

General Government

Local Governance and Commissioners Elections	
Adams County	
Preferred Contact:	Julie Duran Mullica - Adams County
Co-Sponsoring Counties/Commissioners:	N/A
Who is your subject matter expert?	Jane Best, Adams County Sr Advisor for Legislative Affairs, jbest@adamscountyco.gov, 303-717-0963.
Has this proposal been approved by your BoCC?	Yes.
Have you reviewed the CCI Instructional Memo?	Yes.
Describe the problem your proposal will solve.	Bills similar to Modification of County Commissioner Elections HB1203 continue to be proposed and we anticipate seeing one next session. Adams County would like to bring forward for discussion that CCI taking a more proactive stance this legislative session to try to find common cause on this issue. This will prevent reactive attention to an issue we anticipate being re-introduced.
Areas of Impact:	Power/Authority/Mandate of county government
What is the ultimate source of this problem?	This bill seeks to override what counties, such as Adams, have previously brought to the county citizens for a vote. This legislation seeks to override the will of local citizens and governance decisions.
What is your initial proposal to solve this problem?	Continue to work on amendments that were brought forward last legislative session. There were several ideas for carving out counties that have already put this issue forward for county citizens to vote and decide. Other suggestions would be to detail language that would ensure the will of the people and term timelines are honored by what has already been voted on at the local level. Progress was made throughout last session and amendments were made but they fell short of satisfactory for some counties. Amendment L07 states counties over 70K residents and states it will be required to elect their ""base"" three commissioners by district. If a county decides to have five commissioners, the additional two commissioners may be elected by districts or ""at-large"" as the voters may choose. (No more ranked choice voting). Every decennial year (2030, 2040, 2050 etc.), the voters of a county with only 3 commissioners must be asked if they wish to move to 5 commissioners; and if so, if they want the additional 2 commissioners elected ""at large"" or by adding an additional two districts.

	A concern remains that the county citizens have already voted on a process for their BoCC and even with L07, this would require some board to all be in-district and voted on only by electors in the district, or 3 in-district voted on by only the electors in the districts and 2 at large. Further, though L07 amendment was made to address concerns on rank choice, it still has ranked choice voting for the primary elections. Lastly, should this bill move forward it would cut short the terms of some elected Commissioners.
Please provide sample language for this solution.	we need to give more consideration to sample language that is agreeable to counties impacted by this legislation.
Are there any solutions that do not require state-level legislation? Has your county explored these alternatives?	No- as it is anticipated this bill will return at the state level.
Has CCI or any other organizations sought a solution to this problem before?	CCI and CCAT both worked on this issue last year reactively and successfully.
What possible organization(s) would support your proposed solution?	CCAT, other counties, AFSCME, Colorado District Attorneys (based on opposition to HB1203 last year)
What possible organization(s) would oppose your proposed solution?	ACLU, Colorado Common Cause (based on support for HB1203 last year)
Have you spoken with any legislators about your proposed solution? If so, what was their response?	Many reactive conversations happened last session. There have been no current proactive conversations.
What are the financial implications of this problem to your county? Are there any financial implications to this solution either?	No specifics at this time on implications to the solution other than cost savings of not having to revisit an issue about which the county has already voted.

What are the financial implications of this problem to any other impacted parties? What are the financial implications of this solution to any other impacted parties? <i>Please consider any relevant Colorado State Departments.</i>	Voters have already determined how they seek to select Commissioners. Should a new state law be passed, this issue would hold the cost of going back on the ballot among other costs associated with disrupting processes voted on by county citizens.
Staff Feedback	<u>Risk / Difficulty:</u> <u>Time Commitment:</u>