
2022 Ballot Talk

— with The BIPOC Alliance —

Disclaimer

The BIPOC Alliance does not endorse any individuals running for office.

This is an overview of ballot initiatives for the state of Colorado & Larimer County. The BIPOC Alliance gathered information from other organizations with similar values and goals for our community. Information was presented and discussed with community members to understand varying viewpoints.

This information is intended to educate and empower individuals in voting during the 2022 midterm elections.

Resources Referenced include...

[https://soul2soulsisters.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/
2022-Black-Womens-Voter-Guide.pdf](https://soul2soulsisters.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/2022-Black-Womens-Voter-Guide.pdf)

20 BLACK WOMEN'S 22 VOTER GUIDE

by Black Femmes, for all people



2022 COLORADO STATEWIDE LATINO BALLOT GUIDE



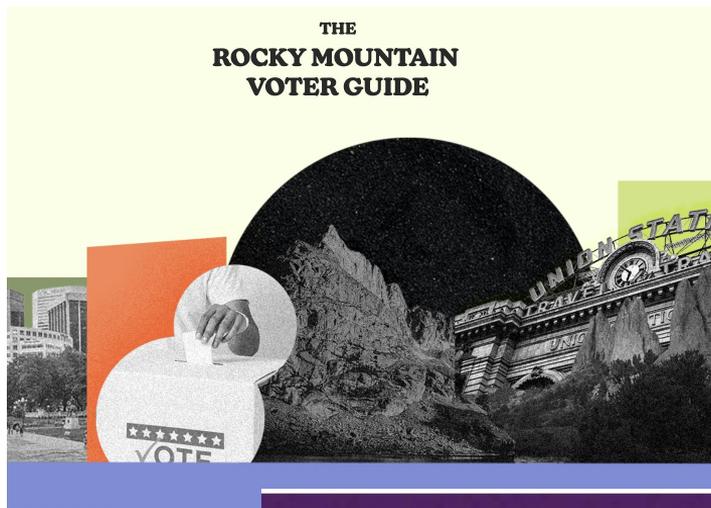
MAIL IN YOUR BALLOT BY
Monday, Oct 31st

PUT IN DROP-BOX BY
7pm Tuesday, Nov 8th



<https://workingfamilies.org/2022/10/colorado-statewide-latino-ballot-guide/>

<https://www.rockymountainvoterguide.com/>



VOTE
PRO
CHOICE

ACLU Colorado



2022 VOTER GUIDE

WE ARE THE VOTE

State of Colorado Measures

Amendment D

Amendment E

Amendment F

Proposition FF

Prop GG

Prop 121

Prop 122

Prop 123

Prop 124

Prop 125

Prop 126

Amendment D

AMENDMENT D: NEW 23RD JUDICIAL DISTRICT JUDGES

Requires the governor to reassign judges to the newly formed 23rd judicial district. This will provide a timely and smooth transition as well as prevent disruptions in court proceedings.

From the 2022 Colorado Statewide Latino Ballot Guide, produced by the Latino Voter Outreach Coalition - vote yes

"When this 18th Judicial District was created 55 years ago, it was remarkably different than it is today, in terms of crime, population and voter sentiment. The division of Arapahoe from Douglas, Elbert and Lincoln counties provides a fairer fiscal impact of the DA's operations on the counties, as well as provides better greater representation of the community and its values at a smaller level."

- [Sentinel Colorado](#)

WHAT DOES A NO VOTE MEAN?

A "no" vote on Amendment D means that there could be uncertainty in Colorado law about assignment of judges in the new 23rd Judicial District and that continuity of court functions could be disrupted. Vote ProChoice Voter Guide 2022

Amendment E: Homestead Exemption to Surviving Spouses of U.S Armed Forces Members and Veterans Amendment

If passed:

- Lowers property taxes paid by surviving spouses of military service members who died in the line of duty and the surviving spouses of veterans who died due to service

AMENDMENT E: EXTEND HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION TO MILITARY SPOUSES

Extends certain existing property tax exemptions to the surviving spouses of US military service members who pass away in the line of duty and the surviving spouses of veterans who died as a result of service-related injury or disease. This measure allows CO to help military families who lose a loved one to stay in their homes.



YES to Gender Equity - While the tides are shifting, women still make up a disproportionately small percentage of the military and veterans and are often left out of support once their serving or veteran spouse passes away.

Yes on State Amendment E (statewide)

Amendment E bridges the equity gap, ensuring the same homestead exemption access to spouses when they lose their partner in the line of duty or from a service-related injury or disease.

Amendment F: Changes to Charitable Gaming Operations

If passed:

- Allows operators & managers of charitable gaming activities, like raffles, to be paid for their time
- Allows the legislature to determine how long an org must exist to get charitable gaming license
 - Currently, orgs must be 5 years old before filing for a license - this amendment would change it to 3 years

AMENDMENT F: CHARITABLE GAMING OPERATIONS

Reduces the number of years a nonprofit must be in operation from 5 to 3 years to apply for a bingo-raffle license. It also allows the nonprofit to pay the workers of the bingo-raffle games.



NEUTRAL

Neutral
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Prop FF: reduce income tax deductions amounts to fund school meals program

If passed:

- Stable, permanent \$\$\$ for free, nutritious meals for all students in public schools
- Meals use quality, local ingredients
- Funded by limiting state income tax deductions for top 3% (\$300k+)

We Say Vote YES because...

Black children are almost three times more likely to live in a food-insecure household than white children - and this has been exacerbated by the pandemic. When kids go hungry, their academic performance and health suffer. This program would ensure that all children have access to locally, sourced, healthy foods.

Who Else Says Vote YES

Hunger Free CO

Colorado Immigrant Rights Coalition

Elephant Circle

One Colorado

The Center on Colfax



Prop GG: Include Income Tax Effects in Initiative Ballot Language

PROPOSITION GG: TAX TRANSPARENCY TABLE

Prop GG will change how measures about taxes show up on our ballot by requiring a simple table showing how much Coloradans will pay based on their income. This will ensure that all Coloradans – regardless of their zip code, income, or race- have the information they need to vote on tax changes. By voting YES on GG, we can ensure that all of us have the full picture of what we are deciding each time we vote.



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We Say Vote YES because...

Black Women face numerous systemic barriers to voting, such as the use of intentionally confusing and misleading language on ballot measures, and this measure will make income tax changes more accessible for voters. Additionally, the table can more clearly outline how low-income communities are impacted compared to high earners, who disproportionately benefit from income tax cuts.

Who Else Says Vote YES

New Era Colorado

United for a New Economy

Common Cause

2022 Black Women's Voter Guide

Prop 121: State Income Tax Rate Reduction

If passed:

- Reduce state income tax rate from 4.55% to 4.40%

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PROPOSITION 121: TAX CUT BENEFITING WEALTHY & CORPORATIONS



Once again, the ultra-wealthy are using deceptive ballot measures to try to pad their own pockets and gut funding from programs and services we all rely on. The lion's share of Initiative 121's reduction in Colorado's current flat income tax rate would benefit the wealthiest among us, and if passed it would rob approximately \$400 million from the state budget that supports programs and services which benefit all of us like schools, parks, roads, and community centers. Don't be fooled — this one is a clear NO.



NO to Inequitable Tax Policy - In the fight toward racial justice, systemic equality, and immigrant justice, funding for families to have their basic needs met requires sound revenue from taxes.

NO on State Proposition 121

The ACLU of Colorado opposes Proposition 121, knowing that a decrease in state revenue might save our lowest income neighbors \$5 per year, but will cost the programs that support their access to food, housing, healthcare, and education millions. Hundreds of millions of dollars in revenue loss will have a direct and negative impact on already underfunded necessary programs that help build power and equity across Colorado.

Prop 122: Decriminalization and Regulated Access Program for Certain Psychedelic Plants & Fungi

YES to Ending the War on Drugs



YES to Ending the War on Drugs - The ACLU of Colorado supports a full and complete end to the failed and racist War on Drugs. The ACLU endorses public policies that take steps toward ending drug criminalization in favor of a well-regulated market and treatment-based approaches, and unwinding the harms of 50 years of failed drug policy.

Yes on State Proposition 122 (statewide)

State Proposition 122 will decriminalize the personal use and possession of five types of hallucinogenic and entheogenic plants and fungi and create a natural medicine services program.

PROPOSITION 122: ACCESS TO NATURAL PSYCHEDELIC SUBSTANCES

NEUTRAL

Allows for the personal possession, growing, sharing, and use, but not the sale, of natural psychedelic substances by people over age 21. It also allows for the establishment of licensed facilities for psychedelic mushroom treatments. Many studies have shown positive effects of these treatments on depression, anxiety, and PTSD. However, indigenous communities have long used these substances but will not be given any priority for licensed facilities.

If passed:

- Define certain psychedelic plants & fungi as “natural medicine”
- Decriminalize possession, sales, and growth of natural medicinal plants
- Establish “regulated natural medicine access program” for licensed healing centers to administer natural medicine services

Prop 123: Dedicate Revenues to Fund Housing Projects

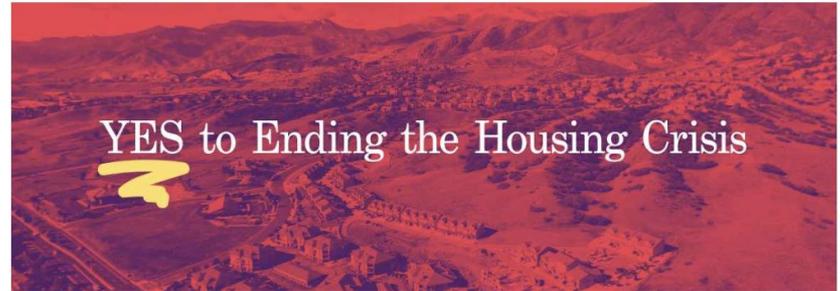
If passed:

- 0.1% of state's general fund designated to affordable housing fund
- Does NOT raise taxes
- Reduces TABOR refund amount
- \$270M in revenue generated annually to build 170k affordable new homes & rentals

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- Provide assistance to help teachers, nurses & other workers secure first home
- Fund eviction defense & rent supplements
- Redirects less than 1% of state income taxes to cover the cost

2022 Rocky Mountain Voter Guide



YES to Ending the Housing Crisis – Colorado is in the midst of a devastating housing crisis that is having a disproportionate impact on communities of color and leading to a cascade of civil rights abuses for unhoused people. The ACLU of Colorado endorses public policies that will help protect and increase access to housing.

Yes on State Proposition 123 (statewide)

State Proposition 123 will help increase and maintain the number of affordable housing units across the state.

ACLU of Colorado 2022 Voter Guide

Prop 124: Retail Liquor Store Licenses

If passed:

- Increase # of retail liquor store licenses an individual may own or hold a share in
- allows chain liquor stores to own eight stores immediately; thirteen in 2027; twenty in 2032; and would remove the cap entirely in 2037.
- Current Colorado law = an individual or business can own up to three retail liquor stores.

The Colorado Sun

"Small liquor retailers argue that Proposition 124 will push them out of business by letting national chains, like Total Wine & More, expand across the state. Colorado's current law is written to protect smaller operators against facing that kind of competition ... Fine went so far as to call the measure "catastrophic" for independent liquor retailers in Colorado."

PROPOSITION 124: INCREASE ALLOWABLE LIQUOR STORE LOCATIONS

Allows for stores to have an unlimited number of licenses to open liquor store locations by 2037. This measure is being pushed by the large grocery store chains like Walmart, Safeway, and King Soopers, and would disadvantage small independent liquor stores. It could be more convenient for consumers.

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Prop 125: Allow Grocery and Convenience Stores to Sell Wine

- Creates a new alcohol retailer license to allow grocery and convenience stores to sell wine
- Grocery and convenience stores that are licensed to sell beer will not be required to apply for the license and will automatically be allowed to sell wine starting March 1, 2023.



"Yes" Endorsements

DoorDash • Instacart • Albertsons Safeway • Kroger • Target • Whole Foods

"No" Endorsements

Colorado Licensed Beverage Association • Keeping Colorado Local (coalition of small business owners)

PROPOSITION 125: ALLOW GROCERY AND CONVENIENCE STORES TO SELL WINE

This measure would go into effect in March and would double the number of stores where wine is sold. It is also being pushed by the large grocery store chains like Walmart, Safeway, and King Soopers, and would disadvantage small independent liquor stores. It could be more convenient for consumers to buy wine.

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Prop 126: Alcohol Delivery Service Initiative

If passed:

- Allows delivery companies to deliver alcohol beverages (like GrubHub, UberEats)
- Applies to grocery stores, bars & restaurants
- Third party subcontractors (i.e. those who work for GrubHub, UberEats) would NOT be held to the same safety or liability as retail stores

WHY VOTE YES?

"[Prop 126](#) allows the smallest 1,300 mom-and-pop liquor stores across Colorado to compete with the 300 largest liquor stores to make deliveries to customers in their own neighborhoods." - Yes on Wine in Grocery Stores

Retrieved from Vote ProChoice

PROPOSITION 126: THIRD-PARTY DELIVERY OF ALCOHOL BEVERAGES



Proposition 126 opens the door for third-party alcohol beverage delivery using subcontract vendors (groups like DoorDash, UberEats, and the like). Unfortunately, there is nothing written into the measure that ensures safety protocols are adhered to, which could lead to problematic alcohol deliveries to underage & intoxicated Coloradans. The big tech companies pushing this measure want to grab the profits from alcohol delivery while refusing to take on compliance and safety responsibilities for alcohol delivery. This measure is therefore unsafe, and would hurt the independent locally-owned liquor stores that are already providing responsible alcohol delivery.

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City of Fort Collins Ballot Measures

2A: Council Compensation

Raising council salaries & benefits as follows:

- the Mayor will receive seventy-five percent (75%)
- the Mayor Pro Tem will receive sixty percent (60%), and
- all other Councilmembers will receive fifty percent (50%),

of the Area Median Income for the Fort Collins/Loveland area for a single-person household, adjusted annually

Councilmembers also able to opt into City organization's healthcare-related benefits, on the same terms those benefits are available to City employees

RESULTS:

- mayor would receive an annual pay of \$56,400,
- the mayor pro tem \$45,120 and
- council members \$37,600.

Council compensation was last updated in 1997

this amendment would reflect the increasing time commitment required of council members.

2B: City Election Dates Moved from April to November

If passed, City of Fort Collins elections will:

- Move dates to first Tuesday in **November** of every odd numbered year
 - instead of first Tuesday after the first Monday in **April** of every odd-numbered year;
- transition schedule by extending the current term from April to November of the appropriate odd-numbered year
 - Does NOT alter # of terms each may serve
- allow for coordinated elections to be conducted by the County Clerk and Recorder
- allow Council to adjust time frame for candidate nominations and withdrawals up to 180 days prior to an election

Consolidated voting times could improve voter turnout.

In 2021 the City of Fort Collins saw a 37% voter turnout. In comparison, Larimer County saw a 43% voter turnout in their last odd-number coordinated election. - *Fort Collins Area Chamber of Commerce*

2C: Ranked Choice Voting

- changing City of FC election method to ranked choice voting starting in 2025.
- only impacts FC mayoral and council member elections.
- allows voters to rank candidates by preference.
- Whichever candidate has majority of first preference votes wins the election.
- If there is not a clear majority winner, the election goes into an instant runoff, and the candidate with the fewest first preference votes is eliminated. And so on.

Potential benefits:

- election reform that shifts towards more equitable elections
- been shown to lead to more candidates on the ballot, improved representation for People of Color, and more victories for candidates of color
- In precincts with more voters of color, voters rank a higher percentage of candidates, indicating a willingness among communities of color to engage with the ranked ballot. This builds our political power and improves our representation in public office.
 - FairVote: [Ranked Choice Voting Elections Benefit Candidates and Voters of Color](#)
 - FairVote: [Ranked Choice Voting and Representation Data](#)

Opponents argue:

- too confusing — i.e. only some races on a ballot are conducted this way
- can silence voters who do not want to vote for multiple candidates.
- concerns over how much it will cost the city to implement the new method.

DISCLAIMER

The BIPOC Alliance does NOT endorse any individuals running for elected positions.

The following slide includes links to other organizations with similar values. These are organizations allowed to endorse individuals in support of their mission.

This is a reference for your own education.

Information from Other Agencies regarding Individuals running for elected positions

- One Colorado PAC - “endorses pro-equality candidates running for state office who will champion the rights, legal protections, and priorities of LGBTQ+ Coloradans as elected officials. Our key endorsement considerations include a candidate’s electoral viability and support of the interests of LGBTQ+ Coloradans”:
<https://one-colorado.org/at-the-capitol/endorsements/>
- Cobalt Advocates - “Cobalt is laying a strong foundation for a state that will secure and protect your reproductive health and abortion access now and in the future by electing lawmakers who will actively fight for reproductive freedom, confronting stigma and misinformation, and reshaping the public conversation around abortion.”:
<https://cobaltadvocates.org/elections-policy/endorsements/>
- Colorado Immigration Rights Coalition - CIRC Action Fund - “All of our endorsed candidates promise to fight for our immigrant communities while in office.” - <https://circaction.org/2022-endorsements/>
- Conservation Colorado - “We organize to elect environmentally minded leaders and hold all of our representatives accountable.”: <https://conservationco.org/elections/>
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