



20
19

9 TO 5 COLORADO

**LEGISLATIVE
SUMMARY**



A message from the directors

We would like to thank each and every one of our sponsors, allies, partners, and most of all our 9to5 members; none of this would have been possible without you.

We entered this session with four full time organizers, one intern, and with the certainty that we would be leading at least 4 major bills, which later on turned into 5. At the same time, our housing team was still working tirelessly to make sure mobile home park residents at Denver Meadows received relocation support and were still engaged in other local housing work.

Our current 9to5 staff & core leaders carried several transitions through the past few months and we are proud of the continued courage and commitment to community-centered work as we stepped into the heavy lift and fight of the 2019 legislative session.

Thanks to years of building power and groundwork for these campaigns, a political shift in the legislature, strong sponsors, strong coalition partners and powerful community, for the first time, our staff witnessed our bills passing and realized there was a next step that we never had to think about before - bill signings!

But these wins were not without challenges and disappointments. We reaffirmed that no matter what, we need to stay true to our values and ground the decisions we make in our community. We also witnessed the power and tenacity of 9to5 leaders: to testify even though they could be retaliated against by their landlords and employers, to speak publicly and to media for the very first time, to sacrifice their time and sometimes work time to be there to tell their stories in the faces of strong and many times ruthless opposition. Thank you for your heart work.

We're grateful to all our members, coalitions partners and champion bill sponsors for your solidarity. We look forward to building on our collective work together to achieve justice and a better Colorado for all our families.

In solidarity,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Andrea Chiriboga Flor".

Andrea Chiriboga Flor

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Judith Márquez".

Judith Márquez

Thank you to organizations who partnered with us during this hardworking legislative session! Colorado Organization for Latina Opportunity and Reproductive Rights, Colorado Fiscal Institute, Good Business Colorado, Family Values @ Work, The Bell Policy Center, United for a New Economy, Colorado Cross-Disability Coalition, Party for a Socialist Liberation, Denver Democratic Socialists of America, Padres y Jovenes, Women's Lobby, Colorado Center for Law and Policy, Small Business Majority, Together Colorado, MomsRising, A Better Balance, Violence Free Colorado, Working Families Party, UFCW, Enterprise Community Partners, Colorado Women's Bar Association, Women's Foundation of Colorado, SEIU, Siegel Public Affairs, y Mi Familia Vota

BY THE NUMBERS

130

number of organizational partners
gto5 worked with during the
legislative session



25

gto5 members testified at the
Capitol, many of them multiple
times

10

Number of bills gto5 testified on
through the session



577

Number of online actions taken by
gto5 members and allies

1:4

Ratio of hours spent at the Capitol
to hours spent with community
members



100

Number of media publications
covering our priority bills

PRIORITY BILLS



HB 19-1309, MOBILE HOME PARK OVERSIGHT

Rep Hooton, Rep McCluskie, Sen Fenberg, Sen Lee

9to5 Role: Lead | Status: Passed

HB 1309 will strengthen the already existing Mobile Home Park Act by providing much-needed support mechanisms for mobile homeowners. This bill will create a dispute resolution system, will extend the right to cure for nonpayment of rent from 5 to 10 days, it will give powers to counties to create more protections for mobile homeowners, and it would extend the number of days from 48 hours to 30-60 days once an eviction has been processed.



HB 19-1170, SAFE & HEALTHY HOME ACT

Rep Jackson, Rep Weissman, Sen Williams, Sen Bridges

9to5 Role: Lead | Status: Passed

This bill will strengthen Colorado's warranty of habitability and gives additional rights to renters facing maintenance issues. Renters will now be able to withhold rent in instances of poor maintenance and have more protections against retaliation. We have been working on warranty issues for the last three years, all as a result of member surveys and stories shared by community members.



SB 19-225, AUTHORIZE LOCAL GOVERNMENTS TO STABILIZE RENT

Sen Gonzales, Sen Rodriguez, Rep Lontine, Rep Gonzales-Gutierrez

9to5 Role: Lead | Status: Died

Coloradans need to have every tool at their disposal to address the statewide housing crisis. SB 225 would have reversed the current ban on rent control and include language granting local governments the discretion to create policies and programs that best meet local housing needs. We believe that Colorado is home and will be working on this legislation in 2020.

PRIORITY BILLS



SB 19-085, EQUAL PAY FOR EQUAL WORK

Sen. Danielson, Sen Pettersen, Rep Buckner, Rep Gonzales-Gutierrez

9to5 Role: Lead | Status: Passed

Ending the gender wage gap is a core issue for 9to5 and we're proud that that passage of SB19-085 will bring us one step closer! Winning the Equal Pay for Equal Work Act provides tools to ensure that a person's gender & other protected identity will not inhibit their income. Provisions in this bill include requiring the advertising of salary ranges for a position and having an avenue for workers facing discrimination to sue in civil court for up to three years of past lost wages



HB 19-1106, FAIR HOUSING APPLICATION FEES

Rep Titone, Rep Gonzales-Gutierrez, Sen Pettersen

9to5 Role: Lead | Status: Passed

This bill puts limitations on the charge for rental applications to ensure that all funds are used for the process instead of landlord profit. It requires prospective landlords notify residents if they were rejected and for what reason, and to provide a receipt to show that the application was indeed processed. It also restricts background checks to 5 years in most cases.



SB 19-188, FAMLI STUDY BILL

Sen Winter, Sen Williams, Rep Duran, Rep Gray

9to5 Role: Lead | Status: Passed

The FAMLI Implementation Act, will create the FAMLI Task Force to implement several analysis and make recommendations for a paid family and medical leave program for Colorado. We had started the session hoping to see the passage of a program that would see the actual application of this paid leave program, however, critical corporate opposition and external circumstances led to the current iteration of this bill. We're committed to seeing a program that will benefit all Coloradans and we are confident that the results of the task force will say what we already know - that the Family and Medical Leave Insurance Program (CO FAMLI) is the best choice for Colorado.

SUPPORTING BILLS



HB 19-1245, AFFORDABLE HOUSING FUND

Rep Weissman, Sen Gonzales, Sen Foote

9to5 Role: Support & Testified | Status: Passed

This bill, which we are not leading but in strong support, would create a funding stream of up to \$50 million for the creation of affordable housing in Colorado.



HB 19-1118, EXTEND THE TIME TO CURE

Rep Jackson, Rep Galindo, Sen Williams

9to5 Role: Support & Testified | Status: Passed

HB 1118 will extend the right to cure a lease violation from the current 3 days to up to 10 days. This means if a tenant is unable to pay rent on time, or violates another rule in a lease, they would have 7 extra days to pay rent or correct the problem. We were in strong support of this bill and firmly believe that this is one step closer to strengthening the rights of Colorado renters.



SB 19-180, EVICTION LEGAL DEFENSE FUND

Sen. Winter, Rep McCluskie

9to5 Role: Support & Testified | Status: Passed

This bill, which we are not leading but are in support of, creates a funding stream to provide legal assistance in cases of eviction. This will include legal advice, counseling, and representation for, and on behalf of, renters who are experiencing an eviction or are at immediate risk of an eviction. We know that having legal representation in eviction cases aid renters in having a more equitable and just hearing.

WHAT'S NEXT

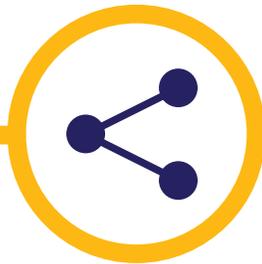
We're proud of the work we were able to accomplish this past legislative session and are excited for the next steps. We'll be focusing on spreading the word about the new, expanded renters rights in Colorado. We already have begun stakeholder meetings on the high costs of rent, and additional protections for mobile home owners. We plan on continuing our leadership on rent stabilization, working on new legislation around late fees on rent, and creating new protections for

mobile home owners 9to5 members have worked tirelessly to secure protections for all Coloradans and we will be providing trainings this summer to make sure renters are aware and knowledgeable of the new legislation. We will also be supporting the formation of the FAMILI task force and look forward to being part of a process that prioritizes the needs of workers and their families above corporate interests. The work continues!

GET INVOLVED!



DONATE



SHARE



**BECOME A
MEMBER**



VOLUNTEER



9to5.org/Colorado



[@9to5Colorado](https://twitter.com/9to5Colorado)



[@9to5ColoradoPage](https://www.facebook.com/9to5ColoradoPage)



9to5Colorado@9to5.org