

House Finance

02/26/2026 Upon Adjournment

HB26-1102 Funding for Colorado DRIVES Account

Typed Text of Testimony Submitted

Name, Position, Representing	Typed Text of Testimony
Steve Schleiker Amend El Paso County Clerk and Recorder	<p>Chair and Members of the House Finance Committee,</p> <p>I am writing to express concerns with House Bill 26-1102 as introduced and to respectfully suggest amendments for your consideration.</p> <p>While I recognize the importance of funding the Colorado DRIVES system (CORE21), two provisions raise significant concerns for counties.</p> <p>First, the redirection of \$2 from each late vehicle registration fee away from the Highway Users Tax Fund (HUTF) reduces the total pool available for statutory distribution to counties and municipalities. Counties rely on their 26% share of HUTF for road and bridge maintenance and infrastructure. Even incremental diversions erode long-term transportation funding stability and establish precedent for future reallocations. Preserving the integrity of the HUTF distribution formula is critical to local transportation planning and fiscal predictability.</p> <p>Second, authorizing a no-show or late cancellation fee for driver’s license appointments creates service consistency challenges. Some counties provide driver license services without requiring appointments and prioritize walk-in accessibility. Implementing an appointment penalty fee at the state level risks confusing residents, creating inconsistent customer experiences across jurisdictions, and</p>

	<p>complicating coordinated communication between state and county offices.</p> <p>To address these concerns, I respectfully suggest:</p> <p>1. Protect the HUTF Distribution:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">â€¢ Remove the diversion of late registration fee revenue from HUTF; orâ€¢ Backfill the HUTF distribution from another state source to prevent reductions to local governments; orâ€¢ Limit the diversion to a temporary period with a sunset and review provision. <p>2. Clarify the No-Show Fee Provision:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">â€¢ Limit the fee authority to state-operated driver license offices only, with clear language excluding county-operated services; orâ€¢ Require uniform statewide communication standards prior to implementation; orâ€¢ Delay implementation pending consultation with the Colorado Clerks Association and a report on customer and operational impacts. <p>Counties and the Department of Revenue must remain aligned in service delivery and public messaging. Policy changes affecting motor vehicle and driver services should protect local transportation funding and preserve operational clarity.</p> <p>For these reasons, I urge consideration of the amendments outlined above.</p> <p>Steve Schleiker Clerk & Recorder</p>
--	--