



“Voice of the Western Slope since 1953”
A coalition of counties, communities, businesses & individuals

(970) 242-3264 ★ FAX (970) 245-8300
P.O. Box 550 ★ Grand Junction, CO 81502-0550
www.club20.org

X 01 1

CITIZEN INITIATIVE AND LEGISLATIVE REFERENDA PROCESSES

WHEREAS CLUB 20 endorses and supports the right of the citizens to petition their government, and

WHEREAS the Colorado constitution is subject to amendment by two processes, one by action of the General Assembly placing an issue before the electorate as a referendum and one by the citizen's initiative process, and

WHEREAS Western Colorado has a small population base compared to other parts of the state, and

WHEREAS, because an initiative can currently be placed on the ballot by collecting signatures from a very small area in the Front Range, the process of placing initiatives on the ballot by signature petition lacks a fair and equitable representation of the geographic distribution of the population, and

WHEREAS the Colorado General Assembly must have a 2/3 affirmative vote in each house in order to refer a constitutional amendment to the voters, and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that CLUB 20 supports changing the process for citizen initiatives and legislative referenda as follows:

- Change the basis of signature requirements for petition process to the number of voters who participated in the last vote of Governor rather than Secretary of State.
- For initiated statutory measures, require that the signatures of 5% of all those who voted in the last gubernatorial election within each of the state's Congressional Districts be secured to place such measures on the ballot and require a simple majority of voters to approve, but a super majority of the legislature (both houses) to amend or change.
- For initiated constitutional measures, require that the signatures of 10% of all those who voted in the last gubernatorial election within each of the state's Congressional Districts be secured to place such measures on the ballot and require a supermajority of voters to approve.
- For referred constitutional measures, require a supermajority of legislators to refer such measures to the ballot and a supermajority of voters to approve.
- Eliminate the “single subject” requirement for citizen initiatives and legislative referenda.
- Eliminate the provision within TABOR which limits to even years all votes on fiscal ballot measures.
- Require clearer ballot language that is more understandable to the average voter.
- Require financial disclosure of all initiative supporters.
- Create a Constitutional Review Commission to periodically review all or part of the constitution and make recommendations to the voters to improve it.

Adopted 3/2/01
Amended 9/7/01
Amended 9/8/06
Amended 4/9/10