Firearm Legislation from Colorado's 2025 Regular Session





During Colorado's 2025 legislative session, lawmakers introduced 16 bills related to firearms. Of these, 13 were passed along party lines and signed into law by Governor Polis. The three bills that did not pass included one with bipartisan sponsorship and two sponsored solely by Republican legislators.

The table below summarizes the 2025 firearm-related bills, grouped by theme for clarity. Bills that passed and were signed into law are highlighted in green, while those that failed are marked in red. Additional details on each bill—as well as implementation updates on firearm-related legislation from the 2023 and 2024 sessions—are provided in the following pages.

| Bill Number | Name | Status | | |
|---------------------------------|---|--|--|--|
| Sale of Firearms and Ammunition | | | | |
| SB25-003 | Semiautomatic Firearms & Rapid-Fire Devices | Signed into law April 10, 2025, takes effect September 1, 2025, and applies to offenses committed on or after this date. It will be unlawful to manufacture/distribute/sell/purchase a specified semiautomatic firearm on or after August 1, 2026. | | |
| HB25-1133 | Requirements for Sale of Firearms Ammunition | Signed into law April 18, 2025, takes effect on July 1, 2026, and applies to sales on or after this date. | | |
| Corrections & Enforcement | | | | |
| HB25-1062 | Penalty for Theft of Firearms | Signed into law June 2, 2025, took effect upon signature of the Governor. | | |
| HB25-1098 | Automated Protection Order Victim Notification System | Signed into law June 2, 2025, takes effect 90 days following the last meeting of the General Assembly during the 2025 Regular Session, assuming no referendum petition is filed. | | |
| HB25-1171 | Possession of Weapon by Previous Offender Crimes | Signed into law May 19, 2025, took effect upon signature and applies to offenses on or after this date. | | |
| HB25-1225 | Freedom from Intimidation in Elections Act | Signed into law May 12, 2025, took effect upon signature and applies to offenses on or after this date. | | |

| Bill Number | Name | Status | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|--|--|--|
| Corrections & Enforcement (cont.) | | | | |
| SB25-034 | Voluntary Do-Not-Sell Firearms Waiver | Signed into law June 2, 2025, takes effect 90 days following the last meeting of the General Assembly during the 2025 Regular Session, assuming no referendum petition is filed. | | |
| SB25-158 | State Agency Procurement & Disposal Certain Items | Signed into law May 30, 2025, takes effect January 1, 2026, assuming no referendum petition is filed. | | |
| SB25-205 | Firearm Serial Number Check Request Procedure | Signed into law June 2, 2025, takes effect 90 days following the last meeting of the General Assembly during the 2025 Regular Session, assuming no referendum petition is filed. | | |
| School Safety | | | | |
| HB25-1250 | Gun Violence Prevention & Parents of Students | Signed into law June 2, 2025, takes effect 90 days following the last meeting of the General Assembly during the 2025 Regular Session, assuming no referendum petition is filed. | | |
| Liability Insurance | | | | |
| HB25-1238 | Gun Show Requirements | Signed into law April 18, 2025, takes effect January 1, 2026, and applies to gun shows held on or after this date. | | |
| Funding | | | | |
| SB25-059 | Supports for State Response to Mass Shootings | Signed into law April 10, 2025, takes effect 90 days following the last meeting of the General Assembly during the 2025 Regular Session, assuming no referendum petition is filed. | | |
| SB25-295 | Transfer Proposition KK Money ARPA Cash Fund | Signed into law May 31, 2025, took effect upon signature of the Governor. | | |
| Restriction | | | | |
| HB25-1055 | Repeal Firearm Dealer Requirements & State Permit | Failed in committee. | | |





| Bill Number | Name | Status | | |
|-------------|---|---|--|--|
| Restriction | | | | |
| HB25-1164 | Constitutional Carry of Handgun | Failed in committee. | | |
| Storage | | | | |
| HB25-1128 | Income Tax Credit for Firearm Safety Device | Failed after referral to Finance committee. | | |



Passed Bills

SB25-003 Semiautomatic Firearms & Rapid-Fire Devices: SB25-003 prohibits the manufacture, distribution, transfer, sale, or purchase of certain semiautomatic firearms, with certain exceptions, including for law enforcement agencies and peace officers, the department of corrections, armored vehicle businesses, military forces, gunsmiths, educational programs, transfer because of the death of a person, and used as a prop for film, as well as persons who have completed qualifying firearm-related courses. "Specified semiautomatic firearm" is defined as a semiautomatic rifle or semiautomatic shotgun with a detachable magazine or a gas-operated semiautomatic handgun with a detachable magazine. The bill makes the unlawful sale, transfer, or possession of a large-capacity magazine a class 1 misdemeanor. Unlawful manufacture, distribution, transfer, sale, or purchase of a specified semiautomatic firearm is a class 2 misdemeanor; except that a second or subsequent offense is a class 6 felony. The bill appropriates \$1.3 million to the Department of Natural Resources.

In its original form, the bill would have outright banned the manufacture, distribution, transfer, sale, or purchase of a "specified semiautomatic firearm." However, it was amended in Senate so that those firearms could be sold if a buyer first take a training course. In a statement by Governor Polis, the bill is to improve public safety by ensuring an educated and trained gun owner community. Republicans in the House of Representatives have sent a letter to U.S. Attorney General Pam Bondi to review the law's constitutionality through the Department of Justice's newly-created Second Amendment Enforcement Task Force.

Status of SB25-003: The bill was signed into law on April 10, 2025. The bill takes effect on September 1, 2025 and applies to offenses committed on or after this date. Per the bill, it will be unlawful to manufacture, distribute, sell, and/or purchase a specified semiautomatic firearm on or after August 1, 2026.

HB25-1133 Requirements for Sale of Firearms Ammunition: HB25-1133 requires that ammunition sold at retail must be through a vendor. Ammunition also cannot be sold to a person under 21 years old, with exceptions for persons who are 18-20 years of age at shooting ranges, who are members of the military and veterans, who have a hunter education certification, who are protected by a protection order, or who were born on or before January 28, 2007. Sellers must provide notification to delivery providers that packages contain ammunition, but the bill prohibits labeling the outside of the package to indicate that it contains ammunition.

Status of HB25-1133: The bill was signed into law on April 18, 2025. It takes effect on July 1, 2026, and applies to sales on or after this date.





HB25-1062 Penalty for Theft of Firearms: HB25-1062 makes the theft of a firearm a class 6 felony, regardless of the firearm's value. Previously, gun theft was charged based on the value of the firearm. The bill appropriates \$323,825 from the general fund to the judicial department to implement the bill.

Status of HB25-1062: The bill was signed into law on June 2, 2025. It took effect upon signature of the Governor.

HB25-1098 Automated Protection Order Victim Notification System: HB25-1098 requires the Department of Public Safety to create an automated protection order victim notification system to provide a protected person, their family, or other interested persons with information related to a criminal or civil protection order, including whether an extreme risk protection order (ERPO) was issued against the restrained person and the date it was served. For FY 2025-26, the bill's appropriation indicates \$500,000 in federal funds to contract with a third-party entity to build and administer the system.

Status of HB25-1098: The bill was signed into law on June 2, 2025. It takes effect 90 days following the last meeting of the General Assembly during the 2025 Regular Session, assuming no referendum petition is filed against the bill in the interim.

HB25-1171 Possession of Weapon by Previous Offender Crimes: HB25-1171 adds motor vehicle theft in the first degree to the list of violations that prohibit a person from possessing a firearm. It allows the person to petition a court for an order to carry a firearm if 10 years have passed since criminal proceedings or release of the person from supervision relating to the motor vehicle conviction in the first degree.

Status of HB25-1171: The bill was signed into law on May 19, 2025, and took effect upon signature and applies to offenses on or after this date.

HB25-1225 Freedom from Intimidation in Elections Act: HB25-1225 prohibits any individual from intimidating, threatening, or coercing an individual for voting or attempting to vote, urging or aiding any individual to vote or attempt to vote, exercising any powers or duties to administer elections (including vote counting, canvassing, and election certification), or the individual's past or present status in administering elections. Any individual who carries a visible firearm, imitation firearm, or toy firearm interacting with election-related activities is presumed to have engaged in intimidation that is prohibited. This bill supplements existing law prohibiting any person from carrying a firearm inside or near locations used for voting and counting ballots.

In anticipation of efforts to dismantle the national Voting Rights Act of 1986 which prohibits discriminatory election practices, bill sponsor and Assistant Majority Leader Jennifer Bacon spoke of the commitment to protect voting rights to address voter suppression and voter dilution tactics used throughout the country.

Status of HB25-1225: The bill was signed into law on May 12, 2025. It took effect upon signature and applies to offenses on or after this date.

<u>SB25-034 Voluntary Do-Not-Sell Firearms Waiver:</u> SB25-034 establishes a process for a person to voluntarily waive their right to purchase a firearm. The person can electronically file for a voluntary waiver, revoke a waiver, and provide contact information of a person who should be contacted if the person attempts to purchase a firearm while the waiver is in effect.

Status of SB25-034: The bill was signed into law on June 2, 2025. It takes effect 90 days following the last meeting of the General Assembly during the 2025 Regular Session, assuming no referendum petition is filed against the bill in the interim.





SB25-158 State Agency Procurement & Disposal Certain Items: SB25-158 creates procurement practices for firearms or items pursuant to the federal "National Firearms Act" by the state. During a governmental body's contract sourcing method process, a contractor or bidder shall follow a procurement verification process to confirm they engage in safe business practices. The attorney general may assist the department of personnel in developing processes and procedures to implement the verification process.

Status of SB25-158: The bill was signed into law on June 2, 2025. It takes effect on January 1, 2026, assuming no referendum petition is filed.

SB25-205 Firearm Serial Number Check Request Procedure: SB25-205 allows federal firearm licensees to request a serial number check from a sheriff's office, a police department, or perform the check independently, prior to purchasing a firearm from an individual. If the FFL believes or becomes aware that at person sold or attempted to sell a firearm that is stolen, lost, or involved in an open criminal investigation, the licensee must file a report with law enforcement.

Status of SB25-205: The bill was signed into law on June 2, 2025. It takes effect 90 days following the last meeting of the General Assembly during the 2025 Regular Session, assuming no referendum petition is filed.

HB25-1250 Gun Violence Prevention & Parents of Students: HB25-1250 requires local education providers to distribute materials created by the CDPHE Office of Gun Violence Prevention to caregivers at the beginning of each school year and a link to the materials on the local education provider's website.

Status of HB25-1250: The bill was signed into law on June 2, 2025. It takes effect 90 days following the last meeting of the General Assembly during the 2025 Regular Session, assuming no referendum petition is filed.

HB25-1238 Gun Show Requirements: HB25-1238 adds additional requirements for gun shows including requiring that security plans by promoters be submitted to local law enforcement, requiring promoters to have liability insurance, requiring firearms to be tagged to ensure chain of custody, certification of vendors, verify compliance with 3-day waiting period law. Also mandates gun show vendors to have a federal firearms license and valid state firearms dealer permit. It removes the \$10 limit on the fee a federal firearms licensee may charge for completing background checks at a gun show. According to bill sponsor Rep. Junie Joseph, gun violence has touched all communities, including the loss of innocent lives in the Boulder King Soopers shooting in 2021. This bill will improve safety at gun shows and prevent senseless firearm deaths.

Status of HB25-1238: The bill was signed into law on April 18, 2025. It takes effect on January 1, 2026, and applies to gun shows held on or after this date.

<u>SB25-059 Supports for State Response to Mass Shootings:</u> SB25-059 requires the Division of Criminal Justice in the Department of Public Safety to apply for and spend federal or other grant money to improve the state's response to mass shootings, including support services for victims of mass shootings.

Status of SB25-059: The bill signed into law on April 10, 2025. It takes effect 90 days following the last meeting of the General Assembly during the 2025 Regular Session, assuming no referendum petition is filed.

SB25-295 Transfer Proposition KK Money ARPA Cash Fund: SB25-295 creates the Behavioral and Mental Health Excise Tax Cash Fund and requires that revenue from Proposition KK (firearm and ammunition excise tax) be transferred to the new excise tax cash fund from the previously created Behavioral and Mental Health Cash Fund to differentiate funds from the American Rescue Plan Act that are used for behavioral health services in the Behavioral and Mental Health Cash Fund.

Status of SB25-295: The bill was signed into law on May 31, 2025. It took effect upon signature.







<u>HB25-1055 Repeal Firearm Dealer Requirements & State Permit:</u> HB25-1055 repeals requirements related to dealing firearms enacted in HB24-1353. It includes repealing the requirement for state firearms dealer permit, on-site inspections of state permit holders, and an annual training course.

According to bill sponsor Rep. Max Brooks, the HB24-1353 bill sought to put duplicative permitting processes and fee processes on federal firearms dealers. The HB25-1055 repeals the bill due to lack of funding.

Status of HB25-1055: The bill was introduced in House in the Business Affairs & Labor Committee and postponed indefinitely. As this bill did not pass out of committee, it is unlikely to pass successfully in the next legislative session.

<u>HB25-1164 Constitutional Carry of Handgun:</u> HB25-1164 reduces the minimum age of possessing a handgun from 21 to 18 years of age and the authority to carry a concealed handgun.

Status of HB25-1164: The bill was introduced in House in the State, Civic, Military, & Veterans Affairs Committee and postponed indefinitely. As this bill did not pass out of committee, it is unlikely to pass successfully in the next legislative session.

<u>HB25-1128 Income Tax Credit for Firearm Safety Device:</u> HB25-1128 creates a new income tax credit equal to the purchase price of a firearm safety device, not to exceed \$200, purchased from a federally licensed dealer for tax years 2027 and 2028.

Status of HB25-1128: The bill was introduced in House in the State, Civic, Military, & Veterans Affairs Committee and was referred to the Finance Committee with amendments. The bill was postponed indefinitely.

The bill was expected to decrease the General Fund revenue by \$250,000 in FY 2026-27, a half-year impact, by \$500,000 in FY 2027-28, and by \$250,000 in FY 2028-29, a final half-year impact. However, because TABOR refunds are paid from the General Fund, decreased General Fund revenue would lower the TABOR refund obligation, but result in no net change to the amount of General Fund otherwise available to spend or save. Other states, including Louisiana and Virginia, have income tax credits on firearm safety devices. Louisiana offers up to \$500 for gun safe storage devices while Virginia offers up to \$300 with the cost of a qualifying firearm safe no more than \$1,500. Other states have sales tax exemptions on firearm safety devices. This bill had bipartisan support and may be reconsidered in the next legislative session.



Implementation Updates

Monitoring the implementation of firearm laws can provide insights on if the laws are functioning as intended, promote accountability among lawmakers and enforcement agencies, prepare the public for compliance, and identify legal or operational barriers to implementation.

Brief implementation updates for bills passed into law in the 2023 and 2024 legislative sessions:





2023

SB23-169 Minimum Age for Firearm Purchases: Effective January 1, 2024, Colorado raised the minimum age for purchasing any firearm from 18 to 21 with limited exceptions (C.R.S. §18-12-112*; 18-12-112.5*). The law faced legal challenges and was <u>upheld by a federal judge in June 2025</u>, citing precedents that allow age-based restrictions on firearm purchases. While 21 years of age is the current minimum in Colorado, the <u>federal 21-year-old age requirement is being challenged</u> and legal experts expect the issue to make its way to the U.S. Supreme Court.

2024

HB 24-1174 Concealed Carry Permits & Training: The final sections of this law take effect on July 1, 2025 mandating minimum standards for training and who can teach training courses. Training classes are required to be held in person with a minimum of eight hours including a live-fire shooting exercise, and to be a law enforcement firearms safety course or taught by a verified instructor. These trainings will include instructions on best practices for interacting with law enforcement emergency responders, safe handling and storage, conflict resolution and management of violent confrontations, and pertinent federal and state laws (C.R.S. 18-12-202.5*).

2024 cont.

HB 24-1348 Secure Firearm Storage in a Vehicle: Effective January 1, 2025, this law mandates handguns to be stored in a locked, hard-sided container that is not visible from outside the vehicle and all other firearms to be stored in in a hard or soft-sided container with a locking device when left in an unintended vehicle. Unlawful storage of a firearm in a vehicle is a civil infraction (C.R.S. <u>18-12-114.5</u>*)

HB 24-1349 Firearm & Ammunition Tax: Colorado became the first state to approve excise tax on firearms and ammunition via a ballot measure when <u>voters approved Proposition KK</u> in November 2024 general election. Effective April 1, 2025, the 6.5% firearms and ammunition excise tax is levied on retail vendor's net taxable sales of firearms, firearm precursor parts, and ammunition sold in Colorado. The excise tax is expected to generate \$39 million annually and be allocated to crime victim services (\$30 million), mental health services for veterans (\$5 million), behavioral health services for children and teens (\$3 million), and school security improvements (\$1 million) (C.R.S. 39-37-101 - 39-37-112*).



About Us

The University of Colorado <u>Firearm Injury Prevention Initiative</u> (FIPI) is a nonpartisan, multidisciplinary research center dedicated to reducing firearm-related injuries and deaths through science, education, and collaboration across a range of perspectives.

The University of Colorado <u>Eugene S. Farley, Jr. Health Policy Center</u> (Farley Center) conducts health policy research, translation, and implementation to advance whole health for all.

Annually FIPI and the Farley Center partner to track the status of firearm-related bills introduced during the regular legislative session and monitor the implementation of recently passed laws. This summary is intended solely as an educational resource for Coloradans. It provides factual information about firearm-related legislation that has been proposed in the state legislature. FIPI and the Farley Center do not support or oppose any of the laws discussed in this summary. The goal of sharing this information is to help people learn more about laws that have been proposed, passed, or failed in our state.

*Links may not contain the most up-to-date information.



