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MEMORANDUM

TO: John Hereford and Tyler Thompson
FROM: Legislative Council Staff and Office of Legislative Legal Services
DATE: April 6, 2016
SUBJECT: Proposed initiative measure 2015-2016 #142, concerning primary elections

Section 1-40-105 (1), Colorado Revised Statutes, requires the directors of the Colorado Legislative Council and the Office of Legislative Legal Services to "review and comment" on initiative petitions for proposed laws and amendments to the Colorado constitution. We hereby submit our comments to you regarding the appended proposed initiative.

The purpose of this statutory requirement of the directors of Legislative Council and the Office of Legislative Legal Services is to provide comments intended to aid proponents in determining the language of their proposal and to avail the public of knowledge of the contents of the proposal. Our first objective is to be sure we understand your intent and your objective in proposing the amendment. We hope that the statements and questions contained in this memorandum will provide a basis for discussion and understanding of the proposal.

This initiative was submitted with a series of initiatives including proposed initiative 2015-2016 #141. The comments and questions raised in this memorandum will not include comments and questions that were addressed in the memoranda for proposed initiative 2015-2016 #141, except as necessary to fully understand the issues raised by the revised proposed initiative. Comments and questions addressed in those other memoranda may also be relevant, and those questions and comments are hereby incorporated by reference in this memorandum.

Purposes

The major purpose of the proposed amendment to the Colorado Revised Statutes appears to be to allow voters unaffiliated with a major political party to participate in state and local primary elections in order to increase participation and voter turnout in primary elections.

Substantive Comments and Questions

There are no new substantive comments for 2015-2016 #142. Please refer to the review and comment memorandum for 2015-2016 #141.

Technical Comments

There are no new technical comments for 2015-2016 #142. Please refer to the review and comment memorandum for 2015-2016 #141.