

First Regular Session  
Seventy-fifth General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO

DRAFT  
1/5/25

DRAFT

LLS NO. 25-0571.01 Alison Killen x4350

HOUSE BILL

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HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Marshall,

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

(None),

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**BILL TOPIC:** Mod County Commissioner Elections

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**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

101 CONCERNING THE MODIFICATION OF COUNTY COMMISSIONER  
102 ELECTIONS IN COUNTIES WITH POPULATIONS OF ONE HUNDRED  
103 FIFTY THOUSAND OR MORE, AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH,  
104 REQUIRING SUCH COUNTIES TO HAVE FIVE COMMISSIONERS, ALL  
105 OF WHOM ARE ELECTED ONLY BY VOTERS RESIDENT IN THE  
106 DISTRICT FROM WHICH THE COMMISSIONER RUNS FOR ELECTION  
107 OR BY PROPORTIONAL RANKED CHOICE VOTING.

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**Bill Summary**

*(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <http://leg.colorado.gov>.)*

*Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material to be added to existing law.  
Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing law.*

Currently, in a county with a population of 70,000 or more, the board of county commissioners (board) may consist of 3 commissioners from 3 districts, with one commissioner elected from each district by voters of the whole county. Alternatively, the board may consist of 5 commissioners, the county may be divided into 3 or 5 districts, and the commissioners may be elected pursuant to numerous methods, including by district or at large or by some combination of both methods.

The bill eliminates this discretionary system for counties with a population of 150,000 or more and instead requires such counties to have 5 commissioners and 5 districts. The bill allows the counties to choose between 2 election alternatives for its commissioners:

- 5 commissioners resident in 5 districts elected only by voters resident in those districts; or
- 5 commissioners elected at large using the proportional ranked voting method known as the single transferable vote method.

The bill makes conforming amendments to statutory provisions concerning commissioner district and election petition statutes.

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1 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 1-4-205, **amend** (3);  
3 and **add** (4) as follows:

4 **1-4-205. County commissioners.** (3) (a) In each county having  
5 a population of seventy thousand or more BUT FEWER THAN ONE HUNDRED  
6 FIFTY THOUSAND, the board of county commissioners may consist either  
7 of three members, any two of whom ~~shall~~ constitute a quorum for the  
8 transaction of business, or of five members, any three of whom ~~shall~~  
9 constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

10 (b) If the board consists of three commissioners, they shall be  
11 elected as provided in subsection (2) of this section and as provided in  
12 section 30-10-306.7 (5). ~~C.R.S.~~

13 (c) In any county having a population of seventy thousand or more  
14 BUT FEWER THAN ONE HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND, the membership of the

1 board of county commissioners may be increased from three to five  
2 members pursuant to section 30-10-306.5, ~~C.R.S.~~, or decreased from five  
3 to three members pursuant to section 30-10-306.7 (2)(a)(II). ~~C.R.S.~~

4 (4) IN EACH COUNTY HAVING A POPULATION OF ONE HUNDRED  
5 FIFTY THOUSAND OR MORE, THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
6 CONSISTS OF FIVE COMMISSIONERS, ANY THREE OF WHOM CONSTITUTE A  
7 QUORUM FOR THE TRANSACTION OF BUSINESS. THE FIVE COUNTY  
8 COMMISSIONERS MUST BE ELECTED AS PROVIDED IN SECTION 30-10-306.8  
9 (5) OR (6).

10 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 30-10-306, **amend**  
11 (1) and (2); and **add** (2.5) as follows:

12 **30-10-306. Commissioners' districts - vacancies - definitions.**

13 (1) Each county must be divided into three compact districts by the board  
14 of county commissioners. Each district must be as nearly equal in  
15 population as possible based on the redistricting population data prepared  
16 by staff of the legislative council and office of legislative legal services,  
17 or any successor offices, in accordance with section 2-2-902. ~~In no event~~  
18 ~~shall~~ There SHALL NOT be more than five percent deviation between the  
19 most populous and the least populous district in each county, at the time  
20 such district boundaries are adopted. Each district must be numbered  
21 consecutively and must not be subject to alteration more often than once  
22 every two years. One county commissioner must be elected from each of  
23 ~~such districts~~ DISTRICT by the voters of the whole county. If any county  
24 commissioner, during ~~his or her~~ THE COMMISSIONER'S term of office,  
25 moves from the district in which ~~he or she~~ THE COMMISSIONER resided  
26 when elected, ~~his or her~~ THE COMMISSIONER'S office ~~thereupon~~ becomes  
27 vacant. All proceedings by the board of county commissioners in

1 formation of such districts not inconsistent with this section are  
2 confirmed and validated.

3 (2) Each county having a population of seventy thousand or more  
4 BUT FEWER THAN ONE HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND that has chosen to  
5 increase the members of the board of county commissioners from three  
6 to five must be divided into three or five districts by the board of county  
7 commissioners according to the method of election described in section  
8 30-10-306.5 (5) or (6) or section 30-10-306.7. When applicable, the board  
9 of county commissioners shall divide the county into districts in  
10 accordance with the final redistricting plan approved in accordance with  
11 section 30-10-306.4. The districts must be as nearly equal in population  
12 as possible based on the redistricting population data prepared by staff of  
13 the legislative council and office of legislative legal services, or any  
14 successor offices, in accordance with section 2-2-902. ~~In no event shall~~  
15 There SHALL NOT be more than five percent deviation between the most  
16 populous and the least populous district in each county, at the time such  
17 district boundaries are adopted. Each district must be numbered  
18 consecutively and is not subject to alteration more often than once every  
19 two years; except that, notwithstanding subsection (3) of this section, the  
20 board may alter the districts to conform to precinct boundaries that are  
21 changed in accordance with section 1-5-103 (1), based on the division of  
22 the state into congressional districts or an approved plan for redistricting  
23 of the members of the general assembly when necessary to ensure that no  
24 precinct is located in more than one district. County commissioners are  
25 elected at large or from districts according to the method of election  
26 described in section 30-10-306.5 (5) or (6) or section 30-10-306.7. If any  
27 county commissioner required to be resident in a district moves during his

1 ~~or her~~ THE COMMISSIONER'S term of office from the district in which ~~he or~~  
2 ~~she~~ THE COMMISSIONER resided when elected, ~~his or her~~ THE  
3 COMMISSIONER'S office ~~thereupon~~ becomes vacant. All proceedings by the  
4 board of county commissioners in formation of such districts not  
5 inconsistent with this section are confirmed and validated.

6 (2.5) EACH COUNTY HAVING A POPULATION OF ONE HUNDRED  
7 FIFTY THOUSAND OR MORE MUST BE DIVIDED INTO FIVE DISTRICTS. WHEN  
8 APPLICABLE, THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS SHALL DIVIDE THE  
9 COUNTY INTO DISTRICTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE FINAL REDISTRICTING  
10 PLAN APPROVED IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 30-10-306.4. THE  
11 DISTRICTS MUST BE AS NEARLY EQUAL IN POPULATION AS POSSIBLE BASED  
12 ON THE REDISTRICTING POPULATION DATA PREPARED BY STAFF OF THE  
13 LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AND OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE LEGAL SERVICES, OR  
14 ANY SUCCESSOR OFFICES, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 2-2-902. THERE  
15 SHALL NOT BE MORE THAN FIVE PERCENT DEVIATION BETWEEN THE MOST  
16 POPULOUS AND THE LEAST POPULOUS DISTRICT IN EACH COUNTY AT THE  
17 TIME THAT DISTRICT BOUNDARIES ARE ADOPTED. EACH DISTRICT MUST BE  
18 NUMBERED CONSECUTIVELY AND IS NOT SUBJECT TO ALTERATION MORE  
19 OFTEN THAN ONCE EVERY TWO YEARS; EXCEPT THAT, NOTWITHSTANDING  
20 SUBSECTION (3) OF THIS SECTION, THE BOARD MAY ALTER THE DISTRICTS  
21 TO CONFORM TO PRECINCT BOUNDARIES THAT ARE CHANGED IN  
22 ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 1-5-103 (1) BASED ON THE DIVISION OF THE  
23 STATE INTO CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS OR AN APPROVED PLAN FOR  
24 REDISTRICTING OF THE MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY WHEN  
25 NECESSARY TO ENSURE THAT NO PRECINCT IS LOCATED IN MORE THAN ONE  
26 DISTRICT. COUNTY COMMISSIONERS ARE ELECTED ACCORDING TO THE  
27 METHOD OF ELECTION DESCRIBED IN SECTION 30-10-306.8 (5) OR (6). IF

1 ANY COUNTY COMMISSIONER REQUIRED TO BE RESIDENT IN A DISTRICT  
2 MOVES DURING THE COMMISSIONER'S TERM OF OFFICE FROM THE DISTRICT  
3 IN WHICH THE COMMISSIONER RESIDED WHEN ELECTED, THE  
4 COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE BECOMES VACANT. ALL PROCEEDINGS BY THE  
5 BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS IN FORMATION OF SUCH DISTRICTS  
6 NOT INCONSISTENT WITH THIS SECTION ARE CONFIRMED AND VALIDATED.

7 <{Rep. Marshall - I have purposefully drafted this section to require  
8 five districts regardless of the election method since you are still  
9 considering whether counties with RCV will elect by district or not;  
10 additionally, having 5 districts seems appropriate in case a county  
11 wishes to switch between the two methods of election.>

12 SECTION 3. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 30-10-306.5, **amend**  
13 (1) as follows:

14 **30-10-306.5. Procedure to increase number of county**  
15 **commissioners.** (1) In any county having a population of seventy  
16 thousand or more BUT FEWER THAN ONE HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND, the  
17 membership of the board of county commissioners may be increased from  
18 three to five members pursuant to this section.

19 SECTION 4. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 30-10-306.7, **amend**  
20 (1) as follows:

21 **30-10-306.7. Procedure for electing county commissioners.**  
22 (1) In any county having a population of seventy thousand or more BUT  
23 FEWER THAN ONE HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND, which has increased the  
24 membership of the board of county commissioners to five pursuant to  
25 sections 1-4-205 (3)(a) ~~C.R.S.~~, and 30-10-306.5, the registered electors  
26 may, either by referendum or by initiative, change the method of electing  
27 said members or reduce the membership of the board of county

1 commissioners to three, pursuant to the procedures in this section.

2           **SECTION 5.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 30-10-306.8 as  
3 follows:

4           **30-10-306.8. Requirement for five county commissioners in**  
5 **counties with populations of one hundred fifty thousand or more -**  
6 **elections - redistricting.** (1) IN ANY COUNTY HAVING A POPULATION OF  
7 ONE HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND OR MORE, THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE  
8 BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS CONSISTS OF FIVE MEMBERS ELECTED  
9 PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION. <*Rep. Marshall - I have not changed the*  
10 *dates for compliance in the below subsections from the dates we used*  
11 *last year; please let me know if you'd like to push those out*>

12           (2) IF, ON OR AFTER JANUARY 1, 2032, A COUNTY HAVING A  
13 POPULATION OF ONE HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND OR MORE HAS FEWER  
14 THAN FIVE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, THE BOARD OF COUNTY  
15 COMMISSIONERS SHALL ADOPT A RESOLUTION CHANGING ITS MEMBERSHIP  
16 TO FIVE MEMBERS. THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS SHALL PASS  
17 THE RESOLUTION NO LATER THAN ITS FIRST REGULARLY SCHEDULED  
18 MEETING IN CALENDAR YEAR 2032 OR ITS FIRST REGULARLY SCHEDULED  
19 MEETING IN THE MONTH FOLLOWING AN INCREASE IN THE COUNTY'S  
20 POPULATION, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 30-10-306 (6)(f), TO ONE HUNDRED  
21 FIFTY THOUSAND OR MORE.

22           (3) (a) IN ANY COUNTY HAVING A POPULATION OF ONE HUNDRED  
23 FIFTY THOUSAND OR MORE, THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
24 SHALL ADOPT A RESOLUTION DESIGNATING THE TWO ALTERNATIVE  
25 METHODS OF ELECTING FIVE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS SET FORTH IN  
26 SUBSECTIONS (5) AND (6) OF THIS SECTION. THE BOARD OF COUNTY  
27 COMMISSIONERS SHALL PASS THE RESOLUTION NO LATER THAN ITS FIRST

1 REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING IN CALENDAR YEAR 2032 OR ITS FIRST  
2 REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING IN THE MONTH FOLLOWING AN  
3 INCREASE IN THE COUNTY'S POPULATION, AS DEFINED IN SECTION  
4 30-10-306 (6)(f), TO ONE HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND OR MORE.

5 (b) THE RESOLUTION REQUIRED BY SUBSECTION (3)(a) OF THIS  
6 SECTION SHALL BE REFERRED TO THE REGISTERED ELECTORS OF THE  
7 COUNTY AT THE FIRST GENERAL ELECTION FOLLOWING ITS ADOPTION SO  
8 THAT THE VOTERS MAY CHOOSE WHICH OF THE TWO ALTERNATIVE  
9 METHODS OF ELECTING FIVE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS THEY PREFER.  
10 THEREAFTER, THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS SHALL TAKE  
11 ACTION TO ENSURE THAT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS ARE ELECTED AT THE  
12 NEXT GENERAL ELECTION ACCORDING TO THE METHOD OF ELECTION  
13 CONTAINED IN THE REFERRED RESOLUTION THAT RECEIVED THE LARGEST  
14 NUMBER OF VOTES CAST.

15 (c) A COUNTY HAVING A POPULATION OF ONE HUNDRED FIFTY  
16 THOUSAND OR MORE THAT PRESENTLY ELECTS FIVE COUNTY  
17 COMMISSIONERS ACCORDING TO ONE OF THE TWO ALTERNATIVE METHODS  
18 OF ELECTION SET FORTH IN SUBSECTION (5) OR (6) OF THIS SECTION IS NOT  
19 REQUIRED TO PASS THE RESOLUTION OTHERWISE REQUIRED BY  
20 SUBSECTION (3)(a) OF THIS SECTION.

21 (4) IN ANY COUNTY HAVING A POPULATION OF ONE HUNDRED FIFTY  
22 THOUSAND OR MORE, THE FIVE MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY  
23 COMMISSIONERS MUST BE ELECTED EITHER BY DISTRICT, AS DESCRIBED IN  
24 SUBSECTION (5) OF THIS SECTION, OR BY RANKED CHOICE VOTING, AS  
25 DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (6) OF THIS SECTION.

26 (5)(a) FIVE COMMISSIONERS RESIDENT IN FIVE DISTRICTS ELECTED  
27 BY VOTERS RESIDENT IN THOSE DISTRICTS MUST BE ELECTED AS FOLLOWS:



1 (I) IF THERE ARE THREE INCUMBENT COMMISSIONERS RESIDENT IN  
2 THREE DISTRICTS, THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS SHALL CHANGE  
3 THE BOUNDARIES OF THE COMMISSIONERS' DISTRICTS TO CREATE FIVE  
4 DISTRICTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF SECTION  
5 30-10-306(2.5) AND THE COUNTY'S FINAL REDISTRICTING PLAN APPROVED  
6 IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 30-10-306.4;

7 (II) UPON ADOPTION OF THE BOUNDARIES OF THE FIVE DISTRICTS,  
8 THE THREE INCUMBENT COMMISSIONERS SHALL SERVE THE NEWLY  
9 CREATED DISTRICTS IN WHICH THEY RESIDE;

10 (III) IF MORE THAN ONE INCUMBENT COMMISSIONER RESIDES  
11 WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF THE SAME NEWLY CREATED DISTRICT, THOSE  
12 COMMISSIONERS SHALL DETERMINE BY LOT WHICH OF THEM WILL SERVE  
13 THAT DISTRICT. THE REMAINING COMMISSIONER OR COMMISSIONERS  
14 SHALL THEN DETERMINE BY LOT WHICH OF THEM WILL SERVE THE  
15 REMAINING DISTRICTS.

16 (IV) THE COUNTY CLERK AND RECORDER SHALL ESTABLISH THE  
17 TIME, PLACE, AND MANNER IN WHICH THE LOTS ARE CONDUCTED AND  
18 SHALL DECLARE THE OFFICIAL RESULTS OF THE LOTS IMMEDIATELY  
19 THEREAFTER.

20 (b) IF THE FIRST GENERAL ELECTION AFTER THE ADOPTION OF THE  
21 DISTRICT METHOD OF ELECTION SET FORTH IN THIS SUBSECTION (5) IS HELD  
22 IN 2036 OR ANY FOURTH YEAR THEREAFTER, TWO MEMBERS RESIDENT IN  
23 DISTRICTS SHALL BE ELECTED TO FOUR-YEAR TERMS AT THAT GENERAL  
24 ELECTION, ONE MEMBER RESIDENT IN A DISTRICT SHALL BE ELECTED TO  
25 FILL THE VACANCY UNTIL THE NEXT GENERAL ELECTION, AND THREE  
26 MEMBERS RESIDENT IN DISTRICTS SHALL BE ELECTED TO FOUR-YEAR  
27 TERMS AT THE NEXT GENERAL ELECTION. THEREAFTER, TWO MEMBERS

1 RESIDENT IN DISTRICTS SHALL BE ELECTED AT THE GENERAL ELECTIONS  
2 THAT OCCUR EVERY FOUR YEARS AFTER THE FIRST GENERAL ELECTION  
3 FOLLOWING THE ADOPTION OF THE DISTRICT METHOD OF ELECTION, AND  
4 THREE MEMBERS RESIDENT IN DISTRICTS SHALL BE ELECTED AT THE  
5 GENERAL ELECTIONS THAT OCCUR EVERY FOUR YEARS AFTER THE  
6 GENERAL ELECTION THAT OCCURS TWO YEARS AFTER THE FIRST GENERAL  
7 ELECTION FOLLOWING THE ADOPTION OF THE DISTRICT METHOD OF  
8 ELECTION.

9 (c) IF THE FIRST GENERAL ELECTION AFTER THE ADOPTION OF THE  
10 DISTRICT METHOD OF ELECTION SET FORTH IN THIS SUBSECTION (5) IS HELD  
11 IN 2038 OR ANY FOURTH YEAR THEREAFTER, THREE MEMBERS RESIDENT  
12 IN DISTRICTS SHALL BE ELECTED TO FOUR-YEAR TERMS AT THAT ELECTION,  
13 ONE MEMBER RESIDENT IN A DISTRICT SHALL BE ELECTED TO FILL THE  
14 VACANCY UNTIL THE NEXT GENERAL ELECTION, AND TWO MEMBERS  
15 RESIDENT IN DISTRICTS SHALL BE ELECTED TO FOUR-YEAR TERMS AT THE  
16 NEXT GENERAL ELECTION. THEREAFTER, THREE MEMBERS RESIDENT IN  
17 DISTRICTS SHALL BE ELECTED AT THE GENERAL ELECTIONS THAT OCCUR  
18 EVERY FOUR YEARS AFTER THE FIRST GENERAL ELECTION FOLLOWING THE  
19 ADOPTION OF THE DISTRICT METHOD OF ELECTION, AND TWO MEMBERS  
20 RESIDENT IN DISTRICTS SHALL BE ELECTED AT THE GENERAL ELECTIONS  
21 THAT OCCUR EVERY FOUR YEARS AFTER THE GENERAL ELECTION THAT  
22 OCCURS TWO YEARS AFTER THE FIRST GENERAL ELECTION FOLLOWING THE  
23 ADOPTION OF THE DISTRICT METHOD OF ELECTION.

24 (d) PRIOR TO MARCH 1 OF AN ELECTION YEAR, THE BOARD OF  
25 COUNTY COMMISSIONERS SHALL DESIGNATE THE DISTRICT FROM WHICH A  
26 COMMISSIONER IS TO BE ELECTED TO A TWO-YEAR TERM TO FILL A  
27 VACANCY DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (5)(b) OR (5)(c) OF THIS SECTION.

1 (e) IF THERE ARE FIVE INCUMBENT COMMISSIONERS RESIDENT IN  
2 FIVE DISTRICTS AND ONE OR MORE COMMISSIONERS ARE ELECTED BY  
3 VOTERS OF THE WHOLE COUNTY, THE COMMISSIONERS ARE SUBJECT TO  
4 ELECTION AS SET FORTH IN SUBSECTIONS (5)(b) TO (5)(d) OF THIS SECTION.

5 (6) (a) FIVE COMMISSIONERS ELECTED BY RANKED CHOICE VOTING  
6 MUST BE ELECTED AT LARGE USING THE SINGLE TRANSFERABLE VOTE  
7 METHOD, DESCRIBED IN SECTION 1-7-1003 (4), AS FOLLOWS: <{Rep.  
8 Marshall - I've identified the particular type of RCV you want counties  
9 to use by statutory cite as you suggested; Below I have included the  
10 same subsections from above requiring 5 districts and having  
11 incumbent commissioners serve by district until the change to RCV for  
12 consistency, but have made the RCV at large; happy to rework if you'd  
13 like it done a different way; I've also included a staggered election  
14 process because that is required by sec. 6 of article XIV of the state  
15 constitution for county commissioner elections.>

16 (I) IF THERE ARE THREE INCUMBENT COMMISSIONERS RESIDENT IN  
17 THREE DISTRICTS, THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS SHALL CHANGE  
18 THE BOUNDARIES OF THE COMMISSIONERS' DISTRICTS TO CREATE FIVE  
19 DISTRICTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF SECTION  
20 30-10-306(2.5) AND THE COUNTY'S FINAL REDISTRICTING PLAN APPROVED  
21 IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 30-10-306.4;

22 (II) UPON ADOPTION OF THE BOUNDARIES OF THE FIVE DISTRICTS,  
23 THE THREE INCUMBENT COMMISSIONERS SHALL SERVE THE NEWLY  
24 CREATED DISTRICTS IN WHICH THEY RESIDE;

25 (III) IF MORE THAN ONE INCUMBENT COMMISSIONER RESIDES  
26 WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF THE SAME NEWLY CREATED DISTRICT, THOSE  
27 COMMISSIONERS SHALL DETERMINE BY LOT WHICH OF THEM WILL SERVE

1 THAT DISTRICT. THE REMAINING COMMISSIONER OR COMMISSIONERS  
2 SHALL THEN DETERMINE BY LOT WHICH OF THEM WILL SERVE THE  
3 REMAINING DISTRICTS.

4 (IV) THE COUNTY CLERK AND RECORDER SHALL ESTABLISH THE  
5 TIME, PLACE, AND MANNER IN WHICH THE LOTS ARE CONDUCTED AND  
6 SHALL DECLARE THE OFFICIAL RESULTS OF THE LOTS IMMEDIATELY  
7 THEREAFTER.

8 (b) IF THE FIRST GENERAL ELECTION AFTER THE ADOPTION OF THE  
9 RANKED CHOICE VOTING METHOD OF ELECTION SET FORTH IN THIS  
10 SUBSECTION (6) IS HELD IN 2036 OR ANY FOURTH YEAR THEREAFTER, TWO  
11 MEMBERS SHALL BE ELECTED AT LARGE TO FOUR-YEAR TERMS AT THAT  
12 GENERAL ELECTION, ONE MEMBER SHALL BE ELECTED AT LARGE TO FILL  
13 THE VACANCY UNTIL THE NEXT GENERAL ELECTION, AND THREE MEMBERS  
14 SHALL BE ELECTED AT LARGE TO FOUR-YEAR TERMS AT THE NEXT  
15 GENERAL ELECTION. THEREAFTER, TWO MEMBERS SHALL BE ELECTED AT  
16 LARGE AT THE GENERAL ELECTIONS THAT OCCUR EVERY FOUR YEARS  
17 AFTER THE FIRST GENERAL ELECTION FOLLOWING THE ADOPTION OF THE  
18 RANKED CHOICE VOTING METHOD OF ELECTION, AND THREE MEMBERS  
19 SHALL BE ELECTED AT LARGE AT THE GENERAL ELECTIONS THAT OCCUR  
20 EVERY FOUR YEARS AFTER THE GENERAL ELECTION THAT OCCURS TWO  
21 YEARS AFTER THE FIRST GENERAL ELECTION FOLLOWING THE ADOPTION OF  
22 THE RANKED CHOICE VOTING METHOD OF ELECTION.

23 (c) IF THE FIRST GENERAL ELECTION AFTER THE ADOPTION OF THE  
24 RANKED CHOICE VOTING METHOD OF ELECTION SET FORTH IN THIS  
25 SUBSECTION (6) IS HELD IN 2038 OR ANY FOURTH YEAR THEREAFTER,  
26 THREE MEMBERS SHALL BE ELECTED AT LARGE TO FOUR-YEAR TERMS AT  
27 THAT ELECTION, ONE MEMBER SHALL BE ELECTED AT LARGE TO FILL THE

1 VACANCY UNTIL THE NEXT GENERAL ELECTION, AND TWO MEMBERS SHALL  
2 BE ELECTED AT LARGE TO FOUR-YEAR TERMS AT THE NEXT GENERAL  
3 ELECTION. THEREAFTER, THREE MEMBERS SHALL BE ELECTED AT LARGE  
4 AT THE GENERAL ELECTIONS THAT OCCUR EVERY FOUR YEARS AFTER THE  
5 FIRST GENERAL ELECTION FOLLOWING THE ADOPTION OF THE RANKED  
6 CHOICE VOTING METHOD OF ELECTION, AND TWO MEMBERS SHALL BE  
7 ELECTED AT LARGE AT THE GENERAL ELECTIONS THAT OCCUR EVERY FOUR  
8 YEARS AFTER THE GENERAL ELECTION THAT OCCURS TWO YEARS AFTER  
9 THE FIRST GENERAL ELECTION FOLLOWING THE ADOPTION OF THE RANKED  
10 CHOICE VOTING METHOD OF ELECTION.

11 (d) PRIOR TO MARCH 1 OF AN ELECTION YEAR, THE BOARD OF  
12 COUNTY COMMISSIONERS SHALL DESIGNATE THE AT-LARGE POSITION  
13 FROM WHICH A COMMISSIONER IS TO BE ELECTED TO A TWO-YEAR TERM TO  
14 FILL A VACANCY DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (6)(b) OR (6)(c) OF THIS  
15 SECTION.

16 (e) IF THERE ARE FIVE INCUMBENT COMMISSIONERS RESIDENT IN  
17 FIVE DISTRICTS, THE COMMISSIONERS ARE SUBJECT TO ELECTION AS SET  
18 FORTH IN SUBSECTIONS (6)(b) TO (6)(d) OF THIS SECTION.

19 (7) ALL PROCEEDINGS BY A BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS IN  
20 ELECTING FIVE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS IN A MANNER CONSISTENT WITH  
21 SUBSECTION (5) OR (6) OF THIS SECTION ARE CONFIRMED AND VALIDATED.

22 (8) SUBJECT TO REFERRAL AS PROVIDED IN THIS SUBSECTION (8),  
23 A BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS IN A COUNTY HAVING A POPULATION  
24 OF ONE HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND OR MORE MAY PASS A RESOLUTION  
25 CHANGING THE METHOD OF ELECTING THE MEMBERS OF THE BOARD. THE  
26 RESOLUTION MUST BE REFERRED TO THE REGISTERED ELECTORS OF THE  
27 COUNTY AT A GENERAL ELECTION. THE RESOLUTION MUST DESIGNATE THE

1 TWO ALTERNATIVE METHODS OF ELECTING FIVE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
2 SET FORTH IN SUBSECTIONS (5) AND (6) OF THIS SECTION. IF A MAJORITY  
3 OF VOTES ARE CAST IN FAVOR OF THE RESOLUTION, THE BOARD OF COUNTY  
4 COMMISSIONERS SHALL TAKE ACTION TO ENSURE THAT COUNTY  
5 COMMISSIONERS ARE ELECTED AT THE NEXT GENERAL ELECTION  
6 ACCORDING TO THE METHOD OF ELECTION CONTAINED IN THE REFERRED  
7 RESOLUTION THAT RECEIVED THE LARGEST NUMBER OF VOTES CAST.

8 (9) (a) IN THE ALTERNATIVE, A PETITION SIGNED BY AT LEAST  
9 EIGHT PERCENT OF THE TOTAL NUMBER OF QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF A  
10 COUNTY VOTING FOR ALL CANDIDATES FOR THE OFFICE OF SECRETARY OF  
11 STATE AT THE LAST PRECEDING GENERAL ELECTION IS SUFFICIENT TO  
12 PLACE ON THE BALLOT AT A GENERAL ELECTION THE QUESTION OF  
13 WHETHER TO CHANGE THE METHOD OF ELECTING FIVE COUNTY  
14 COMMISSIONERS. THE PETITION MUST SPECIFY THE PROPOSED METHOD OF  
15 ELECTION IN ACCORDANCE WITH SUBSECTION (5) OR (6) OF THIS SECTION  
16 AND MUST BE DELIVERED TO THE COUNTY CLERK AND RECORDER PRIOR TO  
17 THE NINETIETH DAY BEFORE THE NEXT GENERAL ELECTION WITH A  
18 REQUEST THAT THE QUESTION BE PLACED ON THE BALLOT FOR REFERRAL  
19 TO THE REGISTERED ELECTORS OF THE COUNTY AT THE NEXT GENERAL  
20 ELECTION.

21 (b) IF A MAJORITY OF THE VOTES CAST ARE IN FAVOR OF CHANGING  
22 THE METHOD OF ELECTION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SUBSECTION (5) OR (6)  
23 OF THIS SECTION, THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS SHALL TAKE  
24 ACTION TO ENSURE THAT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS ARE ELECTED AT THE  
25 NEXT GENERAL ELECTION ACCORDING TO THE METHOD OF ELECTION  
26 SELECTED BY THE VOTERS PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION (9).

27 **SECTION 6.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 1-4-801, **amend**

1 (2)(a); and **add** (2)(g) and (2)(h) as follows:

2 **1-4-801. Designation of party candidates by petition.** (2) The  
3 signature requirements for the petition are as follows:

4 (a) Every petition in the case of a candidate for any county office  
5 must be signed by electors eligible to vote within the county  
6 commissioner district or political subdivision for which the officer is to  
7 be elected. Except as otherwise provided in ~~subsection (2)(e)~~  
8 SUBSECTIONS (2)(e) AND (2)(g) of this section, the petition requires the  
9 lesser of one thousand signers or signers equal in number to ten percent  
10 of the votes cast in the political subdivision at the contested or  
11 uncontested primary election for the political party's candidate for the  
12 office for which the petition is being circulated or, if there was no primary  
13 election, at the last preceding general election for which there was a  
14 candidate for the office. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, an  
15 unaffiliated elector is not eligible to sign a petition for a candidate of a  
16 major political party.

17 (g) WHEN A COUNTY HAVING A POPULATION OF ONE HUNDRED  
18 FIFTY THOUSAND OR MORE CHANGES THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE BOARD OF  
19 COUNTY COMMISSIONERS FROM THREE TO FIVE MEMBERS TO COMPLY WITH  
20 SECTIONS 1-4-205 AND 30-10-306.8, FOR THE NEXT TWO PRIMARY  
21 ELECTIONS IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE CHANGE, THE SIGNATURE  
22 REQUIREMENTS FOR THE PETITION ARE AS FOLLOWS:

23 (I) THE DETERMINATION OF THE REQUIRED NUMBER OF SIGNERS  
24 MUST BEGIN WITH A CALCULATION OF THE AVERAGE OF ALL VOTES CAST  
25 IN EACH COMMISSIONER DISTRICT IN THE COUNTY DURING THE PRIOR TWO  
26 CONTESTED OR UNCONTESTED PRIMARY ELECTIONS FOR THE POLITICAL  
27 PARTY'S CANDIDATES IN THE COUNTY COMMISSIONER DISTRICTS THAT

1 HELD A PRIMARY ELECTION IN EITHER OF THOSE ELECTIONS. UPON A  
2 DETERMINATION OF THE AVERAGE, THAT NUMBER MUST THEN BE DIVIDED  
3 BY THE TOTAL NUMBER OF COMMISSIONER DISTRICTS IN THE COUNTY  
4 WHERE COMMISSIONERS ARE VOTED ON ONLY BY THE ELECTORS RESIDING  
5 IN THE DISTRICT. AFTER COMPLETING THIS CALCULATION, EVERY PETITION  
6 MUST REQUIRE THE LESSER OF ONE THOUSAND SIGNERS OR A NUMBER  
7 EQUAL TO TEN PERCENT OF THE NUMBER REALIZED.

8 (II) IF NO PRIMARY ELECTION WAS HELD IN EITHER YEAR, THE  
9 CALCULATION MUST BE BASED ON THE MOST RECENT PRECEDING GENERAL  
10 ELECTION FOR WHICH THE PARTY HAD A CANDIDATE ON THE BALLOT, AND  
11 EVERY PETITION MUST REQUIRE SIGNERS EQUAL IN NUMBER TO THE  
12 FOLLOWING CALCULATION:

13 (A) TWENTY PERCENT OF THE AVERAGE OF ALL VOTES CAST FOR  
14 THE POLITICAL PARTY'S CANDIDATES FOR COMMISSIONER IN EACH  
15 COMMISSIONER DISTRICT IN WHICH THE PARTY HAD A CANDIDATE ON THE  
16 BALLOT; AND

17 (B) DIVIDE THE NUMBER FOUND IN SUBSECTION (2)(g)(II)(A) OF  
18 THIS SECTION BY THE TOTAL NUMBER OF COMMISSIONER DISTRICTS IN THE  
19 COUNTY WHERE COMMISSIONERS ARE VOTED ON ONLY BY THE ELECTORS  
20 RESIDENT IN THE DISTRICT; AND

21 (h) FOLLOWING THE FIRST TWO PRIMARY ELECTIONS CONDUCTED  
22 AFTER A CHANGE IN THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY  
23 COMMISSIONERS PURSUANT TO SECTIONS 1-4-205 AND 30-10-306.8, IN  
24 ACCORDANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF SUBSECTION (2)(g) OF THIS  
25 SECTION, THE SIGNATURE REQUIREMENTS FOR A PETITION FOR A COUNTY  
26 COMMISSIONER CANDIDATE WHO IS AFFILIATED WITH A MAJOR POLITICAL  
27 PARTY MUST FOLLOW THE PROCEDURES SPECIFIED IN SUBSECTION (2)(a)



1 OF THIS SECTION.

2 **SECTION 7.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 1-4-802, **amend** (3);  
3 and **add** (4) and (5) as follows:

4 **1-4-802. Petitions for nominating minor political party and**  
5 **unaffiliated candidates for a partisan office.** (3) Following the first  
6 two general elections that are conducted after a change in the membership  
7 of the board of county commissioners pursuant to section 30-10-306.5 or  
8 30-10-306.7, ~~C.R.S.~~, the signature requirements for a petition for a county  
9 commissioner candidate who does not wish to affiliate with a major  
10 political party must follow the procedures specified in ~~subparagraph (VI)~~  
11 ~~of paragraph (c) of subsection (1)~~ SUBSECTION (1)(c)(VII) of this section.

12 (4) WHEN A COUNTY HAVING A POPULATION OF ONE HUNDRED  
13 FIFTY THOUSAND OR MORE CHANGES THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE BOARD OF  
14 COUNTY COMMISSIONERS FROM THREE TO FIVE MEMBERS TO COMPLY WITH  
15 SECTIONS 1-4-205 AND 30-10-306.8, FOR THE NEXT TWO GENERAL  
16 ELECTIONS IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE CHANGE, EVERY PETITION TO  
17 SELECT CANDIDATES WHO DO NOT WISH TO AFFILIATE WITH A MAJOR  
18 POLITICAL PARTY MUST REQUIRE SIGNERS EQUAL IN NUMBER TO THE  
19 LESSER OF EITHER:

20 (a) SEVEN HUNDRED FIFTY SIGNERS; OR

21 (b) THE NUMBER REALIZED BY FIRST DETERMINING TWO PERCENT  
22 OF THE AVERAGE OF ALL VOTES CAST IN EACH COUNTY COMMISSIONER  
23 DISTRICT FOR WHICH THERE WAS A RACE ON THE BALLOT DURING THE  
24 MOST RECENT GENERAL ELECTION, AND THEN DIVIDING THAT NUMBER BY  
25 THE TOTAL NUMBER OF COMMISSIONER DISTRICTS IN THE COUNTY WHERE  
26 COMMISSIONERS ARE VOTED ON ONLY BY THE ELECTORS RESIDENT IN A  
27 DISTRICT.

1           (5) FOLLOWING THE FIRST TWO GENERAL ELECTIONS CONDUCTED  
2 AFTER A CHANGE IN THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY  
3 COMMISSIONERS PURSUANT TO SECTIONS 1-4-205 AND 30-10-306.8, THE  
4 SIGNATURE REQUIREMENTS FOR A PETITION FOR A COUNTY COMMISSIONER  
5 CANDIDATE WHO DOES NOT WISH TO AFFILIATE WITH A MAJOR POLITICAL  
6 PARTY MUST FOLLOW THE PROCEDURES SPECIFIED IN SUBSECTION  
7 (1)(c)(VII) OF THIS SECTION.

8           **SECTION 8. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act  
9 takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the  
10 ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly; except  
11 that, if a referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V  
12 of the state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this  
13 act within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take  
14 effect unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in  
15 November 2026 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the  
16 official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.