



**It's ballot petition signing season.
Be careful. Be smart. Beware.**

Signature gatherers are everywhere these days--at the grocery store, at the park, or even in church. As well-meaning as they may be, as positive as the message may sound, please wait until you've had a chance to really read the proposal to make a decision to sign a petition.

It often takes over \$1 million to get an initiative on the ballot due to the signature requirements and the need to pay petition circulators to get the required signatures. Grassroots efforts rarely succeed. That means you need to know who is financing the effort and why.

The other type of ballot measure is the referendum measure that is referred to the ballot by the State Legislature by either a majority or super-majority vote. In Colorado, these are usually tax measures or measures that amend our State Constitution.

This year, there are only two statewide ballot measures, Prop LL and Prop MM. Both relate to the Healthy School Meals for All Program, and both were referred by the Legislature. AAUW of Colorado has endorsed both measures.

For 2026, here is the link to the Secretary of State's website that lists the proposed initiatives and where they are in the process.:

<https://www.sos.state.co.us/pubs/elections/Initiatives/titleBoard/index.html>

You can see the text of the proposal, the supporters, the opponents, and other pertinent information.

Here is a list of proposed ballot measures for 2026 that have been approved for circulation:

- #81 Admission to State Institutions of Higher Education
- #85 Penalties for Fentanyl Crimes
- #95 Law Enforcement Reporting Requirements to Federal Authorities
- #108 Penalties for Human Trafficking of a Minor
- #109 Male and Female Participation in School Sports
- #110 Prohibit Certain Surgeries on Minors

Again, be careful, be smart, beware before you sign.

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