

# Coloradans for Animal Care

## The **FACTS** on Initiative 16

Initiative 16 is a proposed ballot measure for **Colorado's 2022 general election**. The measure amends and adds new language to Colorado's animal cruelty law that, if passed would:



**Criminalize pet owners, farmers, ranchers and veterinarians** who use accepted animal husbandry practices to care for animals, including spaying and neutering, birthing assistance, reproductive practices (artificial insemination, pregnancy diagnosis, fertility testing), etc.

Bans slaughter for animals that have lived less than 25 percent of their "natural" lifespan, **far longer than consumer taste, animal care standards and sustainability practices currently allow for.**



“This measure is not based on science and will raise food prices for us all; worse yet, it will cost rural jobs & devastate communities. I will be fighting against it.”  
- Colorado Attorney General Phil Weiser

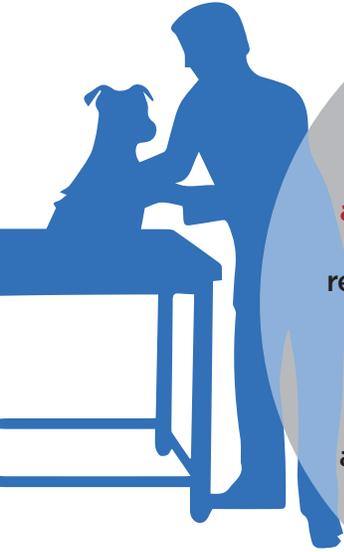


Eliminates accepted animal care practices, opening the door to **animal cruelty prosecution for common and basic animal activities** such as rodeos, dog shows, youth livestock shows, trail rides, and other activities that involve animals.

Colorado already has some of the strongest animal protection laws in the nation. Initiative 16 is a classic bait-and-switch. It's written to be deceptive and to confuse voters about its real agenda. It's disguised to sound like it will improve animal care, but written to shut down animal agriculture, rodeos, dog shows and more. It will create worse outcomes for animals in the process. **Every Coloradan should say NO to Initiative 16!**

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## What would the impacts be?



### Poor Outcomes for Animals

By **criminalizing veterinarian-approved practices** such as spaying, neutering, artificial insemination, reproductive care and other practices, outcomes for animals would be worse. The initiative would force a reduction in the standard of care available to livestock and pet animals, and attempts to control pet overpopulation would suffer.

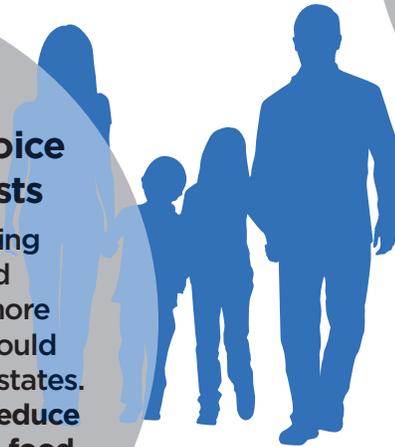


### Economic Destruction

Beef and dairy production accounts for nearly \$7 billion in economic activity. A loss of these industry sectors would **devastate many cities and towns, and put thousands out of work**. The impacts would be felt across Colorado as farmers lose a ready market for their grain and hay, go out of business and further damage local economies that support agricultural businesses.

### Reduced Consumer Choice and Increase Food Costs

By removing key for-producing industry sectors, local food production would suffer as more food and grocery products would need to be shipped from other states. This will **increase food prices, reduce consumer choice, and damage food security across the state**.



## What are the next steps?

Coloradans for Animal Care has challenged the single subject ruling, and the title of the measure at the State Supreme Court. A decision is expected by July. To be placed on the 2022 ballot, an initiative must pass title board requirements, meet required deadlines and garner 124,632 valid signatures. Proponents have 180 days to gather the signatures following the final ruling from the Colorado Supreme Court.

## What can you do?

Become a member of one or more of the many agriculture organizations funding this initiative fight. Tell your friends about the initiative, about Coloradans for Animal Care, and sign up at the website [www.ColoradansForAnimalCare.com](http://www.ColoradansForAnimalCare.com)

Support the legal action taken by donating online at [www.ColoradansForAnimalCare.com](http://www.ColoradansForAnimalCare.com) or send checks made out to Coloradans for Animal Care, to 9177 E. Mineral Cir. Centennial, CO 80112