Home-Rule Charter



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Description

Home rule in Colorado for municipalities and counties is allowed through the Colorado Constitution, Article XX for municipalities and Article XIV for counties. Colorado municipalities are allowed functional home rule powers while counties are allowed structural home rule. Functional home rule means the citizens have the right to decide the structure as well as the powers and functions of the municipality. Structural home rule means the citizens have the right to decide the administrative form of their county government.

DLG's Regional Managers may assist a local government in the process of determining if and how home rule might be pursued.

How to use the information

The Colorado Municipal League has published documents on municipal home rule. The documents outline the history of municipal home rule and process. These are very useful in determining the whether to pursue developing a home rule charter through a charter commission.

The Division of Local Government has provided options of alternative structures for counties. We have also assisted municipalities using facilitation techniques to determine if the elected officials wish to pursue a charter election.

Why this is important

This assistance may help local government elected officials determine if a home rule election is right for that local government.