



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

February 19, 2026

**Contact:** Felix Ortiz  
[fortiz@disabilitylawco.org](mailto:fortiz@disabilitylawco.org)  
720-202-9871

## House Committee Votes Today on Ride Share Discrimination Bill

**DENVER, CO** — Disability Law Colorado is calling on the **House Business Affairs and Labor Committee** to pass **House Bill 26-1043**, legislation that strengthens accountability for discrimination by transportation network company drivers. The committee is scheduled to vote **today at 1:30 PM in HCR 0112**. If approved, the bill will move to the full House.

Sponsored by **Representative Gretchen Rydin**, HB26-1043 allows the Public Utilities Commission to impose civil penalties of up to \$5,000 for discriminatory conduct without requiring prior written notice. The bill also requires monthly reporting of service refusals, creates an in app reporting tool for riders, and directs the Commission to publish anonymized reports to increase transparency.

“Access to transportation is essential to work, health care, and daily life,” said **Jack Johnson, Public Policy Liaison for Disability Law Colorado**. “When a driver refuses service because of a disability, that is illegal. This bill is accountable.”

**Maureen Nietfeld, Second Vice President of the National Federation of the Blind of Colorado and President of the Denver Chapter**, will testify at today’s hearing.

“People who are blind rely on ride share services to live and work independently,” said Nietfeld. “When a driver cancels a ride because of a guide dog, it sends a message that we are not welcome. This bill makes clear that discrimination has consequences.”

DLC supports HB26-1043 to strengthen enforcement, improve transparency, and protect equal access to transportation across Colorado.

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

###

*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](http://disabilitylawco.org).*