

## 2024 Measures on the Ballot

Table 1 lists the measures on the 2024 statewide ballot. Of these 14 measures, 7 propose changes to the state constitution, 5 propose changes to the state statutes, and 2 are questions referred to the voters by the state legislature. The constitution and the statutes together make up state law, but the state legislature may change the statutes, with the Governor’s approval. Statutory measures can be changed in the future without asking the voters.

State law also requires voter approval for some tax changes. These questions are referred by the legislature and do not change the text of state law.

Changing the state constitution requires voter approval. Any constitutional measure adopted by the voters must go back to the voters to change it in the future, although the legislature may adopt statutes that clarify or implement these constitutional measures, as long as they do not conflict with the constitution. Additionally, adopting a constitutional amendment requires at least 55 percent of the votes cast, except that when a constitutional amendment is limited to a repeal, it requires a simple majority vote. Each analysis identifies the vote required for the measure to pass.

**Measures referred by the state legislature.** A measure placed on the ballot by the state legislature that amends the state constitution is labeled an "Amendment," followed by a letter. A measure placed on the ballot by the state legislature that amends the state statutes or that is referred as a tax question is labeled a "Proposition," followed by a double letter.

**Measures initiated by citizens.** A measure placed on the ballot through the signature collection process that amends the state constitution is labeled an "Amendment," followed by a number between 1 and 99. A measure placed on the ballot through the signature collection process that amends the state statutes is labeled a "Proposition," followed by a number between 100 and 199.

**Table 1  
Measures on the 2024 Ballot**

### Measures Amending the Constitution

Amendment G	Modify Property Tax Exemption for Veterans with Disabilities
Amendment H	Judicial Discipline Procedures and Confidentiality
Amendment I	Constitutional Bail Exception for First Degree Murder
Amendment J	Repealing the Definition of Marriage in the Constitution
Amendment K	Modify Constitutional Election Deadlines
Amendment 79	Constitutional Right to Abortion
Amendment 80	Constitutional Right to School Choice

### Questions Referred by the Legislature

Proposition JJ	Retain Additional Sports Betting Tax Revenue
Proposition KK	Firearms and Ammunition Excise Tax

### Measures Amending State Statutes

Proposition 127	Prohibit Bobcat, Lynx, and Mountain Lion Hunting
Proposition 128	Parole Eligibility for Crimes of Violence
Proposition 129	Establishing Veterinary Professional Associates
Proposition 130	Funding for Law Enforcement
Proposition 131	Establishing All-Candidate Primary and Ranked Choice Voting General Elections



## Modify Property Tax Exemption for Veterans with Disabilities

Placed on the ballot by the legislature • Passes with 55 percent of the vote

### Ballot Title

Shall there be an amendment to the Colorado constitution concerning the expansion of eligibility for the property tax exemption for veterans with a disability to include a veteran who does not have a service-connected disability rated as a one hundred percent permanent disability but does have individual unemployability status?

### What Your Vote Means

**YES** A “yes” vote on Amendment G reduces the property taxes paid by some veteran homeowners by expanding the existing homestead exemption to include veterans whose disability is rated as making them unemployable.

**NO** A “no” vote on Amendment G means that existing requirements to receive the homestead exemption remain in place, and it continues to be available to veterans whose disability is rated as 100 percent permanent and total.



## Judicial Discipline Procedures and Confidentiality

Placed on the ballot by the legislature • Passes with 55 percent of the vote

### Ballot Title

Shall there be an amendment to the Colorado constitution concerning judicial discipline, and, in connection therewith, establishing an independent judicial discipline adjudicative board, setting standards for judicial review of a discipline case, and clarifying when discipline proceedings become public?

### What Your Vote Means

**YES** A “yes” vote on Amendment H creates an independent adjudicative board made up of citizens, lawyers, and judges to conduct judicial misconduct hearings and impose disciplinary actions, and allows more information to be shared earlier with the public.

**NO** A “no” vote on Amendment H means that a select panel of judges will continue to conduct judicial misconduct hearings and recommend disciplinary actions, and cases remain confidential unless public sanctions are recommended at the end of the process.



# Firearms and Ammunition Excise Tax

Placed on the ballot by the legislature • Passes with a majority vote

### Ballot Title

SHALL STATE TAXES BE INCREASED BY \$39,000,000 ANNUALLY TO FUND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES, INCLUDING FOR MILITARY VETERANS AND AT-RISK YOUTH, SCHOOL SAFETY AND GUN VIOLENCE PREVENTION, AND SUPPORT SERVICES FOR VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND OTHER VIOLENT CRIMES BY AUTHORIZING A TAX ON GUN DEALERS, GUN MANUFACTURERS, AND AMMUNITION VENDORS AT THE RATE OF 6.5% OF THE NET TAXABLE SALES FROM THE RETAIL SALE OF ANY GUN, GUN PRECURSOR PART, OR AMMUNITION, WITH THE STATE KEEPING AND SPENDING ALL OF THE NEW TAX REVENUE AS A VOTER-APPROVED REVENUE CHANGE?

### What Your Vote Means

**YES** A “yes” vote on Proposition KK creates a new tax on firearms, firearm parts, and ammunition, and uses the revenue for crime victim services, mental health services for veterans and youth, and school safety programs.

**NO** A “no” vote on Proposition KK means the state’s taxation of firearms and ammunition will not change.



# Prohibit Bobcat, Lynx, and Mountain Lion Hunting

Placed on the ballot by citizen initiative • Passes with a majority vote

### Ballot Title

Shall there be a change to the Colorado Revised Statutes concerning a prohibition on the hunting of mountain lions, lynx, and bobcats, and, in connection therewith, prohibiting the intentional killing, wounding, pursuing, entrapping, or discharging or releasing of a deadly weapon at a mountain lion, lynx, or bobcat; creating eight exceptions to this prohibition including for the protection of human life, property, and livestock; establishing a violation of this prohibition as a class 1 misdemeanor; and increasing fines and limiting wildlife license privileges for persons convicted of this crime?

### What Your Vote Means

**YES** A “yes” vote on Proposition 127 would make it illegal to hunt bobcats, lynx, and mountain lions in Colorado.

**NO** A “no” vote on Proposition 127 would continue to allow the hunting of bobcats and mountain lions, as it is currently regulated by the state. Hunting lynx would remain illegal under state and federal law.



# Modify Property Tax Exemption for Veterans with Disabilities

Placed on the ballot by the legislature • Passes with 55 percent of the vote

## Amendment G proposes amending the Colorado Constitution to:

- reduce property taxes for some veterans of the U.S. Armed Forces with a disability.

## What Your Vote Means

**YES** A “yes” vote on Amendment G reduces the property taxes paid by some veteran homeowners by expanding the existing homestead exemption to include veterans whose disability is rated as making them unemployable.

**NO** A “no” vote on Amendment G means that existing requirements to receive the homestead exemption remain in place, and it continues to be available to veterans whose disability is rated as 100 percent permanent and total.

## Summary and Analysis of Amendment G

### What is the current homestead exemption?

The homestead exemption in the state constitution reduces property taxes owed on a qualifying homeowner’s primary residence by exempting 50 percent of the first \$200,000 of the home’s value from taxation.

Qualifying homeowners include: Coloradans aged 65 or over who have lived in their home for at least ten years; veterans with a service-connected disability rated 100 percent permanent and total by the federal government; and surviving spouses, also known as Gold Star spouses, of U.S. Armed Forces service members who died in the line of duty and of veterans whose death resulted from a service-related injury or disease.

The homestead exemption reduces property taxes collected by counties and paid to local governments. The state reimburses the local governments for all revenue lost as a result of the exemption.

### Who qualifies for the homestead exemption under the measure?

Amendment G extends the homestead exemption, currently available for veterans with a disability rated 100 percent permanent and total, to veterans who have qualified for the Total Disability Individual Unemployability (TDIU) rating as determined by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. The 100 percent permanent and total disability rating is based on physical or medical service-related injuries or illnesses and is a medical determination, unrelated to whether a person can be employed. In order to qualify for the TDIU rating, a veteran must be unable to work a steady job that supports them financially because of a service-connected disability. In most cases, a veteran must also have at least one service-connected disability rated at 60 percent or more disabling, or have two or more service-connected disabilities, with at least one rated at 40 percent or more disabling and a combined rating of 70 percent or more. The TDIU rating allows a veteran to receive federal disability benefits equal to what a veteran with a 100 percent disability rating receives.

An estimated 3,700 veterans in Colorado who are not otherwise able to claim the homestead exemption would be eligible for the exemption under this amendment in property tax year 2025.

## How does the homestead exemption reduce a homeowner's property tax bill?

Table 1 provides examples of how the homestead exemption reduces property taxes based on an average 2023 property tax rate and the current exemption level. The actual tax reductions will vary depending on the statewide residential assessment rate, the home value, and local property tax rates set by local governments.

In 2023, about 285,000 seniors claimed homestead exemptions, with an average tax reduction of \$540, and about 12,000 veterans and Gold Star spouses claimed homestead exemptions, with an average tax reduction of \$590.

**Table 1**  
**Examples of Homeowner Savings from the Homestead Exemption**

Home Value	Average Taxes without Homestead Exemption	Average Taxes with Homestead Exemption	Average Tax Reduction
\$150,000	\$890	\$445	\$445
\$250,000	\$1,480	\$890	\$590
\$500,000	\$2,950	\$2,360	\$590
\$1,000,000	\$5,900	\$5,310	\$590

For information on those issue committees that support or oppose the measures on the ballot at the November 5, 2024, election, go to the Colorado Secretary of State's elections center web site hyperlink for ballot and initiative information:

<https://coloradosos.gov/pubs/elections/Initiatives/InitiativesHome.html>

### Argument For Amendment G

- 1) Veterans who are unable to hold a steady job need property tax relief as much or more than other veterans who currently qualify for the homestead exemption and are still able to work. Including veterans with a TDIU rating in the homestead exemption helps ensure that those in need receive tax relief.

### Argument Against Amendment G

- 1) The TDIU rating is not necessarily permanent. Expanding this exemption will make property taxes more complicated, harder to administer fairly, and reliant on determinations by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs that are subject to change.

### Fiscal Impact of Amendment G

**State and local spending.** Amendment G will increase state spending by \$1.8 million in state budget year 2025-26, and similar amounts in future years, to reimburse local governments for lost property tax collections under the measure. With this state reimbursement, money available for local spending will be unchanged.

**Fiscal Impact of Amendment 79**

The measure will have no fiscal impact to state and local governments, as it places current state law and practices around abortion services into the Colorado Constitution. To the extent that additional abortion-related programs are created from allowing the use of public funds for abortion services, state or local government spending will increase. At this time, no change in spending is estimated, as it will depend on future decisions by the state legislature and local governments.



# Constitutional Right to School Choice

Placed on the ballot by citizen initiative • Passes with 55 percent of the vote

## Amendment 80 proposes amending the Colorado Constitution to:

- create the right to school choice for children in kindergarten through twelfth grade (K-12) and create the right for parents to direct the education of their children; and
- define school choice to include public neighborhood and charter schools, private schools, home schools, open enrollment options, and future innovations in education.

## What Your Vote Means

**YES** A “yes” vote on Amendment 80 creates a constitutionally protected right to school choice for K-12 children and their parents, and specifies that school choice includes public, private, homeschool, and any future innovations in education.

**NO** A “no” vote on Amendment 80 maintains the current system of school choice in state law.

## Summary and Analysis of Amendment 80

### Does Colorado law allow school choice?

Under Colorado law, students may attend any public school for free, even if they do not live in the school district. Public schools include neighborhood schools, charter schools, and some online schools. Each school district has policies allowing parents to enroll students in the public school of their choice. State law also permits parents to choose non-public education options, such as private schools or home schools. Public schools receive public funding from local and state governments. Private schools and home schools do not receive any public funding.

### What does this measure do?

Amendment 80 creates a constitutional right to school choice and equal opportunity for K-12 children. The measure also creates the right for parents to direct the education of their children. Neighborhood and charter schools, private schools, home schools, open enrollment options, and future innovations in education are included in the new constitutional definition of school choice.

### Will the measure change school choice laws in Colorado?

The measure results in no immediate change to state law, or the enrollment policies of local school districts. Parents may continue to choose a variety of K-12 school options for their children. The state legislature currently makes laws to govern public education and how schools are funded. By creating a new constitutional right to school choice for children and parents, Amendment 80 may affect how the legislature makes policies about school choice and lead to changes to state law and local school district policy via court interpretation or direction.



# Firearms and Ammunition Excise Tax

Table 4 shows the revenue expected from the new tax on firearms and ammunition in Proposition KK for FY 2025-26, the first full fiscal year for which the tax increase would be in place, and an estimate of state fiscal year spending without the tax increase.

**Table 4**  
**Estimated State Fiscal Year Spending and the Proposed Tax Revenue Increase**  
**from the New Tax on Firearms and Ammunition**

	<b>FY 2025-26 Estimate</b>
Fiscal Year Spending Without the Tax Increase	\$22.76 billion
Revenue Increase from the New State Tax on Firearms Sellers	\$39.0 million



**Fiscal Impact of Proposition 127**

**State revenue.** The measure is anticipated to decrease state revenue to CPW in the Department of Natural Resources by about \$410,000 through June 2025, and by about \$450,000 per year thereafter. This revenue reduction is the result of the elimination of all mountain lion hunting license sales, and some reduction of furbearer hunting license sales. To the extent that prohibited killing occurs, the state may receive additional revenue from fines or civil penalties.

**State spending.** The measure will decrease state expenditures in CPW by approximately \$39,000 in FY 2024-25, and by \$77,500 in FY 2025-26 and in future years. This is the result of a decrease in game damage claims paid to livestock owners when livestock is damaged by a mountain lion. In addition, state expenditures will increase by approximately \$57,000 in FY 2024-25 and \$115,218 in FY 2025-26 in the Department of Law to provide general counsel to CPW. This is required to create new rules and regulations needed to conform with the requirements of this measure. In total, the measure increases state expenditures in CPW by about \$22,000 in FY 2024-25 and about \$44,000 in FY 2025-26.



## Amendment G

### Modify Property Tax Exemption for Veterans with Disabilities

The ballot title below is a summary drafted by the professional legal staff for the general assembly for ballot purposes only. The ballot title will not appear in the Colorado constitution. The text of the measure that will appear in the Colorado constitution below was referred to the voters because it passed by a two-thirds majority vote of the state senate and the state house of representatives.

#### Ballot Title:

Shall there be an amendment to the Colorado constitution concerning the expansion of eligibility for the property tax exemption for veterans with a disability to include a veteran who does not have a service-connected disability rated as a one hundred percent permanent disability but does have individual unemployability status?

#### Text of Measure:

*Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the Seventy-fourth General Assembly of the State of Colorado, the Senate concurring herein:*

**SECTION 1.** At the election held on November 5, 2024, the secretary of state shall submit to the registered electors of the state the ballot title set forth in section 2 for the following amendment to the state constitution:

In the constitution of the state of Colorado, section 3.5 of article X, **amend** (1)(c) and (1.5) as follows:

**Section 3.5. Homestead exemption for qualifying senior citizens, veterans with a disability, and surviving spouses receiving dependency indemnity compensation - definition.** (1) For property tax years commencing on or after January 1, 2002, fifty percent of the first two hundred thousand dollars of actual value of residential real property, as defined by law, that, as of the assessment date, is owner-occupied and is used as the primary residence of the owner-occupier shall be exempt from property taxation if:

(c) For property tax years commencing on or after January 1, 2007, only, the owner-occupier, as of the assessment date, is a ~~disabled~~ veteran WITH A DISABILITY.

(1.5) For purposes of this section, "~~disabled veteran~~" "VETERAN WITH A DISABILITY" means an individual who has served on active duty in the United States armed forces, including a member of the Colorado national guard who has been ordered into the active military service of the United States, has been separated therefrom under honorable conditions, and EITHER has established a service-connected disability that has been rated by the ~~federal~~ UNITED STATES department of veterans affairs as one hundred percent permanent disability through disability retirement benefits or a pension pursuant to a law or regulation administered by the department, the department of homeland security, or the department of the army, navy, or air force OR HAS INDIVIDUAL UNEMPLOYABILITY STATUS AS DETERMINED BY THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.

**SECTION 2.** Each elector voting at the election may cast a vote either "Yes/For" or "No/Against" on the following ballot title: "Shall there be an amendment to the Colorado constitution concerning the expansion of eligibility for the property tax exemption for veterans with a disability to include a veteran who does not have a service-connected disability rated as a one hundred percent permanent disability but does have individual unemployability status?"

**SECTION 3.** Except as otherwise provided in section 1-40-123, Colorado Revised Statutes, if at least fifty-five percent of the electors voting on the ballot title vote "Yes/For", then the amendment will become part of the state constitution.

## Amendment H

### Judicial Discipline Procedures and Confidentiality

The ballot title below is a summary drafted by the professional legal staff for the general assembly for ballot purposes only. The ballot title will not appear in the Colorado constitution. The text of the measure that will appear in the Colorado constitution below was referred to the voters because it passed by a two-thirds majority vote of the state senate and the state house of representatives.



## Titles and Text

(d) In 2022, the United States supreme court reversed the long-standing decision of *Roe v. Wade*, 410 U.S. 113 (1973), that had provided federal constitutional protection for abortion rights, leaving decisions about the right to abortion up to policy makers at the state level;

(e) In 2024, Colorado voters recognize Amendment 3 has had discriminatory and harmful effects on state and local public employees and those enrolled in state sponsored insurance programs and their families;

(f) Voter reversal of this policy is consistent with U.S. supreme court rulings on recognizing equal access to rights, such as the right to vote. *Harper v. Virginia Board of Elections*, 383 U.S. 663 (1966). Therefore, it is timely and appropriate for voters to enact this amendment now.

**Section 2.** In the constitution of the state of Colorado, **add** section 32 to Article II as follows:

### **Section 32. ABORTION**

THE RIGHT TO ABORTION IS HEREBY RECOGNIZED. GOVERNMENT SHALL NOT DENY, IMPEDE, OR DISCRIMINATE AGAINST THE EXERCISE OF THAT RIGHT, INCLUDING PROHIBITING HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR ABORTION.

**Section 3.** In the constitution of the state of Colorado, **repeal** section 50 of article V.

## **Amendment 80 Constitutional Right to School Choice**

The ballot title below is a summary drafted by the professional staff of the offices of the secretary of state, the attorney general, and the legal staff for the general assembly for ballot purposes only. The ballot title will not appear in the Colorado constitution. The text of the measure that will appear in the Colorado constitution below was drafted by the proponents of the initiative. The initiated measure is included on the ballot as a proposed change to current law because the proponents gathered the required amount of petition signatures.

### **Ballot Title:**

Shall there be an amendment to the Colorado constitution establishing the right to school choice for children in kindergarten through 12th grade, and, in connection therewith, declaring that school choice includes neighborhood, charter, and private schools; home schooling; open enrollment options; and future innovations in education?

### **Text of Measure:**

*Be it Enacted by the People of the State of Colorado:*

**SECTION 1.** In the constitution of the state of Colorado, **add** section, 18 to article IX as follows:

**Section 18. Education - School Choice** (1) PURPOSE AND FINDINGS. THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF COLORADO HEREBY FIND AND DECLARE THAT ALL CHILDREN HAVE THE RIGHT TO EQUAL OPPORTUNITY TO ACCESS A QUALITY EDUCATION; THAT PARENTS HAVE THE RIGHT TO DIRECT THE EDUCATION OF THEIR CHILDREN; AND THAT SCHOOL CHOICE INCLUDES NEIGHBORHOOD, CHARTER, PRIVATE, AND HOME SCHOOLS, OPEN ENROLLMENT OPTIONS, AND FUTURE INNOVATIONS IN EDUCATION.

(2) EACH K-12 CHILD HAS THE RIGHT TO SCHOOL CHOICE.

## **Proposition JJ Retain Additional Sports Betting Tax Revenue**

### **Question:**

Without raising taxes, may the state keep and spend all sports betting tax revenue above voter-approved limits to fund water conservation and protection projects instead of refunding revenue to casinos?

The General Assembly referred this question to the voters in House Bill 24-1436, which is available online under Referring Legislation here: <https://leg.colorado.gov/bluebook>



## Titles and Text

(f) Article 315 of this title 12 concerning veterinarians, and veterinary technicians, AND VETERINARY PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATES.

**SECTION 18.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-72-204, **amend** (3)(a)(XIV) as follows:

**24-72-204. Allowance or denial of inspection - grounds - procedure - appeal - definitions - repeal.** (3) (a) The custodian shall deny the right of inspection of the following records, unless otherwise provided by law; except that the custodian shall make any of the following records, other than letters of reference concerning employment, licensing, or issuance of permits, available to the person in interest in accordance with this subsection (3):

(XIV) Veterinary medical data, information, and records on individual animals that are owned by private individuals or business entities, but are in the custody of a veterinary medical practice or hospital, including the veterinary teaching hospital at Colorado state university, that provides veterinary medical care and treatment to animals. A veterinary-patient-client privilege exists with respect to such data, information, and records only when a person in interest and a veterinarian OR VETERINARY PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATE enter into a mutual agreement to provide medical treatment for an individual animal and such person in interest maintains an ownership interest in such animal undergoing treatment. For purposes of this subsection (3)(a)(XIV), "person in interest" means the owner of an animal undergoing veterinary medical treatment or such owner's designated representative. Nothing in this subsection (3) (a)(XIV) shall prevent the state agricultural commission, the state agricultural commissioner, or the state board of veterinary medicine from exercising their investigatory and enforcement powers and duties granted pursuant to section 35-1-106 (1)(h), article 50 of title 35, and section 12-315-106 (5)(e), respectively. The veterinary-patient-client privilege described in this subsection (3)(a)(XIV), pursuant to section 12-315-120 (5), may not be asserted for the purpose of excluding or refusing evidence or testimony in a prosecution for an act of animal cruelty under section 18-9-202 or for an act of animal fighting under section 18-9-204.

**SECTION 19. Effective date.** This act takes effect on January 1, 2026.

### Proposition 130 Funding for Law Enforcement

The ballot title below is a summary drafted by the professional staff of the offices of the secretary of state, the attorney general, and the legal staff for the general assembly for ballot purposes only. The ballot title will not appear in the Colorado Revised Statutes. The text of the measure that will appear in the Colorado Revised Statutes below was drafted by the proponents of the initiative. The initiated measure is included on the ballot as a proposed change to current law because the proponents gathered the required amount of petition signatures.

#### Ballot Title:

Shall there be a change to the Colorado Revised Statutes concerning state funding for peace officer training and support, and, in connection therewith, directing the legislature to appropriate 350 million dollars to the peace officer training and support fund for municipal and county law enforcement agencies to hire and retain peace officers; allowing the fund to be used for pay, bonuses, initial and continuing education and training, and a death benefit for a peace officer, police, fire and first responder killed in the line of duty; and requiring the funding to supplement existing appropriations?

#### Text of Measure:

*Be it Enacted by the People of the State of Colorado:*

**SECTION 1. Statement of purpose.** The people of the State of Colorado find and declare:

- (1) This measure is enacted in response to a significant increase in crime, and especially violent crime, in the state of Colorado.
- (2) The people of Colorado find, determine, and declare that the criminal laws of the state of Colorado must be more rigorously and comprehensively enforced.
- (3) The people further find, determine, and declare that Colorado will be a safer place if Colorado recruits, trains, retains, and rewards the best and brightest law enforcement officials in Colorado to prevent and enforce crimes against the people of the state of Colorado.