

Statement of Resolution Opposing Amendments 60, 61 and Proposition 101 by the Special District Association:



Whereas, Three measures appearing on the November 2010 statewide ballot would significantly damage Colorado's special districts, state and local governments from funding their most basic level of services related to safety, water, sanitation, fire protection, education, hospitals, rural health care, and transportation, and;

Whereas, These measures drastically limit government's ability to construct new building and infrastructure, and;

Whereas, The ability to finance long-term capital improvements like water and wastewater treatment plants, fire stations, recreational projects and other public facilities are dramatically impaired by the restrictions on debt financing as proposed by Amendment 61; and

Whereas, Amendments 60 & 61 would slash at least \$1 billion annually in state taxes, cutting in half the property tax dollars schools currently receive and;

Whereas, One of the many components of Amendment 60 would overturn election decisions made by voters over the last eighteen years, creating financial chaos for local communities, and;

Whereas, One of the many components of Amendment 61 eliminates any practical means for state and regional governments to make future road, highway and bridge improvements, or other capital improvements to their districts, such as DIA, FasTracks, the Anschutz Medical Center, colleges and universities, water conservation districts; or improvements to public schools, cities and counties, and;

Whereas, Proposition 101 reduces the vehicle registration fee (annual license plate fee) to a level which would devastate Colorado's ability to maintain safe roads and bridges, by lowering the fee to the assessment rate from the year 1919 and;

Whereas, These measures individually and collectively significantly reduce or otherwise restrict both state and local revenues in a number of different ways, including but not limited to: specific ownership taxes, telecommunication taxes, state income taxes, state-shared revenues to assist municipalities with local street and transit improvements, other state grants and loans to help local government, and property taxes; and

Whereas, The cumulative and destructive nature of the three measures ensures that Colorado will surrender its competitive standing to attract large and small employers alike, resulting in little to no economic growth for the state and a steady decline in property values and erosion of the state and local tax base;

Whereas, State voters will have the opportunity on November 2, 2010 to protect the fiscal health of Colorado by defeating Proposition 101, Amendment 60 and Amendment 61;

Now Therefore, The SDA Board of Directors has taken an official position opposing Amendments 60, 61 and Proposition 101, and urges citizens statewide to preserve the Colorado way of life by voting NO on all three-ballot measures.