

Committee to Preserve Colorado
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Be it enacted by the People of Colorado:

An Article of the Constitution of the State of Colorado is amended by the addition of a new section, to read:

Issue Campaigns both State and Local shall be amended by the following:

1. Beginning with signature gathering and ending with the election date for a particular issue shall be known as the campaign period. Whether for a State or Local Government, elected public officials and any person appointed by such shall remain neutral and shall not make public statements or indulge in any actions to promote or oppose such issue. Such an action taken by such person(s) is subject to an Administrative Law Judge (A L J) complaint. This specified conduct shall also apply at any time after an initiative or referendum has been approved by voters at a time when the governing body intends to amend or repeal such.
2. Only one Issue Campaign Committee shall be allowed to represent an issue and one to oppose it. Issue committees are responsible for all web sites, advertising, related personnel, petitioning, and legal and attorney costs used for any reason including but not limited to legal advice, drafting forms, and legal challenges.
3. Rule One: Campaigns by issue committees using any media including but not limited to television and radio broadcasting, internet usage used for the purpose of campaigning, mailed or handed out literature, or by any other means under the jurisdiction of an issue committee, shall be limited to fundamentally truthful statements and speculation based on factual evidence. Fundamentally untruthful or misleading statements, half-truths, and unsupported speculations shall not be permitted and shall be subject to an A L J complaint against such committee and/or any person(s) affiliated with such.
4. Organizations of public employees such as police and firefighters unions, teacher organizations, or any other organized group representing publicly funded personnel shall be subject to Rule One and report all activities and costs, whether actual or in-kind, used to support or oppose an issue, to the corresponding committee and that such committees shall report such activities in the monthly campaign report made to the Secretary of State for state issues or to the City, City and County, Town, or County Clerk in the case of a local government issue. Donations under \$100 need not be reported.
5. Newspaper editorials written by such newspaper personnel regardless of the media form used, and television and radio broadcasts containing opinions or material generated by employees of such, shall

comply with Rule One and are subject to an A LJ complaint. Private persons not directly affiliated with an issue campaign shall not be subject to Rule One. Talk shows, debates, and discussions involving persons not affiliated with such media broadcast are not subject to Rule One but both sides of an issue shall be fairly represented. Industries, corporations, or any business along with their spokespeople who may be impacted by an issue shall comply with Rule One.

6. A LJ Complaints: A complaint shall be made to an Administrative Law Judge and requires at least two verifiable facts to validate a complaint. No public funds or publically funded legal support shall be used by publically elected officials or their appointees to facilitate a legal defense in case of a complaint against them nor shall any public funds be used to file a complaint against a committee. Fines up to \$5,000 may be assessed by an Administrative Law Judge for each successful complaint. Estimated court costs shall be paid by the loser of such case. In the case of campaign advertising that has been determined as violating Rule One, a similar amount of advertising shall be required to properly inform voters of the violation and to correct such campaign tactic and shall be known as a correction period. A violation of Rule One by a committee or an unauthorized entity before an election leaving inadequate time for a complaint and correction period to take place and where it is found that such campaign tactics have tainted the electorate enough to cause a different election result, then such committee or unauthorized entity may be found liable for the opposition's entire campaign and petitioning costs in a civil legal action.

7. Local Issue Campaigns: A legal action may be filed regarding the form or content of a local amendment, ordinance, initiative, or referendum, or the petition form before signatures are gathered to the City, City and County, Town, or County Clerk's office within two weeks of approval of such. The appropriate judicial court shall hear this complaint within two weeks of such filing and shall make a determination regarding such filing. Once corrections, if any, are made to the amendment, ordinance, or petition and final approval is given by the clerk of such local government, no further legal action shall be allowed regarding such. Petition signatures may be challenged by the opposing committee within two weeks of the declaration of signature sufficiency for determination by an appropriate judicial entity. Following such determination of sufficiency or that needed additional signatures have been gathered for sufficiency as determined by the Clerk of such local government, no further legal challenges shall be allowed regarding such.

8. As used this section unless context otherwise requires:

- a. Fundamentally truthful statement is a statement which is supported by the preponderance of evidence.
- b. Half-truth is when only part of the facts are used but not all of the facts in order to mislead the voters as to the net effect of this section.
- c. Misleading speculation is propagating events or chain of events based on unsupported facts or events, and/ or half-truths.