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# TABOR

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Dear Friends,

This is our line in the sand. The groups below won't tolerate any more attacks on the Taxpayer's Bill of Rights (TABOR) – the single greatest gift we voters have ever given ourselves and future generations. And we will no longer tolerate the weakening of TABOR as more politicians try to get their hands of more of our money.

For more than two decades, TABOR has been our constitutional guardian keeping the ruling class out of our wallets and expanding their own power. Politicians can raise taxes; they just have to ask us first. Politicians can increase debt; they just have to ask us first. They just can't take from us without asking. It's that simple.

Because of TABOR, government can't grow at a rate faster than inflation plus population.

TABOR is uniquely Colorado. It has helped our economy thrive, and, thanks to TABOR, we've weathered economic downturns far better than other states.

President of Americans for Tax Reform Grover Norquist said it perfectly in a column in the *Washington Times*:

*Colorado is home to the best tax and expenditure limitation in the country, called the Taxpayer's Bill of Rights. TABOR provides an exoskeleton for those elected officials that lack an endoskeleton (backbone). It should be easiest to fight taxes in Colorado.*

*TABOR puts taxpayers in charge of tax and debt increases. Any government in Colorado can jack up taxes as high as they like, and it's all fine. All they have to do is ask first by putting the question on the ballot.*

TABOR has prevented a massively bloated state government apparatus that would act as a drag on the economy. Voters have rejected multiple state-level tax increases, bad policy ideas, and debt packages including the \$25 billion annual tab for government-dictated health care known as Colorado Care.

Instead Coloradans enjoy the freedom to spend and invest as they wish, not as government dictates.

What many who have come here over the last two decades don't realize is that TABOR is responsible for the economic opportunities that have lured them here just as much as our Rocky Mountains and craft beer.

It's no secret the ruling class and its sympathetic media have a particular hatred of TABOR. A comment from Natasha Gardner of 5280 magazine captures the anti-TABOR, anti-consent of the governed that is so pervasive today in Colorado political circles:

*"If I had to pick a disgrace of the week, of the month, of the 25 years I would say it has to be the Taxpayer's Bill of Rights. TABOR has been so crippling to this state in many, many different ways."*

Translation: the ruling class knows better than you do how to spend your hard-earned dollars.

The threat is real as is the damage that has been done. Two decades of erosion from both sides of the aisle has left TABOR on life support. We won't tolerate it any more. Those of us who have signed on to this letter pledge to revive and strengthen it.

That's why we've started the **TABOR Yes** coalition that includes organizations and individuals committed to defending and strengthening TABOR. We hope you will join us.

The lines are clear. If you work to strengthen TABOR, then you are with us. If you work to weaken TABOR, last year's SB267 is a great example, then you are against us. We will hold accountable anyone who weakens or even threatens TABOR.

We will spend the next several months crisscrossing Colorado celebrating TABOR and educating natives and newcomers alike on the beauty that is TABOR – the right to decide on the size and scope of government WE want.

Visit [www.TABORYes.com](http://www.TABORYes.com). Sign our pledge to protect and strengthen TABOR and check out our calendar of events to find out when we will take our TABOR Yes road show to a venue near you.

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Americans for Prosperity Foundation

Americans for Tax Reform

America's House of Commons

Americhicks

Approval Voting

CATO Institute

Centennial Institute

Center for Freedom and Prosperity

Coalition to Reduce Spending

Colorado Issues Coalition

Colorado Log Cabin Republicans

Colorado Union of Taxpayers

Independence Institute

Independent Women's Forum

Mountain States Legal Foundation

National Asian Indian Republican Association

Reagan Republicans

Republican Liberty Caucus Colorado

SpringsTaxpayers.com

Taxpayers Chamber of Commerce

Taxpayers Protection Alliance

The Hudson Firm

The Steamboat Institute

The TABOR Foundation

Wake Up with Randy Corporon (710 KNUS)

