

## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **Colorado Chooses Vaccines**

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#### **Colorado Legislature passes bill to maintain science-based vaccine guidance**

DENVER, Colo. March 18, 2026 — Responding to vaccine misinformation and shifting direction from federal health officials, Colorado legislators today (March 18, 2026) gave final approval to a new bill that allows the state to rely on science-based recommendations from trusted medical experts.

Colorado Senate Bill 32, the Promoting Immunization Access for Coloradans Act, is sponsored by Sens. Lindsey Daugherty and Kyle Mullica and Reps. Lisa Feret and Kyle Brown. They introduced it to promote clarity on vaccine facts and recommendations and increase access statewide.

It has now been approved by both the Senate and the House and is on its way to Gov. Jared Polis, who can sign it into law.

“We’re grateful that the Colorado Legislature approved this bill by wide margins. It’s an example of how Colorado leadership can fill the vacuum left by federal health officials. With Colorado experiencing a measles outbreak, [largely infecting unvaccinated children and teens](#), we see the urgent threat of low vaccine rates,” said Immunize Colorado Executive Director Susan Lontine, who is with the Colorado Chooses Vaccines coalition ([CoChoosesVaccines.org](http://CoChoosesVaccines.org)). “This law will provide more clarity to guide all Coloradans, including providers who administer vaccines.”

The bill’s passage comes shortly after a federal judge ruled to stop federal vaccine changes. While that decision addressed concerns that federal changes to the recommended vaccine schedules were arbitrary and not based on science, the ruling doesn’t fix the uncertainty, as it is likely to be appealed to a higher court. Americans are left confused about vaccine facts and how best to support the health of their families.

For decades, Colorado law relied heavily on federal vaccine recommendations to guide coverage, purchasing, and outreach. But recent shifts in federal vaccine guidance created confusion for families about which immunizations they should receive.

Likewise, health care professionals who administer vaccines have faced growing uncertainty about what guidance to follow, how to counsel patients, and how to maintain consistent access to safe, evidence-based vaccines.

SB 32 allows Colorado to continue to rely on trusted evidence-based guidelines from national health professional organizations: the American Academy of Pediatrics, the American Academy of Family Physicians, the American College of Physicians, and the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists.

It allows the Departments of Public Health & Environment and Healthcare Policy & Financing to rely on these established science-based guidelines for purchasing and recommending vaccines, conducting outreach, and hosting community vaccine events. The bill also ensures that the Board of Health can develop and issue clear adult vaccine recommendations to guide providers, improve access, and support consistent public health messaging across the state. Additionally, it confirms pharmacists' authority to prescribe and administer vaccines.

Organizations supporting the legislation include:

- American Academy of Pediatrics - Colorado Chapter
- American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists Colorado
- Children's Hospital Colorado
- Chronic Care Collaborative
- Colorado Academy of Family Physicians
- Colorado Access
- Colorado Association of Local Public Health Officials
- Colorado Chapter - American College of Physicians
- Colorado Children's Campaign
- Colorado Community Health Network
- Colorado Dental Association
- Colorado Families for Vaccines
- Colorado Hospital Association
- Colorado Medical Society
- Colorado Pharmacists Society
- Denver Health

- Healthier Colorado
- Immunize Colorado
- Rose Community Foundation
- Youth Healthcare Alliance

**Colorado Chooses Vaccines** is a statewide coalition of healthcare providers, public health leaders, and community organizations working together to protect vaccine access and public trust. Learn more about the coalition at [CoChoosesVaccines.org](https://CoChoosesVaccines.org). To support our work, visit the **Colorado Vaccine Access Fund** at [COvaccineaccessfund.org](https://COvaccineaccessfund.org).