

**STATE CONDITIONAL
FISCAL IMPACT**

Drafting Number: LLS 15-0945 **Date:** April 27, 2015
Prime Sponsor(s): Sen. Roberts; Steadman **Bill Status:** Senate SVMA
Fiscal Analyst: Lauren Schreier (303-866-3523)

BILL TOPIC: BALLOT PROCEDURE CITIZEN-INITIATED AMENDMENTS

Fiscal Impact Summary*	FY 2015-16	FY 2016-17	FY 2017-18	FY 2018-19	FY 2019-20
State Revenue					
State Expenditures					\$36,215
General Fund					36,215
FTE Position Change					
Appropriation Required: None.					

* This summary shows changes from current law under the bill for each fiscal year.

Summary of Legislation

This resolution refers a measure to the voters to amend the Colorado Constitution to establish a new two-step process for initiative petitions that amend the state constitution. After an initiative petition for an amendment to the constitution has been properly filed with the Secretary of State, the Secretary of State will submit the authorization question for the measure to the voters for their consideration at the next general election. If less than a majority of voters approve the authorization question, no further action is required for the measure. If a majority of voters approve the authorization question, the Secretary of State will submit the measure by its ballot title to voters for their consideration at the next election. The resolution does not apply to initiated constitutional amendments that only repeal a provision of an amendment to the constitution that was adopted prior to 2015.

Following the approval of the authorization question, Legislative Council staff, the nonpartisan research staff of the General Assembly, must conduct at least one public hearing in each congressional district before the odd-year election at which the measure will be on the ballot. At the public meetings, Legislative Council staff will summarize information to be included in the ballot information booklet, known as the Blue Book.

State Expenditures

Conditional upon the referred measure being approved by voters at the November 2016 election and the measure first taking effect in 2018, the bill will increase expenditures in FY 2019-20 and every other year thereafter by \$36,215. These costs include additional costs for Blue Book printing and preparation (\$28,190) and travel costs to hold meetings in each congressional district (\$8,025).

Assumptions. In the last five years, there were an average of 2 citizen-initiated constitutional amendments each year (4 in 2010, 0 in 2011, 2 in 2012, 1 in 2013, and 2 in 2014). It is expected that citizen-initiated constitutional amendments will be approved at this rate of 2 per year. Under the resolution, it is assumed that only one citizen-initiated constitutional amendment at the authorization question stage and will carry forward into the following year.

Blue book. By requiring citizen-initiated measures (an average of one per election cycle) to be placed on the ballot two times, two Blue Book analyses will be conducted by Legislative Council staff. Costs for an additional eight pages of printing costs are included, based on costs for producing the 2014 Blue Book.

Travel costs. The resolution requires that Legislative Council staff travel to conduct at least one public hearing in each of the seven congressional districts before the odd-year election at which the measure will be on the ballot. Legislative Council Staff will discuss and summarize information that will be included in the blue book. This travel will increase costs by \$8,025 in FY 2019-20 and every other year thereafter.

Other costs. Costs for Blue Book production, mailing, county election cost reimbursement and election-related notifications are not included as it is assumed that the Blue Book will be produced each year independent of the resolution.

Effective Date

The concurrent resolution takes effect after the date of the official declaration of the vote by proclamation of the Governor, not later than 30 days after the votes have been canvassed.

State and Local Government Contacts

Legislative Council
Counties

State

County Clerks and Recordors