



CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER

AGENCY FOR HUMAN RIGHTS
AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS

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DENVER WOMEN'S COMMISSION

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John W. Hickenlooper
Mayor

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STATE LEGISLATION AFFECTING WOMEN

<u>Bill #</u>	<u>Sponsor</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Rated**</u>
<u>Referred to Ballot</u>			
1344	Plant	Domestic Partners	+v,9,l,d
<u>SIGNED INTO LAW</u>			
12	Isgar	Family Resource Centers Fund	+l,b,g,c
22	Kester	Sexually Violent Predators	+b
44	Hagedorn	Health Care Services to Low-Income Adults	+b***g,c,a
45	Williams	Family Child Care Home Investigation	+a
90	Weins	Prohibit Illegal Immigration Sanctuaries	-l,d,g,v,9
134	Sandoval	Eliminate TANF Asset Test	+a,9,d,l,b,g,w,v,c
135	Owen	Pregnant Women Child Basic Health Plan	+d,l,9
201	Veiga	Co Domestic Abuse Program Check-Off	+v,d,l
206	Groff	Human Smuggling	
207	Groff	Human Trafficking	+v,d
1054	Plant	HIV & AIDS Prevention	+d
1066	Boyd	Private Child Support Collection Agency	+a,l,b,9
1151	Hefley	Felony Child Abuse	-v,i***
1153	Berens	Enhancements Sex Offender Registry	+b,v
1169	Decker	Limit Access Records Domestic Case	+v
1200	Buescher	Low Income Energy Assistance	+d,g,9
1267	Reisberg	Child Support Revisions	
1334	Clapp	Parent Child Evaluation Confidential	+v
1351	Rose	Teen Pregnancy Dropout Prevention	
1364	Madden	Stalking via Private Investigator	+v,d
<u>BECAME LAW W/O SIGNATURE</u>			
1249	Judd	Pregnant Minor Authorize Medical Care	+d
<u>VETOED</u>			
81	Veiga	Sexual Orientation Employment Disc	+d,l,b,g,w,9,c
1212	Boyd	Prescribing Emergency Contraception	+d,n,p,l,b,g,w,v,c
<u>KILLED</u>			
66	Groff	Parental Involvement K-12 Education	Conc +9,a,l,w,c,d
99	Evans	Vaccines Mercury Pregnant Women & Children	Shhs +b,g,c
143	Fitz-Gerald	Statute Limitations Civil Sexual Conduct	S2nd +s
167	Hanna	Workplace Action Breastfeeding Mothers	S2nd +d,9
1022	Clapp	Divorce Waiting Period	Hjud -v
1062	Welker	Citizenship Data in Public k-12 Schools	Hsa -l,g,9
1090	Green	Sex Offenders	Conf +s
1110	Clapp	Procedures Relating to Custody Cases	Hjud
1128	Schultheis	First Degree Murder of a Fetus	Hjud -l,b,d,g,w,c
1134	Schultheis	Law Enforcement Immigration Activities	Hsa -l,d,g,9
1166	Judd	Intercept Gambling Winning to Pay Debts	H2nd +v
1245	Borodkin	Bonds for State Procurement Contracts	Hbus
1327	Carbo	Alternative Base Period Pilot	H2nd +9,d,l,b,v,c
1333	Merrifield	Landlord Tenant Relations	Hbus

*HHS=Health & Human Services; ED=Education; JUD=Judiciary; APP -Appropriations ; BLT=Business,Labbor and Technology; BUS-Business Affairs and Labor ;lg= local government; sa=State Affairs; trans=transportation h=House s=Senate

+=support, -=oppose *position taken before rewriting or amending of bill

a=AFDC Coalition ; b=Business and Professional Women; c=Colorado Women's Agenda; d=Denver Women's Commission; g=Latina Initiative; ; i=DVI for Women with Disabilities; l=Women's Lobby; v=Colo Coalition Against Domestic Violence; w=league of Women Voters; 9= 9to5 Ntl Assn Working Women.

If your women's organization has taken a position on any of these bills, add its name to this list by contacting Chaer Robert at 720-913-8465 or fax 720-913-8470 or email robert@ci.denver.co.us. To identify your representative and senator, call your County Clerk's office or online at www.vote-smart.org. Denver residents call 720-913-8656. Updates of this 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>.

Most legislators breathed a huge sigh of relief with the passage of **Referendum C**. Without it, they would have spent agonizing months cutting over \$400 million out of the State Budget. Expect sparks over allocation of the additional revenue. Expenditure of the money is guided by last years HB 1350 and HB 1194. As advertised by the Vote Yes on C-D campaign the extra estimated \$3.1 billion would be divided this way:

- 30% K-12 Schools
- 30% Health Care – Increasing caseload and costs are expected to consume most of this
- 30% Community Colleges and State Colleges
- 10% Repayment of Referendum D Bonds on roads and bridges, K-12 school repairs, higher education building repairs, and fire and police pension funding. Since Referendum D failed, one could expect this 10% to be used for these items on a pay as you go basis.

As proposed by the Joint Budget Committee the largest numbers of dollars will go to:

- \$25 million Special Education – k-12
- \$25 million alleviate high education tuition costs
- \$20 million forensics unit for criminally mentally ill
- \$15 preschool enrollment slots
- \$14.5 million higher education building maintenance
- \$14 million – Indigent Medical Care Program costs
- \$20 million --Giardino law suit settlement payment – school build repair
- \$10 million – Medicaid home health provider rate increase
- \$10 million – services for developmentally disabled
- \$6 million – treatment for indigent mentally ill

PUBLIC ASSISTANCE -- The Asset Test for Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) and many other public assistance programs has been \$2000. Most of the very poor have no assets at all, but with the growth of 401Ks, Health Savings Accounts, refund splitting and other saving vehicles, some must choose between receiving benefits and depleting all savings and assets, or trying to hang onto small assets and not getting help. SB 134 excludes such retirement and long term savings vehicles and raises allowable assets to up to \$15,000.

EMERGENCY CONTRACEPTION – HB 1212 would give pharmacists the right to proscribe Emergency Contraception.

PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT K-12 EDUCATION Originally, SB 66 would allow up to 30 hours per year unpaid leave from a job for a parent to attend academic related school activities. Now it requires employers of 25 or more to have parental leave policies.

EMPLOYMENT DISCRIMINATION—SB 81 would add "sexual orientation" and "gender variance" to classes protected from job discrimination.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE – Only 27% of unemployed Colorado women get unemployment insurance. Colorado ranks 50th in the % of unemployed workers who get UI. One barrier is the formula for calculating minimum work requirements. Changing the Alternative Base period would prevent some unemployed workers from having to wait an additional 3 months before receiving benefits by allowing consideration of work worked in the previous four quarters, rather than the four quarters before the previous quarter; particularly helpful for more recent entrants into the workforce.

HOUSING – HB 1333- a pared-down version of last year's tenant/landlord bill- was introduced and killed. It included the most basic provisions, such as requiring the tenants receive a copy of their lease, that security deposits be returned within a month, and that tenants be informed of their rights under eviction.

LOW INCOME FAMILIES & INDIVIDUALS -- SB 1200 allocates excess severance taxes to help pay utility bills for low income folks.

HEALTH— SB 44 This interim committee legislation initially increased primary care grants by \$7.5 million for community clinics serving those below 100% of the poverty level with chronic illnesses. It also would have expanded Medicaid to include parents of Medicaid children to 100% of the poverty level. As rewritten , it expands the Colorado Indigent Care Program to cover those up to 250% of federal poverty level rather than the current 200%. SB 135 would provide bridge funding for last year's decision to raise the eligibility for prenatal care under Child Health plan to mothers under 200% of FPL.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE –HB 1364 prohibits stalking behavior through use of a private investigator. SB 201 extends for ten years the voluntary income tax checkoff for services to victims of domestic violence. Concern that a victim of domestic violence could be charged with emotional abuse of a child for allowing the child to witness domestic violence has led to opposition of the definition of emotional abuse of a child in HB 1151.

IMMIGRANT ISSUES – Expect a fall ballot measure requiring verification of citizenship status prior to receiving government services. SB 206 makes human smuggling a class 3 felony; SB 207 makes human trafficking a class 3 felony. Two bills SB 90 and HB 1134 require police to check immigration status, which can chill relations between the police and immigrant communities and reduce the likelihood that a women would report the crime out of fear of her own deportation or that of friends or family. This would make it easier to victimize undocumented women, or women with undocumented family members.

