

Public Policy Committee 2026 Legislative Session

Overview

Overall, the Public Policy Committee (PPC) took unprecedented steps in our legislative advocacy on behalf of the Southern Colorado Women's Chamber (SCWCC) in 2026. We built on last year's efforts and grew our reach, while taking our advocacy to the next level of development. This year, the PPC reviewed all **621 bills** introduced during the 2026 session. Of those, **36 bills** underwent a detailed analysis during the session and were assigned positions based on their anticipated impact on businesses, economic growth, workforce development, and Colorado communities.

In a first, the PPC conducted its own day at the Capitol, where it met with EPC legislators and House leadership. As a result, we now have direct line of communication with several EPC legislators. A PPC member also testified at the direct request of a SCWCC member on a healthcare matter.

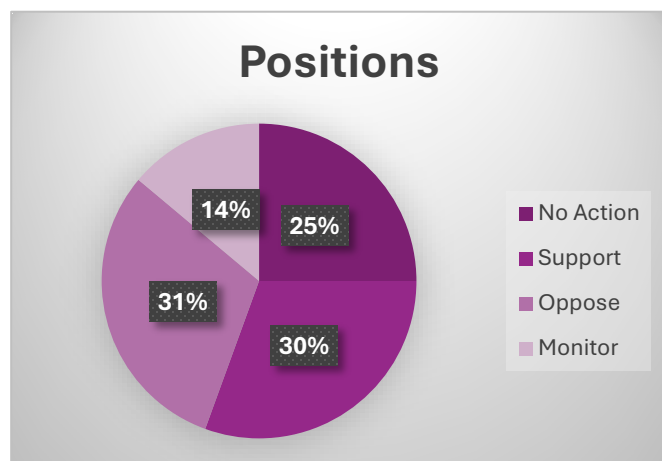
In a stretch goal, the PPC held its first forum, conducted during the legislative session, focused on tax bills which would have dramatically changed tax structures for CO businesses. Included in this was print, TV and social media regarding the event, as well as gaining the State Chamber's direct participation and support.

Finally, the PPC and its CEO engaged the membership on several critical bills, ensuring EPC legislators heard from the SCWCC's members that are their constituents.

By the numbers

Position	Number of Bills	Percentage
Support	11	30%
Oppose	9	25%
Monitor	5	14%
No Action	11	31%
Total	36	100%

The addition of a "No Action" category reflects bills that were reviewed but did not warrant a formal committee position due to limited business impacts.



PPC Key Themes

Support Positions

The Committee supported legislation that advances economic opportunity, workforce development, housing availability, infrastructure investment, and responsible tax policy.

Areas receiving the greatest support included:

- Housing (2 bills)
- Labor & Employment (2 bills)
- Taxes (3 bills)
- Energy, Finance, Health Care, and Transportation (1 bill each)

These positions align with the Committee's focus on strengthening Colorado's business environment while supporting long-term community growth and workforce sustainability.

Oppose Positions

The Committee opposed legislation where concerns existed regarding increased costs, regulatory burdens, unintended economic consequences, or negative impacts on employers and taxpayers.

Opposition was concentrated in:

- Taxes (6 bills)
- Health Care (2 bills)
- Business & Economic Development (1 bill)
- Labor (2 bills)

Tax-related proposals continued to represent the largest area of concern, accounting for two-thirds of all opposed legislation.

Monitor Positions

The Committee monitored several bills where additional information, stakeholder feedback, fiscal analysis, or legislative amendments were needed before determining a final position.

Monitored bills were found in:

- Housing (2 bills)

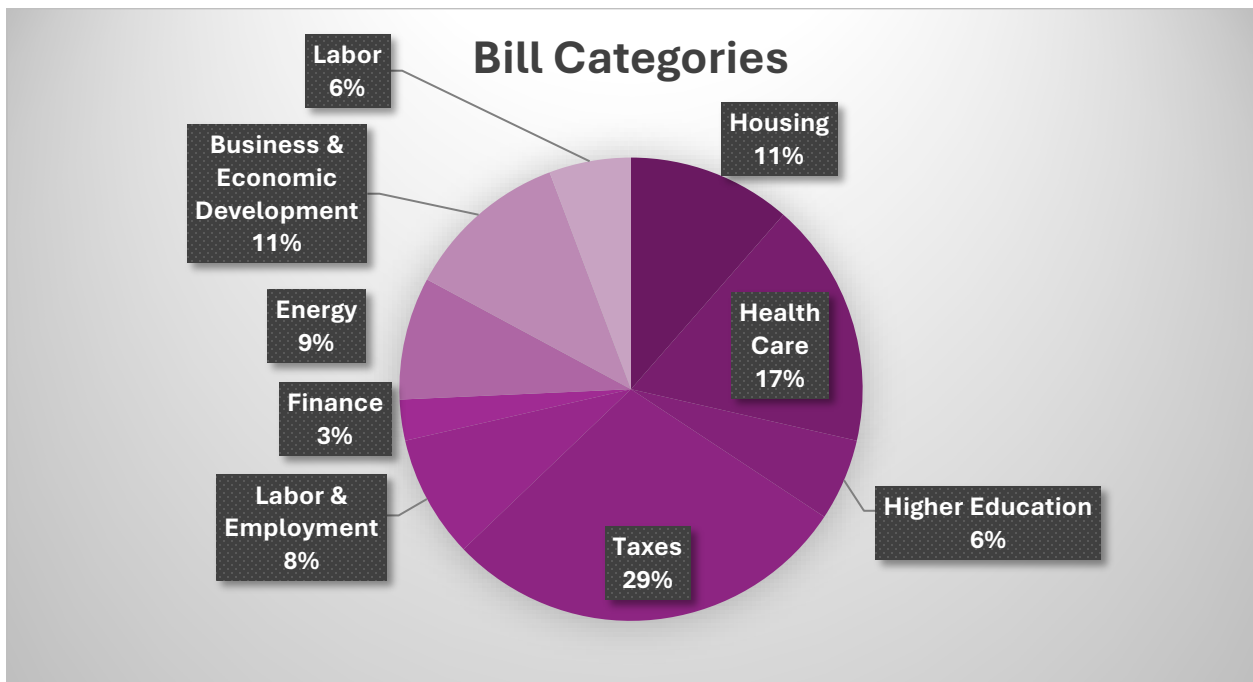
- Health Care (1 bill)
- Higher Education (1 bill)
- Business & Economic Development (1 bill)

This approach allows the Committee to remain engaged as legislation evolves throughout the session.

Category Analysis

The diversity of reviewed policy areas were:

Category	Bills Reviewed
Taxes	10
Health Care	6
Business & Economic Development	4
Housing	4
Labor / Labor & Employment	5
Energy	3
Higher Education	2
Finance	1
Transportation	1



Taxation, workforce issues, healthcare, housing, and economic development continue to be the primary legislative areas affecting Colorado businesses and employers.

Conclusion

The Committee's legislative review demonstrates a balanced and thoughtful approach to public policy. While supporting measures that encourage economic growth, workforce development, housing solutions, and infrastructure investment, the Committee remained cautious regarding proposals that could increase tax burdens or create unnecessary regulatory challenges. The use of Monitor and No Action designations further reflects a deliberate process focused on meaningful engagement and effective advocacy on issues most relevant to the Colorado business community.