

# Referendum N



*Colorado Legislative Council Staff*  
**FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

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**Date:** August 25, 2008

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**BALLOT TITLE:** OBSOLETE CONSTITUTIONAL PROVISIONS RELATING TO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

## Summary of Measure

This referendum repeals Section 5 of Article XVIII and Article XXII of the Colorado Constitution. Section 5 of Article XVIII prohibits the importation of any poisonous, drugged, or otherwise impure liquors. Article XXII states that the sale and distribution of liquor in Colorado shall be performed exclusively by state agencies as established by state and federal laws. The article also prohibits the state legislature from passing a law to authorize the establishment of a saloon, i.e. a business whose exclusive commerce was the consumption of alcohol. As a result, current drinking establishments are required by state laws to offer food or meals.

## Assessment

Each of these constitutional provisions is assessed as being outdated and obsolete. Repeal of these provisions will not affect state or local revenue or spending. Therefore, the referendum is assessed as having no fiscal impact.