

2023 Special Session Newsletter

November 24th

A Four Day Extraordinary Session

Colorado voters made their voices heard on November 7th by a majority vote (almost 60%) to not pass Proposition HH and to not allow the State to touch TABOR. Unfortunately, the Colorado State Democrat Legislators did not listen to the people nor did they accept any input from Republican members during this recent Special Session, but rather, they listened solely to the Governor.

Out of the fifteen bills that were introduced, the seven bills that were passed were Democrat pieces of legislation that either did not address property taxes or they fell way short of the Republicans' proposals for actual, long-term solutions that did not touch TABOR. This isn't the way our system was setup to work, with only one party having control of the entire process and ignoring the will of the people.

Pictured on the Right: From the Well, I addressed my Senate colleagues about the need for funding consideration for fire districts, health service districts, and ambulance districts.



Small Win for Rural Colorado

We did see a small win for rural communities in SB23b-001 with an amendment added (and passed) to insert health service districts and ambulance districts everywhere fire districts are referenced throughout this bill's text.

From my family to yours, I hope you had a blessed Thanksgiving and take this time to count your blessings.

"Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful." Colossians 4:2

As always, please feel free to reach out to me as it is my honor to serve you.

Faithfully,

Senator Rod Pelton

Bills Passed This Special Session

Senate Bill 23b-001: Reduces property tax and reimburses local governments by pulling from TABOR funds via the refund structure created from SB22-238...this bill will most likely have a lawsuit against it due to it using TABOR funds to backfill. This can affect any county and/or special district that has proposed budgets receiving backfilled funds, as backfilled funds may be taken back from the state or may never come at all. My advice: Best keep your preparation H ready.

Senate Bill 23b-002: Creates a program to provide food benefits to students from low-income households during summer months.

Senate Bill 23b-003: This bill flattens the TABOR refund checks, meaning that all Colorado taxpayers will get the same amount in their TABOR refund checks next year, regardless of how much taxes they pay.

House Bill 23b-1001: Creates the emergency rental assistance grant program for residential tenants who have an annual household income of 80% or less than the area median income.

House Bill 23b-1002: Doubles the state's earned income tax credit for this year. This was the largest relief measure passed that wasn't tied to homeowners.

House Bill 23b-1003: Concerning the creation (aka a stolen and altered version of the Republican Bill SB23-305) of the commission on property tax.

House Bill 23b-1008: Creates an appropriation to the Department of the Treasury to support the administration of the property tax deferral program during the 2023-24 state fiscal year.

Senator Rod Pelton



Serving Baca, Bent, Cheyenne,
Crowley, El Paso, Elbert,
Huerfano, Kit Carson, Kiowa, Las
Animas, Lincoln, Otero, and
Prowers Counties

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