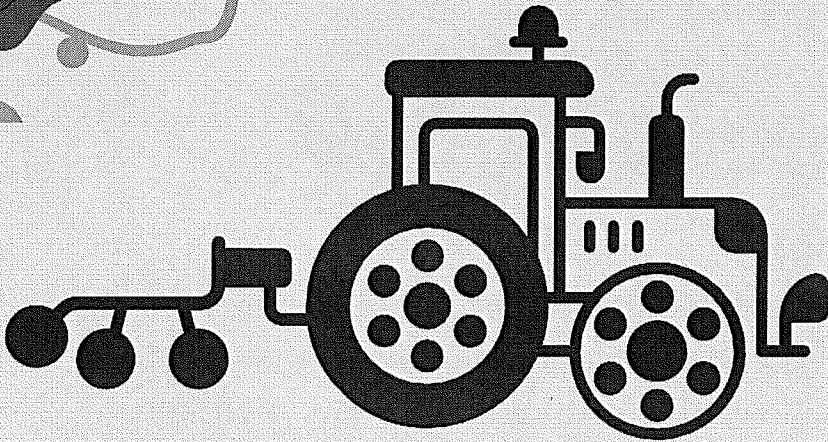


HB 24-1029

PROHIBIT FOREIGN CORPORATE AND GOVERNMENT OWNERSHIP OF AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES



OVERVIEW:

HB24-1029 aims to restrict foreign corporate and government ownership of Colorado's essential natural resources by entities from countries with conflicting interests to those of the United States. This measure is critical to safeguarding Colorado's environmental resources, supporting BIPOC and family farmers, and ensuring food sovereignty and security, particularly in light of concerns about water scarcity, agricultural sustainability, national security, and food security.

KEY BENEFITS AND RATIONALE:

ENVIRONMENTAL INTEGRITY:

Prevention of Pollution: By limiting foreign ownership, HB24-1029 ensures that agricultural and resource extraction practices adhere to local and national environmental interests, preventing adversarial foreign governments from compromising Colorado's ecosystems through unsustainable practices or pollution. This bill helps protect Colorado's air, water, and soil quality, contributing to the health and well-being of its residents and natural habitats.

SUPPORT FOR LOCAL AGRICULTURE:

Empowerment of Family Farmers and BIPOC Farmers: HB24-1029 prevents the displacement of family-owned and BIPOC farms by foreign-owned enterprises, helping ensure that those who have a vested interest in the health and sustainability of Colorado's agricultural sector remain in control. This measure is crucial for preserving the heritage and vitality of families farming in the state.

Protecting Colorado's Water Supply:

Specifically regarding the Colorado River, this legislation ensures that water rights are managed with an emphasis on sustainability and conservation, prioritizing local needs and environmental preservation over foreign exploitation. It's an essential step in addressing the challenges posed by water scarcity in the region.

KEY BENEFITS AND RATIONALE:

SUPPORT FOR LOCAL AGRICULTURE:

Ensuring Local Control and Profit Retention: The legislation strengthens Colorado's food sovereignty, ensuring that profits generated from its agricultural and natural resources benefit local communities rather than being siphoned off to foreign adversaries. By maintaining local control over food production, Colorado can build a more resilient and self-sufficient food system capable of withstanding global disruptions.

CONCLUSION:

By supporting HB24-1029, legislators will affirm their commitment to preserving Colorado's environmental integrity, support its agricultural heritage, secure its food sovereignty, and protect its security interests. This legislation represents a proactive approach to ensuring that Colorado's vital natural resources are managed in a manner that is sustainable, ethical, and beneficial to local communities, rather than exploited for the benefit of foreign entities with adverse interests. It's an essential step in protecting both the state's natural beauty and its agricultural legacy from the risks of pollution and exploitation by adversarial foreign governments.

