



Women's Lobby of Colorado

2012 Legislative Scorecard

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We are pleased to present our fourth annual legislative scorecard reflecting women's priorities in the state of Colorado! The Women's Lobby of Colorado seeks to provide better opportunities for women in our state by ensuring that public policies reflect gender equity and justice. Since 1993, our volunteer organization has kept the needs of women front and center in our

state's public policy debate by consistently maintaining an active lobbying presence at Colorado's Capitol..

We hope that this scorecard will serve as a guide to Coloradans on issues that are important to women. Provided in this scorecard are the voting records of each member of the Colorado State Legislature on priority bills

for the Women's Lobby considered in the 2012 session.

We hope that you will carefully examine the scores of legislators and write or call elected officials to let them know that you reviewed their votes. You can determine who your state senator and state representative are by visiting www.votesmart.org.

SCORING METHODOLOGY

Thirteen bills were selected. Eleven were voted on by the whole Senate and nine by the whole House. They represent a range of women's issues. The bills were priority bills for the Women's Lobby of Colorado, or for our member organizations, or for our partners in coalition efforts. The scorecard reflects 3rd reading votes.

A green circle indicates the legislator voted consistently with the position of the Women's Lobby of Colorado. A red square indicates the legislator voted against the position of the Women's Lobby. "E" means they were excused and did not vote. A score reflects the percent of the time that votes were consistent with the Women's Lobby of Colorado position.

We also discuss important bills that did not make it out of committee in the second house, and note how the committee members voted. Votes cast in these committees are not counted in a legislator's score. Only the floor votes taken by all senators or representatives are considered in the final score.

SUMMARY OF BILLS ON SCORECARD

✓ = bill Women's Lobby Supported ✗ = bill Women's Lobby opposed

- ✓ [HB12-1028](#) **Continue Low-income Energy Assistance** *Signed into law*
 Rep. Cheri Gerou Passed House 49-16
 Sen. Pat Steadman Passed Senate 24 - 10 Excused-1
 Extends the funding from the operational account of the severance tax trust fund used for providing energy-related assistance to low-income households through direct bill payment assistance and home energy-efficiency improvements from only state fiscal year 2012-13 to state fiscal years 2012-13 through 2018-19.
- ✓ [HB12-1100](#) **Pregnancy & Evidence of Substance Abuse** *Signed into law*
 Rep. Ken Summers Passed House 62 - 1 Excused-2.
 Sen. Irene Aguilar Passed Senate 32-3
 Makes the results of any information related to substance use obtained as part of a screening or test performed for the purpose of determining pregnancy or providing prenatal

care inadmissible in any criminal proceeding.

✘ [HB12-1111](#)

Photo Identification for Voting

Reps Ken Summers and Lizzy Szabo
Sen. Shawn Mitchell

Killed in Senate State Affairs

Passed House 62- 1 Excused - 2

Voted to support: Grantham, Neville
Voted to oppose: Boyd, Bacon, Heath

Limits acceptable identification for election-related purposes to certain government issued photo IDs , except for residents of certain state-licensed facilities.

✘ [HB12-1130](#)

First Degree Murder of Unborn Child

Rep. Janak Joshi
Sen Shawn Mitchell

Killed in Senate Judiciary

Passed House 33-32

Voted to support: S. King, Lundberg,
Voted to oppose: Giron, Nicholson, Roberts,
Guzman, Carroll

Allows for a second charge to be filed if a crime committed against a pregnant woman is the proximate cause of injury or death to her unborn child. This was an expansion from the original scope from vehicle-related and unlawful termination of pregnancy offenses to include all criminal offences involving a pregnant woman.

✓ [HB12-1151](#)

Human Trafficking And Prostitution

Rep. Beth McCann
Sen. Steven King

Signed into law

Passed House 64 - 0 Excused 1

Passed Senate 34 - 0 Excused 1

A person who is convicted of trafficking in adults, trafficking in children, or coercion of involuntary servitude may be held by a court to be liable for actual damages caused to any persons as a result of his or her behavior.

Property used for the purpose of trafficking in adults, trafficking in children, or coercion of involuntary servitude shall be deemed a class 1 public nuisance and thereby subject to seizure, confiscation, and forfeiture. Current law requires an escort service to provide to each escort patron a written contract for services. The bill requires the contract to include a notice that describes statutory provisions concerning human trafficking and slavery.

Currently law states that any person who has been adjudicated for an offense involving unlawful sexual behavior is not eligible to petition for the expungement of any juvenile record. The bill creates an exception to this ineligibility for a person who demonstrates to the satisfaction of the court that at the time he or she committed the offense, he or she had been sold, exchanged, bartered, or leased by another person for the purpose of performing the offense, or was coerced by another person to perform the offense.

✓ [HB12-1326](#)

Concerning Assistance to the Elderly

Reps Cindy Acree and John Kefalas
Sen Michael Johnston

Signed into law

Passed House: 59 - 6

Passed Senate 23 - 12

The bill encourages the state board of human services to raise the monthly standard assistance for the old age pension from \$699 per month to \$725.

It also adds funding to a dental care program for low income seniors. The bill also directed budgeted, but unclaimed funding for restoration of the Senior Homestead Exemption to provide services under the Older Coloradoans Act.

✓ [SB12-002](#)

Civil Unions

Sen. Pat Steadman
Rep Mark Ferrandino

Passed Senate: 23 – 12

Passed House Judiciary

Passed House Finance

Passed House Appropriations

Died prior to second reading. No
Vote

Reintroduced as HB12S-1006 in
special session

Died in House State Affairs

Passed House Judiciary: Voted For: Duran, Kagan, Lee, Nikkel, Pabon, Ryden Voted Against: Baumbardner, DelGrosso, Sonnenberg, Waller, B. Gardner

Passed House Finance: Voted For: Beezley, Hullinghorst, Kagan, Kefalas, Labuda, McCann, Pabon Voted Against: Acree, Conti, Holbert, Swalm, Swerdfeger, DelGrosso,

Passed House Appropriations: Voted For: Ferrandino, Hullinghorst, A Kerr, Levy, Pabon, Solano, Gerou Voted Against: DelGrosso, B Gardner, Looper, Sonnenberg, Vaad, Becker

Died prior to second reading. No Vote

Reintroduced as HB12S-1006 in special session

Died in House State Affairs: Vote For: Casso, Court, Duran, Todd Vote Against: Baumgardner, Joshi, Liston, Coram, J. Kerr

The bill creates the "Colorado Civil Union Act" (Act) to authorize any 2 unmarried adults, regardless of gender, to enter into a civil union.

Parties wanting to enter into a civil union apply to a county clerk and recorder for a civil union license. Certain persons may certify a civil union. After the civil union is certified, the officiant files the civil union certificate with the county clerk and recorder. A priest, minister, rabbi, or other official of a religious institution or denomination or an Indian nation or tribe is not required to certify a civil union in violation of his or her right to free exercise of religion. The criteria for a valid civil union are set forth in the bill. The legal benefits, protections, and responsibilities that are granted under the law to spouses apply in like manner to parties to a civil union and are enumerated.

✓ [SB12-015](#)

Creating Optional Category of Higher Ed Tuition

Sens. Angela Giron and Michael Johnston
Rep. Crisanta Duran

Passed Senate 20- 4 Excused 1

Passed House Education

Voted For: Court, Hamner, A. Kerr, Peniston, Solano, Todd, Massey Voted Against: Holbert,, Joshi, Murray, Ramirez, Summers, Beezley

Killed in House Finance

Voted For: Hullinghorst, Kagan, Kefalas, Labuda, McCann, Pabon Voted Against: Acree, Beezley, Conti, Holbert, Swalm, Swerdfeger, DelGrosso

Unless the governing board of an institution of higher education adopts a policy stating that it will not offer standard-rate tuition, the bill requires an institution of higher education to classify a student, other than certain foreign students or trainees defined in federal law, as a standard-rate student for tuition purposes so long as the student attended a public or private high school in Colorado for 3 or more years immediately preceding the date and is admitted to an institution in Colorado within 12 months after graduating from high school or earning a certificate.

A student paying standard-rate tuition shall pay the student's share of in-state tuition plus an amount equal to the college opportunity fund stipend awarded to in-state students (approximately \$1860).

✓ [SB12-022](#)

Maintain Child Care Assistance Working Families

Sen. Suzanne Williams
Rep. Tom Massey

Signed into law

Passed Senate 24 - 10 Excused - 1
Passed House 43 - 19 Excused - 3

Creates a pilot program of willing counties to address the "cliff effect" in child care assistance. Participating counties can adjust the parental copays to minimize the "cliff effect" during a 2 year tapering off period after a parent has exceeded income eligibility level adopted by the county department of social services for the Colorado child Care Assistance Program. A family that receives child care assistance during the extended 2-year period is required to report any income changes during the 2-year period and is subject to a redetermination of eligibility after the first 12 months.

✓ [SB12-056](#)

Court Appointments Domestic Relations Cases

Sen Morgan Carroll

Signed into law

Passed Senate 35 - 0

Rep. Chris Holbert

Passed House 62 - 0 Excused - 3

The bill requires a child's legal representative, a child and family investigator, a parental responsibilities evaluator, a parenting coordinator, and a decision-maker to certify at the time of the appointment and in any written report that he or she does not have any relationship, financial or otherwise, with the child, either party, the attorneys, or the court or, if he or she does, to disclose the nature of the relationship. Further, the court-appointed professionals agree to comply with any laws relating to the performance of their appointed position. With respect to parenting coordinators, a parenting coordinator must be a neutral third party with an independent perspective acceptable to the court. Additionally, before appointing a parenting coordinator, the court shall consider the effect of a claim by one of the parties of domestic violence by the other party on the ability of the parties to engage in parent coordination.

✓ [SB12-093](#)

**Notice of Hospital Services Not Provided
Religious Grounds**

Sen. Morgan Carroll
Rep. Crisanta Duran

Passed Senate 20 - 14 Excused- 1
Killed in House State Affairs

Voted to support- Casso, Court, Duran, Todd
Voted to oppose- Baumgardner, Joshi, Liston,
Coram, J Kerr

The bill requires hospitals licensed in Colorado to provide notice in a manner specified by the department of public health and environment of all services that the hospital refuses to provide because of religious beliefs or moral convictions. The bill requires the notice to inform patients of their right to obtain any service not provided by the hospital because of religious beliefs or moral convictions from another hospital that does provide the service. Requires the notice to be made available prior to or at admission of the patient or as soon after admission as practicable.

✓ [SB12-134](#)

Hospital Payment Assistance Program

Senator Irene Aguilar
Reps Cindy Acree.

Passed Senate 28 - 6 Excused – 1
Passed House: 45 - 20

The bill requires each hospital to make available to patients, and to communicate to each patient, information about the hospital's charity program and discount program in a clear and understandable manner and in languages appropriate to its communities. The bill also requires hospitals to offer a discount to each qualified patient. A qualified patient is defined as an uninsured patient who has a family income of not more than 250% of the federal poverty income level and who does not receive a discount through the Colorado indigent care program. A hospital is prohibited from charging a qualified patient for more than the cost of the lowest negotiated private rate.

✓ [SB12-139](#)

Coordination of Work Support Assistance

Sen. Betty Boyd
Reps Rhonda Fields and Ken Summers.

*Passed Senate 21 - 12 Excused - 2
Killed in House State Affairs:*

*Voted to support- Casso, Court, Duran, Todd
Voted to oppose- Baumgardner, Becker,
Joshi, Coram, J. Kerr*

Would authorize pilot programs, funded with gifts, grants and donations to design and implement programs to eliminate the cliff effect and help parents transition to self-sufficiency from unemployment or public assistance.

PRIORITY BILLS DIED PRIOR TO FLOOR VOTE

(were not considered in the overall score)

Women's Lobby strongly supported

✓ **HB12- 1256**

Formula for Maintenance Dissolution of Marriage

Rep. Beth McCann
Sen. Shawn Mitchell

Pulled by sponsor for revision for next year.

Sets a basic mathematical standard for awarding of spousal support following divorce.

Women's Lobby strongly opposed

✘ HB 12-1046 **Colorado Works Program Drug Testing Requirement**
Rep. Sonnenberg
Sen. Brophy

Passed House Health Committee
Votes to support: Bradford, Brown, Joshi, J. Kerr, Massey, Acree, Summers
Votes to oppose: Fields, Kefalas, McCann, Peniston, Young,
Excused: S. Shafer

Passed House Appropriations
Votes to support: DelGrosso, B. Gardner, Looper, Sonnenberg, Vaad, Gerou, Becker
Votes to oppose: Ferrandino, Hullinghorst, A. Kerr, Levy, Pabon, Solano

Dies on House floor in unrecorded voice vote

The bill requires a person applying for assistance through the Colorado Works Program to take a drug test for the presence of controlled substances as a condition of eligibility for assistance. If an applicant fails the drug test, the applicant may reapply for assistance 1 year after the date of the drug test. However, a person may reapply after 6 months if the person successfully completes a substance abuse treatment program.

This year, the Women's Lobby **top priority bills** were:

✓ SB 93—Hospital Disclosure Requirements	Died
✓ SB 139—Coordination of Work Support Assistance	Died
✓ HB 1256 – Predictability & Consistency in Divorce	Died
✘ HB 1046 – Colorado Works Program Drug Testing Requirement	Died

Priority bills are actively lobbied by our professional lobbyist. The Women's Lobby of Colorado is represented at the State Capitol by Jennifer Miles and Diana Protopapa.

For the full text of any bill, visit Colorado General Assembly's website: <http://www.leg.state.co.us>

2012 Legislative Scorecard

HOUSE SCORECARD

Legislator	Dist	2012 Score	HB12-1028	HB12-1100	HB12-1111	HB12-1130	HB12-1151	HB12-1326	SB12-022	SB12-056	SB12-134
			Support	Support	Oppose	Oppose	Support	Support	Support	Support	Support
Acree, C. (R)	40	78	●	●	■	■	●	●	●	●	●
Balmer, D. (R)	39	33	■	●	■	■	●	■	■	●	■
Barker, M. (R)	17	67	●	●	■	■	●	●	●	●	■
Baumgardner, R. (R)	57	33	■	●	■	■	●	■	■	●	■
Becker, J. (R)	63	44	■	●	■	■	●	●	■	●	■
Beezley, D. (R)	33	25	■	●	■	■	E	■	■	●	■
Bradford, L. (R)	55	78	●	●	■	■	●	●	●	●	●
Brown, J. (R)	59	56	■	●	■	■	●	●	●	●	■
Casso, E. (D)	32	89	●	■	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Conti, K. (R)	38	67	●	●	■	■	●	●	■	●	●
Coram, D. (R)	58	67	■	●	■	■	●	●	●	●	●
Court, L. (D)	6	100	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
DelGrosso, B. (R)	51	57	●	●	■	■	●	●	E	E	■
Duran, C. (D)	5	100	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Ferrandino, M. (D)	2	100	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Fields, R. (D)	42	100	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Fischer, R. (D)	53	100	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Gardner, B. (R)	21	56	●	●	■	■	●	●	■	●	■
Gerou, C. (R)	25	78	●	●	■	■	●	●	●	●	●
Hamner, M. (D)	56	100	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Holbert, C. (R)	44	33	■	●	■	■	●	■	■	●	■
Hullingerhorst, D. (D)	10	100	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Jones, M. (D)	12	100	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Joshi, J. (R)	14	33	■	●	■	■	●	■	■	●	■
Kagan, D. (D)	3	100	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Kefalas, J. (D)	52	100	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Kerr, A. (D)	26	100	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Kerr, J. (R)	28	78	●	●	■	■	●	●	●	●	●
Labuda, J. (D)	1	100	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Lee, P. (D)	18	100	●	E	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Levy, C. (D)	13	100	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Liston, L. (R)	16	56	●	●	■	■	●	●	■	●	■
Looper, M. (R)	19	44	■	●	■	■	●	●	■	●	■
Massey, T. (R)	60	78	●	●	■	■	●	●	●	●	●
McCann, B. (D)	8	100	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
McKinley, W. (D)	64	100	●	E	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
McNulty, F. (R)	43	71	●	●	■	■	●	●	E	E	●
Miklosi, J. (D)	9	100	●	●	E	●	●	●	E	E	●
Murray, C. (R)	45	56	■	●	■	■	●	●	●	●	■
Nikkel, B. (R)	49	56	■	●	■	■	●	●	■	●	●
Pabon, D. (D)	4	100	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Pace, S. (D)	46	100	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Peniston, C. (D)	35	100	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Priola, K. (R)	30	44	■	●	■	■	●	●	■	●	■
Ramirez, R. (R)	29	67	●	●	■	■	●	●	●	●	■
Ryden, S. (D)	36	100	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Schafer, S. (D)	24	100	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Scott, R. (R)	54	56	■	●	■	■	●	●	■	●	●
Singer, J. (D)	11	100	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Solano, J. (D)	31	100	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Sonnenberg, J. (R)	65	33	■	●	■	■	●	■	■	●	■
Soper, J. (D)	34	100	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Stephens, A. (R)	20	56	●	●	■	■	●	●	■	●	■

