

Resolution Opposing Proposition 101, Amendments 60 and 61

WHEREAS Colorado has been falling behind the rest of the nation for decades when it comes to investment in education, preschool through higher education; and

WHEREAS Colorado's average K-12 per pupil education funding is \$1,397 behind the national averageⁱ, and Colorado ranks 48th in spending per capita on higher educationⁱⁱ; and

WHEREAS Colorado's poor investment in education is having a negative impact on students and children from preschool through higher education, in the form of growing class sizes in schools and colleges, increasing tuition, reductions in instructional time for students, and elimination or reduction of educational opportunities such as music, art, foreign language, physical education, career technical education, and technology; and

WHEREAS three initiatives on the November 2010 ballot, Amendments 60 & 61 and Proposition 101 threaten to slash both local and state funding for education far below this already unacceptable level; and

WHEREAS Amendment 60 would cut local support of public schools – including mill levy overrides already passed by local communities – in half without providing the state any source of funds to make up for that loss; and

WHEREAS Amendment 61 would eliminate the state's ability to help repair and replace crumbling school buildings and to address higher ed construction needs, and would make bonding for school construction at the local level more difficult and more expensive; and

WHEREAS Proposition 101 would cut an array of state and local taxes that currently support preschool, K-12, and higher education; and

WHEREAS passage of Amendment 60, Amendment 61 and/or Proposition 101 would be devastating to Colorado's children and economy;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that _____
officially declares its opposition to the passage of Amendments 60 and 61 and Proposition 101.

Date _____

ⁱ "Revenues and Expenditures for Public Elementary and Secondary Education," National Center for Education Statistics, Fiscal Year 2007 Report.

ⁱⁱ "Gross State and Local Support for Higher Education Operating Expenses Per Capita," The National Center for Higher Education Management Systems Information Center. data from State Higher Education Executive Officers (SHEEO), 2008.