

PREVENTING GUN VIOLENCE AND IMPROVING PUBLIC SAFETY



Preventing Crime by Reducing Recidivism and Improving Public Safety

To promote efficacy and equity in the criminal justice system, we increased the number of judges, public defenders, and other court professionals across Colorado ([SB25-024](#)) and passed legislation to recognize tribal court orders and arrest warrants in state courts to improve consistency across our justice system ([SB25-009](#)). We passed legislation to limit the possession of firearms for repeat offenders of motor vehicle theft ([HB25-1171](#)). To proactively reduce recidivism and prevent further crime, we passed legislation to protect the right to visitation ([HB25-1013](#)) and better identify outstanding warrants ([HB25-1116](#)).

Additionally, we took steps to reduce recidivism among young people by eliminating burdensome administrative court fees for justice-involved youth, investing in preventative and community-focused programs, creating opportunities for at-risk youth to avoid involvement with the criminal justice system, and allowing more flexibility for bed use in juvenile detention centers ([HB25-1294](#)) ([HB25-1146](#)) ([SB25-197](#)).

Uplifting Victims and Survivors

Colorado Democrats put victims and survivors at the forefront of their pursuit for justice by strengthening protections for victims of sexual misconduct ([HB25-1138](#)), safeguarding secure housing for survivors of gender-based violence ([HB25-1168](#)), ensuring agency for survivors of sexual assault and their children ([HB25-1185](#)), and improving protections for whistleblowers in law enforcement ([HB25-1031](#)). We also created a private right of action for victims of sexually explicit deepfakes, or “revenge porn,” and updated crimes around exploitation of a child and posting of private images ([SB25-288](#)).

Additionally, we addressed the unacceptable backlog in DNA evidence processing at the Colorado Bureau of Investigation (CBI) by accelerating the timeliness of sexual assault evidence kit testing ([SB25-105](#)), increasing transparency and oversight of that process ([SB25-170](#)), and establishing clear procedures for reporting future misconduct in Colorado crime labs ([HB25-1275](#)). We also added a dedicated test kit coordinator position within CBI ([SB25-304](#)).

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Gun Violence Prevention

2025 was a landmark year in the effort to prevent gun violence in Colorado. We passed historic legislation to enforce Colorado's high-capacity magazine ban ([SB25-003](#)), create safeguards on ammunition purchases ([HB25-1133](#)), and improve security at gun shows ([HB25-1238](#)).

Colorado Democrats also took steps to crack down on firearm theft by passing laws to increase penalties for firearm theft ([HB25-1062](#)) and more easily identify stolen firearms and illegal sellers ([SB25-205](#)).

Further, we took proactive measures to curb firearm deaths by passing laws to prevent suicides by enabling people to voluntarily waive their own right to purchase a firearm when in a state of mental or emotional distress ([SB25-034](#)), boost funding for state response to mass shootings ([SB25-059](#)), and make gun violence prevention education more accessible to Colorado youth and their parents ([HB25-1250](#)).

Improving Transportation and Fire Safety

Every Coloradan deserves to feel safe on their roads, in the criminal justice system, and in their communities. To ensure road safety, Colorado Democrats passed legislation to expand access to traction devices that improve winter road safety ([SB25-069](#)) and ensure safety for drivers and users of ride share companies like Uber and Lyft ([HB25-1291](#)).

Additionally, we bolstered protections for transit workers to increase safety across the transportation sector ([HB25-1290](#)).