

State Senator Cathy Kipp
District 14

State Senator Janice Rich
District 7



State Representative Michael Carter
District 36

State Representative Matt Soper
District 54

May 2, 2025

Statement from Senators Cathy Kipp and Janice Rich and Representatives Michael Carter and Matt Soper on SB25-077:

As sponsors of SB25-077 Modifications to the Colorado Open Records Act (CORA), after careful consideration we have decided not to pursue a veto override vote.

We deeply value government transparency and remain committed to protecting the public's right to access public records in a timely and fair manner. While we believe our bill is reasonable and fair to both records requesters and those who must fulfill records requests, we also acknowledge the concerns raised by the Governor, the press, and a coalition of groups who want to ensure their access to public records is not compromised.

We have asked for and received commitments from the Governor's office and from the Independence Institute and their coalition of advocates to add them to our broad coalition of stakeholders to continue conversations on this topic with a goal of finding solutions that are both transparent and fair to everyone.

Over the past decade, the volume and complexity of records requests have grown dramatically. In many cases, we have seen requests grow from a few dozen to several hundred each year. Governmental entities have the complex job of making records available in a timely manner while protecting the privacy of students and other members of the public whose data they may hold.

While the public has a right to public information, the cost of fulfilling these requests is rarely covered by the allowed fees. Subsidizing these requests diverts resources away from our core missions as public servants, like educating children and maintaining infrastructure.

While we are disappointed that we are not moving forward with timely CORA reform — that benefits both the public and record custodians — we believe that even more meaningful progress can be reached by allowing for the conversation to be reset and affording a renewed opportunity for all stakeholders to engage.

State Senator Cathy Kipp, Senate District 14
State Senator Janice Rich, Senate District 7
State Representative Michael Carter, House District 36
State Representative Matt Soper, House District 54