



DENVER
THE MILE HIGH CITY

2024 LEGISLATIVE SESSION PREVIEW

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Jan. 02, 2024

2023 Highlights

- During the 120-day 2023 legislative session, lawmakers considered 617 bills – with 484 bills sent to the desk of Governor Polis.
- Governor Polis had until June 7th, 2023, to sign or veto bills.
- Polis signed 473 bills into law last year - meaning one other bill became law without his signature.
- According to his office, Polis green-lit nearly 98% of the legislation sent to his desk in 2023.
- Governor Polis vetoed 10 bills last year – a record for him but nowhere near when then-Gov. Bill Owens vetoed 47 bills in 2005.



2023 Highlights

- **The pressure to get through a legislative backlog was intense during the final weeks.**
- **The tight timeline even brought the Senate into session on a Sunday for the first time in more than 80 years.**
- **Decision made during the 2023 legislative session also had election consequences.**
- **Colorado voters soundly rejected Proposition HH, a measure referred to voters by the General Assembly's Democratic majority.**
- **Legislators must now figure out a longer-term property tax solution via a task force.**



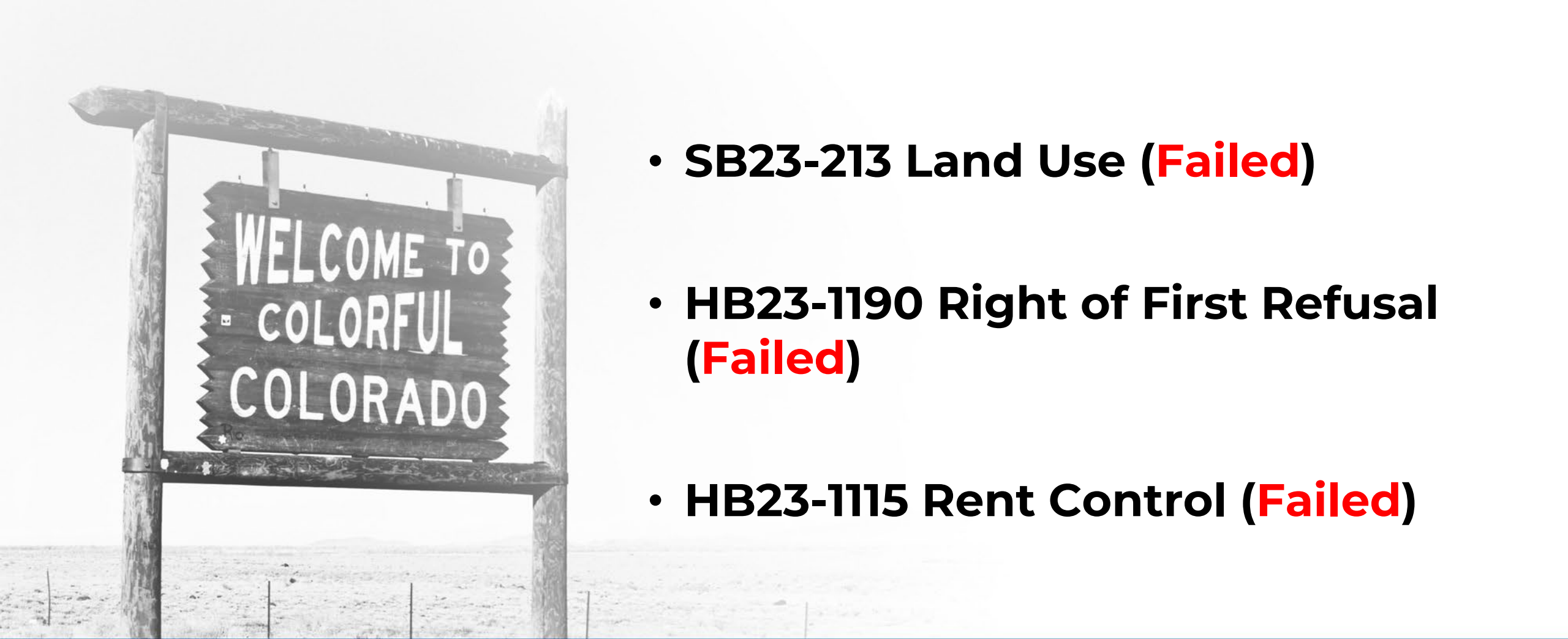


01 Housing

02 Sustainability

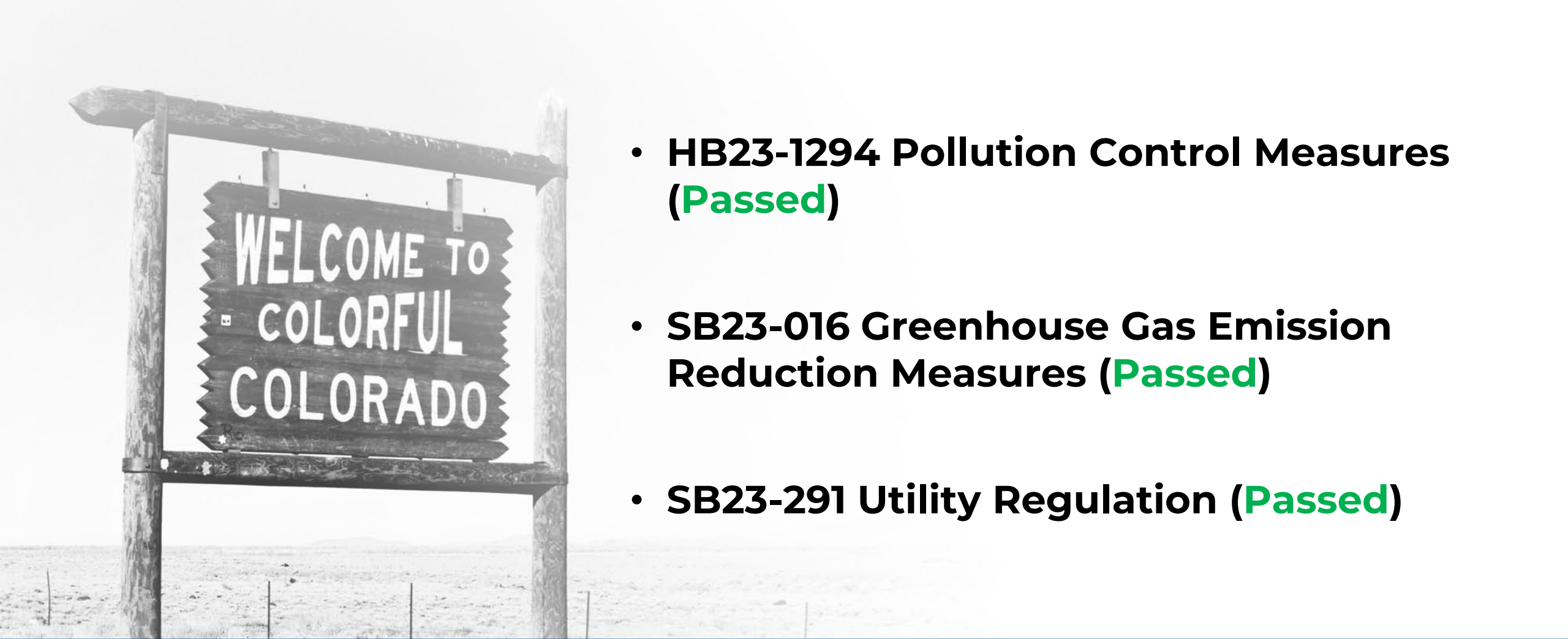
03 Worker Rights

TOP ISSUES OF 2023



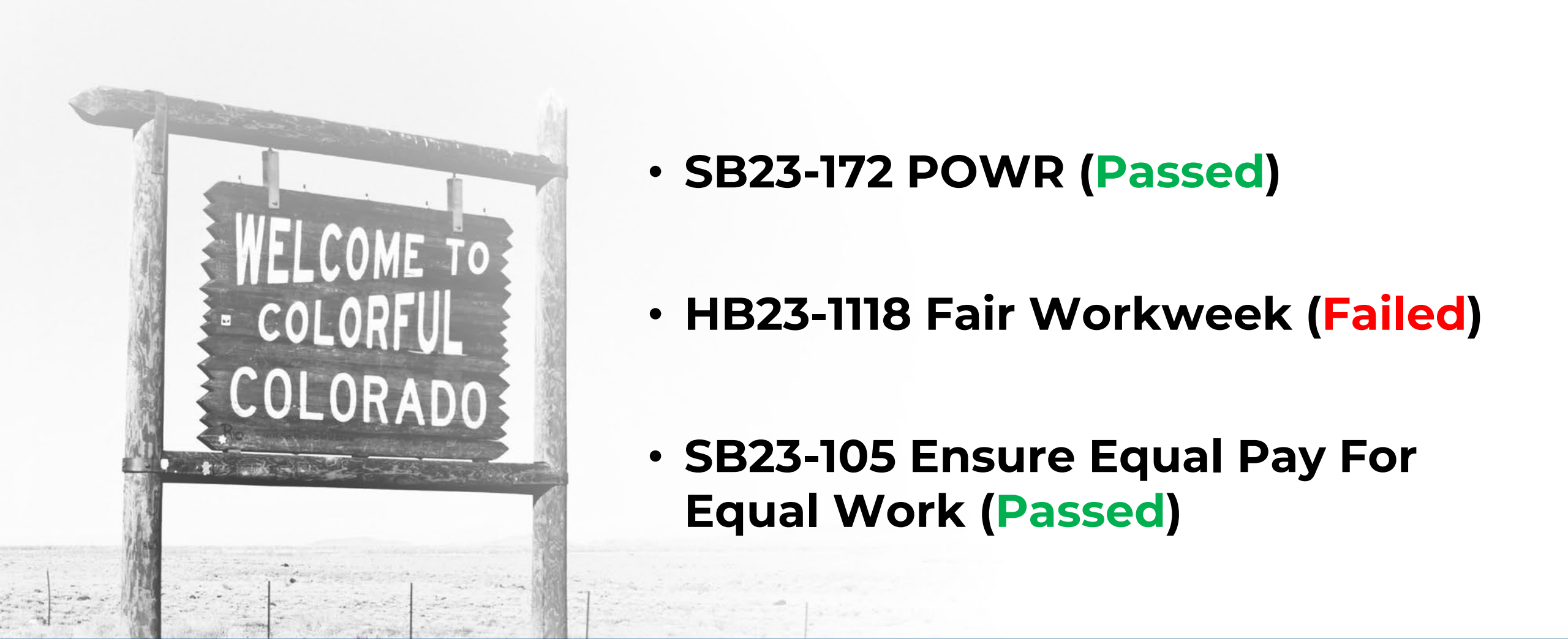
- SB23-213 Land Use (**Failed**)
- HB23-1190 Right of First Refusal (**Failed**)
- HB23-1115 Rent Control (**Failed**)

2023 HOUSING



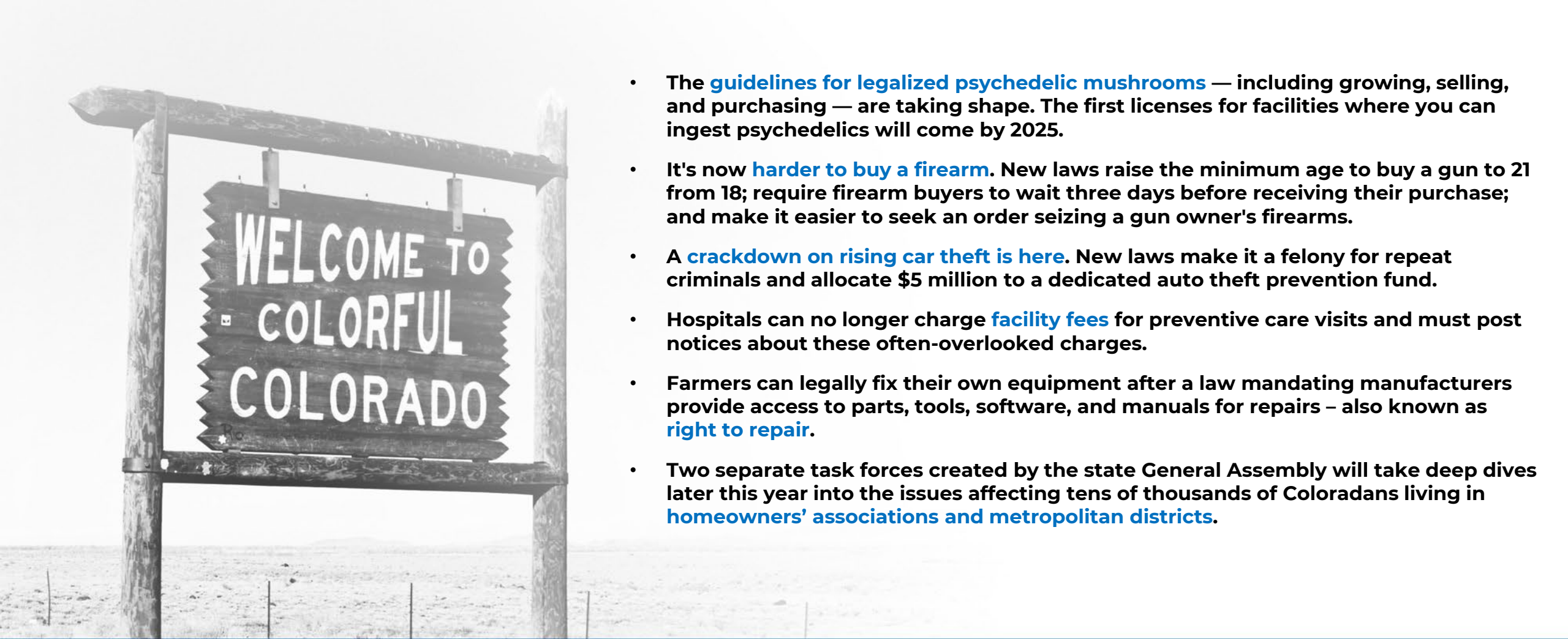
- **HB23-1294 Pollution Control Measures (Passed)**
- **SB23-016 Greenhouse Gas Emission Reduction Measures (Passed)**
- **SB23-291 Utility Regulation (Passed)**

2023 SUSTAINABILITY



- **SB23-172 POWR (Passed)**
- **HB23-1118 Fair Workweek (Failed)**
- **SB23-105 Ensure Equal Pay For Equal Work (Passed)**

2023 WORKER RIGHTS



- The [guidelines for legalized psychedelic mushrooms](#) — including growing, selling, and purchasing — are taking shape. The first licenses for facilities where you can ingest psychedelics will come by 2025.
- It's now [harder to buy a firearm](#). New laws raise the minimum age to buy a gun to 21 from 18; require firearm buyers to wait three days before receiving their purchase; and make it easier to seek an order seizing a gun owner's firearms.
- A [crackdown on rising car theft is here](#). New laws make it a felony for repeat criminals and allocate \$5 million to a dedicated auto theft prevention fund.
- Hospitals can no longer charge [facility fees](#) for preventive care visits and must post notices about these often-overlooked charges.
- Farmers can legally fix their own equipment after a law mandating manufacturers provide access to parts, tools, software, and manuals for repairs – also known as [right to repair](#).
- Two separate task forces created by the state General Assembly will take deep dives later this year into the issues affecting tens of thousands of Coloradans living in [homeowners' associations and metropolitan districts](#).

MORE CHANGES IN 2023

2024 Assumptions - Knowns

- **The timeline is strict:** Lawmakers will convene on January 10th, 2024, for a day 120 legislative session.
- **Education is a big priority for Polis:** Colorado is poised to fully fund its education system next year for the first time since 2010 if Governor Polis gets his wish.
- **The budget may bring some caution:** The most recent quarterly revenue forecast released by state economists shows Colorado lawmakers may have more breathing room than expected for the 2024-25 budget year, despite a projected decline in tax collections. Already, some lawmakers have warned that Colorado's economy is entering a more restrained fiscal period that would "cautious, responsible budgeting." Still, some of the economic indicators remain bright for Colorado, notably its low unemployment rate.
- **We (generally) know some of the major issues:** Land use changes, construction litigation reform, right of first refusal for local governments, RTD changes, good cause eviction requirements, property tax changes, mental health system capacity, and juvenile justice reform are all on the table.



2024 Assumptions - Unknowns

- **A major election looms large:** The 2024 election is just around the corner – and many signs point to a reboot of 2020. How will lawmakers weigh local and national politics into their decisions at the State Capitol?
- **The 2023 session and special session (maybe) left some heartburn:** First, land use is coming back – we all know how that played out last year. Second, work stalled for periods in the House during the special session when tensions over international conflicts boiled over.
- **We are in a strange period of legislating:** State Rep. Said Sharbini, a first-year lawmaker, announced he is resigning effective Dec. 31. Sharbini is the second first-year legislator to resign in recent weeks. Rep. Ruby Dickson, announced she would resign, effective Dec. 11, citing a "vitriolic" environment in the state House. A vacancy committee will choose Sharbini's successor, who will become the 29th current lawmaker — out of 100 — to gain a seat in the legislature through the vacancy process.



QUESTIONS?

