

# STATE OF COLORADO

## Colorado General Assembly

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## MEMORANDUM

To: Hattie Lou Reed and Mike Melanson  
FROM: Legislative Council Staff and Office of Legislative Legal Services  
DATE: April 1, 2020  
SUBJECT: Proposed initiative measure 2019-2020 #318 regarding ballot access by candidates

Section 1-40-105 (1), Colorado Revised Statutes, requires the directors of the Colorado Legislative Council and the Office of Legislative Legal Services to "review and comment" on initiative petitions for proposed laws and amendments to the Colorado constitution. We hereby submit our comments to you regarding the appended proposed initiative.

The purpose of this statutory requirement of the directors of Legislative Council and the Office of Legislative Legal Services is to provide comments intended to aid proponents in determining the language of their proposal and to avail the public of knowledge of the contents of the proposal. Our first objective is to be sure we understand your intent and your objective in proposing the amendment. We hope that the statements and questions contained in this memorandum will provide a basis for discussion and understanding of the proposal.

This initiative was submitted with a series of initiatives including proposed initiatives 2019-2020 #316 to #318. The comments and questions raised in this memorandum will not include the substantive comments and questions that were addressed in the memoranda for proposed initiatives 2019-2020 #316 and #317, except as necessary to fully understand the issues raised by the revised proposed initiative. Comments and questions addressed in those other memoranda may also be relevant, and those questions and comments are hereby incorporated by reference in this memorandum.

## **Purposes**

The major purposes of the proposed amendment to the Colorado Revised Statutes appear to be:

1. To eliminate the role of the political party assembly in designating candidates for the primary and general election ballots.
2. To ensure that candidates are placed on the ballot for the primary or general election, as applicable, exclusively by petition.

## **Substantive Comments and Questions**

There are no new substantive comments.

## **Technical Comments**

There are no new technical comments.