

Bill Review – February 3, 2026

Awareness Bills of Interest

[SB26-001: Workforce Housing & Housing Tax Credit](#)

- Summary
 - This bill would allow a board of county commissioners to use revenue generated by ad valorem taxes in the general or other funds for housing authorities and workforce housing. The bill would also alter existing rules to allow a qualified individual or enumerated entity to claim the middle-income housing tax credit without owning an interest in qualified project.
- Impact
 - This bill wouldn't have a direct impact on the County in such a way that we couldn't control. If we wanted to direct revenue generated from property taxes toward specific affordable housing developments, this bill would allow us to do so.
- CCI/CCAT Priority Level
 - CCI – Monitoring, No official position
 - CCAT - Level III Support Pending Vote

[SB26-010: Agricultural Property Tax Definition](#)

- Summary
 - This bill would broaden the definitions of “ranch” and “farm” for the purposes of property taxation. A ranch is a parcel of land that is predominantly used for grazing livestock primarily for monetary profit, and a farm is a parcel of land predominantly used to produce agricultural products that originate from the land's productivity primarily for monetary profit.
- Impact
 - This bill would increase property taxes on County land that doesn't currently qualify as a farm or ranch under the definitions outlined in the bill. The number of properties in Arapahoe County that would newly qualify as a farm or ranch is undetermined. According to a 2024 Planning Division study, 62% of Arapahoe County farms in 2022 had sales of less than \$2,500 suggesting that most were “hobby” farms and not residents' main source of income.
- CCI/CCAT Priority Level
 - CCI – Monitoring, No Official Position
 - CCAT – Monitoring, No Official Position

[SB26-005: Rights Violation in Immigration Enforcement Remedy](#)

- Summary
 - This bill would create a statutory cause of action for a person who is injured during a civil immigration enforcement action by another person, who, whether or not under the color of law, violates the U.S. Constitution while

participating in civil immigration enforcement. The bill also outlines a violators liability and timeline for action by the violated party.

- Impact
 - This bill increases protections for residents against unlawful civil immigration enforcement actions. It does not directly impact County operations. (Message bill pursued)
- CCI/CCAT Priority Level
 - CCI – Monitoring, No Official Position
 - CCAT – Level II Priority

HB26-1020: Colorimetric Field Drug Tests

- Summary
 - This bill defines “colorimetric field drug test” and would require peace officers to issue a summons to, rather than arrest, a person in situations when a colorimetric field drug test is used to determine enumerated misdemeanor or municipal possession charges.
- Impact
 - In theory, this could increase the number of cases a court hears due to automatic summons requirement. The Sheriff’s office stated the bill will have very little impact on their office or County jail population.
- CCI/CCAT Priority Level
 - CCI – Monitoring, No Official Position
 - CCAT – N/A

HB26-1030: Data Center & Utility Modernization

- Summary
 - This bill would create the data center development program and the Colorado data center development authority to manage operations under the Colorado office of economic development. Outlined in the bill is the criteria for authority members and who appoints them, incentives for efficient data center development including the allowance of 100% state sales and use tax exemption on qualified purchases to the data center operator, data center operator certification requirements, and other utility related specifications.
- Impact
 - According to PWD, this bill has no apparent impacts. Any approved data centers would be required to meet certain environmental standards and adhere to local regulations.
- CCI/CCAT Priority Level
 - CCI – Monitoring, No Official Position
 - CCAT – Level II Oppose

HB26-1036: Local Taxes on Vacant Residential Property

- Summary

- This bill would give local governments, following voter approval, the ability to impose an excise tax, property tax, or both on vacant residential properties within the boundaries of local government. The bill enumerates allowable uses, the Assessor's responsibilities, and allows two or more local governments to create a local housing tax authority through an intergovernmental agreement.
- Impact
 - If the County chose to send such a tax to the ballot and voters approved it, Finance points out that the County would be responsible for administering, collecting, and enforcing the tax and providing a mechanism to determine which properties are vacant residential.
- CCI/CCAT Priority Level
 - CCI – Monitoring, No Official Position
 - CCAT – Level II Support

HB26-1054: Protections for Worker Safety

- Summary
 - This bill requires an employer to ensure employee safety in accordance with OSH Act of 1970 as of September 1, 2025. This bill also enumerates actions to address workplace health and safety concerns, creates a workplace health and safety fund to collect penalties and be spent by the Department of Labor and Employment, and authorizes the division to adopt any requirement repealed through federal action.
- Impact
 - This bill increases workplace health and safety protections for employees in the face of recent changes to federal policy. It has no impact on County operations.
- CCI/CCAT Priority Level
 - CCI – Monitoring, No Official Position
 - CCAT – Monitoring, No Official Position