



Colorado Governor Signs Bill to Censor "Factually Inaccurate Data"

Colorado's Democratic Governor Jared Polis signed a bill into law last week — SB 24-084 — that requires the Colorado attorney general to coordinate with the Colorado Department of Education to censor "factually inaccurate data," as well as collaborate with organizations and community leaders to "facilitate productive and honest conversations."

Senate Bill 24-084 states:

CONCERNING A REQUIREMENT
THAT THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
COORDINATE WITH THE
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN AN
EFFORT TO PREVENT THE
PROLIFERATION OF FACTUALLY
INACCURATE DATA BY SHARING
RESOURCES TO ENCOURAGE
RESPECTFUL DISCOURSE.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:

SECTION 1. In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 24-31-119 as follows:

24-31-119. Factually inaccurate data prevention campaign - repeal.

- (1) To PREVENT AND COMBAT THE SHARING AND SPREADING OF FACTUALLY INACCURATE DATA, THE ATTORNEY GENERAL SHALL, AT A MINIMUM:
- (a) ESTABLISH AN INITIATIVE TO ENCOURAGE RESPECTFUL ENGAGEMENT AND DISCOURSE;
- (b) DEVELOP AND SHARE
 RESOURCES THAT CAN BE USED BY
 SCHOOLS, ORGANIZATIONS, AND
 COMMUNITY LEADERS TO
 FACILITATE PRODUCTIVE AND



AP Images Jared Polis



Written by **D. Michael DeRidder** on June 10, 2024



HONEST CONVERSATIONS
REGARDING STATEWIDE AND
NATIONAL ISSUES TO HELP PEOPLE
FIND COMMON GROUND; AND

(c) COLLABORATE WITH
ORGANIZATIONS ACROSS THE
STATE TO DEVELOP AND UPDATE
THE MATERIALS THAT ARE USED IN
CONNECTION WITH THE
RESOURCES AND COORDINATE
WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION TO MAKE THE
RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO
SCHOOLS AND SCHOOL DISTRICTS
IN THE STATE.

Although the U.S. Supreme Court ruled in *Texas v. Johnson* that burning the U.S. flag is protected speech under the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, <u>Colorado Politics stated on X</u>, "Colorado attorney general warns that setting Pride flags ablaze can be a crime in some circumstances." Colorado Attorney General Phil Weiser responded to Colorado Politics, <u>stating on X</u>:

In Colorado, #WeThePeople means everyone and there is no place for hate. That's a core message of #Pride, where we celebrate everyone's right to live as their best authentic self.





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