

Lesson Title: Changing the Colorado Constitution	Lesson Topic/Theme(s): Amending the Constitution; Conflicting amendments
Inquiry Question(s): Should the Colorado Constitution ever be changed? Who should decide what gets changed? What should be done if amendments contradict each other?	
Colorado Academic Standards <i>CO State Civics Standard 4: (GLE 1 EO b.): Describe and evaluate the effectiveness and acceptability of a variety of methods of civic participation that individuals and groups may use to shape policy at various levels of government.</i> <i>CO State Civics Standard 4: (GLE 2 EO c.): Analyze the processes for amending the Constitutions of Colorado and the United States and the significant changes that have occurred to those documents including both the Colorado and the United States Bills of Rights.</i> <i>CO State Civics Standard 4: (GLE 2 EO e.): Describe the role and development of the founding documents of Colorado and the United States from their inception to modern day. Including but not limited to: the Great Law of Peace, the Declaration of Independence, the Constitutions of the United States and Colorado, the Federalist Papers, and the Bill of Rights.</i>	
Materials Needed: Internet access  Changing Colorado's Constitution  Tabor v Amendment 23.pdf	
Background Knowledge / Contextual Paragraph for Teachers: Colorado's Constitution is one of the easiest in the nation to amend. In 1912, citizens gained the right to propose amendments via initiatives. As a result, it has been amended 168 times. Some have criticized the Constitution for going beyond the core expectation of establishing the structure of government to addressing a broad array of social issues. Certain amendments, such as Amendment 23 and the TABOR amendment, even contradict each other.	
Instructional Procedures and Strategies: 1. Show the Changing the Colorado Constitution slide presentation  Changing Colorado's Constitution 2. Compare TABOR and Amendment 23--Venn Diagram 3. Exit Ticket	

Critical Content • The Colorado Constitution amendment process • Amendment 71 • TABOR Amendment • Amendment 23	Key Skills • Analyze the amendment process • Compare and contrast contradictory amendments
Critical Language (vocabulary) Constitution, Amendment, Initiative, Referendum, Taxpayer Bill of Rights	
Formative Assessment Ideas: Have students research the most recent election. Were there any amendments on the ballot? If so, what were they about? Did any pass?	
Resources: (Primary Sources, Other Resources)  Changing Colorado's Constitution  Tabor v Amendment 23.pdf Colorado Constitution PBS: Colorado Constitution	