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Sept. 22, 2025

Dear Legislative Council,

We, the undersigned organizations and individuals, enthusiastically urge the Colorado General Assembly to continue providing online video coverage of legislative committee meetings during and beyond the 2026 session.

As we expected, the livestreaming pilot project conducted this summer and fall demonstrates there is public interest in, and support for, enhancing Coloradans' ability to follow the business of the legislature — with preliminary data showing 9,900 people watching online from July 30 to September 4.

In 2008, when then-House Speaker Andrew Romanoff led the groundbreaking effort to provide video broadcasts of House floor proceedings, he <u>said</u> the goal was "to make Colorado's government the most transparent, the most accountable, the most citizen-friendly in America."

We're excited to see Colorado's General Assembly make more progress toward that goal by joining <u>other state</u> <u>legislatures</u> that provide video coverage of committee meetings.

Enabling video on the system that provides committee-meeting audio is a cost-efficient way to make the legislature more accessible and more accountable to Coloradans.

Video can make it easier for people to follow committee testimony as well as statements made by committee members, especially when speakers aren't identified. Video provides context, allowing observers to see who is present and to gauge the emotions and reactions of lawmakers and others in the room. When people can watch the legislative process, they can better understand the legislative process, and that can foster more civic engagement.

Thank you for launching the pilot program. Please make video livestreaming a permanent feature of all legislative committee meetings.

Respectfully,

Colorado Freedom of Information Coalition National Freedom of Information Coalition Independence Institute Colorado Broadcasters Association Colorado Press Association League of Women Voters of Colorado

Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press

Colorado Common Cause

American Civil Liberties Union of Colorado

Colorado Cross Disability Coalition

Disability Law Colorado

Colorado News Collaborative

**Denver Press Club** 

Colorado Press Women

Colorado Public Radio

**Denver Business Journal** 

**KUSA-TV** 

Colorado Auto Dealers Association

Colorado Lobbyists Association

Bart Miller, Colorado Channel Authority Board chair

Marianne Goodland, capitol press corps dean and Colorado Politics chief legislative reporter

**Cory Gaines** 

Jack Wylie

Jason Salzman, Colorado Times Recorder editor

Natalie Menten

Jessica Capsel, Pro-Colorado Education Project

TABOR Foundation board of directors

Colorado Union of Taxpayers board of directors

Brandon Wark, Free State Colorado

Kim Monson, The Kim Monson Show

Rebecca Sopkin