

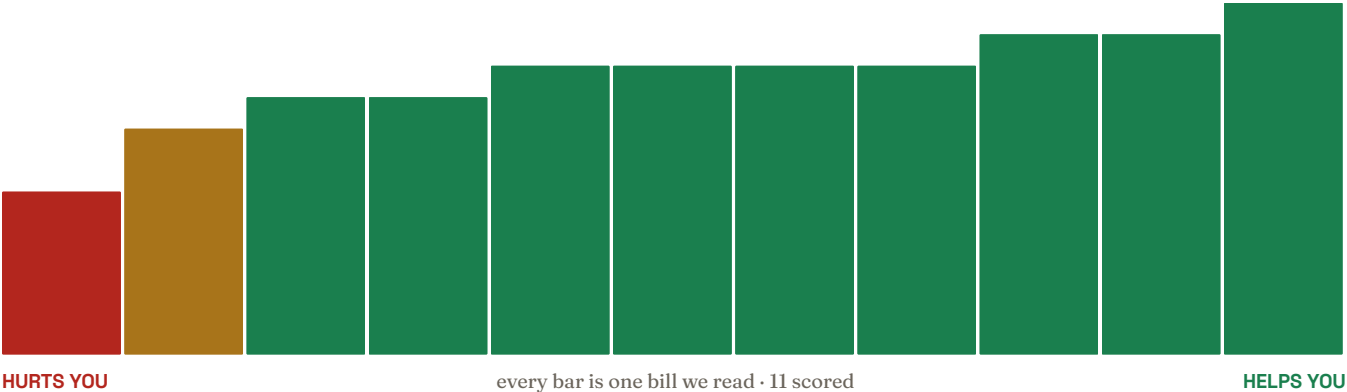


OBILLERATE • WATCHDOG

Colorado Bill Book

2026

The Colorado bills that matter most, each scored 1–10 on one question: does it help everyday people, or the interests behind it?



Our take on the left. The bill on the right. Room for your notes.

Every spread is one bill, twice.

On the **left** is our take: the Billometer score, what the bill means for you, and the factor-by-factor reasoning behind that score. On the **right** is the bill on the record: its official title, its status, where to read the real text, and space for your own notes.

THE BILLOMETER

One number, 1 to 10, answering a single question: does this help everyday people or hurt them? 1–4 hurts, 5–6 is mixed, 7–10 helps. It is our editorial judgement — which is exactly why every page shows the reasoning behind it. If you disagree with a score, you can see precisely where you disagree.

HOW THESE BILLS WERE CHOSEN

Ranked, not cherry-picked. This edition prints the 10 lowest-scoring and 1 highest-scoring of the 11 Colorado bills we have fully analysed. A bill only qualifies if it passed our verification step, has a recorded official status, and has its reasoning attached. Thin entries are left out rather than padded. Note that only 143 bills in the entire country score 3 or below, so in most places the bottom of the list is not evil — it is merely mixed, and we label it that way.

THESE ARE PROPOSALS, NOT LAW

Unless a status line says otherwise. Bills move constantly; every page shows the status we recorded on 2026-07-28 and links to the live version.

Bill data from LegiScan (CC BY 4.0), Congress.gov and OpenStates. Analysis and scoring are Obillerate's own. Scores are editorial opinion, not legal advice — always read the official text before acting. Found an error? www.obillerate.com/corrections

10 worst, 1 best

THE WORST — LOWEST SCORING

- 4/10** SB082 **The Local Governments Bill** — Local governments can charge extra fees for renewable projects
- 6/10** HB1046 **The Wage Access Bill** — New rules for earned-wage access services are on the way
- 7/10** HB1048 **The School Supplies Bill** — Colorado plans a tax break for school supplies
- 7/10** SB043 Colorado wants new rules for selling gun barrels
- 8/10** SB056 **The Overtime Year Bill** — Colorado's overtime tax would only last one year
- 8/10** HB1066 **The Income Homes Bill** — Tax breaks for low-income homes could help families
- 8/10** HB1057 **The License Plates Bill** — Veterans could get free license plates for disability
- 8/10** HB1054 **The Workers Safe Bill** — Colorado bill aims to keep workers safe on the job
- 9/10** HB1240 **The Removes Income Bill** — Colorado bill removes age limit for earned income tax credit
- 9/10** SB070 **The Government Cannot Bill** — Government cannot get your past location data

THE BEST — HIGHEST SCORING

- 10/10** HR1004 **The Celebrate Farm Bill** — Colorado House wants a day to celebrate farm workers

The Local Governments Bill

Local governments can charge extra fees for renewable projects

CO SB082 • Consumer Protection

4/10

OBLITERATE

Hurts everyday people



WHAT THIS MEANS FOR YOU

If the bill passes, local officials could collect extra money from renewable projects, which may push higher electricity prices onto households. Watch the debate now before fees become reality.

WHY IT SCORES 4/10 — THE RECEIPTS

- Accountability (hurts)** — Fee adds a new revenue stream without clear oversight..
Local officials gain more money control.
- Rights & Protections (hurts)** — Adds cost barriers for renewable projects..
No new consumer protections added.
- Who Bears the Cost (hurts)** — Developers and possibly ratepayers pay the fees..
Costs may be passed to households.
- Process Transparency (neutral)** — Bill does not change existing permitting transparency..
No specific disclosure requirements.

WHO'S BEHIND IT

Republican-sponsored (1R / 0D)

HOW THEY VOTED

Senate • 2026-04-29 — passed
Yes 3R/6D • No 0R/0D

THE BILL ITSELF

Local Government Renewable Energy Development Fee

CO SB082

Introduced · recorded 2026-02-06

WHAT IT DOES

The bill would let towns add application and success fees to renewable energy projects, which could raise costs for developers and possibly for your power bills.

WHO IT'S WRITTEN FOR

Government Power

READ IT YOURSELF

Official text (CO SB082) — <https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/SB26-082>

LegiScan — SB082 — <https://legiscan.com/CO/bill/SB082/2026>

Live status, community verdicts and how your own reps voted — www.obillerate.com/bill/co-sb082-111345

YOUR NOTES

The Wage Access Bill

New rules for earned-wage access services are on the way

CO HB1046 • Consumer Protection

6/10

TOLERATE

Mixed — some good, some bad



WHAT THIS MEANS FOR YOU

If this bill passes, it could help protect people using these services from unfair fees or bad practices. It's important to pay attention now.

WHY IT SCORES 6/10 — THE RECEIPTS

Accountability (helps) — Regulation could improve service accountability..

The bill aims to create standards for these services.

Rights & Protections (helps) — Could protect users from unfair fees..

Regulations may limit fees charged by the services.

Who Bears the Cost (neutral) — Costs are unclear..

It is unknown how costs will be affected.

WHO'S BEHIND IT

Bipartisan sponsorship (1R / 3D)

HOW THEY VOTED

House · 2026-02-19 — passed

Yes 4R/7D · No 0R/0D

THE BILL ITSELF

Regulate Earned-Wage Access Services

CO HB1046

Introduced · recorded 2026-01-14

WHAT IT DOES

This bill would create rules for services that let you access your earned pay early.

WHO IT'S WRITTEN FOR

Everyday People

READ IT YOURSELF

Official text (CO HB1046) — <https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/HB26-1046>

LegiScan — HB1046 — <https://legiscan.com/CO/bill/HB1046/2026>

Live status, community verdicts and how your own reps voted — www.obillerate.com/bill/co-hb1046-080432

YOUR NOTES

The School Supplies Bill

Colorado plans a tax break for school supplies

CO HB1048 • Money & Damages

7/10

LIBERATE

Helps everyday people



WHAT THIS MEANS FOR YOU

Parents could save money on backpacks, laptops, and clothes, but the state would lose tax revenue that might fund schools, so voters should weigh the trade off now.

WHY IT SCORES 7/10 — THE RECEIPTS

- Accountability** (neutral) — No new oversight.
N/A
- Rights & Protections** (helps) — More buying power.
Reduces tax burden
- Who Bears the Cost** (hurts) — State loses revenue.
Potential impact on school funding
- Process Transparency** (neutral) — Standard process.
Committee review

WHO'S BEHIND IT

Republican-sponsored (3R / 0D)

HOW THEY VOTED

House · 2026-02-26 — passed
Yes 4R/7D · No 0R/0D

THE BILL ITSELF

Back-to-School Sales Tax Holiday

CO HB1048

Introduced · recorded 2026-01-14

WHAT IT DOES

The bill would let families buy school items without paying sales tax, lowering their costs for the school year.

WHO IT'S WRITTEN FOR

Everyday People

READ IT YOURSELF

Official text (CO HB1048) — <https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/HB26-1048>

LegiScan — HB1048 — <https://legiscan.com/CO/bill/HB1048/2026>

Live status, community verdicts and how your own reps voted — www.obillerate.com/bill/co-hb1048-080207

YOUR NOTES

Colorado wants new rules for selling gun barrels

CO SB043 • Criminal Justice

7 /10 **LIBERATE**
Helps everyday people



WHAT THIS MEANS FOR YOU

This bill wants to make it harder for bad people to get gun parts by making new rules for selling firearm barrels. If it passes, people who sell gun barrels would have to follow these new rules, and if they don't, they could get in trouble with the law. Supporters say this is a good way to make our communities safer. But some people might worry that these new rules could make it harder for regular, law-abiding citizens to buy...

WHY IT SCORES 7/10 — THE RECEIPTS

Accountability (helps) — Increases accountability for sellers of firearm barrels..

The bill creates a criminal penalty for unlawful sale of a firearm barrel, holding...

Rights & Protections (hurts) — Adds new rules for selling firearm parts..

The bill regulates firearm barrel transfers, which could add new steps or limits for...

Who Bears the Cost (neutral) — No direct cost shift mentioned..

The official text does not specify new costs shifted to consumers or taxpayers, beyond...

Process Transparency (neutral) — Standard legislative process..

The bill is moving through the legislature with public record of its progress.

FOLLOW THE MONEY

Pushing for it: Public safety, potentially law enforcement efforts to reduce crime.

Bearing the cost: Individuals or businesses selling firearm barrels, who might face compliance costs or penalties.

WHO'S BEHIND IT

Democrat-sponsored (OR / 11D)

HOW THEY VOTED

House • 2026-03-19 — failed

Yes 19R/3D • No 0R/39D

Record Keeping & Regulation of Sale of Firearm Barrel

Engrossed · recorded 2026-03-09

This bill would make new rules for selling gun barrels and create a crime for selling them wrong, to help keep people safe.

Everyday People

Official text (CO SB043) – <https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/SB26-043>

LegisScan – SB043 – <https://legiscan.com/CO/bill/SB043/2026>

Live status, community verdicts and how your own reps voted — www.obillerate.com/bill/co-sb043-094789

The Overtime Year Bill

Colorado's overtime tax would only last one year

CO SB056 • Work & Wages

8/10 **LIBERATE**
Helps everyday people



WHAT THIS MEANS FOR YOU

This bill would make sure that if Colorado taxes overtime pay, it only happens for one year, in 2026. This means people who work extra hours would not have to pay this special tax in other years. It could help workers keep more of their hard-earned money from overtime. Lawmakers are still deciding if this is the best way to handle taxes on extra work.

WHY IT SCORES 8/10 — THE RECEIPTS

- Accountability** (neutral) — No direct impact on accountability..
The bill focuses on tax duration, not oversight or responsibility.
- Rights & Protections** (helps) — Could protect workers' earnings from ongoing taxation..
By limiting the overtime tax to one year, it would protect future earnings from this...
- Who Bears the Cost** (helps) — Workers would pay less tax in the long run..
If the tax only applies for one year, workers would keep more of their overtime pay in...
- Process Transparency** (neutral) — Standard legislative process..
The bill has been introduced and assigned to committees, following typical legislative...

FOLLOW THE MONEY

- Pushing for it:** Overtime earners in Colorado
- Bearing the cost:** Colorado state government (less tax revenue)

WHO'S BEHIND IT

Republican-sponsored (2R / 0D)

HOW THEY VOTED

Senate • 2026-02-26 — passed
Yes 2R/1D • No 0R/2D

THE BILL ITSELF

State Overtime Compensation Income Tax

CO SB056

Introduced · recorded 2026-01-28

WHAT IT DOES

This bill would make a state tax on overtime pay happen only in 2026, which could mean less tax for workers later.

WHO IT'S WRITTEN FOR

Everyday People

READ IT YOURSELF

Official text (CO SB056) — <https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/SB26-056>

LegiScan — SB056 — <https://legiscan.com/CO/bill/SB056/2026>

Live status, community verdicts and how your own reps voted — www.obillerate.com/bill/co-sb056-101288

YOUR NOTES

The Income Homes Bill

Tax breaks for low-income homes could help families

CO HB1066 · Housing & Property

8/10 **LIBERATE**
Helps everyday people



WHAT THIS MEANS FOR YOU

This bill wants to make it cheaper to build homes for people who don't earn much money. If builders pay less in taxes, they might build more affordable apartments. This could help families find a good place to live that they can afford. But, when some properties don't pay taxes, other people or businesses might have to pay a little more to make up the difference, or the city might have less money for other things. People...

WHY IT SCORES 8/10 — THE RECEIPTS

- Accountability** (neutral) — Neutral.
The bill doesn't directly change how accountable anyone is.
- Rights & Protections** (helps) — Helps people.
It would help create more affordable housing, which supports people's right to a safe...
- Who Bears the Cost** (hurts) — Cost shifted.
Giving tax breaks means less money for the government, which could lead to other...
- Process Transparency** (neutral) — Neutral.
The bill's process is not described as more or less open than usual.

FOLLOW THE MONEY

Pushing for it: Developers of low-income rental property
Bearing the cost: Other taxpayers or public services

WHO'S BEHIND IT

Democrat-sponsored (OR / 3D)

HOW THEY VOTED

House · 2026-02-23 — passed
Yes 4R/7D · No 0R/0D

THE BILL ITSELF

Tax Exemptions Low Income Rental Property Development

CO HB1066

 Introduced · recorded 2026-01-21

WHAT IT DOES

This bill would let builders of affordable homes pay less in taxes, which could mean more places for families to live.

WHO IT’S WRITTEN FOR

Everyday People

READ IT YOURSELF

Official text (CO HB1066) — <https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/HB26-1066>

LegiScan — HB1066 — <https://legiscan.com/CO/bill/HB1066/2026>

Live status, community verdicts and how your own reps voted — www.obillerate.com/bill/co-hb1066-089162

YOUR NOTES

The License Plates Bill

Veterans could get free license plates for disability

CO HB1057 • Consumer Protection

8/10

LIBERATE

Helps everyday people



WHAT THIS MEANS FOR YOU

Veterans deserve support, and this bill would make it easier for them to afford vehicles. Now is the time to show your support for those who served.

WHY IT SCORES 8/10 — THE RECEIPTS

- Accountability (helps)** — Supports veterans financially.
The bill provides financial relief for veterans.
- Rights & Protections (helps)** — Enhances benefits for veterans.
Veterans gain access to vehicle registration without fees.
- Who Bears the Cost (neutral)** — Costs shifted to the state.
The state may lose fee revenue.

WHO'S BEHIND IT

Bipartisan sponsorship (1R / 2D)

HOW THEY VOTED

House · 2026-03-05 — passed
Yes 4R/7D · No 0R/0D

THE BILL ITSELF

Veteran Disability License Plates & Taxes & Fees

CO HB1057

 Introduced · recorded 2026-01-14

WHAT IT DOES

This bill would let veterans with disabilities register vehicles without paying fees, helping them save money.

WHO IT’S WRITTEN FOR

Everyday People

READ IT YOURSELF

Official text (CO HB1057) — <https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/HB26-1057>

LegiScan — HB1057 — <https://legiscan.com/CO/bill/HB1057/2026>

Live status, community verdicts and how your own reps voted — www.obillerate.com/bill/co-hb1057-080085

YOUR NOTES

The Workers Safe Bill

Colorado bill aims to keep workers safe on the job

CO HB1054 • Work & Wages

8/10 **LIBERATE**
Helps everyday people



WHAT THIS MEANS FOR YOU

This bill wants to make sure people are safe at work and don't get injured. It is important for everyone to have a safe place to earn money. While this bill passed one part of the legislature, it recently faced a vote in the Senate that did not pass with amendments. People who want safer jobs should pay attention as it continues to move through the legislature.

WHY IT SCORES 8/10 — THE RECEIPTS

- Accountability (helps)** — Employers would be more responsible for worker safety..
The bill aims to provide 'Protections for Worker Safety', suggesting increased employer...
- Rights & Protections (helps)** — Workers would have more protection from harm at work..
The bill's title and summary directly state its purpose is 'Protections for Worker...
- Who Bears the Cost (neutral)** — The bill does not specify who pays for new safety measures..
The official text does not provide details on financial implications or cost allocation...
- Process Transparency (neutral)** — No details provided on how this bill was created..
The provided text does not offer information regarding the transparency of the bill's...

FOLLOW THE MONEY

Pushing for it: Workers
Bearing the cost: Employers (potentially for new safety costs)

WHO'S BEHIND IT

Democrat-sponsored (OR / 22D)

HOW THEY VOTED

Senate • 2026-05-13 — failed
Yes 0R/17D • No 12R/6D

THE BILL ITSELF

Protections for Worker Safety

CO HB1054

Engrossed · recorded 2026-05-05

WHAT IT DOES

This bill would make workplaces safer for people, so they don't get hurt while doing their jobs.

WHO IT'S WRITTEN FOR

Workers

READ IT YOURSELF

Official text (CO HB1054) — <https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/HB26-1054>

LegiScan — HB1054 — <https://legiscan.com/CO/bill/HB1054/2026>

Live status, community verdicts and how your own reps voted — www.obillerate.com/bill/co-hb1054-080284

YOUR NOTES

The Removes Income Bill

Colorado bill removes age limit for earned income tax credit

CO HB1240 • Work & Wages

9/10 **LIBERATE**
Helps everyday people



WHAT THIS MEANS FOR YOU

This bill would help older people in Colorado keep more of the money they earn by letting them get a state tax credit. Right now, there's an age limit that stops some older workers from getting this money. If this bill passes, more people who work hard could get a little extra help. Some people might worry that this would mean the state has less money for other things. But supporters believe it's fair to give this credit to...

WHY IT SCORES 9/10 — THE RECEIPTS

- Accountability** (neutral) — No direct impact on government accountability..
The bill changes who can get a tax credit, not how the government is held responsible.
- Rights & Protections** (helps) — Expands access to a financial benefit for more people..
This bill would let more older workers get the state earned income tax credit, which...
- Who Bears the Cost** (helps) — More people could get money back from the state..
The state would give tax credits to more people, meaning more money stays with...
- Process Transparency** (neutral) — No specific transparency issues mentioned..
The bill is moving through the normal steps in the legislature.

FOLLOW THE MONEY

Pushing for it: Older workers in Colorado
Bearing the cost: Colorado state budget

WHO'S BEHIND IT

Democrat-sponsored (OR / 2D)

HOW THEY VOTED

House • 2026-03-16 — passed
Yes 0R/6D • No 4R/1D

THE BILL ITSELF

State Earned Income Tax Credit Age Limit

CO HB1240

Introduced · recorded 2026-02-18

WHAT IT DOES

This bill would let older people get a state tax credit, helping them keep more of the money they earn.

WHO IT'S WRITTEN FOR

Everyday People

READ IT YOURSELF

Official text (CO HB1240) — <https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/HB26-1240>

LegiScan — HB1240 — <https://legiscan.com/CO/bill/HB1240/2026>

Live status, community verdicts and how your own reps voted — www.obillerate.com/bill/co-hb1240-119985

YOUR NOTES

The Government Cannot Bill

Government cannot get your past location data

CO SB070 • Privacy & Data

9/10

LIBERATE

Helps everyday people



WHAT THIS MEANS FOR YOU

This bill would protect people's privacy. Without it, the government could get old records of where your phone has been, even if you did nothing wrong. This bill tries to keep that information private. It is important to watch this bill to make sure your location history stays safe from government eyes.

WHY IT SCORES 9/10 — THE RECEIPTS

Accountability (helps) — Curbs government overreach.

It would stop government groups from getting private location data without a good reason.

Rights & Protections (helps) — Protects personal privacy.

This bill would keep your past location information private from government access.

Who Bears the Cost (neutral) — No direct cost shift.

The bill does not say who would pay for anything new.

Process Transparency (neutral) — No specific transparency rules.

The bill does not talk about how transparent the process would be.

WHO'S BEHIND IT

Democrat-sponsored (1R / 16D)

HOW THEY VOTED

Senate • 2026-04-21 — passed

Yes 0R/4D • No 3R/0D

THE BILL ITSELF

Ban Government Access Historical Location Information Database

CO SB070

Introduced · recorded 2026-01-28

WHAT IT DOES

This bill would stop the government from looking at where you have been in the past, protecting your private information.

WHO IT'S WRITTEN FOR

Everyday People

READ IT YOURSELF

Official text (CO SB070) — <https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/SB26-070>

LegiScan — SB070 — <https://legiscan.com/CO/bill/SB070/2026>

Live status, community verdicts and how your own reps voted — www.obillerate.com/bill/co-sb070-100416

YOUR NOTES

The Celebrate Farm Bill

Colorado House wants a day to celebrate farm workers

CO HR1004 • Work & Wages

10/10 **LIBERATE**
Helps everyday people



WHAT THIS MEANS FOR YOU

This bill would create a special day to celebrate farm workers in Colorado. It's a way for the state to say 'thank you' to the people who grow our food. While it doesn't change any laws about pay or working conditions, it helps shine a light on the important role farm workers play. Some might say it's just a symbolic gesture, but for many, it's a sign of respect and recognition. It's important to support bills that recognize...

WHY IT SCORES 10/10 — THE RECEIPTS

- Accountability** (neutral) — No direct impact on accountability..
This bill is a resolution to celebrate, not to change legal accountability.
- Rights & Protections** (helps) — Recognizes an important group..
While it doesn't create new legal rights, it formally recognizes farm workers, which can...
- Who Bears the Cost** (neutral) — No direct financial costs..
The bill is a commemorative resolution and does not involve appropriations or cost shifts.
- Process Transparency** (neutral) — Standard legislative process for a resolution..
The bill was introduced and passed the House on the same day, which is quick, but common...

FOLLOW THE MONEY

- Pushing for it:** Farm workers (symbolic recognition)
- Bearing the cost:** No direct financial opposition

WHO'S BEHIND IT

Bipartisan sponsorship (16R / 41D)

HOW THEY VOTED

House • 2026-03-31 — passed
Yes 22R/40D • No 0R/0D

Farm Workers Day

Introduced · recorded 2026-03-31

This bill would make a special day each year to honor farm workers in Colorado, showing we care about their hard work.

Workers

Official text (CO HR1004) – <https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/HR26-1004>

LegisScan – HR1004 – <https://legiscan.com/CO/bill/HR1004/2026>

Live status, community verdicts and how your own reps voted — www.obillerate.com/bill/co-hr1004-139699



ABOUT THIS BOOK

Colorado Bill Book 2026

Published by Obillerate, an independent nonpartisan watchdog that reads and scores every bill in Congress and all 50 states on a single question: does it help everyday people, or the interests behind it? Every score in this book shows its reasoning, and every page links to the official text so you can check us.

HOW TO CITE THIS

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