Summary of Legislation

2025



Information Technology

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Information technology (IT) continues to receive considerable attention from lawmakers in Colorado due to the responsibility of state government to disseminate information to the public and to maintain the integrity and functionality of existing state IT systems. Additionally, lawmakers and various consumer and business interest advocates continue to explore state laws around emerging technologies, particularly concerning the use of artificial intelligence.

State Agency IT Systems

The state supports a significant number of software applications. The state's procurement processes and capital investment rules guide the implementation of these systems. However, the General Assembly may take action through legislation at times to modify the scope, lifespan, and features of these IT systems.

Education

A number of rules and requirements oversee software applications in schools.

House Bill 25-1152 requires that public school contracts include certain provisions related to accessibility standards for persons with disabilities, and clarifies that public

schools and districts are not held liable for legal costs if accessibility standards are not met.

House Bill 25-1038 aims to support students pursuing higher education in navigating a complex system of the many higher education options in the state. The bill requires the Department of Higher Education to develop and maintain a free, publicly accessible online platform to provide current and potential students with information about which credits and courses, work-related experiences, and prior learning opportunities are transferable to or between the state's public institutions of higher education.

System Improvements

The Statewide Longitudinal Data System (SLDS) was established in 2024 as part of a larger effort to integrate post-secondary education and workforce development opportunities for Coloradans.

House Bill 25-1308 extends the first deadline of a required SLDS report from April 15 to September 15, 2026.

Senate Bill 25-018 modifies the Colorado Department of Revenue's Sales and Use Simplification System to allow sales and use tax license and a sales and use tax exemption certificate to be searchable by the name and

Information Technology

identification number of the sales and use tax licensee or the sales and use tax exemption certificate holder.

Emerging Technologies

The General Assembly continues to address emerging technologies.

Data Centers

As data centers rapidly expand across the country, states are exploring various incentive and regulatory structures to attract investment, but also on how to place guardrails or qualifiers on these developments which often entail high electricity demand and may strain local utilities. Senate Bill 25-280, which was postponed indefinitely, would have extended certain tax and utility benefits to data center operators. The Office of Economic Development and International Trade would have facilitated the program and certified projects.

Quantum Computing

Advances and growth in quantum computing are leading to a tremendous amount of anticipation and public and private investment; Colorado is no exception. Elevate Quantum, a 120 organization regional consortium from the Mountain West, was designated as a TechHub by the U.S. Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration. Recognizing this growth, House Bill 25-1330 exempts quantum computing devices and quantum

sensing devices from the "Consumer Repair Bill of Rights Act", which concerns powered wheelchairs (<u>House Bill 22-1031</u>) and farm equipment (<u>House Bill 23-1011</u>).

Artificial Intelligence

The General Assembly considered several bills related to artificial intelligence (AI) during the 2025 legislative session. In 2024, Colorado passed Senate Bill 24-205, which created certain consumer protections and disclosure requirements from "developers" and "deployers" of AI systems.

Senate Bill 25-318, which was postponed indefinitely, would have made various changes to those requirements and extended the deadline for implementation.

In addition, <u>House Bill 25-1212</u>, which was postponed indefinitely, would have prohibited retaliation against workers for disclosing safety risks from AI systems. Finally, both <u>Senate Bill 25-011</u> and <u>Senate Bill 25-022</u>, which were postponed indefinitely, addressed AI-enabled wildfire detection.