



DENVER
THE MILE HIGH CITY

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Human Rights & Community Relations

Denver Women's Commission
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STATE LEGISLATION AFFECTING WOMEN

Bill #	Sponsor	Title	Com	Rated**
SIGNED INTO LAW				
6	Boyd	Identification Documents Reduce Poverty		+a,9,x,v,l,c,d
7	Hudak	Collaborative Mgmt Multi Agency Serv		+a,d
9	Sandoval	Economic Opportunity Task Force		+a,9
10	Boyd	Statewide Strategic Use Fund		+a
28	Heath	Work Share Program		+9,a,l,d,c
35	Newell	Retirement Plans Automatic Enrollment		
66	Hudak	Reporting of Child Abuse or Neglect		+s,d,v
68	Boyd	Colorado Works Streamlining Eligibility		+9,v
80	Newell	Protection Order Pers Animals		+v,l,d,w
128	Hudak	Invasion of Privacy		+s,v
140	Mitchell	Human Trafficking		+s,v,d
172	Steadman	Continuing Expiring Income Tax Checkoffs		+v,l,d
193	Hudak	Restraints Used on Pregnant Inmates		+o,l,9,k
1002	Kefalas	Priority of TABOR Refund Mechanisms		+a,l,9,t,e,w,i,d,c,u,x,v
1008	Shafer	No Gender Individual Health Insurance Rates		+n,l,p,w,9,g,i,d,b,h,u,O,k
1017	Kagan	Vol Agreement Affecting Rent Pvt Res Program		+a,d
1021	Frangas	Required Coverage Reproductive Services		+n,p,o,i,d,b,h,u,l,w,k
1022	Summers	Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Administration		+a,w,9,c,d
1023	Waller	Employer Liability Negligent Hiring		+a,j,g,c,d
1026	Solano	Quality Child Care Grant Incentive Program		+b,u,9,o
1028	Benefield	Early Childhood Universal Application		+o
1030	Penniston	Early Childhood Teacher Scholarship		
1035	Massey	Eligibility for Child Care Assistance Program		+a,g,w,d,9,x,l,c,o
1043	Apuan	Public Benefits Change AFDC References		
1097	Benefield	Temporary Injunction Child Custody Case		
1135	Ryden	Define Domestic Violence Child Custody		+v,l,d,w,o
1233	Ryden	Relocation of Stalking Statute		+v
1252	Primavera	Breast Cancer Screening With Mammography		+u,l,d
1277	DelGrosso	Sexual Conduct Correctional Facility		
1351	Ferrandino	Deferred Deposit Loans		+9,l,a,f,t,x,,c,j
1384	Lambert	Noncitizen Eligibility Old Age Pension		-l,c,w
1417	Peniston	Pay Equity Commission		+9,x,l,d
VETOED				
1364	Ryden	Sunset Sex Offender Mgt Board		
KILLED				
39	Carroll, M	Job Training Scholarship Program	hED	+c,9,a
113	Schultheis	First Degree Murder of a Fetus	sSA	-l,u,d,w,O,k
1040	Kerr, A	College Invest Lifelong Learning Saving	KILLED	+u
1248	Primavera	Safe Personal Care Products Act	hJUD	+l,9,u,g,d,o
1261	Bradford	Unborn Victims of Violence	hJUD	-u,w,O,k
1269	Levy	Workplace Fairness Civil Remedies	h2nd	+9,l,a,d,c,k
1397	Penniston	Employee Accrued Paid Sick time	hBUS	+9,l,a,o,d

*HHS=Health & Human Services; ED=Education; JUD=Judiciary; APP -Appropriations ; BLT=Business,Labor and Technology; SA=State Affairs; BUS=Business ; TRA = Transportation ; AGR= Agriculture; LG=Local Government ; FIN=Finance h=House s=Senate

**+=support, -=oppose

a=All Families Deserve a Chance (AFDC) Coalition ;b=Colorado Business Women; c=Colorado Social Legislation Committee; d=Denver Women's Commission; f= Colorado Women's Bar; g-Colo Coalition for Girls; h=Colo Consumer Health Initiative; i= Latina Initiative; j=Colo Criminal Justice Reform coalition; k= ACLU; l=Women's Lobby; n=NARAL ProChoice Colorado; o=COLOR; p= planned parenthood ; r=Women's Resource Agency; s=Colo Coalition Against Sexual Assault; t=Project Wise; u=AAUW; v=Colo Coalition Against Domestic Violence; w=Ntl Council Jewish Women; 9=9 to5 National Association of Working Women ;x=Women's Foundation

Updates of this sheet are available online at www.denvergov.org/women For more information about the status of any bill call the Bill Room at 303-866-3055 or online at <http://www.leg.state.co.us>. To correct or update this list, **to add information from your women's organization**, or for more information, contact Chaer Robert, Director, Denver Women's Commission, chaer.robert@denvergov.org or call 720-913-8465



Budget issues dominated the legislative discussion. The state has historic revenue shortfalls due to the bad economy—and will make more cuts to an already very lean State Government. American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (federal stimulus) monies are plugging some holes with enhanced Medicaid, education and other funding. ARRA dollars also carry requirements of maintenance of effort – prohibiting certain budget cuts at risk of losing large amounts of federal money. As these funds disappear over the next year and a half, Colorado not only loses federal funds, but certain programs will lose their federal protection against budget cuts. One approach to the budget shortfall is to eliminate certain tax credits and sales tax exemptions, thereby increasing revenues. This option is newly available (due to a court decision) to legislators who have run out of many other options. Those currently benefitting from tax credits made their best argument of why they should be continued. Continuing such credits was weighed against the impact of cuts the budget shortfall would otherwise require. About a dozen bills to eliminate or limit sales tax exemptions or tax credits were passed, which should recapture over \$100 million in lost revenues.

Poverty

SB 68- The State Department of Human Services will propose adjusting eligibility criteria for ColoradoWorks (TANF).

HB 1351- would cap interest on pay day loans at about 45% APR plus fees and extend the repayment period.

Legislation from the Economic Opportunity and Poverty Reduction Task Force includes.

HB1002- Restore the State Earned Income Tax Credit for the working poor to first place as Tabor refund mechanism. In 2005, an additional temporary reduction in the income tax rate bumped the EITC from first place, which could add years to the wait for an EITC return. Those who do not earn enough to owe federal taxes get no benefit from permanent or temporary reductions in the income tax rate. They would benefit from the EITC. Revenue projections are low enough that no TABOR refunds are expected for the next few years. But in a way, that could make this a good time to take this action.

HB1023- Eliminate one barriers to employment for ex-felons. Legislation would clarify the limits employer liability for actions of employees who are ex-felons.

SB 10-Evaluate the effective of the Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) \$10 million/year Strategic Use Fund.

SB 9- Spell out evaluation measures for the Economic Opportunity and Poverty Reduction Task Force.

SB 6- Address some of problems and cost barriers to obtaining and using a Colorado I.D.

HB 1017- Clarify that local governments can enter into contracts with a developer to provide affordable units in a proposed development in exchange for supports or waivers.

HB 1022- Eliminate the asset test for food stamps. Expand outreach to people eligible who are not applying. (About half of eligible people do not apply).

Workplace

SB 28 – Allow employers to save jobs by allowing prorated unemployment compensation for those whose hours are reduced versus laid off.

HB 1269 – Adds compensatory and punitive damages to the list of remedies in cases of employment discrimination. Extends coverage to smaller workplaces of 15 or less.

Health

HB 1008- Eliminate gender discrimination in the pricing of individual health insurance policies.

HB 1021- Insurers offering individual accident and sickness insurance will be required to offer maternity coverage. Insurers offering individual and group accident and sickness insurance policies will also have to cover contraceptive.

HB 1043- Certain Family Medicaid eligibility qualifications maybe be updated and altered from the 1996 AFDC standards including income disregards.

HB 1248 – Would have banned manufacturers from selling personal care products containing known or probable carcinogens or reproductive toxins.

HB 1397 – Would have required that employees could accrue paid sick days, up to 9 per year for large businesses, up to 5 per year for smaller businesses (smaller than 10 employees.)

Child Care

HB 1035- Allow 12 month continuous eligibility for Colorado Child Care Assistance Program, so that parents and those working with parents have time to troubleshoot problems without disrupting the child.

Violence Against Women

SB 80-- Protections for animals in civil protection orders.

SB 66- Clarify that mandatory reporting of past child abuse does not apply if the victim is now an adult.

HB 1135 - Update definition of spousal abuse in civil law related to parenting time.

For corrections, updates or more information, contact Chaer Robert at 720-913-8465 or chaer.robert@denvergov.org