



STATE OF COLORADO

2021 VOTER GUIDE

The following ballot recommendations are guided by the mission and strategic priorities of Colorado Christian University. The Centennial Institute at Colorado Christian University is a nonpartisan 501(c)(3) organization that does not endorse or oppose any candidate or political party for public office.

Name	About	Recommended Vote
Amendment 78 <i>Legislative Authority for Spending State Money</i>	The initiative would transfer the power to appropriate custodial funds (state revenue not generated through taxes) from the state treasurer to the state legislature. Examples of such funds include pension funds and court-approved settlement funds. The measure defines custodial money as money received by the state that (a) originated from a source other than the State of Colorado, (b) was awarded or provided to the state for a particular purpose, and (c) that the state is acting as a custodian or trustee to carry out the purpose for which the funds were provided.	YES Colorado's executive branch is allowed to appropriate billions of dollars in settlement funds, emergency funding, etc. without legislative oversight. Constitutional government works best when all three branches have checks and balances. This Amendment will provide important oversight of the executive branch.
Proposition 119 <i>Learning Enrichment and Academic Progress (LEAP) Program</i>	Proposition 119 would create the Learning Enrichment and Academic Progress Program, also known as the LEAP Program. Children at least five years of age and no older than seventeen who are eligible for admission to Colorado public schools would be eligible to enroll in the program. The LEAP program would provide after-school services. The measure would increase the marijuana retail sales tax incrementally from 15% to 20% to partially fund the program.	NO We applaud our state's educational leaders with attempting to create an after-school program that allows parents to choose the best option for their children. However, our opposition is in the logistical details of creating the LEAP program. The Governor will have too much control without legislative oversight. This would likely result in the creation of a number of liberal after-school programs. Furthermore, it sets up a board that is essentially self-appointing, and will be given well over \$100,000,000 every year to spend as they see fit, with no oversight from the legislature, and virtually no oversight from other government authorities. The Centennial Institute also does not support tax increases.

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Proposition 120 <i>Property Tax Assessment Rate Reduction</i>	<p>Proposition 120 is designed to reduce the residential and non-residential property tax rates beginning January 1, 2022. The residential property tax assessment rate would be reduced from 7.15% to 6.5% and the non-residential property tax assessment rate would be reduced from 29% to 26.4%.</p>	<p>YES</p> <p>The Centennial Institute supports limited government and free markets. This proposition will keep more money with Colorado families and reduce government spending. The Colorado legislature has attempted to make this only apply to multi-family housing and lodging properties. Hopefully after passing, there will be legal challenges to expand this proposition to its original scope. It is a step in the right direction in lowering property taxes for Coloradans.</p>

This ballot guide was put together utilizing information from the Colorado Secretary of State and Ballotpedia. For more information, visit: <https://www.sos.state.co.us/>