

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
DOUGLAS COUNTY REPUBLICANS**

**RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE 21% INCREASE IN THE STATE OF COLORADO SALES
AND USE TAX RATE IN HB17-1242**

WHEREAS, the Colorado House Bill 17-1242 (the "Bill") proposes a ballot question to increase the Colorado sales and use tax rate to 3.52% from 2.90%, which is a 21% increase in the tax rate, and would raise an estimated \$15 billion over 20 years for transportation projects;

WHEREAS, in 2015, the Town of Parker proposed a ballot question to raise the Parker sales and use tax rate 16% from 3.0% to 3.5%, and that ballot question was defeated 70% to 30% by Parker voters.

WHEREAS, CDOT has a list of 133 proposed project with a cost of \$9 billion over a 10-year period, and has identified 49 of those projects with a cost of \$2.5 billion as "higher priority;"

WHEREAS, the Colorado fuel excise tax has been fixed at 22¢ per gallon (gasoline) since 1992 and has raised \$611 million in 2016, and the Bill does not eliminate this tax;

WHEREAS, the 2009 FASTER law raised Colorado vehicle registration fees and fines and generates annual revenue of \$200 million for state, city and county transportation projects, and the Bill does not eliminate this tax;

WHEREAS, CDOT's I70 Central Project, which is not part of the \$9 billion project list, proposes to widen 10 miles of I70 from the mousetrap to Chambers Road for \$1.17 billion, which is \$117 million per mile;

WHEREAS, CDOT's office building project, which is not part of the \$9 billion project list, proposes to spend \$49 million for a new CDOT headquarters in Denver;

WHEREAS, in 2007, total expenditures for the State of Colorado, government activities only, were \$13.3 billion and grew to \$23.1 billion in 2016, a 74% increase, while state population increased 15% from 4.8 million citizens to 5.5 million citizens;


WHEREAS, Douglas County citizens already pay enough taxes to all levels of government;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Douglas County Republicans oppose the Bill and any November 2017 ballot question for a Colorado sales tax increase.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 8th day of April 2017 in Castle Rock, Douglas County, Colorado.

**THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
DOUGLAS COUNTY REPUBLICANS**

By:



TANNE BLACKBURN, Chair

ATTEST:



STEPHEN ALLEN, Secretary