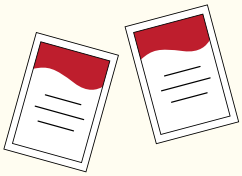
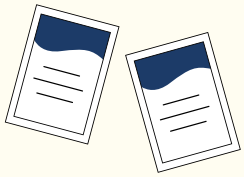


2026 BALLOT INITIATIVES



The Secretary of State's office has certified the ballot for the 2026 General Election. Colorado citizens can initiate ballot measures that amend the Constitution (Constitutional) and create state statutes (Statutory). The number of signatures required to get an initiative on the ballot varies by measure type. The Colorado State Legislature can also refer measures to the ballot. Importantly, the Colorado Taxpayer's Bill of Rights (TABOR) necessitates voter approval for certain tax-related matters.

Please see below for the official measures approved for the 2026 state ballot.

CONSTITUTIONAL

Proposition NN

Reffered by the Legislature, Proposition NN would increase the TABOR cap and use surplus funds, totaling about $4.6 billion, for K-12 education expenses, such as educational programs, increasing teacher pay, reducing teacher turnover, limiting class sizes, and preparing students for the workforce.

Additionally, Proposition NN would dedicate at least half of the total surplus, in addition to 2% of the state's K-12 education expenditures for that fiscal year, to K-12 schools. The remaining surplus funds would be allocated to a newly created children's account in the general fund, which can be used for programs that prepare children to be successful in school, such as full-day preschool and childcare.

#177 - Right to Natural Gas

The amendment would add a new section to Article XVIII of the Colorado Constitution that would grant consumers the right to purchase natural gas for cooking or heating in homes or businesses, and for distributors and utilities to sell natural gas to consumers.

#195 - Graduated Income Tax

The ballot initiative would establish a graduated income tax applying to individuals, estates, trusts, and corporations, with the following tiers:
$0 - $25,000 - 3.7%
$25,001 - $100,000 - 4.2%
$100,001 - $500,000 - 4.4% (the current state tax rate)
$500,001 - $750,000 - 7.4%
$750,001 - $1,000,000 - 7.9%
Above $1,000,001 - 8.4%

The new revenue is restricted to funding K-12 public education, healthcare, and early childhood care, and it must supplement — not supplant — existing funding for those areas.

#232 - Income Tax Rate Cap

The ballot initiative would cap individual and corporate income tax at 4.4% of a taxpayer's federal taxable income.

2026 BALLOT INITIATIVES

CONSTITUTIONAL

#234 - Plain Language Ballot Questions

The ballot initiative would require ballot questions to be in plain language at no more than an eighth-grade reading level. Additionally, the initiative would prohibit any state statute from mandating language preceding, following, or in a ballot title of a measure that is not in plain language or exceeds an eighth-grade reading level.

#256 - Congressional Redistricting

The ballot initiative would require any mid-decade redistricting to be approved by both the state's independent redistricting commission and the Colorado Supreme Court. Additionally, the initiative would prohibit approving maps drawn purposefully to favor one political party.

#302 - Constitutional Right to Hunt and Fish

The initiative would add a new section to Article XVIII of the Colorado Constitution establishing a right to hunt, fish, and take fish and wildlife using traditional methods.

Additionally, the initiative would exclude endangered species, nongame species, and species that are illegal to hunt under federal law from the right to hunt and fish. It states that the constitutional right to hunt and fish would not authorize trespassing on private property or limit the state's ability to regulate hunting and fishing.

#362 - Mail Ballot Voter Identification

The initiative would add a new section to Article VII of the Colorado Constitution requiring voters casting ballots by mail to provide both their signature and an identification number.

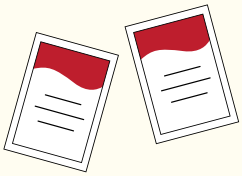
STATUTORY

#85 - Penalties for Fentanyl Crimes

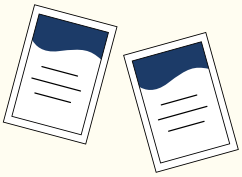
The initiative would increase felony penalties for the distribution, manufacturing, dispensing, sale, or possession of fentanyl; require court-ordered treatment for Level 4 drug felonies for possessing fentanyl; and remove drug possession exceptions in determining whether an individual is considered a habitual criminal.

The initiative would change classifications for certain drug crimes related to fentanyl, thereby increasing their penalties. The measure would make the distribution, manufacturing, dispensing, and sale of any amount of fentanyl a Level 1 drug felony. The initiative would classify possession of less than 1 gram of fentanyl as a Level 4 treatment-mandated drug felony, a new classification with a penalty of mandated drug rehabilitation.

Additionally, the initiative would remove certain exceptions in determining whether an individual charged with low-level drug felonies is considered a habitual criminal, as well as remove the reasonable mistake defense for defendants to receive lesser penalties for the possession of substances containing fentanyl.



2026 BALLOT INITIATIVES



STATUTORY

#95 - Law Enforcement Reporting Requirements to Federal Authorities

The ballot initiative would create a new section, Section 17, in Article XVIII of the Colorado Constitution to require state and local law enforcement to notify the U.S. Department of Homeland Security within 72 hours when:

an individual being charged is not lawfully present in the United States, or if their immigration status cannot be determined after a reasonable effort by law enforcement; and
either the individual is charged with a crime of violence, as defined by law, or the individual has been convicted of a prior felony.

#108 - Penalties for Human Trafficking of a Minor

The ballot initiative would require life in prison without parole or release for persons convicted of human trafficking a child for sexual servitude.

As of 2026, the crime of human trafficking of a minor for sexual servitude was defined as:

selling or otherwise knowingly facilitating the commercial sexual activity involving a person under age 18 or knowingly advertising, offering, or selling travel services that facilitate commercial sexual activity involving a person under age 18.

The ballot initiative would add a third element to this definition: knowingly exchanging anything of monetary value to buy or sell sexual activity with a person under age 18.

The ballot initiative would change the offense from a class 2 felony to a class 1 felony.

#109 - Male and Female Participation in School Sports

The ballot initiative, Initiative 109, would require school- and association-sponsored athletic teams to be classified in one of three categories: males/men/boys, (2) females/women/girls, or (3) coeducational or mixed. Teams designated for females, women, or girls would not be open to male students or participants. Teams designated for males, men, or boys would not be open to female students or participants unless no corresponding female team is offered for that sport. The measure would not limit participation in teams designated as coeducational or mixed.

The ballot initiative would define females as "person[s] whose biological reproductive system is organized around the production of ova," and males as "person[s] whose biological reproductive system is organized around the production of sperm."

Each school's governing body would be required to adopt a policy implementing the measure.

2026 BALLOT INITIATIVES

STATUTORY

#110 - Prohibit Certain Surgeries on Minors

The ballot initiative would prohibit healthcare professionals from performing or providing surgeries to anyone under age 18 for the purpose of changing the person's sex characteristics based on their perception of sex or gender. The ballot initiative would also prohibit state and federal funds, such as Medicaid, or insurance coverage, from paying for these surgeries. These bans would not include "treatment for persons born with a medically verifiable disorder of sex development," "treatment for acquired physical or chemical abnormalities," and male circumcision.

#308 - Designate Sporting Goods Sales Tax Revenue for Conservation

The ballot initiative would exempt sales tax revenue generated from the sale of sporting goods and equipment from the provision in the Taxpayer's Bill of Rights (TABOR), which requires excess funds to be refunded to voters. Instead, the initiative would allocate the revenue to a newly created fund for environmental protection and wildfire prevention, called the Conserve and Protect Colorado's Water, Land, and Forests Fund.

WITHDRAWN - September 27, 2026

#175 - State Revenue Supporting Road Transportation

The initiative would add a new section to the Colorado Constitution to require both the state and local governments to spend any state revenue collected to support road transportation on costs related to:

the construction, maintenance, and operation of public streets, roads, highways, or bridges;
the development and improvement of safety measures for motor vehicles traveling on public streets, roads, highways, or bridges;
the design, engineering, and management required for road transportation; and the Colorado State Patrol.

The state would collect revenue from sales and excise taxes on motor vehicles and fuel, as well as two-thirds of the sales and use taxes on motor vehicle parts, equipment, and accessories. The state would then allocate the collected revenue among local governments and the state highway fund.