



# HB26-1084

## Voter Transparency in Ballot Measures

### House Sponsors:

Cecelia Espenosa  
Sean Camacho

### Senate Sponsors:

Mike Weissman  
William Lindstedt

## What is HB26-1084?

HB26-1084 is a bill that aims to **promote more transparency** for voters in regards to citizen initiated ballot measures. This bill aims to inform voters about any changes to state expenditure that would come with the passing of these ballot measures.



### For any initiated measure that

- **Increases** state expenditures (beyond de minimis or administrative costs), and
- **Does not identify** a revenue source or specific program reductions to cover those costs



### The ballot title must...

- Identify the **3 largest areas** of state program expenditures that would **likely be reduced** should the initiative pass.
- Include the **estimated dollar reduction** to those areas in the first full fiscal year.



### Blue Book Enhancements

For qualifying measures, the fiscal impact section must include:

- A description of **the measure's projected effect** on the **3 largest areas of state program expenditures**.
- Conforming changes to ensure consistency with existing fiscal note standards.

## Why do we need HB26-1084?

Under the Colorado Constitution, the Colorado legislature must keep a **balanced budget**.

If a ballot measure does not provide a source of funding, then it is up to the legislature to fund the measure. To do this and maintain a balanced budget, cuts must be made to the areas Coloradans care most about:



Healthcare



Education



Corrections

## The bottom line:

- ✓ Colorado voters deserve clear, transparent information about how proposed initiatives may impact essential state services.
- ✓ HB26-1084 ensures voters understand the real trade-offs before casting their vote.

**If citizens know the financial trade-offs of a ballot measure, they will be able to make well informed decisions with their votes.**