D'Arcy Straub 6772 W. Ida Drive #327 Littleton, CO 80123

Gene Straub 26 W. Dry Creek Circle #600 Littleton, CO 80120

S.WARD 12:10 P.M.

RECEIVED

APR 0 6 2012

ELECTIONS/LICENSING SECRETARY OF STATE

#### #79 Final Text

Be it Enacted by the People of the State of Colorado:

**Section 1.** In the constitution of the state of Colorado, **amend** section 44 of article V as follows:

- Section 44. Representatives and senators in congress. (1) The general assembly shall divide the state into as many congressional districts as there are representatives in congress apportioned to this state by the congress of the United States for the election of one representative to congress from each district. When a new apportionment shall be made by congress, the general assembly shall divide the state into congressional districts accordingly.
- (2) THE ELECTION OF AT LEAST ONE REPRESENTATIVE AND ONE SENATOR SHALL EMPLOY A PROCESS INVOLVING LOT THAT ENSURES NO POLITICAL PARTY SEATS A MAJORITY OF REPRESENTATIVES OR TWO SENATORS FROM THE STATE OF COLORADO.
- (3)(a) This subsection (3) and subsection (2) of this section take effect on January 1, 2013; except that the requirement in subsection (2) of this section that one senator be elected through a process involving lot does not apply to the general elections in 2014 and 2016.
- (b) Subsection (2) of this section is repealed on March 1, 2017 if, as determined by the governor of Colorado, no other state has adopted a process of electing representatives and senators to congress through a process involving lot by January 1, 2017. This subsection (3) is repealed on July 1, 2017.
- **Section 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, add article 18 to title 1 as follows:

# Article 18 Election of Members to Congress Through a Process Involving Lot

#### Part 1 Purposes and Findings

- **1-18-101. Rationale for the election scheme under this article.** (1) The PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF COLORADO, REFERRED TO IN THIS ARTICLE AS "THE PEOPLE", HEREBY FIND AND DECLARE THAT:
- (a) THE UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT HELD IN *U.S. TERM LIMITS, INC. V. THORNTON* THAT TERM LIMITS FOR MEMBERS OF CONGRESS ARE UNCONSTITUTIONAL BECAUSE THEY IMPOSE AN IMPERMISSIBLE REQUIREMENT TO SERVE IN CONGRESS, AND THE PEOPLE DESIRE TO ADOPT AN ELECTION SCHEME LEGALLY PERMISSIBLE UNDER THE UNITED

STATES CONSTITUTION THAT EFFECTIVELY IMPOSES TERM LIMITS UPON MEMBERS OF CONGRESS;

- (b) THE UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT DECISION IN CITIZENS UNITED V. FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION HAS CONTRIBUTED TO UNACCEPTABLY LARGE SPENDING IN CAMPAIGNS, AND THE PEOPLE DESIRE TO ADOPT AN ELECTION SCHEME THAT REDUCES THE INFLUENCE OF CAMPAIGN SPENDING AND CONTRIBUTIONS ON CONGRESSIONAL MEMBERS AND PREVENTS CAMPAIGN SPENDING FROM INFLUENCING THE BALANCE OF POWER IN CONGRESS;
- (c) The People are thankful for the service of the members and veterans of the United States armed forces who have defended the country, and the People desire an election scheme that facilitates their election to congress;
- (d) THE CREATION OF CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS AND THEIR BOUNDARIES IS A CONTROVERSIAL PROCESS SUBJECT TO POLITICAL GERRYMANDERING, AND THE PEOPLE DESIRE AN ELECTION SCHEME THAT PREVENTS A POLITICAL PARTY FROM GAINING A POLITICAL ADVANTAGE BASED UPON THE DRAWING OF CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT MAPS;
- (e) PARTISAN POLITICS IS CREATING A POLARIZED COUNTRY, AND THE PEOPLE DESIRE AN ELECTION SCHEME THAT MINIMIZES THE EFFECTS OF PARTISAN POLITICS BY PREVENTING ANY POLITICAL PARTY FROM GAINING MAJORITY CONTROL OF CONGRESS;
- (f) The number of unaffiliated registered voters in Colorado is substantial, with many citizens desirous of a viable third political party, and the people desire an election scheme that ensures the election of members to congress who are not affiliated with a major political party;
- (g) FREEDOM IS DERIVED BY LIMITING THE POWER OF GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS, AND THE PEOPLE SEEK AN ELECTION SCHEME THAT ENABLES THE ELECTION OF CITIZEN LEGISLATORS WHO CAN PLACE A CHECK AND BALANCE ON CAREER POLITICIANS WHO CAN EXERCISE POWER AT THE EXPENSE OF THE COUNTRY'S CITIZENS;
- (h) The founding fathers created a government of checks and balances, but political parties erode the system of checks and balances to allow for the excessive concentration of power in the presidency. The frequent and often drastic changes in policies resulting from different presidential administrations create an environment of instability, and the people seek an election scheme that results in the restoration of a meaningful check and balance on the presidency to impede the excessive influence of one elected official.
- (i) THE FOUNDING FATHERS RECOGNIZED THAT THE PEOPLE'S TRUST IN THEIR GOVERNMENT SHOULD REST UPON THE PROCESSES AND STRUCTURE ASSOCIATED WITH THE GOVERNMENT AND THAT THE PEOPLE SHOULD NOT BASE THEIR TRUST OF GOVERNMENT ON INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE SUSCEPTIBLE TO HUMAN FRAILTIES THAT DIMINISH THE INTEGRITY

OF THE GOVERNMENT. CANDIDATES SEEKING POLITICAL OFFICE CLAIM THEY CAN RESTORE THE PEOPLE'S TRUST IN THEIR GOVERNMENT, BUT SUCH AN OBJECTIVE IS ONLY POSSIBLE BY IMPLEMENTING MEASURES THAT ADDRESS THE PROCESSES AND STRUCTURE ASSOCIATED WITH THE FUNCTIONING OF THE GOVERNMENT. THE PEOPLE ARE DESIROUS OF AN ELECTION SCHEME THAT ASSISTS IN THE RESTORATION OF TRUST IN THEIR GOVERNMENT.

# Part 2 Production of Candidates for the House of Representatives for the General Election

- 1-18-201. Election of representatives through a process involving lot. WITHIN THIS ARTICLE, ANY PROCESS INVOLVING LOT EMPLOYS THE RANDOM SELECTION OF INDIVIDUALS THROUGH A PROCESS INVOLVING CHANCE.
- 1-18-202. Production of a first pool of initial potential candidates. (1) WITHIN A CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT, A FIRST POOL OF INITIAL POTENTIAL CANDIDATES IS CREATED FROM THE RESIDENTS OF THE CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT ELIGIBLE TO SERVE IN CONGRESS ACCORDING TO A PROCESS INVOLVING LOT AS PRESCRIBED BY LAW THAT ENSURES THE FIRST POOL OF POTENTIAL CANDIDATES REASONABLY REPRESENTS THE DEMOGRAPHICS OF THE CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT FOR RACE AND SEX AS REFLECTED BY THE MOST RECENT UNITED STATES DECENNIAL CENSUS DATA.
- (2) A PERSON ELIGIBLE TO SERVE IN CONGRESS MAY REGISTER WITH THE APPROPRIATE ELECTION AUTHORITY TO BECOME ELIGIBLE FOR THE PROCESS INVOLVING LOT THAT CREATES THE FIRST POOL OF POTENTIAL CANDIDATES IN A CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT WHERE THE PERSON DOES NOT RESIDE. A PERSON SHALL NOT PARTICIPATE IN THE ELECTION PROCESS FOR MORE THAN ONE CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT IN A GENERAL ELECTION CYCLE.
- 1-18-203. Production of a second pool of potential candidates qualified and willing to serve in congress. Within a congressional district, a process that involves a primary or caucus creates from the first pool of potential candidates a second pool of potential candidates who are qualified and willing to serve in congress. The second pool of potential candidates reasonably represents the demographics of the congressional district for race and sex as reflected by the most recent United States decennial census data.
- 1-18-204. Production of a slate of candidates for the general election. A PROCESS INVOLVING LOT AS PRESCRIBED BY LAW CREATES FROM THE SECOND POOL OF POTENTIAL CANDIDATES A SLATE OF SIX OR SEVEN CANDIDATES PER DISTRICT FOR THE GENERAL ELECTION. THE PROCESS PRODUCING THE SLATE OF CANDIDATES ENSURES THAT THE NUMBER OF CANDIDATES REPRESENTING A POLITICAL PARTY AFFILIATION IS AT LEAST ONE BUT NOT GREATER THAN TWO FOR A POLITICAL PARTY THAT REPRESENTS AT LEAST FOURTEEN PERCENT OF THE TOTAL NUMBER OF ACTIVE AND INACTIVE REGISTERED VOTERS, AND THE NUMBER OF CANDIDATES REPRESENTING A POLITICAL PARTY AFFILIATION DOES

NOT EXCEED ONE FOR A POLITICAL PARTY THAT REPRESENTS LESS THAN FOURTEEN PERCENT OF THE TOTAL NUMBER OF ACTIVE AND INACTIVE REGISTERED VOTERS. THE MOST RECENT END-OF-MONTH VOTER REGISTRATION STATISTICS COLLECTED BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE AT THE TIME OF THE FORMATION OF THE SLATE OF CANDIDATES IS USED TO DETERMINE THE POLITICAL PARTY AFFILIATION OF THE ACTIVE AND INACTIVE REGISTERED VOTERS. WITHIN THIS ARTICLE, REGISTERED VOTERS UNAFFILIATED WITH A POLITICAL PARTY COMPRISE A DISTINCT POLITICAL PARTY AFFILIATION, AND CANDIDATES UNAFFILIATED WITH A POLITICAL PARTY COMPRISE A DISTINCT POLITICAL PARTY. THE NUMBER OF CANDIDATES ON THE SLATE OF EACH OF THE SEVEN CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS EQUALS EACH OTHER.

#### Part 3 Candidates' Campaigns

**1-18-301. Financial support.** The state of Colorado shall provide financial resources equitably among the candidates to enable the candidates to conduct campaigns.

# Part 4 Election of Seven Representatives Through a Process Involving Lot

- **1-18-401. Applicability of part.** This part 4 applies when within a year of a general election the number of representatives to be elected to congress from other states through a process involving lot is less than eighty-three.
- 1-18-402. Election of representatives from six of the seven congressional districts. (1) The congressional district where the victorious candidate receives the lowest percentage of votes among the seven congressional districts seats the representative according to section 1-18-403, and among the remaining six congressional districts, the candidate receiving the highest percentage of votes is victorious except as provided in subsection (2) of this section to ensure that no political party is represented by more than two representatives among the six remaining congressional districts.
- (2)(a) Where the candidates with the same political party affiliation receive the highest percentage of votes in at least three districts, the two victorious representatives obtaining the highest percentage of votes are seated as representatives, while the candidates of the same political party affiliation in the remaining congressional districts become ineligible to serve.
- (b) IN EACH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT WHERE A CANDIDATE BECOMES INELIGIBLE TO SERVE UNDER THIS SUBSECTION (2), THE VICTORIOUS CANDIDATES OF THESE DISTRICTS ARE DETERMINED SEQUENTIALLY IN THE ORDER OF THE HIGHEST PERCENTAGE OF VOTES RECEIVED BY THE REMAINING CANDIDATES WITH THE VICTORY AWARDED TO THE REMAINING CANDIDATE WITH THE HIGHEST PERCENTAGE OF VOTES. UPON A POLITICAL

PARTY GAINING TWO VICTORIOUS CANDIDATES, THE CANDIDATES OF THE SAME POLITICAL PARTY AFFILIATION BECOME INELIGIBLE IN THE CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS WHERE A VICTORIOUS CANDIDATE REMAINS TO BE DETERMINED.

1-18-403. Selection of a United States armed forces member or veteran for representative. Within the congressional districts, a slate of candidates is created from United States armed forces personnel and veterans by a process involving lot as prescribed by Law. The slate of candidates with candidacy statements is provided to the governor, and the governor selects one of the candidates to be seated as a representative. The political views and political party affiliation of the candidates are not be disclosed to the governor in the candidacy statements or by other means prior to the selection of the candidate by the governor.

# Part 5 Election of Four Representatives Through a Process Involving Lot

1-18-501. Applicability of part. This part 5 applies when within a year of a general election the number of representatives to be elected to congress from other states through a process involving lot is at least eighty-three.

1-18-502. Rotation of congressional districts that elect representatives through a process involving lot. (1) IN THE GENERAL ELECTION, FOUR OF THE CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS ELECT A REPRESENTATIVE UNDER THIS ARTICLE, AND THREE OF THE CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS ELECT A REPRESENTATIVE EMPLOYING THE NOMINATION PROCEDURES UNDER ARTICLE 4 OF THIS TITLE. THE SECRETARY OF STATE SHALL ESTABLISH A ROTATION SCHEDULE WHERE AFTER THE GENERAL ELECTION ONE CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT TRANSITIONS FROM ELECTING A REPRESENTATIVE UNDER THIS ARTICLE TO ELECTING A REPRESENTATIVE UNDER ARTICLE 4 OF THIS TITLE, AND ONE CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT TRANSITIONS FROM ELECTING A REPRESENTATIVE LINDER ARTICLE 4 OF THIS TITLE TO ELECTING A REPRESENTATIVE UNDER THIS ARTICLE. EXCEPT WHERE INITIATION OF THE ROTATION SCHEDULE DOES NOT ALLOW, THE ROTATION SCHEDULE IS BASED UPON A CYCLE OF SEVEN GENERAL ELECTIONS WHERE A CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT ELECTS A REPRESENTATIVE UNDER THIS ARTICLE FOR FOUR CONSECUTIVE GENERAL ELECTIONS FOLLOWED BY ELECTING A REPRESENTATIVE UNDER ARTICLE 4 OF THIS TITLE FOR THREE CONSECUTIVE GENERAL ELECTIONS. THE SECRETARY OF STATE SHALL DESIGNATE THE CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS AS COMPETITIVE OR NONCOMPETITIVE WITH RESPECT TO THE CANDIDATE LIKELY TO PREVAIL AT THE GENERAL ELECTION BASED UPON POLITICAL PARTY AFFILIATION WHEN EMPLOYING THE NOMINATION PROCEDURES UNDER ARTICLE 4 OF THIS TITLE. THE NUMBER OF COMPETITIVE DISTRICTS AND THE NUMBER OF NONCOMPETITIVE DISTRICTS ASSOCIATED WITH EACH POLITICAL PARTY THAT ELECTS A REPRESENTATIVE UNDER ARTICLE 4 OF THIS TITLE IS EVENLY DISTRIBUTED OVER THE ROTATION SCHEDULE AS IS PRACTICABLE SUCH THAT TWO NONCOMPETITIVE DISTRICTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE SAME POLITICAL PARTY WILL NOT

ELECT A REPRESENTATIVE UNDER ARTICLE 4 OF THIS TITLE IN THE SAME GENERAL ELECTION.

- (2) DURING REDISTRICTING, THE NEW BOUNDARIES OF THE CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS ARE NOT DRAWN TO CREATE A CONTEST IN THE SUBSEQUENT GENERAL ELECTION BETWEEN TWO INCUMBENT MEMBERS OF CONGRESS. AFTER REDISTRICTING, THE SECRETARY OF STATE SHALL PRODUCE A NEW ROTATION SCHEDULE THAT CONFORMS TO THE PREVIOUSLY ESTABLISHED ROTATION SCHEDULE AS IS PRACTICABLE WITH RESPECT TO THE POLITICAL PARTIES ASSOCIATED WITH THE NONCOMPETITIVE CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS AND THE GEOGRAPHIC AREAS REPRESENTED BY THE CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS.
- 1-18-503. Election of representatives. (1) Among the three congressional districts electing a representative under article 4 of this title, the candidate receiving the highest percentage of votes among the three congressional districts is seated as a representative, and among the two remaining congressional districts, the candidate receiving the highest percentage of votes not having the same political party affiliation as the first victorious candidate is seated as a representative.
- (2) AMONG THE FOUR CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS ELECTING A REPRESENTATIVE UNDER THIS ARTICLE, THE VICTORIOUS CANDIDATES ARE DETERMINED SEQUENTIALLY IN THE ORDER OF THE HIGHEST PERCENTAGE OF VOTES RECEIVED BY THE ELIGIBLE CANDIDATES OF THESE FOUR DISTRICTS. Upon a political party gaining two Victorious candidates among these four congressional districts and the two Congressional districts where victorious candidates were determined under Subsection (1) of this section, the candidates of the same political party BECOME INELIGIBLE IN THE CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS WHERE A VICTORIOUS CANDIDATE REMAINS TO BE DETERMINED UNDER THIS SUBSECTION (2).
- (3)(a) FOR THE LAST CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT WHERE A VICTORIOUS CANDIDATE IS NOT DETERMINED UNDER SUBSECTION (1) OF THIS SECTION, THE CANDIDATE WITH THE HIGHEST PERCENTAGE OF VOTES IS SEATED AS A REPRESENTATIVE IF THIS CANDIDATE DOES NOT SHARE THE SAME POLITICAL AFFILIATION OF THE TWO VICTORIOUS CANDIDATES DETERMINED UNDER SUBSECTION (1) OF THIS SECTION.
- (b) When a candidate cannot be seated as a representative under paragraph (a) of this subsection (3), the victorious candidate is determined under the terms of an interstate compact involving at least one other state that ensures the victory of another candidate that does not belong to the same political party of the victorious candidate ultimately determined for the last remaining congressional district of subsection (1) of this section.

### Part 6 Filling a Vacancy for a Representative Elected under this Article

1-18-601. Vacancy filled by election. Upon the creation of a vacancy in a congressional district for a representative elected under this article, a slate of five candidates possessing the same party affiliation as the vacating representative is created from a process involving lot that uses the second pool of candidates produced for the congressional district under section 1-18-203 for the previous general election. The candidate on the slate who receives the most votes in a special election is seated as a representative.

## Part 7 Election of a Senator Through a Process Involving Lot

1-18-701. Creation of an interstate compact to elect senators. The State of Colorado, by January 1, 2016, shall enter into an interstate compact with at least one other state to elect senators through a process involving lot that prevents the state of Colorado from seating two senators belonging to the same political party. If possible, the state of Colorado shall enter into an interstate compact with two other states to ensure the election of three senators who are affiliated with three different political parties.

# Part 8 Amendment, Effective Date, and Repeal of this Article

- 1-18-801. Constraints on amendments to this article. The General assembly may amend the number of representatives determined by lot upon redistricting and a change in the number of representatives apportioned to Colorado.
- 1-18-802. Effective date. This article takes effect January 1, 2013. The General assembly and governor shall take all necessary measures and enact all necessary laws to fulfill the operation of this article for the general election of 2014. This section is repealed on July 1, 2015.
- 1-18-803. Repeal of this article. This article is repealed on March 1, 2017 if, as determined by the governor of Colorado, no other state has adopted a process of electing representatives and senators to congress through a process involving lot by January 1, 2017. This section is repealed on July 1, 2017.