

# The 2025 Legislative Session



Also to be known as ...

A directional sign on the stairs reads:  
STATE CAPITOL  
↑ COLFAX AVE. PUBLIC ENTRANCE  
→ MILE HIGH MARKER  
← 15TH AVE. PUBLIC ENTRANCE & LEGISLATIVE BUILDING





# The Kitchen Sink session

# How we got here

- Primary voters rejected candidates on both extremes
- Republicans ended House supermajority
- 23/12 in Senate
- 43/22 in House
- 1 governor who is an independent thinker





# The session really began on Nov. 19

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- Unions and progressive Democrats announced that the Labor Peace Act overhaul was a priority
- This seemed to embolden other interest groups that they could push their long-held interests
- It also signaled this would be a session of big ideas





# Health Care: The big ideas

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- Capping hospital reimbursements
- Raising Health Insurance Affordability Enterprise fees
- Limiting hospital acquisitions
- Limiting use of 340B savings



# Health Care: The outcomes

- Spending boost for health clinics without hospital price caps
- No HIAE fee increases, no acquisition limits on health systems
- No restrictions on 340B pharmacies
- Bigger moves on PBM reform, single-payer study



# Cost of Living: The big ideas

## Democrats

Stop	Stop price gouging
Limit	Limit child-care costs
Ban	Ban “junk fees”
Require	Require assisted-living pay bumps

## Republicans

- Roll back fees: Transportation, plastic bags
- Roll back regulations
- Allow for nuclear energy



# Cost of Living: The outcomes

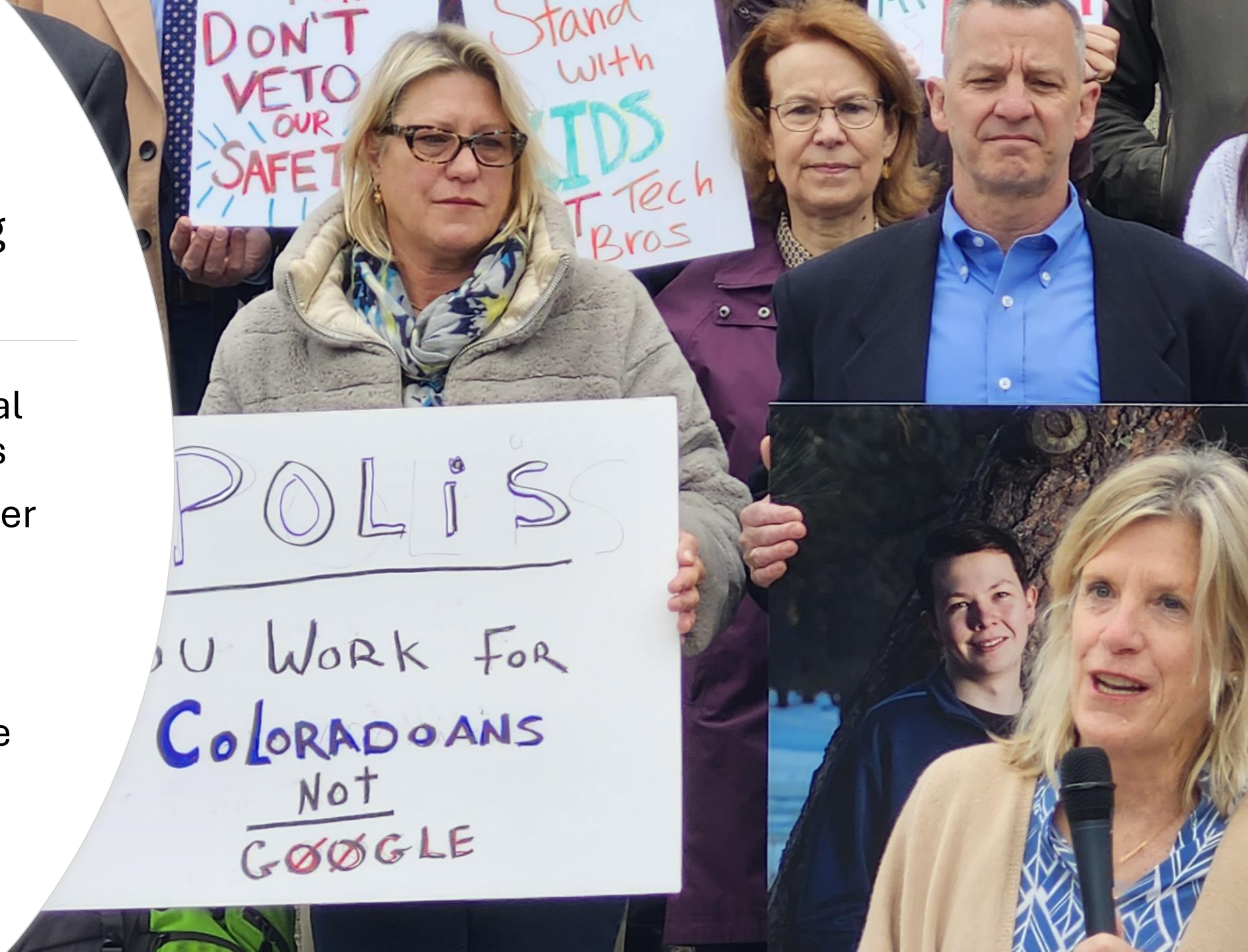
- No Republican bills passed
- Price gouging, junk fees, childcare, assisted-living bills pared back
- Nuclear energy passed with bipartisan sponsorship
- Chamber-led effort to audit state regulators





## Technology: The big ideas

- Make Internet/social media safer for kids
- Ban use of consumer surveillance data
- Protect AI sector whistleblowers
- Heck, just make the state inviting to AI again







# Technology: The outcomes

Polis veto of safety bill

Polis veto of rideshare regulations

Death for data, whistleblower bills

No AI fix

No data-center tax breaks

One small win for telecom





# The power of the veto

- Labor Peace Act overhaul
- Rideshare regulations
- Workers comp doctor expansion??
- Algorithmic price-setting ban
- Threatened vetoes stopped and changed bills (AI whistleblower, price gouging, etc.)



# What business got

- Tax breaks: Sundance, advanced industries, employee-owned businesses
- Construction defects reform ... though questions about whether the bill went far enough
- Regulatory and legal reform (audit bill, more exposure of foreign lawsuit investors)
- Killing of business-opposed bills (extreme temperatures, deceptive trade practices, tax break rollbacks)



# What business didn't get

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- AI bill changes
- Changes to the wage-theft bill
- Requested relief for restaurants
- Full stop to new private rights of action (bills on disability rights, online contract cancellations include lawsuit allowances)



# What's next



"JUST CAUSE" BALLOT  
INITIATIVE



SCRAMBLING ON AI  
REGULATIONS



BIGGER FIGHTS IN 2026:  
HOME OFFICE/SOFTWARE,  
HOSPITAL ACQUISITIONS



REFORMS TO REGULATION,  
EDUCATION



# How do you keep up?

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Ed Sealover, VP of Strategic Initiatives and Editor

- The Sum & Substance: <https://tsscolorado.com>
- Email: [esealover@cochamber.com](mailto:esealover@cochamber.com)
- Phone: 719-659-7907



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