

From: Stephanie Morelee
To: [SoS Rulemaking](#)
Subject: amendments to Colorado's Notary Program Rules
Date: Thursday, March 8, 2018 9:55:12 AM

Dear Secretary Williams,

I am in receipt of an email asking for input regarding changes to the Notary rules. I wanted to comment on the below:

"Amend rules to require notaries to take a notary course and pass an exam in order to renew their commissions." -- I do not support this change. It is difficult enough working full time and taking care of family to fit everything into my schedule. I, like most notaries, follow the updates and changes to the rules and with the online access for notaries, it seems like this is an unnecessary requirement creating hardships on notaries, to require notaries to take a course and pass an exam to renew commissions. I believe that this requirement will cause notaries like me to not renew our commission. While I enjoy helping people who need a notary and have always enjoyed being a notary, I just don't think that it would be a high enough priority for me to start jumping through hoops for my commission. I think it's already starting to get more difficult to find a notary that isn't associated with a bank or corporation and for the average Joe, I think it's just nice to have access to regular people who can notarize their documents. Again, I believe the majority of notaries stay current on the requirements of being a notary and I just think this is an unnecessary requirement inflicting hardship onto the notary.

"Amend rules to specify that a notary's firm or employer in possession of a notary journal has the same responsibility as a notary concerning that journal" -- Again, this really seems like these are creating rules and regulations just for the sake of creating rules and regulations. This amendment is ambiguous at best. What exactly are you requiring? All the notaries that I have had dealings with are responsible adults and capable of handling the responsibilities of the journal. Requiring that now a notary has to involve their employer when many of us are notaries on our own and not connected to the job, is again, creating hardship on the notary.

When I began many years ago as a notary, it was enjoyable and the State of Colorado seemed to encourage individuals to help out their fellow citizens by providing this service, over the past couple years, it really seems that your office has gone the other way. It seems that you no longer want individuals to participate in civic opportunities but instead keep finding ways to discourage people from participating by increasingly adding rules, regulations, and hoops to jump through. I would encourage your office to again embrace individuals and encourage them to participate instead of all these regulations designed only to discourage individuals from being involved so that the only notaries left will be the ones you find tied to corporations.

Thank you for allowing me this opportunity to voice my opinion.

Stephanie Morelee