

Written Testimony as prepared for delivery in support of HB19-1118 – Time Period to Cure Lease Violation (Jackson & Galindo/A. Williams) to the House Transportation & Local Government Committee by Stephanie Perez-Carillo, Policy Analyst at the Colorado Children’s Campaign

- Chairman Gray and members of the Committee, my name is Stephanie Perez-Carillo and I’m a Policy Analyst at the Colorado Children’s Campaign.
- Thank you for the opportunity to testify today in support of House Bill 1118. And thank you Rep. Jackson and Rep. Galindo for your leadership in bringing this bill forward.
- The Children’s Campaign supports this bill because there is a clear connection between stable housing and child well-being. Eviction has negative impacts on children’s health and academic outcomes, and on their mental health and social-emotional development, due to the mobility and instability caused by eviction.
- Eviction has a particular impact on children, because families with children face eviction at significantly higher rates than other groups.
- Families who are evicted are more likely to experience homelessness or be forced to move into poor-quality housing, both of which place children’s safety, well-being, and healthy development in jeopardy.
- Pregnant people who experience homelessness are much more likely to have pregnancy complications, and prenatal homelessness is associated with pre-term delivery and low-birthweight infants.
- Mothers who were evicted in the previous year have higher rates of maternal depression, which affects their children’s healthy development and also affects mothers’ ability to work and provide for their children.
- HB 1118 would provide families with a more reasonable time period to remedy a lease violation and avoid facing eviction.
- Thank you, and we urge your support of HB 1118.