



Help Shape Colorado's Election Rules

Topic: Election Rules Recodification

July 26, 2013

What is this about?

In response to recent and substantial legislation affecting elections, the Secretary of State's office decided to recodify the Elections Rules. To aid the counties with upcoming elections, our office intends to commence with formal rulemaking mid-August. We invite you to share your thoughts and recommendations as we recodify the Rules.

Why is recodification necessary?

This past legislative session, the General Assembly enacted House Bill 13-1303, which substantially changed how we administer elections in Colorado. Though Secretary of State staff pointed out several technical problems with the bill during the legislative process, our attempts to amend the bill were unsuccessful. As such, we have to resort to rulemaking to fill in several gaps and harmonize several conflicting provisions that now exist in the Election Code as a result of HB 13-1303.

Why does the Secretary need my help?

This recodification is a big undertaking for the Department and we want to make sure we aren't missing anything. To this end, we are seeking input from county clerks, election activists, stakeholders, and the general public. The Secretary values your feedback and we would very much like to hear your thoughts. We need your help to identify necessary revisions or additional guidance in order to propose a constructive and comprehensive draft rule for consideration during the rulemaking proceedings. Overall, your opinions and recommendations are invited to help shape Colorado's Election Rules.

Where can I find a copy of the proposed rules?

A draft of the proposed Rules is attached. Additionally, you will find a copy on the Secretary of State's website at:

www.sos.state.co.us/pubs/rule_making/files/2013/20130726_Elections_RulesDraft.pdf

How do I submit my comments?

You may email your comments to SOS.Rulemaking@sos.state.co.us.

What is the deadline to submit comments?

To ensure consideration of your comments before the proposed draft is issued, we must receive your comments by August 7, 2013.

Will my comments become part of the official record for the anticipated rulemaking?

Yes, we will incorporate your comments into the official record when we commence with formal rulemaking. Our office will identify your comments as information received in anticipation of rulemaking to support the development of the proposed draft rules. Please note that you will have an additional opportunity to provide testimony and/or written comments regarding the proposed rule during the rulemaking proceeding.

To promote transparency and to help generate discussion, our office will post a copy of your comments on the Secretary of State's website. We appreciate privacy concerns and will redact personal contact information that may appear in your comments prior to posting (including home address, personal email address, and telephone number). To view the comments that we receive, please visit: www.sos.state.co.us/pubs/rule_making/ruleComments.html