



## Weekly News & Updates

Legislative Session: **Sine Die - May 13**  
Monday, May 25, 2026



### The 2026 Session Asked One Question: Who Does Government Trust?

What did the 2026 Colorado legislative session really reveal?

Not just which bills passed. Not just which bills died. It revealed what kind of government Denver believes in.

One that trusts voters, families, local communities, law enforcement, and taxpayers.

Or one that believes centralized power should decide more, tax more, regulate more, and override more.

Rep. Brooks' session overview cuts through the noise and asks the question every Coloradan should be asking:

Who does government trust?



### Max's 2026 Session Bill Status

#### Bill No. 1 - HB26-1061

Community Integration  
Housing Tax

- *Postponed Indefinitely*

#### Bill No. 2 - HB26-1021

Second Amendment  
Protection Act

- *Postponed Indefinitely*  
(Party-Line Vote in Committee)

#### Bill No. 3 - HB26-1098

Public Trustee Act  
Foreclosure Procedures

- *Signed by Governor in Law*

#### Bill No. 4 - SB26-098

State & Local Noise  
Abatement Authority

- *Postponed Indefinitely*

#### Bill No. 5 - HB26-1254

Audit Enforcement

- *Postponed Indefinitely*

Read the full article.

**Read More**



## Stay informed. Stay engaged. Stay connected.

The decisions being made at the Capitol and here at home affect your taxes, your rights, your family, and your future. You deserve direct access to the facts, the votes, and the reasoning behind them.

Follow Rep. Max Brooks on social media to:

- Get real-time updates from the Capitol.
- Watch committee testimony and floor debate highlights.
- See how he votes and why.
- Learn how legislation impacts Douglas County and Castle Rock.
- Engage directly with your Representative.

Self-government only works when citizens stay involved.

Follow Rep. Brooks on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [X](#), and [YouTube](#) today and make sure your voice stays part of the conversation.



## **[Bill No. 6 - HB26-1287](#)**

### **Sunset Division of Real Estate**

*- Passed Senate Third Reading:  
No Amendments*

## **Max's Co-Sponsored Bills**

### **[HB26-1042 - Dry Needling by Occupational Therapists](#)**

*- Signed by Governor into Law*

### **[HB26-1031 - Protections for Agricultural Products Grown in Colorado](#)**

*- Signed by Governor into Law*

### **[HB26-1024 - Raising Age of Voluntary Relinquishment of Child](#)**

*- Signed by Governor into Law*

### **[HB26-1023 - Political Party Liability for Accessibility Requirements](#)**

*- Signed by Governor into Law*

### **[HB26-1078 - Local Government Approval of Transmission Infrastructure](#)**

*- Postponed Indefinitely*

### **[HB26-1079 - Drive Motorcycle Written Permission](#)**

*- Senate Third Reading Passed -  
No Amendments*

### **[HB26-1257 - Local Regulation of Massage Facilities](#)**

*- Signed by Governor into Law*

### **[HB26-1191 - Examination of School District Records](#)**

*- Signed by Governor into Law*

### **[HB26-1090 - Teacher Licensing Requirements](#)**

*- Signed by Governor into Law*

### **[HB26-1031 - Protections for Agricultural Products Grown in Colorado](#)**

*- Signed by Governor into Law*



## Connect with fellow Castle Rock Conservatives!

The **Castle Rock Republican Breakfast** meets monthly, and you are invited!

**Where:**

Douglas County Fairgrounds Event Center  
500 Fairgrounds Road Castle Rock, CO 80104

**When:**

Every Third Friday at 7:30 AM

It's just \$20 (cash only) for a hot breakfast and strong conversation.

Questions?

Contact or RSVP **Kent Cheese**  
at [kent.cheese@firstwestmortgage.com](mailto:kent.cheese@firstwestmortgage.com)

### **HB26-1009 - Colorado Mandatory Lethality Assessment Act**

- Signed by the President of the Senate

### **HB26-1339 - Change Cesar Chavez Day to Farm Workers Day**

- Signed by President of the Senate

### **HB26-1092 - Licensed Midwife Public Health Facilities Privileges**

- *Postponed Indefinitely*

### **HB26-1278 - Local Government Approval of Transmission Infrastructure**

- *Postponed Indefinitely*

### **SB26-134 - Payment Card Networks' Fees**

- Passed House Third Reading:  
No Amendments

### **SB26-121 - Overtime Threshold for Agricultural Employees**

- Signed by Governor into Law

## Best Five Bills

### **1.HB26-1061, Community Integration Housing Tax Credits**

This bill deserves a place because it reflects one of Rep. Brooks' strongest moral priorities: support for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. It would set aside at least 10% of competitive federal low-income housing tax credits for community integration housing and require qualifying developments to reserve at least 20% of units for persons with IDD. It is targeted. It is humane. It focuses government support where it can serve people who often lack political power.

### **2.SB26-149, Pathways for Individuals with Mental Health Disorder**

This is the strongest public safety and human services bill of the session. It addresses the competency loophole by creating a civil commitment or enhanced protective placement pathway when a defendant is incompetent, unlikely to be restored, accused of homicide, a crime of violence, or felony unlawful sexual behavior, and poses a substantial risk of serious harm to others. That matters to voters because compassion cannot mean abandoning public safety. The bill recognizes two truths at once: some offenders need treatment, and the public still has a right to be protected.

### **3.SB26-011, Search Warrants Provided to Covered Platforms**

This is a direct, practical law enforcement bill. It requires covered online platforms to maintain a staffed process for Colorado law enforcement, acknowledge search warrants within 8 hours, and comply within 72 hours when statutory conditions are met. For families in Douglas County, this matters because many modern crimes move through digital platforms, including child exploitation, threats, trafficking, stalking, fraud, fentanyl distribution, and coordinated violence. Government cannot protect citizens with 20th-century tools against 21st-century crimes.

### **4.HB26-1098, Public Trustee Act Foreclosure Procedures**

This belongs in the top five because it is Rep. Brooks' own legislation and reflects serious, disciplined governing. Foreclosure procedure is not politically glamorous, but property rights are foundational. A district like HD45 depends on clear title, predictable legal process, lender confidence, borrower fairness, and reliable county administration. The House Minority Newsletter identifies HB26-1098, Rep. Brooks' Public Trustee Act Foreclosure Procedures bill, as one of the Republican caucus bills that passed the House.

### **5.HB26-1033, Expanding the Colorado Cottage Foods Act**

This bill helps ordinary Coloradans turn work, skill, and enterprise into income. It expands cottage food sales to certain refrigerated foods and meat products, requires training and registration, allows limited inspection, and raises the revenue cap from \$10,000 to \$150,000. That is the right balance. It protects consumers without crushing small producers. For families facing high costs, this bill creates economic oxygen. It lets a home kitchen become a first rung on the ladder of entrepreneurship.

## **Worst Five Bills**

### **1.HB26-1223, Modifying Certain Tax Expenditures**

This is the worst bill that survived. It repeals part of the downloaded software sales and use tax exemption and creates a refundable credit structure tied to the revenue raised. The House Minority Newsletter correctly frames HB26-1221 through HB26-1223 as a coordinated tax package that raises costs on employers and diverts money away from TABOR refunds. HB26-1223 passed, meaning Colorado businesses and consumers are left with a narrower exemption and a more hostile tax environment.

### **2.HB26-1126, Requirements for Firearms Dealers**

This bill expands the state regulatory burden on firearms dealers. It broadens who is covered as a "responsible person," extends requirements to certain contractors and unpaid individuals, expands recordkeeping beyond pistols and revolvers, requires security plans, and authorizes major fines. The House Minority Newsletter warned that the bill creates a duplicative state regulatory system alongside the federal framework and threatens lawful firearms businesses. For HD45 voters, this is a constitutional and economic issue. The state should target criminals, not regulate lawful businesses into submission.

### **3.HB26-1430, Transportation Funding Adjustments**

This bill is dangerous because it operates around a voter-driven transportation initiative before the people have even spoken. Its mechanics reduce certain fuel taxes, vehicle registration fees, and road usage fees if voters approve a transportation initiative, then creates a new fund to

manage redirected revenue. The concern is not only transportation policy. The concern is institutional trust. Rep. Brooks' May 10 newsletter correctly framed this as a voter intent problem. When lawmakers preemptively rewrite the consequences of a citizen initiative, voters hear the quiet part clearly: Denver wants the final word even when the people vote.

#### **4.SB26-005, Rights Violation in Immigration Enforcement Remedy**

This bill creates a state cause of action for alleged federal constitutional violations during civil immigration enforcement. That may sound narrow, but its political function is broader. It makes Colorado a state-level litigation venue against immigration enforcement. Rep. Brooks has already argued that law enforcement must not be turned against law enforcement. This bill moves Colorado further toward conflict with federal authority and away from public order.

#### **5.HB26-1001, Housing Developments on Qualifying Properties**

This bill overrides local discretion by requiring subject jurisdictions to allow residential development on qualifying properties through an administrative approval process and limits local authority over height, density, parking, setbacks, lot coverage, open space, and similar standards. Rep. Brooks' March 29 newsletter emphasized that local control protects communities from one-size-fits-all mandates. That principle matters in Castle Rock, Castle Pines Village, The Pinery, and Douglas County. Housing affordability matters, but the state should not solve one problem by weakening the public's control over roads, water, density, schools, and community character.

## **Five Bills to be Most Thankful that Died**

#### **1.HB26-1281, Homicide Criminal Offenses**

This is the bill Republicans should be most thankful died. It would have moved certain extreme indifference killings from first-degree murder into a new second-degree murder category when only one person died, unless specific aggravating facts applied. The House Minority Newsletter notes that it narrowly passed the House, 33 to 32, before Senate Republicans held the line, and the sponsors killed their own bill. For voters, the moral issue is clear. A person who kills with extreme indifference to human life has committed a grave offense against the victim, the family, and civil order. Colorado should not dilute accountability for homicide.

#### **2.HB26-1222, Modify Tax Expenditures**

This bill would have reversed federal pro-growth tax treatment for business interest, bonus depreciation, qualified production property, and domestic research and experimental expenditures for Colorado tax purposes. That means Colorado would have taken a state tax bite out of investment, manufacturing, production, and research. The House Minority Newsletter says HB26-1221 and HB26-1222 were killed in Senate Finance after unified Republican and stakeholder opposition. That was a major win for jobs, capital formation, and taxpayers.

#### **3.HB26-1275, Law Enforcement Identification and Immigration Training Requirements**

This bill would have required POST to deny certification to people who had worked for ICE or Customs and Border Protection, required immigration-related training, expanded state criminal jurisdiction over federal officers, and required peace officers to intervene against federal law enforcement officers under certain circumstances. It died. That is worth highlighting. This was not just a training bill. It would have institutionalized suspicion toward federal immigration officers and placed Colorado officers in the middle of federal-state conflict.

#### 4.SB26-097, Decriminalize Adult Commercial Sexual Activity

This bill would have decriminalized commercial sexual activity among consenting adults statewide, expressly preempted local ordinances, and repealed state offenses such as prostitution, soliciting for prostitution, keeping a place of prostitution, patronizing a prostitute, and related offenses. It died in Senate Judiciary. Republicans should be thankful because public policy cannot treat prostitution as a simple matter of private consent. It touches exploitation, trafficking, addiction, neighborhood safety, organized crime, public health, and human dignity.

#### 5.HB26-1308, Lot Splitting Approval by Subject Jurisdictions

This bill would have required local approval of certain lot splits into two new lots, including new lots as small as 1,200 square feet, subject to an administrative process. It died in the Senate Local Government and Housing Committee. For HD45, this is a major local-control win. Residents should decide how their communities grow through accountable local government, not through state-imposed density policy that treats every neighborhood as interchangeable.

This session showed why an engaged minority still matters.

Republicans did not control the chamber. But they shaped the debate, improved bills, stopped dangerous ideas, and forced the majority to defend its priorities in public.

The best bills of the session protected people without enlarging government beyond its proper role. They helped law enforcement respond to digital crime. They closed a public safety gap in the competency system. They supported individuals with disabilities. They protected property process. They helped small producers earn a living.

The worst bills revealed the deeper problem at the Capitol. Too many lawmakers believe the state should override local communities, weaken criminal accountability, burden lawful businesses, raise costs through tax policy, and place Colorado in conflict with lawful enforcement.

The bills that died prove that resistance is not symbolic. It matters. When Republicans stand together, work with stakeholders, make the public case, and force hard votes, bad bills can be stopped.

That is the work Rep. Brooks should carry into the interim. Stay present. Stay serious. Stay principled. And keep giving voters the one thing they deserve most from government: the truth.



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