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Colorado Secretary of State

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

**SECTION 1. FAIR AND JUST TAX SYSTEM.** TAXPAYERS ARE ENTITLED TO A FAIR AND JUST TAX SYSTEM. THE GOAL IS THAT, TO THE EXTENT PRACTICABLE, ALL TAXPAYERS SHOULD PAY SIMILAR PERCENTAGES OF THEIR INCOME IN TOTAL TAXES. SOME TAXES, SUCH AS SALES TAXES AND PROPERTY TAXES, HAVE A DISPROPORTIONAL IMPACT ON THOSE WITH LOWER INCOMES. A GRADUATED INDIVIDUAL INCOME TAX, WHICH TAXES THOSE WITH GREATER INCOMES AT HIGHER INCREMENTAL RATES, MAKES THE TAX SYSTEM MORE FAIR AND JUST.

**SECTION 2.** In the constitution of the state of Colorado, section 20 of article X, **amend (8)(a)** as follows:

**(8)(a) Revenue Limits.** New or increased transfer tax rates on real property are prohibited. No new state real property tax or local district income tax shall be imposed. Neither an income tax rate increase nor a new state definition of taxable income shall apply before the next tax year. ~~Any income tax law change after July 1, 1992 shall also require all taxable net income to be taxed at one rate, excluding refund tax credits or voter approved tax credits, with no added tax or surcharge.~~

**SECTION 3.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 39-22-104, **amend (1.7) and (2); and add (1.8), (1.9), and (1.10)** as follows:

**39-22-104. Income tax imposed on individuals, estates, and trusts – single rate – legislative declaration – definitions – repeal.** (1.7) Except as otherwise provided in section 39-22-627, subject to subsection (2) of this section, with respect to taxable years commencing on or after January 1, 2000, BUT PRIOR TO JANUARY 1, 2022, a tax of four and sixty-three one hundredths percent is imposed on the federal taxable income, as determined pursuant to section 63 of the internal revenue code, of every individual, estate, and trust.

(1.8)(a) EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED IN SECTION 39-22-627, SUBJECT TO SUBSECTION (2) OF THIS SECTION, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SHALL ENACT A GRADUATED INCOME TAX WITH RESPECT TO TAXABLE YEARS COMMENCING AFTER JANUARY 1, 2022, WITH GREATER TAX RATES APPLYING TO HIGHER INCOME BRACKETS, AND EACH TAX RATE APPLYING ONLY TO THE INCOME BRACKET FOR THAT TAX RATE. THE GRADUATED TAX SHALL BE IMPOSED ON FEDERAL TAXABLE INCOME, AS DETERMINED PURSUANT TO SECTION 63 OF THE INTERNAL REVENUE CODE, OF EVERY INDIVIDUAL, ESTATE, AND TRUST. THE ADDITIONAL REVENUE PRODUCED BY THE GRADUATED INCOME TAX SHALL BE NO GREATER THAN .5% OF COLORADO PERSONAL INCOME FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 2020.

(1.8)(b) IF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FAILS TO ENACT A GRADUATED INCOME TAX AS DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (1.8), EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED IN SECTION 39-22-627, SUBJECT TO SUBSECTION (2) OF THIS SECTION, WITH RESPECT TO TAXABLE YEARS COMMENCING ON OR AFTER JANUARY 1, 2022, A GRADUATED TAX IS IMPOSED ON THE FEDERAL TAXABLE INCOME, AS DETERMINED PURSUANT TO SECTION 63 OF THE INTERNAL REVENUE CODE, OF EVERY INDIVIDUAL,

ESTATE, AND TRUST, WITH GREATER TAX RATES APPLYING TO HIGHER INCOME BRACKETS, AND EACH TAX RATE APPLYING ONLY TO THE INCOME BRACKET FOR THAT TAX RATE, AS FOLLOWS:

(I) FOR FEDERAL TAXABLE INCOME NOT OVER TWO HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS, THE TAX IS FOUR AND SIXTY-THREE ONE-HUNDREDTHS PERCENT;

(II) FOR FEDERAL TAXABLE INCOME OVER TWO HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS, BUT NOT OVER FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS, THE TAX IS (A) ELEVEN THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED AND SEVENTY-FIVE DOLLARS PLUS (B) SEVEN AND ONE-QUARTER PERCENT OF THE AMOUNT OVER TWO HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS;

(III) FOR FEDERAL TAXABLE INCOME OVER FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS, BUT NOT OVER ONE MILLION DOLLARS, THE TAX IS (A) TWENTY-NINE THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED DOLLARS PLUS (B) EIGHT AND FIFTY ONE-HUNDREDTHS PERCENT OF THE AMOUNT OVER FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS; AND

(IV) FOR FEDERAL TAXABLE INCOME OVER ONE MILLION DOLLARS, THE TAX IS (A) SEVENTY-TWO THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED DOLLARS PLUS (B) NINE AND EIGHTY-FIVE ONE-HUNDREDTHS PERCENT OF THE AMOUNT OVER ONE MILLION DOLLARS.

(1.8)(c) THE INCOME BRACKETS SET FORTH IN SUBSECTION (1.8)(b) SHALL BE ADJUSTED EACH INCOME TAX YEAR BY THE PERCENTAGE CHANGE IN COLORADO PERSONAL INCOME. FOR PURPOSES OF THIS SUBSECTION, "COLORADO PERSONAL INCOME" MEANS THE TOTAL PERSONAL INCOME FOR COLORADO, AS DEFINED AND OFFICIALLY REPORTED BY THE BUREAU OF ECONOMIC ANALYSIS IN THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, OR ANY SUCCESSOR INDEX.

(1.8)(d) VOTER APPROVAL OF THE ADDITIONAL SECTION (1.8) OF 39-22-104 SHALL CONSTITUTE THE VOTER APPROVAL IN ADVANCED REQUIRED BY ARTICLE 10, SECTION 20(4) OF THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION.

(2) Prior to the application of the rate of tax prescribed in subsection (1), (1.5), ~~or~~ (1.7), OR (1.8) of this section, the federal taxable income shall be modified as provided in subsections (3) and (4) of this section.

**SECTION 4.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, add 24-77-103.3 follows:

**24-77-103.3. Voter approved revenue change - use of revenue - accountability.** (1) THE REVENUE RAISED BY THE TAXES IMPOSED PURSUANT TO SECTION 39-22-104(1.8) IN EXCESS OF THE REVENUE THAT WOULD BE GENERATED IN ANY CALENDAR YEAR BY APPLYING THE INCOME TAX RATE THAT EXISTED AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2019, SHALL CONSTITUTE A VOTER APPROVED REVENUE CHANGE AND MAY BE COLLECTED, KEPT, AND SPENT NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER LIMITS IN THE CONSTITUTION OR OTHER LAW. SUCH REVENUE SHALL BE APPROPRIATED AND EXPENDED TO ADDRESS THE IMPACTS OF A GROWING POPULATION AND A CHANGING ECONOMY. THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SHALL ESTABLISH A CITIZEN'S OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE TO ASSURE THAT THE FUNDS ARE SPENT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS SECTION. FOR EACH FISCAL YEAR

THAT THE STATE RECEIVES SUCH REVENUE, THE DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL SHALL PREPARE A LEGISLATIVE REPORT THAT INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

(a) THE AMOUNT OF SUCH REVENUE THAT THE STATE RECEIVED; AND

(b) A DESCRIPTION OF HOW THE FUNDS WERE EXPENDED.

(2) THE REPORT REQUIRED BY THIS SECTION SHALL BE COMPLETED BY OCTOBER 15 FOLLOWING A FISCAL YEAR IN WHICH THE STATE RECEIVES SUCH REVENUE AND MAY BE AMENDED THEREAFTER AS NECESSARY. THE DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH SHALL PUBLISH AND LINK TO THE OFFICIAL WEB SITE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY A COPY OF THE REPORT.