

# Report on the 2023 Session

SENATOR ROD PELTON

## 74<sup>th</sup> General Assembly in Session

On Monday, January 9, the 2023 Colorado Legislative Session began. I was privileged and proud to have several family members and friends join me to kick off the new session.



On Thursday, January 12, a good friend and colleague, Perry Will, was sworn in to fill a vacancy left by Sen. Rankin. This makes three of the 35 Colorado State Senators that were born and raised in our tiny town of Cheyenne Wells. Some say the Capitol Building will never be the same!



**Senators Byron Pelton, Perry Will and Rod Pelton**

Faithfully,  
Senator Rod Pelton

## Assault Weapons Ban

This is an UGLY one! The Democrats are gearing up to introduce a ban on all “assault weapons.”

The definition of assault weapons, according to this bill, will include almost every gun in existence today. Anything but a single shot gun. That means almost all of the firearms used for self-defense or concealed carry, most sport-competition rifles, and many hunting rifles.

Even though this bill hasn’t been read across the desk yet, I and my fellow legislators have already received countless emails urging a “no” vote on this bill. Rest assured; we will vote against it. However, you should be aware that we are SADLY outnumbered in the legislature this year. There are 12 Republican Senators compared to 23 Democrats, and 19 Republican Representatives compared to 46 Democrats. Our hands are tied. That’s not an excuse or a “cop out”; it’s simply a statement of fact. Believe me, we will do all that we can to stop this and other bad bills, but it will most assuredly pass.

However, as we all know, this bill, when passed, will surely be deemed unconstitutional. There are already organizations geared up to bring a lawsuit against it as soon as it is signed into law. Unfortunately, the legal work to have the law rescinded will take valuable time and money that could otherwise be used elsewhere.

## Where I’m Serving

I count myself fortunate to have been assigned to the following three committees for this legislative session:

Agriculture & Natural Resources  
Local Government & Housing  
Legislative Audit Committee

I’m looking forward to serving YOU this session!



Senate District 35

Baca, Bent, Cheyenne, Crowley, El Paso, Elbert, Huerfano, Kit Carson, Kiowa, Las Animas, Lincoln, Otero, and Prowers Counties

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