

RESOLUTION NO. 8-2016

RESOLUTION BY THE MONTEZUMA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Support of Raise the Bar, Protect Our Constitution

WHEREAS, the Montezuma County Board of Commissioners, have a unique role in governance with both legislative and executive duties; and

WHEREAS, the Commissioners are the elected officials closest to the constituents in Montezuma County; and

WHEREAS, the Commissioners are looked to for leadership on matters of government policy; and

WHEREAS, Colorado law requires the same citizen initiative process to amend our Constitution as our state statutes creating a framework for one of the most easily amended Constitutions in the country; and

WHEREAS, under the current initiative process, there is no incentive to seek a statutory change as opposed to a constitutional amendment since the standard to change both is the same; and

WHEREAS, Since 2005, special interests have presented Colorado voters with over two dozen constitutional amendments, measures that have triggered expensive, and frequently unproductive and harmful political fights; and

WHEREAS, the Board believes that the ease of amending Colorado's constitution leaves the state vulnerable to out of state special interest groups; and

WHEREAS, the Board believes that amendments to the Constitution should be broadly and not narrowly supported; and

WHEREAS, the Board believes that broad support would be shown by including all Coloradans in the signature gathering process with signatures obtained from all 35 state senate districts before a measure qualifies for the ballot; and

WHEREAS, the Board believes that once on the ballot, broad support would be shown by achieving 55% of the vote to pass instead of the current requirement of a simple majority; and

WHEREAS, the Board believes that the Raise the Bar, Protect Our Constitution initiative preserves voters' rights to propose changes and place an initiative on the ballot; now

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Commissioners of Montezuma County, support Raise the Bar, Protect our Constitution's measure that makes it harder to amend the Colorado Constitution.

Adopted this 20<sup>th</sup>, day of June, 2016.

MONTEZUMA COUNTY, COLORADO  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Hani Percelle  
County Clerk and Recorder

Larry A. Seabro  
County Commissioner



James R. Lambert  
County Commissioner

Don L. Smith  
County Commissioner