

2024 Colorado Ballot Issues

Ballot measures indicated by a **letter** were proposed by the **legislature**.

Ballot measures indicated by a **number** was proposed through **petition**.

TABOR (Colorado Taxpayers Bill of Rights, 1992, balanced budget amendment) **requires that a tax increase be noted in ALL CAPITAL LETTERS** and that (1) increasing tax must be approved by a vote of the people, (2) issuing debt must be approved by a vote of the people, and (3) keeping excess revenue—instead of returning it to the citizens from whom it was collected—must be approved by a vote of the people.

Letter/Number Topic/Title— % Needed Amendments in bold	Lundberg Y/N	BoCo GOP Y/N	Kim Monson Y/N	Hosts' (3 of us) Y/N	Dem Y/N
G—Property Tax Exemption for Disabled Veterans	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes
Rationale and resources are attached for this and other recommendations made by 3 hosts who did this research.					
H—Judicial Discipline	Yes	No	No	No	Yes
I—Bail Exemption for First Degree Murder	Yes	No	No	No	Yes
J—Repeal Definition of Marriage	No	No	No	No	Yes
K—Change Election Deadlines for Petitions	No	No	No	No	Yes
79—Right to Abortion	No	No	No	No	Yes
80—School Choice	Neutral	Yes	No	No	No
Prop JJ—Keep Additional Sports Betting Tax Revenue	No	No	No	No	Yes
Prop KK—EXCISE TAX ON FIREARMS AND AMMUNITION	No	No	No	No	Yes
Prop 127—Prohibit Bobcat, Lynx, and Mountain Lion Hunting	No	No	No	No	Neu- tral
Prop 128—Parole Eligibility for Crimes of Violence	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Prop 129—Establish Veterinary Professional Associates	No	No	No	No	Neu- tral

Letter/Number Topic/Title— % Needed Amendments in bold	Lundberg Y/N	BoCo GOP Y/N	Kim Monson Y/N	Hosts' (3 of us) Y/N	Dem Y/N
Prop 130—Funding for Law Enforcement	Yes	Yes	No	No	Neu- tral
Prop 131—Establish All-Candidate Primary and Ranked Choice Voting General Elections	No	No	No	No	No
LOCAL BALLOT MEASURES:					
CITY OF LONGMONT 3A OPEN SPACE TAX EXTENSION		No		No	
ST. VRAIN VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT 5C INCREASE DEBT		Yes		???	
HOMESTEAD PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT OF BOULDER COUNTY ISSUE 6D				No	
REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION DISTRICT BALLOT ISSUE 7A				No	
7C ST. VRAIN AND LEFT HAND WATER CONSERVANCY DISTRICT				No	

Resources: The Lundberg Report
Kim Monson’s 2024 Colorado Voter’s Ballot Guide
MyFaithVotes (links to WriteNow action to get out Christian vote)
MillionVoices.org
Family Research Council
The Hill: “The Ranked-Choice Voting Fad is Finally Ending”

The Washington Stand
Wallbuilders
Truth and Liberty Coalition
Turning Point USA
First Liberty
Intercessors for America

EXPLANATION OF HOST’S POSITIONS

FIRST, AS BACKGROUND, we should always be very, very careful about what we add to our state constitution. It is harder to change part of the constitution than to repeal a law, and the constitution wording absolutely must be clear so that the intent is not left up to interpretation. Proposed amendments to the state constitution are in bold print.

Per our research, we were advised and agree that we should be wary of any amendment where language plays on the emotions, where language is excessively complicated, where language is unclear, or where a measure addresses more than one topic.

Proposed Amendment G—Property Tax Exemption for Disabled Veterans: No The proposed exemption plays on the emotions of the voters appealing to our desire to honor those who served. However, this amendment would actually have a very small effect on those for which it is intended, it continues a precedent of unequal treatment for selected groups, and does not address the real problem which is that property taxes have become too high for everyone, not just this group.

Proposed Amendment H—Judicial Discipline: No The need is there, but this is inadequate to address it. The structure is not good creating a **governor-appointed** board to do more of what is already being done to evaluate judges. There seems to be no action connected to this added evaluation. This is ineffective and enlarges government. The real need is term limits.

Proposed Amendment I—Bail Exemption for First Degree Murder: No Federal law has this covered and takes precedence over state law. Per research, it creates redundancy in the constitution which, according to our sources, weakens the constitution.

Proposed Amendment J—Repeal Definition of Marriage: No God set several things in order in the beginning. Of these are gender, marriage between a man and a woman, and stewarding the creation. We do not need to redefine marriage. Create rights another way.

Proposed Amendment K—Change Election Deadlines for Petitions: No This measure decreases citizens have in the petition process and gives more time to the Secretary of State. The process is already complex and costly **for citizens**. We are a government of the people **by the people**.

Proposed Amendment 79—Right to Abortion: No This would allow abortion at any time during a pregnancy and connects tax payer funds to paying for abortions. Science continues to find more evidence showing the personhood, emotions, awareness, etc. of the preborn. We don't want to legalize murder in our state constitution!

Proposed Amendment 80—School Choice: No The language is unclear, at one point stating parents have the right to direct their child's education and at another stating the child has the choice. It invites interpretation and the ensuing lawsuits to bring the court's interpretation.

Proposition JJ—Keep Additional Sports Betting Tax Revenue: No By connecting this to water in Colorado, it plays on the emotions due to the preciousness of water in our state. It is also another way for the state to keep revenue, therefore going around the mandate to work within a balanced budget (TABOR AMENDMENT, 1992). TABOR has already been compromised with additions in 2005 creating a spending cap based on inflation and population growth. You and I have to (or should) live within our means, and that's what TABOR says the state should do also. By attaching it to water, this also addresses more than one topic.

Proposition KK—Excise Tax on Firearms and Ammunition: No Under the guise of trying to prevent shootings, this measure does nothing to actually prevent shootings. Instead it creates socio-economic hardship and inequality affecting responsible gun owners and hunters.

Proposition 127—Prohibit Bobcat, Lynx, and Mountain Lion Hunting: No Sponsored by out-of-state interests, this measure interferes with wildlife specialists who monitor and help control wildlife populations and would allow for even further encroachment of these animals in parks and on trails. If this was enacted, it would take a short time to see damage to the balance with elk, deer, and other of their prey. It would also make it a crime to discharge a weapon TOWARD one of these animals to deter its approach to domestic animals and people.

Proposition 128—Parole Eligibility for Crimes of Violence: Yes This measure says the time served by persons convicted of **VIOLENT** crimes will be increased from 75% of their sentence to 85% of their sentence before becoming eligible for parole. For example on a 20-year sentence, a person would have to serve 17 years instead of 15. This represents at least a start in moving toward the foundational principle that we are a nation of law, not a nation of lawlessness.

Proposition 129—Establish a New Veterinary Position, Veterinary Professional Associate: No We spoke to veterinarians in rural, city, and out-of-state offices. After speaking with them and learning through further research that most of the training for this position would be online, our opinion is that this has not been thought through well enough and that it puts animals at undue risk. There are concerns for liability, regulation, education, and animal health.

Proposition 130—Funding Law Enforcement: **No** Wow, this one **sounds** so good, and it definitely plays on the emotions. The fact is families of law enforcement personnel and first responders already have several avenues of help available should their loved one be killed in the line of duty. All have big payouts. In addition their children are granted college scholarships. In speaking to people involved in law enforcement, thoughts were expressed that beginning pay is already good; they expressed a need for support and leadership, not more money thrown at the problem.

Proposition 131—Establishing All-Candidate Primary and Ranked Choice Voting (RCV) General Elections: **No** Other states have tried this. Alaska is one. They currently have a measure on their ballot to repeal it. The city of Aspen tried it and has gotten rid of it. Several states such as Oklahoma, Idaho, and Montana have denied or completely banned it. People already have a strong tendency to vote for incumbents purely because of name recognition if they don't know what the candidate really stands for. With all candidates thrown into one big list, the "name recognition" issue would be perpetuated. Further, only candidates with enough \$\$ behind them to get their names out there and recognized would have a chance. How RCV works: Every candidate is thrown into one big list and voters are asked to number the candidates in order of preference. Counting the votes becomes longer and more complicated. If no candidate receives 51% of the votes as the number one choice, then the candidate who got the least #1 rankings is eliminated. All the voters who voted for that candidate will have their #2 person's vote counted instead. That's round 2. If still no candidate reaches 51%, the next lowest candidate will be eliminated, and the process will continue until someone has 51% of the votes. If a voter doesn't rank ALL the candidates, their ballot could be considered "spoiled" and thrown out. Sound complicated? Any possible problems with transferring votes multiple times? See The Hill: "The Ranked-Choice Voting Fad is Finally Ending," 4/26/24

LOCAL BALLOT MEASURES

CITY OF LONGMONT 3A OPEN SPACE TAX EXTENSION (note all caps indicates a tax increase): **No** The current open space tax does not expire until 2034. Closer to the time of the actual expiration date, we can make a better-informed decision on whether or not to extend it. This proposal is a **permanent** extension asking voters to predict the future and sign a blank check for more government land acquisition.

ST. VRAIN VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT 5C INCREASE DEBT (note, all caps): **???** The school district has successfully been paying down its current debt. Will it be able to do so with this? There are needs due to population growth and aging buildings. Is this the best way and only way to address these needs? Will the school district leadership take care of needs of buildings we already have when those needs are not listed in the plan accompanying this measure? Will school district leadership listen to the parents and grandparents of children whose families can't at this time afford private schools—who do still represent the majority, by the way—and do NOT want their children taught revisionist history, woke ideologies, and critical race theory?

HOMESTEAD PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT OF BOULDER COUNTY ISSUE 6D: **No** It's a huge increase to pay for county roads that should have been being maintained already. Balanced budget?

REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION DISTRICT BALLOT ISSUE 7A: **No** RTD is kind-of a business, kind-of a government entity? Ridership is down. Conditions on buses vary from filthy and disgusting to dangerous to okay. Shouldn't RTD finally deliver what has been promised to taxpayers and earn business?

7C ST. VRAIN AND LEFT HAND WATER CONSERVANCY DISTRICT: **No** We simply talked to a person who understands water rights and who works in the industry that is water in Colorado, and we took that person's recommendation.