

2022 Colorado Ballot Measures

AAUW Colorado Positions:

- YES on Amendment E
- YES on Prop. EE
- YES on Affordable Housing
- NO on Tax Reduction
- NO on Adding wine to grocery & convenience store sales

Details

Constitutional Amendment E: Extend Homestead Exemption to Gold Star Spouses

- *Referred by the General Assembly*
- Extends the existing disabled Veterans and military homestead tax exemption to Gold Star spouses.
- **PRO:** Allows spouse to remain in the home after the Veteran's death.
- **CON:** Adds more expense to the Homestead Exemptions in low-revenue years.
- **AAUW Colorado Position: Active Support**

Proposition EE—Healthy Meals for All Public School Students

- *Referred by the General Assembly*
- Creates and funds the Healthy School Meals for All Program
 - Reimburses schools for free meals
 - Provides local food purchasing grants and school food-related funding.
 - Reduces income tax deduction caps on top 3% of taxpayers.
- **Pro:** Continues the pandemic-era free school lunch program for all public school students.
 - Makes income taxes fairer for low to middle-income earners
- **Con:** Unfair taxation for top 3% of Colorado earners.
- **AAUW Colorado Position: Active Support**

Initiative #31—State Income Tax Reduction

- *Approved for the 2022 ballot.*
- 3% Permanent Reduction to 4.41% from 4.55%

- **PRO:** the current temporary reduction due to TABOR limits would become permanent and save taxpayers money.
- **CON:** would increase class sizes, reduce teacher pay, increase wait times for most government and healthcare services. Would not allow Colorado to recover after a recession when tax revenues decrease.
- **AAUW Colorado Position: Oppose**

Initiative #108—Affordable Housing Fund

- *Signatures being verified as of 8.15.22*
- Diverts income tax revenue representing 0.1% of taxable income from the General Fund to the State Affordable Housing Fund. Estimated \$135 million in FY 2022-23 (half-year impact) and \$270 million in FY 2023-24. Increases TABOR limit accordingly.
- **PRO:** this fund will help make more affordable housing available.
- **CON:** TABOR refunds would be decreased
- **AAUW Colorado Position: Active Support**

Initiative #121--Add wine sales in grocery & convenience stores

- *Signatures being verified as of 8.15.22*
- Allows grocery stores, convenience stores, and other businesses that are licensed to sell beer to also sell wine and conduct wine tastings
- **PRO:** Adds convenience for shoppers
- **CON:** Will put many women liquor store owners out of business
- **AAUW Colorado Position: Oppose**

Did not make the ballot:

- **Initiative #56—Abortion Ban**
- **Initiative #63—Additional Revenue to State Education Fund** (Recruitment, retention and pay for teachers and staff)
- **Initiative #80—Campaign Finance** (Limits independent committee expenditures to 150% of electors' contributions)