CUT Rates the Colorado Legislature

CONGRATULATIONS!

2006 Taxpayer Champions*

Senate Champion
Ron May 95.65%
R - Colorado Springs

Senate Guardian
Jim Dyer 83.33%
R - Littleton

House Champion
Dave Schultheis 96%
R - Colorado Springs

House Guardian
Bill Cadman 95.65%
R - Colorado Springs

* Highest score in each house.

Colorado Union of Taxpayers Rates the 2006 Legislature

During the regular session the Colorado Legislature labored mightily to create many "solutions" for non-existent problems, or grappled with issues that are better handled by families, associations, churches, charities and businesses. In the near future, CUT confidently predicts, these government "solutions" will create more real problems. Our legislators made sure that the cost of health care and prescription drugs will soon begin to increase. The government will subsidize travel and tourism advertising, despite voters' clearly stated opposition to such spending. In a laughable attempt at personal aggrandizement, legislators tried to manage international trade, although the issue is beyond their jurisdiction. Some legislators acted to put government in charge of directing bio-scientific research, developing AIDS education, controlling climate change and setting prices rather than allowing consumers' demand to work in our free market system. The allegedly conservative Governor did re-discover his backbone and used his veto pen on several key occasions, but did not lead by setting a clear, limited government vision. All of these bad laws were enacted as emergency measures, thus preventing the Coloradoans from excersizing their constitutional rights to prevent them from going into effect.
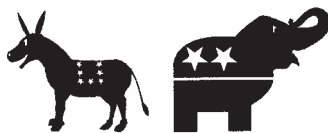
In conclusion it must be said that if the Colorado General Assembly is the best legislature money can buy, then CUT wants a REFUND!!!

Key Bill Summaries
Begin on Page 2

Year to Year?

Overall the Senate scored 31%, up from 29% last year. The House scored 31%, down from 33% last year. See the **CUT Grid** on pages 6-7.

Governor's Score...
See Page 4

How Did the Parties Score?

Senate		House	
Democrats	5.43%	Democrats	8.41%
Republicans	59.88%	Republicans	58.58%

High Scoring Democrats
Senator Deanna Hanna 20%
Representative Paul Weissmann 36%

Low Scoring Republicans
Senator Steve Johnson 34.62%
Representative Mark Larson. 20%

Complete Listing and Scores Inside

Directory

![CUT Colorado Union of Taxpayers]

KEY BILL SUMMARIES

HB 06-1201 Concerning the Proportion of Limited Gaming Revenues Designated for the Promotion of Tourism in the State.

This bill takes nineteen million dollars of tax revenues from the Limited Gaming Fund, and transfers it to the Colorado Travel and Tourism Promotion Fund. The money is to be used in a corporate welfare advertising program for the tourism industry. An addition $1.5 million of revenue is transferred to the State Council on the Arts. The amounts must be transferred annually, and are indexed for inflation. If gambling taxes are insufficient to provide the funding, funding must be taken from general revenues. (House 50/12; Senate 34/1) (Sponsors Rep. Plant/Sen. Taylor). **CUT votes NO**. Businesses, or groups of businesses, which wish to advertise themselves should pay for their own advertising. Tax revenues from gambling, like tax revenues for any source, are supposed to be spent for the benefit of the public as a whole, not for the benefit of particular companies. The tax funding for arts projects is likewise objectionable, because the arts should be funded by voluntary donations, not by coercive taxation.

HB 06-1251 Concerning a Prohibition on Price Gouging.

This bill makes it illegal for a retailer of any consumer product to raise its prices by more than 10 percent during an emergency. Few exceptions are allowed. Even then, the retailer may not increase its average profit margin. The Attorney General may issue Cease and Desist orders to businesses which violate the laws, and may sue for civil penalties of up to $10,000 per day. The "price gouging" rule does not apply to "any electric, gas, or steam utility." (House 33/30; Senate 20/15) (Sponsors Rep. Green/Sen. Tochtrop). Vetoed by Governor Owens, June 2. **CUT votes NO**. As the exemption for utilities

Senate Scores: Friend or Foe?

Highest to Lowest - Who is representing your best interest as a taxpayer? Here's what Members of Colorado's Senate earned on CUT's 2006 Rating Scorecard:

Score	Senator	Pledge	Party	District	Home
95.65	May, Ron	P	R	10	Colorado Springs
83.33	Dyer, Jim		R	26	Littleton
80.00	Brophy, Greg		R	63	Wray
78.26	Lamborn, Doug	P	R	9	Colorado Springs
76.19	Mitchell, Shawn		R	23	Broomfield
70.83	McElhany, Andy	P	R	12	Colorado Springs
58.33	Jones, Ed		R	11	Colorado Springs
58.33	Teck, Ronald J		R	7	Grand Junction
56.00	Weins, Tom J		R	4	Castle Rock
52.00	Owen, David T		R	13	Greeley
52.00	Taylor, Jack		R	8	Steamboat Springs
50.00	Spence, Nancy		R	27	Centennial
48.00	Traylor, Kiki		R	22	Littleton
47.83	Evans, John		R	30	Parker
39.13	Entz, Lewis H		R	5	Hopper
37.50	Kester, Kenneth		R	2	Las Animas
34.62	Johnson, Steve		R	15	Fort Collins
20.00	Hanna, Deanna		D	21	Lakewood
8.00	Takis, Stephanie		D	25	Aurora
8.00	Tochtrop, Lois		D	24	Westminister
7.69	Fitz-Gerald, Joan		D	16	Golden
7.69	Windels, Sue		D	19	Arvada
4.17	Viega, Jennifer		D	31	Denver
4.00	Bacon, Bob		D	14	Fort Collins
4.00	Gordon, Ken		D	35	Denver
4.00	Grossman, Dan		D	32	Denver
4.00	Hagedorn, Bob		D	29	Aurora
4.00	Isgar, Jim		D	6	Hesperus
4.00	Keller, Maryanne		D	20	Wheat Ridge
4.00	Sandoval, Paula		D	34	Denver
4.00	Shaffer, Brandon C		D	17	Longmont
4.00	Tapia, Able		D	3	Pueblo
4.00	Williams, Suzanne		D	28	Aurora
3.85	Groff, Peter C		D	33	Denver
3.85	Tupa, Ron		D	18	Boulder
0.00	Boyd, Betty		D	21	Lakewood

P = Taxpayer Pledge Signer

Overall Senate Score ………. 30.78%

implicitly acknowledges, price controls at any time-and especially during an emergency-will cause shortages of products. When prices for a product increase, provides a signal for suppliers to bring more goods to the market. When prices rise in a city which has recently suffered hurricane damage, the price increase encourages suppliers to change their normal distribution pattern, and to deliver more goods to the hurricane-damaged city. The bill also fails to recognize that retailers often set costs based not on the past price of acquiring an item, but on the expected future cost of replacing that item after it has been sold.

The bill would give an unscrupulous governor the opportunity to put price controls on items simply by declaring an "emergency"-a declaration which is not legally restricted to natural disasters or similar catastrophes.

SB 06-78 Concerning a Prohibition Against the Exercise of the Power of Eminent Domain by a Private Corporation to Condemn the Private Property of Another Person or Entity for the Purpose of Acquiring Rights-Of-Way for a Private Toll Road or Private Toll Highway.

This bill addresses the land-owner concerns raised by the infamous "Superslab" private toll road proposed for Colorado. Land-owners were legitimately fearful that their property could be taken not only for the road itself, but also for development by the private benefit of the corporation which would build the road. The bill specifies that even when private toll roads are built in partnership with the Colorado Department of Transportation, the DOT may only use eminent domain for the road itself. (Senate 33/0; House 64/0) (Sponsors Sen. Wiens/Rep. McKinley). Signed by the Governor on March 31. **CUT votes YES**. While strongly supporting the construction of toll roads by for-profit businesses, CUT believes that no business should be given the power of eminent domain, a power which should be used only by government, and even by the government only in cases of special necessity.

A SPECIAL BREED

A special breed of legislators is showing that their election year campaign pledges are not simply political rhetoric. In 1998, CUT established a ten-point Taxpayers Pledge for legislative candidates. The program was very successful-with a large number of the general assembly signing the Pledge. CUT's Pledge signers are shown with a "P" on pages 2-3. Check it out and congratulate them for their high scores and integrity in following through on their campaign promise to be fiscally conservative.

House Scores: Friend or Foe?

Highest to Lowest - Who is representing your best interest as a taxpayer? Here's what Members of Colorado's House earned on CUT's 2006 Rating Scorecard:

Score	Representative	Pledge	Party	District	Home
96.00	Schultheis, David	P	R	14	Colorado Springs
95.65	Cadman, Bill	P	R	15	Colorado Springs
87.50	Clapp, Lauri		R	37	Littleton
87.50	Lundberg, Kevin	P	R	49	Berthoud
84.00	Welker, Jim	P	R	51	Loveland
81.82	Harvey, Ted	P	R	43	Littleton
79.17	Stengel, Joe		R	38	Littleton
77.78	Hefley, Lynn		R	20	Denver
76.92	King, Keith		R	21	Colorado Springs
73.08	Gardner, Cory		R	63	Denver
72.00	Decker, Richard		R	19	Fountain
70.83	Liston, Larry	P	R	16	Colorado Springs
64.00	Rose, Ray		R	58	Montrose
62.50	May, Mike		R	44	Parker
56.00	Cloer, Mark		R	17	Colorado Springs
55.56	Sullivan, James		R	45	Larkspur
53.85	Hoppe, Diane		R	65	Sterling
52.00	Crane, Bill	P	R	27	Arvada
52.00	Kerr, Jim		R	28	Littleton
50.00	Hall, Dale		R	48	Greeley
45.83	Knoedler, Matt	P	R	22	Lakewood
44.00	Balmer, David	P	R	39	Centennial
44.00	Penry, Joshua		R	54	Grand Junction
44.00	Stafford, Debbie		R	40	Aurora
36.00	Weissmann, Paul		D	12	Louisville
29.17	White, Al		R	57	Winter Park
29.17	Witwer, Robert		R	25	Evergreen
26.92	Garcia, Michael		D	42	Aurora
25.00	Berens, Bill		R	33	Broomfield
24.00	Massey, Tom		R	60	Poncha Springs
24.00	McCluskey, Bob		R	52	Fort Collins
20.00	Jahn, Cheri		D	24	Wheat Ridge
20.00	Larson, Mark		R	59	Cortez
19.23	Judd, Joel		D	5	Denver
15.38	Buescher, Bernie		D	55	Grand Junction
12.00	Butcher, Dorothy		D	46	Pueblo
12.00	Lindstrom, Gary		D	56	Breckenridge
12.00	McKinley, Wesley		D	64	Walsh
12.00	Ragsdale, Ann F		D	35	Westminster
8.33	Gallegos, Rafael		D	62	Antonito
8.00	Carroll, Morgan		D	36	Denver
8.00	Coleman, Fran		D	1	Denver
8.00	Curry, Kathleen		D	61	Gunnison
8.00	Hodge, Mary		D	30	Brighton
8.00	Plant, Tom		D	13	Nederland
7.69	Riesberg, Jim		D	50	Greeley
7.69	Vigil, Valentin J		D	32	Thornton
5.00	Kerr, Andy		D	26	Lakewood
4.17	Carroll, Terrance		D	7	Denver
4.17	Paccione, Angela		D	53	Fort Collins
4.00	Benfield, Debbie		D	29	Arvada
4.00	Borodkin, Alice		D	9	Denver
4.00	Cerbo, Michael		D	2	Denver
4.00	Frangas, K. Jerry		D	4	Denver
4.00	Green, Gwyn		D	23	Golden
4.00	Madden, Alice		D	10	Boulder
4.00	Marshall, Rosemary		D	8	Denver
4.00	McFadyen, Buffie		D	47	Pueblo West
4.00	McGihon, Anne		D	3	Denver
4.00	Merrifield, Michael		D	18	Manitou Springs
4.00	Pommer, Jack		D	11	Boulder
4.00	Romanoff, Andrew		D	6	Denver
4.00	Solano, Judy		D	31	Brighton
4.00	Soper, John		D	34	Thornton
4.00	Todd, Nancy		D	41	Aurora
0.00	Boyd, Betty		D	26	Lakewood

P = Taxpayers Pledge Signer

Overall House Score 31.11%

HB 06-1385 Appropriations (Long) Bill

This legislation determines how the state government will spend its funds for the next fiscal year. (House 46/17, Senate 25/8) (Sponsors Rep. Plant, Sen. Tapia) *CUT Votes NO*. In the aftermath of Referendum C, the legislature and the Governor defend their spending. The budget was increased, but no intelligent review was made of whether the level of spending is justified or which programs should return responsibility back to the people. The tax and spenders were only too happy to spend every last dime of the taxpayers' "contribution" but gave no thought to returning a cent of the higher-than predicted revenues. Get a clue and show us you are weighing different options than spending carelessly.

SB 06-214 Research Grants for Climate Change

Three different grants totaling $135,000 to explore how to capture greenhouse gases. (Senate 24/14, House Finance Committee 11-2 and House Appropriations Committee 5-7). (Sponsors Sen. Gordon, Rep. Green) *CUT Votes NO*. Certain that Al Gore is right, these legislators tried to solve a global issue with your Colorado tax dollars. Further, these gifts were offered without any controls nor even a method for issuing the funds. If "applications" research might bring a return, let private enterprise handle it. If it is a crazy shot in the dark, it should not be done with money taken from you.

HB 06-1018 Increase sales tax diversion to agencies on aging

Increases by a Million dollars, by 50%, the funds diverted from sales tax and reserved to this cash fund, outside the normal budget process. (House 56/8, Senate 26/8) (Sponsors Rep. Riesberg, Sen. Hagedorn) Governor SIGNED. *CUT Votes NO*. Where is the justification for this diversion to non-governmental organizations? The increase is permanent and appears to avoid the normal budgeting process. It comes on top of a $77 Million increase from Referendum C moneys. "I think we did pretty well," gloated the Department director. No, duh.

HB 06-1283 School budget requirements

Legislation that competes with the citizen-initiated measure to direct a minimum percentage of funding into classroom instruction. (House 36/29, Senate 21/14), REFERENDUM so no involvement by the governor. (Sponsors Rep. Merrifield, Sen. Windels) *CUT Votes NO*. The concept is good and the citizens' measure would be a powerful tool to stop so many taxpayer dollars going towards overhead and administration in the government schools. This bill allows so many non-classroom costs, however, that it is useless to its stated purpose. Its real purpose? To fool you and me into thinking that the citizens' ballot issue is unnecessary.

HB 06-1363 Juvenile Delinquency

A new program to "develop (youth) sports and fitness, character and leadership, or arts and culture." Charges a new tax on anyone convicted of a crime, no matter how unrelated. (House 43/20, Senate 21/14), Governor VETOED. (Sponsors: Sponsor Rep. Benefield, Sen. Shaffer) *CUT Votes NO*. Government to control or displace all the neighborhood associations like Scouting, Big Brothers/Big Sisters, Little League, etc. Do you want government to be in charge of developing character in our children? Most people think that parents and volunteer communities can do it better.

SB 06-47 Creation of Health Care Districts

This bill has far reaching authority and allows for creation of sales-tax-funded Health Assurance Districts with voter approval. However, such districts are already authorized to impose a property tax to fund services. (House:36/28, Senate: 19/15) (Sponsors: Sen. Hanna, Rep. Riesberg.) *CUT Votes NO*. Governor VETOED! This bill would allow counties to impose additional sales taxes to fund health care services. Removes references to rural areas, therefore, could be established any where in the state with voter approval. The idea already failed in Aurora Mental Health issue.

## HB 06-1362 Incentives for Motion Picture Industry

Building on HB05-1146 which mandated state services film producers, this bill authorizes cash incentives to film producers if certain spending thresholds are met. . (House 49/14, Senate 31/4), (Sponsors Rep. Massey, Sen. Viega). Governor SIGNED. *CUT votes NO*. When revenues for traditional state projects are still scarce, financial aid for individuals and producers (special interests) is not wise. There are no constraints on what is produced, even a Colorado state sponsored porn flick. How this measure qualifies for Emergency Status is a mystery.

HB 06-1005 Property Tax Increase for Full Day Kindergarten Costs

This bill would have authorized school districts to conduct mill levy elections to fund excess full day kindergarten costs. (House 57/6, Senate 27/7), (Sponsors Rep. Pommer, Sen. Bacon). Governor VETOED. *CUT votes NO*. Full time kindergarten is already provided by 86 school districts which benefit from the proceeds of Amend. 23. The state's recovering economy should not be further burdened since only 10 districts have reached their mill limits. Also the attention spans of kindergardners do not warrant full day care.
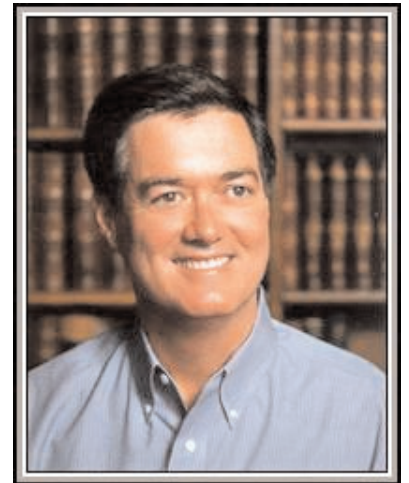
Governor Bill Owens

How did the Governor Rate?

50%

The Governor had 50% up from 41% last year. Governor Owen used his veto pen to stop several very bad bills being pushed by the Democrat controlled Legislature. More often than not however, when it comes to the defense of the taxpayers interests, the Governor has shown himself to be rather spineless.

2006 Taxpayer Champions

**Senate Champion
Ron May**

"Colorado taxpayers deserve an efficient, responsive, and organized government that makes the best use of each dollar. Creating new programs only increases the size of government and places a higher financial burden on its citizens. CUT's efforts to inform citizens and keep government leaders accountable are commendable."

"Government will always grow to absorb every dime it can confiscate from taxpayers, ...and then will want still more. Politicans' will to spend money is insatiable; their will to reduce spending, almost not-existent. Finding one that will treat taxpayer money as his own is rare indeed."

**House Champion
David Schultheis**

2006 Taxpayer Guardians
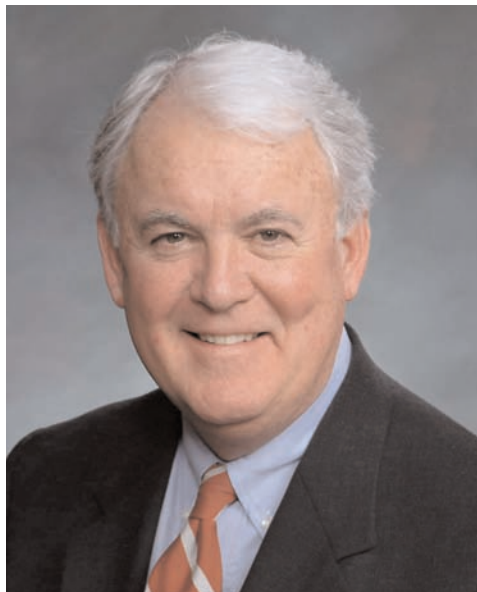
Senate Guardian Jim Dyer

House Guardian Bill Cadman

CUT RATES COLORADO'S 2006 LEGISLATURE

Legend: "+" Reflects a CUT Positive Vote   "—" Indicates a Vote Against CUT philosophy   "E" Excused   "A" Absent   "·" Not Voted On

Senators

SENATORS	CUT'S STAND:	SB 1 NO	SB 44 NO	SB 47 NO	SB 52 NO	SB 65 NO	SB 66 NO	SB 78 YES	SB 138 NO	SB 148 NO	SB 214 NO	HB 1005 NO	HB 1010 NO	HB 1018 NO	HB 1050 NO	HB 1095 NO	HB 1175 NO	HB 1201 NO	HB 1251 NO	HB 1281 NO	HB 1283 NO	HB 1311 NO	HB 1360 NO	HB 1362 NO	HB 1363 NO	HB 1385 NO	HB 1396 NO	POSITIVE CUT VOTES	VOTES CAST	CUT SCORE
Bacon, Bob	D- Fort Collins	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	25	4.00
Boyd, Betty	D- Lakewood	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	20	0.00
Brophy, Greg	R- Wray	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	-	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	20	25	80.00
Dyer, Jim	R- Littleton	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	E	+	E	-	+	+	-	+	-	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	20	24	83.33
Entz, Lewis H	R- Hopper	+	-	+	-	-	+	+	+	-	+	E	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	-	+	-	+	E	-	E	-	9	23	39.13
Evans, John	R- Parker	+	-	E	-	-	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	E	-	+	-	-	-	+	-	+	11	23	47.83
Fitz-Gerald, Joan	D- Golden	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	26	7.69
Gordon, Ken	D- Denver	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	25	4.00
Groff, Peter C	D- Denver	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	26	3.85
Grossman, Dan	D- Denver	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	25	4.00
Hagedorn, Bob	D- Aurora	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	25	4.00
Hanna, Deanna	D- Lakewood	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	5	20.00
Isgar, Jim	D- Hesperus	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	25	4.00
Johnson, Steve	R- Fort Collins	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	+	-	-	-	+	-	-	9	26	34.62
Jones, Ed	R- Colorado Springs	+	-	+	+	E	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	-	-	14	24	58.33
Keller, Maryanne	D- Wheat Ridge	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	25	4.00
Kester, Kenneth	R- Las Animas	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	+	-	+	+	-	E	+	-	+	-	+	-	-	E	-	E	-	9	24	37.50
Lamborn, Doug	R- Colorado Springs	E	-	+	E	+	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	E	-	+	-	+	-	-	-	+	-	+	18	23	78.26
May, Ron	R- Colorado Springs	+	-	E	+	E	+	+	E	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	+	22	23	95.65
McElhany, Andy	R- Colorado Springs	+	-	+	+	-	+	E	+	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	17	24	70.83
Mitchell, Shawn	R- Broomfield	+	-	+	E	E	+	E	+	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	E	E	+	-	+	-	+	+	+	16	21	76.19
Owen, David T	R- Greeley	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	-	+	-	+	-	+	+	+	13	25	52.00
Sandoval, Paula	D- Denver	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	25	4.00
Shaffer, Brandon C	D- Longmont	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	25	4.00
Spence, Nancy	R- Centennial	+	-	+	-	E	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	-	+	-	-	-	+	-	+	12	24	50.00
Takis, Stephanie	D- Aurora	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	2	25	8.00
Tapia, Able	D- Pueblo	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	25	4.00
Taylor, Jack	R- Steamboat Springs	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	-	+	-	-	+	+	-	+	13	25	52.00
Teck, Ronald J	R- Grand Junction	-	+	+	-	E	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	-	+	-	+	+	+	-	+	14	24	58.33
Tochtrop, Lois	D- Westminister	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	25	8.00
Traylor, Kiki	R- Littleton	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	-	+	-	-	-	+	+	-	12	25	48.00
Tupa, Ron	D- Boulder	-	-	-	E	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	26	3.85
Viega, Jennifer	D- Denver	-	-	-	E	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	24	4.17
Weins, Tom J	R- Castle Rock	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	-	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	14	25	56.00
Williams, Suzanne	D- Aurora	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	1	25	4.00
Windels, Sue	D- Arvada	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	26	7.69
Total		11	5	15	12	3	17	33	10	2	14	7	17	8	5	17	15	1	15	4	14	1	3	4	14	8	10	265	861	30.78
Governor Owens	R- Aurora	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	-	+	-	-	-	+	-	-	11	22	50.00

Representatives

REPRESENTATIVES	CUT'S STAND:	SB 1 NO	SB 44 NO	SB 47 NO	SB 52 NO	SB 65 NO	SB 66 NO	SB 78 YES	SB 138 NO	SB 148 NO	SB 214 NO	HB 1005 NO	HB 1010 NO	HB 1018 NO	HB 1050 NO	HB 1095 NO	HB 1175 NO	HB 1201 NO	HB 1251 NO	HB 1281 NO	HB 1283 NO	HB 1311 NO	HB 1360 NO	HB 1362 NO	HB 1363 NO	HB 1385 NO	HB 1396 NO	POSITIVE CUT VOTES	VOTES CAST	CUT SCORE
Balmer, David	R- Centennial	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	-	+	-	-	-	+	-	+	11	25	44.00
Benfield, Debbie	D- Arvada	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	25	4.00
Berens, Bill	R- Broomfield	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	+	-	-	-	E	-	-	-	+	-	+	-	-	-	+	-	-	6	24	25.00
Borodkin, Alice	D- Denver	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	25	4.00
Boyd, Betty	D- Lakewood	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	5	0.00
Buescher, Bernie	D- Grand Junction	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	26	15.38

Name	Party	City	Votes	Total	%
Butcher, Dorothy	D-	Pueblo	3	25	12.00
Cadman, Bill	R-	Colorado Springs	22	23	95.65
Carroll, Morgan	D-	Denver	2	25	8.00
Carroll, Terrance	D-	Denver	1	24	4.17
Cerbo, Michael	D-	Denver	1	25	4.00
Clapp, Lauri	R-	Littleton	21	24	87.50
Cloer, Mark	R-	Colorado Springs	14	25	56.00
Coleman, Fran	D-	Denver	2	25	8.00
Crane, Bill	R-	Arvada	13	25	52.00
Curry, Kathleen	D-	Gunnison	2	25	8.00
Decker, Richard	R-	Fountain	18	25	72.00
Frangas, K. Jerry	D-	Denver	1	25	4.00
Gallegos, Rafael	D-	Antonito	2	24	8.33
Garcia, Michael	D-	Aurora	7	26	26.92
Gardner, Cory	R-	Denver	19	26	73.08
Green, Gwyn	D-	Golden	1	25	4.00
Hall, Dale	R-	Greeley	12	24	50.00
Harvey, Ted	R-	Littleton	18	22	81.82
Hefley, Lynn	R-	Denver	14	18	77.78
Hodge, Mary	D-	Brighton	2	25	8.00
Hoppe, Diane	R-	Sterling	14	26	53.85
Jahn, Cheri	D-	Wheat Ridge	5	25	20.00
Judd, Joel	D-	Denver	5	26	19.23
Kerr, Andy	D-	Lakewood	1	20	5.00
Kerr, Jim	R-	Littleton	13	25	52.00
King, Keith	R-	Colorado Springs	20	26	76.92
Knoedler, Matt	R-	Lakewood	11	24	45.83
Larson, Mark	R-	Cortez	5	25	20.00
Lindstrom, Gary	D-	Breckenridge	3	25	12.00
Liston, Larry	R-	Colorado Springs	17	24	70.83
Lundberg, Kevin	R-	Berthoud	21	24	87.50
Madden, Alice	D-	Boulder	1	25	4.00
Marshall, Rosemary	D-	Denver	1	25	4.00
Massey, Tom	R-	Poncha Springs	6	25	24.00
May, Mike	R-	Parker	15	24	62.50
McCluskey, Bob	R-	Fort Collins	6	25	24.00
McFadyen, Buffie	D-	Pueblo West	1	25	4.00
McGihon, Anne	D-	Denver	1	25	4.00
McKinley, Wesley	D-	Walsh	3	25	12.00
Merrifield, Michael	D-	Manitou Springs	1	25	4.00
Paccione, Angela	D-	Fort Collins	1	24	4.17
Penry, Joshua	R-	Grand Junction	11	25	44.00
Plant, Tom	D-	Nederland	2	25	8.00
Pommer, Jack	D-	Boulder	1	25	4.00
Ragsdale, Ann F	D-	Westminster	3	25	12.00
Riesberg, Jim	D-	Greeley	2	26	7.69
Romanoff, Andrew	D-	Denver	1	25	4.00
Rose, Ray	R-	Montrose	16	25	64.00
Schultheis, David	R-	Colorado Springs	24	25	96.00
Solano, Judy	D-	Brighton	1	25	4.00
Soper, John	D-	Thornton	1	25	4.00
Stafford, Debbie	R-	Aurora	11	25	44.00
Stengel, Joe	R-	Littleton	19	24	79.17
Sullivan, James	R-	Larkspur	10	18	55.56
Todd, Nancy	D-	Aurora	1	25	4.00
Vigil, Valentin J	D-	Thornton	2	26	7.69
Weissmann, Paul	D-	Louisville	9	25	36.00
Welker, Jim	R-	Loveland	21	25	84.00
White, Al	R-	Winter Park	7	24	29.17
Witwer, Robert	R-	Evergreen	7	24	29.17
Total			498	1601	31.11

Column totals (bottom row): 22, 15, 28, 21, 24, 28, 64, 22, 18, 7, 8, 8, 8, 8, 12, 24, 30, 8, 29, 5, 14, 20, 17, 26

SB 06-138 Gasoline Shall Contain a Specified Volume of Ethanol

This bill would have required four step increases in amounts of ethanol added to gasoline over the next seven years statewide. (Senate 24/11, House 42/22), (Sponsors Sen. Shaffer, Rep. Gardner). Governor VETOED. **CUT votes NO**. Ethanol costs more per gallon than gasoline, requires more energy to produce than it delivers, cannot be shipped by pipeline, has an affinity for water, and requires large amounts of scarce water for the growth of the required corn. The bill would have transferred money from the motorist to the corn producer and increased government interference with the market.

HB 06-1396 Establishment of School Based Health Clinics

This bill authorizes the establishment of in-school clinics for a wide range of services. (House 37/26, Senate 25/10), (Sponsors Rep. A. Kerr, Sen. Tapia) Governor SIGNED. **CUT votes NO**. It is hard to understand how the legislature can justify tapping the general fund for a program with open ended costs. New construction may be required to house the additional staff.

This approach always stimulates demand. There is also no limit on the number or nature of outside providers who may be retained. Finally this program makes the State, not the parent, the primary care giver, marginalizing the latter.

HB 06-1175 Colorado Clean Indoor Air Act

This bill bans smoking in almost all restaurants, bars, and work places. (House 38/24, Senate 19/15), (Sponsors Rep. Mike May, Sen. Grossman). Governor SIGNED. **CUT votes NO**. While the bill purports to protect primarily the unskilled worker from the supposed dangers of second hand smoke, it is primarily a 'takings' measure, as it forces owners of primarily smoking establishments to deny their patrons part of their customary pleasure. Thus the Publican's business may be significantly reduced, with no recompense from the State. If the disgruntled customers move their drinking to isolated locations, they will lose the protection of being monitored by their peers with a decrease in public safety. Finally, an employee should be able to elect as to whether to work in a less than pleasant atmosphere if his wage justifies it.

Legislative Phone Numbers

Call Your Colorado Legislators

Representatives
Democrats: (303) 866-2904
Republicans: (303) 866-2904

Senators
Democrats: (303) 866-2316
Republicans: (303) 866-2316

HOW OUR RATING IS DONE

Each state legislator is rated on his or her tax, spending, or government intrusion votes. For a bill to be chosen, it must almost always have a split vote, with votes both for and against the bill. The bill must have a full vote in one chamber and a committee vote or full vote in the second chamber. Each legislator's percentage is calculated by the number of votes cast. Year-to-year comparisons indicate that CUT is accurately measuring whether a legislator favors lower taxes and less government, is a friend of the taxpayer, or continues with higher spending and creating more government intrusion in our lives.

CUT Board of Directors ruled that Taxpayer Champions must score 75% or better to be identified as a Taxpayer Champion.

An Invitation: Join Us at CUT's 30th Annual Awards Breakfast

Saturday, October 7, 2006

Denver Marriot West
1717 Denver West Parkway
Golden, Colorado

Registration 8:30 AM
Breakfast & Program 9:30 AM
Cost $20 per person

Plus! Awards Presntation To Our Annual Legislative Champions and Guardians in the Colorado Senate And House

Reservations by October 4, 2006

Contact Telephone Numbers:
(303) 366-3408 or (303) 759-9936

Keynote Speaker
Douglas Bruce
Author of TABOR

SB 06-001 Reduction in Cost for Prescription Drugs

This bill would have required the State to enter into a multi-state purchasing pool for prescription drugs used by its Medicaid recipients. (Senate 23/11, House 43/22), (Sponsors Sen. Hagedorn, Rep. Madden). Governor VETOED. **CUT votes NO**. Government would increasingly have single purchaser monopoly over the market. Similar programs in other states have endangered patients due to drug access and delivery problems and have led to 'eligible drug' lists. It also would be open ended regarding costs.

SB 06-052 Tax Increase for Open Space and Park Land

This bill would have granted counties authorization to conduct sales or use tax exemption elections to fund aquisition of additional open space and park land. (Senate 19/12, House 43/21) (Sponsors Sen. Grossman, Rep. White) Governor VETOED.

CUT votes NO. It is not clear why additional funding is necessary for Open Space when there are existing programs at both the state and county levels that seem to be functioning normally and with adequate budgets.. In addition the proposed elections could have been conducted in a 'Stealth' manor at obscure times and places.

HB 06-1360 Bioscience Research Discoveries

This bill establishes cash grants for the promotion of new discoveries and authorizes appropriations from limited gambling revenues. (House 48/15, Senate 32/3), (Sponsors Rep. Riesberg, Sen. Tupa). Governor SIGNED. **CUT Votes NO**. In yet another attempt to move excess revenues, the State will designate an official to dispense amounts of up to $150,000 to institutional innovators in the new glamor industry known as Biotechnology. All other research groups are ignored. A far better approach would be to reward those pioneers who actually create products or processes which are of commercial value.

HB 06-1010 State Participation in Government Procurement Rules for International Trade Agreements

This bill would have prohibited all state officials from binding the state to government procurement rules of international trade agreements unless authorized by the General Assembly, and would have declared prior rules and agreements invalid. (House 55/8, Senate 18/17) (Sponsors Rep. Weissmann, Sen. Hanna). Governor VETOED. **CUT votes NO**. While the bill might have protected the State's laws and Constitution from revision by foreign nationals and international tribunals (ref: Utah vs citizens of Barbados), it would have created a competitive disadvantage for Colorado businesses compared with those of other states. Additionally commercial opportunities might have been missed during the 8 months that the Assembly is not in session.

CANDIDATE / LEGISLATOR PLEDGE

I _____, candidate / legislator for _____
do hereby pledge to the Citizens of Colorado:

TABOR	to honor and uphold the spirit as well as the letter of TABOR
New Taxes	to oppose any new tax increase.
Spending Limit	to limit government spending to growth of Colorado population and inflation.
Tax Surplus	to support the refund of surplus taxes to the citizens of Colorado proportional to their contributions
Prioritize Spending	to support prioritizing the budget by shifting spending from lower valued programs to higher priorities, and not fund spending with new taxes.
Education	to support educational alternatives such as vouchers to create competition and improve student results at a lower cost.
Privatize	to support privatization of government departments and functions to make them more efficient and less expensive
Property Rights	to defend property rights from "takings" by government or by regulation.
Payroll Deductions	to oppose payroll deductions that are used for political purposes.
Petition Rights	to support the citizen's right to petition with rules as non-restrictive as possible.

Signature: _____   Date: _____

SB 06-065 Public School Facilities Buildings

Contrary to the promises of Amendment 'C' to only restore spending cuts, this bill would have set up a new 14 member committee to establish and enforce a 'one size fits all' standard for capital construction of school facilities statewide at a cost of $5 to $10 million, plus extra cost for compliance. (Senate 27/3, House 40/24) (Sponsors Sen. Windels, Rep. McKinley) Governor VETOED. **CUT votes NO**. The State is already providing moneys to needy school districts per the Giardino settlement. Local districts, which traditionally have had the responsibility for planning and construction, know best their needs and how to attain them. 'Brick and mortar' money should not go to compliance battles.

SB 06-066 Parental Involvement in K-12 Education

This bill would have required employers, with 25 or more employees, to grant each of them up to five hours per month time off to attend various family related school functions. DEEMED LOST. (Senate 18/17, House 33/28), (Sponsors Sen. Groff, Rep. Todd). **CUT votes NO**. This is another example of the State meddling in local affairs. The schools should serve their customers (i.e. parents and students) and schedule events for the convenience of both, not the reverse. No consideration was given for the disruption of an employer's operation, nor was there a reason why a parent employed by a small business should have denied his due.

SB 06-148 Community Policing Programs

This bill creates a cash fund for state grants to local law enforcement agencies such that they might better interact with the residents of at-risk areas. (Senate 33/2, House 47/18), (Sponsors Sen. Tapia, Rep. McFayden), Governor SIGNED. **CUT votes NO**. Seeking to find a home for more Ref. C moneys, the General Assembly has created a new program to duplicate what Sheriffs and Police Chiefs can and should do best. This bill would further the centralization of policing and tempt local officials to look to the State for guidance and additional revenue.

HB 06-1281 Clean Coal Technology Demonstration Program

This bill enables the State to sponsor an advanced research coal gasification project for electricity generation which would have removed potential pollutants prior to combustion and thus reduced emissions and carbon dioxide. House 57/8, Senate 29/4, (Sponsors Rep. Pommer, Sen. Gordon). Governor SIGNED. **CUT votes NO**. While reducing emissions is a worthy goal, the burden for such research and construction should be borne by the utility providers. They should then decide whether such a generating facility is economically viable. To promote a single state program might ignore discoveries made in other parts of the country or duplicate their efforts. Colorado rate payers should not be burdened with the prospect of an impractical project such as was Ft. St. Vrain. This too was an Emergency measure.

HB 06-1311 Species Conservation Trust Fund

This should be called the Colorado's Jurassic Pork Bill. It is designed to funnel $12,800,000 to the various "environmental" programs. (House: 58/5, Senate: 34/1) (Sponsors House: Curry / Senate: Isgar) **CUT votes NO**. The Legislature appears to be ignorant of the fact that our environment is a dynamic system. That system is undergoing constant change. The very idea of "preserving" something that is constantly changing is absurd. Spending on such utopia, just a few months after the state's political establishment was begging the Colorado voters for more money suggests the complete loss of common sense.

HB 06-1095 Preference Purchase Environmental Products

This legislation is the Colorado political establishment's homage to the Cult of Environmentalism. It deals with "a preference for the purchase of environmentally preferable products by government entities". Governor VETOED. (House: 45/19, Senate18/17) (Sponsors House: Weissmann / Senate: Hanna). **CUT votes NO**. The definition of what constitutes the "environmentally preferable products" is so vague as to constitute a virtual license for corruption in the area of government appropriations. The state government is no longer required to select the lowest bidder, it "may award the contract" for "environmentally

preferable" products "on the basis of a life-cycle cost analysis", but it also says that the government itself is not required to perform any such analysis. This legislation requires that bidders provide the documentation that the products "are environmentally preferable". However, when it comes to "the replacement of existing electrical, natural gas or steam service", all of the green fantasies are abandoned and "the cost analysis shall consider any stranded utility costs".

HB 06-1050   Creates and Funds a "Budget Stabilization Fund" and carves out from the Tobacco Settlement Revenues specified amounts for favored programs.

This convoluted bill creates a form of Rainy Day Fund from a variety of sources. Funding can come from 1) general fund appropriations, 2) a "specified percentage" of state severance tax revenues, 3) a minimum of $5 million annually from the general fund; 4) an allocation of 10 % of the Highway User's fund and Capital Construction fund; 5) $10 million from the tobacco settlement revenues, and 6) if the state securitizes tobacco settlement revenues, $150 million. The bill requires a 2/3 rd vote of both houses to tap the Fund. (House:56/8) (Sponsors House: Buescher, Senate: Sandoval) **CUT votes NO**. Although some form of "Rainy Day Fund" may be worthy of consideration, this bill is not.

SB 06-044 Subsidized Health Care Services for Low-Income Adults

This bill subsidizes the provision of primary health care services for low-income adults. The bill was approved by both Houses of the General Assembly and signed into law by Governor. (Sponsors Rep: Green / Sen: Hagedorn) (House: 50/15, Senate 30/5) **CUT votes NO.** The bill's preamble claims that the bill will lower costs by reducing use of emergency room services. However, there is no way to measure any such cost savings. Government subsidies almost inevitably lead to further cost increases. The Colorado taxpayer's health and wallet both can be protected better by other policies, such as encouraging health savings plans, promoting competition in the health insurance marketplace, and enforcing existing rules on eligibility for subsidized health care.

Help CUT Waste, Fraud, and Abuse of Your Tax Dollars:

Since 1976 CUT's awareness efforts have saved Colorado taxpayers hundreds of millions of dollars. Yet we have much to do. The huge surplus is evidence that we are still overtaxed. Please help by supporting CUT today. It is saving you money by reducing your taxes.

❑ Yes, I want to support CUT. *Suggested donation amount $30*
❑ I want to do more! Here is my additional donation of $ _____
❑ Taxes are too high! I cannot afford the suggested amount, but here is my donation of $ _____.
    Please keep me informed.

Total Donation Amount $ _____

(Make checks payable to CUT, Mail to 1685 S. Colorado Blvd., Unit "S", PMB 162, Denver, CO 80222-4040)

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone(s) _____ (h) _____ (w) _____ (f) _____

How Coloradoans in
US Congress *Scored**

Senate Results

(R) Allard, W	A	84%
(D) Salazar, K	F	14%

State Scoring Average 47%

* Source: National Taxpayers Union, 2005 - Ratings for the 1st Session of the 109th Congress
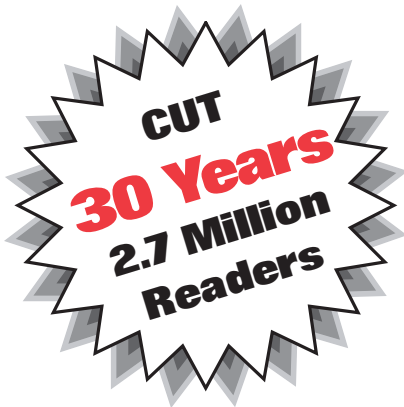
House Results

(R) Beauprez, B	B	64%
(D) DeGette, D	F	15%
(R) Hefley, J	B+	69%
(R) Musgrave, M	A	70%
(D) Salazar, J	D	26%
(R) Tancredo, T	A	80%
(D) Udall, M	F	16%

State Scoring Average 48%

CUT
30 Years
2.7 Million
Readers

2006 CUT Ratings
from the Colorado Union of Taxpayers

Help CUT Grow!

CUT has published ratings of the Colorado Legislature since 1977 - 30 years of ratings! Join us and help make a difference.
A complimentary copy of the CUT Rating can be obtained by mailing a self-addressed, stamped envelope to the CUT address below.
Send us the names and addresses of up to five other individuals whom you believe would like to receive CUT ratings. We'll do the rest.

From CUT President Penn Pfiffner

President's Message

Last fall, Colorado citizens decided that our state government was too small. The majority who passed Referendum C agreed that more resources should be directed to tax-funded programs, leaving less activity in the hands of individuals, families and businesses.

Voters authorized more spending. CUT respects the citizens' wishes and did not reduce legislators' Ratings for following through in a responsible fashion. We all still expect our elected officials to be careful, however, and to fulfill their promises. This first session after Referendum C was not pretty. The legislature never looked back, never questioned the extent or reasonableness of the programs. They felt no qualms about forecasting an average new tax burden of $740 Million per year, and then preparing to spend an average of $900 Million instead. Your "average" family is paying about $420 more tax dollars per year, forever.

Representatives and senators declared by their actions that they have little faith in the actions that all of you take to better your lives. They didn't place much importance on how you create value for others in a market economy. They didn't endorse basic principles of property rights and individual liberty.

The Colorado Union of Taxpayers stands for limited government, strict accountability of elected officials, greater individual liberty and more reliance on individuals and families. We hope that you will join us in furthering these causes.

- Penn R. Pfiffner