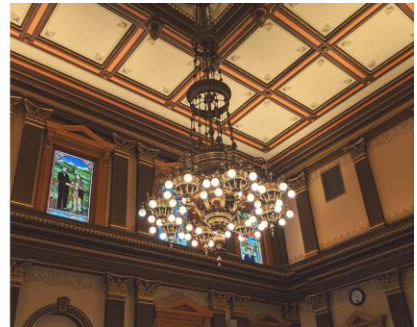


# The Arc of Colorado 2020 Legislative Scorecard

---





A Letter from Our Executive Director:

Dear Members of The Arc Community,

I write this letter in the wake of a historic and unprecedented legislative session. As we sit in the middle of a pandemic, we must reflect on a difficult past few months. This was a season of loss for many. We express our deep sympathy with all those who lost loved ones over the past few months.

We hope that in coming sessions, we can continue work to ensure equity in treatment and care for the individuals we serve and to foster independence and community living through policy.

We are deeply thankful for the work that each of our chapters and members of our community put into this legislative session. Though opportunities for testimony were limited this session, that by no means reflects a shortage of action and impact. Chapters, advocates, families, and individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities came to the capitol, reached out to their legislators, advocated in their hometowns, and did so much more to ensure a successful session. We are so grateful for each of you and your efforts.

It was with the advocacy, over these many decades on behalf of individuals with I/DD that important, groundbreaking bills to end the waitlist for Colorado's most comprehensive waiver and legislation to end the practice of sub-minimum wage employment in Colorado almost passed. This legislation went further this year than ever before and, although the fiscal notes attached to them made ultimate passage impossible considering the pandemic, you should all feel immensely proud of the part you have played.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank each of our legislators. I would like to especially thank the members of the Joint Budget Committee. When deep cuts were made to many programs and departments across the state, the Joint Budget Committee rejected many possible cuts impacting individuals with I/DD and their families. In times of deep distress, you prioritized this community. It is impossible to measure the impact of such a decision, but it is so deeply meaningful to the people we serve. Thank you.

This year, we suffered many defeats. The next budget year will not be any easier. It will require new and creative ways of thinking to pass legislation that matters most to our community. We promise to do that. It is an honor to work on these issues and we are ready to continue the fight to make Colorado a better place for people with I/DD and their families.

With Gratitude,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Christiano Sosa".

Christiano Sosa

The Arc of Colorado  
1580 Logan St. Suite 730  
Denver, CO 80203

Questions about this document? Contact: [abigail@thearcofco.org](mailto:abigail@thearcofco.org)



## A Note on Process

This year's scorecard and session re-cap look a bit different than the score cards of previous years. We began this session with a list of priority bills wholly different from the bills that now make up our scorecard. Unfortunately, this year, all of our priority bills were scheduled for some point in the legislative process after the pandemic had begun. With a nearly \$4 billion deficit, the legislature was no longer able to pass most bills with a fiscal note, not directly related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Some of our priority bills were heard in their senate or house committee of reference but were not voted on in both chambers. For the sake of fairness to each legislator, and in keeping with best practices for scorecards, we chose to only score bills that were voted on in the house and the senate.

From there, we chose bills we felt most accurately represented the state of intellectual and developmental disability related legislation with regards to our policy agenda. The resulting 5 bills allow constituents to see how their legislators voted. From there, we calculated the percentage of votes that coincided with our position of support for each of the legislatures. If a legislator was absent, this did not count against their percentage score. Each legislator was then given an A-F rating, scoring them on how often they voted in accordance with the position of The Arc of Colorado. However, as we have five bills on this scorecard, the grade has been "bumped up" to reflect the previous inability of anyone who had voted on all 5 bills to receive a "C" rating. Thus, those with a 60% rating receive a C, those with a 40% rating receive a D, and those with a 20% rating receive an F. The scoring interval breaks down as follows:

0-20%: F

21-40%: D

41-60%: C

61-80%: B

81-100%: A

The Arc of Colorado  
1580 Logan St. Suite 730  
Denver, CO 80203

Questions about this document? Contact: [abigail@thearcofco.org](mailto:abigail@thearcofco.org)



This process while more fair and accurate, does not reflect our pre-COVID priorities for this legislative session. For this reason, we will take this opportunity to outline our original priority bills (pre-pandemic). After this explanation, we will move on to our post-COVID-19 priority bill section and the ultimate scoring.

## A Note on the Intended Use of this Scorecard

This scorecard is not intended to manipulate votes or to provide a complete history of the work of these legislators. It is our intention that constituents be able to look to this scorecard to see how their legislators voted this session. With this information, constituents may contact their state senators and representatives and express their interests and needs. You can find your local legislator here: <https://leg.colorado.gov/findmylegislator>

## Pre-COVID19 Priority Bills

- **End the Waiting List:** While this bill was not formally introduced at the legislature, it was a priority bill for us at the beginning of this legislative session. The bill proposed eliminating the waiting list for Colorado's most comprehensive waiver for adults with I/DD, the Developmental Disabilities Waiver. About 3,000 Coloradans are currently on the waiting list for this waiver. This bill would commit funds to reducing the waitlist by about 500 people a year over the course of six years until the waitlist was finally eliminated. This legislation was not introduced as the fiscal impacts of the bill were no longer realistic as the state plummeted into debt. In the first year alone, Colorado would need to commit an estimated \$26 million to the effort which is impossible at this time.
- **HB20-1263:** This bill, entitled, Eliminate Sub-minimum Wage Employment was sponsored by Senator Julie Gonzales and Representative Yadira Caraveo and Rod Pelton. The bill would have required a five-year phase out of sub-minimum wage employment. All current holders of 14c certificates, which allow employers to pay less than minimum wage to workers with disabilities, would be required to submit a phase-out plan to the Colorado Department of Labor. The bill also created a requirement for the Employment First Advisory Partnership to study and determine the barriers to ending sub-minimum wage employment and to develop recommendations to successfully move those in sub-minimum wage employment to competitive, integrated employment. The bill also included a variety of employment services to be added and

The Arc of Colorado  
1580 Logan St. Suite 730  
Denver, CO 80203

Questions about this document? Contact: [abigail@thearcofco.org](mailto:abigail@thearcofco.org)



expanded to the services currently offered by the state Medicaid department. Notably, the bill called for an expansion of the Medicaid Buy-In program. This bill carried a very high fiscal note related to the services and supports it required. Without these services, the transition out of sub-minimum wage employment risked being unsuccessful for a higher number of individuals. Therefore, the bill was postponed indefinitely.

- **HB20-1314:** This bill, Behavioral Health Crisis Response Training was sponsored by Representative Mary Young and Representative Rod Pelton. The bill directs the department of health care policy and financing to issue a request for proposals to contract with an entity who could provide training around a model of comprehensive, wraparound care for individuals with co-occurring diagnosis of an intellectual and developmental disability and a behavioral health disorders. Community centered boards, mental health centers, school districts, and program approved service agencies could nominate up to 50 individuals to go through this training, which could also be offered via tele-health. Though the fiscal note for this bill for the next two fiscal years were under \$100,000, given the current financial situation of the state, it was impossible to commit these funds.
- **HB20-1331:** This bill, Transportation Services for Medicaid Recipients was sponsored by Representative Colin Larson and Representative Monica Duran. This bill required the department of health care policy and financing to implement an expedited provider enrollment approval process for Medicaid providers providing transportation services. The bill also required the department to develop a stakeholder process to identify barriers and solutions to transportation issues impacting Medicaid service recipients.

## Bills we Scored:

Out of all of the bills that we supported during this legislative session, we chose to include the following: HB20-1312, HB20-1332, HB20-1128, SB20-100, and SB20-217. It is our mission to ensure that all people have moral and civil rights providing them with opportunities to love, work, play, learn and worship in communities where they choose to live. All people with intellectual and developmental disabilities have inherent value with individual strengths and abilities, are equal before the law and must be treated with dignity and respect. The following bills most strongly supported our mission and policy agenda for the 2019 Colorado Legislative Session. Bill descriptions are not exhaustive. For full descriptions of each bill, please visit: <http://leg.colorado.gov/bills>

1. **HB20-1312:** This bill, Behavioral Health Training Requirements Educator License, was sponsored by Senators Nancy Todd and Dennis Hisey and Representatives

The Arc of Colorado  
1580 Logan St. Suite 730  
Denver, CO 80203

Questions about this document? Contact: [abigail@thearcofco.org](mailto:abigail@thearcofco.org)

Dafna Michaelson-Jenet and Brianna Titone. The bill creates a 10 hour training requirement for behavioral health training that is culturally responsive and trauma informed, out of the 90 hour training requirement currently required for educator license renewal. This applies also to teacher preparation programs for teachers undergoing initial educator licensure.

2. **HB20- 1332:** This bill, Prohibit Housing Discrimination Source of Income, was sponsored by Senator Rhonda Fields and Representatives Leslie Herod and Dominique Jackson. The bill adds discrimination based on type of income to the list of unfair housing practices for landlords with more than three rentals. The landlord also cannot discriminate based on the presence of a third-party contract required as a condition of receiving public housing assistance. As many of the individuals we work with rely on family or government assistance to obtain housing, this bill was a critical bill for us to support.
3. **HB20-1128:** This bill, Educator Education Requirements Special Education was sponsored by Senators Kevin Priola and Rachel Zenzinger and representatives James Wilson and Brianna Buentello. The bill requires 10 clock hours of education related to laws and practices surrounding special education for license renewal for teachers, special service providers, principals, and administrators. Additionally, the bill requires the educator preparation program, alternative teacher program, and alternative principal preparation program to provide education related to federal laws surrounding special education.
4. **SB20-100:** This bill, Repeal the Death Penalty, was sponsored by Senators Julie Gonzales and Jack Tate and Representatives Jeni-James Arndt and Adrienne Benavidez. The bill repeals the death penalty in Colorado for defenses charged on or after July 1, 2020. While the Supreme Court decided in Atkins V. Virginia to allow states to set their own standards for executing individuals with I/DD who had committed a crime, the statute is by no means fool proof or uniform protection from state to state. Colorado has a long history of executing individuals with developmental disabilities and currently, individuals on death row in other states are being denied an Atkins hearing. As a civil rights organization, our support on this bill was imperative.
5. **SB20-217:** This bill, Enhance Law Enforcement Integrity Act was sponsored by Senators Rhonda Fields and Leroy Garcia and Representatives Leslie Herod and Serena Gonzales-Gutierrez. Among other provisions, the bill requires all law enforcement to issue body cameras to officers. It creates a registry to prevent other law enforcement agencies from hiring officers who repeatedly engage in acts of abuse, and allows the Colorado State Constitution to be enforceable. About half of the individuals in America who are killed by law enforcement have a disability. Those with I/DD are no stranger to police brutality. Again, as a civil rights organization, our support of this bill was critical to our mission.



Again, these bill descriptions are not exhaustive. For details on the parts and procedures of each bill, please visit: <https://leg.colorado.gov/bills> and read the bill texts in full.

### House Vote Count

House	HB20-1312	HB20-1332	HB20-1128	SB20-100	SB20-217
Jeni James Arndt (D)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Mark Baisley (R)	N	Y	N	N	N
KC Becker (D)	Y	Y	E	Y	Y
Adrienne Benavidez (D)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Shannon Bird (D)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Rod Bockenfeld (R)	N	Y	Y	N	N
Perry Buck (R)	N	Y	N	N	N
Janet Buckner (D)	Y	Y	E	Y	Y
Bri Buentello (D)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Yadira Caraveo (D)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Terri Carver (R)	N	Y	N	N	N
Marc Catlin (R)	N	Y	Y	N	Y
Richard Champion (R)	N	Y	Y	N	Y
James Coleman (D)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Lisa Cutter (D)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Monica Duran (D)	Y	Y	E	Y	Y
Daneya Esgar (D)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Tony Exum (D)	E	Y	Y	Y	Y
Meg Froelich (D)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Alec Garnett (D)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Tim Geitner (R)	N	Y	N	N	Y
Serena Gonzales-Gutierrez (D)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Matt Gray (D)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Leslie Herod (D)	Y	Y	E	Y	Y
Richard Holtorf (R)	N	N	Y	N	Y
Edie Hooton (D)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Stephen Humphrey (R)	N	Y	N	N	Y
Dominique Jackson (D)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Sonya Jaquez-Lewis (D)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y

The Arc of Colorado  
 1580 Logan St. Suite 730  
 Denver, CO 80203

Questions about this document? Contact: [abigail@thearcofco.org](mailto:abigail@thearcofco.org)



House	HB20-1312	HB20-1332	HB20-1128	SB20-100	SB20-217
Chris Kennedy (D)	Y	Y	E	Y	Y
Cathy Kipp (D)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Tracy Kraft-Tharp (D)	E	Y	Y	Y	Y
Lois Landgraf (R)	N	N	Y	N	Y
Colin Larson (R)	N	Y	Y	N	N
Larry Liston (R)	N	Y	Y	N	N
Susan Lontine (D)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Julie McCluskie (D)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Hugh McKean (R)	N	N	Y	N	N
Barabara McLachlan (D)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Jovan Melton (D)	E	Y	Y	Y	Y
Dafna Michaelson Jenet (D)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Kyle Mullica (D)	Y	Y	Y	N	Y
Patrick Neville (R)	N	Y	N	N	Y
Rod Pelton (R)	N	Y	Y	N	N
Kim Ransom (R)	N	Y	N	N	Y
Janice Rich (R)	N	Y	E	N	Y
Dylan Roberts (D)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Lori Saine (R)	N	Y	E	N	N
Shane Sandridge (R)	N	Y	N	N	N
Jonathan Singer (D)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Emily Sirota (D)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Marc Snyder (D)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Matt Soper (R)	N	Y	E	N	N
Tom Sullivan (D)	Y	Y	Y	N	Y
Kerry Tipper (D)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Brianna Titone (D)	Y	Y	Y	N	Y
Donald Valdez (D)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Alex Valdez (D)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Kevin Van Winkle (R)	N	Y	N	N	Y
Mike Weissman (D)	Y	Y	E	Y	Y
Perry Will (R)	N	Y	Y	N	N
Dave Williams (R)	N	Y	N	N	N
James Wilson (R)	N	Y	Y	N	Y
Steven Woodrow (D)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Mary Young (D)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y

The Arc of Colorado  
1580 Logan St. Suite 730  
Denver, CO 80203

Questions about this document? Contact: [abigail@thearcofco.org](mailto:abigail@thearcofco.org)





## Senate Vote Count

Senate	HB20-1312	HB20-1332	HB20-1128	SB20-100	SB20-217
Jeff Bridges (D)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
John Cooke (R)	Y	N	E	N	Y
Don Coram (R)	Y	N	Y	E	Y
Larry Crowder (R)	N	N	N	N	Y
Jessie Danielson (D)	Y	Y	Y	N	Y
Kerry Donovan (D)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Stephen Fenberg (D)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Rhonda Fields (D)	Y	Y	Y	N	Y
Mike Foote (D)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Leroy Garcia (D)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Bob Gardner (R)	Y	N	N	N	Y
Joanna Ginal (D)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Julie Gonzales (D)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Chris Hansen (D)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Owen Hill (R)	N	N	E	Y	Y
Dennis Hisey (R)	Y	N	Y	N	Y
Chris Holbert (R)	Y	N	Y	N	Y
Pete Lee (D)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Paul Lundeen (R)	N	N	N	N	Y
Vicki Marble (R)	N	N	E	N	Y
Dominick Moreno (D)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Brittany Petersen (D)	Y	Y	Y	E	Y
Kevin Priola (R)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Bob Rankin (R)	N	Y	Y	N	Y

The Arc of Colorado  
 1580 Logan St. Suite 730  
 Denver, CO 80203

Questions about this document? Contact: [abigail@thearcofco.org](mailto:abigail@thearcofco.org)



Senate	HB20-1312	HB20-1332	HB20-1128	SB20-100	SB20-217
Robert Rodriguez (D)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Ray Scott (R)	N	N	E	E	Y
Jim Smallwood (R)	N	N	N	N	Y
Jerry Sonnenberg (R)	N	N	N	N	Y
Tammy Story (D)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Jack Tate (R)	Y	N	Y	Y	Y
Nancy Todd (D)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Angela Williams (D)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Faith Winter (D)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Rob Woodward (R)	N	N	E	N	Y
Rachel Zenzinger (D)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y

### Legislative Scorecard House

House	Percentage	Grade	2019 Grade
Jeni James Arndt (D)	100	A	A
Mark Baisley (R)	20	F	D
KC Becker (D)	100	A	A
Adrienne Benavidez (D)	100	A	A
Shannon Bird (D)	100	A	A
Rod Bockenfeld (R)	40	D	B
Perry Buck (R)	20	F	D
Janet Buckner (D)	100	A	A
Bri Buentello (D)	100	A	A
Yadira Caraveo (D)	100	A	A
Terri Carver (R)	20	F	B
Marc Catlin (R)	40	D	C
Richard Champion (R)	40	D	New Legislator

The Arc of Colorado  
 1580 Logan St. Suite 730  
 Denver, CO 80203

Questions about this document? Contact: [abigail@thearcofco.org](mailto:abigail@thearcofco.org)



House	Percentage	Grade	2019 Grade
James Coleman (D)	100	A	A
Lisa Cutter (D)	100	A	A
Monica Duran (D)	100	A	A
Daneya Esgar (D)	100	A	B
Tony Exum (D)	100	A	A
Meg Froelich (D)	100	A	A
Alec Garnett (D)	100	A	A
Tim Geitner (R)	40	D	D
Serena Gonzales-Gutierrez (D)	100	A	A
Matt Gray (D)	100	A	A
Leslie Herod (D)	100	A	A
Richard Holtorf (R)	40	D	A
Edie Hooton (D)	100	A	A
Stephen Humphrey (R)	40	D	F
Dominique Jackson (D)	100	A	A
Sonya Jaquez-Lewis (D)	100	A	A
Chris Kennedy (D)	100	A	A
Cathy Kipp (D)	100	A	A
Tracy Kraft-Tharp (D)	100	A	A
Lois Landgraf (R)	40	D	B
Colin Larson (R)	40	D	A
Larry Liston (R)	40	D	B
Susan Lontine (D)	100	A	A
Julie McCluskie (D)	100	A	A
Hugh McKean (R)	100	A	A
Barabara McLachlan (D)	100	A	A
Jovan Melton (D)	100	A	A
Dafna Michaelson Jenet (D)	100	A	A
Kyle Mullica (D)	80	B	A
Patrick Neville (R)	40	D	D
Rod Pelton (R)	40	D	D
Kim Ransom (R)	40	D	D
Janice Rich (R)	50	C	B
Dylan Roberts (D)	100	A	A
Lori Saine (R)	25	D	F

The Arc of Colorado  
 1580 Logan St. Suite 730  
 Denver, CO 80203

Questions about this document? Contact: [abigail@thearcofco.org](mailto:abigail@thearcofco.org)



House	Percentage	Grade	2019 Grade
Shane Sandridge (R)	20	F	C
Jonathan Singer (D)	100	A	A
Emily Sirota (D)	100	A	A
Marc Snyder (D)	100	A	A
Matt Soper (R)	25	D	B
Tom Sullivan (D)	80	B	A
Kerry Tipper (D)	100	A	A
Brianna Titone (D)	80	B	A
Donald Valdez (D)	100	A	A
Alex Valdez (D)	100	A	A
Kevin Van Winkle (R)	40	D	F
Mike Weissman (D)	100	A	A
Perry Will (R)	40	D	D
Dave Williams (R)	20	F	F
James Wilson (R)	60	C	B
Steven Woodrow (D)	100	A	New Legislator
Mary Young (D)	100	A	New Legislator

### Legislative Scorecard Senate

Senate	Percent	Grade	2019 Grade
Jeff Bridges (D)	100	A	A
John Cooke (R)	50	C	C
Don Coram (R)	75	B	C
Larry Crowder (R)	20	F	B
Jessie Danielson (D)	80	B	A
Kerry Donovan (D)	100	A	A
Stephen Fenberg (D)	100	A	A
Rhonda Fields (D)	80	B	A
Mike Foote (D)	100	A	A
Leroy Garcia (D)	100	A	A
Bob Gardner (R)	40	D	B

The Arc of Colorado  
 1580 Logan St. Suite 730  
 Denver, CO 80203

Questions about this document? Contact: [abigail@thearcofco.org](mailto:abigail@thearcofco.org)



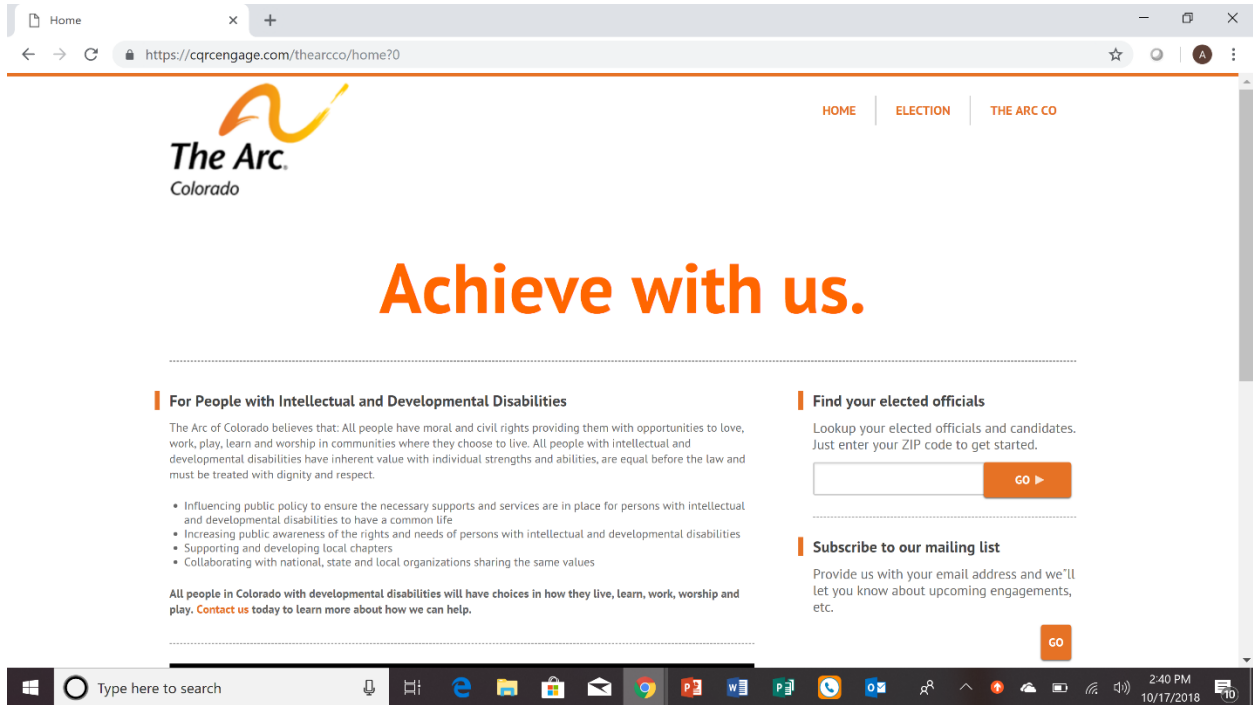
Senate	Percent	Grade	2019 Grade
Joanna Ginal (D)	100	A	A
Julie Gonzales (D)	100	A	A
Chris Hansen (D)	100	A	A (as a representative)
Owen Hill (R)	50	C	D
Dennis Hisey (R)	60	C	C
Chris Holbert (R)	60	C	D
Pete Lee (D)	100	A	A
Paul Lundeen (R)	20	F	D
Vicki Marble (R)	25	D	D
Dominick Moreno (D)	100	A	A
Brittany Petersen (D)	100	A	A
Kevin Priola (R)	100	A	A
Bob Rankin (R)	60	C	C
Robert Rodriguez (D)	100	A	A
Ray Scott (R)	33	D	D
Jim Smallwood (R)	20	F	D
Jerry Sonnenberg (R)	20	F	D
Tammy Story (D)	100	A	A
Jack Tate (R)	80	B	C
Nancy Todd (D)	100	A	A
Angela Williams (D)	100	A	A
Faith Winter (D)	100	A	A
Rob Woodward (R)	25	D	C
Rachel Zenzinger (D)	100	A	A

The Arc of Colorado  
 1580 Logan St. Suite 730  
 Denver, CO 80203

Questions about this document? Contact: [abigail@thearcofco.org](mailto:abigail@thearcofco.org)



Please sign up for CQ Engage, our public policy advocacy platform at the [following website!](https://cqengage.com/thearco/home?0)



The Arc of Colorado  
1580 Logan St. Suite 730  
Denver, CO 80203  
Questions about this document? Contact: [abigail@thearcofco.org](mailto:abigail@thearcofco.org)