

House Health & Human Services

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SB25-196 Insurance Coverage Preventive Health-Care Services

Typed Text of Testimony Submitted

Name, Position, Representing	Typed Text of Testimony
Toni Sarge For Colorado Children's Campaign	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hello, members of the committee. I am Toni Sarge, and I am the Director of Health Policy at the Colorado Children's Campaign.• The Children's Campaign is a nonpartisan policy organization that leverages data and research to unapologetically advocate for kids.• A main focus area of ours is preventative health, which is why we are here in support of SB196.• Thank you to Representatives Lieder and Jackson for carrying the legislation, and thank you all for allowing me to speak with you today.• Preventative services provide lifesaving care to Colorado children and families.• Currently, families with insurance coverage have access to necessary, preventive services like well-child visits, universal newborn hearing screening, dental services, vaccines, and substance use assessments for adolescents.• And, research shows a zero-cost model for these types of services increased access to preventive care, and helps families stay up to date with screenings and assessments, improving health outcomes for children and preventing more costly health issues down the line.• Currently, these preventative services are covered at the requirement of multiple national, expert bodies.• This bill ensures that these types of critical, preventive services will continue to be covered for Colorado kids, regardless of any potential changes at the federal level.• This is the right time for this policy to ensure Colorado is able to maintain our progress to ensure health care is accessible and affordable for children and families.• On behalf of the Colorado Children's Campaign, I thank you for your time and urge your yes vote on Senate bill 196.
Taylor Reiser	Written Testimony for Dr. Taylor Reiser

<p>For Colorado Academy of Family Physicians</p>	<p>In Support of SB25-196: Insurance Coverage Preventive Health-Care Services Colorado House Health & Human Services Committee</p> <p>Dear Members of the House Health & Human Services Committee,</p> <p>Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in strong support of SB25-196 as a member of the Colorado Academy of Family Physicians. My name is Dr. Taylor Reiser, and I'm a practicing family physician in Colorado. I serve patients of all backgrounds and ages, and I witness firsthand how preventive care lays the foundation for lifelong health.</p> <p>SB25-196 is a critical step to ensure Coloradans continue to have access to evidence-based preventive services—such as cancer screenings, immunizations, and chronic disease checks—without cost-sharing. This provision has been a cornerstone of the Affordable Care Act and has proven to be one of the most impactful tools we have in improving both individual and population health.</p> <p>The data speaks for itself. Since the ACA's implementation, we've seen measurable increases in services like blood pressure screenings, colonoscopies, mammograms, and vaccinations. These interventions not only catch diseases earlier—when they are more treatable and less costly—but they've also helped reduce long-standing racial and ethnic disparities in health outcomes, especially among Hispanic and Black communities.</p> <p>For example, the first year of no-cost contraception coverage alone saved American women \$1.4 billion in out-of-pocket expenses, with benefits extending beyond health to economic security. We've also seen improvements in blood pressure and glucose control, which directly reduce the burden of heart disease and diabetes in our communities.</p> <p>As a physician, I can say with confidence: prevention works. But only when it's accessible. We know that even modest copays or deductibles can cause patients—especially those with low or fixed incomes—to skip routine screenings or check-ups, which can lead to undiagnosed illness and more serious interventions later.</p>
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	<p>SB25-196 ensures that Colorado does not take a step backward. With ongoing legal uncertainty at the federal level, this bill is a proactive measure to protect the gains we've made and keep our state's health care system focused on prevention rather than reaction. It also allows for flexibility over time, enabling the state to adapt to new medical evidence and best practices.</p> <p>In short, this bill is about protecting what works, improving health equity, and making smart, evidence-based investments in public health. I urge the committee to support SB25-196 and safeguard preventive care for all Coloradans.</p> <p>Thank you for your time and consideration.</p> <p>Sincerely, Dr. Taylor Reiser</p>
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