News



November 19, 2015

Single-Payer Health Care Plan Makes Ballot, Beer and Wine Initiatives Filed

On Nov. 9, 2015, the Colorado Secretary of State announced that the proponents of a ballot measure to create a single-payer state health care system had submitted a sufficient number of signatures for the measure to appear on the 2016 statewide ballot. The proponents needed a total of 98,492 valid signatures. Based on a random sample of 5 percent of the signatures submitted, the Secretary of State projected there to be 109,134 valid signatures. Barring a successful protest of the Secretary of State's determination, Initiative #20 for the so-called ColoradoCare program will be renumbered and renamed as Amendment 69.

Proponents of allowing full-strength beer and wine to be sold in grocery stores filed two alternative initiatives, Initiatives #51 and #52. The initiatives are identical except that Initiative #52 would do away with the license category that grocery stores currently hold to sell 3.2 percent beer, while Initiative #51 would keep that license category in statute. The initiatives are still in the early stages of the process. Up next is the mandatory review and comment meeting, which is scheduled to take place on Nov. 18, 2015.

These and other statewide ballot measures can be easily monitored using the Brownstein statewide ballot initiative tracker, found at www.bhfs.com/initiatives. In addition to providing a short summary and status of each measure, the tracker links to every measure's text, review and comment memo, title and other relevant information. Contact Jason Dunn or Sarah Clark for additional information and analysis.

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