

# Health Policy and Politics in 2024

HOT ISSUES  
IN HEALTH  
#HIHC23

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# Key Takeaways



The federal funding faucet is off



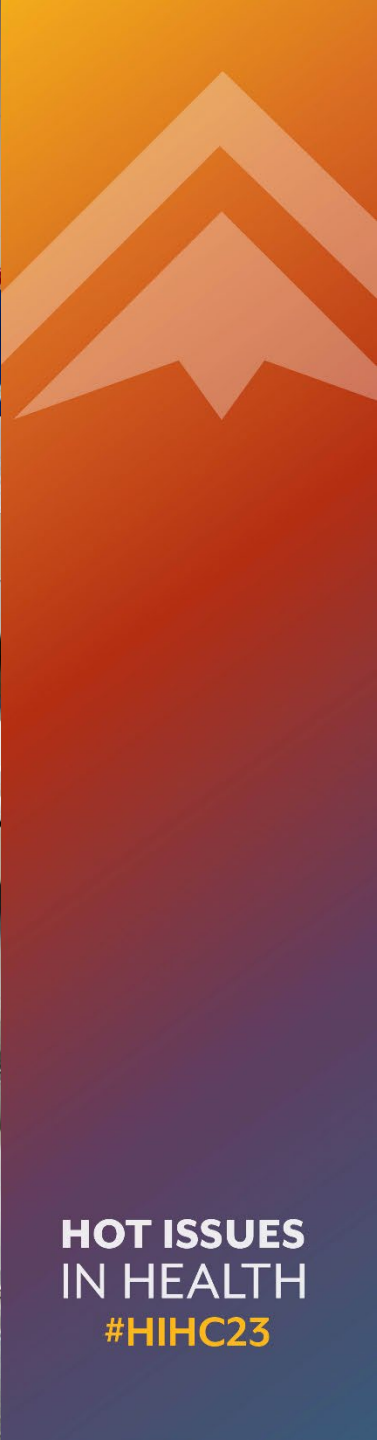
Mental health and housing are top health and social issues



The 2024 election is unprecedented and unpredictable



# 2023 Election Results



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# Why Voters Rejected Prop HH

- “Right-wing misinformation”
- Inequity
- TABOR refunds
- Complexity

All of the above





# Second Chance in Special Session

- Temporary property tax cut
- Earned Income Tax Credit
- Aid for renters
- Flat TABOR refunds

 CPR News

## Wielding baseball bat, Gov. Jared Polis orders lawmakers into special session on property taxes

 By Andrew Kenney and Megan Verlee · Nov. 9, 2023, 9:58 am



Hart Van Denburg/CPR News

Gov. Jared Polis prepares to break the glass front of a prop containing the executive order for a special legislative session to deal with rising property taxes, after Proposition HH was soundly defeated by voters two days previously.

# The Legislators: Numbers and Personalities



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# Historic Democratic Majorities

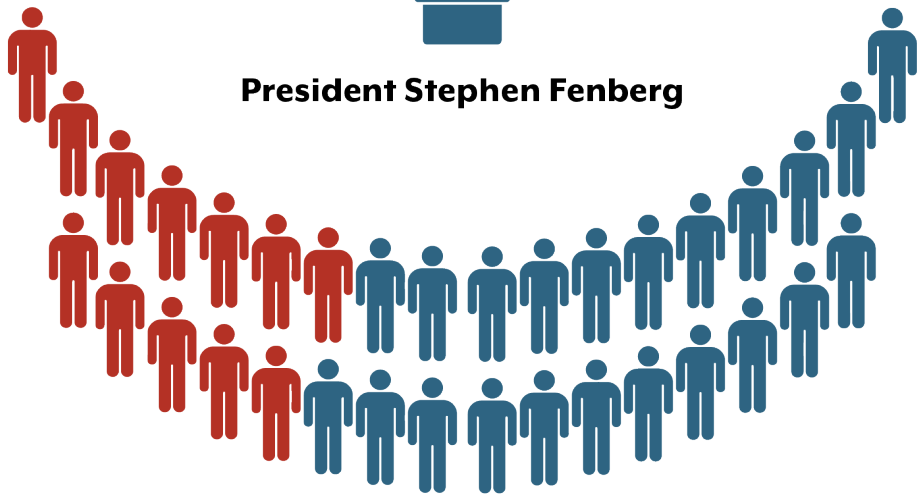
## Senate 2024

**12R 23D**

**18 votes** to pass a bill



President Stephen Fenberg



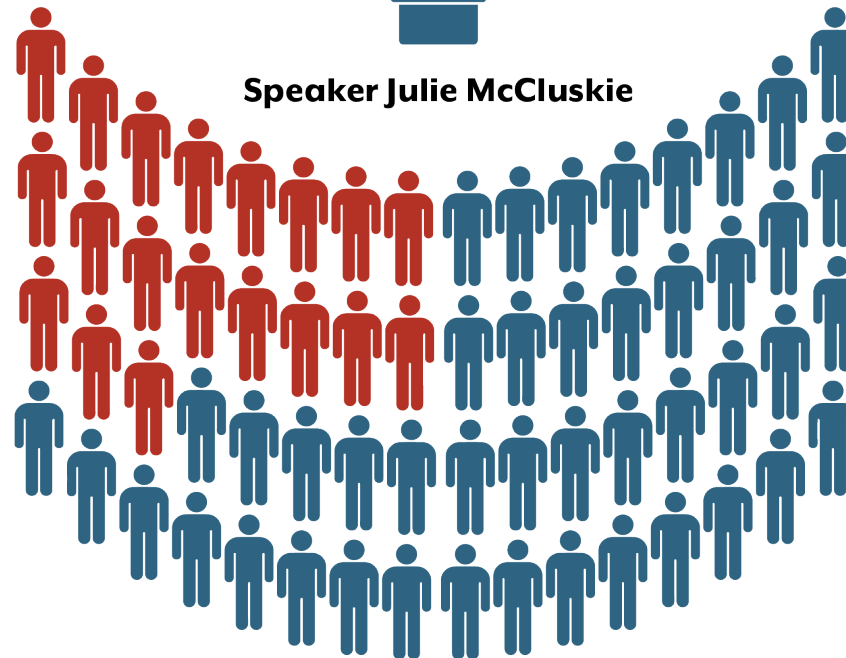
## House 2024

**19R 46D**

**33 votes** to pass a bill



Speaker Julie McCluskie





# New Legislators



**Representative  
Tim  
Hernández-D**



**Representative  
Manny  
Rutinel-D**



**Senator  
Dafna  
Michaelson  
Jenet-D**

# Shifts in the Senate



- New Majority Leader: Robert Rodriguez
- Key changes on Senate committees
  - Local Government and Housing
  - Appropriations

# Rise in Heated Debates

8

Number  
of weekend  
days worked

★ In the House  
of Representatives



182

Bills  
undecided  
with 5 days  
remaining  
in session

★ Nearly 30%  
of all bills

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# The Budget



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# No More Wiggle Room

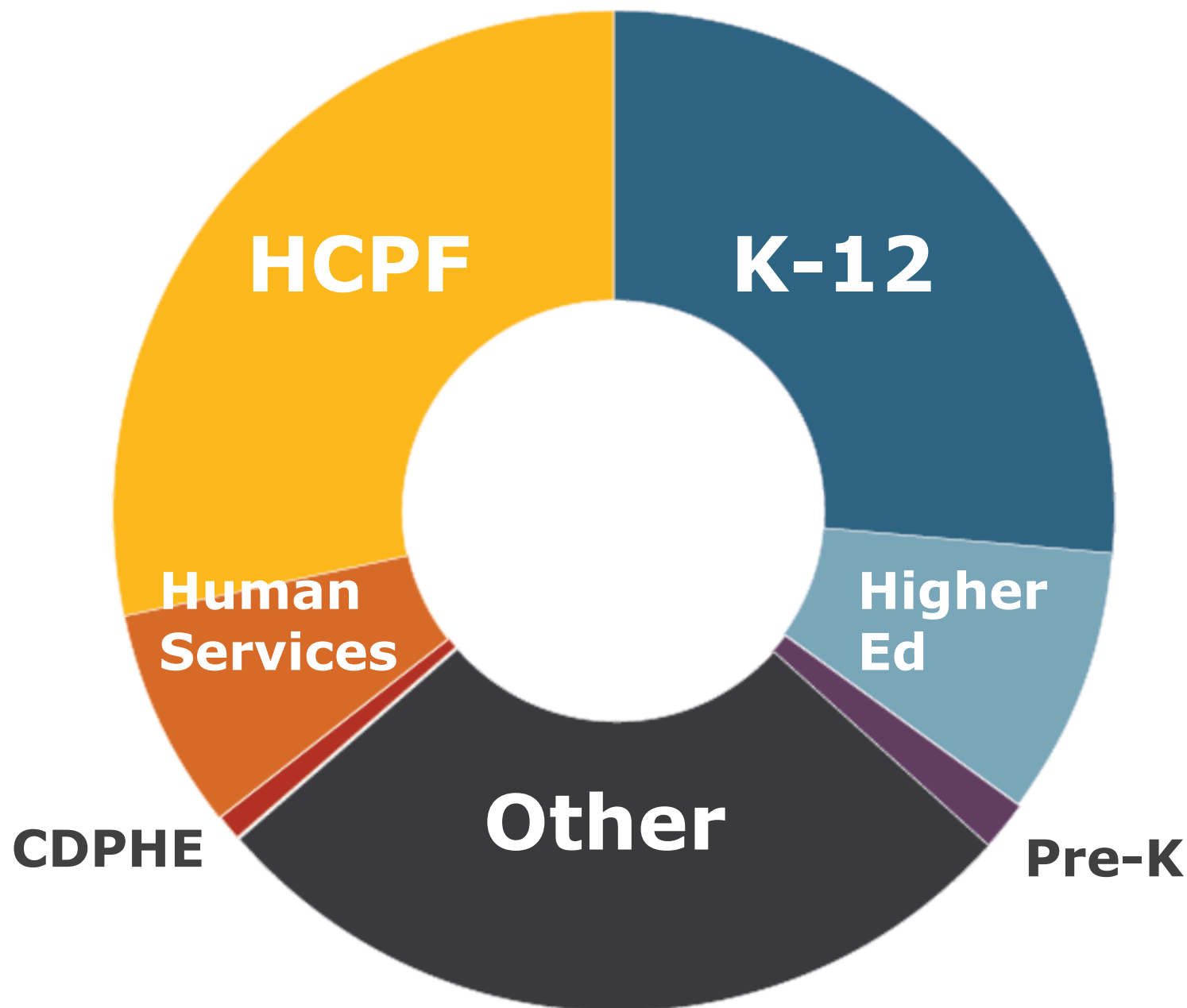
- Back-to-normal budget year
- Strong economic growth
- 5.6% growth in General Fund
- But two-thirds goes to caseload costs

# Total Budget

**\$45.9**  
BILLION

# General Fund

**\$18.4**  
BILLION





# Budget Highlights



Ending the school BS factor



Pay raises in health care



Continued public health investment



Youth mental health funding

# Topics to Watch in 2024



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# Unfinished Business

- Substance use
- Assault weapons
- New state agencies



**COLORADO**

Department of Early Childhood



**COLORADO**

Behavioral Health  
Administration



# Housing

- Land use
- Construction defects



# Never-Finished Business

- Health care workforce
- Health care costs
- Climate



# Youth Behavioral Health

- Children's behavioral health system of care
- High-acuity crisis services for children
- Suicide prevention
- Social media



# 2024 Election Preview



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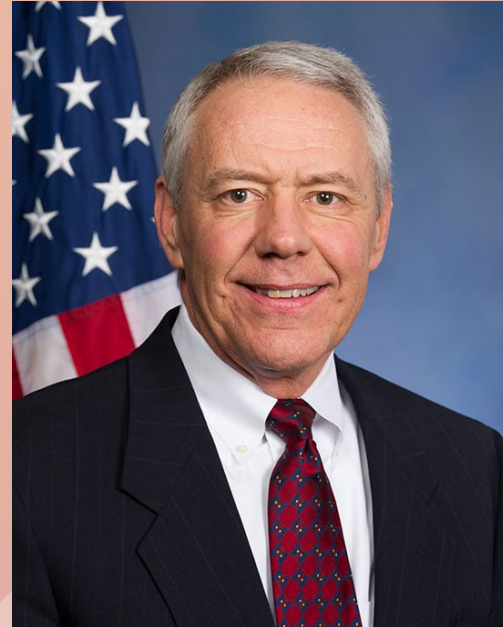


# House Races to Watch



**Representative  
Lauren  
Boebert-R**

**CO-3**



**Representative  
Ken  
Buck-R**

**CO-4**



**Representative  
Yadira  
Caraveo-D**

**CO-8**



# Ballot Initiatives to Watch



Abortion access



Property taxes



Ranked choice voting

# Key Takeaways



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