



FRUITA
COLORADO

AGENDA ITEM COVER SHEET

TO: FRUITA CITY COUNCIL AND MAYOR

FROM: SHANNON VASSEN, ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER

DATE: JANUARY 28, 2025

AGENDA TEXT: Discussion on Colorado Senate Bill 24-131 (8:00 p.m.– 8:30 p.m.)

PURPOSE

The City Council has requested time to discuss Colorado Senate Bill 24-131, which is a law that was enacted last year and prohibits firearms in certain public facilities. The purpose of this discussion is to provide the Council with an overview of the law, and to provide direction to staff if any (or no) action needs to be taken.

BACKGROUND

Last year, the Colorado Legislature and Governor approved Senate 24-131, a bill prohibiting firearms in sensitive places. The new law took effect July 1, 2024. In summary, the act prohibits a person from knowingly carrying a firearm, both openly and concealed, in the following government buildings and their parking areas:

- State legislative buildings, including buildings at which the offices of elected members are located;
- A building of a local government's governing body, including buildings at which the offices of elected members or the chief executive officer of a local government are located (local government buildings); and
- A courthouse or other building used for court proceedings.

In addition to these governmental facilities, the law expanded the definition to include that firearms are also now prohibited in all schools, daycares, and colleges/universities. The law states that unlawful carrying of a firearm in a government building is a Class 1 Misdemeanor. Exceptions to the law include law enforcement officers, members of the United States armed forces or Colorado National Guard, security personnel, and a few other exceptions.

A local government may enact an ordinance to allow the carrying of a firearm at any of these locations, with the exception of the Municipal Court. Staff has found a few sample ordinances of organizations opting out of certain parts of the law, and those ordinances are included with this cover sheet. The new law can be found at C.R.S. § 18-12-105.3 and the full text of the bill is available here: [Colorado SB 24-131](#).