



March 25, 2026

Dear Chair Froelich and Members of the House Transportation and Local Government Committee,

On behalf of Children's Hospital Colorado, the patients and families, and communities we serve, I am writing to ask for your **vote in support of Senate Bill 26, Weights for Vehicles with Child Restraint Systems.**

My name is Clare Decker, and I work as the Injury Prevention Manager at Children's Hospital Colorado. I am also a Child Passenger Safety Technician Instructor and Safe Travel for All Children Instructor (additional training for adaptive needs) and urge your support for Senate Bill 26 to keep children as safe as possible when traveling by vehicle, including large vehicles, on our Colorado roads.

The Colorado Department of Transportation reports a 1.7% year over year increase in traffic deaths in 2025 and Children's Hospital Colorado's own data shows a 7% increase in motor vehicle crash-related visits to our emergency departments from 2024 to 2025.

Our work on HB24-1055 to update Colorado's child passenger restraint laws brought our laws into alignment with best practice that car seat experts have understood for many years to keep kids safe in cars. Big changes enacted in 2025 included requiring rear-facing until 2 years old and boosters until the 9th birthday. These changes keep kids safer in cars on our roads and Senate Bill 26 is a continuation of that work to ensure larger vehicles between 10,000 and 16,000lbs are included.

Senate Bill 26 is a commonsense measure that will ensure that all passenger motor vehicles are required to abide by child passenger safety laws. Examples of passenger vehicles that are technically exempt from child passenger safety laws in the current state include heavier trucks, vans, SUVs, including Ford Transit vans, Chevy Silverado 3500 HD. This bill will ensure that the CPS laws Children's Colorado supports apply evenly across different weight classes that passenger vehicles in our state may fall into. This would help keep *all* kids in passenger vehicles safe on our roads.

We thank you for your time and urge your support of Senate Bill 26. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Clare Decker, MPH, CPH, CPST-I, STAC
Injury Prevention Manager
Children's Hospital Colorado

13123 E 16th Ave, Aurora, CO 80045
720-777-1234 | childrenscolorado.org

