



**Colorado  
Legislative  
Council  
Staff**

**Initiative # 11**

**INITIAL FISCAL  
IMPACT STATEMENT**

**Date:** March 31, 2017

**Fiscal Analyst:** Chris Creighton (303-866-5834)

**LCS TITLE:** CANDIDATE DISCLOSURE OF TAX RETURNS

<b>Fiscal Impact Summary</b>	<b>FY 2018-2019</b>	<b>FY 2019-2020</b>
<b>State Revenue</b>		
<b>State Expenditures</b> Cash Funds		Increase. See State Expenditures section.

**Note:** This *initial* fiscal impact estimate has been prepared for the Title Board. If the initiative is placed on the ballot, Legislative Council Staff may revise this estimate for the Blue Book Voter Guide if new information becomes available.

**Summary of Measure**

This initiative requires a candidate for certain offices to file, at a minimum, copies of his or her five most recent federal income tax returns and to provide written consent for the public disclosure of the returns. This initiative applies to candidates for the following offices:

- President;
- Vice President,
- U.S. Senator,
- U.S. Representative;
- General Assembly;
- Governor;
- Lieutenant Governor;
- Attorney General;
- State Treasurer;
- Secretary of State;
- State Board of Education;
- Regent of the University of Colorado; and
- District Attorney.

The tax returns and written consent must be filed 75 days before a general election or within 5 days of becoming a candidate in an election other than a general election. Upon receipt, the Secretary of State is required to redact all non-public personally identifiable information from the returns and post them on the Secretary of State website within seven days.

Failure to file the tax returns or written consent required by this initiative will result in the disqualification of the candidate. Before disqualifying a candidate, notice is to be sent by the designated election official notifying him or her that he or she will be disqualified for failure to file the required tax returns and written consent within 5 business days of receipt of the notice.

## State Expenditures

Beginning in FY 2019-20, this initiative increases workload in the Secretary of State's Office to create rules, policies, and procedures related to the receipt of candidate tax returns and disclosure notices and to make modifications to the ballot access data system. Beginning in FY 2020-21 and continuing in each general election year, workload is increased to receive the tax returns, redact personal information, make them available on the Secretary of State website, track candidate compliance, send disqualification notices by certified mail, and to remove the documents from the website after the election. Workload will also increase should a special election involving one of these offices occur. The workload increase under this initiative is expected to be minimal and can be accomplished within existing appropriations.

## Effective Date

The ballot initiative takes effect July 1, 2019.

## State and Local Government Contacts

County Clerks

Secretary of State

## Abstract of Initiative 11: Candidate Disclosure of Tax Returns

**This initial fiscal estimate, prepared by the nonpartisan Director of Research of the Legislative Council as of March 2017, identifies the following impacts:**

The abstract includes estimates of the fiscal impact of the initiative. If this initiative is to be placed on the ballot, Legislative Council Staff will prepare new estimates as part of a fiscal impact statement, which includes an abstract of that information. All fiscal impact statements are available at [www.ColoradoBlueBook.com](http://www.ColoradoBlueBook.com) and the abstract will be included in the ballot information booklet that is prepared for the initiative.

**State recurring expenditures.** Beginning in FY 2019-20, the measure increases workload in the Secretary of State's Office by a minimal amount. The measure does not result in recurring expenditures or require a change in appropriations for any state agency.