



COLORADO  
MUNICIPAL  
LEAGUE

303 831 6411 / 866 578 0936 

303 860 8175 

www.cml.org 

1144 Sherman St., Denver, CO 80203 

---

December 18, 2020

Colorado Secretary of State Jena Griswold  
1700 Broadway #200  
Denver, CO 80290

Secretary of State Griswold:

As a local control state, Colorado affords municipalities autonomy from the state for their elections, as a matter of purely local and municipal concern. As the Secretary of State's Office begins to contemplate implementation of alternative voting methods as may be prescribed by the Colorado State Legislature and ways that these alternative voting methods will be implemented in coordinated elections, it bears repeating that the autonomy of local municipal elections must be maintained.

Title 31 and Title 1 statutes currently allow both statutory and home rule municipalities the option of using either plurality or ranked-choice voting methods. CML continues to support the right of all municipalities under the Colorado state statutes to conduct free and fair elections at the municipal level that are unencumbered by state and federal overreach. Whether local municipalities choose to use plurality voting methods or alternative voting methods must continue to be a matter left to local choice.

We are encouraged by the state's focus on supporting the abilities of counties – both technically and financially – to accommodate municipal alternative voting in coordinated elections, while leaving the actual decision on which voting method to use to the municipalities themselves. In recent decades, many home rule municipalities have opted to contract with counties to conduct their elections. Therefore, as a practical matter, allowing counties the ability to conduct alternative voting methods in coordinated elections may support municipalities who are interested in using these voting methods.

We look forward to working with the Secretary of State's Office further on this issue.

Best regards,



Kevin Bommer  
Executive Director  
Colorado Municipal League