



Fiscal Impact Statement

Legislative Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

INITIATIVE 234: PLAIN LANGUAGE BALLOT QUESTIONS

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Summary Information

Overview. The measure requires ballot questions be written in plain language and at an 8th grade reading level.

Types of impacts. The measure is projected to affect the following areas:

- Minimal State Workload

Disclaimer. This initial fiscal impact statement has been prepared for an initiative approved for petition circulation by the Secretary of State. If the initiative is placed on the ballot, Legislative Council Staff may revise this estimate for the ballot information booklet (Blue Book) if new information becomes available. Any appropriations required to implement this measure will be addressed through the annual or supplemental budget process if this measure is approved by voters.

Table 1
State Fiscal Impacts

Type of Impact¹	Budget Year FY 2025-26	Out Year FY 2026-27
State Revenue	\$0	\$0
State Expenditures	\$0	\$0
Transferred Funds	\$0	\$0
Change in TABOR Refunds	\$0	\$0
Change in State FTE	0.0 FTE	0.0 FTE

Summary of Measure

The measure requires that ballot questions, submitted to voters for approval, be written in plain language and at an 8th grade reading level.

State Expenditures

The measure may minimally increase workload for the Title Board in the Department of State, which included representatives from the Department of State, the Attorney General Office, and the General Assembly, to make determinations on the standards for plain language and what constitutes an eighth-grade reading level. The Title Board may also have additional work to apply these standards when setting titles for citizen ballot measures.

Effective Date

If approved by voters at the 2026 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

Legislative Council Staff

Secretary of State