

Initiative 2025-2026 #159
Voter Approval for Tax Expansion
#j – Tax Expansions

Received by Legislative Council Staff
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Be it Enacted by the People of the State of Colorado:

SECTION 1. In the constitution of the state of Colorado, section 20 of article X, **amend** (4)(a); and **add** (2)(h) as follows:

Section 20. The Taxpayer’s Bill of Rights.

(2) Term definitions. Within this section:

(h) “TAX EXPANSION” MEANS A TAX NOT PREVIOUSLY ASSESSED; THE REMOVAL OR PARTIAL REMOVAL OF A TAX EXEMPTION, EXCLUSION, SUBTRACTION, DEDUCTION, OR CREDIT; OR A CHANGE IN TAX CLASSIFICATION.

(4) Required elections. Starting November 4, 1992, districts must have voter approval in advance for:

(a) Unless (1) or (6) applies, any new tax, tax rate increase, TAX EXPANSION THAT REGARDLESS OF HOW SMALL THE INCREASE HAS A NET EFFECT OF RAISING THE TAX BURDEN FOR ANY INDIVIDUAL, mill levy above that for the prior year, valuation for assessment ratio increase for a property class, or extension of an expiring tax, or a tax policy change directly causing a net tax revenue gain to any district.