

Initiative 2025-2026 # ____ : Statutory Ballot Measure Protection From Legislative Interference

Be it Enacted by the People of the State of Colorado:

SECTION 1. In the constitution of the state of Colorado, section 1 of article V, **amend (4)(a)** as follows:

Section 1. General assembly – initiative and referendum.

(4)(a) The veto power of the governor shall not extend to measures initiated by or referred to the people. All elections on measures initiated by or referred to the people of the state shall be held at the biennial regular general election, and all such measures shall become the law or a part of the constitution, when approved by a majority of the votes cast thereon or, if applicable the number of votes required pursuant to SUBSECTION (4)(b) OF THIS SECTION, and not otherwise, and shall take effect from and after the date of the official declaration of the vote thereon by proclamation of the governor, but not later than thirty days after the vote has been canvassed. THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SHALL NOT INTERFERE WITH A STATUTORY MEASURE INITIATED BY THE PEOPLE AS SET FORTH IN THIS SUBSECTION (4)(a). THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SHALL NOT AMEND, ANNUL, REPEAL, SET ASIDE, SUSPEND, DEFUND, OR IN ANY WAY FRUSTRATE THE OPERATION, IMPLEMENTATION, OR ADMINISTRATION OF ANY INITIATED STATUTORY MEASURE FOR FOUR YEARS AFTER THE MEASURE’S EFFECTIVE DATE; EXCEPT THAT THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY MAY REPEAL IN WHOLE THE MEASURE WITHIN FOUR YEARS OF ITS EFFECTIVE DATE BY A TWO-THIRDS VOTE OF ALL MEMBERS OF EACH HOUSE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN A BILL THAT HAS THE SOLE OPERATIVE EFFECT OF REPEALING THE MEASURE AND THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY MAY AMEND THE MEASURE WITHIN FOUR YEARS OF ITS EFFECTIVE DATE IF THE AMENDMENT FURTHERS THE MEASURE’S PURPOSE AND IMPLEMENTATION. AN INITIATED STATUTORY MEASURE’S PROVISIONS SHALL PREVAIL OVER ANY PROVISION IN A BILL PASSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY BEFORE THE INITIATIVE’S EFFECTIVE DATE, REGARDLESS OF THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THE BILL’S PROVISION, TO THE EXTENT THAT THE BILL’S PROVISION CONFLICTS WITH OR FRUSTRATES THE MEASURE’S PURPOSE OR IMPLEMENTATION. This section shall not OTHERWISE be construed to deprive the general assembly of the power to enact any measure.

SECTION 2. Severability.

If any provision of this initiative, or the application of any provision of this initiative to any person, office, or circumstance, is held to be unconstitutional, the remainder of this initiative and the application of its provision to any person, office, or circumstance, shall not be affected by the holding.

SECTION 3. Effective date.

This initiative takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on January 1, 2027.