AMENDMENT 69

"ColoradoCare"

Amendment 69 would establish a single-payer health care system in Colorado. "ColoradoCare" replaces Medicaid and private insurance with a new system funded by payroll and business taxes. Despite the progressive goals of this initiative, independent studies have identified significant problems with its implementation. Also, reproductive choice would be adversely affected by Amendment 69, since government entities in Colorado are constitutionally prohibited from paying for abortion services.

VOTE NO

AMENDMENT 70

Minimum Wage Increase

Amendment 70 would increase Colorado's minimum wage in incremental steps over time, eventually reaching $12 per hour by the year 2020. Although Colorado passed a modest minimum wage increase in 2006 that adjusts automatically with inflation, the minimum wage of $8.31 per hour has failed to keep pace with skyrocketing living costs. Everyone working full-time in Colorado should earn a wage sufficient to provide for their basic needs, and no one who works hard should live in poverty.

VOTE YES

AMENDMENT 71

Ballot Initiative Crackdown

Amendment 71 would make it substantially harder to enact constitutional changes via ballot initiative in Colorado. Amendment 71 would require more than a 50% majority for constitutional measures, as well as new signature gathering requirements that would give 1/35th of the state veto power over the rest of us. Further, Amendment 71 would "raise the bar" so high that only wealthy special interests and big corporations could afford to place constitutional measures on the ballot.

VOTE NO

AMENDMENT 72

Tobacco Tax Increase

Amendment 72 will increase taxes on tobacco products in Colorado, and require the funds be spent on tobacco cessation programs, veteran's health care, mental health programs for youth, and other public health-related purposes. Colorado's tobacco taxes have slipped to below average in national rankings in recent years, even as smoking has begun to increase again after many years on the decline.

VOTE YES

PROPOSITION 106

End-of-Life Options

Proposition 106 would allow Colorado adults who have been diagnosed with a terminal illness, and who have less than six months to live end-of-life options including medical aid in dying. The measure is closely modeled after Oregon's Death With Dignity law, which has been a proven success for almost two decades. Numerous safeguards in the law ensure terminally ill patients are protected from abuse and fully in control of the decision.

VOTE YES

PROPOSITION 107

Restore Presidential Primary

Proposition 107 would restore Colorado's presidential primary elections, replacing the current party caucus system for presidential elections. The measure would open presidential primaries to unaffiliated voters with certain restrictions, and make Colorado a "winner-take-all" primary state.

NEUTRAL

PROPOSITION 108

Open Primary Elections

Proposition 108 would make sweeping changes to Colorado's primary election system, including sending multiple ballots to unaffiliated voters. The measure could create confusion among unaffiliated voters leading to rejected and spoiled ballots, and would also open the door to destructive manipulation of party primaries by big outside special interests.

VOTE NO

AMENDMENT T

Remove Obsolete Constitutional Slavery Provisions

Amendment T changes the state constitution to remove language that currently allows for slavery and involuntary servitude to be used as punishment for the conviction of a crime. No American should ever be subjected to involuntary servitude, even in prison. Other state and federal laws already affirm this right, and removing this language from the constitution is a necessary technicality.

VOTE YES

AMENDMENT U

Property Tax Exemptions

Amendment U is another constitutional "clean up" measure, eliminating property taxes for individuals or businesses that use government-owned property for a private benefit that has a market value of $6,000 or less. This tax frequently costs more for local governments to collect than the collected revenue itself, and is considered an unnecessary burden for citizens and government alike.

VOTE YES