Get the FACTS ON PROP 132

Coming to the CO Ballot in November:

Prop 132, **sponsored by conservative political organization Advance Colorado,** will substantially increase prison sentences for drug offenses where fentanyl has been detected.

What Prop 132 would do:

- Make **any** amount of fentanyl possession a felony, including first-time cases.
- Sentence an 18-year-old sharing even one pill with the **same 8 to 32-year prison sentence as the highest-level drug trafficker.**
- Apply the same sentence even if the person **didn't know fentanyl was present.** No judicial discretion is allowed.
- Result in ~ **1,718 additional** overdose deaths over 5 years.
- Send nearly **900 more people to prison** each year.

What Prop 132 would NOT do:

- ✕ It would **not** increase penalties for high-level drug traffickers.
- ✕ It would **not** reduce drug use or drug sales.[2] [3] [4]
- ✕ It would **not** disrupt the drug supply. [2]
- ✕ It would **not** reduce overdose deaths.[1] [2] [4]

> Extensive studies show there is **no evidence** that increased severity of criminal punishment for drug law violations results in a decrease in drug use, drug sales, or overdose.

1 Barocas, Joshua. 'Projected Overdose Mortality Outcomes Under Colorado Ballot Initiative #85 (Memorandum). June 2026
2 Pew Charitable Trusts. 'More Imprisonment Does Not Reduce State Drug Problems: Data show no relationship between prison terms and drug misuse'. March 2018
3 Harris, Katharine Neill. 'Controlled Substances: Federalcies and Enforcement' Rice University's Baker Institute for Public Policy, 11 March 2021
4 Colorado Behavioral Health Administration. 'Measuring the Health Impacts of Felonizing Fentanyl Possession' CU Schools of Medicine and Law, January 2025

Impacts of Prop 132, the Fentanyl Ballot Measure

Overdose deaths in Colorado would likely *increase*

A Colorado-specific scientific analysis found that this measure could result in **1,718 additional overdose deaths** over five years — a 41.3% increase compared with current Colorado law.

Teenagers would face 8–32 year prison sentences

This measure would require at least 8 years in prison — even for minor, first-time cases. Judges would have no choice. **An 18-year-old sharing even one pill with a friend would face the same 8 to 32-year prison sentence as the highest-level drug trafficker.**

You don't have to know fentanyl was there

Street drugs are often mixed or cross-contaminated with fentanyl. Under this measure, a person could face the highest drug felony — **even if they did not know fentanyl was present.**

No funding for the treatment it mandates

The measure mandates treatment for first-time, low-level possession cases with **no new funding**. *During the 2026 legislative session, the state of Colorado cut $100 M from the substance use treatment budget.*

How would the state pay for the added costs?

Colorado must balance its budget under the state Constitution. That means to pay for this measure, Colorado must either **raise taxes and fees** or **cut funding** from other priorities, like K–12 schools, higher ed, or healthcare.

Who is behind the measure?

Westword Mar 4, 2025

"In a Democrat-dominated state, the head of **Advance Colorado** is **pushing conservative policies** one ballot measure at a time."

GET THE FACTS BEFORE YOU VOTE

GetTheFactsCO.org

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