



News Release

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2014 LEADERSHIP

Co-Chairs

Kelly Brough

Denver Metro Chamber of
Commerce

Tom Norton

Greeley Mayor

Ken Salazar

Former Sec. of Interior
Former U.S. Senator

Tamra Ward

Colorado Concern

Wellington Webb

Former Denver Mayor

Executive Advisory Committee

Lorraine Anderson

RTD

Howard Arnold

Colorado Building &
Construction Trades Council,
AFL-CIO

Tom Kourlis

Kourlis Ranch

Chris Kraft

Dairy Farmers of America

Donna Lynne

Kaiser Foundation Health Plan
of Colorado

Arnold Salazar

Colorado Health Partnerships

Civic, Business, Labor, Agriculture, Health Groups Launch "Citizens' Brigade" to Fight Oil and Gas Ban Initiatives on 2014 Ballot

*Bipartisan Coalition - Coloradans for Responsible Reform - Enters
Election Fray*

Citing the danger to Colorado's recovering economy, Coloradans for Responsible Reform (CFRR) today announced it is launching a new campaign to defeat 12 ballot initiatives attacking the state's businesses.

"Coloradans for Responsible Reform is the citizens' brigade committed to protecting the state's economy. These anti-business measures would cripple Colorado's energy sector, wrecking our economy and killing jobs. Colorado businesses, labor organizations, non-profits and civic groups recognize what will happen to Colorado if energy development is banned and are committed to defeating any ballot measures that are de facto bans," said **Kelly Brough**, president and CEO of the Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce.

"These wrongheaded measures effectively ban oil and gas development in Colorado and will cripple Colorado's economy. I have worked for decades to improve the quality of life for Coloradans through job creation and conservation, including founding the Great Outdoors Colorado Trust Fund, and protecting our land, water and wildlife as Attorney General, U.S. Senator and Secretary of Interior," said **Ken Salazar**. "Now the balanced development of our natural resources and the quality of life we have worked so hard to achieve is threatened by what will become effective bans on Colorado's oil and gas industry. We cannot afford to kill Colorado's economic recovery."

Brough and Salazar are two of the CFRR co-chairs for 2014. The other co-chairs are:

- **Tom Norton**, Mayor of Greeley, former president of the Colorado Senate and former executive director CDOT
- **Tamra Ward**, president and CEO, Colorado Concern
- **Wellington Webb**, former Mayor of Denver

(Former Chairman Colorado Conservation Voters Action Fund; Former Member, Colorado Wildlife Commission; Former Board Member, Great Outdoors Colorado)

Diane Schwenke

Grand Junction Chamber of Commerce

Paid for by Coloradans for Responsible Reform.

CFRR has a long history. For 20 years, business, labor, nonprofit and civic organizations have united under the CFRR banner to support or oppose ballot measures having a major impact on Colorado's economic vitality.

In 2005, CFRR formed the largest coalition Colorado has ever seen to gain voter approval of Referendum C. In 2010, the bipartisan CFRR coalition opposed and defeated the "ugly three" - 60, 61, 101 and was dubbed by the New York Times as the "most powerful group in Colorado."

"These new proposals have nothing to do with local control but are actually all about shutting down any business someone may not like," said Mayor Norton. "Question 75 states that any business in a community could have its right to operate eliminated. That's not local control, that's local tyranny."

"Other proposals try to hide the proponents' intent to banish oil and gas drilling under the guise of increased setbacks," Norton said.

"It doesn't matter if you live in Denver or Greeley, when you shut down one sector of the economy, we're all effected. The fact is that the energy sector creates jobs in every corner of our state. That's why such a broad coalition of Coloradans has come together to say 'no' to these dangerous measures," Ward said.

As evidence of how these attacks on the energy industry would damage Colorado's economy, Ward pointed to a recent study by the Leeds School of Business at CU Boulder, which concluded a statewide ban on fracking, would result in 93,000 fewer jobs in Colorado between 2015 and 2040.

"Citizens in every community should be concerned. Even if there is no direct oil and gas development in a city like Denver, the industry still benefits the community with revenue and jobs," Webb said.

Over 55 groups already have joined the CFRR coalition including labor, agriculture, chambers of commerce and health organizations. County alliances including Action 22, Club 20 and Progressive 15 - representing nearly all of Colorado's counties - are also in support.

"As in prior CFRR campaigns, we expect that our coalition membership will be in the hundreds by Election Day," Brough said.

The measures proposed for the 2014 ballot fall in three categories:

- Under the guise of local control, some of the proposals encourage continual elections in all of Colorado's 271 cities and 64 counties to ban and regulate businesses in general and the oil and gas industry in

particular;

- Others increase the existing setback requirements up to as much as a half-mile;
- One of the measures gives any Colorado citizen standing to file suit when he or she may disagree with the state's environmental regulations or how they're being enforced.

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