

Summary of Legislation

2025



Agriculture, State Parks, and Wildlife

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The 75th General Assembly passed several bills related to veterinary care, animals, state parks, wildlife management, agriculture, and food regulations. There were also some notable bills that were introduced, but did not become law.

Veterinary Care and Animal Laws

In recent years, the legislature has debated changes to existing veterinary regulations. Additionally, voters passed [Proposition 129](#), which created a state-regulated profession of veterinary professional associate (VPA). In response, [House Bill 25-1285](#) modified the regulation of VPA supervision and credentialing requirements and clarified the State Board of Veterinary Medicine's role.

Two bills related to pet animals were also passed. [House Bill 25-1137](#) established the Trap-Neuter-Return Grant Program, administered by the Pet Overpopulation Authority. The program is funded by Adopt a Shelter Pet license plate sales and an income tax credit. Additionally, [House Bill 25-1034](#) expanded protections under the dangerous dog statute for serious bodily injury inflicted by a dog for certain animal care professionals.

In 2023, the legislature created the [Wild Horse Working Group](#), which was tasked with making recommendations for the long-term care and management of Colorado's wild horses. [House Bill 25-1283](#) implemented these recommendations by creating an immunocontraceptive program within the Department of Agriculture and establishing the Wild Horse Advisory Committee.

Changes to State Parks and Wildlife Management

The management of state parks and wildlife was the subject of multiple bills this session. Notably, [House Bill 25-1163](#) granted Southern Ute Indian and Ute Mountain Ute tribe members free access to state parks. Recommended by the Water Resources and Agriculture Review Committee, [Senate Bill 25-049](#) continued the Wildlife Habitat Stamp Program indefinitely.

In an effort to combat increased wildlife trafficking, [Senate Bill 25-168](#) gives Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) additional authority to enforce wildlife trafficking laws. The bill created investigative positions, enhanced penalties, and increased CPW's ability to collect data on illegal activity.

Furthermore, [House Bill 25-1332](#) created the State Trust Lands Conservation and Recreation Work Group within the

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Department of Natural Resources to study opportunities to advance conservation, climate resilience, biodiversity, and recreation on state trust lands. It also tasks the State Land Board to review the management of existing land parcels and consider the group's recommendations.

Bison were also added to the definition of big game in [Senate Bill 25-053](#), which makes it illegal to hunt bison unless authorized by the state. The bill was recommended by the American Indian Affairs Interim Study Committee.

[Senate Bill 25-038](#) requires that the personal information of anyone filing a claim with CPW for compensation for damages caused by wildlife be kept confidential.

One bill related to wildlife management drew a lot of testimony and debate, but did not ultimately become law. [House Bill 25-1258](#), which was postponed indefinitely, would have required CPW to apply the best available wildlife and ecological science in order to adopt rules concerning wildlife management.

Regulating Food Items

Several bills were introduced concerning food regulations. [House Bill 25-1064](#) and [House Bill 25-1134](#), were both postponed indefinitely. HB25-1134 would have prohibited the sale and manufacturing of insects or insect products for human consumption. HB25-1064 would have prohibited cultivated meat; however, [House Bill 25-1203](#) was passed and prohibited food

that is cell-cultivated, or contains cell-cultivated meat, from being branded as a meat product and requires it to be clearly labeled as cell-cultivated meat.

[House Bill 25-1074](#), which was postponed indefinitely, would have repealed current egg-laying hen confinement standards for hens whose eggs are sold in Colorado.

[House Bill 25-1190](#) was also postponed indefinitely. The bill would have expanded the "Colorado Cottage Foods Act" to allow for the sale of homemade foods that require refrigeration.

Agriculture

Two bills focused on the regulation of agricultural labor. [Senate Bill 25-128](#), repealed certain provisions previously established by [Senate Bill 21-087](#). Under the 2021 law, an employer may not interfere with an agricultural worker's reasonable access to key service providers. The new law permits third parties to have access to an employer's private property to communicate with workers during periods of uncompensated time. In June 2021, the United State Supreme Court ruled in *Cedar Point Nursery v. Hassid*, 594 U.S. 139 (2021) that this access provision violates the Fifth Amendment takings clause of the U.S. Constitution.

The Commodity Handler and Farm Products Act was also continued through 2032 in [Senate Bill 25-176](#). The act regulates individuals who purchase farm products or commodities for processing, resale, or storage for others.