

PTA'S POSITIONS ON 2021 STATEWIDE BALLOT ISSUES

PTA is OPPOSED to the three statewide ballot issues that will be voted on this year. PTAs need to be sure they follow the law in regard to informing members about PTA's positions on these issues. See our [PTA Guidelines for Ballot Issues](#) for vital details.

Here is a brief summary of PTA's positions on the ballot issues:

- **VOTE NO on Proposition 119, Learning Enrichment and Academic Progress.** This initiative (originally identified as Initiative 25 – see the [article in the August edition](#) for more information) would rob at least \$21 million per year from school funding. It would basically be a “voucher” because it would use public tax money to fund a private agency providing private outside-of-school programs. It is unnecessary, because the state has already received a significant amount of federal funds to provide extra help to deal with learning loss from the pandemic. The new agency would have no oversight by school districts or the Colorado Department of Education. It would intrude on privacy for the families that desire to access the program and for school districts that would be forced to share data with the private agency.
- **VOTE NO on Proposition 120, Property Tax Assessment Rate Reduction.** This initiative would reverse the adjustments to property tax assessment rates made by Amendment B in last year's election, which was approved by nearly two-thirds of Colorado voters. It would slash local government revenue by over \$1 billion annually through lowering property tax rates, which would [affect schools](#), police, and fire protection, among other services. It would also create a confusing clash with property tax law passed through [SB21-293](#).
- **VOTE NO on Amendment 78, Legislative Authority for Spending State Money.** This ballot measure would transfer the power to allocate “custodial funds” from the executive branch (Governor, State Treasurer, and heads of state departments and agencies) solely to our part-time State Legislature. “Custodial funds” means money from a source other than the state taxes received by the state for a particular purpose, such as federal grants. It would result in delayed or reduced public services such as the use of grant funding for schools, like the emergency relief grants to deal with the pandemic.