

### 75.2.3

On Thursday, February 12, 2026, one-fourth of the legislative session will have been completed. It is still early and there is work to be done. Bills continue to be introduced. The House has introduced 193 bills to date, and the Senate has introduced 93 bills. If you consider an average session will have 650 or more bills introduced then yes, there is more to come!

On Monday evening, February 9, the House Finance Committee heard arguments on [HB26-1036](#) Local Taxes on Vacant Property. The bill proposed authorizing local governments to tax vacant properties to provide a new funding mechanism for housing. The bill was supported by local governments and opposed by bankers, realtors, homebuilders and agriculture. Testimony by opposition pointed out increasing taxes does not result in lowering housing costs but increases housing costs. After four hours of debate, the bill was defeated in committee on a 7-4 vote.

We are supporting important legislation this year:

[SB26-001](#) Workforce Housing and Tax Credits- The bill allows a county board to use revenue generated by ad valorem taxes that is in the county's general fund or in other specified county funds for housing authorities. In addition, the bill allows a board to use county general fund money from ad valorem taxes or money from other county funds for workforce housing. The bill has passed the Senate and is under consideration in the House.

[HB26-1014](#) Extension of the Job Growth Tax Incentive – The bill extends the job growth tax incentive beyond 2026 to 2034. The bill will be heard in committee the third week of February.

[HB26-1066](#) Expansion of the Property Tax Exemption to Low Income Rental Properties - Current law provides an exemption for taxation on property acquired and developed for low-income housing by nonprofit housing providers, community land trusts, and nonprofit affordable homeownership developers. The bill expands the exemption to also include

property intended for low-income residential rental property. This bill will be heard in committee the third week of February.

[HB26-1138](#) Retail Theft Prevention Program - The bill creates the retail theft prevention advisory board in the office of the attorney general. The advisory board shall develop procedures related to applying for a grant for the retail theft prevention grant program created in the bill. This is to address felony level retail theft. The bill will be heard in committee the third week of February.