



State Representative Dylan Roberts
H.D. 26 - Eagle County & Routt County
Legislative Review – 73rd General Assembly, 2021



Quick Stats:

- 19 Bills introduced as a prime sponsor
- 18 of 19 bills were **PASSED** and signed into law
- 18 out of 19 bills had bipartisan support
- 8 Town Hall meetings in HD26 so far in 2021

Passed Bills:

HOUSE BILLS:

[HB21-1027](#): Continue Alcohol Beverage Takeout & Delivery at Restaurants

[My bill](#) allowing takeout and delivery of alcoholic beverages was passed as part of the COVID package in 2020 but without intervention, it is set to repeal on July 1, 2021. Because it has worked so well and proved to be a vital source of extra revenue for restaurants facing capacity restraints due to COVID, this law extends that ability until 2025.

Prime Sponsors: Reps. Larson (R), Roberts (D) & Sens. Bridges (D), Priola (R)

Status: **SIGNED** into law by Governor Polis.

Related article: [Gov. Polis signs to-go alcohol bill into law at Northside Kitchen in Avon](#)
via Vail Daily

[HB21-1057](#): Preventing Extortion of Immigrants Engaging in Lawful Acts

The current definition of criminal extortion already includes the practice of threatening to disclose a person's immigration status to law enforcement in order to force them to give up something of value. [HB21-1057](#) expands this definition to include coercing another person to either engage in or refrain from engaging in what would otherwise be a legal act, like reporting a crime. This expanded definition would address crimes of wage theft, domestic violence, and other instances where a person's immigration status is used to prevent them from reporting a crime.

Prime Sponsors: Reps. Roberts (D), Tipper (D) & Sens. Cooke (R), Rodriguez (D)

Status: **SIGNED** into law by Governor Polis.

Related article: [Esquina Legal: Cambiando la Ley de Extorsión en Colorado](#) via Sopris Sun

HB21-1069: Enforcement of Sexual Exploitation of A Child

This bill updates the child pornography statute to reflect modern technology so we can protect more children from these heinous crimes and more effectively prosecute those who exploit children.

Prime Sponsors: Reps. Carver (R), Roberts (D) & Sens. Fields (D), Gardner (R)

Status: **PASSED**, sent to Governor Polis for signature.

Related article: [Colorado's child pornography laws have a major loophole and criminals are slipping through the cracks](#) via Colorado Sun

HB21-1232: Colorado Health Insurance Option

The Standardized Health Benefit Plan (the Colorado Option) is a plan to bring more affordable health insurance options to Coloradans in every county of the state. Insurance carriers will offer the Colorado Option, a plan that is more affordable and accessible, but still delivers the same great quality of care, than the alternatives currently offered by private health insurance companies—adding competition to the market and lowering not only premiums, but out-of-pocket costs. This means cheaper insurance for families, employees, and small businesses. The Colorado Option is a choice, not a mandate, and purchasing it will be up to the consumer.

Prime Sponsors: Reps. Roberts (D), Jodeh (D) & Sen. Donovan (D)

Status: **SIGNED** into law by Governor Polis.

Related Article: [‘Colorado option’ to lower insurance costs headed to governor’s desk](#) via Vail Daily

HB21-1233: Conservation Easement Tax Credit Modifications

The bill makes modifications to the conservation easement tax credit program and expands opportunities for land conservation in our state.

Prime Sponsors: Reps. Will (R), Roberts (D) & Sens. Donovan (D), Winter (D)

Status: **SIGNED** into law by Governor Polis.

[HB21-1249](#): Repeal Gaming City Audit Requirement

The bill repeals a requirement that the state auditor conduct audits of the portion of the limited gaming fund that is transferred to the state historical fund for the preservation and restoration of the cities of Central, Black Hawk, and Cripple Creek.

Prime Sponsors: Reps. Roberts (D), Michaelson Jenet (D), & Sens. Rodriguez, Smallwood

Status: **SIGNED** into law by Governor Polis.

[HB21-1263](#): Meeting and Events Incentive Program

The bill creates the Colorado Meeting and Events Incentive Program in the Colorado Tourism Office to provide support for personal events, such as weddings or family reunions, and for events such as meetings, conferences, or festivals. Eligible personal events must occur between July 1, 2021, and December 31, 2021; other eligible events must occur between July 1, 2021, and December 31, 2022. To be eligible, events must generate at least 25 paid overnight stays in a hotel or vacation rental, demonstrate significant economic benefit to a host community, and meet any additional criteria established by the tourism office.

Prime Sponsors: Reps. Soper (R), Roberts (D) & Sens. Hisey (R), Rodriguez (D)

Status: **SIGNED** into law by Governor Polis

Related article: [Colorado bill would give rebate to event organizers](#) via Denver7

[HB21-1307](#): Prescription Insulin Pricing And Access

This bill builds on the first-in-the-nation insulin co-pay cap law we passed in 2019 by helping those who are uninsured or underinsured with two programs:

1. Provides eligible individuals access to one emergency prescription insulin supply within a 12-month period at a cost not to exceed \$35 for a 30-day supply; and
2. Creates the insulin affordability program in the division of insurance through which eligible individuals may obtain prescription insulin for 12 months at a cost of not more than \$50 for a 30-day supply.

Prime Sponsors: Rep. Roberts (D) & Sens. Donovan (D), Jaquez-Lewis (D)

Status: **SIGNED** into law by Governor Polis.

Related Article: [Bill would fix hole in Colorado's first-in-the-nation insulin price cap, help people still paying high costs](#) via The Denver Post

[HB21-1309](#): Criminal Trial Continuances COVID-19 Pandemic

Due to COVID-19, thousands of trials across the state could not happen because a jury could not be safely assembled. There now exists a historic backlog of trials that will take quite some time to resolve so this bill allows trials to be delayed rather than dismissed so that defendants and victims can have their day in court.

Prime Sponsors: Reps. Roberts (D), Carver (R) & Sens. Lee (D), Gardner (R)

Status: **SIGNED** into law by Governor Polis.

Related Article: [As courts face unprecedented trial backlog, Colorado lawmakers debate bill to help](#) via The Denver Channel

[HB21-1324](#): Promote Innovative and Clean Energy Technologies

The bill incentivizes investor-owned utilities to develop zero-emission and innovative energy technology projects in the communities undergoing a transition from coal-based energy production, like Hayden.

Prime Sponsors: Rep. Roberts (D), Pelton (R) & Sens. Hisey (R), Rodriguez (D)

Status: **SIGNED** into law by Governor Polis.

SENATE BILLS:

[SB21-012](#): Hiring Former Inmates to be Wildland Firefighters

SB21-012 ensures that previously incarcerated people will be considered for positions on wildland firefighting teams if they were trained and deployed as firefighters while incarcerated. In addition to adding this exception, the bill directs the Division of Fire Prevention and Control (DFPC) to develop materials to increase awareness of wildland fire career opportunities for those who received training in the State Wildland Inmate Fire Team (SWIFT) program, and encourages the Division to hire SWIFT graduates.

Prime Sponsors: Sen. Donovan & Rep. Roberts

Status: **SIGNED** into law by Governor Polis.

Related article: [Colorado's prison firefighters have a bridge to permanent employment under new law](#) via Denver Post

SB21-040: Driver's History Profession Or Occupation Decision

The bill limits *the conditions under which* the appropriate regulatory authority in the department of revenue and the department of regulatory agencies may use a driver's history to make certain decisions about a license, permit, certification, or registration that is necessary to practice an occupation or profession or to operate a business. *Felonies and misdemeanors are excluded from the meaning of "driver's history"*.

Prime Sponsors: Sens. Scott, Gonzalez & Reps. Roberts, Rich

Status: **SIGNED** into law by Governor Polis.

SB21-060: Expand Broadband Service

The bill dedicates up to fifteen million dollars of federal broadband money from the American Rescue Plan to go to rural and underserved Coloradans. These dollars are provided by the federal government specifically for broadband but the state determines how to appropriate them and this bill ensures that rural Coloradans and low-income Coloradans are not left behind and can have equitable access to a reliable internet connection.

Prime Sponsors: Sen. Donovan & Rep. Roberts

Status: **SIGNED** into law by Governor Polis.

SB21-094: Continue State Board of Pharmacy

The bill continues the State Board of Pharmacy for nine years, until September 1, 2030. In addition, the bill adjusts the types of pharmacists that are included on the board, aligns state statute with the federal Drug Quality and Security Act, and modifies the board's authority to inspect certain facilities. The bill also includes various changes to the scope of practice for pharmacy professionals and the regulation of certain medical facilities.

Prime Sponsors: Sens. Ginal (D) Winter (D) & Reps. Roberts (D) Ortiz (D)

Status: **SIGNED** into law by Governor Polis.

SB21-198: Repeal Capital Construction Education Fund Report Requirement

The bill repeals a requirement that the state auditor annually report uses of state education fund money for school capital construction to the education committees of the senate and the house of representatives, the legislative audit committee, and the joint budget committee of the general assembly.

Prime Sponsors: Sens. Smallwood (R) Rodriguez (D) & Reps. Roberts (D), Bockenfeld (R)
Status: **SIGNED** into law by Governor Polis.

[SB21-279](#): Delinquent Interest Payments Property Tax

The bill allows a board of county commissioners or a city council of a city and county, upon approval of the county treasurer, to temporarily reduce, waive, or suspend delinquent interest payments for property tax payments for any period of time between June 16, 2021, and September 30, 2021.

Prime Sponsors: Sens. Story (D) Simpson (R) & Reps. Roberts (D), Valdez (D)
Status: **SIGNED** into law by Governor Polis.

[SB21-271](#): Misdemeanor Reform

The bill implements misdemeanor and petty offense sentencing reforms recommended by the Sentencing Reform Task Force of the Colorado Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice.

Prime Sponsors: Sens. Gonzales (D), Gardner (R), & Reps. Roberts (D), Gonzales-Gutierrez (D)

Status: **SIGNED** into law by Governor Polis.

[SB21-291](#): Economic Recovery And Relief Cash Fund

SB21-291 passed the House 53-11 after passing the Senate unanimously. The bill creates the Economic Recovery and Relief Cash Fund to respond to the economic impacts of the pandemic. It allocates \$848 million for economic stimulus and relief initiatives that will be recommended through a robust interim committee process involving a diverse set of stakeholders from across the state. Additionally, it directs \$40 million to the Strategic Fund in the Office of Economic Development and International Trade in order to incentivize companies to create jobs in Colorado and small businesses to relocate to rural Colorado.

Prime Sponsors: Sens. Holbert (R), Fenberg (D) & Reps. Roberts (D), Van Winkle (R)
Status: **SIGNED** into law by Governor Polis.

SB21-033: Conservation Easement Working Group Proposals

The bill changes to the Conservation Easement Tax Credit program to create a new transferable tax credit for previously disallowed tax credits and an ombudsman and arbitration process to resolve disputes concerning the distribution of the credit among affected parties. The bill reduces state revenue and increases state expenditures on an ongoing basis.

Prime Sponsors: Sens. Sonnenberg (R), Winter (D) & Reps. Roberts (D), Will (R)

Status: Passed Senate but Postponed Indefinitely by House Appropriations Committee

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