

2026 HOMESCHOOL FREEDOM

— END-OF-SESSION REPORT —

The Colorado Homeschool Freedom Team (HSFT) is a ministry of CHEC. We envision families honoring Jesus Christ by embracing home discipleship that is Christ centered, parent directed, and free from government control.

The 2026 Colorado General Assembly Session was a demanding one, with more than 700 bills introduced, all while homeschooling was under serious attack across the nation. Yet here in Colorado, not a single homeschool freedom was lost, and CHEC was on the front lines making sure of it. Throughout the session, CHEC stood watch over bills affecting homeschool freedoms, religious liberty, and parental rights, sounding the alarm when families needed to act and engaging legislators directly. But while CHEC labored, it was **the Lord** who protected our families and preserved our freedoms. To God alone be the glory for another year of liberty!

In the broader education conversation, more money for schools from your TABOR refund is on the 2026 ballot with **SB26-135, *State Public K-12 Education Funding***. A power and funding grab was made with **HB26-1292, *Scholarship Granting Organizations***, which would have restricted private scholarships with private funds, but it was pulled when the pushback elevated. Government-funded, part-time homeschool enrichment programs were under the microscope with a last-minute amendment (two days before the session ended) to the **School Finance Bill, SB26-023**, while religious liberty sustained attacks in **HB26-1141, *Discriminatory Practices in Public Schools***, and **HB26-1322, *Civil Actions for Conversion Therapy Survivors***, the latter immediately following a U.S. Supreme Court ruling finding a similar Colorado law unconstitutional.

CHEC was fighting for your parental rights by testifying on four of the bills in the Parental Rights section of this report. The attack on parents is constant whenever the topic of God's truth on biological sexes is spoken. Several Republican legislators banded together to sponsor a bill to place a constitutional amendment for parental rights on the ballot, **HCR26-1004, *Person's Rights Related to Their Children***, but without any opposition testimony, the committee voted it down.

Several bills addressing family safety were debated concerning child sex trafficking and prostitution: **SB26-015, *Commercial Sexual Activity with a Child Offenses***; **SB26-111, *Protections Against Child Rape***; **HB26-1082, *Children Are Not for Sale Act***; and **SB26-097, *Decriminalize Adult Commercial Sexual Activity***. More legislation covered internet platforms and artificial intelligence (AI) chatbots. Life issues were a common thread as legislators tried to mitigate the effects of Amendment 79.

But God's hand was evident when **SB26-018, *Legal Protections for the Dignity of Minors***, was amended, and both the **Scholarship Granting Organizations** and the **Decriminalize Adult Commercial Sexual Activity (Prostitution)** bills were pulled. He also enabled a CHEC-sponsored resolution, **SJR26-20, *Recognize Home Education Day***, to pass overwhelmingly in both chambers. He blessed our Homeschool Day at the Capitol event and gave CHEC the privilege of taking part in the National Day of Prayer Rally on the Capitol steps. God is good. We must vote wisely this fall and partner with Him in speaking truth to Colorado.

Defending your *family's freedom*
and helping you homeschool with *confidence*

Deuteronomy 11:19 instructs parents regarding the commands of the Lord, *“You shall teach them to your children, speaking of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up”* (NKJV).

HOME EDUCATION

Some of these bills indirectly touch homeschool families, depending on the types of programs utilized. Publicly-funded part-time enrichment programs include oversight and regulation risks.

SJR26-20 Recognize Home Education Day (R Pelton, Johnson, Garcia Sander)

This joint resolution recognized April 9, 2026, as Home Education Day in Colorado, affirming that it is the primary right of parents to choose the proper education for their children. **CHEC sponsored this resolution. Passed both the Senate and the House.**

SB26-023 School Finance Act (Kolker, Kirkmeyer, Sirota, Lukens)

Bill adds restrictions for part-time homeschool enrichment programs that are publicly funded as well as adding eligibility requirements. Specifies formula for student funding for all public schools.

HB26-1292 Scholarship Granting Organizations (Goldstein, Kipp, Marchman)

Would take private donations to Scholarship Granting Organizations and restrict them. Requires private (homeschool umbrella) and faith-based schools to apply nondiscrimination criteria, including sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression and post the criteria on their website. **CHEC opposed this bill. This bill failed to pass the House Committee.**

HB26-1428 Administration of Publicly Funded Education Programs (Sirota, Taggart, Bridges, Kirkmeyer)

Requires a report on online and part-time enrichment programs, including type, delivery method, availability for public school students, standards, seat time, and recommendations for cost containment and oversight.

EDUCATION

These bills are representative of laws being passed in the education space. There are many other education bills not included due to space limitations.

SB26-080 Cradle to Career Grant Program Creation (Coleman, Simpson, Lukens, English)

Creates a grant program to eligible entities to provide services that support education, health, family stability, and workforce readiness in high-poverty areas for children and youth through age 24.

SB26-135 State Public K-12 Education Funding (Kipp, Bridges, Bacon, Lukens)

This bill submits a 2026 ballot question to voters to increase funding for K-12 public education by 2% for 10 years by circumventing TABOR restrictions and keeping your TABOR refund. **CHEC opposed this bill.**

HB26-1078 Off-Campus Courses & Concurrent Enrollment Programs (Smith, Hamrick, Marchman, Kirkmeyer)

Expands access to concurrent enrollment by letting colleges offer more classes at off-campus locations (high schools or community sites).

HB26-1083 Protect Female Sports Act (Bottoms)

Requires schools and athletic associations to designate teams as either biologically male, female, or coeducational. Prohibits a team designated for either sex from participation by the opposite sex. **CHEC supported this bill. Bill failed to pass the House Committee.**

HB26-1389 Comprehensive Human Sexuality Education Grant Appropriation (Brown, Sirota, Amabile, Kirkmeyer)

Eliminates the requirement to annually appropriate money to the department of public health and environment for the comprehensive human sexuality education grant program.

PARENTAL RIGHTS

SB26-018 Legal Protections for the Dignity of Minors (Wallace, Kolker, Froelich, Garcia)

Suppresses court records regarding a minor's name change. Only requires the consent of one parent. Can be used for transgender minors without a noncustodial parent's consent. **CHEC opposed this bill.**

HCR26-1002 Require Age Verification for Pornographic Material (Soper, Rich)

Submits a constitutional amendment to voters for the 2026 election mandating distributors of pornographic material verify recipients are at least 18 years old. **CHEC supported this bill. Bill failed to pass the House Committee.**

HCR26-1004 Person's Rights Related to Their Children (DeGraaf, Bradley, Baisley, Zamora Wilson)

Submits a constitutional amendment to voters for the 2026 election adding to the list of inalienable rights of all persons the right to direct the upbringing, education, and care of their children. **CHEC supported this bill. Bill failed to pass the House Committee.**

HB26-1087 *Safeguard Minors from Sex-Altering Interventions* (Bottoms)

Prohibits a health-care provider or mental health professional from providing interventions intended to alter the minor's biological sex and prohibits funding for the intervention. **CHEC supported this bill.**

Bill failed to pass the House Committee.

HB26-1128 *Limitation on Gender Transition Procedure Claims* (DeGraaf)

Bill sets the statute of limitations for an injury as a result of a youth gender transition procedure to before the youth reaches 38 years old. **CHEC supported this bill. Bill failed to pass the House Committee.**

HB26-1309 *Abuse in Cases of Separation* (Froelich, Story, Wallace)

Bill redefines domestic violence to include "coercive control" defined as isolating children from friends or family, monitoring their finances, activities, or communication, and regulating their everyday behavior, among other things. Does not require a criminal conviction. *Can be used against innocent and religious parents in custody decisions.*

CHEC opposed this bill.

FAMILY SAFETY

SB26-011 *Search Warrants Provided to Covered Platforms* (Frizell, Roberts, Boesenecker, Caldwell)

Requires electronic platforms to comply with a search warrant within 72 hours.

SB26-015 *Commercial Sexual Activity with a Child Offenses* (B. Pelton, Roberts, Duran, Caldwell)

The bill modernizes language and imposes mandatory minimum sentences for adults who exploit children through commercial sex acts.

CHEC supported this bill.

SB26-032 *Promoting Immunization Access* (Daugherty, Mullica, Feret, Brown)

Expands vaccine access, includes recommendations from other organizations in addition to ACIP, updates insurance coverage for HPV, creates the Adult Immunization Act, and expands liability protections for manufacturers. **Became law on March 27, 2026. CHEC opposed this bill.**

SB26-051 *Age Attestation on Computing Devices* (Ball, Paschal, Liston, Ricks)

Requires device makers and app stores to give apps basic age-range information during setup.

SB26-097 *Decriminalize Adult Commercial Sexual Activity* (Hinrichsen, Cutter, Garcia, R. Stewart)

Decriminalized commercial sexual activity (prostitution) between consenting adults and prohibited all local ordinances banning or regulating it. **CHEC opposed this bill. Bill failed to pass the Senate Committee.**

SB26-111 *Protections Against Child Rape* (Bradley, English, Rich)

Eliminates probation for offenders convicted of child sexual assault felonies and requires mandatory minimum sentences and prison time. **CHEC supported this bill. Bill failed to pass the Senate Committee.**

HB26-1082 *Children Are Not for Sale Act* (Bottoms)

Bill increases the penalty for human trafficking of a minor for sexual servitude to a class 1 felony and requires a sentence of life imprisonment without the possibility of parole. **CHEC supported this bill. Bill failed to pass the House Committee.**

HB26-1263 *Conversational AI Service Operator Requirements* (Carson, Camacho, Mabrey, Jodeh)

Regulates chatbots and conversational AI tools that are available to minors and implements a protocol for handling suicidal ideation.

RELIGIOUS LIBERTY

HB26-1141 *Discriminatory Practices in Public Schools* (Bacon, Kolker, Marchman)

Expands the definition of discriminatory practices in places of "public accommodations," specifically in **any** educational institution. (public, private, or faith-based) This includes discriminating based on sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression adversely affecting religious schools and families. **CHEC opposed this bill.**

HB26-1322 *Civil Actions for Conversion Therapy Survivors* (Valdez, McCormick, Mullica, Cutter)

Removes the statute of limitations for civil lawsuits against a "licensed mental health professional" who counsels regarding sexual orientation or gender identity change efforts. *A Colorado law banning conversion therapy for minors was overturned by the U.S. Supreme Court. This bill is clearly unconstitutional.* **CHEC opposed this bill.**

LIFE

HB26-1024 *Raising Age of Voluntary Relinquishment of Child* (Keltie, Frizell, Rydin, Marchman)

Raises the age of a child who may be voluntarily relinquished from 72 hours old to 30 days old or younger. **CHEC supported this bill.**

HB26-1085 *Offer Pregnant Person Do Not Abort Form* (Keltie)

Requires health-care providers to offer a pregnant woman a "Do Not Abort" form that expresses her wishes not to receive an abortion in the event she is incapacitated. **CHEC supported this bill. Bill failed to pass the House Committee.**

HB26-1105 Discuss Adoption Information with Pregnant Persons (Flanell, Slauch, Zamora Wilson)

Requires health-care providers to discuss, 24 hours before an abortion, information on adoption as a pregnancy option, unless the person declines the discussion. **CHEC supported this bill. Bill failed to pass the House Committee.**

HB26-1243 Department of Public Health and Environment Regulation of Abortion Clinics (Bottoms)

The department of public health and environment would annually license and enforce standards for facilities that perform abortions during the second or third trimester of pregnancy. **CHEC supported this bill. Bill failed to pass the House Committee.**

HB26-1335 Abortion Medication Access on College Campuses (Garcia, Nguyen, Wallace, Bridges)

Forces Colorado universities, both public and private, to stock the abortion pill, mifepristone, in their college health care centers. **CHEC opposed this bill.**

SB26-043 Record Keeping & Regulation of Sale of Firearm Barrel (Sullivan, Froelich, Brown)

Bill treats firearm barrels like firearms for transfer purposes, requiring background-checked, in-person sales through licensed dealers and mandates record keeping for five years. **Bill was laid over.**

HB26-1126 Requirements for Firearms Dealers (Sirota, Woodrow, Kipp)

Increases regulations, record-keeping, and security requirements for firearms dealers, with significant fines.

HB26-1144 Prohibit Three-Dimensional Printing Firearms & Components (Gilchrist, Boesenecker, Sullivan, Wallace)

Prohibits using a 3D printer to manufacture a firearm or major component unless they possess a federal firearms license.

HB26-1302 Colorado Bureau of Investigation Firearms InstaCheck Unit Operating Hours (Boesenecker, Duran, Kipp)

Allows the Colorado Bureau of Investigation to set its own operating hours for firearm background checks.

GUN RIGHTS

SB26-004 Expand List of Petitioners for Protection Order (Sullivan, Froelich, Gonzales, Willford)

Expands the list of individuals who can request an extreme risk protection order to include institutions such as health-care facilities, school districts, charter schools, private schools, and higher education. *Could target Second Amendment supporting homeschool families.* **CHEC opposed this bill.**

TAXPAYER BILL OF RIGHTS (TABOR)

HB26-1419 Over-Refund of Excess State Revenues (Sirota, Brown, Amabile, Bridges)

Directs State Controller to recalculate the TABOR refund for FY 2024-25 and limits how quickly the over-refund can be recovered.

CHEC did not take a position on all of these bills. They are listed here for your information. Unless otherwise specified, the bills listed passed this session. If you have any questions, please reach out to CHEC's Director of Government Relations, Colleen Enos, at Colleen@CHEC.org.

To find more information on these bills, go to the Colorado General Assembly website:
LEG.COLORADO.GOV



CHEC's Colorado Homeschool Freedom Team diligently watches the bills presented in the Colorado General Assembly and actively engages in protecting the rights of Coloradans in the areas of home education, parental rights, and religious liberty. Join the team:

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