



# Rates the Colorado Legislature

THE TAXPAYER'S VOICE



The Second Regular Session of the Seventy-third General Assembly adjourned on May 11, 2022 • Report Prepared by Colorado Union of Taxpayers

## 2022 CUT Ratings

### Colorado Union of Taxpayers Rates the 2022 Legislature

One party governance is ruining our State. This legislative session is the worst yet with bills being rammed through which again attack Taxpayer's Bill of Rights, creating more enterprises, spending like "drunken sailors", and coming up with more special interest groups to fund and provide grants with your dollars. One of the most egregious bills is **HB1259 Modifications to Colorado Works Program** which expands Colorado's welfare system with budget-busting and unrealistic policies. **HB1279 Reproductive Health Equity Act** legitimizes infanticide and puts Colorado #1 in killing babies. **HB1326 Fentanyl Accountability and Prevention** took a simple and effective fentanyl bill added pages and pages which mucked up the \$54.9 Million bill to where it no longer does anything to curb usage, allows possession of fatal doses, and provides immunity to a person who gives fentanyl to a person who later dies if the provider self-reports. **HB1329 2022-23 Long Bill (the budget)** is 7% increase over prior year to total of \$36.5 Billion of your money! **HB1390 Public School Finance** increased per pupil funding to \$7,478 a 3.5% increase a total of \$433.1 Million with no recipe for improved outcomes. **HB1414 Healthy Meals for all Public-School Students** a costly program with hidden tax increase and not the proper role of government. Look for the Call to Action on this bill. **SB153 Internal Election Security Measures** one of the worst bills of the session expands power of an already power-hungry SOS, allowing one politically motivated person overrule other elected officials and control elections. Ridiculous use of the safety clause prevents any citizen action against such a bill. **SB202 State Match for Mill Levy Override Revenue** a sneaky way to abuse the Taxpayer's Bill of Rights at a cost of \$20 Million. **SB230 Collective Bargaining for Counties** a payoff to union contributors will no doubt hit taxpayer pocketbooks big time! **SB233 TABOR Refund Mechanism for FY 2021-2022 Only** was the joke of the session. Governor and Legislators taking credit in an election year for TABOR refunds which are constitutionally mandated. You will find analyses of these and other bills which fund green energy fantasies, attack parental involvement in their children's education, funding and grants to new myriad of special interest groups, plus other horrendous legislation interfering with the private sector and attacking your freedom and liberty starting on page 2.

**Key Bill Summaries**  
begin on page 2

### Year to Year?

Overall the Senate scored 25%, up from 24% last year.

The House scored 29%, down from 31% last year.

See the CUT Grid on pages 6, 7.



	Senate House	
Democrats	4%	6%
Republicans	51%	70%

Complete Listing and Scores Inside

**Congratulations!**  
**2022 Taxpayer Champions\***

#### SENATE CHAMPION

For the second year no Senate Champion

#### HOUSE CHAMPION

**Patrick Neville 95%**

R-Franktown

#### SENATE GUARDIAN

**Paul Lundeen 74%**

R-Monument

#### HOUSE GUARDIAN

**Shane Sandridge 92%**

R-Colorado Springs

\*Highest score in each house. (Rounded)

### Inside:

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## CALL TO ACTION

### COLORADO BALLOT PROPOSAL

2021-2022 #0

## HEALTHY MEALS FOR ALL PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS CUT OPPOSES

This is a referred measure from the 2022 Legislature marching us down the road to Socialism. If passed government ( YOU TAXPAYERS) will provide free meals to all public school students. Feeding children is not proper role of government. Parents are responsible for feeding their children and determining what to feed them. First year costs are up to \$115.5 million and \$101.5 million each year thereafter. To pay for this folly a significant tax increase on higher income families will be levied. Another nanny grab for government to step in and take the role of parents. Look for this on your 2022 ballot and VOTE NO!

## KEY BILL SUMMARIES

### **SB-006 Sales Tax Assistance for Small Business**

This bill increases the percentage of the sales tax that a retailer can retain as compensation for collecting and remitting the tax from 4% to 5.3% for retailers with sales \$100,000 or less. It is expected to reduce tax revenues from \$2.5–2.8 million per year. PASSED. Senate 34/0/1; House 60/5/0 (Sens. Kolker & Rodriguez/Reps. McLachlan & Snyder). Governor SIGNED. **CUT votes YES.** At last, our legislature has recognized that its mandates cost businesses money. This will provide just a little relief for small businesses that have suffered under government mandates in the last 2 years.

### **SB-008 Higher Education Support for Foster Youth**

This bill provides financial assistance to foster students to cover the remaining cost of their attendance at state institutions of higher education in excess of any financial aid received. This benefits foster students who have been placed in foster care before the age of 18, or non-kinship care age 13 or later in Colorado or who have been adjudicated neglected or dependent at any time. The bill also funds “Navigators” to help these students with financial aid paperwork. One-half of the financial assistance is provided by the Department of Education and half by the school. The cost is just under \$5 million/year with 4 FTEs. PASSED. Senate 23/10/2; House 55/7/3. (Sens. Zenzinger & Priola/ Reps. McLachlan & McKean). Governor SIGNED. **CUT votes NO.** This provides aid to just one special interest group. There are many other disadvantaged students that do not benefit from this. Also, this provides only for college classes, not technical/vocational choices. Finally, the Safety Clause is totally inappropriate.

### **SB-044 Use of Student Growth in Educator Evaluations**

This bill, if passed, would have removed the requirement that student academic growth make up at least 50 percent of educator performance evaluations, and required the State Board of Education to develop new rules for the state educator performance evaluation system. Under current law, all licensed educators must be evaluated annually. Fifty percent of the evaluation must be based on quality standards set by the SBE, and 50 percent of teacher and principal evaluation must be based on student academic growth. For the 2020-21 school year, evaluation ratings did not include student academic growth measures. This bill continues the 2020-21 practice of NOT using student performance growth to measure teacher performance. POSTPONED INDEFINITELY.

Senate Education Committee. Senate 6/1. (Sen. Story/ Reps. Froelich & Kipp). **CUT votes NO.** Teachers should be evaluated on their number one priority – student performance and improvement. Removing this requirement is a giant step backward in accountability. And there was certainly no logic in attaching the Safety Clause to this bill.

### **SB-069 Learning Disruption Effect on Teacher Evaluation.**

The bill prohibits a school district or other entities from using student academic success in determining evaluation ratings for teachers. PASSED. Senate 20/15/0; House 41/24/0. (Sen. Story/ Reps. McLachlan & Froelich). Governor SIGNED. **CUT votes NO.** This adds fuel to the existing COVID lockdown debacle that wreaked havoc amongst public school children and was supported by Teachers Unions. Now this bill is saying we cannot fault those same teachers. This simply degrades the teacher evaluation process.

### **SB-084 Plan Education Loan Payment Eligible Distribution**

This bill would have aligned State tax law with that of updated Federal Law re the use of 529 Educational Plan account distributions, to be applied to the use of student loan principal and interest payments, if made to eligible and qualified Educational Loans. It would have decreased State revenues and increased State expenses. POSTPONED INDEFINITELY. Senate State, Veterans and Military Affairs. Senate 3/2. (Sen. Gardner/Rep. Bradfield). **CUT votes YES.** Apparently, the miserly Senators who voted to spike this proposal, could not bear the thought of the State losing revenue, even though college costs for students and parents continue to spiral upward.

### **SB-127 Special Education Funding.**

This bill increases funding for special education by \$80 Million, and commissions a report that includes comparative funding in other states, computes actual costs of providing special education, and assesses how “sufficient” disability categories are to meet needs among others. PASSED. Senate 35/0/0; House 58/4/3. (Sens. Kirkmeyer & Zenzinger/ Reps. Larson & McCluskie). Governor SIGNED. **CUT votes NO.** Though providing special services and care for children with special needs is good and necessary, this is a huge investment from Colorado taxpayers with little to show in terms of outcomes. This is also passed as Colorado has closed and plans to close more Public Schools in the coming years due to lack of pupils. This seems to be a grab at more money hiding behind a cause to which seemingly no one would dare disagree.

# Colorado Union of Taxpayers Rates the 2022 Legislature

## **SB-130 State Entity Authority for Public-private Partnerships.**

This bill requires the State to develop and oversee a process such that State Entities may enter Public-private partnerships. Additionally, it requires an appropriation \$736k in FY 2022-23 and 1,113k in FY 2023-24. PASSED. Senate 28/5/2; House 43/19/3. (Sens. Rankin & Hansen/ Rep. McCluskie). Governor SIGNED. **CUT votes NO.** This seemingly allows the government to skirt established procurement code. Even at a Federal level, the Government is bound by regulations for open competition among Private entities to ensure fair and reasonable pricing and services are provided to the government by private companies. This bill opens the door to cronyism and a possible vehicle to skirt TABOR.

## **SB-153 Internal Election Security Measures**

This bill makes changes to State Law re elections & their security; (greatly) expands the authority of the Secretary of State (S.O.S.); establishes security requirements for voting equipment; requires training for County Clerks & staff; and provides State funding to local governments for its implementation. PASSED. Senate 21/14/0; House 41/24/0. (Sens. Fenberg & Priola/Rep. Lontine). Governor SIGNED. **CUT votes NO.** In other words, to paraphrase a long dead European leader, the result is: 'All within the (Secretary of) State; Nothing outside the (Secretary of) State; Nothing against the (Secretary of) State.' Henceforth, the S.O.S. runs local elections, picks voting/counting equipment, can block access to investigations of local results, and can punish. To add insult to injury, our Legislators applied the execrable 'Safety Clause' to it, thus blocking any chance of its repeal by a citizens' referendum.

## **SB-159 Revolving Loan Fund Invest Affordable Housing**

This bill created a fund to provide subsidized loans for "transformational" affordable housing projects. PASSED. Senate 27/7/1; House 42/23/0. (Sens. Bridges & Zenzinger/Reps. Ortiz & Will). Governor SIGNED. **CUT votes NO.** The solution to high housing prices is to allow builders to construct enough units to meet demand and prevent buyers from bidding up prices. Government subsidies for favored projects drain away the taxpayers' money but have little if any discernible impact on housing prices and availability.

## **SB-176 Early Stage Front Range Passenger Rail Funding**

This bill makes several \$ transfers from the General Fund to multiple cash funds for the development of the Front Range Passenger Rail Corridor. PASSED. Senate 24/11/0, House 37/28/0. (Sens. Hansen & Rankin/Rep. McCluskie). Governor SIGNED. **CUT votes NO.** And what will be the operational subsidy/rider? When, in 'Henry IV, part II', the cornered Owen Glendower threatens to 'call-up 10,000 spirits from the vasty deep' to combat Hotspur, and the latter replies 'But, will they come?'; might even a handful of passengers emerge to occupy seats on the Legislature's latest financial boondoggle? Shouldn't RTD's failure to attract riders, rider-less rail service Yampa Valley/Denver terminated in 1968, or California's early termination of the Los Angeles/San Francisco high-speed rail project be a warning?

## **SB-184 Comp Reqmnts for Members of the GA**

This bill states that legislators who run up excessive absences due to a list of approved reasons shall retain their entitlement to full pay despite the absences. PASSED. Senate 32/2/1; House 40/22/3. (Sens. Fenberg & Pettersen; Reps. Esgar & Tipper). Governor SIGNED. **CUT votes NO.** Legislators should be required to earn their pay like anyone else and citizens effectively have no representation in the legislature if their elected representatives are absent.

## **SB-198 Orphaned Oil and Gas Wells Enterprise**

This bill creates the Orphaned Wells Mitigation Enterprise in the dept. of Natural Resources to fund the plugging, reclaiming, and remediation of orphaned oil and gas wells by charging mitigation fees to oil and gas operators, while increasing State revenues and expenses. PASSED. Senate 21/14/0; House 45/20/0. (Sens. Fenberg & Scott/Reps. Weissman & Will). Governor SIGNED. **CUT votes NO.** While the purpose is acceptable, its implementation is not. By creating another Enterprise, the Legislators have created a vehicle which operates outside TABOR spending and

revenue limitations and is controllable by no one. Further it financially burdens solely current operators, where the benefits aid all Coloradans. Finally, in their seeming greed to get immediate revenue, the Legislators passed it with an effective Safety Clause to bar citizen review.

## **SB-202 State Match for Mill Levy Override Revenue.**

This bill provides an indirect means for avoiding TABOR spending limits by matching mill levy overrides enacted by local districts. PASSED. Senate 28/7/0; House 42/20/3. Governor SIGNED. **CUT votes NO.** This bill conceals spending hikes in a mass of densely written legislative language and disregards the mandate of TABOR.

## **SB-213 Child Care Support Programs**

This bill appropriates a total of \$92 Million for the implementation of a Child Care Program. \$49.5 Million comes from the Federal Government via economic recovery and cash relief program funds to the State. PASSED. Senate 34/1/0; House 41/22/2. (Sens. Fields & Sonnenberg/Reps. Valdez & Tipper). Governor SIGNED. **CUT votes NO.** Should the State be in the babysitting/early indoctrination business? While the bill at a certain level "Feels Good", it opens the door to millions of dollars in additional Budget increase, and further Growth / Expansion of Bureaucracy. There is questionable sustainable viability.

## **SB-230 Collective Bargaining for Counties**

This bill grants county employees the right to organize under a collective bargaining unit in 48 counties (omits small counties and city/counties). The Department of Labor and Employment is required to manage petitions, elections, and enforcement related to county collective bargaining. Beginning in FY 2022-23, the bill increases state costs \$419K growing to \$592K per year, and local government expenditures \$32.1M for staffing and up to \$400M to taxpayers due to increased labor costs. PASSED. Senate 20/15/0; House 41/24/0. (Sens. Fenberg & Moreno/Rep. Esgar), Governor SIGNED. **CUT votes NO.** This bill is the Democrat Party's political payoff to the AFL-CIO which threatened to withhold contributions without such action. It is an unfunded mandate on local governments opposed by CCI (Colorado Counties Inc) which stated "This unfunded mandate may result in cuts to essential services to citizens". The Logan County Board of Commissioners stated " it will increase its costs 35% which will result in curtailment of services and reduction of staff. Who protects the Taxpayer?" Of course, the Safety Clause prevents Citizens from removing this legislation.

## **SB-233 TABOR Refund Mechanism For FY 21-22 Only**

This bill only addresses TABOR disbursements for Fiscal Year 21-22. PASSED. Senate 22/13/0; House 54/11/0. (Sens. Hinrichsen & Rodriguez/Reps. Exum & Daugherty). Governor SIGNED. **CUT votes NO.** Is this bill not a blatant attempt to buy votes? While we at CUT like to see the State live up to its responsibilities regarding 'the Taxpayers' Bill of Rights' (TABOR), we are opposed to the Legislature's gimmickry approach of advancing refunds to a date just prior to the Nov. Election, and its revision of TABOR's proportional payout mechanism, contrary to State Constitutional language, to give checks to anyone who filed a tax return even if no prior income or taxation was reported. Is this not but another attempt to circumvent TABOR, and then to attempt political pandering in an Election year? We at CUT continue to STRONGLY insist on strict adherence to the spirit of TABOR to provide semblance of fiscal responsibility for Coloradans in the years to come.

## **SJR-011 Parents' Rights to be involved in Child's Education**

This Joint Resolution regarded "Concerning the Importance of Preserving Parents' Right to be Involved in Their Child's Education". POSTPONED INDEFINITELY Senate Veterans and Military Affairs. Senate 3/2. (Sen. Gardner/Rep. Van Beber). **CUT votes YES.** While an increased engagement in Children's Education by their Parents / Guardians is encouraged by CUT, apparently that idea does not sit well with the majority of Colorado's Legislators or the state's 'Education Hierarchy'. The Children are recognized as our most Valuable Treasure, and as such their

KEY BILL SUMMARIES...CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

## Senate Scores: Friend or Foe?

**Highest to Lowest** - Who is representing the best interests of taxpayers? Here's what Members of Colorado's Senate earned on CUT's 2022 Ratings Scorecard:

Senate Republicans	Total Votes	CUT Votes	CUT Score %	Pledge	District	Hometown
Lundeen, Paul	231	170	73.6%		9	Monument
Holbert, Chris	229	153	67%	P	30	Parker
Smallwood, James	228	149	65.3%		4	Parker
Sonnenberg, Jerry	245	157	64.1%		1	Sterling
Liston, Larry	228	132	58.1%		10	Colorado Springs
Kirkmeyer, Barbara	231	133	57.6%	P	23	Johnstown
Woodward, Rob	227	126	55.3%		15	Fort Collins
Gardner, Robert	228	120	52.6%		12	Colorado Springs
Cooke, John	233	114	49.1%		13	Kersey
Scott, Ray	231	104	45.2%		7	Grand Junction
Rankin, Robert	232	96	41.4%		8	Carbondale
Hisey, Dennis	233	92	39.3%		2	Fountain
Simpson, Cleave	243	89	36.6%		35	Alamosa
Coram, Don	230	79	34.4%		6	Montrose
Priola, Kevin	233	46	19.7%	P	25	Henderson
<b>Average</b>			<b>51%</b>			

Senate Democrats	Total Votes	CUT Votes	CUT Score %	Pledge	District	Hometown
Zenzinger, Rachel	234	23	9.8%		19	Arvada
Donovan, Kerry	232	20	8.8%		5	Wolcott
Story, Tammy	231	18	7.8%		16	Conifer
Jaquez Lewis, Sonya	243	18	7.6%		17	Lafayette
Coleman, James	240	18	7.3%		33	Denver
Gonzales, Julia	243	17	7.2%		34	Denver
Bridges, Jeff	232	16	6.9%		26	Greenwood Village
Rodriguez, Robert	233	14	6.2%		32	Denver
Buckner, Janet	231	14	6.1%		28	Aurora
Hinrichsen, Nick	228	13	5.9%		3	Pueblo
Kolker, Christopher	229	13	5.5%		27	Centennial
Fields, Rhonda	231	12	5.4%		29	Aurora
Ginal, Joann	231	12	5.4%		14	Fort Collins
Winter, Faith	231	12	5.4%		24	Westminster
Danielson, Jessie	227	12	5.3%		20	Wheat Ridge
Lee, Pete	235	12	5.1%		11	Colorado Springs
Fenberg, Stephen	220	11	4.8%		18	Boulder
Pettersen, Brittany	229	11	4.8%		22	Lakewood
Moreno, Dominick	227	10	4.6%		21	Aurora
Hansen, Christopher	234	11	4.5%		31	Denver
<b>Average</b>			<b>4%</b>			

P= Taxpayer's Pledge Signer

**Overall Senate Score 25%**

## Governor's score 5%

Tyranny continued to reign in Colorado! This year the Governor abused the taxpayers 100% by voting against CUT earning 5% CUT rating. Even though he poses as a Libertarian his true colors are socialist. Facing an election in November he and fellow Democrats tried some new tricks actually taking credit for TABOR refunds. Hopefully Colorado voters see through the smoke and mirrors and know the refunds are constitutionally mandated by the Colorado Taxpayer's Bill of Rights. Another election year trick was to temporarily reduce road user fees.



## House Scores: Friend or Foe?

**Highest to Lowest** - Who is representing the best interests of taxpayers? Here's what Members of Colorado's House earned on CUT's 2022 Ratings Scorecard:

House Republicans	Total Votes	CUT Votes	CUT Score %	Pledge	District	Hometown
Neville, Patrick	249	237	95.2%	P	45	Franktown
Sandridge, Shane	243	224	92%	P	14	Colorado Springs
Williams, David	234	214	91.5%	P	15	Colorado Springs
Luck, Stephanie	241	216	89.6%		47	Penrose
Ransom, Kim	230	201	87.6%	P	44	Lone Tree
Van Winkle, Kevin	234	200	85.3%		43	Highlands Ranch
Baisley, Mark	242	196	81%	P	39	Roxborough Park
Hanks, Ron	232	191	82.3%		60	Penrose
Pico, Andres	233	175	74.9%		16	Colorado Springs
Geitner, Tim	236	169	71.4%		19	Falcon
Carver, Terri	234	162	69.4%		20	Colorado Springs
Soper, Matt	246	165	66.9%		54	Delta
Bockenfeld, Rod	244	157	64.5%	P	56	Watkins
Woog, Daniel	242	154	63.6%		63	Erie
McKean, Hugh	229	139	60.7%		51	Loveland
Pelton, Rodney	232	139	59.7%		65	Cheyenne Wells
Holtorf, Richard	231	137	59.1%		64	Akron
Bradfield, Mary	244	141	57.6%		21	Colorado Springs
Rich, Janice	240	134	55.8%		55	Grand Junction
Catlin, Marc	231	128	55.2%		58	Montrose
Van Beber, Tonya	235	127	54%		48	Eaton
Lynch, Michael	233	124	53.2%		49	Greeley
Larson, Colin	236	121	51.3%		22	Ken Caryl
Will, Perry	231	112	48.5%		57	New Castle

Average			70%				
House Democrats	Total Votes	CUT Votes	CUT Score %	Pledge	District	Hometown	
Woodrow, Steven	243	29	11.9%		6	Denver	
Roberts, Dylan	235	25	10.8%		26	Eagle	
Gray, Matthew	235	20	8.7%		33	Broomfield	
Bird, Shannon	243	20	8.4%		35	Westminster	
Mullica, Kyle	239	19	8%		34	Northglenn	
Garnett, Alec	228	18	7.9%		2	Denver	
Sullivan, Tom	234	18	7.9%		37	Centennial	
Sirota, Emily	238	18	7.6%		9	Denver	
Snyder, Marc	243	18	7.6%		18	Manitou Springs	
Benavidez, Adrienne	241	18	7.3%		32	Denver	
Michaelson Jenet, Dafna	241	17	7%		30	Commerce City	
Tipper, Kerry	240	17	6.9%		28	Denver	
McLachlan, Barbara	236	15	6.4%		59	Durango	
Amabile, Judith	249	16	6.4%		13	Boulder	
Kipp, Cathy	247	15	6.1%		52	Fort Collins	
Exum, Thomas	237	14	5.9%		17	Colorado Springs	
Hooton, Edie	232	13	5.8%		10	Boulder	
Daugherty, Lindsey	241	14	5.8%		29	Arvada	
Valdez, Alex	243	14	5.8%		5	Denver	
Young, Mary	238	14	5.7%		50	Greeley	
Ortiz, David	233	13	5.6%		38	Littleton	
Froelich, Meg	231	12	5.4%		3	Greenwood Village	
Duran, Monica	233	13	5.4%		24	Wheat Ridge	
Ricks, Naquetta	234	12	5.3%		40	Aurora	
Herod, Leslie	229	12	5.2%		8	Denver	
Bacon, Jennifer	246	13	5.1%		7	Denver	
Titone, Brianna	237	12	5.1%		27	Arvada	
Jodeh, Iman	231	12	5%		41	Aurora	
Valdez, Donald	231	12	5%		62	LaJara	
Caraveo, Yadira	233	11	4.9%		31	Thornton	
Cuttler, Lisa	231	11	4.8%		25	So Jeffco	
Kennedy, Chris	249	12	4.8%		23	Lakewood	
Gonzales-Gutierrez, Serena	230	11	4.6%		4	Denver	
Lontine, Susan	239	11	4.4%		1	Denver	
Weissman, Mike	231	10	4.3%		36	Aurora	
McCluskie, Julie	229	10	4.2%		61	Dillon	
Lindsay, Mandy	231	9	4.1%		42	Aurora	
Boesenecker, Andrew	244	10	4.1%		53	Fort Collins	
McCormick, Karen	237	9	4%		11	Boulder	
Esgar, Daneya	228	8	3.7%		46	Pueblo	
Bernett, Tracey	244	9	3.5%		12	Longmont	

**Average** 6%

P= Taxpayer's Pledge Signer

**Overall House Score 29%**

# CUT RATES COLORADO'S 2022 LEGISLATURE

LEGEND: "+" Reflects a CUT Positive Vote "-" Reflects a Vote Against CUT Philosophy. "E" Excused "A" Absent "- -" Not Voted On "V" Vacant

				SB	SB	SB	SB	SB	SB	SB	SB	SB	SB	SB	SB	SB	SB	SJR	HB	HB	HB	HB	HB	HB	HB	HB	HB	HB	HB	CUT	VOTES						
				6	8	44	69	84	127	130	153	159	176	184	198	202	213	230	233	11	1008	1070	1125	1259	1279	1326	1329	1351	1362	1386	1390	1414	VOTES	CAST			
				YES	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO	NO	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO			
COLORADO SENATORS	Party	District	Hometown																																		
Bridges, Jeff	D	26	Greenwood Village	+	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	26		
Buckner,Janet	D	28	Aurora	+	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	26		
Coleman, James	D	33	Denver	+	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	28		
Cooke, John	R	13	Kersey	+	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	-	+	-	-	+	+	-	-	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	16	25			
Coram, Donald	R	6	Montrose	+	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	-	-	E	E	+	+	-	+	+	+	E	-	-	-	-	12	22			
Danielson, Jessie	D	20	Wheat Ridge	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	25		
Donovan, Kerry	D	5	Wolcott	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	E	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	24		
Fenberg, Stephen	D	18	Boulder	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	25		
Fields, Ronda	D	29	Aurora	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	25		
Gardner, Bob	R	12	Colorado Springs	+	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	E	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	18	24		
Ginal, Joann	D	14	Fort Collins	E	-	-	-	-	-	-	E	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	23		
Gonzales, Julie	D	34	Denver	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	26		
Hansen, Chris	D	31	Denver	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	25		
Hinrichsen, Nick	D	3	Pueblo	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	25		
Hisey, Dennis	R	2	Fountain	+	+	+	-	-	+	-	+	-	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	14	25		
Holbert, Chris	R	30	Parker	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	19	26		
Jaquez Lewis,Sonya	D	17	Lafayette	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	27		
Kirkmeyer, Barbara	R	23	Johnstown	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	E	+	E	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	20	25		
Kolker, Chris	D	27	Centennial	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	25		
Lee, Sanford"Pete"	D	11	Colorado Springs	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	26			
Liston, Larry	R	10	Colorado Springs	+	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	+	-	+	-	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	18	25		
Lundeen, Paul	R	9	Monument	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	22	26		
Moreno, Dominick	D	21	Aurora	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	25		
Pettersen, Brittany	D	22	Lakewood	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	25		
Priola, Kevin	R	25	Henderson	+	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	E	-	+	-	-	8	25		
Rankin, Bob	R	8	Carbondale	+	-	+	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	-	E	-	+	-	+	+	-	-	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	11	24		
Rodriguez, Robert	D	32	Denver	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	25		
Scott, Ray	R	7	Grand Junction	+	E	+	-	E	+	-	+	-	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	-	+	-	-	13	23			
Simpson, Cleave	R	35	Alamosa	+	-	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	13	27		
Smallwood, Jim	R	4	Parker	+	E	+	-	E	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	-	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	17	23		
Sonnenberg, Jerry	R	1	Sterling	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	20	26		
Story, Tammy	D	16	Conifer	+	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	E	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	25			
Winter, Faith	D	24	Westminster	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	25		
Woodward. Rob	R	15	Fort Collins	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	-	+	+	-	+	-	-	E	-	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-	+	-	15	24		
Zenzinger, Rachel	D	19	Arvada	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	25		

<b>Total</b>				34	10	6	15	2	0	5	14	7	11	2	14	7	1	15	13	2	11	3	0	15	15	8	13	12	14	0	0	12	261	876
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<b>Governor</b>	D		Denver	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	20
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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES				District	Hometown																																		
Amabile, Judy	D	13	Boulder	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	26				
Bacon, Jennifer	D	7	Denver	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	26				
Baisley, Mark	R	39	Roxborough Park	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	22	25				
Benavidez, Adrienne	D	32	Denver	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	25				
Bernett, Tracey	D	12	Longmont	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	26				
Bird, Shannon	D	35	Westminster	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	25				
Bockenfeld, Rod	R	56	Watkins	+	-	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	23	26				
Boesenecker,Andrew	D	53	Ft.Collins	+	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	26				
Bradfield, Mary	R	21	Colorado Springs	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	20	26				
Caraveo,Yadira	D	31	Thornton	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	25				
Carver, Terri	R	20	Colorado Springs	+	-	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	E	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	20	24					

Catlin, Marc	R	58	Montrose	+	-	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	19	25		
Cutter, Lisa	D	25	So Jeffco	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	25		
Daugherty, Lindsey	D	29	Arvada	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	25		
Duran, Monica	D	24	Wheat Ridge	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	25		
Esgar, Daneya	D	46	Pueblo	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	25		
Exum, Thomas	D	17	Colorado Springs	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	25		
Froelich, Meg	D	3	Greenwood Village	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	25		
Garnett, Alec	D	2	Denver	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	E	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	24		
Geitner, Tim	R	19	Falcon	+	-	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	E	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	20	24	
Gonzales-Gutierrez, Serena	D	4	Denver	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	25		
Gray, Matt	D	33	Broomfield	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	E	-	-	-	2	24		
Hanks, Ron	R	60	Penrose	+	E	+	E	E	+	+	+	E	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	E	+	+	20	20	
Herod, Leslie	D	8	Denver	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	25		
Holtorf, Richard	R	64	Akron	+	-	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	20	25	
Hooton, Edie	D	10	Boulder	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	E	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	24		
Jodeh, Iman	D	41	Aurora	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	E	+	-	-	-	-	-	2	24		
Kennedy, Chris	D	23	Lakewood	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	2	26		
Kipp, Cathy	D	52	Fort Collins	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	25		
Larson, Colin	R	22	Ken Caryl	+	-	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	E	+	-	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	19	24	
Lindsey, Mandy	D	42	Aurora	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	25		
Lontine, Susan	D	1	Denver	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	25		
Luck, Stephanie	R	47	Penrose	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	24	25	
Lynch, Mike	R	49	Greeley	+	-	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	20	25	
McCluskie, Julie	D	61	Dillon	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	25		
McCormick, Karen	D	11	Boulder	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	25		
McKean, Hugh	R	51	Loveland	+	-	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	20	25	
McLachlan, Barbara	D	59	Durango	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	25		
Michaelson Jenet, Dafna	D	30	Commerce City	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	25		
Mullica, Kyle	D	34	Northglenn	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	E	-	-	-	-	2	24		
Neville, Patrick	R	45	Franktown	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	25	26	
Ortiz, David	D	38	Littleton	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	25		
Pelton, Rod	R	65	Cheyenne Wells	+	-	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	E	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	21	24	
Pico, Andres	R	16	Colorado Springs	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	24	25	
Ransom, Kim	R	44	Lone Tree	+	E	+	E	E	+	+	+	+	E	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	E	+	+	20	20	
Rich, Janice	R	55	Grand Junction	+	-	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	16	25	
Ricks, Naquetta	D	40	Aurora	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	2	25		
Roberts, Dylan	D	26	Eagle	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	2	25		
Sandridge, Shane	R	14	Colorado Springs	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	23	25	
Sirota, Emily	D	9	Denver	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	E	-	-	2	25		
Snyder, Marc	D	18	Manitou Springs	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	25		
Soper, Matt	R	54	Delta	+	-	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	18	25	
Sullivan, Tom	D	37	Centennial	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	25		
Tipper, Kerry	D	28	Denver	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	25		
Titone, Brianna	D	27	Arvada	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	25		
Valdez, Alex	D	5	Denver	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	26		
Valdez, Donald	D	62	La Jara	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	25		
Van Beber, Tonya	R	48	Eaton	+	-	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	17	25	
Van Winkle, Kevin	R	43	Highlands Ranch	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	23	25	
Weissman, Mike	D	36	Aurora	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	25		
Will, Perry	R	57	New Castle	+	-	+	-	-	+	-	+	-	-	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	16	25	
Williams, Dave	R	15	Colorado Springs	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	23	25	
Woodrow, Steven	D	6	Denver	+	E	-	E	E	-	-	-	E	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	E	-	-	E	2	20		
Woog, Dan	R	63	Erie	+	-	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	22	26
Young, Mary	D	50	Greeley	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	25		

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Total 60 7 0 24 0 4 19 24 23 28 22 20 20 22 24 11 0 20 20 4 24 24 30 24 25 24 7 20 22 552 1611  
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## A Special Breed

In 1998, CUT established a ten-point Candidate/Legislator Pledge for legislative candidates. See Page 10. CUT's pledge signers are shown with a "P" on pages 4 & 5. CUT Champions and Guardians are almost always pledge signers. Be sure to congratulate them for their high scores and integrity in following through on their campaign promise to be fiscally conservative.

educational well-being is a Primary Concern, and should not be solely left to 'the Little Man behind the Green Curtain'.

### **HB-1008 Implementation of Fertility Coverage**

This bill requires that certain health insurance plans (large and small) cover the diagnosis of, and treatment for, infertility and standard fertility preservation services. PASSED. House 45/20/0; Senate 21/11/3. (Reps. Tipper & Soper/Sens. Fenberg & Winter). Governor SIGNED. **CUT votes NO.** With some of the so-called treatments, to be required, running into the \$5-figure range with very low possibilities of initial success, shouldn't this bill be dubbed 'the-mother-of-all unfunded mandates'? Might it also become a means for the creation, by those biologically incapable, of children without mothers or fathers (i.e., bastards)?

### **HB-1070 Special Districts Early Childhood Development**

This bill allows an early childhood development district to include a portion of a special district, city, county, or other taxing district, and accept gifts, grants, and donations. PASSED. House 44/20/1; Senate 28/3/4. (Rep. McCluskie/Sen. Rankin). Governor SIGNED. **CUT votes NO.** Last session, having created a vehicle to ensnare even more children into the clutches of government for indoctrination, and initially funding it, a continuing revenue source needed to be found. Thus, by enabling the new district to latch-onto existing entities, it can siphon revenue from them without voter approval. Isn't this a clear TABOR (Taxpayer's Bill of Rights) violation?

### **HB-1125 Income Tax Rate Reduction.**

The bill permanently reduces the state income tax rate by 0.05 percentage points in years where the state's TABOR refund obligation would trigger a temporary income tax reduction under current law. The bill will reduce state revenue beginning in FY 2023-24, and increases state expenditures in FY 2022-23 only. POSTPONED INDEFINITELY House Appropriations Committee. House 7/4. (Rep. Rich/ Sen. Cooke). **CUT votes YES.** The thought of taxpayers keeping even an added .05% of their money was just too gruesome for majority members of the State, Veterans, and Military Affairs Committee to bear. This legislature is digging through our sofa cushions looking for our nickels and dimes, and they're not doing it to help us find OUR money. They dig because they want every one of our nickels and dimes.

### **HB-1259 Modifications to Colorado Works Program**

This bill increases benefit amounts, expands eligibility for specific populations, and alters program rules and operations for the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program known as the Colorado Works program (basic cash assistance to families averaging \$500/month for a family of 3). Recipients will immediately have a 10% increase with programmed increases thereafter. Benefits will now continue for up to 3 months after obtaining a job and benefits can be extended beyond 60 months. The bill will increase state expenditures by \$19.9 M immediately up to \$28.4M in future years and will increase state employees by 5. There will also be a required increase in local expenditures on an ongoing basis. PASSED. House 41/24/0; Senate 21/15/0. (Reps. Duran & Jodeh/Sen. Moreno). Governor SIGNED. **CUT votes NO.** This is typical of this legislature's program of an ever-expanding welfare system, including operational changes to increase the number of recipients and increase

and extend the time frame for benefits. It also forces an unfunded mandate on local government and of course increases the number of state employees. Due to the Safety Clause, this law cannot be petitioned for repeal by the voters.

### **HB-1279 Reproductive Health Equity Act**

This bill codifies an individual's right to use or refuse contraception and the right to continue or terminate a pregnancy (abortion). The bill also codifies that the unborn at any stage (fertilized egg, embryo, or fetus) do not have rights under state law. The bill prohibits state and local public entities from denying, restricting, interfering with, discriminating against, or depriving through punishment an individual's right to contraceptives, to refuse to continue a pregnancy, or to receive family planning information. PASSED. House 40/24/1; Senate 20/15. (Reps. Froelich & Esgar/Sen. Gonzales). Governor SIGNED. **CUT votes NO.** This bill is one of the most egregious abortion laws in the country, allowing abortion and the killing of the unborn child at any time – even on his/her due date! The Legislature and Governor refused to consider the science affirming that a "fetus" is a human being and that the child can live outside the womb as early as 22 weeks, and ignored the many, many persons testifying against this bill. Furthermore, the legislature attached a Safety Clause so that citizens cannot try to overturn the law through the petition process. This demonstrates an out-of-control Legislature and Governor determined to force an extreme agenda on this state.

### **HB-1326 Fentanyl Accountability & Prevention.**

This bill seeks to focus more attention to a relatively new comer to the drug scene, fentanyl. Fentanyl is highly addictive and even in minute doses has the ability to kill. Bill would increase some penalties and elevate the severity of the charges based on quantity of drug. PASSED. House 35/30/0; Senate 27/8/0. (Reps. Garnett & Lynch/ Sen. Pettersen & Cooke). Governor SIGNED. **CUT Votes NO.** Elevation of severity of charges is good and proper, given the severity of the damage done by fentanyl. But the bill carries a hefty \$38 Million price tag + 17 FTEs. Additionally, there is immunity from prosecution to a provider of the drug if the provider reports any subsequent overdose. It seems very odd that the same bill elevates charges, and in the next section provides criminal immunity to the biggest link in this evil chain....the fentanyl provider.

### **HB-1329 2022-23 Long Bill (The Budget)**

The bill sets the budget for fiscal year beginning July 1, 2022. Total budget is \$36.5 Billion a 7% increase over the prior year. PASSED. House 39/24/2; Senate 22/13. (Rep. McCluskie/Sen. Hansen). Governor SIGNED. **CUT votes NO.** The Legislature's insatiable appetite for increased spending on special interest programs, grants to special groups, rules and regulations for private sector businesses, while ignoring its responsibilities to all Colorado citizens is reprehensible.

### **HB-1351 Temporary Reduce Road User Charges.**

The bill delays implementation of certain fees on gasoline and other fuels, and temporarily reduces the amount of vehicle registration road safety surcharges. The bill decreases state revenue in FY 2022-23 and FY 2023-24 and increases expenditures in FY 2022-23 only. PASSED. House 38/25/2; Senate 23/12/0. (Reps. Roberts & McLachlan/ Sens. Pettersen & Hinrichsen). Governor SIGNED. **CUT votes NO.** At the risk of being called cynical, CUT recalls that the previous session of the legislature passed some gasoline fee (cough, cough) increases which were set to go in to effect July 1, 2022. Well, lo & behold....2022 is an Election Year! And tax increases in an election year are just soooo unseemly, don't ya know? It's better to begin beating the peasants in some other year, but certainly not an Election Year.

### **HB-1362 Building Greenhouse Gas Emissions**

This bill requires the Colorado Energy Office to identify for adoption, *and local governments and certain state agencies to adopt and enforce*, 3 model green energy and low carbon codes. It also creates two grant programs in the CEO to provide funding for state and local governments, utilities, non-profit organizations, and housing developers to purchase certain high-efficiency electric equipment. The bill increases state expenditures



## Colorado Union of Taxpayers Rates the 2022 Legislature

by around \$6.0 million per year with 2- 2.6 additional FTEs and could cost local governments up to \$150,000 each. PASSED. House 41/24/0; Senate 21/14/0. (Reps. Bernett & Valdez, Sens. Hansen & Winter). Governor SIGNED. **CUT votes NO.** Colorado's own version of Green New Deal strikes again – increasing regulations and costs, including unfunded mandates on local governments which in turn could cause tax increases. A Safety Clause is attached to prevent citizens from petitioning to remove this law. This is yet another example of the State Government usurping local government control – taking decision making power away from the government level closest to the people.

### **HB-1386 Competency to Proceed and Restoration to Competency**

The bill clarifies and modifies state laws regarding competency evaluations and proceedings. It also requires funding for inpatient beds and a feasibility study related to facility renovation. It will increase state expenditures and may impact local government workload beginning in FY 2022-23. Appropriation Summary: For FY 2022-23, the bill includes an appropriation of \$29.4 million to the Department of Human Services. PASSED. House 55/7/3; Senate 33/0/2. (Reps. Amabile & Soper/ Sens. Hansen & Gardner). Governor SIGNED. **CUT votes NO.** Determining a defendant's competency to stand trial ought to be a relatively straightforward process. Professional evaluation, with opportunity for both prosecution and defense to seek review. Simple, right? But nooo..... not so fast! We need at least 4 rounds of back and forth, replete with extended in-patient stays at private facilities charging \$900 – 1,000 per night. The irony of this Legislature trying to tackle the problem of competency is just too rich.

### **HB-1390 Public School Finance**

This bill is the 2022 School Finance Act that sets funding levels for the 178 school districts; removes the participant cap on the ASENT program; and increases expenditures and school district funding. School enrollment is projected to drop by ~ 8%, and per/pupil expenditures to increase by 3.5 % (inflation) to \$7478. The cost is to be \$185.4 million, rising to \$269.3 million next fiscal year. \$300 million was transferred from the General Fund to the State Education Fund. PASSED. House 45/20/0; Senate 35/0/0. (Reps. McCluskie & McLachlan/Sens. Zenzinger & Lundeen). Governor SIGNED. **CUT votes NO.** With all this money being spent, why is there no incentive or requirement for districts to improve student proficiencies? Why was there not even one Senator courageous enough to cast a symbolic NO vote against this behemoth?

### **HB-1414 Healthy Meals for All Public School Students**

This bill is a ballot proposal to be put before all voters in the November 2022 General Election. It proposes a significant tax increase on higher income Coloradans in order to fund free lunch for all students in public schools in Colorado beginning in the 2023-24 school year. It also provides grants to schools for purchasing Colorado grown and processed food products and provides for salary increases for food workers. It requires that Colorado participate in the federal demonstration project for direct certification for children receiving Medicaid benefits. Total costs are up to \$115.5 million in 2022-23 and up to \$101.5 million per year thereafter. Anticipated tax revenues are not specified in the bill but are presumed to be designed to cover costs. PASSED. House 43/22/0; Senate 23/12/0. (Reps. Gonzales-Gutierrez & Michaelson-Jenet/ Sens. Petersen & Fields). Governor SIGNED. **CUT votes NO.** Another bill to take us on the road to socialism. It is NOT the State's responsibility to feed children – it's the parents' responsibility. This proposal authorizes ANOTHER \$100M + in yearly taxes and a complicated set of procedures to implement a program that is not the function of government! It spends needlessly on administration – the cost of "technical assistance" for purchasing Colorado food is over 50% of the cost of the actual food purchase grants! And it causes the State to collect and share within departments additional information on children. Hopefully the VOTERS will SAY NO to this abomination.

## COLORADO UNION OF TAXPAYERS REWARDS OUR STATE LEGISLATORS

Our Awards Event to honor 2022 Taxpayer Champions and Guardians will be held in fall 2022. Notice will be sent via USPS, email, and posted at [www.coloradotaxpayer.org](http://www.coloradotaxpayer.org).

## 2022 Taxpayer Champion



**House Champion**  
**Patrick Neville**  
R - Franktown

## 2022 Taxpayer Guardians



**Senate Guardian**  
**Paul Lundeen**  
R - Monument



**House Guardian**  
**Shane Sandridge**  
R - Colorado Springs

## How This Rating Is Done

Again, this year CUT used the program BillTrack50 which enabled us to include all of the bills for which we gave the Legislators CUT positions. Each week of the session CUT positions were sent to all 100 legislators on bills which fell within the CUT Pledge and CUT mission. We looked at 388 bills and sent positions for 338 bills. Legislators were rated on their votes for all bills for which we took a position. The Senate and House scorecards indicate what percentage they voted with CUT. In this Rating report you will find write-ups for 29 bills. CUT Board selected the 29 bills which were most egregious to taxpayers, by increasing taxes and fees, coddled to special interests, or increased the growth of government interfering in citizens' lives. The centerfold will show how each legislator voted on these 29 bills. CUT Board of Directors ruled to be identified as Taxpayer Champion legislator must score 75% or better.

THE  
TAXPAYER'S  
VOICE



## Legislative Phone Numbers

*Call Your Colorado Legislators*

Representatives

**Democrats: (303) 866-2904**

**Republicans: (303) 866-2904**

Senators

**Democrats: (303) 866-2316**

**Republicans: (303) 866-2316**



## CANDIDATE/LEGISLATOR PLEDGE

I \_\_\_\_\_, candidate/Legislator for \_\_\_\_\_

hereby pledge to the Citizens of Colorado:

- Tabor** to honor and uphold the spirit as well as the letter of TABOR.
- New Taxes** to oppose any new net tax increase.
- Spending Limit** to limit government spending to growth of Colorado population and inflation.
- Tax Surplus** to support the refund of surplus taxes to the citizens of Colorado proportional to their contributions.
- Prioritize Spending** to support prioritizing the budget by shifting spending from lower valued programs to the higher priorities, and not fund spending with new net taxes.
- Education** to support educational alternatives such as vouchers to create competition and improve student results at a lower cost.
- Privatize** to support privatization of government departments and functions to make them more efficient and less expensive.
- Property Rights** to defend private property rights from "takings" by government or by regulation.
- Payroll Deductions** to oppose unauthorized payroll deductions that are used for political purposes.
- Petition Rights** to support the citizen's right to petition with rules as non-restrictive as possible.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*Sponsored by: Colorado Union of Taxpayers, PO Box 1976, Lyons, CO 80540, 303-494-2400 REV 2009*

## Raise Your Voice! Not Your Taxes. Join CUT Today.

Since 1976 CUT's awareness efforts have saved Colorado taxpayers hundreds of millions of dollars. Yet we have much to do. Please help by supporting CUT today. CUT is saving you money by reducing your taxes.

- Yes, I want to support CUT. \$25 Annual Dues/6 years \$125
- I want to do more! Here is my additional donation of \$\_\_\_\_\_
- "Taxes are too high already and I want to protect against further tax growth. Here is my contribution of \$\_\_\_\_\_". Please keep me informed.

*Make checks payable to CUT, Mail to P. O. Box 1976 Lyons, CO 80540 OR Pay via PayPal or Anedot, Go to coloradotaxpayer.org*

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone(s) (h) \_\_\_\_\_ (w) \_\_\_\_\_ (f) \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_



# Rates Congress

117th Congress, First Session  
2021

### How Congress Voted\*

#### Senate Results

Michael Bennet	D	6%
John Hickenlooper	D	7%

#### House Results

Lauren Boebert	R	89%
Ken Buck	R	87%
Jason Crow	D	7%
Diana DeGette	D	10%
Doug Lamborn	R	77%
Joe Neguse	D	11%
Ed Perlmutter	D	6%

*\*Source: NTU Rates Congress 2021*



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## Help CUT Grow!

CUT has published ratings of the Colorado Legislature since 1977 — 46 years of ratings! Join us and help make a difference. A complimentary copy of the CUT Ratings can be obtained by mailing a self-addressed, stamped envelope to the CUT address above. Send us the names and addresses of up to five other individuals whom you believe would like to receive CUT Ratings. We'll do the rest.

## 2022 CUT Ratings from the Colorado Union of Taxpayers

### From CUT President Marty Neilson

The 2022 Legislative Session was the most blatant demonstration of how one-party dominance corrupts absolutely! The insatiable appetite to spend, coddle special interests, and stick their collective noses into every facet of our lives regardless that most of their legislation is not the proper role of government but an effort to emphasize “government is the best answer”. Lauding more power to an already politically motivated and power thirsty Secretary of State affects the integrity of Colorado elections! Their socialist agenda to denigrate family, religion, and our American way of life moved swiftly through to the Governor for his willing signature.

Throwing millions at front range passenger rail is absurd! Again, roads take an almost invisible back seat! What are the plans to finally fix Colorado highways and roads? Evidence of plans was hard to find. Oh sure, lots of dollars for transportation. We have seen extreme transportation budgets but we do not see better roads. Colorado highways are an embarrassment when compared to those of our neighboring states!

Summing up the 388 bills CUT reviewed this session we saw tax dollars thrown at every special interest a Senator, Representative or lobbyist could dream up. What about the rest of Coloradoans who don't fall into one of these special interest groups? It's their money! Funding benefits to illegals, non-performing schools, green energy hype, social engineering, and unionizing county workers was the 2022 legislative mantra. Legislation injecting rules and regulations into the private sector popped up in several bills. This, of course, makes more costs to consumers. Taking money from hard-working Coloradoans to spend on others is the ultimate insult.

Legislators hate the Taxpayer's Bill of Rights; but, stooped low in an election year to take credit for the constitution-mandated refunds taxpayers will receive. Refunds because Coloradoans are over-taxed!

Please take note of our Call-to-Action summons! The referred measure to provide healthy meals for all public-school students will appear on your 2022 ballot! This is outrageous interference into family preferences and responsibility. Look for it and vote NO!

Each Colorado taxpayer should be part of Colorado Union of Taxpayers. CUT has been your voice at the Capitol since 1976. Please join the CUT Army today. CUT needs the support of citizens like you and your voice of reason.

Yours for liberty,

*Marty Neilson*



**Marty Neilson**  
President, Colorado  
Union of Taxpayers