

**House Judiciary**

**02/18/2025 Upon Adjournment**

**HB25-1062 Penalty for Theft of Firearms**

**Typed Text of Testimony Submitted**

| <b>Name, Position, Representing</b>                          | <b>Typed Text of Testimony</b>   |
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| Karen Chapman<br>For<br>herself                              | <p>This is an important and bipartisan bill. Not only does it have sponsors from both parties but the District Attorneys of Colorado voted unanimously to support it.</p> <p>HB25-1062 recognizes the dangers that stolen firearms represent to all Coloradans, but especially to our law enforcement community. As the mother of a law enforcement officer, I am grateful for efforts to strengthen penalties. Stronger penalties will create disincentives to firearm theft and, perhaps more important, allow district attorneys to ask judges that those who break the law suffer significant consequences keeping them away from the community.</p> <p>Please vote in favor of this bill.</p>   |
| Robert Edmiston<br>For<br>The Firearms Coalition of Colorado | <p>Testimony in support of: HB25-1062, Penalty for Theft of Firearms</p> <p>Thank you, Chair and Committee</p> <p>My name is Robert Edmiston, I am with the Firearms Coalition of Colorado an NRA- affiliated, all-volunteer, grassroots organization dedicated to the protection of individual rights and public safety.</p> <p>I am a former U.S. Army Officer and Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor. I have a Master's Degree in Psychology, Counseling and Guidance.</p> <p>I am writing in support of the measure under consideration. The bill removes firearms from the current sentencing structure for property crimes, which is dependent on the value of the item stolen. The proposal makes it a Class 6 Felony to steal any firearm regardless of</p> |

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|                                      | <p>the value. This action should comport with the often expressed intent of the Majority Caucus to ensure, to the degree possible by regulation, the denial of access to firearms by persons who would misuse them.</p> <p>We believe there should be some deterrent effect from the increased penalty, especially with regard to more inexpensive firearms that are likely to be possessed by economically disadvantaged individuals. In the event that a thief is apprehended, tried, and convicted of the theft of a firearm, a felony sentence is more likely to keep a career criminal off the street for a longer period of time than a misdemeanor sentence.</p> <p>In addition, a felony conviction would make the perpetrator subject to the provisions of laws prohibiting the possession of a weapon by a previous offender. This prohibition could be useful in future prosecutions, if the individual in question continues to pursue his or her criminal career.</p> <p>We may hear some concerns that this measure would increase the prison population at a time when many legislators are reluctant to do so. However, given the determination of the Majority Caucus to reduce "gun crime," we believe this bill is a good step toward holding persons accountable for their actions and creating legislation that impacts law breakers, instead of law-abiding citizens.</p> <p>We urge an "aye" vote on this bill.</p> <p>Thank you.</p> <p>Robert Edmiston<br/>         Volunteer Lobbyist<br/>         The Firearms Coalition of Colorado<br/>         PO Box 1454, Englewood, CO 80150-1454</p> |
| <p>Ingrid Moore<br/>         For</p> | <p>I strongly support this great bill!</p>   |

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| <p>themselves</p>                                | <p>In current law, the sentencing structure for theft, except for auto theft, is based on the value of the item stolen. The bill exempts theft of firearms from that sentencing structure and makes theft of a firearm a class 6 felony, regardless of the firearm's value. Subsequent violations, including multiple firearms stolen in the same criminal incident, are separate class 5 felonies.</p> <p>Exempting firearms from sentencing based on the value of the item vs the impact the firearm could have on society would hopefully provide another disincentive for theft of the firearm. Facing a class 6 felony rather than a petty theft verdict may help would-be thieves think twice about stealing the firearm.</p> <p>I urge you to vote YES and pass this bill.</p> <p>Thank you!</p>  |
| <p>John Walsh<br/>For<br/>Denver DA's Office</p> | <p>Gun violence continues to plague Colorado, and stolen firearms help fuel that violence. The theft of any firearm – regardless of its dollar value – poses a serious risk of future violence to the community. That’s for a simple reason: A cheap handgun can kill and maim just as easily as a fancy collector’s item. And the underlying conduct is the same – stealing a gun. For that reason, I support HB 25-1062, which amends current law to make the theft of any firearm a felony, regardless of its market value.</p> <p>Making the theft of any firearm a felony sends a clear message to law enforcement and to the community that we take gun violence seriously, and that we expect effective intervention to prevent that violence before it happens. In my opinion, it will increase that enforcement in a way that will ultimately reduce actual violence, by reducing the number of stolen guns in circulation, most importantly, among adults.</p> <p>Finally, and importantly, I would not support this bill if I believed it would result in more juveniles being incarcerated. As a practical matter, a felony gun theft charge standing alone will not result in a court detaining a juvenile; nor will any DA’s office in the state file such a charge standing alone against a minor as an adult. Rather, the charge will provide the impetus to divert juveniles into effective diversion programs like Denver’s “Handgun Intervention Program,” that have proven results getting kids out of harm’s way and out of</p> |

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|  | <p>the criminal justice system. The alternative is to allow kids to possess stolen firearms and in all too many cases, use them to destroy the lives of others, and their own in the process.</p> <p>John Walsh<br/>Denver District Attorney</p> |
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**House Judiciary**

**02/18/2025 Upon Adjournment**

**HB25-1254 Limitation on Gender Transition Procedure Claims**

**Typed Text of Testimony Submitted**

| <b>Name, Position, Representing</b> | <b>Typed Text of Testimony</b>  |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| Jeany Rush<br>For<br>themselves     | <p>TO: HOUSE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE</p> <p>RE: HB25-1254 LIMITATION ON GENDER TRANSITION PROCEDURE CLAIMS</p> <p>SPONSOR: DEGRAAF</p> <p>FROM: JEANY RUSH COLORADO SPRINGS CONSTITUENT</p> <p>VOTE: YES 2-18-25</p> <p>My support of this bill is simply to protect the youth of this state, and this nation from what is now a massive mental CONTAGION of epic proportions. This contagion is like a virus, except it is social engineered by many in our supposed medical communities. This mental virus, also known as ideological propaganda to convince our youth that they are born in the wrong bodies! It has entered into our curricula, our communities, and sadly is based not on science, but feelings. The resulting impact of allowing medical and chemical procedures on not just our children, but our unsuspecting populace, is creating medical crisis, and needs for major amounts of money to fund Pharma and Medicine to prescribe more and more expensive options to mask what is truly a mental crisis, much more than any truly physical crisis. It is brainwashing, on epic and criminal proportions.</p> <p>Why am I saying this? Because our unsuspecting population has been sold "SNAKE OIL" under another name! Affirmation, also known as mutilation of human beings. I am totally opposed to what is happening to our minors and our adults.</p> <p>The AMERICAN COLLEGE OF PEDIATRICIANS HAS COME OUT PUBLICLY TO DENOUNCE THESE PROCEDURES ON MINORS, AND THE EXPERIMENTAL NATURE OF THESE PROCESSES TO LITERALLY STERILIZE KIDS AND ADULTS. They also said that the current medical procedures are not based on science but on feelings!</p> |

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|  | <p>Below is an excerpt from the ACP, and many other reports exist which lend reality to this very frightening and serious medical situation.</p> <p>MY SUPPORT OF THIS BILL COMES WITH CAUTIONS, WITH A DESIRE TO GIVE YOUTH BEING PUT THROUGH THESE MEDICAL EVENTS, TO HAVE SOME RECOURSE, PROTECTIONS, AND BACKDOORS SHOULD THEY NEED LEGAL PROTECTIONS FROM MALPRACTICE DONE ON THEM, AND POTENTIAL FUTURE MEDICAL NEEDS!</p> <p>I would much more prefer that none of this were happening, "The complete declaration, all of it science-based, can be read at <a href="http://DoctorsProtectingChildren.org">DoctorsProtectingChildren.org</a>."</p> <p>It begins with four key tenets, one of them stating, "Medical decision-making should not be based upon an individual's thoughts or feelings."</p> <p>"We at the American College of Pediatricians have been sounding the alarm for years about the harm that has been done to children in the name of standards of care,"</p> <p>The ACP has been around since 2002. It's a national organization of pediatricians and other healthcare professionals dedicated to the health and well-being of children. It was founded by a group of pediatricians who pledge they will not be driven by the politics of the day, but will instead effort to produce sound policy based upon the best available research to assist parents and influence society in the endeavor of childrearing, its website states.</p> <p>The ACP "recognizes that there are absolutes and scientific truths that transcend relative social considerations of the day," it says.</p> <p>Many in the area of treatment for gender dysphoria among minors are missing those truths, but "the tide has been turning," Simons said. She cites two separate events in the last several months that she believes have helped lead to a change of heart for many."</p> |
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**House Judiciary**

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| Karen Chapman<br>For<br>themselves                           | <p>This is an important and bipartisan bill. Not only does it have sponsors from both parties but the District Attorneys of Colorado voted unanimously to support it.</p> <p>HB25-1062 recognizes the dangers that stolen firearms represent to all Coloradans, but especially to our law enforcement community. As the mother of a law enforcement officer, I am grateful for efforts to strengthen penalties. Stronger penalties will create disincentives to firearm theft and, perhaps more important, allow district attorneys to ask judges that those who break the law suffer significant consequences keeping them away from the community.</p> <p>Please vote in favor of this bill.</p>  |
| Robert Edmiston<br>For<br>The Firearms Coalition of Colorado | <p>Testimony in support of: HB25-1062, Penalty for Theft of Firearms</p> <p>Thank you, Chair and Committee</p> <p>My name is Robert Edmiston, I am with the Firearms Coalition of Colorado an NRA-affiliated, all-volunteer, grassroots organization dedicated to the protection of individual rights and public safety.</p> <p>I am a former U.S. Army Officer and Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor. I have a Master's Degree in Psychology, Counseling and Guidance.</p> <p>I am writing in support of the measure under consideration. The bill removes firearms from the current sentencing structure for property crimes, which is dependent on the value of the item stolen. The proposal makes it a Class 6 Felony to steal any firearm regardless of the value. This action should comport with the often expressed intent of the Majority Caucus to ensure, to the degree possible by regulation, the denial of access to firearms by persons who would misuse them.</p> <p>We believe there should be some deterrent effect from the increased penalty, especially with regard to more inexpensive firearms that are likely to be possessed by economically disadvantaged individuals. In the event that a thief is apprehended,</p> |

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|   | <p>tried, and convicted of the theft of a firearm, a felony sentence is more likely to keep a career criminal off the street for a longer period of time than a misdemeanor sentence.</p> <p>In addition, a felony conviction would make the perpetrator subject to the provisions of laws prohibiting the possession of a weapon by a previous offender. This prohibition could be useful in future prosecutions, if the individual in question continues to pursue his or her criminal career.</p> <p>We may hear some concerns that this measure would increase the prison population at a time when many legislators are reluctant to do so. However, given the determination of the Majority Caucus to reduce "gun crime," we believe this bill is a good step toward holding persons accountable for their actions and creating legislation that impacts law breakers, instead of law-abiding citizens.</p> <p>We urge an "aye" vote on this bill.</p> <p>Thank you.</p> <p>Robert Edmiston<br/>         Volunteer Lobbyist<br/>         The Firearms Coalition of Colorado<br/>         PO Box 1454, Englewood, CO 80150-1454</p> |
| <p>Ingrid Moore<br/>         For<br/>         herself</p> | <p>I strongly support this great bill!</p> <p>In current law, the sentencing structure for theft, except for auto theft, is based on the value of the item stolen. The bill exempts theft of firearms from that sentencing structure and makes theft of a firearm a class 6 felony, regardless of the firearm's value. Subsequent violations, including multiple firearms stolen in the same criminal incident, are separate class 5 felonies.</p> <p>Exempting firearms from sentencing based on the value of the item vs the impact the firearm could have on society would hopefully provide another disincentive for theft of the firearm. Facing a class 6 felony rather than a petty theft verdict may help would-be thieves think twice about stealing the firearm.</p> <p>I urge you to vote YES and pass this bill.</p>   |

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**House Judiciary**

**02/18/2025 Upon Adjournment**

**HB25-1140 Disclosing Information to Immigration Authorities**

**Typed Text of Testimony Submitted**

| <b>Name, Position, Representing</b>      | <b>Typed Text of Testimony</b>  |
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| Lyn Lowry<br>Against<br>themselves       | This bill conflicts with our state laws. No official should be disclosing information to ICE, and this bill is an attempt to circumvent our laws.<br><br>Thank you.   |
| Paula Gruentzel<br>Against<br>themselves | I OPPOSE this bill because it is unconstitutional and smacks of hypocrisy. So much for republicans incessant yabbering about "states rights".   |
| Ingrid Moore<br>Against<br>themselves    | I strongly oppose this bill.<br><br>It conflicts with current Colorado laws. It would put probation officers and employees in catch-22 situations between this law and current law.<br><br>Giving non-professional employees of a probation office the authority to "snitch" on parolee clients is a dangerous slippery slope. Immigration officials already have access to this information in public records, so this law would be unnecessary.<br><br>Please vote NO on this bill.<br><br>Thank you! |



February 18, 2025

**OPPOSE** HB25-1254 Limitation on Gender Transition Procedure Claims

My name is Vanessa Martinez and I am the Vice President of Policy at the Colorado Organization for Latina Opportunity and Reproductive Rights (COLOR). COLOR is a reproductive justice organization who works alongside and empowers Latines across the state to speak out on the issues that impact our daily lives.

I am submitting this testimony in **opposition to HB25-1254**, which represents an attack on the rights of LGBTQ+ Coloradans.

**Care is not handed out casually.** Contrary to what LGBTQ+ extremists assert, gender affirming care decisions are ones that are made carefully and collaboratively by doctors, mental health professionals, youth, parents, and their trusted adults. Providers in Colorado are not recklessly passing out medication or performing surgery on children.

This bill does nothing but dangerously mis-represent gender affirming care, further stigmatizing potentially lifesaving treatment.

We must continue to protect all health care in Colorado. I urge you to **OPPOSE HB25-1254**.