

First Regular Session
Sixty-eighth General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 11-0527.01 Troy Bratton

HOUSE BILL 11-1035

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Court,

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Carroll,

House Committees
State, Veterans, & Military Affairs

Senate Committees

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 CONCERNING AN INFORMATIVE STATEMENT TO BE INCLUDED IN THE
102 BALLOT INFORMATION BOOKLET PRECEDING EACH MEASURE
103 THAT IS TO APPEAR ON THE BALLOT.

Bill Summary

(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <http://www.leg.state.co.us/billsummaries>.)

The bill requires the ballot information booklet (blue book) or other publication of initiated and referred measures to contain a statement before each measure informing the voter that the title was drafted by professional staff and is a summary for ballot purposes only. The

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.
Capital letters indicate new material to be added to existing statute.
Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.

statement also informs voters that the text of a referred measure was thoroughly debated by the general assembly and that the text of an initiated measure was drafted by the initiative proponents. Finally, the statement for referred measures informs voters that the measure is included on the ballot because it has passed a majority vote of the state senate and the state house of representatives, while the statement for initiated measures states that the measure is included on the ballot because the proponents have gathered the required amount of petition signatures.

1 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

2 **SECTION 1.** Part 1 of article 40 of title 1, Colorado Revised
3 Statutes, is amended BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW SECTION to
4 read:

5 **1-40-126.5. Explanation of ballot titles and actual text of**
6 **measures in notices provided by mailing or publication.** (1) IN ANY
7 NOTICE TO ELECTORS PROVIDED BY THE DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH OF THE
8 LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, WHETHER IN THE BALLOT INFORMATION BOOKLET
9 PREPARED PURSUANT TO SECTION 1-40-124.5 OR BY PUBLICATION
10 PURSUANT TO SECTION 1-40-124, THERE SHALL BE INCLUDED THE
11 FOLLOWING EXPLANATION PRECEDING THE TITLE OF EACH MEASURE:

12 (a) FOR REFERRED MEASURES: "THE BALLOT TITLE BELOW IS A
13 SUMMARY DRAFTED BY THE PROFESSIONAL LEGAL STAFF FOR THE
14 GENERAL ASSEMBLY FOR BALLOT PURPOSES ONLY. THE BALLOT TITLE
15 WILL NOT APPEAR IN THE (COLORADO CONSTITUTION/COLORADO REVISED
16 STATUTES). THE TEXT OF THE MEASURE THAT WILL APPEAR IN THE
17 (COLORADO CONSTITUTION/COLORADO REVISED STATUTES) BELOW WAS
18 THOROUGHLY DEBATED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND IS REFERRED TO
19 THE VOTERS BECAUSE IT PASSED BY A (TWO-THIRDS MAJORITY/MAJORITY)
20 VOTE OF THE STATE SENATE AND THE STATE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES."

1 (b) FOR INITIATED MEASURES: "THE BALLOT TITLE BELOW IS A
2 SUMMARY DRAFTED BY THE PROFESSIONAL STAFF OF THE OFFICES OF THE
3 SECRETARY OF STATE, THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, AND THE LEGAL STAFF
4 FOR THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FOR BALLOT PURPOSES ONLY. THE BALLOT
5 TITLE WILL NOT APPEAR IN THE (COLORADO CONSTITUTION/COLORADO
6 REVISED STATUTES). THE TEXT OF THE MEASURE THAT WILL APPEAR IN
7 THE (COLORADO CONSTITUTION/COLORADO REVISED STATUTES) BELOW
8 WAS DRAFTED BY THE PROPONENTS OF THE INITIATIVE. THE INITIATED
9 MEASURE IS INCLUDED ON THE BALLOT AS A PROPOSED CHANGE TO
10 CURRENT LAW BECAUSE THE PROPONENTS GATHERED THE REQUIRED
11 AMOUNT OF PETITION SIGNATURES."

12 **SECTION 2. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds,
13 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate
14 preservation of the public peace, health, and safety.