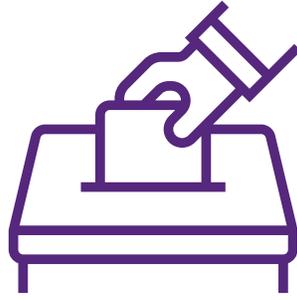


VOTE LIKE YOU MEAN IT

A helpful resource to simplify the
2022 Colorado ballot measures



**Developmental
Pathways**
www.dpcolo.org



Hey there, Voter

Your vote matters and Developmental Pathways wants to be sure you have the information needed to make an informed vote. The 2022 ballot has 11 statewide ballot measures for you to consider. This Colorado Voter Guide describes the statewide issues on your ballot. For each measure, we explain what a yes or no vote would mean so that you have the information to make your own choice.

Local ballot issues may vary depending on the city, county, and special district you live in and are not included in this guide. You can [click here](#) to see what's on your ballot before it arrives. You can also visit your county's elections website for more resources and information.

For more information about ballot measures, check out the [Colorado Ballot Information Booklet](#) (Blue Book), which you may have already received in the mail. If you have not, you can find it online in English, Spanish, or in an audio version. The purpose of the Blue Book is to provide fair, unbiased information to all voters, but it can sometimes be a bit confusing. Developmental Pathways (DP), and many other groups, have created voter guides based on the Blue Book to simplify complex issues and encourage dialogue on both sides. We want all voters to feel empowered to make their own choices when voting.

There are many ways to vote, so we encourage you to make a voting plan! All registered Colorado voters will receive a ballot in the mail. You can return your ballot at a dropbox in your county or place a stamp on the envelope and mail it back. You can also vote in person at [Voter Service and Polling Centers \(VSPC\)](#). If you have a disability, you can vote with an electronic ballot. Visit [GoVoteColorado.gov](https://www.GoVoteColorado.gov) to make sure your registration is up to date, learn how to vote, and track your ballot!

Thank you for reading & happy voting!



Amendment D: New 23rd Judicial District Judges



Helpful background info

This issue was referred from the Colorado legislature, meaning it was originally a bill voted on by your elected officials. The bill passed the Colorado House and Senate with support from both Democrats and Republicans.

Colorado currently has 22 judicial districts. The State has approved the creation of a new 23rd judicial district by separating Douglas, Elbert, and Lincoln counties from Arapahoe County. This amendment affects how to assign judges in the new Judicial District.

What your vote means:



A **YES** vote means

- ✓ The Governor would assign the judges from the 18th Judicial District (Arapahoe County) to serve the remainder of their term in the new 23rd Judicial District (Douglas County, Elbert County, and Lincoln County).
- ✓ There will be a transition period, which could avoid the cost of potential lawsuits due to the state law being unclear.



A **NO** vote means

- ✗ Judges would be appointed or assigned by current law, which already allows judges to be appointed when there is a vacancy.



Amendment E:

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

Amendment



Helpful background info

Currently, in Colorado, U.S. Armed Forces veterans who are considered to have permanent disabilities qualify for property tax exemptions. The tax exemption eliminates half of the property taxes on the first \$200,000 of the property's actual value. This means that veterans with disabilities pay less in property taxes.

This measure would extend the property tax exemption benefits to the surviving spouse (husband or wife) of veterans who died in the line of duty or from a service-related injury. Therefore, the deceased veteran's spouse can receive the same tax exemption benefits. The State reimburses local governments for the reduction in revenue because of the tax exemptions. It is estimated that this measure will cost the State an additional \$525,000 a year starting next year.

This issue was referred from the Colorado legislature.

What your vote means:



A **YES** vote means

- ✓ The spouses of veterans who have died would receive the same property tax exemptions as veterans with disabilities (husbands and wives of deceased veterans will pay less money).
- ✓ This would cost the State an additional \$525,000 annually in reimbursements to local governments.



A **NO** vote means

- ✗ The property tax exemptions would not be extended to spouses of veterans who died (there would be no change to current law; husbands and wives of veterans who died continue to pay their property taxes as they are now).
- ✗ The State would not be required to make additional reimbursements to local governments.



Amendment F:

Changes to Charitable Gaming Operations



Helpful background info

In Colorado, nonprofit organizations often run bingo or other “gaming” events to raise money, called charity gaming events. Currently, nonprofits must operate in Colorado for five years before applying for a charitable gaming license and cannot pay workers to help run the gaming event. This measure would change the requirements to obtain a license to run a charity gaming event.

This issue was referred from the Colorado legislature.

What your vote means:



A **YES** vote means

- ✓ A nonprofit would only have to operate in Colorado for three years before applying for a license (making it take less time than the current five years). It also allows the legislature to change the number of years that the nonprofit has to operate in Colorado in the future.
- ✓ Allows nonprofits (but does not require them) to pay the charity gaming workers.



A **NO** vote means

- ✗ No changes; keeps the rule the way it is. Nonprofits would need to be operating in Colorado for five years to qualify.
- ✗ Charity gaming event workers must be unpaid volunteers.



Proposition 121: State Income Tax Reduction



Helpful background info

Colorado has had a flat tax rate for individual income since 1987, which means that everyone, regardless of how much money they earn (income), pays the same percentage of taxes on the money they make.

In 2020, Proposition 116 was passed, reducing the tax rate from 4.63% to 4.55%. Proposition 121 would further reduce the tax rate from 4.55% to 4.40%. The total tax savings for Colorado taxpayers would be approximately \$400 million per year, but could mean less money for public services in future budget years

What your vote means:



A **YES** vote means

- ✓ Taxpayers would pay less money in income taxes (save money).
- ✓ There would be less money for public services (K 12 education, colleges and universities, disability services, and other state funded programs).



A **NO** vote means

- ✗ The current individual income tax rate would remain in place (people would pay the same percentage of taxes to the State on the money they earn).
- ✗ The State would keep the same amount of money for public services (K-12 education, colleges and universities, disability services, and other state-funded programs).



Proposition 122: Access to Natural Psychedelic Substances



Helpful background info

Natural psychedelic substances refer to plants or fungi with psychedelic or hallucinogenic uses. These plants or fungi have been known to help treat some mental health issues but have also been used recreationally (for fun). This measure would do several things:

- Allow the supervised use of psychedelic mushrooms (aka magic mushrooms) by individuals over 21 years old AND at licensed facilities across the state.
- Require Colorado to set up rules to regulate or oversee these licensed facilities.
- Would start with allowing the use of psychedelic mushrooms but, eventually, allow the supervised use of other psychedelic substances.
- Decriminalize personal possession, growing, sharing, and use, but selling these psychedelic substances would still be a criminal offense.
- It would create penalties for individuals under 21 years old who possess these psychedelic substances and for individuals over 21 that allow underage people to access or use these substances.

The city and county of Denver (2019) and voters in Oregon (2020) passed similar measures to decriminalize the use of natural medicines.

What your vote means:



A **YES** vote means

- ✓ In Colorado, people would be able to use certain natural psychedelic substances to treat issues like depression, anxiety, addiction, and other mental health issues (more people can use natural medicines for their sicknesses throughout the state).
- ✓ Colorado would set up licensed facilities and other agencies to help make rules about using natural medicine (people would be allowed to use these natural psychedelic substances at certain places).



A **NO** vote means

- ✗ Nothing would change from the current rules for psychedelic substances in the city and county of Denver and across the state.
- ✗ There would be no licensed facilities created throughout the state.



Proposition 123: Dedicate Revenue for Affordable Housing Programs



Helpful background info

This measure would increase the State's funding for affordable housing (housing that costs less than the average price). The State currently spends about \$50 million a year on affordable housing. This measure would increase the State's affordable housing budget to \$270 million a year.

This measure would give local governments grants to develop affordable housing options and expand programs. This measure adds but does not replace existing state funds spent on affordable housing.

Income taxes would not directly increase because of the measure. However, the measure would dedicate more tax revenue for housing, and therefore the State may have less money for other priorities. It is estimated that the measure could fund about 10,000 affordable housing units a year.

What your vote means:



A **YES** vote means

- ✓ Colorado would dedicate 0.01% of state income tax revenue to fund the affordable housing program (more money will be used for housing).
- ✓ It may impact the amount of TABOR refunds taxpayers receive in the future (people may get less money back).



A **NO** vote means

- ✗ No changes would be made to the amount of money allocated for affordable housing (stays at \$50 million).
- ✗ No changes would be made to the amount of income taxes put toward affordable housing (stays the same).



Proposition 124: Increase Allowable Liquor Store Locations



Helpful background info

Currently, retailers in Colorado are limited to having three liquor store locations across the state. Grocery stores (with pharmacies) that sell beer, wine, and liquor are limited to four locations. This measure would change the limits for retail liquor stores, allowing retailers to open more locations. New locations would be required to be at least 1,500 feet away from other retail liquor stores.

What your vote means:



A **YES** vote means



Liquor store businesses would be allowed to increase their number of locations across the state and eventually, a retailer could have an unlimited number of licenses.



A **NO** vote means



The current rules will remain the same (limit of three locations), but after 2026 that limit would increase to four across the state.



Proposition 125:

Allow Grocery and Convenience Stores to Sell Wine



Helpful background info

Currently, a limited number of grocery stores are licensed to sell beer, but not wine or liquor. A grocery store would need a separate license if it wanted to sell wine or liquor. This measure would automatically allow all licensed stores to sell beer, wine, and certain types of liquors (for example, wine coolers, sake, cider, and mead).

What your vote means:



A **YES** vote means



Grocery and convenience stores currently selling beer would automatically be allowed to sell wine.



A **NO** vote means



Nothing changes. Grocery and convenience stores would be able to keep selling beer but not wine.



Proposition 126: Third-Party Delivery of Alcohol Beverages



Helpful background info

In Colorado, grocery stores, convenience stores, liquor stores, bars, restaurants, and other businesses with liquor licenses have to use their employees to deliver alcohol to customers.

This measure would allow grocery, convenience, and liquor stores, bars, and restaurants to use third-party delivery services for alcohol deliveries. It would also permanently allow bars and restaurants to offer alcohol takeout and delivery. Third-party delivery services mean someone who does not work directly for the seller can deliver alcohol, such as Door Dash, Grub Hub, Uber Eats, Postmates, etc.

What your vote means:



A **YES** vote means

- ✓ Third party companies would be allowed to deliver alcohol from grocery, convenience, and liquor stores, bars, restaurants, and other liquor licensed businesses.
- ✓ Takeout and delivery of alcohol would be permanently allowed.



A **NO** vote means

- ✗ If a restaurant is offering delivery of alcohol, then they must use their employees to deliver.
- ✗ Takeout and delivery of alcohol by bars and restaurants are scheduled to end in 2025.



Proposition FF: Healthy School Meals for All



Helpful background info

Schools currently get money from the state and federal governments (and families) to pay for students' meals provided at school. State and federal dollars are used based on a family's income—so if the family makes less than a certain amount of money, state and federal dollars help cover the cost of the meal.

This measure would create the Healthy School Meals for All program. This program would allow schools to serve free breakfasts and lunches to all public school students, regardless of their family's income. This also includes early childhood education programs run by public schools.

The measure would increase taxes for households that make over \$300,000 per year and use other federal funding to pay for this program.

This issue was referred from the Colorado legislature.

What your vote means:



A **YES** vote means

- ✓ Some households would have to pay more taxes. This would be done by limiting tax deductions for households making over \$300,000 per year.
- ✓ All children would be eligible to receive free meals in school.



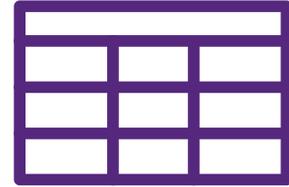
A **NO** vote means

- ✗ No change in taxes for some people.
- ✗ The current standard would remain that only students from low-income families receive free meals at school (only children whose families do not have a lot of money can eat at school for free).



Proposition GG:

Add Tax Information Table to Petitions and Ballots



Helpful background info

In Colorado, we have many citizen-initiated ballot measures. Because of the Taxpayers Bill of Rights (TABOR), all ballot measures must clearly state if the issue raises or lowers taxes. The table would specify the tax increase or decrease and its impact on eight income categories.

This measure was referred from the Colorado legislature and would add a tax information table next to any ballot measure that affects taxes.

What your vote means:



A **YES** vote means

- ✓ A table would be included on ballots that lists the average change in taxes for taxpayers in specific income categories.
- ✓ The table would allow voters to better understand the tax impact of the issue on the ballot.



A **NO** vote means

- ✗ Nothing changes. No table is required on ballots.
- ✗ Avoids administrative costs and effort to calculate and include the table on ballots.



Developmental Pathways

Developmental Pathways is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit agency serving individuals with developmental disabilities/delays and their families. We are one of Colorado's Community Centered Boards (CCB) connecting people to federal, state, county, and private funding in Arapahoe County, Douglas County, Elbert County, and the City of Aurora. We passionately believe inclusion is for everyone and offer a variety of services, including Home and Community Based Medicaid Waiver programs.



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