



Legislative Wrap-up and What's Next



Rep. Sue Schafer

House District 24
200 E. Colfax Ave.
Room 271
Denver, CO 80203

303-866-5522

Links

- [Sue's Website](#)
- [General Assembly Homepage](#)
- [Jefferson County Homepage](#)

Hello, Citizens!

Thank you for contacting me this session! In this issue:

- Sue's Prime-sponsored Bills
- Sue's Picks for Other Best Bills of 2011
- Upcoming Events of Interest

Sue's Prime-Sponsored Bills

HB-1254: Reducing School Bullying

[HB-1254](#) redefines bullying to include electronic forms of bullying-an increasing trend-and creates a grant program schools can apply for to implement solutions to create healthy, safe and productive learning environments.

HB-1013: Supporting and Honoring Our Troops

[HB-1013](#) exempts military service-members from having to pay registration, certification or licensing fees while they are deployed and up to 6 months after their deployment ends, cutting bureaucracy and administrative burdens for those serving our country abroad.

HB-1085: Ending the Retraumatizing of Crime Victims

[HB-1085](#) eliminates a loophole that allowed violent offenders to repeatedly and unreasonably apply for admission to half-way houses, dragging their victim's families through repeated hearings and forcing them to constantly relive the crime.

HB-1122: Improving Home-rule Charter Elections

[HB-1122](#) improves government efficiency by allowing city charter elections to be held during general elections, thus saving local governments thousands by not having to run a special election.

Sue's Picks for Other Best Bills of 2011

Lean Government Principles & Performance Budgets:

[HB-1212](#) will help reduce costs to state agencies and encourage

meaningful collaboration between employees and managers to reduce redundancies and cut red tape.

Colorado Health Care Exchange:

[SB-200](#) creates a Colorado Health Care Exchange in compliance with the federal Affordable Care Act, and will make finding affordable insurance easier for individuals and small businesses by 2014.

Limiting Education Cuts:

With [SB-230](#) and [SB-157](#) we were able to spare our state from a drastic \$330 million cut to K-12 education while still balancing the budget.

Small Business Navigator in the Office of Economic Development:

[HB-1209](#) will provide a single point of contact for small businesses to aid them in diagnosing problems, streamlining referrals, and cutting through red tape so they can grow. See the [Office of Economic Development and International Trade](#) website.

Blue Alert for Injured Peace Officers:

[HB-1036](#) keeps our law enforcement officers safer by creating the Blue Alert System to broadcast the description of any person who is suspected of killing or seriously injuring a police officer.

Restorative Justice:

[HB-1032](#) facilitates face-to-face meetings between offenders and their victims and allows for sentences that focus on repairing harm to victims and communities, promoting acceptance of individual responsibility, and ultimately reducing the likelihood of reoffending.

Upcoming Events of Interest

Initiative 25: Bright Colorado Ballot Initiative

Do you support public education? Our schools and colleges are seriously underfunded. Initiative 25 would temporarily provide a band-aid for our education funding crisis with a small increase in the state sales tax and state income tax if voters approve the initiative in November, 2011. For five years the state sales tax and income tax would revert to 1999 levels--sales tax changing from 2.9% to 3.0% and state income tax changing from 4.63% to 5.0%. This would prevent future cuts to public education by raising \$500,000,000. What is your opinion? See www.greateducation.org for more on Initiative 25.

Jefferson County Senior Law Day, June 11 2011

A workshop to protect seniors against fraud and exploitations will be held Saturday, June 11, 7:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the WaterStone Community Church, 5890 S. Alkire St. Littleton,

CO 80127 (Off C-470). See the [Jefferson County District Attorney](#) 's website for more info.

Things of Beauty: 2011 Capitol Quilt Show

Now is the time to observe great art in your State Capitol! Hundreds of quilts are on display and you can see them Monday-Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. from June 6 through August 19. I would recommend starting on the third floor for the best view.

Jefferson County School Board Candidates

Recently two experienced educators have announced their intention to run for the Jefferson County School Board in November, 2011. Check out the websites for [Lesley Dahlkemper](#) and [Jill Fellman](#).

Your State Rep. Sue Schafer

For Wheat Ridge, Applewood, Edgewater, southern Arvada, northern Lakewood, Mountain View, and eastern Golden

Contact Me at Any

TimeSue.schafer.house@state.co.us

200 East Colfax Ave. | Denver, CO 80203 | 303-866-5522

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Representative Sue Schafer | 200 E. Colfax | Denver | CO | 80203