

THE FACTS: Defeating Initiative 16

Laws Concerning Cruelty to Animals



What is Initiative 16?

- Initiative 16 is a ballot initiative that:
 - Criminalizes farmers, ranchers and veterinarians who use accepted animal husbandry practices to care for animals.
 - Changes state statutory language to define common animal care practices as “cruelty to animals.”
 - Bans slaughter for animals that have lived less than 25 percent of their “natural” lifespan.
 - Criminalizes the following veterinary and animal husbandry practices: spaying and neutering, birthing assistance, reproductive practices (artificial insemination, pregnancy diagnosis, fertility testing), etc.
 - Eliminates accepted animal husbandry practices, opening the door to animal cruelty prosecution for common and basic practices such as feeding, sheltering and transportation.

What will Initiative 16 do?

- Destroy Colorado’s \$5 billion livestock industry.
- Crush Colorado’s \$1 billion beef export market.
- Kill jobs by shutting down most, if not all, Colorado beef and lamb processing.
- Significantly increase consumer costs for meat.
- Result in practices that are bad for the animals and the environment by requiring detrimental production practices.
- Erase agriculture’s heritage in Colorado by effectively banning rodeos, county fairs and horse shows.

What are the next steps?

- Coloradans for Animal Care will legally challenge the single subject and title utilizing professional counsel specializing in the ballot process. Unfortunately, there is no way to challenge the merits or constitutionality of a citizen-led ballot initiative during the title process.
- To be placed on the 2022 ballot, an initiative must pass title board requirements, meet required deadlines and garner 124,632 valid signatures.

What can agriculture do about it?

- Join one or more of the many agriculture organizations funding this initiative fight.
- Support the legal action taken by contributing to Coloradans for Animal Care or any of the producer associations funding the effort. Be cautious - this initiative has received A LOT of attention and groups are attempting to prey on concerned animal owners. ONLY donate to the organizations funding the fight to OPPOSE Initiative 16 or the Coloradans for Animal Care campaign itself.

Who is backing this Initiative 16?

- Animal rights extremists who want to destroy livestock production and agriculture in Colorado.

How can I fight Initiative 16?

Join and contribute to the issues committee or any of these organizations:

ISSUES COMMITTEE:

Coloradans for Animal Care

9177 East Mineral Circle
Centennial, CO 80112
ONLINE GIVING - COMING SOON

INDIVIDUAL AGRICULTURAL ORGANIZATIONS:

Colorado Farm Bureau:

<https://www.coloradofarmbureau.com/about-us/who-we-are/>

Colorado Cattlemen's Association:

<https://cca.memberclicks.net/membership>

Colorado Wool Grower's Association:

<https://www.coloradosheep.org/marketplace-1/colorado-wool-growers-association-membership>

Colorado Livestock Association:

<https://coloradolivestock.org/membership/>

Colorado Pork Producers Association:

<https://copork.org/about/join-cppc/>

Colorado Dairy Farmers