

REPRESENTATIVE CAROLE MURRAY

D O U G L A S A N D T E L L E R C O U N T I E S

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A TOWN HALL MEETING!

When: February 27, 2010 at 10am

Where: Philip S. Miller Public Library

100 South Wilcox Street
Castle Rock, CO 80104

Or

When: March 13, 2010 at 10:30am

Where: Woodland Park Public Library

218 E. Midland Ave.
Woodland Park, CO 80866

KEEP AN EYE OUT FOR THESE BILLS

Increasing requirement for renewal energy by providers	HB 1001
Medical Marijuana Regulations	HB 1284
"Make My Day Better" law for businesses	HB 1094
State transparency in the use of grant funds	HB 1178
Unborn victims of violence	HB 1261
Medical Marijuana Doctor/Patient relationships	SB 109
Increasing cost of background checks	SB 125

Tax increase bills slink through the legislature

Rep. Murray and her Republican colleagues in the House and the Senate gave it a good fight, but millions of dollars in tax increases were passed by way of lifting tax exemptions on several business functions. Included were taxes on the industrial use of fuel, agricultural production products, downloaded software, candy and soda, and direct mail. Also passed was a limit on write-offs for losses.

“While good people might disagree about



whether certain businesses deserve tax exemptions,” said Rep. Murray, “there is no doubt that lifting them during a recession, with no planning time allowed for businesses, is

disastrous. This degree of taxation will break the backs of some of our small businesses who are just trying to ‘hang on’ during the recession. You can’t kill the goose on any given day and expect to find eggs laid the next day. The legislature has been busy killing the golden goose that could create real and steady revenue for the state in the future.”

University academics now required to be accountable

Following several years of k-12 school reforms, one of the few remaining “sacred cow” issues has been addressed, thanks to the leadership of our state school board and Education Commissioner Dwight Jones. SB 39 requires teacher education

programs to be tracked for their effectiveness in increasing student progress in k-12 schools.

Several years ago, a teacher and pupil ID database was instituted, and now that database will be used to track the effectiveness of education

graduates from our higher education institutions.

“This is one of the most surprising bills to be passed in a long time,” said Rep. Murray. “The fact that we had finally achieved trackable K-12 teacher accountability was amazing enough, but for

us as a legislature to reach into our higher education institutions is groundbreaking.”

“There is anecdotal evidence about which institutions are most (or least!) successful at training teachers, but now we will have solid data to support our opinions. Colleges and universities will be held

accountable as to whether they are doing a sufficient job of teaching our new teachers how to manage their classrooms and how to create a vibrant learning environment. No more hiding behind the ivory towers!”

www.carolemurray.com



Representative Carole Murray speaking against tax increases the House floor

“My reading of history convinces me that most bad government results from too much government.”

-Thomas Jefferson

Rep. Murray sponsored a bill that would have given a little relief to motorists whose cars were in repair, as well as to owners of trailers. In addition, the bill would have recognized current practice for special mobile machinery, which is equipment used occasionally

on construction sites. The late fee maximum would have been lowered from \$100 to \$25.

In the house state affairs committee, in partisan action, Rep. Murray’s bill was killed and she was asked to take parts of the bill to other sponsors for amendments to their

bills.

Citizens should watch to see whether these amendments are accepted!

Murray’s motor vehicle late fee

Bills that should not have died!

HB1091 Tightening up the allowable ID’s used in elections circumstances

HB1154 Requiring a moratorium on any new mandated health insurance benefits and establishing a new method for the legislature to determine the fiscal impact of any new legislative mandates

HB1100 Prohibiting questionable practices in the removal of ballot initiatives. Would have established it as a class one misdemeanor for a person to give or receive money or any valuable consideration to influence a person to withdraw a petition.

HB1126 Establishing priority-based budgeting for Colorado

HB1136 Requiring all Colorado k-12 schools to perform safety drills beyond fire drills.

HB1153 Modifying the state’s pension board to include more financial experts and fewer pension recipients.

To see the list of House Bills under consideration in the 2010 Legislative Session, please follow this link-
<http://www.leg.state.co.us/Clitics/CLICS2010A/esl.nsf/BillFoldersHouse?openFrameset>