

Rationale: This proposal is sent as an alternate to the member submission put forth by Alan Hayman if the convention is inclined to adopt anything along those lines though I do not recommend it.

First, it is very unclear.... It starts with supporting a nebulous concept of something in the “legal community” without any legal expertise or knowledge of what that entails. There are plenty of areas of law that are not designed for lay people and require very technical language, not “lay person” language, and this proposal would have us taking a position on something we are utterly ignorant of. It also uses the vague term “communications.” Who’s communications? What right do we have to dictate how people communicate?

Second, while the proposal then goes into the issue of plain language in legislation, it is disconnected from the first two sentences. The third sentence is very well done but we already have that specified in Colorado law and our platform should not be calling for things that already exist. If we simply wish to support something that currently exists that is the province of resolutions, not political platforms.

Third, the style of the proposal as written is completely different from the style of the rest of the Platform and would stick out like a sore thumb. For example, our Platform does not use the phraseology “LPCO supports” in any plank. Again, that is more suited to a resolution.

Lastly, having this as a separate plank seems like overkill and seems to be a pet issue of some members that should not be put into the platform but reserved for private activism.

Thus, this is the proposal the undersigned would put forth as a substitute to the Hayman proposal if it is heard. If the Hayman proposal is not heard or is withdrawn, we would withdraw this proposal.

Proposal:

~~Safety Clause~~ Colorado Legislation

We adamantly oppose the attachment of a “Safety Clause” to any bill approved by the legislature. Use of the “Safety Clause” limits the ability of the electorate to reject improper bills. Laws and regulations should not be written in a language that citizens cannot understand and that authorities can misinterpret. Whenever this happens, the government is enabled to abuse its authority and trample over the rights of the individual.

MOTION:

Move to strike the title “Safety Clause” and replace with “Colorado Legislation” and add Laws and regulations should not be written in a language that citizens cannot understand and that authorities can misinterpret. Whenever this happens, the government is enabled to abuse its authority and trample over the rights of the individual.” following “Use of the “Safety Clause” limits the ability of the electorate to reject improper bills.”

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