



Hi Friend,

Sometimes we make history -- and sometimes history makes us. Those were my closing words as we adjourned the second session of the 72nd General Assembly on Monday.

In the midst of a once-in-a-century pandemic, Colorado Democrats championed critical legislation to protect the health and safety of our communities, lift up our small businesses, and support Coloradans through economic hardship. I'm proud to say that we met the moment and responded quickly to the devastation of COVID-19 and the demands of a movement calling for justice.

But if this year has made anything abundantly clear, it's that we've got to do better to take care of our most vulnerable Coloradans. I plan on taking a break and spending some much-needed time with my family. And then I plan on getting back to work.

All the best,

Legislation Highlights



Here are some of the most critical bills we passed this session:

SB20-205: Requires Colorado employers to provide paid sick leave, accrued at one hour for every 30 hours worked, up to 48 hours.

HB20-1415: Prevents employers from retaliating against employees who raise concerns about workplace health and safety during a public health emergency.

HB20-1413: Leverages private investment to create a \$250M Small Business Recovery Loan Program for small businesses hit hard by COVID-19.

SB20-207: Expands unemployment eligibility to workers who are the primary caretaker of a child unable to attend school, have a family member in quarantine due to illness, or who are themselves immunocompromised during a public health emergency.

SB20-217: Improves accountability and transparency by ending qualified immunity for peace officers and reins in the use of force.

HB20-1420: Closes Washington tax breaks for big corporations and millionaires to re-allocate critical funding for our students and teachers.

SB20-221: Ends the practice of a "panic" defense used to justify assault and murder of a person based on their gender, gender identity, gender expression or sexual orientation.

SB20-212: Expands telehealth services beyond the COVID-19 pandemic by requiring Medicaid reimbursement rates on par with in-person health services.

HB20-1409: Authorizes the Department of Public Health and Environment to complete annual inspections of public and private facilities that detain non-citizens for immigration proceedings, including unannounced follow-up inspections.

HB20-1143: Raises the fines for air and water pollution violations.

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