

MESSAGE FROM MARSHA

IT'S A FEE NOT A TAX...
January 12, 2009

Two days into the session and Governor Ritter is talking about a fee increase to cover the costs of repairing and maintaining roads and bridges. Not only is there talk in the People's House about increasing the fees on motor vehicle registration, there is also a discussion about charging drivers for the miles they traveled. Their endeavors are well intentioned to improve Colorado roads and create construction jobs; unfortunately it is done at an expense greater than the taxpayer is willing to spend.

The General Election Results from voters on statewide taxing issues are clear. The General Election Results for the statewide ballot issues reflect the following attitude of the voters in the state:

NO on Amendment 51, the State Sales Tax increase for Services for People with

Developmental Disabilities. 67.49% No, 32.51% Yes.

NO on Amendment 58, Severance Taxes on the Oil & Natural Gas Industry

65.48% No, 34.52 Yes.

NO on Amendment 59, Education Funding and Tabor Rebates

59.11% No, 40.89 Yes.

If we drill down even further into the General Election Results for El Paso County we find a mixed bag of tax increases.

NO on 1A, Sales Tax Increase by \$75Million annually in 2009,

60.03% No, 39.97% Yes

**YES on 2D, Pikes Peak Rural Transportation Authority,
Town of Ramah Question**

59.02% Yes, 40.98 No

**YES on 3D Fountain/Ft. Carson School District, \$700,000
Tax Increase,**

55.25% Yes, 44.75% No

**NO on Security Fire Department Question, 53.51% No,
46.49% Yes**

During our nations worst economic meltdown since World War II – Tom from Calhan has been laid off his construction job for months, Dianne from Falcon was dismissed from HP when they decided to relocate to New Mexico and Chris a mortgage banker from Fountain no longer has a job because there are few if any opportunities in the real estate industry – can we handle more expense on those who cannot afford it? It is difficult for me to understand why policymakers are discussing legislation that circumvents the will of the people by unreasonably raising existing fees and implementing new unsustainable fees. As the sessions continues you can count on me to communicate to you the suggestions, ideas and objectives of policy makers. I urge those with an interest to find a complete list of legislation that may affect your well being by logging into WWW.LEG.STATE.CO.US.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve you,

Marsha Looper (R)

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