

## Supporters of SB 228

### Statewide Policy Groups

Colorado Center on Law and Policy  
 Colorado Fiscal Policy Institute  
 Colorado Common Cause  
 League of Women Voters of Colorado  
 Bell Policy Center  
 AARP  
 Colorado Children's Campaign  
 Rocky Mountain Farmers Union  
 Housing Colorado  
 Women's Foundation of Colorado  
 Women's Lobby of Colorado  
 Colorado Social Legislation Committee  
 Colorado Senior Lobby  
 Colorado Commission on Aging

### Education

Colorado Education Association  
 Colorado Association of School Boards (CASB)  
 Every Child Matters  
 Colorado Association of School Executives  
 Great Education Colorado Action  
 Parent to Parent of CO  
 Associated Students of Colorado  
 Crested Butte Community School PTA  
 The Partnership for Families & Children  
 Independent Higher Education of Colorado  
 AFT Colorado, Affiliated with the AFL-CIO  
 Metropolitan State Faculty Federation  
 Douglas County Federation of Teachers and  
 Classified Employees  
 Coalition for a Thorough & Uniform  
 Colorado Public Education System  
 CO Congress of Foreign Language Teachers  
 CO Council on High School/College Relations  
 Colorado School Counselors Association  
 Colorado Classified School Employees Association

### Working Families

Colorado WINS  
 SEIU Colorado  
 FRESC Good Jobs, Strong Communities  
 Colorado Association of Public Employees Retirees  
 AFSCME  
 Metro Organizations for People  
 Denver Federation for Paraprofessionals  
 Denver Women's Commission  
 9to5, National Assoc. of Working Women  
 Metro Organizations for People

### Faith Organizations

Interfaith Alliance of Colorado  
 Colorado Council of Churches  
 Lutheran Advocacy Ministry  
 Colorado and Hunger for Justice:  
 Interfaith Voices Against Poverty

### Disability Community

The ARC of Arapahoe and Douglas County  
 The ARC of Colorado  
 The ARC of Jefferson County  
 The ARC of Denver  
 CCB Partners  
 Parents of Adults with Disabilities - CO (Colorado)  
 Colorado Developmental Disability Council  
 Colorado Cross-Disability Coalition

### Health Care

Colorado Medical Society  
 Colorado Consumer Health Initiative  
 Colorado Voices for Coverage  
 Health Care for All Coloradoans  
 THRIVE!: Persons Living with HIV/AIDS Initiative  
 of Colorado  
 Colorado Diabetes Association  
 Colorado Association of Medical Equipment Services  
 Colorado Organizations Responding to AIDS  
 Autism Society of Colorado  
 Colorado AIDS Project  
 Colorado Academy of Family Physicians  
 Health District of Northern Larimer County  
 Colorado Community Health Network  
 All Kids Covered by 2010  
 CO Coalition for the Medically Underserved  
 Public Health Directors of Colorado  
 Colorado Public Health Association  
 Colorado Society for Public Health Education  
 Public Health Nurses Association of Colorado  
 Nat'l Association of Social Workers, CO Chapter  
 CO Association of Family & Children's Agencies  
 CO Association of Homes & Services for the Aging  
 CO Assoc. of Area Agencies on Aging  
 Family Voices Colorado  
 Federation of Families for Children's Mental  
 Health-Colorado Chapter  
 NAMI Colorado  
 Foster Care and Adoption Agencies of Colorado  
 Colorado Children's Immunization Coalition  
 Colorado Community Health Network  
 Oral Health Awareness for Colorado  
 Healthcare Advocates Alliance  
 KEENE Research & Development  
 Barbara Yondorf, Yondorf & Associates

### Statewide Advocacy Groups

Latina Initiative  
 All Families Deserve A Chance Coalition  
 Colorado ACORN  
 Colorado Environmental Coalition  
 Colorado Progressive Coalition  
 New Era Colorado  
 Arapahoe Community Team



**COLORADO FISCAL  
POLICY INSTITUTE**

**Support SB 228 Sponsored by Sen. Morse, Rep. Marostica, and Rep. Court**  
**Don't Artificially Extend Colorado's Recession**

**Making this Change Now Will Help Colorado Recover from the Recession**

Colorado headed into this recession already vulnerable because of an outdated budget formula known as Arveschoug-Bird or the 6 percent. It says that the state's operating budget can increase by 6 percent each year, but anything over that MUST be spent ONLY on transportation and capital construction. This has serious unintended consequences that jeopardize Colorado's ability to withstand and recover from a recession.

Arveschoug-Bird limits our ability to recover from the recession and invest in key job-creating priorities like education, healthcare, higher education, and more. The net result is that when a recession hits Colorado, the outdated budget formula artificially extends the pain of that recession.

SB 228 will repeal Arveschoug-Bird and make sure that Colorado is better equipped to withstand and recover from recessions. SB 228 will help propel Colorado's economic recovery, prevent permanent cuts to key job-creating priorities like education and healthcare, and avoid artificially prolonging an already tough recession.

**Making this Change Now Maximizes Federal Recovery Dollars and Levels the Playing Field**

Congress just passed a large economic recovery plan that could mean nearly \$3 billion in direct federal assistance for Colorado over two years. If Arveschoug-Bird stays in place, the current budget cuts will effectively be permanent, despite the availability of one-time federal recovery dollars used to temporarily fill budget gaps. SB 228 will provide the flexibility and the accountability needed to make sure Colorado maximizes that federal investment.

Arveschoug-Bird is a barrier to making smart investments in job-creating priorities like education, healthcare, higher education, energy, and more, as well as a barrier to saving in the good times so we don't have to cut in the bad times. SB 228 would level the playing field for public investments in operating (program spending for health care, higher education, K-12, etc) and capital (transportation and building) spending.

**Making this Change Would NOT Raise Taxes, Increase Spending, or Grow Government**

SB 228 does not raise taxes, increase spending, or grow government—which is why the legislature has the clear authority to make this critical reform. TABOR requires voter approval for a “weakening” of “other limits on district revenue, spending, and debt.” The 6% formula is not a “limit” on spending, since it dictates how money can be spent, but not how much. The General Assembly has the exclusive constitutional authority to appropriate funds and therefore retains the ability to set and change the rules for appropriations.

This legislation will not increase spending or taxes, and it doesn't change the TABOR revenue limit or voter approval of tax increases, but it will increase accountability of legislators by establishing clear budget priorities, instead of being bound by formulas and mandates.

**The Bottom Line**

Without passing SB 228, Colorado will be one of the only states to not fully recover from the recession. SB 228 is needed now, because Colorado needs to invest in job-creating priorities, and to make sure when there is a recession that we don't artificially prolong it.

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