Colorado Coalition for the Homeless has created a ballot guide to help inform voters on statewide and local ballot measures.

2026 BALLOT GUIDE

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2026

COLORADO COALITION FOR THE HOMELESS

Register to vote, update your registration, and check out other resources HERE.

KEY DATES FOR 2026

REGISTER TO VOTE ANY TIME UP UNTIL AND INCLUDING ON ELECTION DAY!

- **October 9** – Deadline for ballots to be sent to active voters (earlier in some counties)
- **October 12** – Drop boxes begin accepting mail ballots (earlier in some counties)
- **October 19** - Voter Service and Polling Centers open
- **October 26** – Last day to register to vote by mail at a voter registration agency, a local driver's license examination facility, or online to receive a ballot by mail
  - Last day for voters to return their ballots through USPS
- **November 3** – Election Day! *Voters must have submitted their ballot or be in line to vote in person by 7PM for ballots to be counted*

REGISTER TO VOTE OR UPDATE YOUR REGISTRATION HERE.

KEY VOTING INFORMATION

- Visit any 24-hour drop box, Voter Service Center, or drop-off site statewide to turn in your ballot
  - Ballots returned to your home county
  - Find your location here

- Denver has 49 secure ballot drop-off boxes that are open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week from Oct. 5 - Nov. 3 @7PM

- You can also track your ballot and sign up for a series of alerts here

- Learn more about voting without a permanent residence here

- Know Your Voting Rights: Myths vs Facts on voting with criminal legal involvement here

On September 10, 2026, a First Circuit Court of Appeals reaffirmed a lower court ruling blocking the Postal Service from limiting who can receive a mail ballot ahead of the 2026 General Election. Colorado was one of 32 plaintiffs seeking to stop the Postal Service from enacting changes to election administration aligned with President Trump's March 31, 2026 Executive Order. On September 14, 2026, the U.S. Supreme Court blocked the effort to restrict mail voting. Mail voting in the November election is expected to continue normally, but voters are encouraged to utilize drop boxes to ensure that your ballot is received and counted.

2026 STATEWIDE BALLOT MEASURE INFORMATION

REFERRED MEASURES

Denoted by a letter, these measures are referred to voters by the Colorado General Assembly. Statutory measures that change state law require a simple majority vote from both the House and the Senate to be placed on the ballot. Constitutional measures that change the state's constitution require two-thirds of the vote in both the House and the Senate. Referred measures do not require approval from the governor.

CITIZEN-INITIATED MEASURES

In Colorado, citizens have the power to place constitutional amendments, state statute changes, combined initiated constitutional amendments and state statutes, and veto referendums on the ballot. They can be identified by a number and appear as amendments or propositions. A measure must be filed, reviewed by Legislative Council staff and the Office of Legislative Legal Services, and accepted by the Title Board. Then, proponents must gather enough valid signatures (including signatures from a certain percentage of voters in each of the state's 35 Senate districts) to qualify for the ballot.

VOTE THRESHOLDS

Constitutional changes require 55% of the vote to pass (unless the measure only seeks to remove language from the Constitutions, which requires a simple majority) as of 2016 when Amendment 71 passed. Statutory changes require a simple majority vote to pass.

AN EXPLANATION OF OUR POSITIONS

SUPPORT

A **support** position indicates that CCH recommends a "**yes**" vote on the measure as approved by CCH's Board of Directors.

NO POSITION

No position means that CCH's Board has not approved a support or oppose position. A "no position" does not mean that CCH encourages voters not to vote to support or oppose; voters should learn more about each measure before deciding how to vote. We have provided some resources for additional learning in this guide.

OPPOSE

An **oppose** position indicates that CCH recommends a "**no**" vote on the measure as approved by CCH's Board of Directors.

COLORADO STATEWIDE MEASURES

MEASURE	TYPE	POSITION
Amendment 87: Income Tax Fairness Act	Citizen-initiated, statutory and constitutional	Support ✓
Proposition NN: State Public K-12 Education Funding	Legislatively referred, statutory	Support ✓
Proposition 132: Penalties for Fentanyl Crimes	Citizen-initiated, statutory	Oppose ✗
Proposition 136: Income Tax Rate Cap	Citizen-initiated, statutory	Oppose ✗
Amendment 84: Mail Ballots Voter Identification	Citizen-initiated, constitutional	Oppose ✗
Amendment 82: Right to Natural Gas	Citizen-initiated, constitutional	Oppose ✗
Proposition 135: Prohibit Certain Surgeries on Minors	Citizen-initiated, statutory	Oppose ✗
Proposition 134: Male and Female Participation in School Sports	Citizen-initiated, statutory	No position ⊖
Amendment 85: Plain Language Ballot Questions	Citizen-initiated, constitutional	No position ⊖
Amendment 81: Law Enforcement Communication with Federal Immigration Authorities	Citizen-initiated, constitutional	No position ⊖
Amendment 83: Right to Hunt and Fish	Citizen-initiated, constitutional	No position ⊖
Proposition 133: Penalties for Human Trafficking of a Minor	Citizen-initiated, statutory	No position ⊖
Proposition 137: Designate Sporting Goods Sales Tax Revenue for Conservation	Citizen-initiated, constitutional	No position ⊖
Amendment 86: Redistricting	Citizen-initiated, constitutional	No position ⊖

Find a more in-depth explanation of each measure in the Legislative Council Staff prepared 2026 State Ballot Information Booklet ("Blue Book") here

SUPPORT AMENDMENT 87: INCOME TAX FAIRNESS ACT

The measure replaces Colorado's current flat income tax with a graduated, or progressive, income tax. New revenue would be used for healthcare, childcare, and education. This measure would reduce income taxes for 97% of Coloradans and raise them for the 3% of individuals and 5% of corporations with more than $500,000 in income/revenue per year. These tax changes would raise over $2B per year in additional revenue. Colorado has the 39th most regressive tax code in the country, and the wealthiest five percent of Coloradans pay the lowest percentage of their income in taxes.

The Coalition supports this measure because Colorado is facing a structural budget deficit and is unable to adequately fund priorities like healthcare coverage, like Medicaid, and affordable housing for our lowest income households. Adopting a progressive income tax will make the tax code fairer by requiring wealthier households to pay a higher percentage of their income in taxes to support healthcare, childcare, and education, and free up more funding to prevent cuts to other priorities.

Amendment 87 is backed by Protect Colorado's Future Coalition.

SUPPORT PROPOSITION NN: STATE PUBLIC K-12 EDUCATION FUNDING

Referred by the Colorado General Assembly through SB26-135, the measure modernizes Colorado's revenue cap under the Taxpayer's Bill of Rights (TABOR) – or the amount of money the state is permitted to collect, keep, and spend – by allowing the state to retain and spend revenue that it already collects in an amount equal to current state K-12 funding. It will unlock critical revenue for our schools and other essential services that prepare children to be successful in school, including early childhood education programs, without increasing taxes.

CCH supports this measure because TABOR artificially prevents the state from investing in priority areas even when it has already collected the tax revenue to do so. This has led to Colorado's public schools being chronically underfunded by an estimated $4B per year and leaves Coloradans facing a structural budget squeeze that threatens funding for healthcare coverage like Medicaid, affordable housing, and other priorities. The Coalition is also concerned about the lack of funding for the Colorado Child Care Assistance Program or CCCAP which helps low-income households afford childcare and is a program that revenue collected under this measure may be able to support.

Proposition NN is backed by Yes for Colorado Kids.

OPPOSE PROPOSITION 132: PENALTIES FOR FENTANYL CRIMES

The measure makes the distribution, manufacturing, dispensing, or selling of any amount of fentanyl a level 1 drug felony, the most severe classification, with a required sentence of 8 to 32 years in prison. It also increases the charge for possession of fentanyl to a level 4 drug felony with mandated treatment, or a level 3 drug felony based on the amount of fentanyl in possession. Individuals who distribute less than four grams (think friends sharing drugs at a party or in a homeless encampment, not drug kingpins) that results in a death can no longer receive immunity from criminal prosecution if they call emergency responders in the event of an overdose.

The Coalition opposes this measure because data has shown that increased sentences and penalties for drug-related crimes do not reduce drug use or related overdose deaths. Instead, they disproportionately impact communities of color and the unhoused community and create additional barriers to economic stability for people struggling with drug use. The measure could make limited treatment options harder to access because mandating treatment will increase waitlists for these services. This will also likely result in greater prison overcrowding, construction of new prisons, and a massive drain on the state's already-squeezed budget at nearly $500M in the first five years.

Proposition 132 is backed by Advance Colorado and opposed by a broad coalition.

OPPOSE PROPOSITION 136: INCOME TAX RATE CAP

The measure caps Colorado's individual and corporate income tax rate at 4.4% beginning in tax year 2027. Colorado's current rate is 4.4%, down from 5%, because of four permanent income tax cuts over the last three decades. Income taxes are a major source of state revenue in Colorado, making it central to supporting critical state services. Colorado is facing significant budget challenges. During the 2026 legislative session, lawmakers cut roughly $1.5B, with similar challenges expected in the coming years. These budget challenges have directly resulted in cuts to healthcare coverage like Medicaid and affordable housing funding.

CCH opposes this measure because analysis shows that Colorado has the 39th most regressive tax code in the country which means the lowest income households pay a greater share of their income towards taxes. Across the state, higher income households pay the smallest percentage of their income in taxes. This is contributing to growing wealth inequality which significantly increases the likelihood that more households will fall into the cycle of homelessness. The proponents of this measure brought it specifically to negate the impact of the Graduated Income Tax measure if it were to pass, which CCH supports.

Proposition 136 is backed by Advance Colorado and is opposed by many of the organizations that make up Protect Colorado's Future Coalition.

OPPOSE AMENDMENT 84: MAIL BALLOTS VOTER IDENTIFICATION

The measure requires voters participating in federal or statewide elections to sign their mail ballot envelope and include the last four digits of their Social Security number, Colorado driver's license number, or REAL ID number on the outside envelope of their ballot. Proponents claim it is an effort to reduce fraud, but Colorado has one of the most accessible and secure voting systems in the nation, making voter fraud in Colorado very rare. Current law already requires Colorado voters to sign their mail ballot envelope to help verify identity and eligibility.

The Coalition opposes this measure because these kinds of voter ID requirements do nothing to improve election security and, in fact, create new security risks by collecting sensitive voter information in a public way. They also create new barriers to voting for eligible voters who may not have certain forms of ID, including people who are experiencing homelessness, older Coloradans, low-income individuals, those who live in rural areas, people living with disabilities, and communities of color.

Amendment 84 is backed by dark money group Coalition for American Prosperity and Growth. The measure is opposed by Defend our Ballots and Vote Common Sense.

OPPOSE AMENDMENT 82: RIGHT TO NATURAL GAS

The measure creates a constitutional right for consumers to purchase and use natural gas in their homes or businesses and for distributors and utilities to sell natural gas to homes and businesses. There are currently no restrictions on individuals who wish to purchase or consume natural gas. A constitutional amendment establishing such a right could have far reaching consequences that the simplicity of the language of this measure does not convey. Partner organizations argue that this measure is not about offering residents greater access to a range of energy options but is rather an effort to prop up an industry that is resistant to policies that encourage cleaner, renewable, and more affordable energy sources.

The Coalition opposes the initiative because of its potential to increase costs for developing affordable housing and limiting access to housing funding resources for that development. It could also significantly undermine and complicate compliance with local building codes and create conflict between residents and developers and landlords. The measure could interfere with aligning rental development with energy-efficient building standards which is a requirement for several funding sources for the development and operation of affordable housing. Further, the measure is written so broadly that a resident could feasibly demand that a property owner convert from electric power to natural gas or require changes to building infrastructure as a reasonable accommodation. This could make development more difficult, exposing affordable housing providers to legal challenges and associated costs.

AMENDMENT 82 CONT.

CCH is committed to providing affordable and supportive housing options to the community and aligning development with environmental and efficiency standards that protect health and safety and prioritize efficiency and affordability.

Amendment 82 is backed by Advance Colorado and is opposed by other housing organizations and many environmental organizations including Conservation Colorado.

OPPOSE PROPOSITION 135: PROHIBIT CERTAIN SURGERIES ON MINORS

The measure prohibits medical providers from participating in any surgical procedure that alters a youth's physical sex characteristics. It also prevents state and federal funds (including Medicaid) or private insurance from paying for these procedures.

Access to medical care, including gender-affirming care, is key to health and well-being of everyone and particularly for youth. This measure makes accessing care more difficult for transgender individuals, particularly those with limited resources, which can have long-term negative consequences on their emotional and physical safety. Research shows that restricting gender-affirming care can lead to increased depression and anxiety and poorer long-term health outcomes for youth. Major medical associations, including the American Academy of Pediatrics and American Psychological Association, oppose restrictions on gender-affirming healthcare for youth.

The Coalition opposes this initiative because transgender people experience homelessness at a rate eight times greater than the general population, and we believe that supporting access to all healthcare, including gender-affirming care, and overall acceptance and inclusion of transgender youth is a critical component of homelessness prevention for this population.

Proposition 135 is backed by Protect Kids Colorado and opposed by One Colorado and Families Not Politics.

LEARN MORE ABOUT PROPOSITION 134: MALE AND FEMALE PARTICIPATION IN SPORTS

The measure prohibits students from participating on sports teams that are not aligned with their sex assigned at birth. Studies have shown that participation in organized sports contributes to the health, well-being, and belonging of all youth, including transgender youth. Opponents argue that this measure prevents students from accessing these benefits and is likely to increase stigma and discrimination against transgender students. Proponents of the measure argue that this measure will eliminate unfair competition in student sports.

Proposition 134 is backed by Protect Kids Colorado and opposed by partner organizations including One Colorado and Families Not Politics.

LEARN MORE ABOUT AMENDMENT 85: PLAIN LANGUAGE BALLOT QUESTIONS

The measure requires ballot questions to be written at an 8th grade reading level. It also prevents state law from mandating language to be added before, following, or in a ballot title that interferes with the plain language requirement. Proponents argue that the measure will make ballot language easier to understand. Opponents argue that the plain language requirement will strip out important information that shows voters the impacts of tax changes on their household finances and state and local budgets.

Amendment 85 is backed by Advance Colorado and is opposed by partner organizations including The League of Women Voters.

LEARN MORE ABOUT PROPOSITION 137: DIRECT SPORTING GOODS SALES TAX REVENUE FOR CONSERVATION

The measure redirects $175-180M per year in sales taxes already collected on sporting goods equipment toward land conservation, wildfire mitigation, watershed restoration, and improved outdoor recreation opportunities. Roughly half of the funding would go to Great Outdoors Colorado, and the other half would be evenly split between the Colorado Department of Natural Resources and the Colorado State Forest Service. Colorado Office of Outdoor Recreation Industry and Colorado Parks and Wildlife's Outdoor Equity Grant Program would also each get a small amount of funding.

Proposition 137 was brought by Protect Colorado's Land and Water and does not have an official opposition campaign at this time.

LEARN MORE ABOUT AMENDMENT 81: LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMUNICATION WITH FEDERAL IMMIGRATION AUTHORITIES

The measure seeks a new a constitutional requirement for law enforcement to report individuals charged with certain crimes to U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) if they cannot demonstrate that they are in the U.S. lawfully within 72 hours of being charged. Proponents argue that it will create better coordination between state and federal law enforcement agencies. Opponents argue that it could violate due process and privacy rights of individuals in Colorado. The measure could impact federally qualified health centers (FQHCs) like the Coalition that serve individuals regardless of immigration status.

Amendment 81 is backed by Advance Colorado and opposed by a coalition of partners including Colorado Communities First and the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) of Colorado.

LEARN MORE ABOUT PROPOSITION 133: PENALTIES FOR HUMAN TRAFFICKING OF A MINOR

The measure expands the definition of human trafficking of a minor and increases the penalty to life in prison without parole or release. Proponents argue that increased criminal penalties will deter and punish human traffickers. Opponents argue that the measure removes judicial discretion and promotes a harsh punitive approach rather than comprehensive support for survivors.

Proposition 133 is backed by Protect Kids Colorado, an advocacy group also behind Propositions 134 and 135 (CCH opposes Proposition 135). Opposition includes groups like Vote Common Sense.

LEARN MORE ABOUT AMENDMENT 83: RIGHT TO HUNT AND FISH

The measure would create a constitutional right to hunt, fish, and harvest fish and wildlife by traditional methods (with key exclusions including endangered species and species that are illegal to hunt under federal law). Hunting and fishing activities are currently legal in Colorado and managed by Colorado Parks and Wildlife. Proponents argue that the measure is intended to protect their rights to engage in these legal activities. Opponents argue that this measure could limit the ability of citizen-initiated ballot initiatives, the General Assembly, and Colorado Parks and Wildlife in shaping public land and other environmental policies.

Amendment 83 is backed by Coloradans for Responsible Wildlife Management and organizations connected to Advance Colorado. The measure is opposed by several organizations including Colorado Hunters and Anglers for Sensible Wildlife Conservation.

LEARN MORE ABOUT AMENDMENT 86: CONGRESSIONAL REDISTRICTING

The measure reiterates current constitutional standards for the congressional redistricting process that requires an independent commission to draw the boundaries and would require additional approval from the Colorado Supreme Court. It also adds a new provision that prevents districts from being drawn to purposefully favor a political party.

Amendment 86 is backed by Advance Colorado and is opposed by Vote Common Sense.

LEARN MORE ABOUT LOCAL MEASURES

Some Colorado voters will see several local measures on their ballots depending on where they live. While the Coalition has not taken a position on any of the measures, we are tracking measures that could impact affordable housing, homelessness response, and other human services and infrastructure that support low-income households.

LOCATION	MEASURE	TYPE	POSITION
Adams, Arapahoe, Broomfield, Boulder, Denver, Douglas, El Paso, Huerfano, Jefferson, Larimer, Las Animas, Pueblo, and Weld Counties	**Ballot Issue 7A**: Colorado Connector	Referred by the Front Range Passenger Rail District Board	No position
Denver	**Referred Question 2I**: Two-year Budget Appropriations Process	Referred by City Council	No position
City of Boulder	**Ballot Issue 2J**: Vacancy Tax	Referred by City Council	No position
Boulder County	**1A**: Early Childhood Care and Education	Referred by County Commissioners	No position

REGIONAL

LEARN MORE ABOUT BALLOT ISSUE 7A: COLORADO CONNECTOR

Enabled by Senate Bill 26-172 and referred to the voters of impacted counties by the Front Range Passenger Rail District Board, the measure would establish a 0.333% sales and use tax (equal to one third of a penny on a $1 purchase), with exemptions for essential goods, to fund the construction, operation, and maintenance of the Colorado Connector (CoCo) Passenger Rail Service from Fort Collins to Pueblo.

This measure is backed by Coloradoans for CoCo and there is no formal opposition.

CITY OF BOULDER

LEARN MORE ABOUT BALLOT ISSUE 2J: VACANCY TAX

The measure would create an annual excise tax on vacant homes, including single-family homes, condos, townhomes, and apartments. Beginning in 2028, owners will be subject to a $4,000 tax per year for homes left vacant for 183 days or more annually, targeting second homes that are not used as a primary residence. Proponents argue that the measure aims to encourage long-term housing availability and use revenue to support public assistance programs, wildfire mitigation, public safety, parks and recreation, transportation, and other services. The measure specifically exempts deed-restricted affordable housing.

The measure is backed by Vacancy to Vitality and there is no formal opposition coalition.

BOULDER COUNTY

LEARN MORE ABOUT 1A: EARLY CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION

The measure raises property taxes by 2.579 mills to fund childcare and preschool programs, expand capacity in current programs with the intent of reducing waitlists and strengthening the early childhood workforce. A mill levy is the tax rate used by local governments to calculate property taxes. One mill is equal to $1 of tax for every $1,000 of a property's assessed value. The proposed increase is estimated at $115 per year on a $750,000 home and would generate $30M annually.

This measure is backed by Brighter Start Boulder County and there is no formal opposition coalition.

LEARN MORE ABOUT REFERRED QUESTION 2I: TWO-YEAR BUDGET APPROPRIATIONS PROCESS (BUDGET TOGETHER DENVER)

The measure would amend the Denver Charter to permit City Council to adopt a two-year budget planning and adoption process and modernize or repeal certain existing charter provisions. Council would retain the option to use a one-year cycle in times of economic uncertainty, allowing for both flexibility and more strategic long-term planning. This may impact the way Denver City Council responds to changing needs during the budget cycle, including resources for affordable housing, homelessness response, and other human services.

Learn more about the proposed changes to the budget process.

THANK YOU FOR READING OUR BALLOT GUIDE

Join the Colorado Coalition for the Homeless on Wednesday, November 18 at 12:00 PM for a session in our 2026 Education Series: Post-Election Updates: Federal, State, and Local.

Colorado Coalition for the Homeless' Chief Communications and Public Policy Officer and other members of the Education & Advocacy Team will discuss the impact of the recent election on the homelessness, housing, and health sectors. Implementation of HR1 policies and other policies will also be addressed.

Register and learn more here.

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