

# Support SB19-103: The Legalization of Minors' Businesses

Senate Sponsors: Angela Williams, Jack Tate

House Sponsors: James Coleman, Terri Carver, Kevin Van Winkle

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## What does SB19-103 Do?

The law as it is currently written poses a distinct possibility of criminal or civil penalty to children participating in classic childhood activities, such as operating a lemonade stand, shoveling snow, lawn mowing, or running a bake sale. SB19-103 would correct this problem and allow minors to explore their entrepreneurial sides by removing the red tape to legally running a small, occasional business. This bill will prohibit any county, municipality, city and county government or any agency of a local government from requiring a license or permit for their business that is:

- **Operated on an occasional basis (less than 84 days a year) by anyone under the age of 18**
- **Located a sufficient distance from another commercial entity so they are not a direct economic competitor of that commercial entity**

Without the passage of SB19-103, children will be subject to inordinate and heavy handed burdens that thwart their entrepreneurial engagement and education. SB19-103 would impose a uniform ban on such laws across the state, ensuring that Colorado kids are allowed to be kids, encouraging innovative thinking and fostering initiative in our youth.

## Why is SB19-103 Necessary?

Even though many of us have fond childhood memories engaging with our communities by running small businesses, these sorts of child run businesses are technically against the law unless they pay substantial money to receive the proper permits. Part time entrepreneurship, such as shoveling snow, hosting lemonade stands, running bake sales or mowing lawns should teach children problem solving skills and financial literacy – not the price of bureaucratic red tape. The law as it currently stands stifles the entrepreneurial and charitable spirit of Colorado's children, and robs them of the opportunity to partake in valuable "kidpreneurship" lessons surrounding work ethic, working with others, creativity, and so much more.

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