



## Fiscal Impact Statement

### Legislative Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

## INITIATIVE 297: REPLACING UNITED STATES OF AMERICA IN COLORADO CONSTITUTION

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**Date:** June 22, 2026

### Summary Information

**Overview.** The measure requires references to "United States of America" to be replaced with "State of Colorado" in Colorado Revised Statutes.

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

- State Expenditures
- Local Government

**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 Impact          | Budget Year<br>FY 2026-27 | Out Year<br>FY 2027-28 |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| 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

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The measure requires references to "United States of America" to be replaced with "State of Colorado" in Colorado Revised Statutes, except for laws passed after the measure's effective date. The measure also modifies the Colorado Constitution to state that non-producing unpatented mining claims leased from the State of Colorado, rather than the United States of America, are exempt from property taxation.

## State Expenditures

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The measure increases state expenditures for the Legislative Department to replace references to "United States of America" with "State of Colorado" in the Colorado Revised Statutes. This increase is absorbable with existing resources.

The measure also increases state expenditures to implement and enforce new laws and regulations that were previously the responsibility of the federal government.

## Local Government

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The measure may impact local governments that have contracts with or obligations to any United States government entity.

## Effective Date

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If approved by voters at the 2026 general election, this measure takes effect January 14, 2027.

## State and Local Government Contacts

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