

2025 State Legislative Priorities

Food Sovereignty

Advancing equitable access to healthy, affordable, and culturally affirming food as a basic human right. And, ensuring that Colorado communities have the power to choose what they eat, where it comes from, how it's grown, and when it's available.

✓ ENACTED: [HB25-1059](#), Food Waste Reduction in Public Schools

Lead(s): Rep. Weinberg

What this law does:

- Encourages school districts to adopt policies to reduce food waste in schools.
- Extends immunity from civil and criminal liability to school personnel and school districts that supervise any food or beverage distribution programs.

Who this law impacts:

- School districts and school personnel
- Kids, parents, and local community members
- Local nonprofits

What changes this law makes:

- Addresses food waste through initiatives such as composting and share tables that allow students to return foods or beverages they do not want for it to be redistributed to other students or donations to local nonprofits.

✓ ENACTED: [HB25-1166](#), Efforts to Reduce Food Waste

Lead(s): Rep. Feret (sponsor) w/ help from Food Rescue Alliance, We Don't Waste, Colorado Blueprint to End Hunger and others

What this law does:

- Requires the Department of Public Health and Environment to provide annual training for retailers on food waste prevention and reduction.
- Develops food waste reduction guidelines and creates pathways for food establishments to donate or resell safe food.
- Allows grocery stores to freeze hot foods for purchase by SNAP recipients.

Who this law impacts:

- Food retailers, including grocery stores, restaurants, and food pantries/banks.
- Consumers, food rescue organizations, and SNAP recipients.

What changes this law makes:

- Establishes official guidelines for reducing food waste.





COLORADO BLUEPRINT TO END HUNGER

Nutrition Program Administration

Ensuring every Coloradan who is eligible for and wanting to receive benefits is able to, in a way that is equitable, timely, and without shame or stigma.

✓ ENACTED: [SB25-169](#), Restaurant Meals Program

Lead(s): Colorado Blueprint to End Hunger

What this law does:

- Requires the Colorado Department of Human Services (CDHS) to submit a request by Jan. 1, 2026 to the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) for authority to run the Restaurant Meals program.
- The program allows certain groups receiving SNAP - older adults, individuals with disabilities, and those who are unhoused - to use their SNAP benefits to purchase meals at participating restaurants.
- Once the USDA approves the state's request, CDHS has 6 months to develop and publicly post the implementation plan and eligibility criteria for the program.

Who this law impacts:

- Restaurants
- SNAP recipients, specifically older adults, individuals with disabilities, and those who are unhoused.

What changes this law makes:

- Creates a pathway for our state to apply to administer the Restaurant Meals Program, which currently only 9 states have

✓ ENACTED [HB25-1274](#), Healthy School Meals for All Program

Lead(s): Hunger Free Colorado

What this law does:

- Refers two measures to the November 2025 ballot: one to retain the \$26 million in additional funds raised by Prop FF in its first year beyond what was allowable. The other ballot measure to raise additional funds by lowering the tax deduction limits on those making \$300,000/year or more.
- Creates a reserve for the program to allow for long-term stability, while implementing grant programs through a phased-in approach.

Who this law impacts:

- Schools
- Kids, parents, and local community members
- Coloradan's voting in the 2025 Election

What changes this law makes:

- Allows for the state to retain funding raised through Prop FF
- Creates a path for financial sustainability of the program to continue providing children with free school meals.
- Increases revenues for the program





COLORADO BLUEPRINT TO END HUNGER

Supporting Coloradans

Acknowledging that access or disrupted access to food does not happen independently of other factors and improving our food systems through intersecting issues for Coloradans.

✓ ENACTED: SB25-008, Adjust Necessary Documents Program

Lead(s): Colorado Coalition for the Homeless, Colorado Blueprint to End Hunger, Colorado Center on Law & Policy

What this law does:

- Amends the current Colorado Necessary Documents Program which assists certain populations of Colorado residents with obtaining necessary documents without paying a fee.

Who this law impacts:

- Victims of domestic violence
- People experiencing homelessness
- Victims of natural disasters
- Elderly people
- People with low incomes
- People with disabilities

What changes this law makes:

- Simplifies the document retrieval process for individuals by removing the need of a physical voucher and increases the locations in which an individual may access necessary documents.

✓ ENACTED: HB25-1010, Prohibiting Price Gouging in Sales of Necessities

Lead(s): Colorado Center on Law and Policy

What this law does:

- Prohibits businesses from excessive price increases or "price-gouging" on essential goods like groceries and toiletries.
- Defines price-gouging as anything above a 10% price increase on the average price within 90 days.

Who this law impacts:

- Consumers

What changes this law makes:

- Allows the attorney general or district attorney to bring legal action against a seller in alignment with consumer protection laws.
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COLORADO BLUEPRINT TO END HUNGER

✓ **ENACTED:** HB25-1153, **Statewide Government Language Access Assessment**

Lead(s): Spring Institute and Colorado Center on Law and Policy

What this law does:

- Requires the Department of Personnel, in collaboration with the Office of New Americans, to conduct or contract to conduct a statewide language access assessment and maintain a community of practice to focus on implementing the language access universal policy with ongoing observation of best practices.
- Requires the department present a legislative report of its findings by January 2027

Who this law impacts:

- Coloradans who are non-English-speaking and those face linguistic barriers to accessing state government services and programs

What changes this law makes:

- Promotes the implementation of language access standards throughout state departments and agencies, as outlined in the language access universal policy, to support successful integration and inclusion of immigrants and their families into Colorado's civic, economic, and social life.

✗ **VETOED:** HB25-1220, **Licensure for Registered Dietitians**

Lead(s): Colorado Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics and Colorado Blueprint to End Hunger

What this bill would have done:

- Establish a licensure framework that formally recognizes and regulates the practice of medical nutrition therapy.
- Authorize the Department of Regulatory Agencies (DORA) to license dietitians and nutritionists if they meet certain requirements.
- Create a dietetics and nutrition advisory committee, responsible for advising DORA in the regulation of medical nutrition therapy.

Who this bill would have impacted:

- Patients
- Underserved communities in need of nutrition services

What changes this bill would have made:

- Increase access to essential care and nutrition services

