

2026

ACLU
Colorado

Legislative Recap

From the expansion of government surveillance to constitutional rights abuses by federal officials and more, Coloradans have continued to face extraordinary threats to their civil rights and liberties. The 2026 legislative session was a critical opportunity for our leaders to push back against these threats and attacks.

While this was a challenging session, I am proud of our work. Our team, along with our partners,

In community,



— **Anaya Robinson** (*he/him*), Public Policy Director

legislative champions, and community members, fought hard to enact critical protections and challenge bad bills that would infringe on our constitutional rights.

We remain committed to fighting for the freedoms we cherish so dearly. In the months ahead, we'll celebrate our victories and reflect on the lessons learned in preparation for 2027 and beyond.



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Policy Counsel
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Priority Legislation

The ACLU of Colorado policy team worked on 79 bills in key areas, including data privacy and AI, criminal legal reform, reining in government overreach, and more. Our priority bills this session included:

HB26-1037: FOURTH AMENDMENT IS NOT FOR SALE ACT

The Fourth Amendment is Not for Sale Act (FAINFSA) would have prohibited government entities from purchasing private personal data from third parties unless they have a judicial warrant, subpoena, court order, individual consent, or if there is an emergency. An amended version of the bill would have made FAINFSA a referred ballot measure.

Indefinitely postponed by the House Judiciary Committee.

HB26-1039: UPDATED MUNICIPAL JAIL STANDARDS

Beginning July 1, 2027, municipal jails must comply with current county jail standards. This means that all jails in Colorado will be required to provide similar access to food, health care, legal services, and more. Municipal jails will also have to comply with existing jail data collection requirements. This law also strengthens protections for pregnant people in jail.

Signed by Governor Polis.

SB26-176: NO KINGS ACT

The No Kings Act would have allowed people to sue federal officials acting under color of law for federal constitutional rights violations. This would have closed a long-standing accountability loophole, as current law only allows people to sue local and state officials for violating the U.S. Constitution.

Postponed indefinitely by the Senate Judiciary Committee.

Additional Bills

2026 Legislative Session
By the Numbers

SB26-189: CONSUMER PROTECTIONS FOR ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Beginning January 1, 2027, companies must disclose when they use AI or other “automated decision-making technologies” in consequential decisions. This includes housing, lending, employment, and more. The law also allows developers (tech companies) to be brought into lawsuits alongside the employer, education provider, landlord, etc. if discrimination occurs when these tools are used.

Signed by Governor Polis.

SB26-070 AND SB26-071: REINING IN FLOCK AND OTHER SURVEILLANCE TECHNOLOGIES

SB26-070 would have prohibited a government entity from accessing a database of someone’s location history, with exceptions, setting guardrails on the use of automated license plate readers from companies like Flock Safety. SB26-071 would have set additional restrictions on the use of most surveillance technologies, like drones and other types of video and audio surveillance, by law enforcement.

SB26-070 was postponed indefinitely by the Senate on second reading. SB26-071 was postponed indefinitely by the Senate Judiciary Committee.

SB26-097: DECRIMINALIZE SEX WORK

This bill would have removed criminal penalties for commercial sexual activity between consenting adults, restoring trust between local law enforcement, public health authorities, and sex workers.

Postponed by the Senate Judiciary Committee.

ACLU staff testifying on bills	3
Number of bills ACLU testified on	25
1:1 meetings with legislators	420
Number of times ACLU testified	36
Total partner organizations	106
Coalition/taskforce meetings	108
Smart Justice bills	27
Privacy and Liberty bills	31
Systemic Equality bills	18
Firewall for Freedom bills	3
Support bills passed	28
Support bills failed	15
Oppose bills passed	5
Oppose bills failed	14



Senators Nick Hinrichsen and Lisa Cutter in Senate Judiciary Committee on March 11, 2026

LOOK AHEAD

In the months to come, both the ACLU of Colorado policy and advocacy departments will collaborate to assess how anticipated ballot measures will impact both previous and future work at the state legislature. The ACLU of Colorado will also be closely monitoring election results to determine how new state officials, including governor, attorney general, secretary of state, and other lawmakers, will influence dynamics at the state capitol in future legislative sessions.



- 1: Sex worker advocates at a Senate Judiciary Committee hearing on March 11, 2026.
- 2: Rep. Michael Carter at a House Judiciary Committee hearing on March 4, 2026.
- 3: Advocates at ACLU of Colorado's Lobby Day on March 10, 2026.

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