

Support HCR25-1002: Limit Elections of Legislators Who Fill Vacancies

“Everybody talks about the weather, but nobody does anything about it.” – Mark Twain

The Problem: over the past twenty years obtaining seats through vacancy appointments increased dramatically so that last session 30% of Colorado’s legislators obtained seats at some point through vacancy committees. Colorado has the most lawmakers in the nation who entered the legislature through vacancy appointments.

While many claim voters still have a choice at the ballot box, incumbency provides legislators with powerful inside tracks that ask voters to ratify the vacancy committee’s selection in the next election rather than allow voters to choose the replacement in an open and fair election. Any “reform” that leaves in place this self-perpetuating incumbent selection system should be viewed as status quo window-dressing: cosmetic reform that slaps lipstick on a pig.

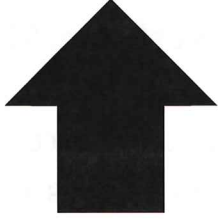
The Solution:

Make vacancy appointees be true interim appointments by banning them from running for that seat in the next general election.

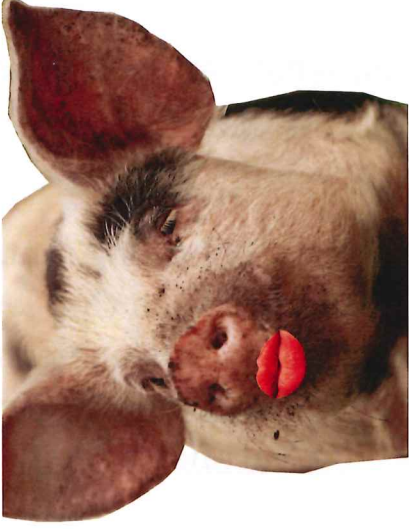
Simple. Clean. Democratic.

CO Vacancy Committees

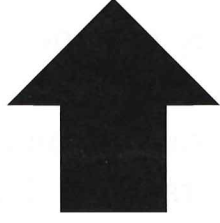
Currently



HB25-1315



But, there's a better way...



Turn a frog into a prince with HCR25-1002