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Colorado Secretary of State

S.WARD 1:15PM

Be it Enacted by the People of the State of Colorado:

SECTION 1. In the constitution of the state of Colorado, amend article II to add the following:

Section 32. Environmental Rights (1) THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF COLORADO FIND AND DECLARE THAT COLORADO'S ENVIRONMENT IS THE COMMON PROPERTY OF ALL COLORADANS; CONSERVATION OF COLORADO'S ENVIRONMENT, INCLUDING ITS CLEAN AIR, PURE WATER, AND NATURAL AND SCENIC VALUES IS FUNDAMENTAL; AND COLORADO'S ENVIRONMENT SHOULD BE PROTECTED AND PRESERVED FOR ALL COLORADANS, INCLUDING GENERATIONS YET TO COME.

(2) THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF COLORADO, INCLUDING FUTURE GENERATIONS, HAVE A RIGHT TO COLORADO'S ENVIRONMENT, INCLUDING ITS CLEAN AIR, PURE WATER, AND NATURAL AND SCENIC VALUES. AS TRUSTEES OF THIS RESOURCE, THE STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS SHALL CONSERVE COLORADO'S ENVIRONMENT, INCLUDING ITS CLEAN AIR, PURE WATER, AND NATURAL AND SCENIC VALUES FOR THE BENEFIT OF ALL THE PEOPLE. THIS SECTION APPLIES TO THE STATE OF COLORADO AND TO EVERY COLORADO CITY, TOWN, COUNTY, AND CITY AND COUNTY, NOTWITHSTANDING ANY PROVISION OF ARTICLE XX, OR SECTION 16 OF ARTICLE XIV, OF THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION.

(3) ALL PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION OF ARTICLE II OF THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION ARE SELF-EXECUTING AND SEVERABLE. TO FACILITATE THE CONSERVATION OF COLORADO'S ENVIRONMENT, LOCAL GOVERNMENTS HAVE THE POWER TO ENACT LAWS, REGULATIONS, ORDINANCES, AND CHARTER PROVISIONS THAT ARE MORE RESTRICTIVE AND PROTECTIVE OF THE ENVIRONMENT THAN LAWS OR REGULATIONS ENACTED OR ADOPTED BY THE STATE GOVERNMENT. IF ANY LOCAL LAW OR REGULATION ENACTED OR ADOPTED PURSUANT TO THIS ARTICLE CONFLICTS WITH A STATE LAW OR REGULATION, THE MORE RESTRICTIVE AND PROTECTIVE LAW OR REGULATION GOVERNS.