

# Frequently Asked Questions

#### 1. What does Proposition BB do?

Proposition BB asks the voters of Colorado to permit the state to retain all of the marijuana tax revenue collected during the first full year of the new Proposition AA taxes. Otherwise, it would all have to be refunded to the marijuana industry and taxpayers. Voters have twice voted in favor of taxes on legal marijuana sales, and passage of Proposition BB enacts what Colorado voters have already decided.

Proposition BB allocates \$40 million for public school construction and \$12 million to fund marijuana education, substance abuse treatment and prevention, youth mentoring services, and Future Farmers of America and 4-H programs at the Colorado State Fair.

#### 2. Why should I vote YES on Proposition BB?

Proposition BB addresses a one-time need to see to it that revenues collected from marijuana taxes fund school construction, law enforcement, substance abuse prevention, and youth services, as voters intended. By retaining these monies, we ensure that these resources directly benefit our communities, as voters intended.

## 3. Will the Building Excellent Schools Today (BEST) program receive more money if Proposition BB passes?

Yes. Amendment 64 said the first \$40 million generated by an excise tax each year go to the Building Excellent Schools Today (BEST) program. The Proposition BB proposal to transfer \$40 million to the BEST fund is in addition to the funds from the excise tax it is already receiving.

#### 4. Is this a one-time vote?

Yes, Proposition BB is a result of a special rule that applies to newly approved taxes in their first year, in this case Proposition AA taxes on recreational marijuana.

### 5. What is the ballot question?

"May the state retain and spend state revenues that otherwise would be refunded for exceeding an estimate included in the ballot information booklet for Proposition AA and use these revenues to provide forty million dollars for public school building construction and for other needs, such as law enforcement, youth programs, and marijuana education and prevention programs, instead of refunding these revenues to retail marijuana cultivation facilities, retail marijuana purchasers, and other taxpayers?"

#### 6. What happens if Proposition BB passes?

If Proposition BB passes:

- **\$40 million** will be spent on school construction through the Building Excellent Schools Today (BEST) program; and
- \$12 million will be spent to fund the following state programs:
  - o \$2.5 million to marijuana education;
  - o \$2 million to school bullying prevention;
  - o \$2 million to grants for programs to prevent students from dropping out of school;
  - o \$2 million to youth mentoring services;
  - o \$1 million to poison control centers;
  - o \$1 million to local government marijuana impact grants;
  - o \$500,000 to substance abuse screening, intervention, and referral;
  - o \$500,000 to substance abuse treatment;
  - o \$300,000 to the Future Farmers of America and 4-H programs at the Colorado State Fair;
  - o \$200,000 to training peace officers to recognize impaired drivers; and
- As final numbers for the 2014-15 fiscal year are still coming in, the remainder of the refund has not been allocated yet.

#### 7. What happens if Proposition BB does not pass?

If voters do not pass Proposition BB, marijuana tax revenue collected during the first full year of the new Proposition AA taxes must be refunded. The refund plan is as follows:

- \$25 million will be refunded via a rebate averaging \$8.00 to each full-time Colorado resident who files a 2015 state income tax return;
- \$22.4 million will be refunded to marijuana cultivators that paid this much in excess tax; and
- \$16.1 million will be refunded to retail marijuana purchasers through a temporary reduction in the retail marijuana sales tax rate.

#### 8. Why is Proposition BB on the ballot?

In 2013, voters approved Proposition AA, which authorized excise and sales taxes on retail marijuana. However, the Colorado Constitution has special rules that apply to newly approved taxes in their first year. Because of this, the state owes taxpayers a one-time refund on additional revenues collected from the marijuana taxes, unless voters allow the state to spend the refund amount. Proposition BB addresses this one-time need to see to it that these additional revenues fund school construction, law enforcement, substance abuse prevention, and youth services, as voters intended with Proposition AA.

#### 9. How did Proposition BB get on the ballot?

House Bill 1367, which when passed by the legislature and signed by the Governor, referred Proposition BB to the voters in 2015.

#### 10. How will Proposition BB affect local governments?

Local governments that permit retail marijuana sales receive a share of state retail marijuana sales tax revenue. If Proposition BB fails, the amount of marijuana tax revenue they receive in the future will be temporarily reduced.

#### 11. How can one donate to this effort?

To donate, please send a check made out to 'Vote Yes on BB' to 1900 Grant Street, Suite 1170, Denver, CO 80203. There are no limits to how much you can donate; however, your contributions are not tax deductible.