

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.



Judicial Discipline Procedures and Confidentiality

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

Amendment H proposes amending the Colorado Constitution to:

- create an independent adjudicative board to preside over ethical misconduct hearings involving judges; and
- allow for increased public access to judicial discipline proceedings and records.

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.

Summary and Analysis of Amendment H

What is judicial misconduct and discipline?

Colorado judges must follow a code of conduct. Judicial misconduct occurs when a judge acts unethically or in ways that diminish public confidence in the integrity of the courts. Misconduct complaints may include improper demeanor, alcohol and drug use, dishonesty, retaliation, conflicts of interest, inappropriate communication, and mistreatment or harassment of staff. Any person may file a complaint, and judges found to have violated their ethical duties may be disciplined publicly or privately, depending upon the nature of the misconduct.

How are judicial discipline cases currently handled?

Pursuant to the Colorado Constitution, the Commission on Judicial Discipline (commission), an independent judicial agency charged with investigating allegations of misconduct against judges, screens and investigates complaints. Members of the commission are appointed by the Colorado Supreme Court and the Governor. The screening process eliminates complaints that are outside the commission’s jurisdiction, such as those that ask to review a judge’s rulings or order new trials. The commission further investigates complaints when there is sufficient evidence of misconduct.

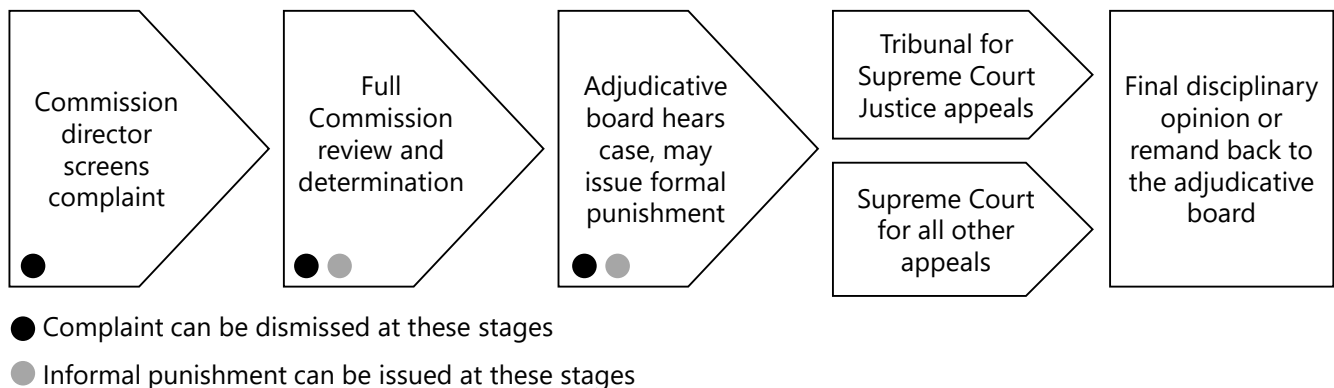
Thereafter, the commission can do one of the following: 1) dismiss the complaint; 2) impose private discipline; 3) hold an informal hearing; or 4) initiate formal hearings. Formal hearings are conducted by a panel of judges selected by the Colorado Supreme Court. When the hearing is over, the commission reviews the panel's findings and forwards disciplinary recommendations to the Colorado Supreme Court for a final determination. Misconduct cases are made public upon the commission filing its recommendations for public discipline. Complaints that result in informal punishments are not disclosed to the general public.

What changes does Amendment H make to the judicial discipline process?

Amendment H creates the Independent Judicial Discipline Adjudicative Board (adjudicative board), separate from the Colorado Supreme Court and commission, to preside over judicial discipline hearings and impose sanctions. The adjudicative board consists of four district court judges, four attorneys, and four citizens appointed by the Colorado Supreme Court and the Governor. The new board's decisions are considered final unless there is proof of a legal or factual error upon appeal to the Colorado Supreme Court. If an appeal involves a Colorado Supreme Court justice, it is heard by a tribunal made up of randomly selected appellate and district court judges. Formal disciplinary charges against judges are also made public at the beginning of the hearing.

Figure 1 below summarizes the new discipline process.

Figure 1
Judicial Discipline Flow Chart





Judicial Discipline Procedures and Confidentiality

Table 1 compares current practices with those proposed in Amendment H.

**Table 1
Current Judicial Discipline Proceedings Compared to Amendment H**

Current Judicial Discipline	Judicial Discipline Under Amendment H
Formal Disciplinary Hearings	
Judges selected by the Colorado Supreme Court hear cases and make disciplinary recommendations to the commission, who in turn makes recommendations to the Colorado Supreme Court for a final discipline ruling.	The independent adjudicative board, made up of an equal number of attorneys, judges, and citizens, conducts judicial discipline hearings and makes the final discipline ruling.
Independent Tribunals	
In cases involving a Colorado Supreme Court justice, their family members, or staff, the entire Colorado Supreme Court must disqualify themselves and be replaced with a tribunal composed of seven randomly selected Colorado Court of Appeals judges. The tribunal hears the case and is the final decision-maker on sanctions.	The tribunal is composed of randomly selected District and Appeal Court judges representing different districts and only hears cases that involve Colorado Supreme Court justices, their staff or family members, or any other case where two justices have recused themselves. A tribunal will also hear appeals from the independent adjudicative board.
Colorado Supreme Court Role	
The Colorado Supreme Court is the final arbiter of cases after receiving disciplinary recommendations and makes rules about the process.	Colorado Supreme Court role is limited to appointments and appeals. Rules for the process are established by an independent committee.
Public Access to Information	
Formal judicial disciplinary hearings are held privately until the commission files a formal recommendation for public sanctions with the Colorado Supreme Court.	The proceedings against a judge and the related record become public when formal charges are filed.
Appointments	
Commission members are appointed by the Colorado Supreme Court and the Governor with Senate confirmation. Colorado Supreme Court appoints special master judges to hear discipline cases. The State Court Administrator randomly selects judges for the tribunal in cases where the Colorado Supreme Court is disqualified.	Commission members and the new adjudicative board are appointed by the Colorado Supreme Court and the Governor with Senate confirmation. The State Court Administrator randomly selects Court of Appeals and District Court judges for the tribunal to hear Colorado Supreme Court related appeals.

Why is Amendment H on the ballot?

After extensive hearings involving experts, stakeholders, and the public, the Colorado legislature passed three bipartisan bills in 2023 that change judicial discipline procedures and workplace culture, including Amendment H. Because this amendment would change Colorado’s constitutional provisions on judicial discipline, it requires voter approval to become law. The other two bills address confidentiality, complaint filing and reporting, and data collection, as well as creating a new office to assist judicial employees with workplace and other complaints.

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Argument For Amendment H

- 1) Colorado judges should not have direct influence and oversight over the discipline of their colleagues. Amendment H is an important change that aims to enhance the transparency, integrity, and independence of the judicial discipline process. Historically, judicial discipline has largely been self-regulated, facing challenges in oversight and self-protection. This amendment serves to enhance public confidence and trust in the courts. Finally, this measure is a compromise recommended by nearly all members of the General Assembly and formally by the Judicial Branch.

Argument Against Amendment H

- 1) The current system works. Judges understand how to review cases, hold hearings, and make impartial and hard decisions. As a result, they have the experience to hear judicial discipline cases. The amendment transfers this authority to attorneys and citizens, who cannot fully understand judicial ethics and the unique challenges of being a judge. The judiciary's existing system of checks and balances, such as nomination and retention elections, ensures only the best become and remain judges.

Fiscal Impact of Amendment H

State spending. The measure will increase state costs by about \$50,000 per year. This funding provides compensation and training to members of the newly created judicial discipline board and rulemaking committee.

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

	FY 2025-26 Estimate
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

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?

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 23 of article VI, **amend** (3)(a), (3)(e), (3)(f), (3)(g), and (3)(h); and **add** (3)(c.5) and (3)(k) as follows:

Section 23. Retirement and removal of justices and judges. (3) (a) There shall be a commission on judicial discipline. It shall consist of: Two judges of district courts and two judges of county courts, each selected by the supreme court, AS PROVIDED BY LAW; two citizens admitted to practice law in the courts of this state, neither of whom shall be a justice or judge, who shall have practiced in this state for at least ten years and who shall be appointed by the governor, with the consent of the senate; and four citizens, none of whom shall be a justice or judge, active or retired, nor admitted to practice law in the courts of this state, who shall be appointed by the governor, with the consent of the senate. AN APPOINTING AUTHORITY SHALL NOT APPOINT A MEMBER OF THE INDEPENDENT JUDICIAL DISCIPLINE ADJUDICATIVE BOARD ESTABLISHED IN SUBSECTION (3)(c.5) OF THIS SECTION TO THE COMMISSION.

(c.5) (I) THERE IS CREATED THE INDEPENDENT JUDICIAL DISCIPLINE ADJUDICATIVE BOARD AS AN INDEPENDENT AGENCY WITHIN THE JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT. THE ADJUDICATIVE BOARD SHALL CONDUCT FORMAL JUDICIAL DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS. THE ADJUDICATIVE BOARD ALSO SHALL HEAR APPEALS OF THE COMMISSION'S ORDERS OF INFORMAL REMEDIAL ACTION. APPEALS TO THE ADJUDICATIVE BOARD ARE CONFIDENTIAL. THE ADJUDICATIVE BOARD CONSISTS OF FOUR DISTRICT COURT JUDGES WITHOUT ANY JUDICIAL OR ATTORNEY DISCIPLINARY HISTORY, APPOINTED BY THE SUPREME COURT; FOUR ATTORNEYS WITHOUT ANY JUDICIAL OR ATTORNEY DISCIPLINARY HISTORY WHO ARE LICENSED TO PRACTICE LAW IN COLORADO AND WHO RESIDE IN COLORADO, APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR AND CONFIRMED BY THE SENATE; AND FOUR CITIZENS WHO ARE NOT JUDGES OR ATTORNEYS LICENSED TO PRACTICE LAW IN COLORADO, APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR AND CONFIRMED BY THE SENATE. AN APPOINTING AUTHORITY SHALL NOT APPOINT A MEMBER OF THE COMMISSION TO THE ADJUDICATIVE BOARD. FOR THE PURPOSE OF STAGGERING TERMS, WHEN MAKING THE INITIAL APPOINTMENTS TO THE ADJUDICATIVE BOARD, THE APPOINTING AUTHORITY SHALL DESIGNATE TWO MEMBERS FROM EACH CATEGORY TO A FIVE-YEAR TERM AND TWO MEMBERS FROM EACH CATEGORY TO A THREE-YEAR TERM. ALL SUBSEQUENT APPOINTMENTS ARE FOR A TERM OF FIVE YEARS; EXCEPT THAT IN THE EVENT OF A VACANCY ON THE ADJUDICATIVE BOARD, THE ORIGINAL APPOINTING AUTHORITY SHALL APPOINT, IN THE SAME MANNER AS AN ORIGINAL APPOINTMENT, A REPLACEMENT TO SERVE THE REMAINDER OF THE TERM.

(II) UPON ORDER OF A FORMAL HEARING PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (3)(e) OF THIS SECTION, A PANEL OF THE ADJUDICATIVE BOARD SHALL CONVENE TO CONDUCT THE HEARING. A PANEL CONSISTS OF ONE JUDGE, ONE ATTORNEY LICENSED TO PRACTICE LAW IN COLORADO, AND ONE CITIZEN. THE STATE COURT ADMINISTRATOR, OR THE ADMINISTRATOR'S DESIGNEE, SHALL RANDOMLY SELECT THE PANEL FROM AMONG THE ADJUDICATIVE BOARD'S MEMBERSHIP. THE RANDOM SELECTION OF A PANEL IS A PURELY ADMINISTRATIVE FUNCTION.

(e) (I) The commission may, after such investigation as it deems necessary, DISMISS A COMPLAINT, order informal remedial action, OR order a formal hearing to be held before it a PANEL OF THE ADJUDICATIVE BOARD concerning the removal, retirement, suspension, censure, reprimand, or other discipline of a justice or a judge. ~~or request the supreme court to appoint three special masters, who shall be justices or judges of courts of record, to hear and take evidence in any such matter and to report thereon to the commission.~~ THE RESPONDENT JUSTICE OR JUDGE MAY APPEAL THE COMMISSION'S ORDER FOR INFORMAL REMEDIAL ACTION TO A PANEL OF THE ADJUDICATIVE BOARD. THE ADJUDICATIVE PANEL SHALL REVIEW THE COMMISSION'S INFORMAL REMEDIAL ACTION ORDER FOR ABUSE OF DISCRETION. AN APPEAL OF AN INFORMAL REMEDIAL ACTION ORDER IS CONFIDENTIAL CONSISTENT WITH SUBSECTION (3)(g) OF THIS SECTION.

(II) After a formal hearing, ~~or after considering the record and report of the masters, if the commission finds good cause therefor, it~~ THE ADJUDICATIVE PANEL may DISMISS THE CHARGES BEFORE IT; take informal remedial action; or ~~it may recommend to the supreme court~~ ORDER the removal, retirement, suspension, censure, reprimand, or OTHER discipline,



as the case may be, of the justice or judge. The ~~commission~~ ADJUDICATIVE PANEL may also ~~recommend~~ ORDER that the costs of its THE investigation and hearing be assessed against such justice or judge. THE JUSTICE OR JUDGE MAY APPEAL AN ADJUDICATIVE PANEL'S DISCIPLINARY ORDER, AND THE COMMISSION MAY APPEAL AN ADJUDICATIVE PANEL'S DISMISSAL OR DISCIPLINARY ORDER, TO THE SUPREME COURT OR, WHEN THE CIRCUMSTANCES DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (3)(f)(II) OF THIS SECTION ARE PRESENT, TO THE TRIBUNAL DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (3)(f)(II) OF THIS SECTION.

~~(f) (I) Following receipt of a recommendation from the commission, the supreme court shall review the record of the proceedings on the law and facts and in its discretion may permit the introduction of additional evidence and shall order~~ ON APPEAL OF AN ADJUDICATIVE PANEL'S ORDER FOR removal, retirement, suspension, censure, reprimand, or OTHER discipline, ~~as it finds just and proper, or wholly reject the recommendation~~ OR A PANEL'S DISMISSAL OF CHARGES, THE SUPREME COURT, OR THE TRIBUNAL DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (3)(f)(II) OF THIS SECTION IF THE TRIBUNAL IS HEARING THE APPEAL, SHALL REVIEW THE RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS ON THE LAW AND FACTS. WHEN REVIEWING THE ADJUDICATIVE PANEL'S DECISION, THE SUPREME COURT SHALL REVIEW MATTERS OF LAW DE NOVO, REVIEW FACTUAL MATTERS TO DETERMINE WHETHER THE ADJUDICATIVE PANEL'S DETERMINATION IS CLEARLY ERRONEOUS, AND REVIEW ANY SANCTIONS IMPOSED BY THE ADJUDICATIVE PANEL FOR ABUSE OF DISCRETION. ~~Upon an order for retirement, the justice or judge shall thereby be retired with the same rights and privileges as if he retired pursuant to statute. Upon an order for removal, the justice or judge shall thereby be removed from office, and his salary shall cease from the date of such order. On the entry of an order for retirement or for removal of a judge, his office shall be deemed vacant.~~

(II) IN PROCEEDINGS IN WHICH THE CIRCUMSTANCES DESCRIBED IN THIS SUBSECTION (3)(f)(II) ARE PRESENT, A TRIBUNAL COMPRISED OF SEVEN JUDGES OF THE COURT OF APPEALS AND DISTRICT COURT SHALL REVIEW THE DECISION OF THE ADJUDICATIVE PANEL OR HEAR ANY OTHER APPEAL IN THE SAME MANNER AND USE THE SAME STANDARDS OF REVIEW AS THE SUPREME COURT WHEN IT REVIEWS DECISIONS AND HEARS APPEALS AS DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (3)(f)(I) OF THIS SECTION. THE STATE COURT ADMINISTRATOR, OR THE ADMINISTRATOR'S DESIGNEE, SHALL RANDOMLY SELECT MEMBERS OF THE TRIBUNAL FROM AMONG ALL DISTRICT JUDGES AND COURT OF APPEALS JUDGES WHO DO NOT HAVE A CURRENT DISCIPLINARY INVESTIGATION OR PROCEEDING PENDING BEFORE THE COMMISSION OR ADJUDICATIVE BOARD; HAVE NOT RECEIVED A DISCIPLINARY SANCTION FROM THE COMMISSION, ADJUDICATIVE BOARD, OR SUPREME COURT; AND ARE NOT OTHERWISE REQUIRED BY LAW, COURT RULE, OR JUDICIAL CANON TO RECUSE THEMSELVES FROM THE TRIBUNAL. A TRIBUNAL MUST NOT INCLUDE MORE THAN ONE MEMBER WHO IS A COURT OF APPEALS JUDGE AND NOT MORE THAN ONE DISTRICT JUDGE FROM ANY ONE JUDICIAL DISTRICT. THE RANDOM SELECTION OF TRIBUNAL MEMBERS IS A PURELY ADMINISTRATIVE FUNCTION. THE TRIBUNAL SHALL REVIEW DECISIONS AND HEAR ANY OTHER APPEALS IN THE FOLLOWING CIRCUMSTANCES:

(A) WHEN THE PROCEEDINGS INVOLVE A COMPLAINT AGAINST A COLORADO SUPREME COURT JUSTICE;

(B) WHEN A COLORADO SUPREME COURT JUSTICE IS A COMPLAINANT OR A MATERIAL WITNESS IN THE PROCEEDING;

(C) WHEN A STAFF MEMBER TO A COLORADO SUPREME COURT JUSTICE IS A COMPLAINANT OR MATERIAL WITNESS IN THE PROCEEDING;

(D) WHEN A FAMILY MEMBER OF A COLORADO SUPREME COURT JUSTICE IS A COMPLAINANT OR MATERIAL WITNESS IN THE PROCEEDING; OR

(E) WHEN ANY OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES EXIST DUE TO WHICH MORE THAN TWO COLORADO SUPREME COURT JUSTICES HAVE RECUSED THEMSELVES FROM THE PROCEEDING.

(III) UPON A DETERMINATION THAT A SANCTION IMPOSED BY THE ADJUDICATIVE PANEL IS AN ABUSE OF DISCRETION, THE SUPREME COURT OR, IF APPLICABLE, THE TRIBUNAL, SHALL REMAND THE PROCEEDINGS TO THE PANEL THAT IMPOSED THE SANCTION WITH DIRECTIONS THE COURT OR TRIBUNAL DEEMS NECESSARY.

(IV) UPON AN ORDER FOR RETIREMENT, THE JUSTICE OR JUDGE IS RETIRED WITH THE SAME RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES AS IF THE JUSTICE OR JUDGE RETIRED PURSUANT TO STATUTE. UPON AN ORDER FOR REMOVAL, THE JUSTICE OR JUDGE IS REMOVED FROM OFFICE AND THE JUSTICE'S OR JUDGE'S SALARY CEASES FROM THE DATE OF THE ORDER. ON THE ENTRY OF AN ORDER FOR RETIREMENT OR FOR REMOVAL OF A JUSTICE OR JUDGE, THE JUSTICE'S OR JUDGE'S OFFICE IS DEEMED VACANT.

~~(g) (I) Prior to the filing of a recommendation to the supreme court by the commission~~ COMMENCEMENT OF FORMAL DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS against any justice or judge, all papers filed with and proceedings before the commission on judicial discipline or masters appointed by the supreme court, pursuant to this subsection (3), shall be ARE confidential, and the filing of papers with and the giving of testimony before the commission or the masters shall be privileged; but no other publication of such papers or proceedings shall be privileged in any action for defamation; except that the record filed by the commission in the supreme court continues privileged IS CONFIDENTIAL. A PERSON IS ABSOLUTELY



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IMMUNE FROM ANY ACTION FOR DEFAMATION BASED ON PAPERS FILED WITH OR TESTIMONY BEFORE THE COMMISSION, THE ADJUDICATIVE BOARD, THE SUPREME COURT, OR THE TRIBUNAL, BUT NO OTHER PUBLICATION OF THE PAPERS OR PROCEEDINGS HAS ABSOLUTE IMMUNITY IN ANY ACTION FOR DEFAMATION and a writing which THAT was privileged prior to its filing with the commission or the masters does not lose such privilege by such filing.

(II) NOTWITHSTANDING THE CONFIDENTIALITY REQUIREMENT DESCRIBED IN THIS SUBSECTION (3)(g), THE COMMISSION MAY:

(A) RELEASE INFORMATION ABOUT THE STATUS OF AN EVALUATION, INVESTIGATION, OR PROCEEDING TO THE VICTIM OF MISCONDUCT OR THE COMPLAINANT;

(B) RELEASE INFORMATION ABOUT A COMPLAINT THAT RESULTED IN INFORMAL REMEDIAL ACTION OR PUBLIC DISCIPLINE OF A JUDGE OR JUSTICE TO THE STATE COURT ADMINISTRATOR AS NECESSARY FOR THE SELECTION OF A TRIBUNAL PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (3)(f)(II) OF THIS SECTION; ANY RELEVANT COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL PERFORMANCE OR JUDICIAL NOMINATING COMMISSION, THE OFFICE OF ATTORNEY REGULATION COUNSEL, AND THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDING DISCIPLINARY JUDGE, OR SUCCESSORS TO EACH COMMISSION OR OFFICE; THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR, FOR THE PURPOSE OF JUDICIAL APPOINTMENTS; THE JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT, FOR THE PURPOSE OF REVIEWING APPLICANTS FOR THE SENIOR JUDGE PROGRAM AND APPOINTMENTS TO THE ADJUDICATIVE BOARD PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (3)(c.5)(I) OF THIS SECTION; AND OTHER LIMITED RECIPIENTS CONSISTENT WITH THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION ALLOWED BY RULE; AND

(C) MAKE PUBLICLY AVAILABLE AGGREGATE INFORMATION ABOUT TRENDS OR PATTERNS IN COMPLAINTS MADE TO THE COMMISSION, BUT THE COMMISSION SHALL NOT MAKE PUBLIC ANY INFORMATION THAT IDENTIFIES ANY SPECIFIC PERSON OR COMPLAINT.

(III) A RECIPIENT OF CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (3)(g)(II)(B) OF THIS SECTION SHALL PRESERVE THE CONFIDENTIALITY OF THE INFORMATION SUBJECT TO ANY SANCTIONS FOR VIOLATION OF CONFIDENTIALITY AS MAY BE PROVIDED BY LAW.

(IV) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY MAY PROVIDE BY LAW FOR CONFIDENTIAL REPORTING AND COMPLAINANT RIGHTS CONSISTENT WITH SUBSECTION (3)(g)(II) OF THIS SECTION.

~~(h) The supreme court shall by rule provide for procedures before the commission on judicial discipline, the masters, and the supreme court. The rules shall also provide the standards and degree of proof to be applied by the commission in its proceedings. A justice or judge who is a member of the commission COMMISSION, ADJUDICATIVE BOARD, TRIBUNAL, or supreme court shall not participate in any proceedings involving his THE JUSTICE'S OR JUDGE'S OWN removal or retirement.~~

(k) (I) THERE IS CREATED A RULE-MAKING COMMITTEE TO ADOPT RULES FOR THE JUDICIAL DISCIPLINE PROCESS. THE RULE-MAKING COMMITTEE CONSISTS OF FOUR MEMBERS APPOINTED BY THE SUPREME COURT; FOUR MEMBERS APPOINTED BY THE ADJUDICATIVE BOARD; FOUR MEMBERS APPOINTED BY THE COMMISSION; AND ONE VICTIM'S ADVOCATE, AS DEFINED IN LAW, APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR. MEMBERS SERVE AT THE PLEASURE OF THEIR APPOINTING AUTHORITY. THE RULE-MAKING COMMITTEE SHALL ELECT A CHAIR WHO IS A MEMBER OF THE COMMITTEE. THE RULES MUST INCLUDE THE STANDARDS AND DEGREE OF PROOF TO BE APPLIED IN JUDICIAL DISCIPLINE PROCEEDINGS; CONFIDENTIAL REPORTING PROCEDURES; AND COMPLAINANT RIGHTS DURING THE EVALUATION, INVESTIGATION, AND HEARING PROCESS. THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY MAY PROVIDE BY LAW FOR CONFIDENTIAL REPORTING AND COMPLAINANT RIGHTS.

(II) THE RULE-MAKING COMMITTEE MAY PROMULGATE SPECIFIC RULES GOVERNING PROCEEDINGS BEFORE A PANEL OF THE ADJUDICATIVE BOARD. THE COLORADO RULES OF EVIDENCE AND COLORADO RULES OF CIVIL PROCEDURE, AS AMENDED, APPLY TO PROCEEDINGS BEFORE A PANEL OF THE ADJUDICATIVE BOARD UNTIL AND UNLESS THE RULE-MAKING COMMITTEE PROMULGATES RULES GOVERNING PANEL PROCEEDINGS. RULES PROMULGATED PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION (3)(k)(II) APPLY TO FORMAL PROCEEDINGS INITIATED ON OR AFTER APRIL 1, 2025.

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 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?".

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.



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(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>



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(j) APPROVE A NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED VETERINARY PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATE CREDENTIALING ORGANIZATION FOR PURPOSES OF CREDENTIALING VETERINARY PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATES IN THIS STATE. THE CREDENTIALING ORGANIZATION APPROVED BY THE BOARD MAY:

(I) REQUIRE COMPLETION OF A UNIVERSITY-APPROVED PROGRAM FOR VETERINARY PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATES; AND

(II) REQUIRE THAT AN APPLICANT PASS A VETERINARY PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATE NATIONAL EXAMINATION.

(7) The powers of the board are granted to enable the board to effectively supervise the practice of veterinary medicine and of veterinary technicians AND VETERINARY PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATES and are to be construed liberally to accomplish this objective.

SECTION 5. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 12-315-112, **amend** (1)(ee) as follows;

12-315-112. Discipline of licensees. (1) Upon receipt of a signed complaint by a complainant or upon its own motion, the board may proceed to a hearing in accordance with section 12-315-113. After a hearing, and by a concurrence of a majority of members, the board may take disciplinary or other action as authorized in section 12-20-404 against an applicant for a license or a licensed veterinarian for any of the following reasons:

(ee) Failure to properly supervise a veterinary student, a veterinary student preceptor, a veterinary technician, A VETERINARY PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATE, or other veterinary staff;

SECTION 6. In Colorado Revised Statutes, article 315 of title 12, rename Part 2 as follows:

Part 2. VETERINARY TECHNICIANS AND VETERINARY PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATES

SECTION 7. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 12-315-201, **add** (1)(c) and (1)(d) as follows:

12-315-201. Additional board duties - rules - repeal. (1) In addition to any other duties specified in this part 2 or section 12-315-106, the board shall:

(c) REQUIRE BIENNIAL CONTINUING EDUCATION FOR VETERINARY PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATES, AS MAY BE DETERMINED BY THE BOARD BY RULE, AS A CONDITION OF RENEWING REGISTRATION; AND

(d) ADOPT ANY RULES NECESSARY FOR THE PRACTICE AND SUPERVISION OF VETERINARY PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATES.

SECTION 8. In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 12-315-203.7 as follows:

12-315-203.7. Veterinary professional associate - qualifications- registration - fees - continuing education - rules. (1) AN INDIVIDUAL WHO DESIRES TO PRACTICE AS A VETERINARY PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATE IN THIS STATE MUST FILE AN APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION WITH THE BOARD, ALONG WITH THE REQUIRED APPLICATION FEE, IN THE MANNER DETERMINED BY THE BOARD.

(2) **Qualifications.** TO BE QUALIFIED FOR REGISTRATION AS A VETERINARY PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATE, AN INDIVIDUAL MUST:

(a) BE AT LEAST EIGHTEEN YEARS OF AGE; AND

(b) HOLD A MASTER'S DEGREE IN VETERINARY CLINICAL CARE OR THE EQUIVALENT AS DETERMINED BY THE BOARD.

(3) **Registration.** COMMENCING JANUARY 1, 2026, AN INDIVIDUAL WHO PRACTICES AS A VETERINARY PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATE IN THIS STATE MUST BE REGISTERED BY THE BOARD PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION AND RULES ADOPTED BY THE BOARD FOR THE REGISTRATION OF VETERINARY PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATES.

(4) **Rules.** PRIOR TO REGISTERING VETERINARY PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATES PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION, THE BOARD SHALL ESTABLISH, BY RULE:

(a) THE TIME FRAMES AND REQUIREMENTS FOR REGISTRATION, RENEWAL OF REGISTRATION, AND SUSPENSION AND REINSTATEMENT OF REGISTRATION FOR VETERINARY PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATES;

(b) THE METHOD FOR AN APPLICANT TO DEMONSTRATE THAT THE APPLICANT MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS SET FORTH IN SUBSECTION (2) OF THIS SECTION;



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(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.