

November 2015 BALLOT QUESTION Exemption from SB 152

Voters residing in Archuleta County will be asked this question.

Archuleta County Question 1A

Without increasing taxes, shall Archuleta County have the legal ability to provide any or all services currently restricted by Title 29, Article 27, Part 1, of the Colorado Revised Statutes, specifically described as “advanced services,” “telecommunications services,” and “cable television services,” as defined by the statute, including, but not limited to, any new and improved high bandwidth services based on future technologies, utilizing community owned infrastructure including but not limited to any existing fiber network, either directly, or indirectly with public or private sector service providers, to potential subscribers that may include telecommunications service providers, and residential or commercial users within Archuleta County?”

Tell me more about Colorado Senate Bill 152...

Colorado Senate Bill 05-152 (SB 152) is a measure passed by the Colorado Legislature in 2005. Its intent was to limit governments from competing with the private sector. Among other provisions, it requires local governments to secure voter approval before entering into the broadband partnerships or business. Without such approval, the law limits the ability of Colorado local governments to provide a wide spectrum of services, including:

- free Internet service in city libraries, parks and community centers;
- leveraging government infrastructure and partnering with private businesses to provide affordable and high-speed Internet service throughout the entire community;
- direct provision of broadband services by municipal governments where needed.

How would an exemption from SB 152 benefit Archuleta County?

A voter-approved exemption from SB 152 would restore local independence and ability to evaluate all possibilities for next-generation broadband services in Archuleta County.

An exemption supports local choice and options, allowing citizens to make the best decisions based on the needs of our own individual community, without raising taxes.

How Can I Vote?

Ballots are mailed to voters beginning October 13.

Ballot drop-off begins October 26.

Voter Service & Polling Centers are located at:

- Archuleta County Clerk's Office
449 San Juan St, Pagosa Springs
- Archuleta County Motor Vehicle Office
449 San Juan St, Pagosa Springs

Voters may also mail ballots to:

Archuleta County Clerk's office
P.O. Box 2589
Pagosa Springs, CO 81147

Ballots must be received by Election Day—
Tuesday, November 3.

Visit: [Archuleta County 2015 Election](#)



SOUTHWEST COLORADO COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

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This information about SB 152 has been paid for by Southwest Colorado Council of Governments. It is not intended to urge a vote for or against this item.

Would you like the opportunity for...
Better and More Affordable Internet Access? A Level Playing Field for Local Businesses? A More Connected and Vital Community?

SB 152 exemption outcomes could include:

Better Access to high speed broadband services for residents and businesses alike.

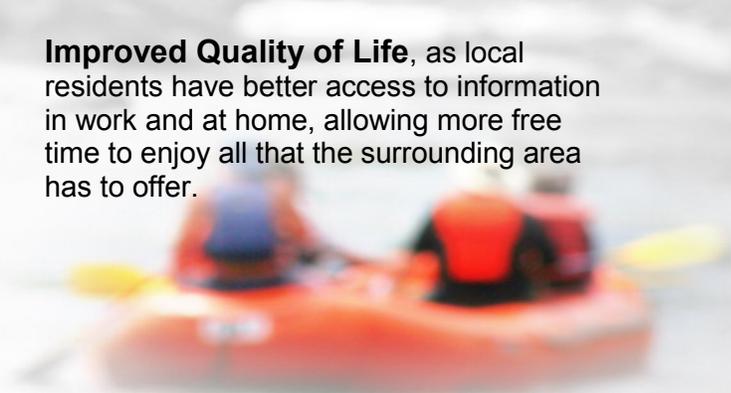
Intensified Innovation by local businesses and entrepreneurs.

Affordable Internet Access, as Archuleta County partners with internet service providers and key institutions to more efficiently expand internet service.

A Cleaner Environment, as high speed internet reduced commuting needs and promotes high tech green jobs.

More Connected Communities, with new avenues for public engagement in local decision-making and new opportunities for connected social spaces and creative networking.

Improved Quality of Life, as local residents have better access to information in work and at home, allowing more free time to enjoy all that the surrounding area has to offer.



What is fiber-optic broadband?

Fiber-optic broadband cable can run underground or in the air on existing poles. Pulses of light allow very reliable connections and can quickly carry large amounts of data over long distances. Fiber-optic cable is a dedicated internet connection and is not shared with cable services. Fiber-optic network speeds are typically 100 megabits to 10 gigabits per second, compared to 20 to 100 megabits per second for a typical cable internet connection, or 3 megabits per second or less for traditional copper phone service.

Are other Colorado cities exempt from SB 152?

Voters in nearly a dozen Colorado cities and counties have exempted themselves from SB 152, passing measures that affirm their local choice to decide how broadband services develop in these communities.

Exemptions have been approved in:

- Montrose
- Delta
- Grand Junction
- Telluride
- Fort Collins
- Boulder
- Rio Blanco County
- Garfield County

Does Archuleta County own existing fiber?

Yes, Archuleta County has fiber, conduit and other equipment and infrastructure throughout the county related to fiber options.



This ballot item is:

If voters approve this ballot item, Archuleta County would be exempted from a state law that otherwise purports to limit local governments from improving broadband capabilities. With this exemption, the county would be permitted to establish business partnerships with private companies to increase access to high-speed broadband internet, opt to provide this service itself, or develop a combined strategy to benefit residents and business users.

This ballot item is not:

This ballot item would not prevent any private business, including existing broadband providers, from initiating or continuing to provide these services. Archuleta County does not have plans to create a public broadband utility. Passage of this measure would allow the county to explore of a variety of options to make assets available to serve the broadband needs of residents, students and businesses.