


Message from the Colorado Catholic Conference of Bishops asking for our help NOW regarding HB 26-1309

We are three days left in CO legislative session and still have three damaging bills in the process: [HB26-1309](#) anti-parental rights bill, [HB26-1335](#) abortion pills at colleges bill and [HB26-1141](#) anti-religious liberty bill on K-12 and higher ed campuses.

On Thursday, we had a confrontation with Sen. Tom Sullivan, who was sitting as chair for Senate State Affairs Committee. Sen. Sullivan publicly chastised the Colorado Catholic Conference and refused to let us respond on behalf of the Bishops of Colorado — Sen Sullivan did not address the merits of the bill, but only his opposition to the Catholic teaching and Bishops' position on the bill. At minimum, it has been requested that he issue a public apology on Monday on the Senate floor. There also may be ethics considerations.

The bill was [HB26-1309](#), which is the latest attempt to **remove children from their parents if the parents disagree with their child's gender ideology. The bill considers normal parenting decisions “coercive control” and subject to custody consideration. The bill furthermore considers a father's attempt to save the life of his preborn child from abortion “health related abuse” subject to state sanctions.**

Over 700 Coloradans opposed a similar bill last year (HB25-1312) and hundreds opposed another attempt to take children from parents this year (SB26-18). But HB26-1309 has gone largely undetected because it is hidden in a domestic violence bill that is otherwise good policy. This bill was not supposed to leave appropriations, but somehow its fiscal note was removed, and it was pushed through committee within hours of leaving appropriations.



More information (a legal analysis of the HB and our Colorado Bishops Response Letter) are on our parish's website under the tab “***Upcoming Events***”.



We need as many Coloradans to oppose this bill as possible — now! Just as they did against HB25-1312.

Here is our call to action: <https://www.cocatholic.org/take-action/action-alerts>

Or they may contact their senator directly here: <https://leg.colorado.gov/legislators>