



October 8, 2018

**Colorado Women's Alliance Opposes Amendment 73 -
Harmful, not helpful, for families**

The Colorado Women's Alliance opposes Amendment 73 – Raising Taxes for Education.

The Colorado Women's Alliance surveyed nearly 2,000 female voters across the state earlier this year learning that their top concerns were having sufficient dollars available to attract and pay good teachers, and continuing to grow jobs and the economy.

- None of the \$1.6 billion collected, annually, under this Amendment is designated for the classroom. There are no safeguards that would keep school districts from continuing to grow administration while teacher pay continues to decline.
- Proponents claim that this is a tax increase only on the “wealthy,” those who make more than \$150,000 but, in fact, the tax applies to households, husbands and wives, filing income taxes jointly, who together make that amount. Two tenured husband/wife teachers could easily fall into that bracket, as do many other middle-class families.
- There are more than 224,000 women-owned businesses in the State of Colorado, businesses that depend on a healthy economy in order to continue to grow and employ more people. This Amendment raises taxes on businesses, including Sole Proprietors and LLCs, the most common small business designation, by as much as 30 percent.
- Survey respondents voiced grave concern about the cost of rent and housing in Colorado. It's difficult for entry level teachers to be able to afford even a modest apartment. This Amendment will raise residential property tax rates long-term. When residential property taxes go up, the cost of housing goes up, even for renters.

We urge a “No” vote on Amendment 73. It only harms, and does not help teachers, families and students.

The Colorado Women's Alliance

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