

CHAPTER 102

ELECTIONS

HOUSE BILL 26-1293

BY REPRESENTATIVE(S) Espenoza and Luck, Carter, Bradley, Duran, Hamrick, Phillips;
also SENATOR(S) Exum, Coleman.

AN ACT**CONCERNING THE MODERNIZATION OF REQUIREMENTS FOR THE BALLOT INFORMATION BOOKLET.**

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:

SECTION 1. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 1-40-124.5, **amend** (1.7)(b) and (3) as follows:

1-40-124.5. Ballot information booklet.

(1.7) (b) (I) Each person submitting written comments in accordance with section 1 (7.5)(a)(II) of article V of the state constitution shall provide ~~his or her~~ **THE** PERSON'S name and the name of any organization the person represents or is affiliated with for purposes of making the comments.

(II) ~~The arguments for and against each measure in the EACH analysis section of the ballot information booklet shall be preceded by the phrase: "For information on those issue committees that support or oppose the measures on the ballot at the (date and year) election, go to the Colorado secretary of state's elections center website hyperlink for ballot and initiative information (appropriate secretary of state website address)."~~ **MUST INCLUDE AN EXPLANATION OF HOW TO ACCESS INFORMATION FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE ABOUT ISSUE COMMITTEES THAT SUPPORT OR OPPOSE THE MEASURES ON THE BALLOT AND THE WEBSITE ADDRESS TO ACCESS THIS INFORMATION.**

(3) (a) There is ~~hereby~~ established in the state treasury the ballot information publication and distribution revolving fund. ~~Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (b) of this subsection (3), Moneys~~ **THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY shall be appropriated APPROPRIATE MONEY to the fund each year by the general assembly** in the annual general appropriation act. All interest earned on the investment of

Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material added to existing law; dashes through words or numbers indicate deletions from existing law and such material is not part of the act.

~~moneys~~ MONEY in the fund ~~shall be~~ IS credited to the fund. ~~Moneys~~ MONEY in the ~~revolving fund are~~ IS continuously appropriated to the legislative council of the general assembly to pay the costs of publishing the text and title of each constitutional amendment, each initiated or referred measure, or part of a measure, and the text of a referred or initiated question arising under section 20 of article X of the state constitution, as defined in section 1-41-102 (3), in at least one legal publication of general circulation in each county of the state, as required by section 1-40-124, and the costs of distributing the ballot information booklet, as required by subsection (2) of this section. Any ~~moneys~~ MONEY credited to the ~~revolving fund~~ and unexpended at the end of any given fiscal year ~~shall remain~~ REMAINS in the fund and ~~shall~~ DOES not revert to the general fund.

(b) ~~Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, any moneys appropriated from the general fund to the legislative department of the state government for the fiscal year commencing on July 1, 2007, that are unexpended or not encumbered as of the close of the fiscal year shall not revert to the general fund and shall be transferred by the state treasurer and the controller to the ballot information publication and distribution revolving fund created in paragraph (a) of this subsection (3); except that the amount so transferred shall not exceed five hundred thousand dollars.~~

(c) ~~Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, any moneys appropriated from the general fund to the legislative department of the state government for the fiscal year commencing on July 1, 2008, that are unexpended or not encumbered as of the close of the fiscal year shall not revert to the general fund and shall be transferred by the state treasurer and the controller to the ballot information publication and distribution revolving fund created in paragraph (a) of this subsection (3).~~

(d) ~~Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, any moneys appropriated from the general fund to the legislative department of the state government for the fiscal year commencing on July 1, 2009, that are unexpended or not encumbered as of the close of the fiscal year and that are in excess of the amount of one million forty-two thousand dollars shall not revert to the general fund and shall be transferred by the state treasurer and the controller to the ballot information publication and distribution revolving fund created in paragraph (a) of this subsection (3); except that the amount so transferred shall not exceed one million one hundred twenty-nine thousand six hundred seven dollars.~~

(e) ~~Notwithstanding any provision of this subsection (3) to the contrary, on August 11, 2010, the state treasurer shall deduct one million one hundred twenty-nine thousand six hundred seven dollars from the ballot information publication and distribution revolving fund and transfer such sum to the redistricting account within the legislative department cash fund.~~

SECTION 2. Act subject to petition - effective date. This act takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly (August 12, 2026, if adjournment sine die is on May 13, 2026); except that, if a referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V of the state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this act within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take effect

unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in November 2026 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.

Approved: May 4, 2026