

Review and Comment Guidelines in Response to COVID-19 Virus

Due to the outbreak of the COVID-19 virus, there is a public health emergency in the State of Colorado. In response to this crisis, there have been a number of governmental orders prohibiting public gatherings and encouraging or requiring people to stay at home.¹ In order to comply with these orders to the greatest extent possible and also preserve the proponents' fundamental right in the power of initiative, the directors of Legislative Council and the Office of Legislative Legal Services issue these guidelines for Review and Comment Meetings that will be held beginning on March 25, 2020, and through April 3, 2020:

1. Review and Comment meetings will take place as scheduled and noticed on Legislative Council Staff's website.
2. Staff from Legislative Council and the Office of Legislative Legal Services will attend the meeting in the person in the designated room.
3. All designated representatives of the proponents and their attorneys are strongly encouraged to participate in the Review and Comment meetings by telephone, and staff will coordinate this participation. The prohibition on remote participation via electronic technology will not be enforced.
4. Whether the designated representatives appear in person or remotely by telephone, the requirement that both designated representatives of the proponents attend the Review and Comment meeting still applies.
5. If the designated representatives of the proponents or their attorneys choose to attend the Review and Comment meeting in person, the meeting will be conducted consistent with recommended social distancing guidelines.
6. The Review and Comment meeting will be recorded and broadcast over the internet at leg.colorado.gov/committee/granicus/964136 in the same manner as all other initiatives during the 2019-2020 initiative cycle.
7. The public is prohibited from attending the Review and Comment meeting in person, and instead the meeting will be open to the public through the internet broadcast.

¹ As of March 24, 2020, the current orders that apply in the City of County of Denver, where the Review and Comment meetings take place, are Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment Public Health Order #24 and Denver Department of Public Health & Environment Order, dated March 23, 2020. See <https://covid19.colorado.gov/> and <https://www.denvergov.org/content/denvergov/en/environmental-health/news/coronavirus-info.html>.