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ELECTIONS/LICENSING
SECRETARY OF STATE

S. WARD

"Your Vote Counts Act" – #68
Version showing changes in RED . . .

Be it Enacted by the People of the State of Colorado:

In the constitution of the state of Colorado, section 1 of article V, amend (2); add (11), and amend section 22 of article V, as follows:

"Section 1. General assembly - initiative and referendum. (2) The first power hereby reserved by the people is the initiative, and signatures by registered electors in an amount equal to at least five percent of the total number of votes cast for all candidates for the office of secretary of state at the previous general election shall be required to propose ~~any measure~~ A CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT by petition AND AT LEAST FOUR PERCENT TO PROPOSE LEGISLATION BY PETITION, and every such petition shall include the full text of the measure so proposed. Initiative petitions for state legislation and amendments to the constitution, in such form as may be prescribed pursuant to law, shall be addressed to and filed with the secretary of state at least three months before the general election at which they are to be voted upon.

(11) (a) THIS MEASURE SHALL BE KNOWN AND MAY BE CITED AS THE "YOUR VOTE COUNTS ACT."

(b) A STATUTE ENACTED BY CITIZEN INITIATIVE PURSUANT TO THIS ARTICLE SHALL NOT BE REPEALED OR AMENDED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, EXCEPT BY EITHER AT LEAST A THREE-FOURTHS VOTE OF THE MEMBERS OF EACH HOUSE, UNLESS SUCH STATUTE EXPLICITLY PROVIDES THAT THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY MAY REPEAL OR AMEND ~~THE STATUTE OR SPECIFIC PARTS OF THE STATUTE~~ BY A MAJORITY VOTE OF THE MEMBERS OF EACH HOUSE.

(c) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY MAY BY A MAJORITY VOTE OF THE MEMBERS OF EACH HOUSE PLACE A REPEAL OF A STATUTE ENACTED BY CITIZEN INITIATIVE OR AN AMENDMENT OR AMENDMENTS TO SUCH A STATUTE ON THE BALLOT FOR A VOTE OF THE PEOPLE THROUGH A STATEWIDE REFEREDNUM. IF A MAJORITY OF VOTERS CASTING BALLOTS ON THE SPECIFIC REFERENDUM VOTE IN FAVOR, THE REPEAL, AMENDMENT OR AMENDMENTS SHALL BE ENACTED.

(d) THIS ~~SECTION~~ SUBSECTION (11) SHALL APPLY PROSPECTIVELY TO ACTIONS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY RELATING TO STATUTES ENACTED BY CITIZEN INITIATIVE PURSUANT TO THIS ARTICLE, WHETHER THE INITIATIVE STATUTE WAS ENACTED BEFORE OR IS ENACTED AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS SECTION.

"Section 22. Reading and Passage of Bills. Every bill shall be read by title when introduced, and at length on two different days in each house; provided, however, any reading at length may be dispensed with upon unanimous consent of the members present. All substantial amendments made thereto shall be printed for the use of the members before the final vote is taken on the bill, and no bill shall become a law except by a vote of the majority of all members elected to each house taken on two separate days in each house, EXCEPT AS SET FORTH IN SECTION 1 (11) OF ARTICLE V OF THIS CONSTITUTION, nor unless upon its final passage the vote be taken by ayes and noes and the names of those voting be entered on the journal.