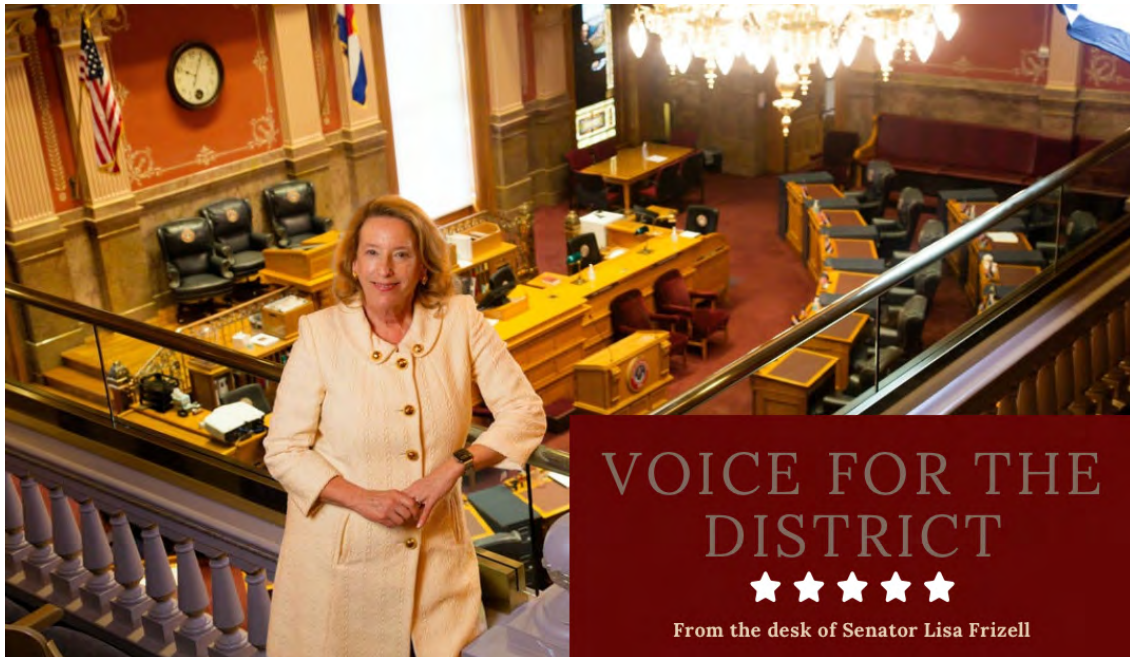




2026 Legislative Interim

Summer Update!

Greetings Lori,

This summer has been full of legislative events and activities. I am excited to share some updates from my interim so far, as well as start the conversation regarding ballot measures for the 2026 election. Thank you for your support, and please read on for more!



Colorado Day was celebrated on August 1st, 2026 commemorating 150 years of our beautiful Centennial State. In 1876, President Ulysses S. Grant signed the proclamation which admitted Colorado to the Union as the 38th U.S. state.

I am proud to be a Coloradan!

Medicaid Commission

Prior to the end of session I was appointed to the [Commission on Medicaid](#) – a new interim committee created to develop recommendations regarding new federal medicaid policy changes that will go into effect in 2026, 2027, and 2028. Additionally, we will assess the functionality of HCPF (the Healthcare Policy and Financing Department who administers Medicaid). Our goal is to support Coloradans who will be impacted by these changes and work to make this dysfunctional department more effective and efficient.

So far, we have met four times at the Capitol, and there are opportunities for Public Testimony as we evaluate options on how to implement a sustainable Medicaid program. In my opinion, the first three meetings were not particularly productive, however last week's meeting showed some promise as we had meaningful, and candid, dialog with the department. We are meeting again this Wednesday, and I hope that trend continues.



Western Conservative Summit

After a brief hiatus, the Western Conservative Summit returned this year and was hosted at Colorado Christian University. It was a great honor to serve on the Colorado Legislator Panel with a few of my colleagues from the State Legislature to discuss policy, the upcoming general election, and our reflections on our great state's 150th anniversary.



Proposition NN

As you may recall, [SB26-135](#) was one of the most controversial bills from this session. This law, which passed through on party lines, created Proposition NN which will be on the November ballot. In short, a 'yes' vote would permanently allow the state to keep some or all of the revenue that otherwise would be refunded to taxpayers under the Taxpayers Bill of Rights (TABOR), while a 'no' vote would maintain current TABOR refunds as defined in the Colorado Constitution, and subsequently modified by the legislature. The arguments in support of Proposition NN are focused on teacher pay and retention – neither of which are the purview of state government, but are rather local school district matters. To me, it is clear that TABOR refunds are a taxpayer right and the passage of this measure would cause a tax increase. Funding for our schools has increased by 25% over the last few years, even while enrollment continues to decline. While there are some specifications on how a fraction of the dollars must be spent, the vast majority will go to the General Fund and increased government spending. Vote NO on Proposition NN to preserve Colorado's Taxpayer Bill of Rights!

Please see the [Ballot Analysis](#) prepared by the Legislative Council Staff for more information.



Douglas County Cattle Drive

To kickoff the Douglas County Fair & Rodeo, the Town of Castle Rock once again held a real cattle drive through downtown. It was great to participate in the parade and see so many familiar faces lined up along Front Street – and those longhorns are even more impressive up close!



Proposed Initiatives

There are a number of [citizen-initiated ballot measures](#) that will be voted on in November, and the following is a brief summary with links to outlines prepared by the Legislative Council Staff for each:

[Initiative 85: Increase Penalties for Fentanyl Crimes](#) would make possession of any amount of fentanyl a felony, require a mandatory minimum 8-year prison sentence for distribution, and eliminate options to reduce charges for certain offenses. *I strongly recommend a “yes” vote on this measure.*

[Initiative 108: Penalties for Human Trafficking of a Minor](#) increases the penalties for child sex trafficking to life in prison without parole from the current sentencing range of 8 to 48 years in prison plus a mandatory

parole period. *I strongly recommend a “yes” vote on this measure.*

[Initiative 109: Male and Female Participation in School and Collegiate Sports](#) requires that all school-based athletic teams and sports must be designated specifically for biological males or biological females by adopting policies on gender eligibility for sports. *I strongly recommend a “yes” vote on this measure.*

[Initiative 110: Prohibit Surgery on Minors in Response to Perception of Sex or Gender](#) removes the current law protecting surgeries on minors that would alter biological sex characteristics, and prohibits the use of government funds or health insurance to pay for the surgeries. *I strongly recommend a “yes” vote on this measure.*

[Initiative 175: Redirect State Funds to Roads](#) Do you hate the state of our transportation infrastructure??? *Please vote yes!*

[Initiative 177: Constitutional Right to Purchase and Sell Natural Gas](#) establishes the right to purchase and sell natural gas for use in homes and businesses in the state constitution. You may be saying — why??? Because the majority party consistently attacks our energy infrastructure, and a bill banning natural gas was almost introduced last session to preempt this ballot measure. *I strongly recommend a “yes” vote!*

[Initiative 195: Graduated Income Tax](#) would replace the state's current flat income tax rate of 4.4% to a taxable income bracket between 3.7% and 8.4% resulting in significant increases for high earners. **ABSOLUTELY VOTE NO!!!**

[Initiative 232: Income Tax Rate Limit](#) establishes the current state income tax rate of 4.4% as the maximum rate, the exact outcome if 232 and 195 are both passed is unclear. **VOTE YES!!!**

[Initiative 256: Requirements for Off-Cycle Congressional Redistricting](#) requires the Colorado Independent Congressional Redistricting Commission to approve any new congressional districts proposed outside of a scheduled redistricting year. *I strongly recommend a “yes” vote on this measure.*

[Initiative 302: Constitutional Right to Hunt and Fish](#) establishes in the Colorado Constitution the right to hunt and fish certain wildlife –of course this is allowed today, but this effort will protect against future (and very likely) attempts from the far left to restrict/eliminate citizens rights to hunt

and fish. *I strongly recommend a “yes” vote on this measure.*

[Initiative 362: Mail Ballot Voter Identification](#) requires voters to provide identification information (last 4 digits of a government issued identification number such as their social security number) with their mail ballot, in addition to their signature. *I strongly recommend a “yes” vote on this measure.*



Castle Rock Ribbon Cutting

It was great to join the Douglas County Housing Partnership for the relaunch of Rio at the Rock– featuring a four-story mural commemorating the 150/250 anniversary of our state and nation.



I was honored to receive 'The Shield and Sword Award' from Law and Order Action in recognition of upholding the rule of law during the legislative session. The Rocky Mountain Voice Freedom Festival honored Colorado's law enforcement and first responders at the Back the Blue Bash in June, where several Douglas County legislators were awarded.



UC Health Home Run Derby

It was great to see Dinger the Dinosaur at Coors Field for the UC Health Home Run Derby. All the proceeds, over \$260,000, went to Athletics and Beyond.

Thank you for allowing me to serve you,



Lisa Frizell

Assistant Minority Leader

Senate District 2

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