

A photograph of the Denver State Capitol building, featuring a prominent golden dome and classical architectural elements, set against a clear blue sky. The building is surrounded by lush green trees and a well-maintained lawn. The image is slightly dimmed to allow the white text to stand out.

Denver City Council State Budget and Legislative Wrap Up

Presented by Adam Paul, Policy Matters and BBMK

Legislative Team Refresher

Lobby Teams:

- Policy Matters: Heather Retzko, Tanya Kelly-Bowry, Katie Hancock, Jenise May, Ximena Luna
 - Main Point of Contact for Council Lobbying Needs
- BBMK: Julie McKenna, Jenifer Brandeberry, Mollie Steinemann, Susanna Mizer

City's Legislative Team:

- City Council: Councilmembers Serena Gonzales-Gutierrez & Chris Hinds
- Mayor's Office: Dominick Moreno & Adam Paul

Session Overview

657 bills were introduced

171 bills were killed

585 bills headed to the Governor for signature

Internally:

291 bills were reviewed

Took positions on
78

Supported **34**
& Opposed **3**

Housing

(Affordability, Rental Reform, Tenant
Protections, and Housing
Developments)

Passed:

HB25-1207, Pet Ownership in Housing (Support)

Effective August 6, 2025

HB25-1236, Residential Tenant Screening (Support)

Effective January 1, 2026

HB25-1240, Protections for Tenants with Housing Subsidies (Support)

Effective upon signature (5/29/2025)

HB25-1249, Tenant Security Deposit Protections (Support)

Effective January 1, 2026

SB25-020, Tenant and Landlord Law Enforcement (Support)

Effective August 6, 2025

Failed:

HB25-1169, Housing Development on Faith and Educational Land (Amend)

HB25-1196, Landlord Procedures for Removal of Tenants (Monitor)

Vetoed:

HB25-1004, No Pricing Coordination Between Landlords (Support)

Labor

(Worker Protections, Wages,
Employment Supports, and Economic
Mobility)

Passed:

HB25-1001, Wage & Hour Enforcement (Amend)

Effective August 6, 2025

HB25-1244, Welcome, Reception, & Integration Grant Program for Migrants (Support)

Effective upon signature- May 24, 2025

HB25-1279, State-Level Data for Colorado Works Program (Amend)

Effective August 6, 2025

SB25-169, Restaurant Meals Program (Support)

Effective upon signature- May 13, 2025

SB25-173- Revenue Classification Under TABOR (Support)

Effective upon signature May 4, 2025

Child Welfare & Youth Services

Passed:

HB25-1097, Placement Transition Plans for Children (Amend)

Effective upon signature May 28, 2025

HB25-1204, Colorado Indian Child Welfare Act (Support)

Effective August 6, 2025

SB25-151, Measures to Prevent Youth from Running Away (Monitor)

Effective upon signature March 10, 2025

SB25-197, Tony Grampsas Youth Services Program Reform (Support)

Effective August 6, 2025

SB 25-200, Dyslexia Screening and READ Act Requirements (Support)

Effective August 6, 2025

SB25-282, Protections for Veterans Seeking Benefits (Support)

Effective August 6, 2025

Failed:

HB25-1011, Private Equity Acquisition of Child Care Centers (Support)

Equity

(Disability Rights, Civil Rights,
and Inclusive Policy)

Passed:

HB25-1017, Community Integration Plan Individuals with Disabilities (Support)

Effective August 6, 2025

HB25-1154, Communication Services for People with Disabilities Enterprise (Support)

Effective upon signature May 5, 2025

HB25-1239, Colorado Anti-Discrimination Act (Support)

Effective August 6, 2025

SB25-050, Racial Classification on Government Forms (Support)

Effective September 1, 2025

Governance

(Local Authority, Infrastructure,
and Permitting)

Passed:

HB25-1009, Vegetative Fuel Mitigation (Monitor)

Effective August 6, 2025

SB25-167, Invest State Funds to Benefit Communities (Monitor)

Effective upon signature June 4, 2025

HB25-1272, Construction Defects & Middle Market Housing (Amend)

Effective August 6, 2025

Failed:

HB25-1268, Utility On-Bill Repayment Program Financing (Support)

HB25-1286, Extreme Temperature Worker Protections (Monitor)

SB25-025, Allowing Vehicle Mortgage Filings Any County (Oppose)

SB 25-077, Open Records (Amend)

Climate and the Environment

Passed:

HB 25-1166, Efforts to Reduce Food Waste (Support)

Effective January 1, 2026

SB 25-053, Protect Wild Bison (Support)

Effective January 1, 2026

SB 25-182, Embodied Carbon Reduction (Support)

Effective January 1, 2026

Land Use & Transportation

Passed:

HB 25-1113, Concerning Limiting the Use of Certain Landscaping practices in New Residential Development (Amend)

Effective January 1, 2028

HB 25-1163, Free Access to State Parks for Colorado Ute Tribes (Monitor)

Effective August 6, 2025

HB 25-1198, Regional Planning Roundtable Commission (Amend)

Effective August 6, 2025 and appointments made no later than September 30, 2025

HB 25-1219, Requirements for Better Understanding Metropolitan (Monitor)

Effective August 6, 2025

HB 25-1292, Transmission Lines on State Highway Right of Ways (Monitor)

Effective January, 1 2027

Failed:

HB 25-1127, Register and Drive Surplus Military Vehicles (Monitor)

Public Health

(Liquor, Marijuana, Water)

Passed:

HB 25-1077, Backflow Prevention Devices (Amend)

Effective July 1, 2025

HB 25-1209, Marijuana Regulation Streamline (Monitor)

Effective January 5, 2026

HB 25-1295, Food Truck Operations (Oppose to neutral)

Effective January 1, 2026

SB 25-033, Prohibit New Liquor Licensed Drug (Monitor)

Effective upon passage

SB 25-297, Implementation of Colorado Natural Medicine Initiative (Monitor)

Effective upon passage

Failed:

HB 25-133,1 Marijuana Special Event and Hotel Delivery (Oppose)

Public Safety

(fire police guns and
courts)

Passed:

HB25-1031, Law Enforcement Whistleblower Protection (Monitor)

Effective January 1, 2026

HB 25-1049, Communications Rights for Persons in Custody (Support)

Effective August 6, 2025

HB 25-1062, Penalty for Theft of Firearms (Support)

Effective upon passage

HB 25-1136, Peace Officer Conduct Database (Monitor)

Effective upon passage

HB 25-1304, Extension of Restitution Deadlines (Monitor)

Effective upon passage

SB25-003, Semiautomatic Firearms and Rapid Fire Devices (Monitor)

Effective August 1, 2025

SB 25-059, Supports for State Response to Mass Shootings (Support)

Effective August 6, 2025

SB 25-062, Failure to Appear Municipal Court (Monitor)

Effective upon passage

Public Safety (cont.)

(Fire, Police, Guns and
Courts)

Passed:

SB 25-079, Colorado Vending of Digital (Support)

Effective January 1, 2026

SB 25-170, Deoxyribonucleic Acid and Sexual Assault Kit Backlog Testing and Data (Support)

Effective through June 30, 2026

SB 25-298, Remove Term Homosexuality from Criminal Code (Monitor)

Effective upon passage

Failed:

HB 25-1072, Pretrial Release for Repeat Violent offenses (Monitor)

HB 25-1128, Income Tax Credit for Firearm Safety Devices (Support)

HB 25-1214, Appropriate Use of Prison Beds (Monitor)

HB 25-1243, Peace Officer Questions During Traffic Stop (Monitor)

Bills Requiring Action from City

HB25-1056, Local Government Permitting Wireless Telecommunication Facilities (Amend)

Effective January 1, 2026, the state requires local governments to streamline permitting for wireless facilities, however Denver already meets these timeframes for all of Denver's electrical and building/structural reviews.

City Council action may be required to formally align the municipal code or to incorporate the changes in a future zoning code update.

HB25-1113, Limit Turf in New Residential Developments (Amend)

State requires prohibition on nonfunctional turf in multi-family residential with exceptions.

Compliance required by December 2027, will come to council in early 2026

HB25-1273, Residential Building Stair Modernization (Amend)

State requires the modification of building codes by December 1, 2027, to allow single-stair access in multifamily residential buildings up to five stories.

This will require City Council action and coordination with CAO, DFD, and the Mayor's Office.

SB25-002, Reginal Codes for Factory Built structures (Amend)

State requires modification of building codes to align with the new-state. Established regional standards for factory-built structures.

Updates require City Council action and coordination with CAO, DFD, and DOTI.

2025-26 Budget

Cuts total
1.2B

500-800m in
the hole on
Federal funds

2026-27 Budget

June Revenue
Forecast

Future
Federal
Impacts

Special Session

Possible timing

Policies that could
be included in the
Governor's call



Questions?

