

Second Regular Session  
Seventieth General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO

**PREAMENDED**

*This Unofficial Version Includes Committee  
Amendments Not Yet Adopted on Second Reading*

LLS NO. 16-1216.02 Bob Lackner x4350

**HOUSE BILL 16-1454**

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**HOUSE SPONSORSHIP**

**Moreno and Dore**, Garnett

**SENATE SPONSORSHIP**

**Guzman**,

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**House Committees**

State, Veterans, & Military Affairs  
Appropriations

**Senate Committees**

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**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

101      **CONCERNING PRIMARY ELECTIONS, AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH,**  
102                    **RESTORING A PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY ELECTION IN COLORADO,**  
103                    **ALLOWING UNAFFILIATED VOTERS TO TEMPORARILY AFFILIATE**  
104                    **WITH A POLITICAL PARTY IN ORDER TO VOTE IN PRIMARY**  
105                    **ELECTIONS IN WHICH THE POLITICAL PARTY IS PARTICIPATING,**  
106                    **AND MAKING AN APPROPRIATION.**

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**Bill Summary**

*(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <http://www.leg.state.co.us/billsummaries>.)*

**Restoration of the presidential primary election**

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.  
*Capital letters indicate new material to be added to existing statute.*  
*Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.*

From 1992 until 2000, the state held a presidential primary election. The state repealed its presidential primary election in 2003. **Section 2** of the bill restores this election. Specifically, it requires the state to hold a presidential primary election on a Tuesday on a date designated by the governor. The date selected for the primary must be no earlier than the date the national rules of the major political parties provide for state delegations to the party's national convention to be allocated without penalty and not later than the third Tuesday in March in years in which a United States presidential election will be held. In consultation with the secretary of state, the governor is required to select the date of the presidential primary election no later than September 1 in the year before the presidential primary election will be held.

Each major political party (political party) that has a qualified candidate entitled to participate in the presidential primary election is entitled to participate in the primary election and must have a separate party ballot. At the presidential primary election, an elector may vote only for a candidate on the ballot of the political party with which the elector has declared an affiliation. An unaffiliated eligible elector may declare an affiliation with a political party to the election judges at the presidential primary election.

A ballot used in a presidential primary election must only contain the names of candidates for the office of the president. The ballot shall not be used for the purpose of presenting any other issue or question to the electorate.

Not later than 60 days before the presidential primary election, the bill requires the secretary of state (secretary) to certify the names and party affiliations of the candidates to be placed on a presidential primary election ballot. The bill specifies eligibility requirements that candidates must meet to have their names placed on the primary election ballot, and requires the names of candidates appearing on the presidential primary election ballot to be in an order determined by lot. The secretary determines the method of drawing lots.

The bill permits the state chairperson of a political party to request that the secretary provide a place on the presidential primary election ballot for electors who have no presidential candidate preference to register a vote to send a noncommitted delegate to the political party's national convention in specified circumstances.

The bill permits legal challenges to the listing of any candidate on the presidential primary election ballot and specifies procedures governing such challenges.

The bill specifies circumstances under which a write-in vote will be counted, and additional procedures regarding the survey of presidential primary election returns and the certification of results. The bill also requires each political party to use the results of the presidential primary election to allocate delegate votes to presidential candidates in accordance

with state or national party rules.

**Section 7** restricts a candidate in a presidential primary from circulating petitions before the first Monday in November of the year preceding the year in which the presidential primary election is held. This section also requires a candidate to file a petition no later than 85 days before the presidential primary election.

**Section 11** requires the general assembly to appropriate moneys from the general fund to cover the costs of the election incurred by the state arising from the presidential primary election. Sections 1 and 5 further require the state, by means of an appropriation from the general fund, to reimburse the counties for all of the actual direct costs they incur arising from the preparation and conduct of such election. By rule, the secretary of state is required to determine the type of actual costs for which the counties are entitled to reimbursement under the bill.

### **Temporary affiliation by unaffiliated voters**

**Sections 3 and 6** create a new category of voter to be known as a "temporary affiliated elector", which the bill defines as "an unaffiliated person who is registered to vote and chooses to become affiliated with a political party on a temporary basis". Section 1 also clarifies that the nonpresidential primary election used to elect candidates for state office may also be referred to as the "state primary".

Under section 6, in connection with any primary election that is held on or after January 1, 2018, any unaffiliated registered elector may become a temporary affiliated elector by declaring an intent to temporarily affiliate with any major or minor political party. This intent may be declared when the elector desires to vote at a primary election or the elector may declare his or her intent to become a temporary unaffiliated elector at any other time during which electors are permitted to register.

An unaffiliated elector who has declared an intent to become a temporary affiliated elector is entitled to cast a ballot in any primary election held during a single general election cycle in which the political party with whom the elector has chosen to temporarily affiliate has one or more candidates on such ballot. The period of temporary affiliation commences 45 days before the presidential primary or state primary, as applicable. The period of temporary affiliation terminates 30 days after the date of the presidential primary or state primary, as applicable. At the end of the temporary affiliation period, the elector's temporary affiliation with a political party ends and the elector must declare again his or her intent to become a temporary affiliated elector for each subsequent general election cycle in which there is a primary election in which the elector wishes to participate.

The status of being a temporary affiliated elector does not entitle the elector to be eligible to run as a candidate of the political party with

which he or she is temporarily affiliated, to vote at any precinct caucus, to serve as a delegate to a party assembly or nominating convention of such political party at any state, local, or national level, to accept any public office, including appointment to any state board or commission, for which partisan affiliation is a requirement of appointment, or to accept any other public benefit or position for which affiliation with a political party is a requirement for acceptance of the same. A person who has become a temporary affiliated elector may accept any appointment for which unaffiliated status is a requirement of the appointment.

A voter who is unaffiliated may openly declare to the election judges at a voter service and polling center on the date of the presidential primary election or state primary, as applicable, that he or she intends to become a temporary affiliated voter with a particular political party and be presented with a party ballot of the political party with which he or she has chosen to temporarily affiliate. A person who has chosen to become a temporary affiliated elector with one political party is not entitled to change his or her temporary affiliation to affiliate with another political party less than 29 days before the presidential primary or state primary election, as applicable.

**Section 4** allows an elector to choose to become a temporary affiliated elector by means of the online registration system.

**Section 5** expands the questions an elector is asked on registering to vote in person to include whether the elector chooses to become a temporary affiliated elector.

**Section 9** conforms existing statutory procedures that govern voting at a primary election to accommodate voting by persons who have become temporary affiliated electors.

**Sections 8 and 10** conform existing statutory provisions governing the required notice that is given to voters before voting in primary elections to include voting in a presidential primary election and to accommodate voting in primary elections by persons who have become temporary affiliated electors.

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

2           **SECTION 1. Short title.** The short title of this act is the "Primary  
3 Participation Act".

4           **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **recreate and**  
5 **reenact, with amendments,** part 12 to article 4 of title 1 as follows:

6           **1-4-1201. Legislative declaration.** IN RECREATING AND  
7 REENACTING THIS PART 12, IT IS THE INTENT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

1 THAT THE PROVISIONS OF THIS PART 12 CONFORM TO THE REQUIREMENTS  
2 OF FEDERAL LAW AND NATIONAL POLITICAL PARTY RULES GOVERNING  
3 PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY ELECTIONS.

4 **1-4-1202. Definitions.** AS USED IN THIS PART 12, UNLESS THE  
5 CONTEXT OTHERWISE REQUIRES:

6 (1) "POLITICAL PARTY" MEANS A MAJOR POLITICAL PARTY AS  
7 DEFINED IN SECTION 1-1-104 (22). "POLITICAL PARTY", FOR PURPOSES OF  
8 THIS PART 12, DOES NOT HAVE THE SAME MEANING AS "POLITICAL PARTY"  
9 AS DEFINED IN SECTION 1-1-104 (25) AND AS SUCH TERM MAY BE USED  
10 ELSEWHERE IN THIS CODE.

11 (2) "PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY ELECTION" MEANS A PRIMARY  
12 ELECTION CONDUCTED IN A YEAR IN WHICH A UNITED STATES  
13 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION WILL BE HELD TO ALLOCATE DELEGATES TO  
14 NATIONAL NOMINATING CONVENTIONS OF THE MAJOR POLITICAL PARTIES  
15 SELECTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 1-4-701 (1).

16 **1-4-1203. Presidential primary elections - when - conduct.**

17 (1) A PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY ELECTION MUST BE HELD ON A TUESDAY ON  
18 A DATE DESIGNATED BY THE GOVERNOR. THE DATE SELECTED FOR THE  
19 PRIMARY MUST BE NO EARLIER THAN THE DATE THE NATIONAL RULES OF  
20 THE MAJOR POLITICAL PARTIES PROVIDE FOR STATE DELEGATIONS TO THE  
21 PARTY'S NATIONAL CONVENTION TO BE ALLOCATED WITHOUT PENALTY  
22 AND NOT LATER THAN THE THIRD TUESDAY IN MARCH IN YEARS IN WHICH  
23 A UNITED STATES PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION WILL BE HELD. THE GOVERNOR  
24 SHALL, NO LATER THAN THE FIRST DAY OF SEPTEMBER IN THE YEAR  
25 BEFORE THE PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY ELECTION WILL BE HELD, IN  
26 CONSULTATION WITH THE SECRETARY OF STATE, DESIGNATE THE DATE OF  
27 THE PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY ELECTION.

1           (2) EACH POLITICAL PARTY THAT HAS A QUALIFIED CANDIDATE  
2 ENTITLED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY ELECTION  
3 PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION IS ENTITLED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PRIMARY  
4 ELECTION AND MUST HAVE A SEPARATE PARTY BALLOT. AT THE  
5 PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY ELECTION, AN ELECTOR MAY VOTE ONLY FOR A  
6 CANDIDATE ON THE BALLOT OF THE POLITICAL PARTY WITH WHICH THE  
7 ELECTOR HAS DECLARED AN AFFILIATION. AN UNAFFILIATED ELIGIBLE  
8 ELECTOR MAY DECLARE AN AFFILIATION WITH A POLITICAL PARTY TO THE  
9 ELECTION JUDGES AT THE PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY ELECTION IN  
10 ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 1-7-201. NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER  
11 PROVISION OF LAW, NO ELECTOR AFFILIATED WITH A MAJOR OR MINOR  
12 POLITICAL PARTY OR POLITICAL ORGANIZATION MAY CHANGE OR  
13 WITHDRAW HIS OR HER AFFILIATION IN ORDER TO VOTE IN THE  
14 PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY ELECTION OF ANOTHER POLITICAL PARTY UNLESS  
15 THE ELECTOR HAS CHANGED OR WITHDRAWN SUCH AFFILIATION NO LATER  
16 THAN THE TWENTY-NINTH DAY PRECEDING THE PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY  
17 ELECTION AS PROVIDED IN SECTION 1-2-219 (1).

18           (3) EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED IN THIS PART 12, A  
19 PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY ELECTION MUST BE CONDUCTED IN THE SAME  
20 MANNER AS ANY OTHER PRIMARY ELECTION TO THE EXTENT STATUTORY  
21 PROVISIONS GOVERNING OTHER PRIMARY ELECTIONS ARE APPLICABLE TO  
22 THIS PART 12. THE ELECTION OFFICIALS AND COUNTY CLERK AND  
23 RECORDERS HAVE THE SAME POWERS AND SHALL PERFORM THE SAME  
24 DUTIES FOR PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY ELECTIONS AS THEY PROVIDE BY LAW  
25 FOR OTHER PRIMARY ELECTIONS AND GENERAL ELECTIONS.

26           (4) A BALLOT USED IN A PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY ELECTION MUST  
27 ONLY CONTAIN THE NAMES OF CANDIDATES FOR THE OFFICE OF THE

1 PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES. THE BALLOT SHALL NOT BE USED FOR  
2 THE PURPOSE OF PRESENTING ANY OTHER ISSUE OR QUESTION TO THE  
3 ELECTORATE.

4 (5) IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 24-21-104.5 (2), C.R.S., BY  
5 MEANS OF AN APPROPRIATION FROM THE GENERAL FUND, THE STATE  
6 SHALL REIMBURSE THE COUNTIES FOR ALL OF THE ACTUAL DIRECT COSTS  
7 THEY INCUR ARISING FROM THE PREPARATION AND CONDUCT OF A  
8 PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY ELECTION IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS PART 12. BY  
9 RULE PROMULGATED IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE 4 OF TITLE 24, C.R.S.,  
10 THE SECRETARY OF STATE SHALL DETERMINE THE TYPE OF ACTUAL DIRECT  
11 COSTS FOR WHICH THE COUNTIES ARE ENTITLED TO REIMBURSEMENT  
12 PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION (5) AND SECTION 24-21-104.5 (2), C.R.S.

13 **1-4-1204. Names on ballots - rules.** (1) NOT LATER THAN SIXTY  
14 DAYS BEFORE THE PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY ELECTION, THE SECRETARY OF  
15 STATE SHALL CERTIFY THE NAMES AND PARTY AFFILIATIONS OF THE  
16 CANDIDATES TO BE PLACED ON THE PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY ELECTION  
17 BALLOT. THE ONLY CANDIDATES WHOSE NAMES WILL BE PLACED ON  
18 PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY ELECTION BALLOTS ARE THOSE CANDIDATES WHO:

19 (a) ARE ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE PAYMENTS PURSUANT TO THE  
20 FEDERAL "PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY MATCHING PAYMENT ACCOUNT ACT",  
21 26 U.S.C. SEC. 9031 ET SEQ., OR ANY SUCCESSOR SECTION OF FEDERAL  
22 LAW, AT THE TIME CANDIDATES' NAMES ARE TO BE CERTIFIED BY THE  
23 SECRETARY OF STATE PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION (1);

24 (b) ARE SEEKING THE NOMINATION OF A POLITICAL PARTY AS A  
25 BONA FIDE CANDIDATE FOR PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES PURSUANT  
26 TO POLITICAL PARTY RULES AND ARE AFFILIATED WITH A POLITICAL PARTY  
27 THAT RECEIVED AT LEAST TWENTY PERCENT OF THE VOTES CAST AT THE

1 LAST PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION BY ELECTORS REGISTERED IN COLORADO;  
2 AND

3 (c) HAVE SUBMITTED TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE, NOT LATER  
4 THAN EIGHTY-FIVE DAYS BEFORE THE PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY ELECTION,  
5 A NOTARIZED CANDIDATE'S STATEMENT OF INTENT TOGETHER WITH A  
6 PETITION SIGNED BY AT LEAST ONE THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED ELIGIBLE  
7 ELECTORS AFFILIATED WITH THE CANDIDATE'S POLITICAL PARTY IN EACH  
8 CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT. CANDIDATE PETITIONS MUST MEET THE  
9 REQUIREMENTS OF PARTS 8 AND 9 OF THIS ARTICLE, AS APPLICABLE.

10 (2) THE NAMES OF CANDIDATES APPEARING ON ANY PRESIDENTIAL  
11 PRIMARY ELECTION BALLOT MUST BE IN AN ORDER DETERMINED BY LOT.  
12 THE SECRETARY OF STATE SHALL DETERMINE THE METHOD OF DRAWING  
13 LOTS.

14 (3) EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE MAY BE PROHIBITED BY POLITICAL  
15 PARTY RULES, THE STATE CHAIRPERSON OF A POLITICAL PARTY MAY  
16 REQUEST THAT THE SECRETARY OF STATE PROVIDE A PLACE ON THE  
17 PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY ELECTION BALLOT FOR ELECTORS WHO HAVE NO  
18 PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE PREFERENCE TO REGISTER A VOTE TO SEND A  
19 NONCOMMITTED DELEGATE TO THE POLITICAL PARTY'S NATIONAL  
20 CONVENTION. TO BE VALID, THIS REQUEST MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE  
21 SECRETARY OF STATE NOT LATER THAN EIGHTY-FIVE DAYS BEFORE THE  
22 PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY ELECTION.

23 (4) ANY CHALLENGE TO THE LISTING OF ANY CANDIDATE ON THE  
24 PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY ELECTION BALLOT MUST BE MADE IN WRITING AND  
25 FILED WITH THE SECRETARY OF STATE NOT LATER THAN FIVE DAYS AFTER  
26 THE FILING DEADLINE FOR CANDIDATES. ANY SUCH CHALLENGE MUST  
27 PROVIDE NOTICE IN WRITING IN A SUMMARY MANNER OF THE ALLEGED



1 IMPROPRIETY THAT GIVES RISE TO THE COMPLAINT. THE SECRETARY SHALL  
2 ADDRESS BY RULE, PROMULGATED IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE 4 OF  
3 TITLE 24, C.R.S., OTHER REQUIREMENTS OF A VALID CHALLENGE. IN  
4 RESPONSE TO A VALID CHALLENGE BROUGHT UNDER THIS SUBSECTION (4),  
5 THE SECRETARY SHALL TRANSMIT NOTICE OF THE CHALLENGE FORTHWITH  
6 TO ALL CANDIDATES APPEARING ON THE PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY ELECTION  
7 BALLOT AND TO THE STATE CHAIRPERSON OF EACH POLITICAL PARTY. NO  
8 LATER THAN FIVE DAYS AFTER THE CHALLENGE IS FILED, A HEARING MUST  
9 BE HELD AT WHICH TIME THE SECRETARY SHALL HEAR THE CHALLENGE  
10 AND ASSESS THE VALIDITY OF ALL ALLEGED IMPROPRIETIES. THE  
11 SECRETARY SHALL ISSUE FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW  
12 NOT LATER THAN FORTY-EIGHT HOURS AFTER THE HEARING. THE PARTY  
13 FILING THE CHALLENGE HAS THE BURDEN OF SUSTAINING THE CHALLENGE  
14 BY A PREPONDERANCE OF THE EVIDENCE. THE SECRETARY'S DECISIONS  
15 UPON MATTERS OF SUBSTANCE ARE OPEN TO REVIEW, IF PROMPT  
16 APPLICATION IS MADE, AS PROVIDED IN SECTION 1-1-113.

17 **1-4-1205. Write-in candidate statement for presidential**  
18 **primary.** A WRITE-IN VOTE FOR ANY CANDIDATE ON THE PRESIDENTIAL  
19 PRIMARY ELECTION BALLOT SHALL NOT BE COUNTED UNLESS THE  
20 CANDIDATE FOR WHOM THE WRITE-IN VOTE WAS CAST HAS FILED A  
21 NOTARIZED CANDIDATE'S STATEMENT OF INTENT TO SEEK THE OFFICE OF  
22 PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES. ANY SUCH STATEMENT MUST BE FILED  
23 WITH THE SECRETARY OF STATE NO LATER THAN THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS  
24 ON THE SIXTY-SEVENTH DAY BEFORE THE PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY  
25 ELECTION.

26 **1-4-1206. Presidential primary ballots - survey of returns.**  
27 EACH COUNTY CLERK AND RECORDER SHALL SURVEY ALL RETURNS

1 RECEIVED FROM THE PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY ELECTION IN ALL COUNTY  
2 PRECINCTS, AS PROVIDED IN THIS TITLE, AND SHALL CERTIFY THE RESULTS  
3 OF THE PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY ELECTION TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE NO  
4 LATER THAN THIRTEEN DAYS AFTER THE PRIMARY ELECTION.

5 **1-4-1207. Election results - certification - allocation and**  
6 **pledging of delegates.** (1) THE SECRETARY OF STATE SHALL COMPILE THE  
7 NUMBER OF VOTES CAST FOR EACH CANDIDATE NAMED ON THE  
8 PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY ELECTION BALLOT AND THE VOTES CAST TO SEND  
9 A NONCOMMITTED DELEGATE TO THE POLITICAL PARTY'S NATIONAL  
10 CONVENTION, IF APPLICABLE, AND SHALL CALCULATE THE PERCENTAGE OF  
11 VOTES RECEIVED BY EACH AS COMPARED TO THE NUMBER OF VOTES CAST  
12 BY ELECTORS OF THE SAME POLITICAL PARTY.

13 (2) THE SECRETARY OF STATE SHALL CERTIFY THE RESULTS AND  
14 PERCENTAGES CALCULATED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (1) OF THIS  
15 SECTION TO THE STATE CHAIRPERSON AND TO THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE  
16 OF EACH POLITICAL PARTY THAT HAD AT LEAST ONE CANDIDATE ON THE  
17 PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY ELECTION BALLOT.

18 (3) EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PROHIBITED OR REQUIRED BY NATIONAL  
19 POLITICAL PARTY RULES, EACH POLITICAL PARTY MUST USE THE RESULTS  
20 OF THE PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY ELECTION TO ALLOCATE DELEGATE VOTES  
21 TO PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES IN ACCORDANCE WITH STATE OR NATIONAL  
22 PARTY RULES. POLITICAL PARTIES NEED NOT ALLOCATE DELEGATE VOTES  
23 TO CANDIDATES WHO RECEIVE LESS THAN FIFTEEN PERCENT OF THE VOTES  
24 CAST IN THE PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY ELECTION FOR THAT PARTY UNLESS  
25 REQUIRED TO DO SO BY STATE OR NATIONAL PARTY RULES.

26 **SECTION 3.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 1-1-104, **amend** (32);  
27 **and add** (49.3) as follows:

1           **1-1-104. Definitions.** As used in this code, unless the context  
2 otherwise requires:

3           (32) "Primary election" means the election held on the last  
4 Tuesday in June of each even-numbered year. A PRIMARY ELECTION MAY  
5 ALSO BE KNOWN AND REFERRED TO AS A "STATE PRIMARY ELECTION".

6           (49.3) "TEMPORARY AFFILIATED ELECTOR" MEANS AN  
7 UNAFFILIATED ELECTOR WHO IS REGISTERED TO VOTE AND CHOOSES TO  
8 BECOME AFFILIATED WITH A POLITICAL PARTY ON A TEMPORARY BASIS IN  
9 ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 1-2-218.7.

10           **SECTION 4.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 1-2-202.5, **amend** (2)  
11 as follows:

12           **1-2-202.5. Online voter registration - online changes in elector**  
13 **information.** (2) The secretary of state shall make available on the  
14 secretary of state's official website electronic forms for persons to apply  
15 to register to vote, ~~and~~ for a registered elector to change his or her  
16 residence or change or withdraw his or her affiliation, OR FOR AN  
17 UNAFFILIATED ELECTOR TO CHOOSE TO BECOME A TEMPORARY AFFILIATED  
18 ELECTOR IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 1-2-218.7.

19           **SECTION 5.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 1-2-204, **amend** (2)  
20 (j) as follows:

21           **1-2-204. Questions answered by elector - rules.** (2) In addition,  
22 each eligible elector shall be asked, and the elector shall correctly answer,  
23 the following:

24           (j) The elector's affiliation, if any, if the eligible elector desires  
25 EITHER to affiliate with any political party or political organization OR TO  
26 BECOME A TEMPORARY AFFILIATED ELECTOR IN ACCORDANCE WITH  
27 SECTION 1-2-218.7. If this question is not answered, the elector shall be

1 registered as "unaffiliated". Only the eligible elector personally shall  
2 declare the eligible elector's affiliation.

3 **SECTION 6.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 1-2-218.7 as  
4 follows:

5 **1-2-218.7. Temporary affiliation with a political party.**

6 (1) ANY UNAFFILIATED ELECTOR MAY BECOME A TEMPORARY AFFILIATED  
7 ELECTOR BY DECLARING AN INTENT TO TEMPORARILY AFFILIATE WITH ANY  
8 MAJOR POLITICAL PARTY OR MINOR POLITICAL PARTY. SUCH INTENT MAY  
9 BE DECLARED WHEN THE ELECTOR DESIRES TO VOTE AT A PRIMARY  
10 ELECTION, AS PROVIDED IN SECTION 1-7-201 (2), OR THE ELECTOR MAY  
11 DECLARE HIS OR HER INTENT TO BECOME A TEMPORARY AFFILIATED  
12 ELECTOR AT ANY OTHER TIME DURING WHICH ELECTORS ARE PERMITTED  
13 TO REGISTER.

14 (2) AN ELECTOR WHO HAS DECLARED AN INTENT TO BECOME A  
15 TEMPORARY AFFILIATED ELECTOR IS ENTITLED TO CAST A BALLOT IN ANY  
16 PRIMARY ELECTION HELD DURING A SINGLE GENERAL ELECTION CYCLE IN  
17 WHICH THE POLITICAL PARTY WITH WHOM THE ELECTOR HAS CHOSEN TO  
18 TEMPORARILY AFFILIATE HAS ONE OR MORE CANDIDATES ON SUCH  
19 BALLOT. THE PERIOD OF TEMPORARY AFFILIATION COMMENCES  
20 FORTY-FIVE DAYS BEFORE THE PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY ELECTION OR THE  
21 STATE PRIMARY, AS APPLICABLE. THE PERIOD OF TEMPORARY AFFILIATION  
22 TERMINATES THIRTY DAYS FOLLOWING THE DATE OF THE PRESIDENTIAL  
23 PRIMARY ELECTION OR THE STATE PRIMARY ELECTION, AS APPLICABLE. AT  
24 THE END OF THE TEMPORARY AFFILIATION PERIOD, THE ELECTOR'S  
25 TEMPORARY AFFILIATION WITH A POLITICAL PARTY ENDS AND THE  
26 ELECTOR MUST BE RETURNED TO UNAFFILIATED STATUS. IF THE ELECTOR  
27 DESIRES TO PARTICIPATE IN ANY SUBSEQUENT PRIMARY ELECTION, HE OR

1 SHE MUST DECLARE AGAIN HIS OR HER INTENT TO BECOME A TEMPORARY  
2 AFFILIATED ELECTOR FOR EACH SUBSEQUENT PRIMARY ELECTION IN  
3 ACCORDANCE WITH SUBSECTION (1) OF THIS SECTION. A DECLARATION OF  
4 AFFILIATION OF EACH REGISTERED ELECTOR MUST BE RECORDED AND  
5 MAINTAINED IN THE STATEWIDE VOTER REGISTRATION SYSTEM FROM THE  
6 DATE THE DECLARATION OF INTENT IS RECEIVED BY THE COUNTY CLERK  
7 AND RECORDER THROUGH AND INCLUDING THE CONCLUSION OF THE  
8 PERIOD OF TEMPORARY AFFILIATION.

9 (3) NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION OF LAW, THE  
10 STATUS OF BEING A TEMPORARY AFFILIATED ELECTOR SHALL NOT ENTITLE  
11 THE ELECTOR TO BE ELIGIBLE TO RUN AS A CANDIDATE OF THE POLITICAL  
12 PARTY WITH WHICH HE OR SHE IS TEMPORARILY AFFILIATED, TO VOTE AT  
13 ANY PRECINCT CAUCUS, TO SERVE AS A DELEGATE TO A PARTY ASSEMBLY  
14 OR NOMINATING CONVENTION OF SUCH POLITICAL PARTY AT ANY STATE,  
15 LOCAL, OR NATIONAL LEVEL, TO ACCEPT ANY PUBLIC OFFICE, INCLUDING  
16 APPOINTMENT TO ANY STATE BOARD OR COMMISSION, FOR WHICH  
17 PARTISAN AFFILIATION IS A REQUIREMENT OF APPOINTMENT, OR TO ACCEPT  
18 ANY OTHER PUBLIC BENEFIT OR POSITION FOR WHICH AFFILIATION WITH A  
19 POLITICAL PARTY IS A REQUIREMENT FOR ACCEPTANCE OF THE SAME. A  
20 PERSON WHO HAS BECOME A TEMPORARY AFFILIATED ELECTOR MAY  
21 ACCEPT ANY APPOINTMENT FOR WHICH UNAFFILIATED STATUS IS A  
22 REQUIREMENT OF THE APPOINTMENT.

23 (4) IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 1-7-201, A PERSON WHOSE  
24 REGISTRATION AS OF TWENTY-NINE DAYS BEFORE THE PRESIDENTIAL  
25 PRIMARY ELECTION OR STATE PRIMARY ELECTION, AS APPLICABLE, AS  
26 SHOWN IN THE STATEWIDE VOTER REGISTRATION SYSTEM IS UNAFFILIATED  
27 MAY OPENLY DECLARE TO THE ELECTION JUDGES AT A VOTER SERVICE AND

1 POLLING CENTER DURING THE PERIOD WHEN VOTER SERVICE AND POLLING  
2 CENTERS ARE OPEN FOR A PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY ELECTION OR STATE  
3 PRIMARY ELECTION, AS APPLICABLE, THAT HE OR SHE INTENDS TO BECOME  
4 A TEMPORARY AFFILIATED VOTER WITH A PARTICULAR POLITICAL PARTY  
5 AND BE PRESENTED WITH A PARTY BALLOT OF THE POLITICAL PARTY WITH  
6 WHICH HE OR SHE HAS CHOSEN TO TEMPORARILY AFFILIATE. A PERSON  
7 WHO HAS CHOSEN TO BECOME A TEMPORARY AFFILIATED ELECTOR WITH  
8 ONE POLITICAL PARTY SHALL NOT CHANGE HIS OR HER TEMPORARY  
9 AFFILIATION TO AFFILIATE WITH ANOTHER POLITICAL PARTY LESS THAN  
10 TWENTY-NINE DAYS BEFORE THE PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY OR STATE  
11 PRIMARY ELECTION, AS APPLICABLE.

12 **SECTION 7.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 1-4-801, **amend** (5)  
13 as follows:

14 **1-4-801. Designation of party candidates by petition.** (5) Party  
15 petitions shall not be circulated nor any signatures be obtained prior to the  
16 first Monday in February. A CANDIDATE IN A PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY  
17 ELECTION SHALL NOT BEGIN CIRCULATING PETITIONS BEFORE THE FIRST  
18 MONDAY IN NOVEMBER OF THE YEAR PRECEDING THE YEAR IN WHICH THE  
19 PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY ELECTION IS HELD. Petitions ~~shall~~ MUST be filed  
20 no later than eighty-five days before the PRESIDENTIAL primary election  
21 OR STATE PRIMARY ELECTION, AS APPLICABLE.

22 **SECTION 8.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 1-5-205, **amend as**  
23 **added by Senate Bill 16-142** (4) as follows:

24 **1-5-205. Published and posted notice of election - content.**  
25 (4) For a primary mail ballot election, INCLUDING A PRESIDENTIAL  
26 PRIMARY ELECTION, in addition to the items described in subsection (1)  
27 of this section, the notice shall advise eligible electors who are not

1 affiliated with a political party of the electors' ability to declare an  
2 affiliation with a political party and vote in the primary election AND THE  
3 ELECTORS' ABILITY TO DECLARE AN INTENT TO BECOME A TEMPORARY  
4 AFFILIATED ELECTOR IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 1-2-218.7.

5 **SECTION 9.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 1-7-201, **amend** (1)  
6 and (2) as follows:

7 **1-7-201. Voting at primary election.** (1) Any registered elector  
8 who has declared an affiliation with a political party that is participating  
9 in a primary election, OR ANY REGISTERED ELECTOR WHO HAS DECLARED  
10 AN INTENT IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 1-2-218.7 TO BECOME A  
11 TEMPORARY AFFILIATED ELECTOR WITH A POLITICAL PARTY THAT IS  
12 PARTICIPATING IN THE PRIMARY ELECTION, and who desires to vote for  
13 candidates of that party at a primary election shall show identification, as  
14 defined in section 1-1-104 (19.5), write his or her name and address on  
15 a form available at the voter service and polling center, and give the form  
16 to one of the election judges.

17 (2) If the name is found on the registration list, the election judge  
18 having charge of the list shall likewise repeat the elector's name and  
19 present the elector with the party ballot of the political party affiliation  
20 last recorded OR THE PARTY BALLOT OF THE POLITICAL PARTY WITH WHICH  
21 THE ELECTOR HAS BECOME AFFILIATED AS A TEMPORARY AFFILIATED  
22 ELECTOR IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 1-2-218.7, AS APPLICABLE. If  
23 unaffiliated, the eligible elector shall openly declare to the election judges  
24 the name of the political party with which the elector wishes to affiliate,  
25 complete the approved form for voter registration information changes,  
26 and initial the registration list in the space provided. Declaration of  
27 affiliation with a political party shall be separately dated and signed or

1 dated and initialed by the eligible elector in such manner that the elector  
2 clearly acknowledges that the affiliation has been properly recorded.  
3 Thereupon, the election judges shall deliver the appropriate party ballot  
4 to the eligible elector. Eligible electors who decline to state an affiliation  
5 with a political party that is participating in the primary, ~~shall~~ OR WHO  
6 DECLINE TO BECOME A TEMPORARY AFFILIATED ELECTOR, ARE not ~~be~~  
7 entitled to vote at the primary election.

8 **SECTION 10.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 1-7.5-107, **amend**  
9 (2.3) (a), (2.3) (b), and (2.3) (c) as follows:

10 **1-7.5-107. Procedures for conducting mail ballot election -**  
11 **primary elections - first-time voters casting a mail ballot after having**  
12 **registered by mail to vote - in-person request for ballot - repeal.**

13 (2.3) (a) Not less than thirty days nor more than ~~forty-five~~ SIXTY days  
14 before a PRESIDENTIAL primary OR STATE PRIMARY election, the county  
15 clerk and recorder shall mail a notice by forwardable mail to each  
16 unaffiliated active ~~registered~~ eligible elector.

17 (b) The notice shall indicate that the unaffiliated elector has the  
18 ability to and must affiliate with a political party in order to vote in the  
19 primary election, AND THAT THE ELECTOR HAS THE ABILITY TO AND MAY  
20 BECOME A TEMPORARY AFFILIATED ELECTOR IN ACCORDANCE WITH  
21 SECTION 1-2-218.7.

22 (c) The notice shall have a returnable portion that allows the  
23 elector to request affiliation with a political party OR TO DECLARE AN  
24 INTENT TO BECOME A TEMPORARY AFFILIATED ELECTOR IN ACCORDANCE  
25 WITH SECTION 1-2-218.7.

26 **SECTION 11.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **amend**  
27 24-21-104.5 as follows:



1           **24-21-104.5. General fund appropriation - cash fund**

2           **appropriation - elections.** (1) The general assembly is authorized to  
3 appropriate moneys from the department of state cash fund to the  
4 department of state to cover the costs of the local county clerk and  
5 recorders relating to the conduct of general elections and November  
6 odd-year elections. If the amount of moneys in the department of state  
7 cash fund is insufficient to cover such costs, the general assembly may  
8 appropriate additional general fund moneys to cover such costs after  
9 exhausting all moneys in the department of state cash fund. The intent of  
10 the general assembly is to authorize the appropriation of department of  
11 state cash fund moneys and general fund moneys to the department of  
12 state to offset some of the costs of local county clerk and recorders  
13 associated with the additional election duties and requirements resulting  
14 from the passage of section 20 of article X of the state constitution and  
15 from the increased number of initiatives that are being filed.

16           (2) FOR A PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY ELECTION, AS DEFINED IN  
17 SECTION 1-4-1202 (2), C.R.S., THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SHALL  
18 APPROPRIATE MONEYS FROM THE GENERAL FUND TO COVER THE COSTS OF  
19 THE ELECTION INCURRED BY THE STATE ARISING FROM THE PREPARATION  
20 AND CONDUCT OF A PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY ELECTION IN ACCORDANCE  
21 WITH PART 12 OF ARTICLE 4 OF TITLE 1, C.R.S. IN ADDITION, BY MEANS OF  
22 AN APPROPRIATION FROM THE GENERAL FUND, THE STATE SHALL ALSO  
23 REIMBURSE THE COUNTIES FOR ALL OF THE ACTUAL DIRECT COSTS THEY  
24 INCUR ARISING FROM THE PREPARATION AND CONDUCT OF SUCH ELECTION  
25 IN ACCORDANCE WITH PART 12 OF ARTICLE 4 OF TITLE 1, C.R.S. BY RULE  
26 PROMULGATED IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE 4 OF THIS TITLE, THE  
27 SECRETARY OF STATE SHALL DETERMINE THE TYPE OF ACTUAL DIRECT

1 COSTS FOR WHICH THE COUNTIES ARE ENTITLED TO REIMBURSEMENT  
2 PURSUANT TO SECTION 1-4-1203 (5), C.R.S., AND THIS SUBSECTION (2).

3 **SECTION 12.** Colorado Revised Statutes, 1-4-101 (2), as  
4 amended by a ballot question submitted for the approval or rejection of  
5 the registered voters voting at the statewide election to be held in  
6 November 2016 that proposes to recreate a presidential primary and that  
7 allows persons not permanently affiliated with a political party to vote in  
8 a primary election in which the political party is participating, is further  
9 amended to read as follows:

10 **1-4-101. Primary elections - when - nominations - expenses.**

11 (2) Each political party that is entitled to participate in the primary  
12 election ~~shall~~ MUST have a separate party ballot. The primary election of  
13 all political parties ~~shall~~ MUST be held at the same time and shall be  
14 conducted by the same election officials. VOTING IN PRIMARY ELECTIONS  
15 MUST BE CONDUCTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 1-7-201. AN  
16 UNAFFILIATED ELECTOR MAY BECOME A TEMPORARY AFFILIATED ELECTOR  
17 IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 1-2-218.7.

18 **SECTION 13.** Colorado Revised Statutes, 1-2-218.5 (2), as  
19 amended by a ballot question submitted for the approval or rejection of  
20 the registered voters voting at the statewide election to be held in  
21 November 2016 that proposes to recreate a presidential primary and that  
22 allows persons not permanently affiliated with a political party to vote in  
23 a primary election in which the political party is participating, is further  
24 amended to read as follows:

25 **1-2-218.5. Declaration of affiliation.** (2) Any eligible elector  
26 who has not declared an affiliation with a political party or political  
27 organization ~~shall be~~ IS designated on the registration records of the

1 county clerk and recorder as "unaffiliated". Any unaffiliated eligible  
2 elector may declare a political party affiliation when the elector desires  
3 to vote at a primary election, as provided in section 1-7-201 (2), or the  
4 elector may declare his or her political party or political organization  
5 affiliation at any other time during which electors are permitted to register  
6 by submitting a letter or a form furnished by the county clerk and  
7 recorder, either by mail or in person. AN UNAFFILIATED ELECTOR MAY  
8 ALSO BECOME A TEMPORARY AFFILIATED ELECTOR IN ACCORDANCE WITH  
9 SECTION 1-2-218.7. SUCH INTENT MAY BE DECLARED WHEN THE ELECTOR  
10 DESIRES TO VOTE AT A PRIMARY ELECTION, AS PROVIDED IN SECTION  
11 1-7-201 (2), OR THE ELECTOR MAY DECLARE HIS OR HER INTENT TO  
12 BECOME A TEMPORARY AFFILIATED ELECTOR AT ANY OTHER TIME DURING  
13 WHICH ELECTORS ARE PERMITTED TO REGISTER.

14 **SECTION 14.** Colorado Revised Statutes, 1-4-702, as added by  
15 a ballot question submitted for the approval or rejection of the registered  
16 voters voting at the statewide election to be held in November 2016 that  
17 proposes to recreate a presidential primary and that allows persons not  
18 permanently affiliated with a political party to vote in a primary election  
19 in which the political party is participating, is further amended to read as  
20 follows:

21 **1-4-702. Nomination of candidates for general election by**  
22 **convention or assembly.** NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION OF  
23 LAW, A POLITICAL PARTY MAY NOMINATE CANDIDATES FOR THE GENERAL  
24 ELECTION BY ASSEMBLY OR CONVENTION IN ACCORDANCE WITH EXISTING  
25 LAW.

26 **SECTION 15. Appropriation.** (1) For the 2016-17 state fiscal  
27 year, \$121,306 is appropriated to the department of state. This

1 appropriation is from the department of state cash fund created in section  
2 24-21-104 (3) (b), C.R.S. To implement this act, the department may use  
3 this appropriation as follows:

4 (a) \$88,374 for personal services related to information  
5 technology services;

6 (b) \$4,577 for use by the elections division for personal services,  
7 which amount is based on an assumption that the division will require an  
8 additional 0.1 FTE; and

9 (c) \$28,355 for use by the elections division for operating  
10 expenses.

11 (2) Any money appropriated in this section not expended prior to  
12 July 1, 2017, is further appropriated to the department for the 2017-18  
13 state fiscal year for the same purpose.

14 **SECTION 16. Effective date - applicability.** (1) This act takes  
15 effect April 1, 2017.

16 (2) Sections 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, and section 1-7.5-107 (2.3) (b) and (2.3)  
17 (c) as contained in section 10 of this act that concern temporary affiliated  
18 electors apply to any presidential primary election or state primary  
19 election conducted on or after the effective date of this act.

20 (3) Sections 12, 13, and 14 of this act take effect only if, at the  
21 statewide election to be held in November 2016, a majority of the voters  
22 vote to approve a ballot question that proposes to recreate a presidential  
23 primary and that allows persons not permanently affiliated with a political  
24 party to vote in a primary election in which the political party is  
25 participating.

26 **SECTION 17. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds,

- 1 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate
- 2 preservation of the public peace, health, and safety.