility that allows such use to document the patient's medical marijuana program registration and medical marijuana usage in the patient's medical records and develop guidelines for and impose restrictions on the possession, usage, storage, and administration of medical marijuana to ensure the safety of others, safe facility operations, and compliance with other laws. A health facility is not required to handle medical marijuana for a patient.

The act prohibits the department of public health and environment (department) from requiring compliance with the act as a condition for a health facility to obtain or renew a license or certification that it is required to carry to operate as a health facility. Additionally, the act prohibits the department from requiring compliance if compliance would result in a violation of state law, a loss of federal funding, noncompliance with the federal medicare or medicaid programs, or noncompliance with accreditation or licensing requirements. Lastly, the act allows a health facility to suspend compliance with the act's provisions in the event that, and only as long as, a listed federal entity takes an action that requires the health facility to suspend its compliance with the act.

**APPROVED** by Governor March 30, 2026

**EFFECTIVE** August 12, 2026

**NOTE:** This act was passed without a safety clause and takes effect 90 days after sine die.

## **STATUTES**

**H.B. 26-1035** Enactment of Colorado Revised Statutes 2025. The bill enacts the softbound volumes of the Colorado Revised Statutes 2025, the subsequent changes approved by the voters at the statewide election on November 4, 2025, and the 2025 Colorado First Extraordinary Session Supplement as the positive and statutory law of the state of Colorado and establishes the effective date of said publication.

**APPROVED** by Governor March 26, 2026

**EFFECTIVE** March 26, 2026