



Please Vote YES on SB24-138

Modification of County Salary Categorizations

Sponsors: Sen. Simpson/ Rep. Martinez

County elected salaries in Colorado are set in statute by the General Assembly. In 2015, the Colorado General Assembly passed SB15-288, enacting 30% pay raises for all county and state elected offices. Prior to that legislation, county elected officials had not received a raise or cost of living adjustment in over **twelve years**. At the request of CCI, SB15-288 **also** established new subcategories within the existing county salary structure to provide flexibility in case certain counties could not afford the full pay raises that were enacted by the General Assembly. These subcategories (A-D, with corresponding pay increases of 30%, 20%, 10% and 0%) were created in direct response to concerns from some counties about their local ability to accommodate a salary raise from a budgetary standpoint.

In 2016, a number of counties moved downward (via legislation) to lower subcategories because of budgetary concerns. Economic conditions have improved in many of these counties since that time, and they are now in a financial position to request a move up in subcategory in order to award their elected officials the raise that was approved back in 2015. Other counties are seeking a move in salary category to address the prohibitively high cost of living in rural resort regions of the state.

SB 138 will move three counties up to the following categories: Elbert County: Category III-A, Hinsdale County: Category V-A and Rio Grande County: Category III-C. There will also be an amendment offered in committee to add Fremont County: Category II-B. These counties respectfully ask that the General Assembly reset their category/subcategory classification so they can give their sheriffs, clerks, treasurers, coroners, surveyors and commissioners necessary pay raises after the next election.

NOTE: The state constitution prohibits county elected officials from receiving a raise during their term of office, so these raises will not go into effect until county elected officials are elected to another term (in either 2024 or 2026).

Please vote "YES" on SB24-138