



# NEWS

## AMERICANS FOR TAX REFORM

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### Colorado TABOR Fact of the Day You Just Can't Throw Money At It And Expect It To Work

On November 1<sup>st</sup>, Coloradans will vote on Referenda C and D and will decide on whether to allow state government to keep ALL excess tax revenues beyond the spending limit set by the Taxpayer's Bill of Rights.

**Make no mistake-- passage of these measures will result in a tax increase of over \$3.6 billion.**

Proponents of Referenda C and D have resorted to scare tactics in order to lure voters into supporting C and D. One area where scare tactics work well, is the area of higher education – after all, who wants to be accused of failing their sons and daughters?

However, there is no evidence that more money equals better outcome. Take a look at Washington, DC, which ranks second in per-pupil spending (more than \$11,000 per student in 2001-02), but ranks last in test scores.\* Throwing more money at a system in need of reform will not necessarily lead to better results.

But even if it is decided that higher education needs more money, there are areas where savings can be found: K-12 education, and Medicaid are the key budget drivers, and lawmakers would be better off identifying ways to cut cost here, and in other areas where money is wasted, rather than raiding taxpayers' wallets with no accountability.

**Vote No on Referenda C and D!**

\*American Legislative Exchange Council: Report Card on American Education – A State-by-State Analysis: 1981-2003  
[http://www.alec.org/meSWFiles/pdf/2004\\_Report\\_Card\\_on\\_Education.pdf](http://www.alec.org/meSWFiles/pdf/2004_Report_Card_on_Education.pdf)

Americans for Tax Reform (ATR) is a non-partisan coalition of taxpayers and taxpayer groups who oppose all federal, state and local tax increases. For more information or to arrange an interview, please contact Chris Butler at (202) 785-0266 or at [cbutler@atr.org](mailto:cbutler@atr.org).