

The CACI Advantage

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CACI Board Votes to Oppose Amendments 40 & 41

The CACI Board of Directors recently voted to oppose two more ballot measures, Amendments 40 and 41, bringing to four the number of ballot initiatives that CACI is opposing this campaign season.

Amendment 40

This initiative would force term limits on judges on the Colorado Court of Appeals and the Colorado Supreme Court. Because it is retroactive, it would force from the bench seven of the 19 justices on the Court of Appeals and five of the seven justices on the Supreme Court.

The current judicial system allows new Court of Appeals judges to go before the voters after two years of service and then every eight years after that. Supreme Court justices also currently serve an initial two years before the first retention vote and then face a retention vote every ten years.

Amendment 40, however, would only allow Supreme Court and Court of Appeals justices to serve two, four-year terms after the initial two-year term. The chief proponent of the measure is former Colorado State Senate President John Andrews.

The Rocky Mountain News has editorialized against this measure:

http://www.rockymountainnews.com/drmn/editorials/article/0,2777,DRMN_23964_5023107,00.html

Amendment 41

This measure, entitled “Standards of Conduct in Government,” is ostensibly aimed at reducing the influence of lobbyists on state legislators and other elected state government officials through the provision of meals, tickets to sporting events, gifts, etc. But it is clear that the effects of the measure will be so broad that it has galvanized the non-profit sector across the state as well as the League of Women Voters, traditionally a “good government” advocate, as opponents.

The initiative originated with Colorado Common Cause with financial support from Jared Polis, vice-chair of the Colorado Board of Education. (Polis was CEO of the Internet greeting card company, Bluemountain.com, until it was sold in 1999 for \$780 million to Excite@Home, which then sold the firm two years later for \$35 million to American Greetings Company.)

The proposed amendment is creating, as the saying goes, strange bedfellows. Here is a recent list of opponents:

- League of Women Voters
- Colorado Nonprofit Association
- Colorado Bankers Association
- Colorado Professional Firefighters Association
- Colorado Police Protective Association
- Association of Colorado State Patrol Professionals
- Economic Developers Council of Colorado
- Colorado Association of Commerce and Industry
- County Sheriffs of Colorado
- Colorado Senior Lobby
- Colorado Alliance for Retired Americans
- American Subcontractors Association, Colorado Chapter
- Colorado Financial Services Association
- Colorado Auto Dealers Association
- Property and Casualty Insurers Association
- Pitkin County Commissioners
- Colorado Podiatric Medical Association
- Self-Funded Coalition of Colorado
- Colorado Charitable Bingo Association
- Denver Regional Council of Governments
- Colorado Bail Agents Coalition
- Colorado Veterinary Medical Society
- The Alliance (Colorado Communities United for People with Developmental Disabilities)
- The Rocky Mountain Chapter, Associated Builders & Contractors
- Northern Colorado Legislative Alliance
- Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
- Colorado Nursery Association
- Colorado Education Association
- Greenco
- Colorado Housing Council
- Rocky Mountain Home Association
- CCB Partners (service providers for people with developmental disabilities)
- Developmental Pathways
- Denver Options

The Rocky Mountain News also has editorialized against Amendment 41:

http://www.rockymountainnews.com/drmn/editorials/article/0,2777,DRMN_23964_5035450,00.html

More information about the campaign against Amendment 41 can be found at, and CACI members are urged to support this effort:

<http://www.no-41.com/>

Amendments 38 & 42

The CACI Board earlier voted to oppose two other ballot proposals:

- Amendment 38, which would greatly expand the initiative process not only as it pertains to state government but also would extend it to local governments, and

- Amendment 42, which would not only increase the minimum wage with an annual cost-of-living escalator but place it in the Colorado Constitution where it could not be modified by the legislature as economic conditions change.

The Denver Post recently took an editorial stance against Amendment 38:

http://www.denverpost.com/editorials/ci_4427659

Meanwhile, a Web site has been created by the organization that is opposing Amendment 42, Respect Colorado's Constitution. CACI members are urged to support this effort:

<http://www.stop42colorado.org/>

CACI members can either contribute to the Stop 42 campaign on-line or mail checks to:

Respect Colorado's Constitution
P.O. Box 40699
Denver, CO 80204

In its September 29-October 5 issue, *The Denver Business Journal* editorialized against Amendment 42, saying “. . . our biggest objection to Amendment 42 is with the mechanism of change itself. These kinds of automatic fiscal mandates contained in the Constitution—from the Taxpayers' Bill of Rights to the school funding measure Amendment 23—wreak havoc on the state's ability to adjust to changing economic circumstances.”

A special edition of *The CACI Advantage* will soon be sent to CACI members, outlining the reasons for CACI's opposition to the four initiated measures.

Information about CACI's opposition to Amendments 38 and 42 can be found on the CACI Web site: www.COchamber.com

In addition, information (with arguments both for and against) on all ballot measures can be found in the Colorado General Assembly's so-called *Blue Book*, which has been mailed to all registered voters. The on-line version of the *Blue Book* can be found at the legislature's Web site:

www.leg.state.co.us

CACI Endorses Slate of New State Legislative Candidates and Two More Incumbents

In late August, CACI staff, contract lobbyists, members of CACI's Governmental Affairs Council and contributors to CACI's Colorado Business Political Action Committee (CBPAC) interviewed a number of new legislative candidates. Based on these interviews, the group developed a list of possible candidates for CACI's endorsement and support.

Based on these recommendations, the CACI Executive Committee and Board recently endorsed the following new candidates, plus two more incumbents, who have or will receive campaign contributions from CBPAC:

Senate

- Mike Kopp, Republican, SD-22 (Lakewood)
- Scott Renfroe, Republican, SD-13 (Weld County)
- Chris Romer, Democrat, SD-32 (Denver)

House

- Ken Chlouber, Republican, HD-56 (Eagle, Lake and Summit Counties)
- Affie Ellis, Republican, HD-29 (Arvada and Westminster)
- Bob Gardner, Republican, HD-21 (Colorado Springs, El Paso and Fremont Counties)
- Ramey Johnson, Republican, HD-23 (Lakewood)
- Steve King, Republican, HD-54 (Grand Junction and Mesa County)
- Frank McNulty, Republican, HD-43 (Highlands Ranch)
- Victor Mitchell, Republican, HD-45 (Castle Rock, Douglas and Teller Counties)
- Don Morostica, Republican, HD-51 (Loveland & Larimer County)
- Cherylin Peniston, Democrat, HD-35 (Westminster & Adams County)
- Aimee Rathburn, Republican, HD-1 (Southwest Denver, Sheridan and Arapahoe County)
- Joe Rice, Democrat, HD-38 (Littleton and Englewood)
- Ellen Roberts, Republican, HD-59 (Archuleta, La Plata, Montezuma and San Juan Counties)
- Jerry Sonnenberg, Republican, R, HD-65 (Logan, Phillips, Sedgwick and Weld Counties)
- Ken Summers, Republican, HD-22 (Lakewood, Morrison and Jefferson County)
- Spencer Swalm, Republican, HD-37 (Centennial, Lakewood and Arapahoe County)
- Glenn Vaad, Republican, HD-48 (Greeley, Erie and Weld County)

In addition, two more incumbent legislators have been endorsed by CACI and have or will receive a campaign contribution from CBPAC:

- Senator Greg Brophy, Republican, SD-1 (Wray), and
- Senator Jim Isgar, Democrat, SD-6 (Hesperus)

Earlier, CACI endorsed 26 incumbent legislators, and that information was contained in an issue of *The CACI Advantage* that was sent to CACI members. This list also can be found on the CACI Web site.

Colorado Prosperity Project Update

As reported earlier in *The CACI Advantage*, CACI has teamed with the Business Industry Political Action Committee (BIPAC) to launch the Colorado Prosperity Project, whose purpose is to educate workers about the candidates and issues that affect their lives, jobs and future prosperity and to increase voter turnout on November 7th.

www.coloradoprosperty.org

A Colorado Prosperity Project team is working across the state to contact businesses and help them become a part of the Project. CACI members interested in participating in the Project should call Dave Cunningham, the team leader, at 970.390.2347 (cell) or 970.668.4474 (office). He also can be reached via e-mail at dcunningham@eis-solutions.net

Among other things, the Project is providing these firms with a series of communications between now and the November 7th election to help educate employees about (a) how to register and where and when to vote and (b) how to obtain information about important issues and candidates.

With the 2006 General Election quickly approaching, now is the time to start communicating with your workers. [The deadline to register to vote is only five days away: October 10th!](#)

Early voting begins October 23rd. Some political analysts estimate that 50 percent of the votes will be cast as early votes/absentee ballots--before November 7th.

The October 10th voter registration deadline and early voting are the two major reasons why your active participation now in the Colorado Prosperity Project is essential to provide your employees with the information they need to make an informed choice.

If you have any questions about the Project, call the Colorado Prosperity Project at (970) 668-8853.

This year, the election in Colorado could not be more critical:

- Control of two of Colorado's Congressional districts, which could decide the control of the U.S. House of Representatives;
- Election of a new governor for the first time in eight years;
- Control of both chambers of the Colorado General Assembly (with 24 open seats in the House); and
- Decisions on more than a dozen ballot referenda and initiatives (some of which, if passed, could have a profound effect on the state's system of government and its economic climate).

The Colorado Prosperity Web site includes information and links on candidates from both major political parties, incumbents and challengers--not just one side or the other. Would you like to know how your current members of Congress are rated by a number of major national organizations--from business groups and labor unions to environmental interests? Use the "Find Elected Officials and View Voting Records" function to locate your U.S. Representative and Senators.

The Prosperity Project's ["EZ Vote"](#) system will allow you and your workers to become informed and involved in the elections process and help you:

- Register to vote
- Sign up for an absentee ballot
- Locate polling place information
- Know the correct times and dates you can vote
- Determine your districts for particular races
- Understand how elections work

CACI believes that the right to vote is important to all Americans. Be sure to take the necessary steps to cast an informed ballot for the November 7th General Election and to help your workers do so also.

CACI Annual Meeting Fast Approaching: Monday October 23rd

More than 500 people have registered to attend the CACI Annual Meeting Luncheon, which will feature a debate on critical business issues between gubernatorial candidates Republican Bob Beauprez and Democrat Bill Ritter.

The Luncheon will be held from 12 Noon to 1:30 p.m. at the Westin Tabor Center, 1672 Lawrence Street. The Luncheon will be preceded at 10:00 a.m. by the Annual Meeting of the CACI Board of Directors, which will elect officers and new Board members.

If you have not yet made your reservation, please do so immediately as there are only about 30 seats available!

The **Coors Brewing Company**, whose Vice President of Government Affairs, Al Timothy, is the 2005-2006 Chair of the CACI Board of Directors, will be the Platinum Sponsor of the CACI Annual Meeting Luncheon on October 23rd.

Gold Sponsors are **AngloGold Ashanti N.A.** and **Eastman Kodak**.

Silver Sponsors are **BP America, Faegre & Benson LLP, Sun Microsystems, Qwest, The Boeing Company, CH2M Hill, Lockheed Martin, Pinnacol Assurance, Wells Fargo Bank N.A.** and **Xpedx**

To make a reservation, or if you have questions about the Annual Meeting, contact Denise Reeves, CACI Vice President of Events and Programs, at 303.866.9622 or via e-mail at dreeves@COchamber.com

Citywide Banks to Sponsor CACI Breakfast with Kansas City Fed's Economist October 31st

On October 31st, Citywide Banks will sponsor a CACI breakfast meeting with Mr. Michael J. Orlando, Vice President, Branch Executive and Economist, Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City, at the CACI Office.

Citywide President & CEO Tom Flanagan, Jr., is a member of the CACI Board of Directors.

The meeting is open to all CACI members at no charge. The continental breakfast will be held from 7:30 a.m. to 8:00 a.m., and the program with Mr. Orlando will run from 8 a.m. to 9 a.m.

Mr. Orlando is the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City's economist and lead officer for the Denver Branch, which serves Colorado, Wyoming and northern New Mexico. In this role, he is responsible for evaluating developments in the regional economy, which forms the basis for his participation in briefings prior to the meetings of the Federal Open Market Committee. He also is the principal advisor on energy issues to the President of the Kansas City Fed.

Mr. Orlando joined the Bank's Economic Research Department in June 2000 and was named Vice President and Branch Executive in January 2006. He received a B.S. in Petroleum and Natural Gas Engineering from Pennsylvania State University and acquired six years of experience in the Gulf of Mexico, practicing in the fields of reservoir and environmental engineering. He also holds an MBA from Tulane University and MA and Ph.D. degrees in Economics from Washington University, St. Louis.

Mr. Orlando's research spans a range of topics that includes industrial agglomeration, networks, corporate governance and energy. More information on his areas of research can be found at <http://www.kansascityfed.org/Econres/staff/mjo.htm>.

His areas of expertise include the inter-relationship of national economic trends with the regional economy; energy; technological innovations, including the economics of innovations and the innovativeness of regions; and urban economics.

To RSVP, contact Christine Wittman at 303.866.9635 or via e-mail at cwittman@COchamber.com

CACI and Grand Junction Chamber of Commerce Schedule Second CACI Regional Meeting on November 14th

The second CACI regional meeting with a local chamber of commerce will be held in Grand Junction November 14th from 7:30 a.m. until 9:30 a.m. at the Doubletree Hotel, 743 Horizon Drive. There is no charge to attend the breakfast meeting.

The meeting will be hosted by the Grand Junction Chamber of Commerce and sponsored by Alpine Bank and Colorado Printing Company. Norm Franke, Alpine Bank President, and Dan Thurlow, Colorado Printing Company Board Chair, are members of the CACI Board of Directors.

The event is entitled "Strengthening Colorado's Competitive Economic Future." The purpose of this meeting is to strengthen a two-way dialogue about how CACI and local chambers of commerce can positively affect the 2007 session of the legislature for the statewide business community, given the outcome of the November 7th General Election in terms of the composition of the legislature, the new Governor-Elect and the outcome of the votes on Amendments 38 and 42.

To RSVP, contact Bonnie Finley at bfinley@COchamber.com or at 303.866.9643.

CACI Represented on New Blue Ribbon Health-Care Reform Commission

CACI Board Member Ralph Pollock, chair of the Business Council for HealthCare Competition (BCHC), will serve as CACI's representative on the new Blue Ribbon Health-Care Reform Commission, which was launched last week at a press conference in Denver.

The Commission was created by SB-208, which passed the legislature during this year's session and was signed into law by Governor Bill Owens. The BCHC lent its support to the bill.

The Commission's purpose is to study and recommend health-care reform models to expand coverage for the uninsured and the underinsured. It will seek proposals for reform models from interested parties and then select three to five of these proposals for an independent assessment. Meetings will be held around Colorado to obtain input from the public. The Commission will submit a report to the Colorado General Assembly by November 30, 2007.

The Commission is comprised of 24 members, who represent health-care consumers, providers and purchasers as well as communities and businesses. The appointments were made by Governor Owens, Senate President Joan Fitz-Gerald (D-Golden), House Minority Leader Andy

McElhany (R-Colorado Springs), House Speaker Andrew Romanoff (D-Denver), and House Minority Leader Mike May (R-Parker).

Pollock was appointed to the Commission by Senator McElhany.

For more information on the Commission and CACI's policies on health-care issues, CACI members may contact Pollock at 303.913.4079 or via e-mail at ralph@apaccess.com