

ORIGINAL

Be it Enacted by the People of the State of Colorado:
Article X, section 20, The Taxpayer's Bill of Rights, is amended to add:

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#7

(10) Property taxes.

Starting in 2011:

(a) The state yearly shall audit and enforce, and any person may file suit to enforce, strictest compliance with all property tax requirements of this section. Successful plaintiffs shall always be awarded costs and attorney fees; districts shall receive neither. This voter-approved revenue change supersedes conflicting laws, opinions, and constitutional provisions, and shall always be strictly interpreted to favor taxpayers.

(b) Electors may vote on property taxes in all districts where they own taxable real property. Using state procedures, all districts shall allow petitions to lower property taxes as voter-approved revenue changes. Property tax issues shall have November election notices and be separate from debt issues. Property tax bills shall list only property taxes and late charges. Enterprises and authorities shall pay property taxes, but lower rates shall offset that revenue. Enterprises and unelected boards shall levy no mandatory fee or tax on property. Future property tax rate increases shall expire within ten years. Extending expiring property taxes is a tax increase. Prior actions to keep excess property tax revenue are expired; future actions are tax increases expiring in four years. Lower rates shall negate excess revenue. Non-college school districts shall phase out equally by 2020 thirty percent of their 2011 rate not paying debt; state aid shall replace that revenue yearly. Nothing here shall limit payment of bonded debt issued before 2011.

(c) These property tax increases, extensions, and abatement levies after 1992 shall expire by lower rates:
(i) Taxes exceeding state laws, tax policies, or limits existing in 1992 and later violated, changed, or weakened without state voter approval. Those laws, policies, and limits, including debt limits, are restored.
(ii) Taxes exceeding the one annual fixed, final, numerical dollar amount first listed in their tax increase ballot title as stated in (3)(c).
(iii) Any rate increase or extension without voter approval after 1992 of a ballot title as stated in (3)(c).

Petition proponents are:

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