HB 20-1156

MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS

CLEAN-UP BILL FOR MAIL-IN BALLOT AND UOCAVA BALLOTS

HB 20-1156 – YOUR “YES” VOTE RESPECTFULLY REQUESTED

The idea for HB201-1156 was brought by the Colorado Municipal Clerks Association in order to simplify and clarify portions of the municipal mail-in ballot procedures and procedures for Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA) ballots. This is a cleanup bill to ensure that there aren’t conflicting or outdated references in the municipal election code.

HB 20-1156:

- Standardizes the language on mail-in ballot envelopes and absentee ballot envelopes, allowing municipal clerks to print one envelope instead of two.
- Corrects timeline conflicts in statute by specifying that nomination petitions in mail-in ballot elections can be amended at any time prior to 63 days before the election.
- Similarly corrects timeline conflicts in statute by permitting withdrawal from candidacy at any time prior to sixty-three days before the election.
- Clarifies an outdated requirement in statute that municipal mail-in ballots contain two ballot stubs. While two ballot stubs in polling place elections still makes sense, it does not make sense in a mail-in ballot election because municipalities now use signature verification.
- Clarifies the procedures to be used when mailing municipal election ballots to UOCAVA-covered voters, including the affirmation language to be used.

CML respectfully requests a “yes” vote on HB 20-1156.

For more information, contact Legislative and Policy Advocate Heather Stauffer at hstauffer@cml.org or 970-301-0452.