



2016 Ballot Measures

The following is a brief description of the 2016 November ballot measures for which Colorado's Legislative Council is preparing a blue book analysis. To date, six referred measures and initiatives are on the ballot. The rest are pending certification of collected signatures. To read the complete text of each measure, click [here](#).

1.) Amendment 69: State Health Care System – **ON THE BALLOT**

Amendment 69 proposes to finance health care through ColoradoCare, a twenty-one member board of trustees that will administer a coordinated payment system for health care services and control the per capita cost of health care and improve access to health care.

2.) Amendment T: No Exception to Involuntary Servitude Prohibition – **ON THE BALLOT**

The Colorado Constitution prohibits slavery or involuntary servitude, except as punishment for a crime for which a person has been convicted. Amendment T removes this exception.

3.) Amendment U: Exempt Possessory Interests in Real Property – **ON THE BALLOT**

Amendment U exempts a possessory interest from property taxation if the actual value of the interest is less than or equal to \$6,000 for tax year 2018. Beginning in tax year 2019, the amount of the exemption is increased biennially by the amount of inflation. Possessory interests with an actual value greater than the specified exemption threshold are taxed at the full assessed value.

4.) Initiative 75: Local Government Authority to Regulate Oil and Gas Development

Initiative 75 grants local governments the authority to regulate oil and gas development. This authority includes the ability to enact prohibitions, moratoria or limits on oil and gas development. Local regulations may be more restrictive than state laws and regulations but may not be less restrictive.

5.) Initiative 78: Mandatory Setback for Oil and Gas Development

Initiative 78 requires all new oil and gas facilities, including those that use hydraulic fracturing, to be at least 2,500 feet from an occupied structure (i.e. homes, schools, hospitals, etc.) or areas of special concern (i.e. lakes, rivers, playgrounds, amphitheaters, etc.). The state and local governments may enact more restrictive setback requirements.

6.) Initiative 96: Requirements for Constitutional Amendments - ON THE BALLOT

Initiative 96 requires that a certain number of signatures be gathered from each state senate district (2% of all registered voters in each state senate district) to place a constitutional initiative on the ballot. It also increases the percentage of votes (55% of all votes cast) required to adopt a constitutional amendment (except when a proposed amendment only repeals rather than changes part of the constitution).

7.) Initiative 98: Primary Elections Candidate Process

Under Initiative 98, unaffiliated voters will have the option to vote during a presidential primary. Unaffiliated voters will be given a combined primary election ballot but may only cast a vote for one major political party. A ballot in which votes have been cast in the primary of more than one party shall be void and not counted.

8.) Initiative 101: State Minimum Wage - ON THE BALLOT

Effective January 1, 2017, Initiative 101 increases Colorado's minimum wage to \$9.30/hour (current rate is \$6.85/hour). This rate is increased annually by \$0.90 each January until it reaches \$12/hour effective January 2020. From that point on, the rate will be adjusted annually for cost of living increases, as measured by Colorado's CPI.

9.) Initiative 104: Food Store License - WITHDRAWN

Effective July 1, 2017, Initiative 104 allows grocery stores to sell beer and wine. Local licensing authorities may consider the reasonable requirements of the neighborhood (pursuant to CRS 12-47-312) when determining whether or not to issue a 'food store license'. The initiative also sets a local licensing fee of \$150 for 'food store licenses' granted within any municipality or city and county and \$250 for each 'food store licenses' granted outside the municipal limits.

10.) Initiative 117: Retention of Excess State Revenue - WITHDRAWN

Initiative 117 allows the state to retain and spend all state revenue in excess of the state's fiscal year spending limit beginning in SFY 2016-17 thru SFY 2025-2026. Newly retained revenue would be spent as follows: 1.) 35% or more on k-12, vocational education and higher education; 2.) 35% or more to the highway users tax fund; and 3.) any amount not used on education or transportation may only be used to fund mental health services and senior services.

11.) Initiative 132: Colorado Redistricting Commission - WITHDRAWN

Initiative 132 creates a 12 member commission to divide the state into congressional, state senatorial and state representative districts.

12.) Initiative 140: Presidential Primary

Initiative 140 establishes a presidential primary in Colorado that allows participation by unaffiliated voters.

13.) Initiative 143: Tobacco Taxes for Health Related Purposes

Initiative 143 increases the tax on cigarettes and tobacco products. The revenues collected from this tax increase will be used to support programs and purposes outlined in the 2004 voter-approved Amendment 35 (18% up to 36 million), tobacco prevention (16%), research (27%), veterans programs (14%), child behavioral health initiatives (10%), community health centers (10%) and educational loan repayment for health professionals in rural areas(5%).

14.) Initiative 145: Medical Aid in Dying - ON THE BALLOT

Initiative 145 allows a Colorado resident with a terminal illness to request a prescription for medical aid-in-dying medication if certain criteria are met.