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CONTACT: John Kartch

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Patrick Gleason

202-785-0266

Amendment 49 Qualifies for CO ballot

CO Voters Have Opportunity to Return Ethical Standards to Public Payroll Systems

WASHINGTON D.C. – Amendment 49, titled “Ethical Standards for Public Payroll Systems,” qualified for the Colorado November ballot last Thursday. Amendment 49 seeks to reinstate an executive order initially issued by former Governor Bill Owens and quickly reversed by Governor Ritter.

Passage of Amendment 49 would apply ethical payroll standards to all levels of government such as state government agencies, public universities, counties, cities, public schools, and local governments.

“Amendment 49 will prevent the government from automatically deducting and bundling income from state employees’ paychecks to be passed along to special interests for lobbying purposes,” said Grover Norquist, president of Americans for Tax Reform. “This law is already on the books in a dozen counties statewide and approval by voters in November will simply extend this important safeguard to all CO workers”

Amendment 49 has already been endorsed by former Governor Bill Owens, The Rocky Mountain News, Colorado Springs Gazette, Pueblo Chieftain, National Federation of Independent Businesses, Colorado Healthcare Association, Colorado Home Builders Association, American Builders and Contractors, the Alliance for Worker Freedom, and Americans for Tax Reform, among others.

“Passage of ‘49’ would be a tremendous victory for Colorado workers. If passed, government payroll systems would no longer be used as an ATM for special interest lobbying.” added Grover Norquist. “This important measure would do much to advance worker freedom in Colorado.”

Americans for Tax Reform is a non-partisan coalition of taxpayers and taxpayer groups who oppose all tax increases. For more information or to arrange an interview please contact John Kartch at (202) 785-0266 or by email at jkartch@atr.org

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