



NEWS

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Colorado's Referendum A: Out with the Antiquated, In with the Updated

Washington D.C. – Only twice since the end of World War I has the civil service system of Colorado been updated to reflect the state's workforce.

Referendum A will reform the state personnel system by updating the procedures for hiring and disciplining state employees and will allow greater opportunity to contract out state services to the private sector. Additionally, the Governor of the state will finally be granted the ability to hire senior staff and support staff, which is so critical to a newly-elected official.

“Voters in the state will have the chance on November 2nd to reform an antiquated personnel system, mired with cronyism and back-room shenanigans into a structure encompassing transparency and competition, stated Grover Norquist, President of Americans for Tax Reform.

The Colorado civil service system was created in 1918 when only 1,000 employees worked in state government. Today, over 31,000 people work in Colorado state government in a system far too antiquated for a 21st Century workforce. Referendum A will allow taxpayer dollars to be spent on the most qualified individuals, providing the most efficient personnel system possible. And all contracts will maintain full disclosure requirements, keeping a system free from political favors and back door antics.

“Following a number of attempts by past CO Governors to update the civil service laws, the stalwart leadership of Governor Owens and leaders in the legislature have given the voters what they deserve on November's ballot...a measure creating more efficient state government for the people”, concludes Norquist.

Americans for Tax Reform (ATR) is a non-partisan coalition of taxpayers and taxpayer groups who oppose all federal, state and local tax increases. For more information or to arrange an interview, please contact Chris Butler at (202) 785-0266 or at cbutler@atr.org.