

### **Legislative Council Staff**

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

### **2024 Fiscal Impact Statements**

This document includes fiscal impact statements prepared by Legislative Council Staff for the following measures on the November 2024 statewide ballot.

• Amendment G: Modify Property Tax Exemption For Veterans with Disabilities

Amendment H: Judicial Discipline Procedures and Confidentiality
 Amendment I: Constitutional Bail Exception for First Degree Murder
 Amendment J: Repealing the Definition of Marriage in the Constitution

Amendment K: Modify Constitutional Election Deadlines

• Amendment 79: Constitutional Right to Abortion

Amendment 80: Constitutional Right to School Choice

Proposition JJ: Retain Additional Sports Betting Tax Revenue

• Proposition KK: Firearms and Ammunition Excise Tax

Proposition 127: Prohibit Bobcat, Lynx, and Mountain Lion Hunting

• Proposition 128: Parole Eligibility for Crimes of Violence

Proposition 129: Establishing Veterinary Professional Associates

• Proposition 130: Funding for Law Enforcement

Proposition 131: Establishing All-Candidate Primary and Ranked Choice Voting General

Elections

# Amendment G



# **Legislative Council Staff**

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

# **Fiscal Impact Statement**

**Date:** August 5, 2024 **Fiscal Analyst:** Elizabeth Ramey (303-866-3522)

#### **AMENDMENT G: MODIFY PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION FOR VETERANS WITH DISABILITIES**

Type of Impact / Fund Source FY 2024-25 FY 2025-26 FY 2025-26

### **Expenditures**

TABOR Refunds / General Fund Expenditures <sup>1</sup>

No net change

No net change

### **Summary of Measure**

Beginning in the 2025 property tax year, Amendment G expands eligibility for the existing homestead property tax exemption for veterans with a disability. The exemption is currently available to veterans who have a service-connected disability rated as 100 percent permanent and total. Amendment G expands eligibility for homeowners who are veterans assessed by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) as having individual unemployability status.

# **Background**

The homestead exemption in the Colorado Constitution exempts 50 percent of the first \$200,000 of residential property owned by a qualifying senior, veteran with a service-connected disability, or Gold Star spouse from property taxes. For example, a \$150,000 residence is taxed as if it was worth \$75,000, and a \$500,000 residence is taxed as if it was worth \$400,000.

Under current law, a veteran with a disability is eligible to claim the veterans with a disability homestead exemption if he or she is rated 100 percent permanently disabled by the VA, and owned and occupied the property as their primary residence on January 1st of the year in which they apply for the exemption. County assessors review each application for the exemption for veterans with a disability and apply the property tax exemption to individual properties.

**Local government reimbursements.** The state is required to reimburse local governments for the revenue reduction attributable to homestead property tax exemptions. These reimbursements are made as expenditures from the state General Fund, unless the state's TABOR surplus is sufficient to meet this obligation.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Amendment G increases state reimbursements to local governments to offset lost revenue from the expanded homestead exemption by \$1.8 million. This reimbursement is the first mechanism used to issue TABOR refunds to taxpayers. Increasing this refund mechanism will decrease refunds made through other mechanisms by the same amount, resulting in no net change to state spending or total TABOR refunds during the forecast period.

# **Amendment G**

**TABOR refund mechanisms.** The homestead exemption is the first TABOR refund mechanism under current law. A TABOR surplus collected in one fiscal year is set aside to issue refunds, in part via these reimbursements, in the following fiscal year.

**Individual unemployability.** In most cases, to have individual unemployability status, a veteran must be unable to keep substantially gainful employment because the veteran either has at least one service-connected disability rated at 60 percent or more disabling, or has two or more service-connected disabilities with at least one disability rated as 40 percent or more disabling and a combined rating of 70 percent or more disabling, as determined by the VA.

### **State Expenditures**

Amendment G increases state reimbursements to local governments by \$1.8 million in FY 2025-26, and similar amounts in future years, from expanding the homestead exemption for veterans with a disability. In FY 2025-26 and future years when the state's TABOR surplus is sufficiently large, Amendment G will shift the mechanism used to issue TABOR refunds, but otherwise result in no change to state expenditures or total TABOR refunds. In years when the state does not incur a TABOR surplus or when the surplus is not sufficient to fully fund reimbursements to local governments for the expanded property tax exemptions under this amendment, Amendment G increases state General Fund expenditures. The Department of Local Affairs will also have an increase in workload. These impacts are described below.

**Local government reimbursements.** General Fund expenditures will increase by about \$1.8 million per year starting in FY 2025-26 to reimburse local governments for reduced property tax revenue under the expanded exemption. This estimate is based on data from the U.S. Census Bureau, the Colorado Department of Military and Veterans Affairs, and the June 2024 Legislative Council Staff homestead exemption forecast. In 2023, the state reimbursed counties \$161.2 million, of which \$153.9 million was for senior homestead exemptions and \$7.3 million was for veterans with a disability and Gold Star spouses homestead exemptions. For FY 2025-26, it is estimated that approximately 3,000 veterans who are not otherwise able to claim the homestead exemption will claim the exemption under Amendment G. It is assumed that the average exemption will be \$595, similar to the property tax exemption for veterans with a disability and Gold Star spouses.

**Department of Local Affairs.** Workload in the Division of Property Taxation will increase to update procedures, conduct training, and respond to inquiries from taxpayers. The workload increase is minimal and can be accomplished with existing resources.

**TABOR refund.** While Amendment G does not affect the total TABOR refund required in FY 2025-26, it will increase the portion of the TABOR refund that will be paid using the homestead exemption mechanism. Based on the size of the projected TABOR refund, this will in turn decrease the amount required to be refunded by the six-tier sales tax refund mechanism, which is projected to be the second TABOR refund mechanism used in FY 2025-26, after property tax refunds.

# **Amendment G**

### **Local Government**

Amendment G has offsetting impacts on local government revenue that will not change net revenue to any jurisdiction. It decreases property tax revenue by \$1.8 million with fully offsetting increased state reimbursements to local governments. Amendment G may affect local government TABOR refund obligations if local voters have exempted one of, but not both of, property tax revenue and revenue received from the state government. In addition, workload for county assessors will increase to administer additional exemptions. This work can be accomplished within current assessor staffing levels.

### **Effective Date**

If approved by voters at the 2024 general election, this measure takes effect upon proclamation of the Governor, no later than 30 days after the official canvass of the vote is completed.

### **State and Local Government Contacts**

County Assessors Local Affairs Military Affairs

Property Tax Division – Local Affairs Treasury

# **Amendment H**



Date: August 5, 2024 **Fiscal Analyst:** Aaron Carpenter (303-866-4918)

#### AMENDMENT H: JUDICIAL DISCIPLINE PROCEDURES AND CONFIDENTIALITY

Type of Impact / Fund Source	FY 2024-25	FY 2025-26
Expenditures		
General Fund Expenditures	\$55,754	\$41,507

### **Summary of Measure**

The measure amends the constitution to change how disciplinary hearings for judges are handled. This includes:

- creating an Independent Judicial Discipline Adjudicative Board of district judges, attorneys, and citizens to conduct disciplinary hearings against judges and to hear appeals of informal remedial actions;
- creating a tribunal for appeals if the disciplinary action involves a Supreme Court Justice;
- allowing the Commission on Judicial Discipline to release information about discipline; and
- creating a 13-member Rulemaking Committee to propose rules for the Commission on Judicial Discipline.

## **Assumptions**

This impact statement assumes that any compensation, reimbursement, or training for the Judicial Discipline Adjudicative Board will be paid by the Commission on Judicial Discipline.

## **State Expenditures**

The measure increases state spending in the Commission on Judicial Discipline by \$55,754 in FY 2024-25 and \$41,507 per year thereafter. The measure also increases workload in the Judicial Department. Costs are shown in Table 1 and detailed below.

# **Amendment H**

Table 1
State Costs Under Amendment H

Cost Components	FY 2024-25	FY 2025-26
Commission on Judicial Discipline		
Board Training	\$35,000	-
Board Compensation	\$12,254	\$24,507
Board Travel	\$6,000	\$12,000
Rulemaking Committee Travel	\$2,500	\$5,000
Total	\$55,754	\$41,507

**Commission on Judicial Discipline.** Starting midway through FY 2024-25, costs in the Commission on Judicial Discipline will increase to provide compensation and travel reimbursement to board members, provide training to non-judge board members, and provide travel reimbursement to members of the Rulemaking Committee. Administrative support is assumed to be absorbable between the Commission and the Judicial Department.

- Board member compensation and travel reimbursement. Starting in FY 2024-25, costs will increase to provide compensation for non-judge members of the board and to reimburse travel expenses for all panel members. This impact statement assumes that non-judge members will receive a similar pay rate to judge members, at about \$613 a day, and that travel reimbursement will be about \$200 per day. In addition, this impact statement assumes there will be 4 weeks of hearings in one year. Costs in FY 2024-25 are prorated for a January 1 start date.
- Board member training. In FY 2024-25, the costs will increase to train non-judge members
  of the board to know how to apply rules of civil procedure and evidence in proceedings. This
  impact statement assumes this will be a one-time training when members are appointed to
  the board.
- **Rulemaking Committee.** Starting in FY 2024-25, costs will increase to reimburse members of the Rulemaking Committee for travel. This impact statement estimates that travel reimbursement for the committee will cost \$5,000 per year. Costs in FY 2024-25 are prorated for a January 1 start date.

**Judicial Department.** Starting in FY 2024-25, the measure will impact workload within the Judicial Department. First, workload to judges will decrease to no longer serve as special masters. However, workload will increase for certain judges who serve on the newly created board. Overall, this impact statement assumes any change in workload to be minimal. In addition, currently, when a special master is assigned to hear a disciplinary case, the judges presiding utilize their court room and staff during the hearing. This impact statement assumes that this practice will continue with the board and that the judge sitting on the disciplinary panel will utilize their court room and staff to support the panel during the discipline hearing.

Page 3 August 5, 2024

# **Amendment H**

**Governor's Office.** Workload will minimally increase for the Governor's Office of Boards and Commissions to make the required appointment under the bill. This work can be accomplished within existing appropriations.

### **Effective Date**

If approved by voters at the 2024 general election, this measure takes effect upon proclamation of the Governor, no later than 30 days after the official canvass of the vote is completed.

### **State and Local Government Contacts**

Judicial

Commission on Judicial Discipline

# Amendment I



Date: August 5, 2024 Fiscal Analyst: Clayton Mayfield (303-866-5851)

### AMENDMENT I: CONSTITUTIONAL BAIL EXCEPTION FIRST DEGREE MURDER

### **Summary of Measure**

The measure amends the state constitution to provide an exception to the right to bail for persons charged with first degree murder. Bail can be denied after a hearing establishes that the proof is evident or the presumption is great that the person committed the crime.

### **State Expenditures**

The measure will increase workload in state trial courts and state agencies that provide representation for indigent persons to conduct hearings that determine whether the criteria for denying bail have been met in first degree murder cases. These cases are already time-intensive and the type of hearing required by the measure is expected to occur infrequently. Thus, any workload impact under the measure will be minimal and not affect state spending.

#### **Local Government**

Similar to the state, local district attorney offices will have an increase in workload to participate in hearings required by the measure. This workload increase is not expected to affect local government spending.

#### **Effective Date**

If approved by voters at the 2024 general election, this measure takes effect upon proclamation of the Governor, no later than 30 days after the official canvass of the vote is completed.

#### **State and Local Government Contacts**

**District Attorneys** 

**Judicial** 

# **Amendment J**



Date: August 5, 2024 **Fiscal Analyst:** Brendan Fung (303-866-4781)

#### AMENDMENT J: REPEALING THE DEFINITION OF MARRIAGE IN THE CONSTITUTION

### **Summary of Measure**

The measure amends the Colorado Constitution by repealing the definition of marriage as the union between one man and one woman.

### **Background**

In 2006, Colorado voters passed Amendment 43 to the Colorado Constitution, which states that state-recognized marriage must be between a man and a woman.

In 2014, the Colorado Supreme Court ruled that Colorado's ban on same-sex marriage violated the Fourteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, nullifying the enforceability of Amendment 43 and legalizing same-sex marriage in the state. Shortly after, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that same-sex couples have a right to marry and invalidated all federal and state bans on same-sex marriage.

### **State Expenditures**

Repealing the definition of marriage from the Colorado Constitution will not impact state or local government expenditures, as the measure conforms the constitution to current practice.

### **Effective Date**

If approved by voters at the 2024 general election, this measure takes effect upon proclamation of the Governor, no later than 30 days after the official canvass of the vote is completed.

#### **State and Local Government Contacts**

Legislative Council Staff

# Amendment K



**Date:** August 5, 2024 Kristine McLaughlin (303-866-4776) Fiscal Analyst:

AMENDMENT K: MODIFY CONSTITUTIONAL ELECTION DEADLINES

### **Summary of Measure**

The measure amends the Colorado constitution to change election deadlines by:

- making deadlines one week earlier for citizens to submit signatures for initiative and referendum petitions, and for judges to file declarations of intent to seek another term; and
- requiring that the content of ballot measures be published in local newspapers 30 days earlier than under current law.

### **State Expenditures**

The measure is expected to minimally impact state expenditures. The Secretary of State will have additional time to review and verify petition signatures for some citizen initiated ballot measures, and the publication of ballot measure information in newspapers will occur 30 days earlier than under current law. These changes impact the timing of expenditures, but do not change the associated costs.

#### **Local Government**

By making certain deadlines for election filings earlier, the measure may shift and reduce workload for county clerks and recorders. Staff will have additional time to format and translate ballots and to program election computer systems.

#### **Effective Date**

If approved by voters at the 2024 general election, this measure takes effect upon proclamation of the Governor, no later than 30 days after the official canvass of the vote is completed.

#### **State and Local Government Contacts**

Legislative Council Staff

Secretary of State

Shukria Maktabi (303-866-4720)



Fiscal Analyst:

**AMENDMENT 79: CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHT TO ABORTION** 

### **Summary of Measure**

**Date:** August 5, 2024

Under current law, an individual's right to reproductive autonomy, including the right to continue or terminate a pregnancy, is outlined in state statute. This measure codifies the right to abortion specifically in the Colorado Constitution.

The measure also repeals the provision in Colorado's constitution that bans the use of public funds for abortion. Currently state funds in Colorado are not used for abortion services, except when required under federal law to pay for abortion services under the state's Medicaid program in certain limited cases.

### **State and Local Expenditures**

The measure will have no fiscal impact on state and local governments, as it reflects current law and practices. To the extent that additional abortion-related programs or legislation are created from the repeal on public funding towards abortion measures, state or local government expenditures will increase. At this time, no change in spending is estimated, as it will depend on future decisions by the state legislature and local governments.

#### **Effective Date**

If approved by voters at the 2024 general election, this measure takes effect upon proclamation of the Governor, no later than 30 days after the official canvass of the vote is completed.

### State and Local Government Contacts

Health Care Policy and Financing

Legislative Council Staff

Personnel



# Fiscal Impact Statement

**Date:** August 5, 2024 **Fiscal Analyst:** Josh Abram (303-866-3561)

#### **AMENDMENT 80: CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHT TO SCHOOL CHOICE**

### **Summary of Measure**

Amendment 80 states that parents have the right to direct the education of their children and that each K-12 child has the right to school choice, which includes neighborhood schools, charter schools, private schools, home schools, open enrollment options and future innovations in education.

### **State Expenditures**

The measure has no immediate impact on education-related spending by the state, but may increase legal expenses for the Department of Law and the Colorado Department of Education from disputes related to what constitutes the right to school choice and whether the state is meeting its obligations. The exact increase in legal costs to the state cannot be estimated. Depending on how the measure is interpreted by the courts and to the extent the state legislature modifies current laws related to school choice, the measure may change the allocation of state funding for education.

### **Local Government**

To the extent that school boards modify current rules and policies to align with the measure, local spending on education may change. Similar to the state, the measure may also lead to an increase in litigation against school districts from disputes as to what constitutes the right to school choice. Exact legal costs cannot be estimated.

#### **Effective Date**

If approved by voters at the 2024 general election, this measure takes effect upon proclamation of the Governor, no later than 30 days after the official canvass of the vote is completed.

### **State and Local Government Contacts**

Early Childhood Education Law School Districts

# **Proposition JJ**



# **Fiscal Impact Statement**

Fiscal Analyst: Amanda Liddle (303-866-5834) **Date:** August 5, 2024

#### PROPOSITION JJ: RETAIN ADDITIONAL SPORTS BETTING TAX REVENUE

Type of Impact / Fund Sour	rce	FY 2024-25	FY 2025-26	FY 2026-27
Expenditures				
Cash Fund Expenditures		-	up to \$0.9 million	up to \$1.2 million
To	otal Expenditures	-	up to \$0.9 million	up to \$1.2 million
Transfers				
Sports Betting Cash Funds		-\$0.9 million	-\$1.2 million	-\$2.5 million
Water Plan Cash Fund		\$0.9 million	\$1.2 million	\$2.5 million
	Net Transfer	\$0	\$0	\$0

### **Summary of Measure**

The measure allows the state to retain and spend all revenue from the existing sports betting tax, including revenue in excess of the \$29 million annual authorization in Proposition DD (2019).

The measure transfers revenue in excess of \$29 million annually to the Water Plan Implementation Cash Fund to be used for water conservation and protection projects. The measure also sets the distribution of revenue to the Wagering Revenue Recipients Hold Harmless Fund—the fund used to offset losses to other wagering revenue recipients—equal to 6 percent of full fiscal year sports betting tax revenue or 6 percent of \$29 million, whichever is less.

Under current law if the measure fails, tax revenue collected in excess of \$29 million annually will be refunded from the Sports Betting Tax Refund Cash Fund to the licensed sports betting operations that paid the sports betting tax in a manner determined by the Department of Revenue.

# **Background**

Sports betting was legalized in Colorado after the passage of House Bill 19-1327 and voter approval of Proposition DD during the November 2019 election. Sports betting became legal in May 2020, both onsite at casinos in Colorado's three gaming towns and online through licensed operators.

# **Proposition JJ**

Sports betting is taxed at a rate of 10 percent on casinos' net sports betting proceeds. Sports betting revenue is distributed to pay for the following in the order listed below:

- all sports betting administrative costs incurred by DOR's Division of Gaming first;
- 6 percent to a hold harmless fund to reimburse recipients of current casino gaming tax revenue for any potential loss in revenue due to the legalization of sports betting; and
- the remaining amount to the Water Plan Implementation Cash Fund to fund water projects under the State Water Plan.

Actual and forecasted sports betting tax revenues are shown in Table 2 below and are from the June 2024 Legislative Council Staff (LCS) forecast.

Table 2
Sports Betting Tax Revenue Forecast

Dollars in Millions					
	Actual	Actual	<b>Forecast</b>	Forecast	
	FY 2021-22	FY 2022-23	FY 2023-24	FY 2024-25	FY 2025-26
Tax Revenue	\$12.5	\$26.0	\$29.9	\$30.2	\$31.5
Revenue in Excess of \$29 million	\$0	\$0	\$0.9	\$1.2	\$2.5

### **Taxpayer Impact**

Under the measure, the state will retain sports betting revenue above \$29.0 million annually that would otherwise be refunded to casinos and licensed sports betting operators. If Proposition JJ fails, the Department of Revenue will determine a reasonable method to distribute refunds to casinos and licensed sports betting operators for years when sports betting revenue exceeds \$29.0 million.

### **State Transfers**

The measure makes annual transfers from sports betting cash funds to the Water Plan Implementation Cash Fund. The amount transferred will depend on the total revenue collected above \$29 million annually. It is estimated that:

- \$0.9 million will be transferred in FY 2024-25 for revenue that was collected in FY 2023-24;
- \$1.2 million will be transferred in FY 2025-26 for revenue that was collected in FY 2024-25; and
- \$2.5 million will be transferred in FY 2026-27 for revenue that was collected in FY 2025-26.

### **State Expenditures**

The measure increases expenditures on water projects paid from the Water Plan Implementation Cash Fund up to the amount of annual sports betting tax revenue in excess of \$29.0 million. Expenditures are lagged from when revenue is collected and distributed. Increased expenditures are estimated at \$0.9 million in FY 2025-26, \$1.2 million in FY 2026-27, and \$2.5 million in

Page 3 August 5, 2024

# **Proposition JJ**

FY 2027-28. Funds in the Water Plan Implementation Cash Fund are typically appropriated through the annual budget process in the Colorado Water Conservation Board's Projects Bill.

### **Effective Date**

If approved by voters at the 2024 general election, the measure takes effect upon proclamation of the Governor, no later than 30 days after the official canvass of the vote is completed.

### **State and Local Government Contacts**

Natural Resources Public Health and Environment Revenue

Personnel Information Technology



# **Legislative Council Staff**

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

# **Fiscal Impact Statement**

**Date:** August 5, 2024 **Fiscal Analyst:** Amanda Liddle (303-866-5834)

PROPOSITION KK: FIREARMS AND AMMUNITION EXCISE TAX

Type of Impact / Fund Source	FY 2024-25	FY 2025-26
Revenue		
Cash Fund Revenue	up to \$9.0 million	up to \$39.0 million
Total Revenue	up to \$9.0 million	up to \$39.0 million
Expenditures		
General Fund Expenditures	\$0.4 million	-
Cash Fund Expenditures	up to \$8.6 million	up to \$39.0 million
Total Expenditures	up to \$9.0 million	up to \$39.0 million
Transfers		
Firearm and Ammunition Excise Tax Cash Fund	up to -\$9.0 million	up to -\$39.0 million
General Fund	\$0.4 million	-
Victim Services and Other Cash Funds	up to \$8.6 million	up to \$39.0 million
Net Transfers	\$0	\$0

## **Summary of Measure**

The measure creates an excise tax imposed on firearms dealers, firearms manufacturers, and ammunition vendors equal to 6.5 percent of net taxable sales from the retail sale of any firearm, firearm precursor part, or ammunition in Colorado. The tax is levied beginning on April 1, 2025. Revenue from the tax is exempt from TABOR as a voter-approved revenue change.

Revenue from the tax is collected in the General Fund and transferred to a new Firearms and Ammunition Excise Tax Cash Fund. Revenue in the fund is to be used for the implementation and administration of the excise tax before being distributed as follows:

- the first \$30 million in the first fiscal year and that amount adjusted for inflation in each fiscal
  year thereafter is transferred to the Colorado Crime Victim Services Fund (Victim Services
  Fund) in the Division of Criminal Justice of the Department of Public Safety for crime victim
  services grants;
- the next \$5 million in each fiscal year is transferred to the Behavioral and Mental Health Cash Fund for the continuation and expansion of the Veterans mental health services program;

- the next \$3 million in each fiscal year is transferred to the Behavioral and Mental Health Cash Fund for the continuation and expansion of access to behavioral health crisis response system services for children and youth; and
- the next \$1 million in each fiscal year is transferred to the School Disbursement Program Cash Fund and is subject to annual appropriation by the General Assembly.

**Exemptions and Exclusions.** If total retail sales of a firearms dealer, manufacturer, or ammunition vendor is less than \$20,000 per year, the business is not subject to the excise tax. Retail sales to peace officers, law enforcement agencies, and active duty military are exempt from the excise tax.

### **Background**

Firearms and ammunition are currently subject to an 11 percent federal excise tax. In addition, firearms and ammunition are subject to the state sales tax and some local sales taxes.

### **Taxpayer Impact**

A tax of 6.5 percent will be levied on net taxable sales from the retail sales of firearms, certain firearm parts, and ammunition. The tax is to be paid by firearm and ammunition vendors. Approximately \$600 million in retail sales of firearms, firearm parts, and ammunition would result in \$39 million in tax revenue, the maximum annual amount of tax revenue allowed under Proposition KK for the first full fiscal year of implementation. Taxpayer impacts will vary based on the amount of annual firearm and ammunition sales.

#### **State Revenue**

Proposition KK is estimated to increase TABOR-exempt state revenue to the Firearms and Ammunition Excise Tax Cash Fund by \$9.0 million in FY 2024-25, \$35.8 million in FY 2025-26, and \$36.9 million in FY 2026-27 with comparable growth in future years. Revenue from the tax is exempt from TABOR as a voter-approved revenue change. Actual revenue collections may differ from the estimate and may reach up to \$39 million in FY 2025-26, under the voter authorization in the ballot question.

**Assumptions.** Assumptions used to prepare the full-year revenue estimate are presented in Table 1. The total estimated number of firearms sold each year is derived from approved firearm background checks as reported by the Colorado Bureau of Investigation (CBI) and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). Due to volatility in prices of firearms and precursor parts that is not solely attributable to inflation, firearms and precursor part prices are not inflation-adjusted. The revenue estimate does not account for any sales exempted from the excise tax or any behavioral changes in sales that may result from the enactment of the measure.

Table 1
FY 2025-26 Fiscal Impact Assumptions for Firearm Sales

	Other Guns and				
	Handgun	Long Gun	Parts	<b>Multiple Guns</b>	
Price per item	\$548	\$932	\$740	\$1,480	
Estimated Sales	240,000	150,000	30,000	40,000	
Total Estimated Retail Sales	\$131.5 million	\$139.8 million	\$22.2 million	\$59.2 million	
Estimated Tax Revenue	\$8.5 million	\$9.0 million	\$1.4 million	\$3.8 million	

Based on the estimated ammunition market size in the United States and the proportion of firearm background checks that occur in Colorado compared to the rest of the U.S., the fiscal impact statement estimates that ammunition retail sales will contribute \$3.2 million to revenue collections in FY 2024-25, \$13.1 million in FY 2025-26, and \$13.9 million in FY 2026-27 with comparable growth in future years. The price of ammunition is assumed to increase by the Denver-Aurora-Lakewood inflation rates assumed in the June 2024 LCS forecast and growth in total amount of guns owned in Colorado each year.

#### **State Transfers**

The measure makes annual transfers from the Firearms and Ammunition Excise Tax Cash Fund to three different cash funds in the order specified in the Summary section of this fiscal impact statement, after administrative and implementation costs are paid. The amount of total transfers to each cash fund is dependent on the total revenue collected from the excise tax.

It is assumed that administrative expenses will be paid from the General Fund in FY 2024-25 and from the cash fund in later years. For FY 2024-25, the measure requires a transfer of about \$390,000 from the cash fund to the General Fund to repay costs initially paid from the General Fund. The remaining estimated \$8.6 million will be transferred to the Victim Services Fund. In FY 2025-26, the measure transfers an estimated \$30.7 million to the Victim Services Fund for crime victim services grants and an estimated \$4.9 million to the Behavioral and Mental Health Cash Fund for the continuation and expansion of the veterans' mental health services program.

## **State Expenditures**

The measure increases state expenditures to administer the new excise tax by about \$390,000 in FY 2024-25 and \$180,000 in FY 2025-26 and future years. The costs are paid from the General Fund in FY 2024-25 and reimbursed by the Firearm and Ammunition Cash Fund at the end of the fiscal year. In FY 2025-26 and future years, costs are paid from the Firearm and Ammunition Cash Fund. The measure also increases other spending of the new tax revenue by up to an estimated \$8.6 million in FY 2024-25, an estimated \$35.6 million (and potentially up to \$39 million) in FY 2025 26, and increasing amounts in future years.

Table 2
Tax Implementation Costs Under Proposition KK

		FY 2024-25	FY 2025-26
Department of Revenue			
Personal Services		\$20,845	-
Operating Expenses		\$512	-
Capital Outlay Costs		\$3,335	-
GenTax Programming & Testing		\$178,116	-
Office of Research Analysis		\$7,392	\$7,328
Legal Services		\$172,827	\$172,827
Employee Insurance and Supplemental PERA		\$6,554	
FTE – Personal Services		0.4 FTE	-
FTE – Legal Services		0.8 FTE	0.8 FTE
Total (	Cost	\$389,581	\$180,155
Total	FTE	1.2 FTE	0.8 FTE

**Tax personnel.** DOR requires 0.5 FTE tax examiner to answer taxpayer questions, review returns, and work with taxpayers to resolve issues. Personnel needs are estimated based on the assumed number of businesses impacted by the excise tax. Based on data reported by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, there is an estimated 2,250 businesses that would be subject to this tax. Workload is expected to be absorbable in future years as the volume of questions and errors decrease over time. Additional personnel will be required only from October 2024 through June 2025.

**Legal services.** DOR requires general counsel from the Department of Law on rulemaking, implementation, and the ongoing administration of the tax. Legal services needs are estimated at 1,350 hours (0.8 FTE) in the first year to promulgate rulemaking and in future years to provide legal representation for statutory interpretation questions raised by DOR and taxpayers. The measure establishes a new registration process for firearms dealers and manufacturers and grants DOR the ability to deny or revoke registrations; denial and revocation of registrations will be addressed in district court, further driving DOR's need for legal services.

**GenTax Programming and Testing.** DOR will have one-time costs in FY 2024-25 to create and program forms and returns. GenTax programming is estimated to require 600 hours at \$231.75 per hour, paid to the vendor, for a total cost of \$139,050. In addition, required development and testing work in support of GenTax programming is estimated to require 1,149 hours of work for a total one-time cost of \$39,066.

**Office of Research Analysis.** The Office of Research and Analysis within the Department of Revenue will perform 231 hours of work at a rate of \$32 per hour in FY 2024-25, and 228 hours of work in future years, to update database fields and conduct ongoing reporting.

**Victim and other services.** Based on available revenue, expenditures will increase by up to an estimated \$8.6 million in FY 2024-25, an estimated \$35.6 million in FY 2025-26, and increasing amounts in future years to provide crime victim and other services, based on the amounts and for the purposes listed in the State Transfer section above. The Victim Services Fund and the Behavioral and Mental Health Cash Fund are continuously appropriated to the Department of Public Safety and the Behavioral Health Administration, respectively. The School Security Disbursement Program Cash Fund within the Department of Public Safety is subject to annual appropriation by the General Assembly. The timing and amount of future expenditures may vary based on future agency decisions and by appropriations made by the General Assembly through the annual budget process. FY 2025-26 expenditures are limited by the \$39 million maximum revenue collections for the first full fiscal year of implementation of the tax.

#### **Local Government**

The measure makes additional funding available to local governments, including local law enforcement agencies and school districts. Funding will be used to provide services including crime victim and witness assistance; school security; and behavioral and mental health crisis services. Additional funding may also be available to local governments eligible for grants from various programs administered by the Division of Criminal Justice that would receive an allocation of the new excise tax. Local law enforcement agencies would not have to pay the excise tax for firearms or ammunition.

### **Effective Date**

If approved by voters at the 2024 general election, this measure takes effect upon proclamation of the Governor, no later than 30 days after the official canvass of the vote is completed. The new tax takes goes into effect on April 1, 2025.

#### **State and Local Government Contacts**

Corrections Counties **District Attorneys** Information Technology Judicial Local Affairs **Natural Resources** Municipalities Law Personnel **Public Safety** Revenue Secretary of State Special Districts **State Auditor BHA** Treasury Education



Date: August 5, 2024 Fiscal Analyst: Alexa Kelly (303-866-3469)

### PROPOSITION 127: PROHIBIT BOBCAT, LYNX, AND MOUNTAIN LION HUNTING

	Budget Year	Out Year
Type of Impact / Fund Source	FY 2024-25	FY 2025-26
Revenue		
Cash Fund Revenue	-\$377,468	-\$377,468
Expenditures		
Cash Fund Expenditures	\$22,055	\$44,111

### **Summary of Measure**

Proposition 127 prohibits the intentional killing, wounding, pursuing, or entrapping of a mountain lion, bobcat, or lynx, with certain exceptions. It also prohibits the intentional discharging or releasing of any deadly weapon at a mountain lion, bobcat, or lynx. Any violation of these provisions is classified as a class 1 misdemeanor and may result in the suspension of hunting privileges.

#### **State Revenue**

Proposition 127 will decrease fee revenue by about \$377,000 annually to the Wildlife Cash Fund in the Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) in the Department of Natural Resources from a reduction in mountain lion hunting license sales. For the 2024-25 hunting season, the cost of a mountain lion hunting license is \$60 for a resident license and \$500 for a nonresident license. In FY 2022-23, about 2,600 mountain lion licenses were sold. Criminal fines and fees may increase if additional persons are convicted of the new misdemeanor offense under the measure.

## **State Expenditures**

Proposition 127 both decreases and increases state expenditures for the CPW. On net, the measure increases state expenditures in the CPW by about \$22,000 in FY 2024-25 and about \$44,000 in FY 2025-26. These cost are paid from the Wildlife Cash Fund. The measure also minimally impacts the Judicial Department. These impacts are described below.

**Game damage claims – CPW.** The proposition will decrease costs in CPW by approximately \$39,000 in FY 2024-25, and by \$77,500 in FY 2025-26 and in future years. This is the result of a decrease in game damage claims paid to livestock owners when livestock is damaged by a mountain lion.

**Legal services – CPW.** In addition, CPW costs will increase by approximately \$57,000 in FY 2024-25 and \$115,218 in FY 2025-26 for legal services. These legal services are for general counsel, provided by the Department of Law, for CPW to create new rules and regulations needed to conform with the requirements of this proposition.

**Misdemeanor offense – Judicial Department.** The Judicial Department, including the trial courts, Division of Probation, and agencies that provide representation to indigent persons, may also have a minimal increase in expenditures related to the new class 1 misdemeanor created by the proposition.

#### **Local Government**

Similar to the state, it is expected that any workload or cost increases for district attorneys to prosecute additional misdemeanor offenses, or for county jails to imprison more individuals under the proposition will be minimal. District attorney offices and county jails are funded by counties. The bill may also increase revenue, workload, and costs for the Denver County Court, which is managed and funded by the City and County of Denver, to try misdemeanor cases under the proposition.

#### **Effective Date**

If approved by voters at the 2024 general election, this measure takes effect upon proclamation of the Governor, no later than 30 days after the official canvass of the vote is completed.

### **State and Local Government Contacts**

Agriculture	Judicial	Law
Natural Resources		



# **Legislative Council Staff**

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

# **Fiscal Impact Statement**

**Date:** August 5, 2024 **Fiscal Analyst:** Aaron Carpenter (303-866-4918)

### PROPOSITION 128: PAROLE ELIGIBILITY FOR CRIMES OF VIOLENCE

Type of Impact / Fund Source	FY 2024-25	FY 2042-43	FY 2043-44
Expenditures			
General Fund Expenditures	\$12,000	at least \$2,598,358	at least \$7,891,355

### **Summary of Measure**

Under current law, offenders in the Department of Corrections (DOC) who were convicted of certain violent offenses are not eligible for parole until the offender has served 75 percent of their sentence, less any earned time granted. Under the measure, offenders sentenced on or after January 1, 2025, for second degree murder, first degree assault, class 2 felony kidnapping, sexual assault, first degree arson, first degree burglary, or aggravated robbery (crimes of violence) are required to serve at least 85 percent of their sentence before they are eligible for parole, and are ineligible for earned time.

Under current law, in cases where the offender has been convicted for a crime of violence twice before, the person is eligible for parole after serving 100 percent of their sentence, less any earned time granted. The measure removes the subtraction of earned time. As a result, a person who has been convicted for a crime of violence twice before must serve their entire sentence.

# **Background and Assumptions**

From FY 2018-19 through FY 2021-22, DOC data show that there was an average of 218 individuals per year sentenced for the crimes of violence included in the measure. These offenders had an average governing sentence of about 23 years, or about 278 months.

Assuming these offenders are currently released after 75 percent of their sentence is served, the impact to keep these offenders incarcerated for an additional 28 months begins 18 years in the future, in FY 2042-43, increasing prison costs, minimally offset by parole savings.

### **State Expenditures**

The measure will result in a one-time increase in state expenditures in FY 2024-25 for the DOC to make computer system updates. Then, beginning in about 18 years in FY 2042-43, costs will increase on an ongoing basis from longer prison sentences. When the full impact of extended prison sentences is incurred in the mid-2040s, costs may increase by between \$11.6 million and \$28.0 million per year. The measure may also minimally impact Judicial Department workload. These impacts are described below.

**DOC—computer programming.** In FY 2024-25, General Fund expenditures in the DOC will increase by \$12,000 to update the department's Offender Management Information System to reflect the change in parole eligibility dates for the offenses in the measure. This cost is based on an estimated 60 hours of development and testing at an hourly rate of \$200.

**DOC—future prison bed and parole impact.** The measure increases prison costs to hold certain offenders for a longer duration instead of placing them on parole, and creates a minimal parole savings. Table 1 below illustrates the future costs by comparing the current DOC prison bed costs—in both private and state run facilities—versus parole cost savings for an assumed 218 offenders per year. The extent to which earned time shortens sentences is unknown, nor is the number of offenders who will be serving 100 percent of their sentence for a third conviction of a crime of violence. As discussed above, assuming that offenders sentenced for the crimes in the measure currently serve 75 percent of their sentence, the measure's impacts are expected to begin in FY 2042-43; however, impacts may occur sooner due to the variability of sentences and earned time, or will not occur in situations where offenders are currently serving at least 85 percent of their sentence. Visit <a href="leg.colorado.gov/fiscalnotes">leg.colorado.gov/fiscalnotes</a> for more information about criminal justice costs in fiscal notes.

Table 1
Change in Prison and Parole Operating Costs Under Proposition

Fiscal Year	Prison ADP	Private Prison	State Run Prison	Parole ADP	Parole Savings	Net Cost (Private)	Net Cost (State Run)
FY 2024-25	-	-	-	ı	1	1	
FY 2042-43	163.50	\$3,969,747	\$9,315,061	-163.5	-\$1,371,384	\$2,598,358	\$7,943,672
FY 2043-44	381.50	\$9,262,744	\$21,735,142	-163.5	-\$1,371,389	\$7,891,355	\$20,363,753
FY 2044-45	501.40	\$12,173,892	\$28,566,187	-65.4	-\$548,556	\$11,625,336	\$28,017,631
FY 2045-46	501.40	\$12,173,892	\$28,566,187	-65.4	-\$548,556	\$11,625,336	\$28,017,631

<sup>\*</sup> ADP stands for average daily population.

**Judicial Department.** The measure may increase the hearing time required in the trial courts during the sentencing phase for covered crimes. Any increase can be managed within existing resources given that these types of cases are already time-intensive for the courts.

### **Effective Date**

If approved by voters at the 2024 general election, this measure takes effect upon proclamation of the Governor, no later than 30 days after the official canvass of the vote is completed.

### **State and Local Government Contacts**

Corrections



**Date:** August 5, 2024 **Fiscal Analyst:** Clayton Mayfield (303-866-5851)

#### PROPOSITION 129: ESTABLISHING VETERINARY PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATES

### **Summary of Measure**

The measure allows veterinary professionals to register as veterinary professional associates (VPAs). Registration is required to practice as a VPA starting January 1, 2026. The measure establishes qualifications for VPAs, title protection, scope of practice, and unauthorized practice penalties. The measure requires the Department of Regulatory Agencies (DORA) to conduct rule making, administer the registration program, and enforce violations.

### **State Revenue and Expenditures**

No significant impact to state revenues or expenditures is expected in FY 2024-25, or in the near future, as a result of passage of the measure. The population of potential VPA applicants is expected to be minimal for several years as educational programs for VPAs continue to be established. Additionally, the state currently allows for the registration of veterinary technicians (VTs), and potential VPAs will likely come from this population. As the population of potential VPA applicants increases in future years, DORA may require additional resources and state revenue from registration fees may increase.

#### **Effective Date**

If approved by voters at the 2024 general election, this measure takes effect upon proclamation of the Governor, no later than 30 days after the official canvass of the vote is completed.

### **State and Local Government Contacts**

**Regulatory Agencies** 



# **Legislative Council Staff**

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

# **Fiscal Impact Statement**

**Date:** August 5, 2024 **Fiscal Analyst:** John Armstrong (303-866-6289)

### **PROPOSITION 130: FUNDING FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT**

Type of Impact / Fund	d Source	FY 2024-25	FY 2025-26
Expenditures <sup>1</sup>			
Cash Funds		\$35 million	\$35 million
	Total Expenditures	\$35 million	\$35 million
	Total FTE	18.0 FTE	18.0 FTE
Transfers			
General Fund		-\$350 million	-
Cash Funds		\$350 million	-
	Net Transfer	\$0	-

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> This fiscal impact statement assumes transferred funds will be spent evenly over a 10-year period. The timing of actual expenditures from the cash fund will be determined by the General Assembly. It is estimated that the death benefit will cost at least \$4 million per year, on average, and this amount is included in the annual expenditures estimated above.

## **Summary of Measure**

The measure creates the Peace Officer Training and Support Fund in the Department of Public Safety (CDPS) and requires a one-time appropriation of \$350 million to the fund. The funding is to be awarded as grants to support local law enforcement agencies. Additionally, the measure creates a \$1 million death benefit for the surviving spouse, children, or estate of any peace officer killed in the line of duty. The death benefit is a one-time payment to the surviving family member/estate. The state's obligation to provide the benefit continues after the fund is depleted.

#### **State Transfers**

The measure requires the General Assembly to appropriate \$350 million from the General Fund to the Peace Officer Training and Support Fund, which effectively transfers this money to the fund for later use on grants and death benefits. It is assumed the General Assembly will make a one-time appropriation from the General Fund to the cash fund in FY 2024-25.

### **State Expenditures**

Assuming spending from the cash fund will occur evenly over a 10-year period, the measure increases state expenditures by about \$35 million per year starting in FY 2024-25. However, the exact amount of spending from the fund and its specific uses must be determined by the General Assembly. Based on the assumed level of annual spending, it is estimated that the CDPS will spend the following from the fund each year:

- \$29 million on grants and other support to local law enforcement agencies;
- \$4 million, on average, for death benefits; and
- \$2.0 million and 18.0 FTE on administration in the CDPS, including staff to process grant applications, issue grant awards, oversee contracts, collect and report data, process death benefits for eligible officers, and other related tasks.

The estimates above are based on the assumption that money in the fund will be used for grants, of which up to 1,000 could be issued annually, and that on average four officers who are killed in the line of duty will qualify for a death benefit. Administrative costs may vary from this estimate if the General Assembly uses a different model to disperse funds other than a grant program model, such as direct or formulaic distributions to local governments. Money in the fund must be used to supplement, not supplant, existing funding for local law enforcement.

### **Local Government**

The measure will increase state funding to local governments, which will correspondingly increase spending by local law enforcement agencies. State funding must add to and not replace existing funding for local agencies. Local governments may incur minimal costs to apply for grants, assuming the state requires that local governments apply for grants from the fund. Participating local governments may also have additional workload to report on how money is spent and other related tasks.

### **Effective Date**

If approved by voters at the 2024 general election, this measure takes effect upon proclamation of the Governor, no later than 30 days after the official canvass of the vote is completed.

### **State and Local Government Contacts**

Counties Judicial Law
Municipalities Police Chiefs Sheriffs
Public Safety



# Fiscal Impact Statement

**Date:** August 5, 2024 Fiscal Analyst: Hamza Syed (303-866-4976)

PROPOSITION 131: ESTABLISHING ALL-CANDIDATE PRIMARY AND RANKED CHOICE VOTING GENERAL ELECTIONS

Type of Impact / Fund Source	Fiscal Year 1*	Fiscal Year 2*	Fiscal Year 3*
Revenue			
Cash Fund Revenue	-	up to \$3.6 million	up to \$3.6 million
Total Revenue	-	up to \$3.6 million	up to \$3.6 million
Expenditures			
General Fund Expenditures	-	\$2,354,625	\$1,995,525
Cash Fund Expenditures	\$97,000	\$3,571,244	\$3,693,768
Total Expenditures	\$97,000	\$5,925,869	\$5,689,293
Total FTE	-	4.0 FTE	8.0 FTE

<sup>\*</sup> The year in which fiscal impacts will occur is not known and will depend on various prerequisite requirements under current law being met (see Background and Assumptions section for more detail). If the prerequisites are not met, these impacts will not occur.

# **Summary of Measure**

The measure creates an all-candidate primary election and ranked choice voting in general elections for certain state and federal offices. Covered elected officials include members of the U.S Senate and the U.S House of Representatives, the Governor, Secretary of State, Treasurer and Attorney General, members of the State Board of Education and the University of Colorado Board of Regents, and Senators and Representatives of the state legislature.

Candidates may access the all-candidate primary ballot either through petition or through a political party's nomination process. The primary ballot lists all qualified candidates regardless of party affiliation, and voters may vote for any one candidate for each race. The four candidates with the most votes from each primary advance to the general election.

For the general election, voters may rank candidates in order of preference. The candidate with the majority of first-preference votes at the end of the ranked voting is elected. If there are more than two candidates and no single candidate wins a majority of first-preference ranked votes, the candidate with the fewest first-preference votes is eliminated, and those votes are counted for the next-ranked active candidate. This process continues until a single candidate wins the majority of the remaining votes.

### **Background and Assumptions**

Under current law, a number of requirements must be met before the state may implement ranked choice voting or an all-candidate primary. Specifically, <u>Senate Bill 24-210</u> requires that a certain number of municipalities and counties meeting various population qualifications implement ranked choice voting, and that the Department of State perform a risk-limiting audit on ranked choice elections and report findings to the state legislature, before ranked choice voting can occur for state and federal offices. Because these conditions must be met before Proposition 131 can be implemented, the specific budget years when fiscal impacts under the measure will occur, if ever, cannot be identified. Therefore, this analysis estimates the potential costs, but does not specify when they will be incurred.

#### **State Revenue**

If the measure is approved by voters and the requirements for implementing ranked voting under current law are met, the proposition will increase fee revenue in the Department of State by up to \$3.6 million in the second and third budget year of implementation. This is assuming costs are paid from the Department of State Cash fund and that the department adjusts its fees to cover the estimated costs.

**Fee impact on businesses and professions**. Under current law, the Department of State is authorized to adjust fees so that the revenue generated approximates its direct and indirect costs. The department is primarily funded through business filing fees. To cover the costs described in the State Expenditures section below, fees will likely need to be raised to cover all or some of the costs of this bill. The fees affected and the actual amount of fee charges will be set administratively by the department based on cash fund balance, total program costs, and the estimated number of business activities subject to fees. This revenue is subject to TABOR.

# **State Expenditures**

If the current law requirements for implementing the all-candidate primary and ranked choice voting are met, state spending in the Department of State will increase by about \$100,000 in the first year of implementation and around \$6 million per year in the second and third years. Potential state expenditures are displayed in Table 1 and discussed below.

Table 1
Potential Expenditures Under Proposition 131

	Fiscal Year 1	Fiscal Year 2	Fiscal Year 3
Department of State			
Personal Services	-	\$247,262	\$494,524
Operating Expenses	-	\$5,120	\$10,240
Capital Outlay Costs	-	\$53,360	-
Computer Programming	\$97,280	-	-
Ballot Redesign	-	\$10,000	-
Ranked Choice Software Updates	-	\$136,000	-
Ranked Choice Software Training	-	\$50,000	\$50,000
Voter Outreach	-	\$3,000,000	\$3,000,000
County Reimbursement	-	\$2,354,625	\$1,995,525
Employee Insurance / Retirement Payments	-	\$69,502	\$139,004
Total Cost	\$97,280	\$5,925,869	\$5,689,293
Total FTE	-	4.0 FTE	8.0 FTE

**Personal services.** The Department of State will require 8 Election Specialist FTE to assist in outreach, education, and training for both voters and county clerks. Staff will begin midway through the second budget year, and staff costs are prorated for a half-year impact in that year.

**Computer programming.** The risk-limiting audit performed by the Department of State and the statewide voter registration database require updates to implement the new voting and vote tally systems. This is estimated to cost \$97,280 and must be completed prior to the primary election.

**Ballot redesign.** Changes in how voters select candidates will require a redesign for the ballot. This is estimated to be a one-time cost of \$10,000.

**Ranked choice software updates.** The Department of State will need to update its software to perform tabulations for ranked choice voting results. This is estimated to cost \$136,000 in contractor hours.

**Ranked choice software training.** State and local elections staff will need to be trained on how to use and tabulate new ranked choice software. This is estimated to cost \$100,000 split evenly between the second and third budget years.

**Voter outreach.** The Department of State will engage in a public voter education campaign to inform voters about election changes. Based on similar education campaigns conducted in 2018 and 2020, the DOS will require \$6.0 million, split evenly between the primary and general election budget years.

**County reimbursement.** Under current law, the state is required to reimburse 45 percent of eligible county election costs. Counties will need to print and mail out new ballots, give new instructions to voters, perform additional tabulations, and give additional training to staff and voters. Based on these additional local activities, the state's reimbursement to counties will increase by about \$2.4 million for the primary election, and about \$2 million for the general election. Reimbursement for county expenses are assumed to be paid from the General Fund. Costs are described in more detail in the local government section below.

### **Local Government**

Counties will have increased costs for primary and general elections. Costs are primarily related to county clerks creating new voter packets, including printing and postage of ballots and new instructions. Additional expenses include staff training, printing materials at voting centers, and voter outreach and education.

There are 3.8 million current active voters in Colorado. The average increased cost per voter for clerks to implement the proposition is estimated at \$1.38 for the primary election. As some of the printed material and training from the primary election can be reused for the general election, the average cost for the general election is lower, estimated at \$1.08 per voter. Therefore, the total cost for counties to conduct primary elections is about \$5.2 million, and the total cost to conduct general elections is about \$4.4 million.

#### **Effective Date**

If approved by voters at the 2024 general election, this measure takes effect on January 1, 2026.

### **State and Local Government Contacts**

County Clerks Secretary of State