



2026 Under the Dome - Week 16

Today marks the 108th day of this legislative session, with adjournment required by midnight on Wednesday, May 13.

Bill introductions continued this week despite the limited amount of time remaining in session, with a handful of significant measures read across the desk including in the Senate [SB 180](#) Investment Performance Authority and [SB 189](#) Automated Decision-Making Technology. SB 189 is sponsored by Senate President Coleman and Senate Majority Leader Rodriguez and has been assigned to the Senate Business Affairs and Labor Committee. On Monday, a federal judge [issued a delay](#) in enforcing Colorado's artificial intelligence law. The lawsuit against [Senate Bill 24-205](#) was filed by Elon Musk on behalf of his xAI company. The Trump administration joined the lawsuit last week. The Senate bill introduced on Friday will repeal and replace a bill approved in 2024, and reflects the framework recommended by the AI Working Group that was established after an attempt to pass an alternate AI bill failed in last fall's special legislative session.

In the House, bills introduced this week include [HB 1424](#) Transportation Network Company Consumer Protection and [HB 1430](#) Transportation Funding Adjustments. [Democratic lawmakers are introducing the bill to counteract Initiative 175](#), a construction industry-backed proposal which would ask voters to require that state revenue collected from transportation-related sources be used only for "road transportation." Revenue is estimated to be [\\$540 million from the state's general fund](#).

The Joint Budget Committee voted on final adjustments to the budget ("long") bill and orbital bills and the House and Senate ratified those bills and sent them to the Governor for action. JBC staff presented the committee with a [general fund overview](#) to aid in these final decisions, which included changing the cap on dental benefits in the Cover All Coloradans from \$750 to \$1100, adding \$7 million to protect additional NICU and maternal health reimbursement rates from further cuts, adjusting the projections of TABOR exempt funds, and reducing the General Fund reserve to maintain a balanced budget.

The JBC also voted to introduce a bill to set up a [Medicaid Commission](#) for the 2026 interim. The committee intends to hire a facilitator to lead the process and prepare a report for the General Assembly by December 11, 2026.

Now that the budget has been finalized, the Appropriations Committees in the House and Senate are working through full agendas of bills, many of which have been waiting since January or February for this hearing. Dozens of bills moved through Appropriations this week and then went to the floor including in the Senate [SB 003](#) End-of-Life Management of Electric Vehicle Batteries, one the Senate Democrats priority bills introduced on the first day of the legislative session. A strike-below amendment to this bill was adopted in the Appropriations Committee and the bill passed the Senate floor on a second reading voice vote on Friday.

House Appropriations Committee met several times this week and passed a number of bills including [HB 1004](#) Continuation of Child Care Contribution Tax Credit and [HB 1289](#) Modification of Certain Tax Expenditures in addition to three bills ([HB 1221](#), [HB 1222](#), and [HB 1223](#)) that would create a new Family Affordability Credit in the 2026 tax year. Each of those bills passed the House floor on second reading later in the day. After a special evening Appropriations Committee meeting, the House took up [SB 149](#) Pathways for Individuals with Mental Health Disorder, passed more than a dozen amendments requested by the sponsors, and gave preliminary approval to the bill on second reading.

[HB 1230](#) Extend Conservation Easement Tax Credit passed the House Appropriations Committee unanimously and will come to the floor next week along with [HB 1054](#) Protections for Worker Safety, which was amended in Appropriations and then approved on a party-line vote.

The House of Representatives spent long hours on the floor this week including a late-night session on Friday. Earlier in the week the House approved [HB 1419](#) Over-Refund of Excess State Revenues which Republicans opposed on TABOR grounds and attempted to amend throughout a debate that lasted many hours.

The Senate also did a significant amount of floor work this week including extended debate on [SB 134](#) Payment Card Networks' Fees which would prohibit credit cards from charging merchants a transaction fee based on sales tax amounts. The bill initially passed third reading on Wednesday, but the Senate Majority Leader gave Notice of Intent to Reconsider. The bill was taken back up on Friday and passed by a one vote margin, 18-17. The Senate also debated at length [HB 1005](#) Worker Protection Collective Bargaining, which ultimately passed on a party-line 23-12 vote. Indications are that the Governor will veto this legislation, as he did last year.

[SB 178](#) Health Insurance Affordability Measures passed the Senate Finance Committee by a margin of 6-3 on Thursday after adoption of amendments that adjusted the Unclaimed Property Trust Fund funding source. The bill will next be heard in the Senate Appropriations Committee on Tuesday morning.

Next week is the last full week of the legislative session, and dozens of bills will move quickly through committees and to the floor in an attempt to make it across the finish line prior to adjournment *sine die*.

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