

# DEMOCRACY IS FOR PEOPLE



A Public Citizen project

## Colorado

Petitioning is explicitly prohibited within 100 feet of polling places, specifically because there is an initiative on the current ballot calling for the overturning of *Citizens United*.

### The law reads:

"1-13-714. Electioneering - removing and return of ballot

No person shall do any electioneering on the day of any election within any polling place or in any public street or room or in any public manner within one hundred feet of any building in which a polling place is located, as publicly posted by the designated election official. As used in this section, the term "electioneering" includes campaigning for or against any candidate who is on the ballot or any ballot issue or ballot question that is on the ballot. "Electioneering" also includes soliciting signatures for a candidate petition, a recall petition, or a petition to place a ballot issue or ballot question on a subsequent ballot. "Electioneering" shall not include a respectful display of the American flag. No person shall remove any official ballot from the polling place before the closing of the polls. Any person who violates any provision of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction thereof, shall be punished as provided in section 1-13-111."

"1-13-713. Intimidation

It is unlawful for any person directly or indirectly, by himself or by any other person in his behalf, to impede, prevent, or otherwise interfere with the free exercise of the elective franchise of any elector or to compel, induce, or prevail upon any elector either to give or refrain from giving his vote at any election provided by law or to give or refrain from giving his vote for any particular person or measure at any such election. Each such offense is a misdemeanor, and, upon conviction thereof, the offender shall be punished as provided in section 1-13-111."

The Colorado Secretary of State's website

(<http://www.sos.state.co.us/pubs/elections/FAQs/ElectionDay.html>) states:

"Q16. What kind of campaign activities are not allowed in a polling place?

A16. Electioneering, also called campaigning, is not allowed in a polling place. Voters may not wear pins, t-shirts, hats, or other apparel that displays a preference for a candidate, political party, or ballot question.

Electioneering is not allowed within 100 feet of each polling place. Each polling place should have a sign marking the limit.

Campaign workers may be outside of polling places to offer water, snacks, and other items to voters who are in line to vote. These "comfort teams" may not campaign or wear campaign paraphernalia for a candidate, political party or ballot question if they operate within 100 feet of the polling place."



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