



2026 POLICY AGENDA



Public Safety



1. Increase Penalties for Fentanyl Dealers

Colorado's current laws are far too lenient on fentanyl dealers. Under current law, a dealer can sell up to 50 grams of fentanyl— which contains nearly 25,000 lethal doses –and still not be sentenced to mandatory jail time. As a result, dealers carrying enough fentanyl to end thousands of lives are receiving punishments that are disproportionately light compared to the severity of their crime. Colorado needs a solution that holds fentanyl dealers accountable with tougher penalties while ensuring people struggling with addiction receive mandated, compassionate treatment.

2. Cracking Down on Retail & Auto Theft

Retail & auto thefts are often repeat offenses and frequently committed by dangerous gangs, creating a cycle that not only drives up costs for consumers, but also strains law enforcement resources, shuts down local businesses, and removes access to basic goods from the poorest Coloradans. To reverse this trend, Colorado lawmakers should take organized theft and auto theft seriously and increase penalties to ensure offenders face real consequences.

3. Mandatory Jail for Child Predators

Colorado law currently allows child predators, including both child rapists and those who solicit sex with children, to be eligible for a probation-only sentence. With our state ranking 11th in the nation for sex offenses, instituting mandatory sentencing minimums for child predators is necessary for protecting children and adequately punishing these predators.

4. No Sanctuary for Violent and Repeat Criminals

Current laws restrict local law enforcement from communicating with the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) when someone who is here illegally is charged with a violent crime or a repeat offense. In order to keep our communities safe, stronger coordination between local law enforcement and DHS should be required when it comes to violent and repeat criminals.



Education



5. Protecting School Choice & Parental Rights

School choice is a pillar in Colorado's education system, and it's key to addressing the different circumstances of families across our state. Every attempt to weaken parental rights or limit educational options, including charter schools, is an affront to Colorado families and should be firmly rejected. The right to school choice should be cemented in our laws.

6. Prioritizing Students and Teachers in Colorado's Education Budget

Despite record-high education funding levels, teacher pay has stagnated, classrooms remain under-resourced, and students continue to face larger class sizes with fewer learning supports. To truly strengthen education in Colorado and improve outcomes, we must ensure that a higher percentage of money dedicated to education goes into classrooms and towards the teachers who make learning possible.

TABOR/Economic



7. Rejecting the Progressive Income Tax

A proposed switch from Colorado's flat income tax to a progressive system would create the largest tax hike in state history, letting lawmakers keep \$4.1 billion more each year and exempting those funds from TABOR limits—effectively giving them a blank check with no taxpayer protections. A progressive income tax system is not right for Colorado, and should be rejected.

8. Defending TABOR

The Taxpayer's Bill of Rights has bipartisan support, with 70% of Coloradans in favor. Any legislative attempt to repeal TABOR through a lawsuit should be rejected, and the recent unconstitutional tax on overtime pay should be repealed. Together, citizens must protect TABOR's limit on state revenue and its promise to let voters decide on taxes.

9. Fee Reform

Fee revenue has skyrocketed by 3,400% over the past two decades, making Colorado continuously less affordable for families. The legislature should prioritize repealing unnecessary taxes disguised as fees, clearly define fees, and strengthen TABOR by putting proposed fees to a statewide vote.

Mental Health



10. Addressing Colorado's Mental Health Crisis

Colorado law requires charges against offenders to be dropped if they are considered permanently mentally incompetent. The criminal and civil commitment statutes must be amended so violent criminals are not released back to the community where they continue to be a public danger and commit repeat offenses.