

SUPREME COURT, STATE OF COLORADO 2 East 14th Avenue Denver, Colorado 80203	DATE FILED May 15, 2026 4:00 PM
Original Proceeding Pursuant to Colo. Rev. Stat. §1-40-107(2) Appeal from the Ballot Title Board	
In the Matter of the Title, Ballot Title, and Submission Clause for Proposed Initiative 2025- 2026 #313 Petitioners: LYNN GRANGER AND CARLY WEST v. Respondents: SIDRA AGHABABIAN AND JESSICA ARHONTOULIS and Title Board: THERESA CONLEY; KURT MORRISON; and CHRISTY CHASE	▲ COURT USE ONLY ▲
<i>Attorneys for Respondents</i> Martha M. Tierney, No. 27521 Tierney Lawrence Stiles LLC 225 E.16 th Ave, Suite 350 Denver, CO 80203 Phone: (303) 356-4870 E-mail: mtierney@tls.legal	Case No.: 2026SA155
<p style="text-align: center;">ANSWER BRIEF OF RESPONDENTS SIDRA AGHABABIAN AND JESSICA ARHONTOULIS IN SUPPORT OF PROPOSED INITIATIVE 2025-2026 #313</p>	

CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE

I hereby certify that this brief complies with all requirements of C.A.R. 28 and C.A.R. 32, including all formatting requirements set forth in these rules.

Specifically, the undersigned certifies that:

The brief complies with the applicable word limits set forth in C.A.R. 28(g) because it contains 578 words.

The brief complies with the standard of review requirements set forth in C.A.R. 28(a)(7)(A), because it contains under a separate heading before the discussion of the issue, as applicable, a concise statement: (1) of the applicable standard of appellate review with citation to authority; and (2) whether the issue was preserved, and if preserved, the precise location in the record where the issue was raised and where the court ruled, not to an entire document.

I acknowledge that my brief may be stricken if it fails to comply with any of the requirements of C.A.R. 28 and C.A.R. 32.

By: /s/ Martha M. Tierney

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Page(s)

ARGUMENT.....1

 I. The Petitioners' Jurisdiction Argument Lacks Merit1

 II. The Title Board Set a Clear Title2

CONCLUSION.....3

TABLE OF AUTHORITIES

Page(s)

CASES

In re Title, Ballot Title & Submission Clause for 2015-2016 #73,
2016 CO 24.....1

In re Title, Ballot Title and Submission Clause for 2015-2016 #156
2016 CO 56.....2

In re Title, Ballot Title & Submission Clause for 1997-1998 #62,
961 P.2d 1077 (Colo. 2008).....2,3

In re Title, Ballot Title, & Submission Clause for 2007-2008 #62,
184 P.3d 246 (Colo. 2008)3

In re Title, Ballot Title & Submission Clause for 1999-2000 #256,
12 P.3d 246 (Colo. 2000).....3

STATUTES

§ 1-40-106(3)(b), C.R.S.3

Respondents Sidra Aghababian and Jessica Arhontoulis, designated representatives of the proponents of Proposed Initiative 2025-2026 #313 (the “Proposed Initiative”), through undersigned counsel, respectfully submit their Answer Brief as follows:

ARGUMENT

I. The Petitioners’ Jurisdiction Argument Lacks Merit.

Petitioners contend that the Title Board lacks jurisdiction to set a title because the “measure’s enforcement mechanism is vague, confusing, and unclear.” *Petitioners’ Op. Brief*, pp. 13-17. Like in their Motion for Rehearing, in their Opening Brief Petitioners cite just one case to support this argument, but that case does not stand for the proposition that the Title Board lacks jurisdiction to set a title if the measure is vague, confusing, or unclear. *See In re Title, Ballot Title and Submission Clause for 2015-2016 #73*, 2016 CO 24 (Colo. 2016). Petitioners cite to language in #73 that describes the single subject and clear title requirements, but the case contains nothing about rejecting jurisdiction to set a title because a measure is vague, confusing, or unclear. 2016 CO 24, ¶¶ 8, 16. Notably, the Title Board had no trouble understanding the Proposed Initiative and setting a title. *See Record*, pp. 7-8. This Court should reject Petitioners’ jurisdiction argument.

II. The Title Board Set a Clear Title.

Petitioners do not specify in their *Petition* how the title is flawed, but in their *Motion for Rehearing*, Petitioners argued that the title is misleading because it “(a) does not make clear that the measure applies only to conduct or contracts entered into after the effective date of the measure; (b) fails to define what the word “conduct” means in the applicability clause; and (c) places the words “without regard to fault, negligence, or intent” in a misleading location. *Petitioners’ Op. Brief*, pp. 14-15. None of these reasons render the title “insufficient, unfair, or misleading.” *In re Title, Ballot Title and Submission Clause for 2015-2016 #156*, 2016 CO 56, ¶ 8. Proponents explained in their Opening Brief how each of the reasons Petitioners assert for clear title violations should be rejected. *See Respondents’ Op. Brief*, pp. 6-9. Petitioners make no new objections in their Opening Brief. The Title Board considered each of the clear title arguments raised by Petitioners during the rehearing on April 23, 2026, and rejected each one in turn. *See Record*, p. 8.

Titles are intended to be a "relatively brief and plain statement by the Board setting forth the central features of the initiative for the voters," rather than "an item-by-item paraphrase of the proposed constitutional amendment or statutory

provision." *In re Title, Ballot Title and Submission Clause for 1997-1998* # 62, 961 P.2d 1077, 1083 (Colo. 1998).

The Title Board exercised its discretion to craft a title that seeks to avoid “public confusion,” is “brief” and “unambiguously states the principle of the provision sought to be added, amended, or repealed.” §1-40-106(3)(b), C.R.S. “While titles must be fair, clear, accurate and complete, the Title Board is not required to set out every detail of an initiative.” *In re Title, Ballot Title, & Submission Clause for 2007-2008* #62, 184 P.3d 52, 60 (Colo. 2008). This Court should defer to the Title Board’s discretion. *In re Title, Ballot Title, & Submission Clause for 1999-2000* #256, 12 P.3d 246, 255 (Colo. 2000) (“In reviewing the actions of the Board, we grant great deference to the board’s broad discretion in the exercise of its drafting authority.”)

CONCLUSION

The Proponents respectfully request the Court to uphold the actions of the Title Board regarding Proposed Initiative 2025-2026 #313.

Respectfully submitted this 15th day of May, 2026.

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing **ANSWER BRIEF OF RESPONDENTS SIDRA AGHABABIAN AND JESSICA ARHONTOULIS IN SUPPORT OF PROPOSED INITIATIVE 2025-2026 #313** was electronically served via e-mail or via the Colorado Courts E-Filing System on the 15th day of May, 2026 to the following:

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