

INTRODUCTION

Public policy engagement and advocacy is a long-standing priority for Colorado Coalition for the Homeless (CCH, the Coalition). Leading up to and during the legislative session, the Education and Advocacy Team promotes its mission of preventing and resolving homelessness, increasing access to healthcare and housing, and creating pathways to greater stability by shaping public policy, building strategic community relationships, and influencing the public narrative about the causes of and solutions to homelessness. This year, as in other years, the Coalition prioritized four broad policy areas: homelessness, housing, health, and economic justice.

The Second Regular Session of the Seventy-fourth (74th) General Assembly convened on January 10th and adjourned on May 8th. During the statutorily-required 120-day term, lawmakers debated over 700 bills, many of which built on last year's efforts.

Democrats retained control in both chambers, holding a 46-19 supermajority in the House and a 23-12 advantage in the Senate, though the caucus is very diverse in their priorities and values. In opening day speeches, the President of the Senate, Steve Fenberg, and Speaker of the House, Julie McCluskie, identified education funding, housing costs, gun violence, and environmental protection as top priorities for Democrats. Republican leadership, including Senator Lundeen and Representative Lynch (before resigning following a drunk driving incident) spoke to similar priorities, albeit from a different perspective, while also highlighting the increasing cost of living and warning against overly burdensome regulations. In his State of the State address, Governor Jared Polis urged legislators to pass bills that increase affordable housing, improve transit infrastructure, and reduce property taxes.

Caucus leaders on both sides of the aisle called for civility, respect, and collaboration this year pointing to the love of Colorado that unites us all, in contrast to

the 2023 Legislative Session, which was rife with inter- and intra-party conflict. Still, the legislative environment was influenced by significant legislator turnover, the ripple effects of a lawsuit filed last year regarding the General Assembly's open meeting laws, tensions related to the Israel-Hamas conflict, the Governor's advocacy involvement, and the upcoming state and federal elections.



BUDGET ENVIRONMENT

This session was also defined by significant fiscal opportunities and constraints. In terms of opportunities, Democratic legislators were eager to use the state's enormous Taxpayer's Bill of Rights (TABOR) surplus to fund a range of tax credits. Not all tax credit bills made it to the Governor's desk, but two big ones did. HB24-1311, the "Family Affordability Tax Credit" (which CCH supported) was arguably the most significant, totaling \$700 million (available in large TABOR surplus years only). With just days left in the legislative session, SB24-228 was introduced as part of a deal made with the Governor on HB24-1311. The bill cuts the states' income tax rate from 4.4% to 4.25%, but only when the TABOR surplus exceeds \$300 million.

The TABOR surplus, however, did not mean a smooth budget process. Legislative Council Staff (LCS) and Office of State Planning and Budgeting (OSPB) provide economic revenue forecasts on a quarterly basis. Both LCS and OSPB projected a significant budget shortfall, leaving the fiscal year 2024-25 budget out of balance by hundreds of millions of

dollars. Legislators on the Joint Budget Committee (JBC), constitutionally mandated to balance the budget, had to do so by making cuts wherever possible and without depleting the state's General Fund reserve.

BILL POSITIONS EXPLAINED

SUPPORT In favor of a bill's passage

OPPOSE Against a bill's passage

AMEND Seeking changes

MONITOR Interested in certain bill provisions; may or may not take a support or oppose position

By utilizing creative accounting maneuvers, tapping into state cash funds, and relaxing rules around spending the final \$197 million in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding, each chamber was left with only \$20 million for bills without previously designated funding, or that had not been identified as priorities by the Governor. Ultimately, the Long Bill (HB24-1340)—the state's budget bill—was passed with a \$40.6 billion spending plan. It included increases in General Fund appropriations for most state departments, with an overall increase of \$1,068.6 million (7%). Notably, \$49 million was set aside for affordable housing priorities. While some of the Coalition's priority bills were amended to reduce or eliminate the fiscal impact, in hopes of improving their odds of passing, many did make it to the finish line.

ADVOCACY

The Coalition would not be able to influence policy as successfully as it does without engagement from staff, clients, and community members. With support from long-time contract lobbyist Danny McCarthy of Mendez, Barkis & Associates, the Coalition tracked 179 of the 705 introduced bills (25%). CCH actively engaged on 58 bills and achieved the desired outcome on 51 for an 88% success rate. This calculation includes outright successes (i.e. the Coalition supported the bill and it passed or opposed the bill and it failed) as well as bills on which the Coalition took an amend position and either passed or failed. CCH shaped the policy process through drafting bill language and amendments, participating in stakeholder convenings, engaging in direct and grassroots lobbying, and providing public and written

testimony. Education and Advocacy Team members and other staff members testified 28 times (20 live and 8 written) on 25 bills.



Once again, the Coalition held a Lobby Day, attended by 85 Coalition staff, clients, and community members. Danny McCarthy offered guidance on how to effectively lobby legislators and Representatives Kyle Brown and Mandy Lindsay spoke about their legislative work and encouraged participants to engage in advocacy at the Capitol. Participants asked legislators for their support on three priority bills: HB24-1099 (Defendant Filing Fees in Evictions), HB24-1322 (Medicaid Coverage Housing & Nutrition Services), and SB24-211 (Adjustments to the Necessary Documents Program).

This year, CCH sent out three action alerts to its 26,687-member network, resulting in 742 messages to legislators urging action on key bills. Due to uncertainty around timing and ongoing negotiations on bill language and amendments, the Coalition did not use advocacy alert messages as much this year as compared to prior years (we have sent as many as 4,791) but it did not diminish the organization's legislative impact. The Coalition also leaned into short advocacy video content on Instagram, which generated record levels of interaction.

179 THE NUMBER OF BILLS TRACKED THIS SESSION

58 THE NUMBER OF BILLS CCH ACTIVELY ENGAGED WITH

51 THE NUMBER OF BILLS WHICH ACHIEVED OUR DESIRED OUTCOME

PRIORITY POLICY AREAS

Note, legislative votes are listed in the following format: yes-no-excused. Final bill language, fiscal notes, and complete vote counts can be accessed by clicking the links in the bill report below.

HOUSING

Housing was, yet again, a cornerstone issue at the Capitol this year. The Coalition's top housing priority was **HB24-1322 (Reps. Brown & Bird; Sens. Kirkmeyer & Rodriguez)** which directs the Colorado Department of Health Care Policy & Financing (HCPF) to conduct a feasibility study and pursue an 1115 waiver so that Medicaid can fund housing and nutrition services in a budget-neutral manner. Services include temporary housing, rent and utility assistance, housing navigation services and housing transition cost supports, tenancy services, including eviction prevention, medically tailored meals, pantry stocking, and nutrition prescriptions. This bill builds on a joint venture between HCPF and the Department of Local Affairs (DOLA) launched in 2021 to expand supportive housing called the Statewide Supportive Housing Expansion (SWSHE) Pilot Project. The SWSHE Project engages housing providers and homeless services systems to deliver supportive services to 700 Medicaid members through 28 providers and is scheduled to conclude in September 2024. HCPF would be responsible for submitting the findings and recommendations from the study to the Joint Budget Committee by no later than November 10, 2024. Because this is a priority for the Governor, HCPF is planning to submit a waiver amendment on an accelerated timeline. Colorado is expected to join at least 17 other states with similar policies that have proved successful. CCH is proud to have led this effort arm-in-arm with Healthier Colorado and Project Angel Heart. The bill passed with strong bipartisan support, with a vote of 45-17-3 in the House and a vote of 30-4-1 in the Senate.

CCH was also a leader on **HB24-1175 (Reps. Boesenecker & Sirota; Sens. Winter & Jaquez Lewis)** alongside Enterprise Community Partners. This bill is a scaled back version of HB23-1190 which passed and was then vetoed by the Governor last year. This year's version sought to create a local government right of first refusal or offer to purchase qualifying multifamily property for the purpose of providing long-term affordable housing or mixed-income development.

The affordability requirements on thousands of low-cost, publicly funded, multi-family homes built decades ago are expiring, leaving a significant portion of Colorado's affordable housing stock at risk of being purchased by investors who are likely to raise rents and push out low-income tenants. Since its introduction, the bill has been amended significantly under pressure from Governor's office and outside investment interests. Amendments include a narrowing of the types of eligible properties to only publicly owned properties of a certain size, an accelerated timeline for local governments to make an offer and close on a property, and a five-year sunset review on the policy. One key provision that we sought to protect, which survived the amendment process, was a notification process around the expiration of affordability requirements. The bill passed on a vote of 38-23-4 in the House and 19-14-2 in the Senate. The House then concurred with Senate amendments and repassed 41-19-5. The Governor signed the bill in a public show of support.

— “ —

Together, [these bills] will make fundamental changes to how growth and housing development happens in Colorado.

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The Coalition was also proud to support the Colorado Housing Finance Authority's (CHFA) effort on **HB24-1434 (Reps. Bird & Weinberg; Sens. Zenzinger & Simpson)** which increases the state Affordable Housing Tax Credit (AHTC) amount and accelerates the pace at which investors may claim the credit to amplify its positive impact. The AHTC is a financing tool similar to the Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) at the federal level. It is Colorado's most effective affordable housing program, having supported the development of over 10,000 affordable rental units since its inception. CHFA is currently authorized to allocate \$10 million in state AHTC through 2031, and demand for the credit already far outweighs its availability. The bill increased the state credit authority by \$20 million in 2024-2026; \$16 million in 2027-2029; and \$10 million in 2030-2031. It also allowed for greater flexibility in the use of the tax credit. Recognizing the immense need for a more robust and streamlined housing finance tool, legislators voted in favor of the bill 47-15-3 in the House and 27-8-0 in the Senate. The House concurred with Senate amendments and repassed 48-15-2.

Land use

Following the loss of the large land use reform bill last year (SB23-213), a broad group of stakeholders including affordable housing, environmental, and health advocates as well as local government representatives pursued its core goals in separate bills. These included bills to require housing needs assessments and action plans, promote transit-oriented communities, facilitate development of accessory dwelling units, (ADUs), lift restrictive occupancy limits in housing, and establish minimum parking requirements. Together, they will make fundamental changes to how growth and housing development happens in Colorado. One policy proposal that is notably absent from this year's package is a repeal of single-family zoning. CCH was deeply involved in writing, amending, and lobbying on many of these bills, with the goal of ensuring they all have strong affordability standards and anti-displacement measures.



One bill, **SB24-174 (Sens. Kirkmeyer & Zenzinger; Reps. Bird & Pugliese)** requires the Colorado Department of Local Affairs (DOLA) to develop methodologies for conducting statewide, regional, and local housing needs assessments (HNAs) and guidance for identifying displacement risk. It also requires publication of housing action plans (HAPs) that guide efforts to address housing needs, provides technical assistance, and prioritizes grant funding for local governments with HAPs in place.

Rather than starting with the language that was included in SB23-213 and informed by affordable housing experts, Colorado Municipal League took the reins, advocating for the introduction of a bill which looked quite different. The Coalition worked with Enterprise Community Partners and Community Economic Defense Project on several rounds of

amendments which sought to:

- Ensure consistency in definitions of terms including “displacement” and “regulated affordable housing;”
- Ensure shared accountability for completing housing needs assessments (HNAs) and housing action plans (HAPs) between local governments and the state;
- Distinguish and require adoption and implementation of long- and short-term affordability strategies by local governments;
- Clarify deadlines for HNAs and HAPs and ensure that HAPs are responsive to the demonstrated housing needs of HNAs;
- Ensure that displacement mitigation strategies are responsive to their displacement risk analyses to prevent harm that new development could have on existing communities;
- Prioritize development, creation, or preservation of regulated affordable housing; and
- Ensure alignment with other legislative efforts and funding sources.

With just days left in the legislative session, final amendments were accepted, and CCH moved from an amend position to one of support. The bill passed the Senate with a 30-4-1 vote and the House with a 45-17-3 vote. This priority is funded at \$15 million. The budget package proposed by the JBC included a set aside of \$7,500,000 from the Local Government Severance Tax Fund and \$7,500,000 from the Local Government Mineral Impact Fund to support strategic growth pertaining to affordable housing across the state.

The Coalition also engaged in negotiations around **HB24-1313 (Reps. Woodrow & Jodeh; Sens. Hansen & Winter)** which defines “transit-oriented communities” and requires them to meet a “housing opportunity goal.” While CCH supports the concept of increasing housing density around transit hubs, increasing the housing supply alone will not solve Colorado’s housing crisis. This idea is debunked in the Coalition’s report, [“Colorado’s Affordable Housing Crisis - It’s Time for Strategic Investments”](#) released in April 2023. For many low- and fixed-income households, living near transit is a necessity, not merely a convenience. CCH engaged in rich conversations with the bill sponsors and Governor’s Office about how to ensure the bill adequately addresses affordability and

anti-displacement, and requested the following changes:

- Guarantee that transit-oriented development does not result in displacement of current communities and that any new housing near transit is affordable to the communities that live there today;
- Include a displacement analysis from local governments of any residential areas currently located near transit;
- Require local governments to deploy long- and short-term affordability strategies that prioritize those trying to exit the cycle of homelessness, particularly in underdeveloped areas near transit; and
- Align the bill's provisions with other housing-related bills that will require similar analyses, assessments, reports, and the adoption of affordability strategies and/or displacement mitigation measures.

The Coalition ultimately moved to a support position on this bill and is pleased that it passed 37-24-4 in the House and 19-15-1 in the Senate. The House concurred with Senate amendments and repassed 40-24-1.

While they were not Coalition priorities, CCH also pushed for amendments to ensure affordability on two bills. The first, **HB24-1152 (Reps. Amabile & Weinberg; Sens. Mullica & Exum)**, helps address Colorado's growing housing shortage and affordability crisis by giving many Colorado homeowners the right to build an accessory dwelling unit (ADU) on their property. The bill creates a state grant program to assist local governments with the implementation of ADU-friendly policies and support low and moderate-income Coloradans interested in building an ADU. It also reduces fees, expedites permitting, and manages short-term rentals so ADUs provide affordable, long-term rental housing for those who need it. The Coalition advocated for amendments that strengthened the affordability standards in the bill, ensuring that public investments are targeted to individuals and communities that need them the most. CCH was supportive of the version of the bill that passed (43-19-3 in the House, 20-15-0 in the Senate, and 47-17-1 to repass in the House).

The second, **HB24-1304 (Reps. Vigil & Woodrow; Sens. Priola & Hinrichsen)**, prohibits a county or municipality from enforcing minimum parking

requirements for real property. The Coalition successfully advocated for language that would not impact current development deals for which reduced parking requirements were offered to incentivize affordable housing developments. The House passed the bill on an initial vote of 35-26-4, the Senate passed it on a vote of 19-15-1, and the House concurred with amendments and repassed on a vote of 40-22-3.

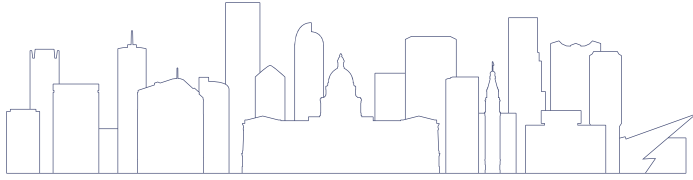
Other Housing Bills

CCH joined Colorado Poverty Law Project in an effort to amend **HB24-1233 (Reps. Wilson & Snyder; Sens. Roberts & Gardner)**, which makes changes to procedural requirements on homeowner associations (HOA) with respect to collecting overdue payments. The introduced version would have reversed improvements made by HB23-1137, including the elimination of homeowners' ability to set the terms of their repayment plan and the elimination of the requirement for posting of notice on doors. HOA foreclosures are increasingly leading to homelessness, and the Coalition believes that HOAs should be limited to pursuing their debts through the conventional civil debt collections process. Fortunately, the sponsors accepted amendments that moved CCH from an amend position to a monitor position. The bill passed 36-25-4 in the House and 32-2-1 in the Senate. The House concurred with Senate amendments and repassed 52-10-3.



The Coalition also worked to amend **HB24-1308 (Reps. Frizell & Lindstedt; Sen. Gonzales)**. Led by the Neighborhood Development Collaborative and Archway Communities, this bill focuses on the efficient delivery of affordable housing and addresses the cadence of application cycles. It also seeks to ensure that funding from the Division of Housing within Colorado Department of Local Affairs does the greatest amount of good for communities, rather than bringing the greatest return on investment. Initially, the bill sought to make changes to allowable uses for affordable housing

funding established through Proposition 123 in 2022. CCH advocated to strike any changes to how funding is used out of concern that it would reopen broad debate about the fund and put resources at risk for those with the greatest need, including people experiencing homelessness. Ultimately, the bill passed with strong bipartisan support on votes of 50-8-7 in the House and 24-9-2 in the Senate.



RENTERS' PROTECTIONS AND RESOURCES



[HB24-1099] will benefit every renter facing eviction—roughly 50,000 Coloradans each year—by making the process less intimidating, less stigmatizing, less expensive, and less likely to result in homelessness.



Several bills related to renters' protections moved through the legislative process this year. As a large, nonprofit landlord and advocate for tenants, CCH seeks meaningful, balance landlord-tenant policies. CCH led on one bill in partnership with Colorado Poverty Law Project, **HB24-1099 (Reps. Lindsay & Soper; Sens. Buckner & Pelton)**. The bill eliminates the eviction answer filing fee for tenants facing eviction and eliminates the cost to tenants filing hard-copy answers. With bipartisan sponsorship, the bill garnered strong support in both chambers. It passed 44-17-4 in the House and 26-8-1 in the Senate. The change is effective as of November 1, 2024, and will benefit every renter facing eviction—roughly 50,000 Coloradans each year—by making the process less intimidating, less stigmatizing, less expensive, and less likely to result in homelessness.



The Coalition played a supportive role on two other bills. The first, **SB24-064 (Sens. Mullica & Marchman; Sen. Bird)**, led by Enterprise Community Partners and Colorado Children's Campaign, requires the Judicial Department to collect, compile, and publish online, aggregate residential eviction data on a monthly basis. These datapoints include:

- Specification of whether an eviction filing is residential or commercial
- Date of filing, return, and scheduled hearing
- Reason for filing
- Whether the plaintiff/tenant was represented by legal counsel
- Whether tenant filed an answer
- Case outcome
- Property zip code
- Total amount of unpaid rent or utilities at the time of filing, including late fees
- In-person or remote participation in court proceedings

CCH was grateful to help shape this list through a multi-year stakeholder process and testify in support of the bill. The bill passed 45-17-3 in the House and 25-9-1 in the Senate.

The second, **SB24-094 (Sens. Gonzales & Exum; Reps. Lindsay & Froelich)**, led by Colorado Poverty Law Project, The Denver Foundation, and Community Economic Defense Project, strengthens Colorado's warranty of habitability laws and clarifies the responsibilities of both landlords and tenants when habitability issues arise. Most importantly, the bill creates a presumptive timeframe for repairs or remediation to be completed. The Coalition testified in support of the proposal, highlighting nonprofit housers' responsibility to model best practices for responding to issues with tenants' living conditions. The bill was amended under pressure from the Governor and the Attorney General, but its key provisions remained intact. The bill passed on a vote of 21-13-1 in the Senate and 40-20-5 in the House, with the Senate agreeing to House amendments and repassing 21-13-1 and became law upon signature from the Governor on May 3.

The Coalition also offered input on three bills to prevent unintended consequences to nonprofit housers. **HB24-1007 (Reps. Rutinel & Mabrey; Sen. Exum & Gonzales)**, prohibits local governments from enacting or enforcing residential occupancy limits based on familial relationship, while allowing local governments to implement residential occupancy limits based on demonstrated health and safety standards.

CCH successfully advocated to include language regarding compliance with occupancy limits set by local, state, and federal housing programs. The bill passed the House on an initial vote of 40-20-5 and the Senate on a vote of 20-14-1. The House later concurred with Senate amendments and repassed on a vote of 42-16-7.

CCH also urged an amendment on **HB24-1057 (Reps. Woodrow & Mabrey; Sens. Gonzales & Hinrichsen)**, which prohibits landlords from using algorithmic devices that use, incorporate, or were trained with nonpublic competitor data to set rent prices. The Coalition worked to ensure that the language would not preclude affordable housing providers from using tools to establish rent or income limits under local, state, and federal housing program guidelines. The bill ultimately failed but would have prevented the automated ratcheting-up of rent prices and helped stymie Colorado's affordable housing crisis.

It was also important for the Coalition to engage in the stakeholder process on **HB24-1098 (Reps. Mabrey & Duran; Sens. Gonzales & Hinrichsen)**. The bill is a powerful measure to keep Coloradans housed by establishing reasonable and allowable reasons for when a landlord can evict a tenant and prohibiting evictions and non-renewals without cause. This will help stem discrimination, protect households from displacement, and help mitigate the crisis of rising evictions and homelessness in our state. CCH pushed for small amendments to ensure that the bill would not create additional barriers for entities providing time-limited housing outside of the traditional landlord-tenant relationship. The bill passed 38-19-8 in the House and 19-15-1 in the Senate. The House agreed to the Senate's amendments and repassed 41-17-7. After failing to pass last year, the Coalition is thrilled to see this bill become law.



HOMELESSNESS

While homelessness is strongly tied to every issue area that the Coalition prioritizes each legislative session, three bills addressed it specifically. One bill, **SB24-016 (Sens. Zenzinger & Smallwood; Reps. Snyder & Taggart)**, addresses crucial concerns related to the Homeless Contribution Tax Credit (HCTC), which have arisen during its initial implementation following the passage of HB22-1083, on which CCH was a lead organization. It rectifies a significant limitation in current law by allowing qualified intermediary organizations to pass through tax credit donations to recipient organizations and amends the HCTC certificate requirements, allowing for the inclusion of only the last four digits of the taxpayer's social security number (SSN). This will encourage donations to organizations like the Coalition and facilitate smoother and more efficient processes for both donors and recipient organizations. CCH urged legislators' support for this bill. It passed unanimously in the Senate and on a vote of 55-7-3 in the House.

The Coalition also supported **HB24-1403 (Reps. Bird & Sirota; Sens. Zenzinger & Bridges)** and **SB24-191 (Sens. Zenzinger & Simpson; Reps. Kipp & Frizell)**. HB24-1403 creates the Financial Assistance Program for Students Experiencing Homelessness in the Department of Higher Education (DHE). Beginning in the 2024-25 academic year, public institutions of higher education must provide financial assistance to students between 17 and 26 years old who experienced homelessness at any time during high school. This bill passed 48-16-1 in the House and 18-7-10 in the Senate. SB24-191 requires the Department of Human Services to oversee the operations of host home programs for youth who have been removed from their guardian's home or may be at risk of experiencing homelessness. The bill also requires any programs receiving local, state, or federal funds to report key datapoints in the Homeless Management Information System and share that information with the Office of Homeless Youth Services. The bill passed with overwhelming support on votes of 32-1-2 in the Senate and 55-5-5 in the House.



SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS AND HARM REDUCTION

This year, the Coalition engaged deeply on drug policy as a member of the newly formalized Right Response Colorado (RRC) coalition, championed by Mental Health Colorado, Healthier Colorado, American Civil Liberties Union of Colorado, Harm Reduction Action Center, Colorado Drug Policy Coalition, Sobriety House, Criminal Defense Bar, and many others. RRC works at the intersection of unmet health needs and the criminal legal system, advocating for evidence-based strategies rather than punitive responses.

Opioid and Other Substance Use Disorder Study Committee Bills

CCH supported the four bills recommended by the Opioid and Other Substance Use Disorders Study Committee, which met six times in the interim to tackle prevention, treatment, harm reduction, and recovery. The first, **SB24-047 (Sens. Jaquez Lewis & Priola; Reps. Young & Epps)** dedicates resources to prevention of substance use disorders through screening, planning, guidance, and data collection. Along with RRC partners, the Coalition successfully advocated for an amendment ensuring that law enforcement not use information from an overdose fatality review Board to further surveil and criminalize certain places or groups of people. The bill passed on votes of 21-13-1 in the Senate and 46-16-4 in the House. The Senate concurred with House amendments and repassed the bill 23-12-0.

The next, **HB24-1037 (Reps. Epps & deGruy Kennedy; Sen. Priola)**, elevates implementation of proven harm reduction measures. Among other provisions, it provides protections for people in possession of drug paraphernalia from syringe exchange programs, reduces warrant checking in hospital settings for people who use drugs, and further clarifies civil and criminal protections for the distribution of opioid antagonists such as naloxone. CCH's own Dana Constanzer, Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner, testified to these points in support of the bill. The Coalition was thrilled to see this bill pass on an initial 44-20-1 vote in the House and a 20-15-0 vote in the Senate. Because each chamber did not agree on the amendments made in the opposite chamber, a conference committee was convened to develop a mutually agreeable solution. Ultimately, the bill was sent to the Governor's desk for signature.



A third bill, **HB24-1045 (Reps. Armagost & deGruy Kennedy; Sens. Mullica & Will)** addresses treatment for substance use disorders. The bill includes several important provisions, but the Coalition focused its advocacy on one which prohibits a carrier that provides coverage under a health benefit plan for a drug used to treat a substance use disorder from requiring prior authorization for the drug based solely on the dosage amount. Put simply, the bill removes the prescribing cap for buprenorphine and other similar medications under all Colorado insurance plans, including Medicaid (Health First Colorado). Joanna Leonard, Director of Pharmacy Services at CCH, testified in strong support of this bill. She cited research indicating that higher doses of buprenorphine are becoming increasingly necessary because the prevalence of fentanyl has led to patients having significantly higher tolerance to opioids. The bill passed 52-11-2 in the House and 25-9-1 in the Senate.

The final bill in the package, **SB24-048 (Sen. Priola; Reps. deGruy Kennedy & Lynch)**, focuses on recovery from substance use disorders, including designating recovery residences, sober living facilities, and sober homes as residential for zoning purposes and limiting alcohol advertisements in grocery stores. The Coalition is pleased that the bill passed 21-13-1 on an initial vote in the Senate, 49-12-4 in the House, and 22-13-0 on a final vote in the Senate.

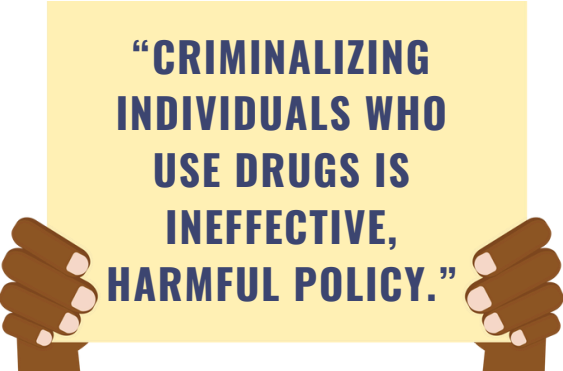
Other Substance Use Disorder Bills

Not every bill the Coalition supported related to substance use disorders passed. **HB24-1028 (Rep. Epps; Sen. Priola)**, which specifies that the governing body of a municipality, which includes a city, town, and city and county, may authorize the operation of an overdose prevention center within the municipality's boundaries for the purpose of saving the lives of persons at risk of preventable overdoses, was killed in the Senate Health &

Human Services Committee. CCH did not dedicate significant advocacy resources to this effort because Senator Mullica (the swing vote in the committee) does not support the concept and the Governor signaled that if it had gotten to his desk, he would veto the bill. The Coalition is disappointed to see the bill fail for a second year in a row and is committed to advocating for its passage in the future.

SB24-181 (Sens. Priola & Hansen; Reps. deGruy Kennedy & Amabile), which would have created the Alcohol Impact and Recovery Enterprise, also failed. The Enterprise would have collected a fee from Colorado alcohol manufacturers and wholesalers and used the fee for alcohol and related substance use disorder prevention, early intervention, treatment, harm reduction, and recovery services and programs in communities throughout the state. CCH's Dr. Ed Farrell has been a vocal advocate for the concept. Unfortunately, loud industry voices won out and the bill was killed in the House Finance Committee.

The Coalition also took strong stands against two harmful bills. One, **HB24-1126 (Rep. Lynch; Sen. Pelton)**, would have allowed courts to mandate substance use treatment as a condition of bond. If the court believes that substance use contributed to an underlying crime like camping, lying on the sidewalk, petty theft, and virtually any other low-level crime of poverty, they can mandate treatment. Access to treatment is far from sufficient, so even if someone cannot afford it or cannot find it, they could be jailed under this bill. The other, **HB24-1306 (Rep. Lynch; Sen. Pelton)** sought to build on a bill the Coalition opposed in 2022 (HB22-1326) and would have made possession of any amount of fentanyl a felony, regardless of whether the person in possession of the drug knows it contains fentanyl. Criminalizing individuals who use drugs is ineffective, harmful policy. CCH testified in opposition to both bills and both were killed in their first committee hearings. The Coalition and RRC will continue to push back on harmful policies and advocate for ones that help people access the resources they need to stay safe, improve their health, and reform their relationship with substance use.



**“CRIMINALIZING
INDIVIDUALS WHO
USE DRUGS IS
INEFFECTIVE,
HARMFUL POLICY.”**

PUBLIC HEALTH AND HEALTHCARE FUNDING

The Coalition was happy to support three bills – **HB24-1002 (Reps. Sirota & Martinez; Sens. Marchman & Rich)**, **SB24-010 (Sens. Ginal & Will; Reps. Duran & Hartsook)**, and **SB24-018 (Sens. Simpson & Michaelson Jenet; Reps. Amabile & Winter)** – that provide for the mutual recognition of licenses from other states for social workers, dentists and dental hygienists, and physician assistants, respectively. All three bills passed with robust bipartisan support. HB24-1002 will become effective on the date the compact is enacted in the seventh member state. SB24-010 and SB24-018 will be ratified, or become effective, on July 31, 2024.

It is also important to mention that during budget negotiations, many line items were reduced, including the Primary Care Fund (PCF) appropriation. The PCF was created through the collection of additional tobacco taxes and supports the work of Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) like the one operated by the Coalition. It was cut from \$7 million to \$6.5 million, a relatively modest cut compared to other budget items that were slashed or eliminated entirely. The Joint Budget Committee clarified that this is one-time funding for FY 24-25. CCH is grateful to the Colorado Community Health Network—of which the Coalition is a member—for its ongoing advocacy to maintain and increase the PCF, and will continue make the case for expanded resources for FQHCs.

ECONOMIC JUSTICE

CCH is committed to running and supporting bills that address root causes of economic insecurity and promote racial, social, and economic justice. The Coalition partnered with Colorado Center on Law and Policy, Homeward Alliance, and Violence Free Colorado on a bill that would have improved access to identification documents to help Coloradans get on a path to greater stability. **SB24-211 (Sen. Hinrichsen)** was the result of nearly a year of research and stakeholding with more than 50 partners across the state and would have adjusted the Colorado Necessary Documents Program (established in statute in 2016). The program pays for vouchers for free identification documents (e.g., driver's license, state ID card, etc.) for residents who are victims of domestic violence, impacted by a natural disaster, low-income, disabled, experiencing homelessness, or elderly and are seeking documentation of their identity, status, or citizenship. The cost of these ID documents can be prohibitive for some people, and without them, residents cannot open bank accounts, access health care, housing,

employment, or public benefits. The bill sought to eliminate the need for paper vouchers, allow qualifying individuals to have the fee waived at the point of service, and create better statewide access to the benefit. The team also hoped to substantially increase funding for the program to better meet the overwhelming need. Despite support from the Joint Budget Committee, funding for the program did not make it onto the priority list, and because of the bill's late introduction and unexpected opposing testimony from a stakeholder during its first committee hearing, the team decided to postpone the bill indefinitely (PI or kill the bill). The Department of Public Health and Environment, the Department of Revenue, and the stakeholder that was critical of the bill committed to working in partnership to pass a meaningful bill next year.



The Coalition also offered support on two key tax credit bills aimed at supporting low-income families. The first, **HB24-1311 (Reps. deGruy Kennedy & Willford; Sens. Winer & Coleman)**, creates the Family Affordability Tax Credit. It builds on Colorado's Child Tax Credit (CTC) by creating a refundable tax credit of up to \$3,200 for families making up to \$95,000 annually, and, for the first time, extends the credit to families with children up to 17 years old. This represents a significant step forward in addressing child poverty in Colorado, which is particularly important to CCH given the troubling 69% increase in homelessness among families with children between 2022-2023. The Coalition is grateful to the Colorado Fiscal Institute, Colorado Children's Campaign, and Gary Community Ventures for their leadership on this effort and their strategic negotiations that got the bill across the finish line. The bill passed 43-21-1 in an initial vote in the House and 24-11-0 in the Senate. The House agreed to Senate amendments and repassed 42-21-2.

The second, **HB24-1134 (Reps. Weissman & Rutinel; Sens. Hinrichsen & Hansen)**, expands the state Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) to 50% of the federal EITC for the 2024 tax year, 35% for the 2025 tax year, and 25% for the 2026 tax year and beyond, with the possibility of a "boost" of up to 50% depending on revenue growth. It also merges the Child and

and Dependent Care Tax Credit and the Low-income Child Care Expenses Tax Credit to create the Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit (CDCTC) for taxpayers making up to \$60,000 annually. Again, the experts at Colorado Fiscal Institute were the driving force behind this effort. The bill passed 46-18-1 in an initial vote in the House and 23-12-0 in the Senate. The House agreed to Senate amendments and repassed 45-18-2.

CCH had also hoped to see **SB24-012 (Sens. Gonzales & Coleman; Sens. Young & Mabrey)** pass, while recognizing that it would be a heavy lift. The bill sought to create the Reentry Workforce Development Cash Assistance Pilot Program to provide cash assistance to persons who participate in workforce services or training programs after incarceration. The pilot program would have provided up to \$3,000 to eligible individuals for basic life expenses. The effort mainly failed because of the large fiscal note, or price tag. The Coalition is supportive of interventions at transition points that could lead to homelessness and recognizes the power of direct cash and guaranteed income programs to support people on their unique path to greater stability. CCH will continue to push for innovative policies that help people meet their basic needs.

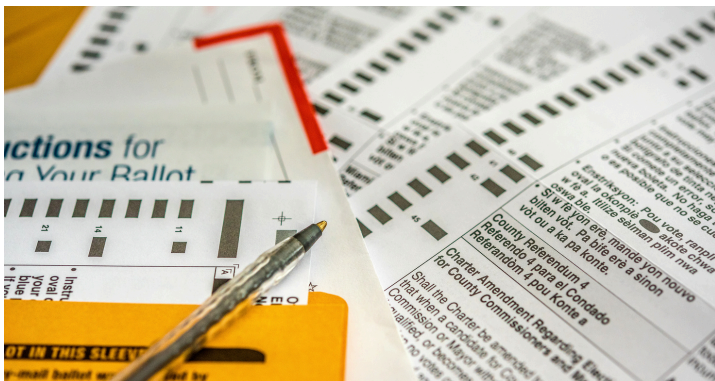
CRIMINAL LEGAL REFORM

For many Coloradans, having a criminal record means barriers to housing, employment, education, and well-being. The Coalition supported multiple criminal legal reform efforts this year, including **HB24-1133 (Reps. Mabrey & Soper; Sen. Rodriguez)** and **HB24-1241 (Reps. Epps & Mabrey; Sen. Rodriguez)**. Led by Healthier Colorado, HB24-1133 builds on a bill CCH supported in 2022 (**SB22-099**) by improving automatic record sealing for nonviolent crimes by clarifying eligibility and streamlining the record-sealing process. The bill passed 61-3-1 in the House and 25-9-1 in the Senate. Led by advocates at Colorado Freedom Fund, HB24-1241 aligns state and municipal court petty theft thresholds for the purpose of setting pretrial bond. It closes a technical loophole which currently allows individuals arrested for a low-level behavior charged in municipal court to be jailed pretrial on cash bond, while people charged with the same behavior in state court will be free pretrial. People experiencing homelessness are the most likely to be impacted by this loophole, as petty theft is a poverty-driven offense. The bill passed 46-18-1 in the House and 23-11-1 in the Senate and took effect upon the Governor's signature on April 11. The Coalition will continue to engage in efforts aimed at reforming the criminal legal system and the disproportionate harm it causes low-income people and those experiencing homelessness.

MISCELLANEOUS

The Coalition was asked to provide support for several miscellaneous bills that impact people experiencing homelessness but do not fit cleanly into our usual policy categories. CCH provided testimony on **HB24-1130 (Reps. Daugherty & Lynch; Sens. Lundeen & Hansen)** in both the House and Senate. Championed by the American Civil Liberties Union of Colorado (ACLU), the bill amends the "Colorado Privacy Act" to add protections for individuals' biometric data, including clear standards for disclosure, consent, collection, sharing, and storage. Biometric identifiers are increasingly being used in public housing and affordable housing, as well as for access to shelters and other essential services. While there are some benefits to incorporating these practices, people experiencing homelessness are particularly vulnerable to abuses of biometric data. Legislators recognized the importance of this policy, voting unanimously in support of it in both chambers.

CCH also engaged on **SB24-072 (Sen. Gonzales; Reps. Rutinel & Brown)**, or the "Jail Based Voting Act." This bill creates access to voting, voter registration, and nonpartisan ballot education resources for confined voters in Colorado's 61 county jails. There is a strong link between homelessness and criminal legal involvement, and it is crucial that both groups have pathways to civic engagement. Following the lead of Colorado Criminal Justice Reform Coalition, CCH testified in strong support of the bill, which ultimately passed on a vote of 21-12-2 in the Senate and 50-14-1 in the House.



The final bill that the Coalition supported was **SB24-036 (Sens. Winter & Cutter; Reps. Lindsay & Lindstedt)**, led by PeopleForBikes Coalition. The bill aimed to create the Vulnerable Road User Protection Enterprise in the Department of Transportation to fund transportation system infrastructure improvements by assessing a small fee on personal vehicles based on size. CCH advocated for legislators' support, as hazards posed by motor vehicles disproportionately

impact people experiencing homelessness. Unhoused individuals are largely dependent on walking, biking, and public transportation to get to medical appointments, case management meetings, lease ups, work, and shelter. Mobility-related challenges, vision impairments, or cognitive disabilities, put many further at risk of collisions. Unfortunately, the bill was killed in the Senate Finance Committee.

LOOKING FORWARD

The Coalition now turns its focus to the implementation of the many bills that did pass and rekindling discussion on those that failed. Among other priorities that will surely emerge, CCH is eager to work with partners to make improvements to the Colorado Necessary Documents Program, give local governments the authority to establish overdose prevention centers, and explore the possibility of a statewide homelessness strategy. Housing, homelessness, health, and economic justice will remain the Coalition's primary focus areas for policy advocacy. CCH further commits to centering racial, social, and economic justice in the pursuit of lasting solutions to homelessness through policy advocacy.



2024 COLORADO COALITION FOR THE HOMELESS BILL TRACKING SUMMARY

HOUSING

BILL	SPONSOR(S)	TITLE	DESCRIPTION	POSITION	STATUS
HB24-1052	Reps. Weissman & Marshall; Sens. Kolker & Hansen	Senior Housing Income Tax Credit	The bill reinstates an income tax credit to help income-qualified seniors afford housing.	Support	Passed
HB24-1125	Reps. Valdez & Soper; Sens. Priola and Bridges	Tax Credit Commercial Building Conversion	The bill creates a new refundable tax credit that may be claimed for certain costs related to the conversion of a commercial structure to a residential structure.	Amend	Failed
HB24-1152	Reps. Amabile & Weinberg; Sens. Mullica & Exum	Accessory Dwelling Units	The bill requires certain municipalities to allow one accessory dwelling unit as an accessory use to a single-unit detached dwelling.	Support	Passed
HB24-1175	Reps. Boesenecker & Sirota; Sens. Winter & Jaquez Lewis	Local Governments Rights to Property for Affordable Housing	The bill creates a local government right of first refusal or offer to purchase qualifying multifamily property for the purpose of providing long-term affordable housing or mixed-income development.	Amend	Passed
HB24-1233	Reps. Wilson & Snyder; Sens. Roberts & Gardner	Homeowners' Association Delinquency Payments Enforcement Procedures	The bill makes changes to procedural requirements on homeowner associations with respect to collecting overdue payments.	Monitor	Passed

HOUSING (CONTINUED)

BILL	SPONSOR(S)	TITLE	DESCRIPTION	POSITION	STATUS
HB24-1239	Reps. Valdez & Boesenecker; Sen. Priola	Single-Exit Stairway Multifamily Structure	The bill requires a local government to modify a building code to allow five stories of a multifamily residential building to be served by a single exit.	Monitor	Failed
HB24-1304	Reps. Vigil & Woodrow; Sens. Priola & Hinrichsen	Minimum Parking Requirements	The bill prohibits a county or municipality from enforcing minimum parking requirements for real property	Amend	Passed
HB24-1308	Reps. Frizell & Lindstedt; Sen. Gonzales	Effective Implementation of Affordable Housing Programs	The bill creates standards for the effective implementation of programs for affordable housing and requires annual reporting by the Division of Housing	Amend	Passed
HB24-1313	Reps. Woodrow & Jodeh; Sens. Hansen & Winter	Transit-oriented Communities	The bill defines "transit-oriented communities" and requires them to meet a "housing opportunity goal"	Support	Passed
HB24-1322	Reps. Brown & Bird; Sens. Kirkmeyer & Rodriguez	Medicaid Coverage Housing & Nutrition Services	The bill requires the Department of Health Care Policy and Financing conducting a feasibility study to determine whether to seek federal authorization to provide services that address Medicaid members' health-related social needs.	Support	Passed

HOUSING (CONTINUED)

BILL	SPONSOR(S)	TITLE	DESCRIPTION	POSITION	STATUS
HB24-1431	Reps. Lukens & Armagost; Sens. Winter & Michaelson Jenet	Stable Housing for Survivors of Abuse Program	The bill creates the Stable Housing for Survivors of Domestic or Sexual Violence Program in the Department of Human Services funded through state Colorado Works Program reserves	Support	Passed
HB24-1434	Reps. Bird & Weinberg; Sens. Zenzinger & Simpson	Expand Affordable Housing Tax Credit	The bill increases the credit amount and accelerates the pace at which investors may claim the credit	Support	Passed
SB24-154	Sen. Jaquez Lewis	Accessory Dwelling Units	The bill creates a series of requirements related to accessory dwelling units in unincorporated areas	Monitor	Failed
SB24-174	Sens. Kirkmeyer & Zenzinger; Reps. Bird & Pugliese	Sustainable Affordable Housing Assistance	The bill requires the development of statewide, regional, and local housing needs assessments and the publication of housing action plans that guide efforts to address housing needs	Support	Passed

RENTERS' PROTECTIONS

BILL	SPONSOR(S)	TITLE	DESCRIPTION	POSITION	STATUS
HB24-1431	Reps. Lukens & Armagost; Sens. Winter & Michaelson Jenet	Stable Housing for Survivors of Abuse Program	The bill creates the Stable Housing for Survivors of Domestic or Sexual Violence Program in the Department of Human Services funded through state Colorado Works Program reserves	Support	Passed

RENTERS' PROTECTIONS (CONTINUED)

BILL	SPONSOR(S)	TITLE	DESCRIPTION	POSITION	STATUS
HB24-1057	Reps. Woodrow & Mabrey; Sens. Gonzales & Hinrichsen	Prohibit Algorithmic Devices Used for Rent Setting	The bill states that a landlord may not use an algorithmic device that uses, incorporates, or was trained with nonpublic competitor data to set rent prices	Support	Failed
HB24-1098	Reps. Mabrey & Duran; Sens. Gonzales & Hinrichsen	For Cause Eviction	The bill prohibits a landlord from evicting a residential tenant unless the landlord has cause for eviction	Support	Passed
HB24-1099	Reps. Lindsay & Soper; Sens. Buckner & Pelton	Defendant Filing Fees in Evictions	The bill eliminates the eviction answer filing fee and the cost to mail documents filed physically rather than electronically	Support	Passed
HB24-1259	Reps. Brown & Weissman; Sen. Cutter	Price Gouging in Rent Declared Disaster	The bill prohibits price gouging in the provision of housing during a declared disaster	Support	Passed
HB24-1268	Reps. Weissman & Ortiz; Sens. Exum & Fields	Financial Assistance for Certain Low-Income Individuals	The bill makes updates to the "Property Tax/Rent/Heat Credit Rebate"	Monitor	Passed
SB24-064	Sens. Mullica & Marchman; Sen. Bird	Monthly Residential Eviction Data & Report	The bill requires the Judicial Department to collect, compile, and publish online, aggregate residential eviction data on a monthly basis	Support	Passed
SB24-094	Sens. Gonzales & Exum; Reps. Lindsay & Froelich	Safe Housing for Residential Tenants	The bill modifies existing warranty of habitability laws by clarifying actions that constitute a breach and procedures for both landlords and tenants when a warranty of habitability claim is alleged by the tenant	Support	Passed

SB24-146	Sens. Kolker & Hansen; Rep. García	Tax Credit for Qualified Renters	The bill creates a nonrefundable income tax credit to provide temporary tax relief for income-qualified renters	Amend	Failed
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HOMELESSNESS

BILL	SPONSOR(S)	TITLE	DESCRIPTION	POSITION	STATUS
HB24-1403	Reps. Bird & Sirota; Sens. Zenzinger & Bridges	Higher Education Support Homeless Youth	The bill requires all Colorado public institutions of higher education to provide financial assistance to a Colorado resident student who has experienced homelessness	Support	Passed
SB24-016	Sens. Zenzinger & Smallwood; Reps. Snyder & Taggart	Tax Credits for Contributions via Intermediaries	The bill authorizes a donor to make a charitable contribution under the Colorado Homeless Contribution Tax Credit through a qualified intermediary and allows the donor to provide only the last four digits of their social security number	Support	Passed
SB24-191	Sens. Zenzinger & Simpson; Reps. Kipp & Frizell	Host Homes for Youth	The bill requires the Department of Human Services to oversee the operations of host home programs for youth	Support	Passed

SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS & HARM REDUCTION

BILL	SPONSOR(S)	TITLE	DESCRIPTION	POSITION	STATUS
HB24-1028	Rep. Epps; Sen. Priola	Overdose Prevention Centers	The bill specifies that a municipality may authorize the operation of an overdose prevention center within its boundaries for the purpose of saving the lives of persons at risk of preventable overdoses	Support	Failed

HB24-1037	Reps. Epps & deGruy Kennedy; Sen. Priola	Substance Use Disorders Harm Reduction	The bill was recommended by the Opioid and Other Substance Use Disorders Study Committee and addresses seeks to reduce harm caused by substance use disorders	Support	Passed
HB24-1045	Reps. Armagost & deGruy Kennedy; Sens. Mullica & Will	Treatment for Substance Use Disorders	The bill was recommended by the Opioid and Other Substance Use Disorders Study Committee and provides resources for treatment	Support	Passed
HB24-1126	Rep. Lynch; Sen. Pelton	Substance Use Disorder Treatment as Bond Condition	The bill permits a court to order a person to complete a medical evaluation if the court suspects a substance use disorder was a factor in the offense for which the person was charged	Oppose	Failed
HB24-1306	Rep. Lynch; Sen. Pelton	Increase Penalty Possession of Synthetic Opiates	The bill makes possession of any amount of fentanyl a felony, regardless of whether the person knows the drug contains fentanyl	Oppose	Failed
SB24-047	Sens. Jaquez Lewis & Priola; Reps. Young & Epps	Prevention of Substance Use Disorders	The bill was recommended by the Opioid and Other Substance Use Disorders Study Committee and provides resources for prevention	Support	Passed
SB24-048	Sen. Priola; Reps. deGruy Kennedy & Lynch	Substance Use Disorders Recovery	The bill was recommended by the Opioid and Other Substance Use Disorders Study Committee and provides resources for recovery	Support	Passed
SB24-181	Sens. Priola & Hansen; Reps. deGruy Kennedy & Amabile	Alcohol Impact & Recovery Enterprise	The bill creates the Colorado Alcohol Impact and Recovery Enterprise to collect a fee from alcohol manufacturers/wholesalers to support alcohol use disorder prevention, intervention, harm reduction, and recovery	Support	Failed

HEALTHCARE & PUBLIC HEALTH

BILL	SPONSOR(S)	TITLE	DESCRIPTION	POSITION	STATUS
HB24-1002	Reps. Sirota & Martinez; Sens. Marchman & Rich	Social Work Licensure Compact	The bill provides for the mutual recognition of licenses from other states that have signed the compact	Support	Passed
HB24-1066	Reps. Hamrick & García; Sens. Michaelson Jenet & Gonzales	Prevention of Workplace Violence in Health-Care Settings	The bill enacts the "Violence Prevention in Health-care Settings Act", and the "Violence Prevention in Behavioral Health Settings Act"	Monitor	Failed
HB24-1075	Reps. McCormick & Boesenecker; Sens. Marchman & Jaquez Lewis	Analysis of Universal Health-Care Payment System	The bill requires the Colorado School of Public Health to analyze draft model legislation for implementing a universal health-care payment system for Colorado	Support	Failed
HB24-1149	Reps. Bird & Frizell; Sens. Roberts & Kirkmeyer	Prior Authorization Requirements Alternatives	The bill requires the adoption of a program to eliminate or substantially modify prior authorization requirements in a manner that removes administrative burdens on providers and their patients	Support	Passed
HB24-1229	Rep. English; Sens. Mullica & Will	Presumptive Eligibility for Long-Term Care	The bill removes the requirement that the Department of Health Care Policy and Financing fully assess a person in need of long-term services and supports before the person is presumed eligible	Monitor	Passed
HB24-1400	Reps. Bird & Sirota; Sens. Kirkmeyer & Zenzinger	Medicaid Eligibility Procedures	The bill continues suspension of certain provisions related to Medicaid eligibility	Support	Passed

SB24-010	Sens. Ginal & Will; Reps. Duran & Hartsook	Dentist & Dental Hygienist Compact	The bill facilitates the interstate practice of dentistry and dental hygiene	Support	Passed
SB24-018	Sens. Simpson & Michaelson Jenet; Reps. Amabile & Winter	Physician Assistant Licensure Compact	The bill enables a physician assistant with a license in a state that has signed the compact to more easily become authorized to practice in any other participating state	Support	Passed

ECONOMIC JUSTICE

BILL	SPONSOR(S)	TITLE	DESCRIPTION	POSITION	STATUS
HB24-1084	Reps. Willford & Young; Sens. Kolker & Fields	Repeal & Reenact Earned Income Tax Credit Increase	The bill repeals and reenacts the law enacted by HB23- 1002 that increased the earned income tax credit for 2023, affirming its constitutionality	Support	Passed
HB24-1134	Reps. Weissman & Rutinel; Sens. Hinrichsen & Hansen	Adjustments to Tax Expenditures to Reduce Burden	The bill expands the Earned Income Tax Credit to 50% of the federal credit permanently, combines two Child and Dependent Care Credits to prevent a coverage gap, and updates the corporate income tax structure	Support	Passed
HB24-1311	Reps. deGruy Kennedy & Willford; Sens. Winer & Coleman	Family Affordability Tax Credit	The bill creates a new, permanent Family Affordability Credit that acts as a Child Tax Credit boost and is contingent upon TABOR surplus dollars	Support	Passed
SB24-012	Sens. Gozales & Coleman; Sens. Young & Mabrey	Reentry Workforce Development Cash Assistance Pilot Program	The bill creates the Reentry Workforce Development Cash Assistance Pilot Program to provide cash assistance to persons who participate in workforce services or training programs after incarceration	Support	Failed

SB24-211	Sen. Hinrichsen	Adjustments to the Necessary Documents Program	The bill adjusts the Necessary Documents Program, including eliminating the need for a paper voucher	Support	Failed
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CRIMINAL LEGAL REFORM

BILL	SPONSOR(S)	TITLE	DESCRIPTION	POSITION	STATUS
HB24-1054	Reps. Amabile & García; Sens. Fields & Coleman	Jail Standards Commission Recommendations	The bill creates a jail standards advisory committee	Monitor	Passed
HB24-1079	Reps. Amabile & English; Sen. Fields	Persons Detained in Jail on Emergency Commitment	The bill prohibits a law enforcement officer or emergency service patrol officer who takes a juvenile into protective custody from detaining them in jail	Monitor	Passed
HB24-1133	Reps. Mabrey & Soper; Sen. Rodriguez	Criminal Record Sealing & Expungement Changes	The bill improves the automatic sealing of record for nonviolent crimes by making clarifying eligibly and streamlining the record-sealing process	Support	Passed
HB24-1241	Reps. Epps & Mabrey; Sen. Rodriguez	Alignment of Petty Property Crime Threshold	The bill aligns the threshold for a comparable municipal offense to a state-level petty property crime for purposes of prohibiting a monetary condition of release	Support	Passed
HB24-1372	Reps. Woodrow & Herod; Sens. Fields & Gonzales	Regulating Law Enforcement Use of Prone Restraint	The bill requires law enforcement agencies to adopt written policies and procedures concerning use of the prone position and prone restraint	Support	Passed

MISCELLANEOUS

BILL	SPONSOR(S)	TITLE	DESCRIPTION	POSITION	STATUS
HB24-1051	Reps. Boesenecker & Mauro; Sens. Gonzales & Priola	Towing Carrier Regulation	The bill makes changes to the regulation of businesses that obtain a permit from the Public Utilities Commission to tow motor vehicles	Support	Passed
HB24-1071	Rep. García; Sens. Michaelson Jenet & Priola	Name Change to Conform with Gender Identity	The bill makes it easier for persons that have been convicted of a felony to change their name to align with their gender identity	Support	Passed
HB24-1130	Reps. Daugherty & Lynch; Sens. Lundeen & Hansen	Privacy of Biometric Identifiers & Data	The bill amends the "Colorado Privacy Act" to add protections for an individual's biometric data	Support	Passed
HB24-1140	Rep. Weinberg	Workers' Comp for Complex Trauma	The bill establishes eligibility for workers' compensation benefits for workers diagnosed with posttraumatic stress disorder as the result of complex trauma	Monitor	Failed
SB24-036	Sens. Winter & Cutter; Reps. Lindsay & Lindstedt	Vulnerable Road User Protection Enterprise	The bill creates the Vulnerable Road User Protection Enterprise in the Department of Transportation to fund transportation system infrastructure improvements	Support	Failed
SB24-072	Sen. Gonzales; Reps. Rutinel & Brown	Voting for Confined Eligible Electors	The bill ensures that confined eligible electors at a county jail or detention center may vote	Support	Passed



As advocates for social justice, the Education & Advocacy Team promotes Colorado Coalition for the Homeless' mission of preventing homelessness, increasing access to healthcare and housing, and creating pathways to greater stability by shaping public policy, building strategic community relationships, and influencing perceptions about the causes of and solutions to homelessness.

A big thank you to all who made this work possible! Thank you for the late nights under the Gold Dome, mobilizing quickly and effectively, and always working to make a positive change in the lives of those the Coalition serves.

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR PARTNERS

- All Families Deserve a Chance Coalition
- American Civil Liberties Union of Colorado
- Blueprint to End Hunger
- Colorado Access
- Colorado Center on Law and Policy
- Colorado Children's Campaign
- Colorado Coalition for the Homeless Advocacy Committee
- Colorado Coalition for the Homeless Advocacy Network
- Colorado Community Health Network and Public Affairs Committee
- Colorado Criminal Defense Bar
- Colorado Criminal Justice Reform Coalition
- Colorado Cross Disability Coalition
- Colorado Department of Local Affairs, Division of Housing
- Colorado Drug Policy Coalition
- Colorado Fiscal Institute
- Colorado Health Policy Coalition
- Colorado Homeless Contribution Tax Credit Coalition
- Colorado Housing Finance Authority
- Colorado Municipal League
- Colorado Poverty Law Project
- Colorado Social Legislation Committee
- Community Economic Defense Project
- Denver Foundation
- Denver Homeless Leadership Council
- Enterprise Community Partners
- Enterprise Community Partners Housing Policy Stakeholder Group
- Harm Reduction Action Center
- Healthier Colorado
- Homeward Alliance
- Housing Colorado and the Policy Committee
- Lutheran Advocacy Ministries
- Mental Health Colorado
- Neighborhood Development Collaborative
- PeopleForBikes Coalition
- Project Angel Heart
- Right Response Colorado
- Violence Free Colorado

QUESTIONS? EMAIL US!

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