First Regular Session Sixty-eighth General Assembly STATE OF COLORADO

PREAMENDED

This Unofficial Version Includes Committee Amendments Not Yet Adopted on Second Reading HOUSE BILL 11-1035

LLS NO. 11-0527.01 Troy Bratton

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Court,

Carroll,

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

House Committees State, Veterans, & Military Affairs **Senate Committees** State, Veterans & Military Affairs

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 HOUSE 3rd Reading Unam ended January 31, 2011



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 REFERRED TO THE VOTERS BECAUSE IT PASSED BY A (TWO-THIRDS 19 MAJORITY/MAJORITY) VOTE OF THE STATE SENATE AND THE STATE HOUSE 20 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."

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