

*For information on those issue committees that support or oppose the measures on the ballot at the November 3, 2020, election, go to the Colorado Secretary of State's elections center web site hyperlink for ballot and initiative information:*

<https://www.sos.state.co.us/pubs/elections/Initiatives/InitiativesHome.html>

### **Argument For Proposition 115**

- 1) The measure protects viable human life by placing a reasonable restriction on abortion after an infant can live outside the mother's womb. Colorado is one of only seven states that allow abortion at any time during a pregnancy even though infants born as early as 22 weeks gestation can survive outside the womb and experience good developmental outcomes. The measure allows time for a pregnant woman to make a choice about her pregnancy, and permits abortion after 22 weeks when necessary to save the life of the mother. In addition, the measure does not penalize women who receive prohibited abortions. This is a balanced approach with reasonable and limited exceptions that recognizes the dignity of women and the humanity of their unborn children.

### **Argument Against Proposition 115**

- 1) Restricting access to abortion limits a woman's right to bodily autonomy and interferes with the patient and doctor relationship. The choice to end a pregnancy is often a serious and difficult decision, and should be left solely up to the woman, in consultation with her doctor and in accordance with her beliefs. The measure does not include any exceptions for risks to the woman's health or for a woman who has been the victim of rape or incest to obtain an abortion after 22 weeks. In addition, it provides no exceptions for the detection of a serious fetal abnormality after 22 weeks, which may force women to carry a nonviable pregnancy to term. Every pregnancy is unique, and decisions related to pregnancy should not be arbitrarily limited by state government.

115

## Prohibit Abortions After 22 Weeks

**Local government revenue and spending.** Starting in state budget year 2020-21, Proposition 115 will increase costs and workload for district attorneys and may increase revenue, costs, and workload for the Denver County Court.