

Colorado Election Integrity Protection Act (CEIPA)

Summary

- Requires ID to submit a ballot
- Mandates cleaning of voter rolls by requiring every voter to show ID to an election official within 75 days of passage of the law (prescribes process for severely disabled and those temporarily residing out of state to validate registration). Anyone that does not accomplish this will have to reregister.
- Bans mailing of ballots for in-state residents and mandates ID verification procedure for temporarily out-of-state voters
- Bans attorney general from making arguments in favor of accepting mail ballots after 7:00PM on election day
- Implements timeline for reporting of amount of ballots received prior to election day and on election day.
- Mandates auditable traceability for ballots from the voter all the way through the tabulation process for federal and statewide elections
- Bans electronic voting machines and vote-counting machines, and mandates the destruction of these machines
- Bans compensating a person for voting or not voting in an election
- Enacts much stricter penalties for election cheating, up to Treason for injecting 10,000 or more fraudulent votes or ineligible voters on voter rolls.
- Prevents executive policy-making powers on certain matters that would undermine CEIPA, and makes it clear that circumventing the law on these areas is a crime.
- Grants executive authority on certain matters that do not circumvent election integrity efforts to maximize efficiency.
- Allows a suit for monetary damages against a prosecutor or investigator in both their governmental and individual capacity for refusing to investigate or prosecute CEIPA violations. Government may not cover the costs associated with a violator in their individual capacity.

- Allows a suit from any member of the public to request activation of a special prosecutor to prosecute CEIPA violations if an elected prosecutor refuses or is unable to. Allows any member of the public to file a suit requesting a special counsel to conduct limited auditing functions of elements that can't be audited by the public (such as ballots with the voter's name showing)
- Mandates that news organizations report based on data from election officials and grants the authority to sue to obtain the name of the election official or source in which the news organization got their election results data from
- Bans false-reporting of election results to any government media or non-government media which could be used by press organizations or the government to report election results.
- Modifies certification of an election as an affirmation under penalty of perjury and CEIPA that the election results are accurate and followed all procedures to the best of their knowledge.
- Bans retroactive modification of ballot and registration records for an election being certified after certification of that election.
- Makes ballots with voter's names redacted and unredacted scans of ballot envelopes public records. In conjunction with other traceability measures being public records allows limited audits by members of the public
- Enhances records-keeping laws to retain election records for 5 years, and limits costs that may be charged for surveillance footage from a single camera for the span of the election to a maximum of \$100.00. Limits requests for digital copies of ballot envelopes within a county to a maximum of \$500.00 and digital scans of ballots with names redacted to \$500.00.
- Makes observation of election operations a public right. Directs Secretary of State to facilitate process for exercising that right in a non-partisan manner.

- Grants county-level law enforcement the ability to investigate immediate election crimes as they would any other crime
 - Prescribes immunity against civil and criminal penalties for use of reasonable force to stop suspected CEIPA crimes until law enforcement can arrive to investigate.¹ Implements procedural protections for asserting that right if charged with a crime despite invocation of this immunity. Mandates investigation of underlying claims of election crimes motivating any alleged offenses in which this immunity is cited.
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1) There are specific circumstances that must be met to utilize such immunity and anyone that may need to invoke it should review the statute beforehand prior to physically restraining anyone for a suspected election crime.