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Constituent Testimony: HB26-1276

Nancy Hatch <nhhatch@outlook.com>

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To: "committees.lcs.ga@coleg.gov" <committees.lcs.ga@coleg.gov>

To: Caitlin.Colver@coleg.gov, lorena.garcia.house@coleg.gov,
elizabeth.garcia.house@coleg.gov**Subject:** Constituent Concern: HB26-1276 – Audit of Uncompensated Care & Medical Billing at Aurora Facility**Dear House Finance Committee Members,**

As a resident of Boulder County and a taxpayer, I am writing to urge your support of **HB26-1276**. Specifically, I am asking this committee to look past the general health standards and focus on the financial accountability gap currently being exploited by private detention operators.

Based on an auditor's perspective, there is a clear "diversion of responsibility" happening. While the Aurora facility at the **3130 Oakland St.** receives federal funds to provide medical care, our public safety-net hospitals—specifically **Denver Health**—are carrying the burden. Denver Health reported over **\$145 million** in uncompensated care last year.

I formally request that the Finance Committee use its oversight authority to:

- 1. Request an Audit of "Point of Origin" Data:** Demand that Denver Health provide aggregate, de-identified data on total patient visits and outstanding medical debt specifically linked to the Aurora facility address ([3130 Oakland St., Aurora, CO 80010](#)).
- 2. Strengthen Remittance Provisions:** Ensure that the "remittance payments" and the **\$50,000 civil penalty** outlined in HB26-1276 are strictly enforced so that the facility—not Colorado taxpayers—pays for Colorado taxpayers—pays for community health risks like TB screening and ventilation upgrades.

We cannot allow private, for-profit entities to offload their most expensive medical liabilities onto our public systems. If they are not regulated, we are essentially subsidizing their profits with our public health.

Thank you for your time and for protecting Colorado's fiscal and physical safety.

Sincerely,

Nancy H. Hatch

925 Hover Street

IL 010

Longmont, CO 80501

Coy to :

U.S. Representative. Joe Neguse (2nd District)

U.S. Representative Jason Crow (6thDistrict)

U.S. Sen. Michael Bennet

U.S. Sen. John Hickenlooper

U.S. Sen. Michael Bennet

The Colorado House Finance Committee (Re: HB26-1276)

House Finance

04/13/2026

HB26-1276 Protect Safety of Individuals Who Are Immigrants

Typed Text of Testimony Submitted

Name, Position, Representing	Typed Text of Testimony
Davon Williams For themselves	<p>Chair and members of the Committee,</p> <p>My name is Davon Williams, and I am a candidate for Colorado House District 3, representing communities in Denver and Arapahoe County. I am writing in support of HB26-1276.</p> <p>This bill strengthens transparency, accountability, and safety in systems that directly impact vulnerable individuals.</p> <p>From my own experience having been incarcerated in Colorado, I understand how critical oversight and basic standards are within any system that detains or supervises people. Without clear accountability and consistent enforcement of health and safety requirements, individuals can be placed at unnecessary risk.</p> <p>HB26-1276 takes important steps by increasing transparency around federal immigration-related actions and strengthening oversight of facilities responsible for holding individuals. Clear reporting requirements and expanded inspection authority help ensure that these systems operate with accountability and visibility.</p> <p>In my previous role as a director working closely with students and their families, I also saw how policies at the system level directly affect trust within communities. Families need to know that institutions operate with clear standards and that safety is not negotiable.</p> <p>From a community perspective, transparency and accountability are essential to maintaining that trust. Policies like this help ensure that</p>

	<p>individuals are treated with dignity and that systems responsible for their care are held to consistent standards.</p> <p>HB26-1276 represents a thoughtful step toward strengthening oversight while reinforcing public confidence.</p> <p>I urge your support.</p> <p>Best,</p> <p>Davon Williams</p>
<p>matthew miranda For Colorado Young Democrats</p>	<p>My name is Matthew Miranda, and I am submitting this testimony on behalf of the Colorado Young Democrats, an organization representing young Coloradans who believe that human dignity should always be upheld. We are writing today in strong support of House Bill 26-1276 and ask that the House Finance Committee move it forward.</p> <p>We are the generation of Coloradans who grew up alongside immigrant classmates, neighbors, coworkers, and friends. Immigrants are part of the Colorado community, so when we hear and see federal agents showing up in our communities without clear identification, detaining people at random, and using public infrastructure to carry out mass removals, it is not something we can ignore.</p> <p>What the current federal administration is doing to immigrant communities in this country is cruel and reckless. ICE operations have been conducted with little transparency, little accountability, and little regard for due process. Coloradans, including U.S citizens and lawful residents, have been swept up in raids that are designed for optics rather than actually upholding justice. Our peers, neighbors, and community deserve so much better than this.</p> <p>HB26-1276 would expand existing limitations on how state and local officials interact with federal immigration enforcement, and give Colorado greater oversight of immigration detention facilities. We support the bill's transparency provisions that would require state agencies to publish the unsealed version of any subpoenas they receive from federal immigration authorities, and to notify a person when their information is being sought, after the subpoena is executed</p>

	<p>We also fully support the provision that bans local and state government transit services from knowingly transporting immigrants for detention purposes. Public transport is a public good. It exists to help people get to work, go to school, or see a doctor. It should not be used as a tool for deportation operations.</p> <p>We know some have argued that this bill oversteps and interferes with federal authority, but we disagree. This bill does not stop federal agents from doing their jobs. It stops Colorado's own institutions from being used as instruments of an enforcement campaign that has shown little regard for civil liberties or human decency.</p> <p>We hear from young people across this state who are scared. Who are watching their communities be targeted. Who wants to know what Colorado is going to do about it? This bill is part of that answer.</p>
<p>Nancy Haatch For themselves</p>	<p>•TESTIMONY: THE "DROP AND RUN" FISCAL FIX (HB26-1276)</p> <p>•TO: House Finance Committee</p> <p>FROM: Nancy Hatch, MS, RD (Ret.)</p> <p>DATE: April 13, 2026</p> <p>SUBJECT: Closing the Accountability Gap in Federal Custodial Transfers</p> <p>•The Problem: The "Drop and Run" Loophole</p> <p>•Private contractors and federal agencies currently use "Drop and Run" tactics at Colorado Emergency Departments—delivering patients in custody but departing before providing required medical transfer summaries or financial billing authorizations.</p> <p>•The Non-Interference Clause</p> <p>•While medical staff must prioritize immediate, life-saving care without delay, the hospital administration has a concurrent responsibility to secure custodial paperwork. Requesting federal authorization is an administrative requirement that does not interfere with the patient’s right to receive immediate and full medical attention. Fiscal accountability should begin the moment the patient is stabilized.</p> <p>•The Fiscal Reality</p>

	<p>•When a guard vanishes without providing a federal billing authorization, the cost is shifted from the federal budget to Colorado’s uncompensated care pool.</p> <p>•Estimated Per-Incident Costs Shifted to Taxpayers:</p> <p>•Maternity/Labor Care: \$20,000+</p> <p>•Emergency Appendectomy: \$12,000+</p> <p>•Cardiac Evaluation (Chest Pain): \$3,500+</p> <p>•Standard ER Triage: \$1,500 – \$3,000</p> <p>•The 3-Step "Fiscal Firewall" Protocol</p> <p>•Transport ID Logging: Mandatory recording of the transporting officer’s name, badge number, and agency at triage. No anonymous drop-offs.</p> <p>•Mandatory Financial Authorization: Secure the signed federal authorization (Form I-513) once triage is complete and before the officer leaves the premises.</p> <p>•End the Loophole: Implement state-level fines for any agency or contractor that repeatedly fails to provide required documentation.</p> <p>•Conclusion</p> <p>•We can and must be compassionate to those in medical crisis while simultaneously expecting fiscal accountability from the federal agencies responsible for them. Colorado must stop being the "silent donor" for billion-dollar federal contractors. We need an Architecture of Accountability.</p>
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