



HOW DID WE GET HERE?

Colorado Laws Affecting Parental Rights, Schools & Children

Taken together, these laws show a growing shift in Colorado policy away from parental authority and toward greater institutional and state control over children's identity, education, mental health, healthcare, and family relationships. This growing imbalance is why Protect Kids Colorado brought forward three citizen ballot measures for the November 2026 election to restore commonsense protections for children and parental rights.

HB19-1120: Authorizes children as young as 12 to receive outpatient psychotherapy without parental consent or required notification, reducing parental involvement in their mental health care.

Read the law: <https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/hb19-1120>

HB19-1129: Restricts talk therapy for children experiencing gender-related distress by prohibiting licensed mental health professionals from helping a child become comfortable with their biological sex.

Read the law: <https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/HB19-1129>

HB19-1032: Expands traditional puberty education into comprehensive human sexuality instruction covering gender identity and fluidity, sexual identity, consent, contraception, and LGBTQ-related topics.

Read the law: <https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/HB19-1032>

HB19-1192: Expands discussions of sexual orientation and gender identity beyond optional health classes by embedding them in required history and civics instruction beginning in first grade.

Read the law: <https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/HB19-1192>

HB23-1003: Shifts student mental health screening from a family-directed decision to a state-administered program that collects student mental health data and refers children for services they may access without parental consent beginning at age 12 under HB19-1120.

Read the law: <https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/HB23-1003>

SB23-188, 189, 190: Makes Colorado a sanctuary for gender-transition procedures, including for minors, by legally protecting medical and surgical gender-affirming treatment and restricting Colorado authorities from assisting other states seeking to investigate or impose penalties on those who provide, obtain, or help children access that care.

Read the laws: <https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/sb23-188>; <https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/sb23-189>; <https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/sb23-190>

HB24-1017: Gives foster children rights to gender-identity affirmation and treatment, preferred names and pronouns, and reproductive and sexual healthcare, potentially conflicting with foster parents' religious beliefs.

Read the law: <https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/hb24-1017>

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HB24-1039: Requires public schools to use students' gender-identity-related chosen names without requiring schools to notify parents, allowing a name change at school to occur without parental knowledge.

Read the law: <https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/HB24-1039>

HB24-1170: Creates a statutory right to gender-affirming treatment for children in state custody and requires juvenile facilities to accommodate asserted gender identity in healthcare, records, housing, and daily operations.

Read the law: <https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/HB24-1170>

HB24-1071: Allows people convicted of felonies to legally change their names to conform with their gender identity, potentially making it more difficult for the public to identify and locate their prior criminal history.

Read the law: <https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/HB24-1071>

SB24-205: Extends Colorado's gender-identity laws into artificial intelligence by requiring AI systems used in major decisions to comply with anti-discrimination laws that include gender identity as a protected class.

Read the law: <https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/sb24-205>

HB25-1239: Adds significant financial penalties to Colorado's anti-discrimination laws, increasing the consequences for using a person's birth name or biological pronouns when that speech is treated as gender-identity discrimination.

Read the law: <https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/HB25-1239>

HB25-1309: Expands Colorado's gender-transition medical framework by mandating insurance coverage for wrong-sex hormones and breast, facial, genital, and other surgeries, authorizing public-source funding, and removing testosterone prescriptions from Colorado's prescription drug monitoring requirements.

Read the law: <https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/HB25-1309>

HB25-1312: Expands Colorado's gender-identity requirements by incorporating names and pronouns reflecting a person's self-declared gender identity into the Colorado Anti-Discrimination Act (CADA), subjecting the use of biological pronouns or birth names to discrimination claims and raising constitutional and public-record concerns.

Read the law: <https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/HB25-1312>

HB25-1109: Allows gender identity to replace biological sex on death certificates and permits undisclosed gender and legal-name changes after death, raising concerns about the accuracy of official records.

Read the law: <https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/hb25-1109>

SB25-129: Shields providers of gender-transition procedures from certain out-of-state and federal investigations by restricting subpoenas and government cooperation, limiting outside investigation and accountability.

Read the law: <https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/sb25-129>

HB26-1309: Expands "coercive control" in child-custody cases to include limits parents place on a child's services, activities, communications, and movement, raising concerns that parents who resist gender-identity affirmation could face custody consequences under Colorado's broader gender-identity laws.

Read the law: <https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/HB26-1309>

HB26-1322: Exposes licensed counselors to substantial civil damages with no time limit for helping children accept their biological sex, despite Supreme Court recognition of First Amendment protections for such talk therapy.

Read the law: <https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/HB26-1322>

SB26-018: Eliminates public notice for minors' legal name changes and suppresses court records, further reducing parental transparency as Colorado increasingly recognizes children's gender-identity-related names without requiring parental notification.

Read the law: <https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/SB26-018>

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ON ALL 3 IN
NOVEMBER!

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Paid for by Protect Kids Colorado-Issue Committee. Registered Agent Patricia McKernan.

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