

Second Regular Session
Sixty-seventh General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO

10.8.09

DRAFT

LLS NO. R10-0291.01 Esther van Mourik

SENATE Joint Resolution

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Heath,

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

(None),

SHORT TITLE: "Request For Comprehensive Tax Study"

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION

101 CONCERNING A REQUEST FOR A COMPREHENSIVE TAX STUDY.

1 WHEREAS, The General Assembly is constitutionally obligated
2 to provide by law for an annual tax sufficient, with other resources, to
3 defray the estimated expenses of state government and is authorized to
4 vest counties, cities, towns, districts, or other local government entities
5 with the power to assess and collect taxes; and

6 WHEREAS, The state constitution requires that the General
7 Assembly assure just and equalized valuations for assessment of
8 nonexempt real and personal property; and

9 WHEREAS, The tax policy of the state has not been
10 comprehensively studied since 1958; and

11 WHEREAS, A comprehensive review of the state's revenue system
12 will aid the General Assembly in carrying out its obligation to assure the
13 equitable distribution of state and local tax burdens among Colorado
14 taxpayers; and

15 WHEREAS, In this time of significant budget cuts, revenue

1 shortfalls, and economic uncertainty, it is impossible for the General
2 Assembly to fund a comprehensive tax study from its budget; now,
3 therefore,

4 *Be It Resolved by the Senate of the Sixty-seventh General Assembly*
5 *of the State of Colorado, the House of Representatives concurring herein:*

6 (1) That the General Assembly requests a comprehensive tax
7 study be performed and that such study be funded by the private sector;

8 (2) That the comprehensive tax study consider, but not be limited
9 to, the following:

10 (a) A nonpartisan review of tax policy of the state and local
11 governments in Colorado;

12 (b) Whether changes in tax policy or tax laws would aid in
13 ensuring the equitable distribution of state and local tax burdens among
14 Colorado taxpayers;

15 (c) The relationship of state and local taxes to the long-term
16 economic growth and prosperity of the state, its communities, and its
17 citizens;

18 (d) The burdens on individuals and businesses resulting from
19 taxes imposed by the state and by local governments and how these
20 burdens have changed over time;

21 (e) The changing burdens on the state and local governments in
22 financing the provision of public services to the residents of Colorado;

23 (f) Recommendations concerning the optimum combination of
24 broad-based state and other state and local taxes to adequately finance
25 future needs for state and local government services and equitably
26 distribute the burdens on taxpayers;

27 (g) Future trends that might create financial impacts on the state
28 and local governments within the next ten years and evaluating the ability
29 of the tax base of the state and local governments to respond to those
30 trends;

31 (h) The rates, bases, credits, and exemptions of each state and
32 local tax; and

33 (i) The potential revenue and expenditure limitations for state and
34 local governments.

35 (3) That the General Assembly requests a report be generated and
36 provided to the First Regular Session of the Sixty-eighth General
37 Assembly in January 2011.