

VOTE NO ON 2024 BALLOT INITIATIVES

PROP KK: 6.5% EXCISE TAX ON FIREARMS, FIREARM PARTS & AMMO

Colorado voters will be asked in November to impose a 6.5% excise tax on firearms, firearm parts and ammunition sold in the state beginning April 1, 2025.

The revenue, expected to be up to \$39 million annually, would go to crime victim programs that lost funding from other sources.

The Colorado State Legislature voted to place this on the ballot. Because it's a tax, it must be approved by the citizens thanks to TABOR (Taxpayers Bill of Rights).

The federal government already imposes an 11% excise tax on firearms and ammunition. California is currently the only state that imposes an excise tax on guns and ammunition.

PROP 127: PROHIBIT TROPHY HUNTING

This initiative seeks to ban all hunting of mountain lions, bobcats, and Canadian lynx in Colorado, regardless of whether it's for "trophy" purposes or not. The general lack of understanding about big cat hunting poses a real danger. It's important to note that lynx hunting is already illegal, and mountain lion hunting is essential for maintaining ecological balance.

Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) regulates mountain lion hunting and annually sets a harvest limit based on scientific research that covers all 960 wildlife species they manage. Out of these, only 80 species are legally huntable. The controlled hunting of these 80 species plays a crucial role in the conservation of the 880 non-huntable species that enrich Colorado's natural landscape.

To hunt a mountain lion, individuals must complete a specific education and identification course and pass an examination before they can even apply for one of the limited mountain lion hunting licenses. Currently CPW is required to reimburse for damages from big game animals, such as damage to livestock, and mountain lion damage payments are on average \$50,000 annually.