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Colorado Moves to End Forced Sterilization of People with Disabilities

DENVER, CO — Disability Law Colorado (DLC) applauds the Colorado House for passing [House Bill 26-1040](#), legislation that ends the forced sterilization of people with disabilities in Colorado and affirms the fundamental right to informed consent and bodily autonomy.

HB26-1040, sponsored by **Representative Meg Froelich** and **Senator Lisa Cutter**, removes the state's authority to compel sterilization of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities—a practice rooted in the discredited eugenics movement that remains legal under current Colorado law.

The bill now heads to the Senate for consideration.

“This bill ensures that reproductive decisions are guided by consent, information, and respect—not fear or outdated assumptions,” said **Jack Johnson, Public Policy Liaison for Disability Law Colorado**.

From a professional and lived-experience perspective, the bill reflects modern standards of care and disability rights.

“As a social worker, a person with a disability, and a parent of a child with a disability, I’ve seen how harmful it is when systems prioritize control over consent,” said [Nikki Bishop, LCSW](#), a Colorado-based clinician specializing in disability and trauma-informed care. “This legislation aligns Colorado law with ethical practice and affirms that people with disabilities deserve the same bodily autonomy as anyone else.”

To request interviews or more information, contact DLC Communications Manager **Felix Ortiz**.

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Disability Law Colorado is a nonprofit civil rights organization, authorized by federal law to combat discrimination, abuse, and neglect. We aim to make Colorado the best place in America for people with disabilities to thrive. For more information, visit disabilitylawco.org.