



INDEPENDENCE
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FALL 2020

Independent Inking

**A Supreme
Victory**

- Page 3



**The Dangers of
Gun Control**
Page 6

**Advance your Cause
with II Studios**
Page 7

ATF Party
Page 8

**Local Gov't
Project**
Page 10

**New Fiscal Policy
Center Director**
Page 11

**II and the
Supremes**
Page 13

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



This last quarter has seen a lot of ups and downs for Independence Institute and Colorado. The news has been so varied I find myself feeling hopeful one day and angry the next.

I think good news should always come first—and don't worry, this good/bad news isn't comparable to the doctor saying, "the good news is they're naming a new disease after you."

There are two foundations that have propelled Colorado's prosperity these last two decades: our state's flat income tax and our Taxpayer's Bill of Rights (TABOR). We are committed to defending and improving both. To that end, this year we set off on the path to lower taxes and strengthen TABOR.

Because of your support, Proposition 116 is on the ballot. When passed, it will lower income taxes for all Coloradans. This has been a large undertaking, but like much of what we do, is leveraged to fight several battles.

The left in Colorado planned to raise over \$2 billion per year in new income tax by ushering in a progressive income tax system. This would have nearly doubled the tax rate on Colorado's most productive earners, thus tempting them to move to a more taxpayer-friendly state.

We fought to get 116 on the ballot not simply to lower taxes, but also to offer an alternative to their crushing plan. It obviously worked. Theirs didn't even make it to the ballot. It pays to play offense.

Additionally, we are once again partnering with our friends at Colorado Rising Action and promoting our shared goal to bring fees back under TABOR via their Proposition 117, which also made the ballot. Proposition 117 requires voter approval when the legislature raises taxes by calling them "fees."

We are going on the attack to not just defend, but also strengthen, the foundations of our economic success for generations to come.

It's news like this that gives me hope for the future. Hundreds of thousands of everyday Coloradans like

you and me came together to defend the very principles that made Colorado the envy of the nation.

Unfortunately, we've also been dealing with some hard issues in a decaying Denver. Last month, Independence Institute suffered a devastating burglary.

We offer the use of our Freedom Embassy to any allied group who wants to use it. During one such weekend event, a Denver transient snuck in, hid, and waited for the event to end. Once everyone was gone, he proceeded to ransack our beautiful building. When he finally left, he propped the doors open as an invitation to others who then came in, broke a window, vandalized, and stole expensive A/V equipment.

Sadly, this is the embodiment of where Denver is headed with its Progressive policies. Homeless encampments, trash, bottles, needles, condoms, urine, vomit, and feces are becoming a more frequent occurrence on our property. Rule of law and property rights mean less and less to people who are increasingly viewing other people's assets as theirs for the taking.

The unbreakable rule of economics is true—when you subsidize something, you get more of it. Denver has been subsidizing homelessness for 15 years, ever since then-mayor John Hickenlooper said in 2005 that he was going to end homelessness within ten years.

When angry mobs riot freely, destroying businesses, statues, and even the Capitol itself without fear of arrest, costly theft and vandalism to our beautiful building shouldn't be a surprise.

It's incidents like these that unsettle me and make me fret for the future of our beloved state under Progressive rule.

Through November, Independence Institute will be educating the citizens of Colorado about what makes Colorado unique and working to reclaim a legacy of freedom and individual initiative that seems to be growing scarcer.

Please know that you and your continued support give all of us here hope that we can turn the tide. The road to reclaim Colorado starts at the front door of Independence Institute. Let's keep that door open.

Think Freedom,

INDEPENDENCE INSTITUTE'S LONG-TIME FIGHT FOR EDUCATIONAL FREEDOM

BY PAMELA BENIGNO

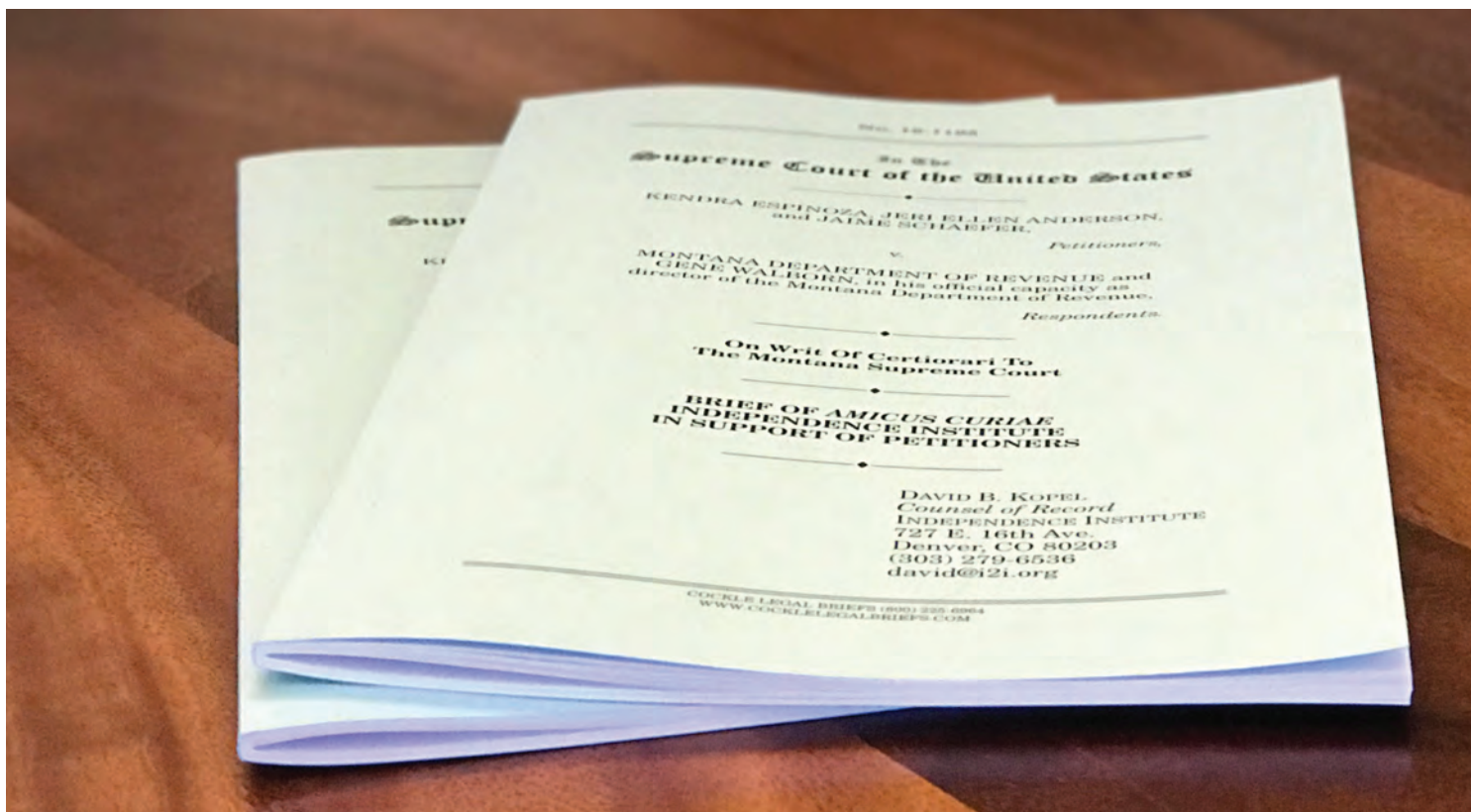


Every education freedom fighter celebrated a school choice victory this summer. The U.S. Supreme Court ruled that so-called state “Blaine Amendments” violate the Free Exercise Clause of the First Amendment when used to prevent religious schools from participating in state sponsored school choice programs. This means opponents of school choice cannot use Colorado’s Blaine Amendment to strike down voucher or education tax credit programs simply because some families choose faith-based schools.

At the Independence Institute we were pleased to play a part in the *Espinoza v. Montana Department of Revenue*

decision; our amicus brief was notably cited in Justice Alito’s concurring opinion. We have been fighting this fight on behalf of school children and their families for a long time.

Over the years, the primary weapon used against school choice programs has been a provision found in 37 state constitutions including Colorado. The “no aid to sectarian institutions” provision is often referred to as a Blaine Amendment. When I first joined efforts to pass a state-wide school voucher ballot initiative in the late 1980s, I became familiar with the usage of the word “sectarian” in Colorado’s constitution and its bigoted origins.



A scholarship initiative finally made the ballot in 1992 thanks to Tom Tancredo, who later became the second president of the Independence Institute. Steve Schuck led the efforts for a 1998 school choice ballot initiative while he served as the chairman of the Independence Institute's Board of Trustees. Both initiatives lost, but the 1992 initiative created the political will to enact the state's groundbreaking 1993 charter school law.

Meanwhile, school choice was gaining momentum nationally. In June 2002, the U.S. Supreme Court upheld Cleveland's school voucher program under the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution. The Court said the law did not represent an establishment of religion but was "neutral" toward religion because parents could freely choose a religious or non-religious school.

Inspired by the Court's decision, the Independence Institute held a day-long event that brought together national policy and legal professionals, Colorado minority grassroots leaders, and financial supporters. One panel discussion included five legislators who all intended to carry a variety of school choice bills in the 2003 session. Planned and spontaneous strategy meetings took place during the event and set the stage for what happened next.


The state's education freedom fighters (too many to mention here) joined forces to successfully pass a state-wide school voucher program. I served on the imple-

mentation committee to define student eligibility and create the application.

Unfortunately, after a lawsuit filed by the Colorado PTA and others, a Denver District Court Judge enjoined the program. Although Colorado's Blaine Clause was one of the many issues raised by the lawsuit, the program was struck down by the Colorado Supreme Court on a local school board control issue unrelated to the federal constitution. Therefore, it could not be appealed to the U.S. Supreme Court.

One school district board took note of the ruling and decided to explore community support for a school district voucher program. At the first meeting of the Douglas County School District's School Choice Task Force, a colleague and I gave presentations and were subsequently invited to continue in an advisory capacity. The evening in Castle Rock was only the beginning. For several years, the Independence Institute provided strategic support for the district's first in the nation school board-initiated school voucher program.

Shortly after enactment in 2011, two separate lawsuits were filed against the Douglas County School District parental choice program. The school district lost at the Colorado Supreme Court because of Blaine language in the state's constitution but appealed to the U.S. Supreme Court. The High Court remanded the case back to the Colorado Supreme Court in light of the justices' recent



ruling regarding Missouri’s Blaine Amendment. Although the Missouri case was unrelated to school choice, it did assert that Blaine provisions could not be used to discriminate against faith-based institutions.

Unfortunately, the decision came too late for us. Education reformers on the Douglas County School District lost the election and the new board terminated the program. The end of the program dashed Colorado education freedom fighters’ hopes that Douglas County’s innovative program would be the one to finally end the misuse of no aid provisions against parental choice. Montana’s school choice program would gain that distinction.

In 2015, Montana legislators passed a scholarship program allowing for a modest state income tax credit for private donations to K-12 scholarship granting organizations. Based on the state’s Blaine Clause, the Montana Department of Revenue promulgated a rule which prohibited families from using scholarships at religious schools. Three mothers whose children lost scholarships sued. Represented by Independence Institute ally, the Institute for Justice, the mothers’ case made it all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court.

In September 2019, the Independence Institute filed an amicus brief to offer the Court evidence of how the drafters and ratifiers of both the Colorado and Montana constitutions used the term “sectarian” to discriminate against disfavored religious beliefs. The Independence Institute’s two legal scholars, David Kopel and Rob Natelson, authored the brief based on Mr. Natelson’s scholarship. The brief offered examples from both 19th and 20th century dictionaries and newspaper articles to demonstrate the discriminatory use of the word “sectarian” to describe not only Catholic institutions but also religious organizations considered outside of mainstream Protestantism.

Formerly a law professor in Montana, Mr. Natelson had once led the fight for school choice in Montana and was the only public figure to recognize the unconstitutional nature of Montana’s no aid clause. Mr. Kopel, a member of the Colorado Advisory Committee for the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, helped lead the commit-

tee’s investigation of Blaine Amendments and was the main author of the committee’s final report. According to the report, the no aid clause is and always has been a vehicle for religious discrimination.

All of these small steps for education freedom culminated in an extraordinary moment this spring with the *Espinoza v. Montana Department of Revenue* decision. I was present for one of the key moments leading up to that breakthrough. On January 22, 2020, I witnessed an historic moment as I sat in the U.S. Supreme Courtroom listening to the oral arguments in the case. In question was if the Montana Supreme Court’s action to end the Montana scholarship program, based on the state’s “no aid to sectarian institutions” provision, violated the federal constitution.

Five months later, on June 30, 2020, the day had finally come; the reign of Blaine was over. Chief Justice Roberts wrote the majority opinion—the Montana Supreme Court’s judgment was reversed based on the Free Exercise Clause of the U.S. Constitution. No longer can religious schools be excluded from state school choice programs because they are religious.

The icing on the cake: Justice Alito, in his concurring opinion, specifically named the Independence Institute and referred to two different sections from our brief. Additionally, he cited an article Rob Natelson wrote for the Education Policy Center which was published in the *Federalist Society Review*.

Opponents of school choice lost this battle, but they are ready to launch more weapons. Like most of our fights, the Independence Institute is in this one for the long haul. As a former public-school teacher and dedicated warrior for educational choice, I understand the critical need for private school choice options—especially for Colorado’s most vulnerable children. We will win this fight. The Independence Institute has been at the forefront of the battle on behalf of these kids and their families. Our staff, trustees, and donors will continue to successfully make and sustain significant changes in public policy no matter what comes our way.



Pam Benigno is the Director of the Independence Institute’s Education Policy Center.

The Hidden Dangers of Gun Control



BY STAFF

Our constitutional republic is under severe attack. You can see it physically in the shambles of our once-beautiful State Capitol, where rioters were allowed to run rampant. You can see it in today's Cancel Culture, as schools, businesses, and individuals are forced to take a knee in submission to Marxist lies about America and our history.

To many decent people, the sudden descent of our society has been unexpected. Research Director David Kopel, however, has been studying the evils of Communism ever since he read *The Gulag Archipelago* when he was 13. One of the reasons he is so dedicated to protect the right to keep and bear arms is that he understands, from world history, what often happens to disarmed people.

For much of the past year, Kopel has been busy writing online supplemental chapters for his law school textbook *Firearms Law and the Second Amendment*. These chapters are available for free on the public Internet. In particular, Chapter 14, on Comparative Law, is a global survey of gun control in other countries. It tells how the Communist tyrants in Venezuela use criminal armed gangs, the *Collectivos*, to terrorize the disarmed populace. Many U.S. cities are a lot more like Venezuela than they used to be.

In a hundred-page chapter on the Mao regime in China, Kopel recounts how the first and enduring priority of the Chinese Communist Party dictatorship was to make sure that only its reliable political supporters had arms. He describes the Cultural Revolution and its “rage mobs of privileged students”—how lives were ruined for having expressed a politically incorrect opinion decades before the revolution, how culture was destroyed, and

how everything had to be renamed in conformity to the mobs' demands.

All this was made much easier in China because the victims had already been disarmed.

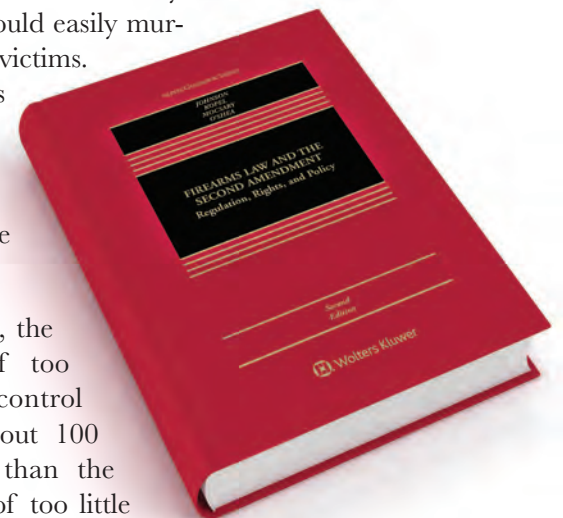
In today's America, the Marxists and the other gun banners insist that people will be safer if they don't have guns. The truth is just the opposite, as Kopel quantifies. If you make every favorable assumption in support of gun control, then there were about 745,000 excess American homicides in the 20th century because the U.S. didn't have European-style gun control.

In Europe in the 20th century, there were over 87 million excess deaths because tyrannical governments could easily murder disarmed victims.

This figure does not include battle deaths from the wars started by the tyrants.

In other words, the deadly risk of too much gun control (Europe) is about 100 times greater than the supposed risk of too little gun control (the U.S.).

For Kopel, this is a personal issue. As he puts it: “I am alive to write this essay because my Jewish German



Continued on page 14

Advance Your Cause with Independence Studios!

We believe permanent political infrastructure is key to steering Colorado back to the ideals of freedom. Over the past decade, Independence Institute's facility, which we affectionately refer to as the Freedom Embassy, has been fundamental to that infrastructure. It has been a place where advocates can come together to strategize and coordinate. But politics isn't just about strategy sessions. Creating and distributing effective, high-quality audio/visual content have become increasingly essential tools in the fight for freedom. However, the equipment required to capture high-quality content is not cheap and the technical capabilities to produce that content is not easy. Fortunately, we can help.

Independence Institute has spent the past year building out our studio spaces and procuring the necessary equipment to produce broadcast-quality content. While these enhanced capabilities have and will continue to benefit our mission directly, we recognize the benefit they can have for the freedom movement more broadly.

Therefore, our studio facilities and accompanying production support are now available for use to liberty-loving individuals or groups who want to produce broadcast-quality audio/visual content.

We offer three separate studio spaces, all located within our Freedom Embassy:

- **Studio A:** a small greenscreen studio perfect for scripted content.
- **Studio B:** a larger space designed to accommodate a conversational style of content. It's the perfect place to conduct media training or record an interview.
- **Podcast Studio:** a small studio to record audio and video, with the additional capability to broadcast to radio stations.

The new studios have already been put to good use. For example, Dr. Tom Krannawitter (The Vino & Veritas Society) regularly records from our Podcast Studio.

If you would like to reserve one of our studios and/or production support, or know someone who might, please contact Tyler Massey at Tyler@i2i.org.



2020 ATF Party

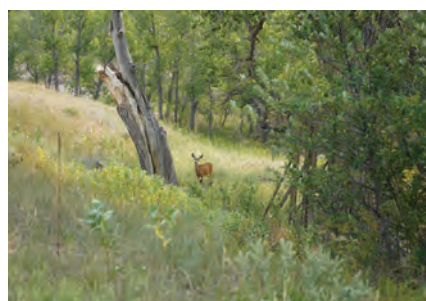
Independence Institute is proud to show that the political Right isn't quite as stuffy as we're often portrayed in the media. In late August, we hosted our annual Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms Party (ATF) and it was a huge success!

Despite all that 2020 has thrown our way, including COVID-19, it didn't prevent us from once again enjoying the most politically incorrect party in the state. And this year was even bigger than last year as well over 100 people made the trek to Kiowa Creek Sporting Club to shoot, smoke, eat, and drink with family and friends!

After breakfast and coffee, a formal welcome, and a safety briefing, guests took to the course to shoot down PETA-friendly clay pigeons—or in Jon's case, shoot in their general vicinity. Once all groups had finished the course and the scorecards were being tallied, everyone gathered at the pavilion to enjoy a BBQ lunch, adult beverages, and cigars.

Jon took to the mic and announced Best (and Worst) Shooter awards and auctioned off a rare collector's rifle. Perhaps the biggest highlight of the day was the address from keynote speaker Sheriff Steve Reams of Weld County, along with the subsequent Q&A. Sheriff Reams captivated the audience as he spoke about the current political climate and his commitment to safeguard his constituents from those who would seek to undermine their constitutional rights.

As the program concluded and guests began to trickle out, just as many lingered to enjoy the increasingly rare opportunity to chat and laugh with friends in person over a cocktail and a cigar—a great sight to see. Thanks again to all sponsors and guests for making 2020 ATF a wonderful party. We're already gearing up for an even bigger and better party next year and hope to see you there!





Local Government Project Success Story

BY KATHLEEN CHANDLER

Have you ever wondered how to make a difference? Do you want to see things change but think, how can I, just one person, create change? I would like to share a story of how one person, with our support, has done just that.

During the summer, I was contacted by Michelle Streeter. As a mother of law enforcement officers, she was angry and frustrated at the attack on the police and concerned about her sons' safety in the midst of widespread riots. Prior to contacting me, Michelle had reached out to a group of like-minded women to discuss options to support law enforcement. The group had contemplated simple gestures, such as sending gift cards and encouraging notes.

While those gestures would certainly be appreciated, Michelle and friends realized quickly that they wanted to provide more than encouragement—they wanted to take action to change the current political landscape and culture. However, they didn't quite know where to start and that is when my phone rang.

For several years, I have run Independence Institute's Local Government Project. Our mission is to inspire, educate, and support citizens' political involvement via

local government. And our mantra: Stop complaining! Take back your country by taking back your community.

Michelle explained her situation and her desire to make lasting political change in her community and across Colorado. I was able to help Michelle and team channel their energy and passion into action. We discussed ways to get politically involved, including the power of local boards and commissions and how to apply. We discussed ways she could support strong, freedom-loving candidates. We discussed supporting a high-integrity political process by serving as an election judge.

While Michelle had the spark, she simply needed some additional guidance on how to apply that energy in a productive way. And more than anything, she needed to hear stories and examples of how small groups or individual engaged citizens can make a difference.

Since that time, Michelle and team have identified and begun actively supporting candidates they believe in. With the help of a graphic artist in the group, they have designed, purchased, distributed, and displayed

Continued on page 14



Proposition 116

BY BEN MURREY

The Independence Institute recently brought me on board to serve as Director of the Fiscal Policy Center. Right out of the gate I have been working to educate the public on the value of a modest income tax reduction. After seven years as a United States Senate aide in Washington, D.C., the Colorado sunshine, casual dress, and down-to-earth people are a breath of fresh air. The political Left's dried-up old rhetoric that tax cuts only help the rich, however, is all too familiar.

After Colorado State Senator Jerry Sonnenberg and our very own Jon Caldara put a tax cut on the November ballot, a coalition of groups sent an open letter to the governor echoing the typical talking points. They brazenly claim that the measure “will hurt the vast majority of Coloradans while helping the wealthy few.” Of course, it's a bald-faced lie and Governor Polis knows it.

On August 24th the governor told the Colorado Sun, “We've long sought an income tax decrease [and] particularly in this challenging time, I think Coloradans certainly need tax relief.” Proposition 116 will be on the November ballot to give voters the opportunity to do just that – reduce income taxes for all taxpayers.

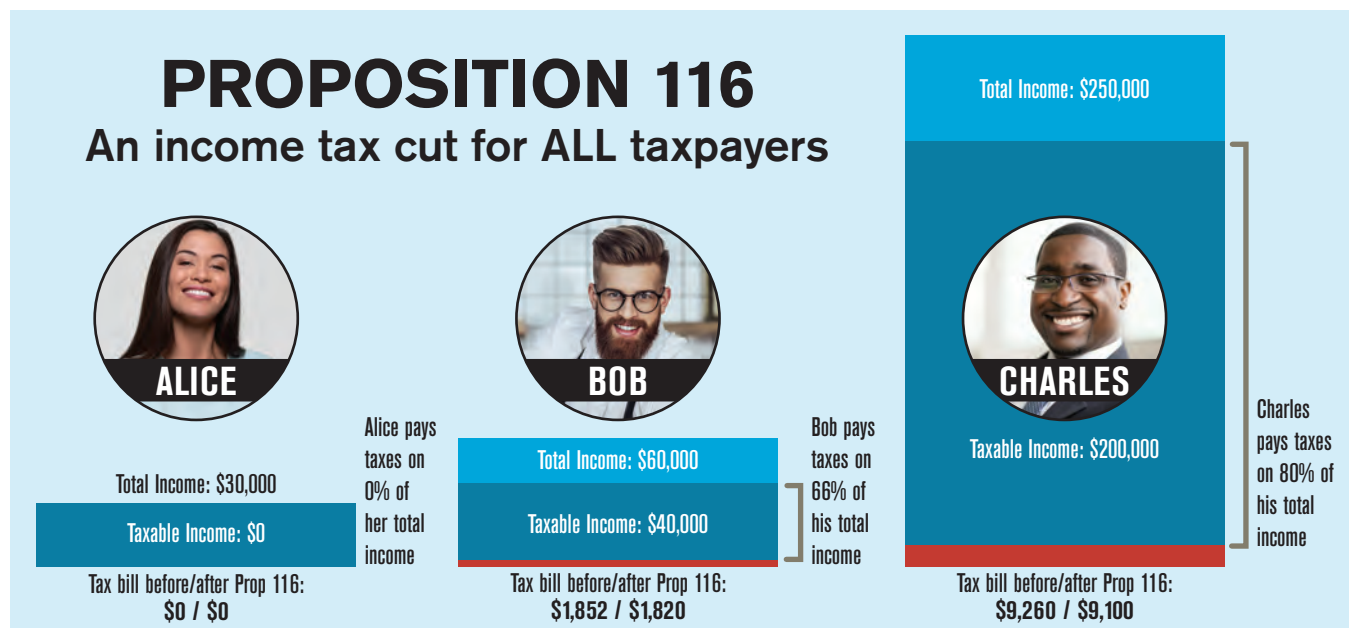
I don't suspect this letter will cause the governor to renege on his campaign promise to “cut taxes for all,” but it's still worth investigating opponents' assertions. It won't be the last time we hear these talking points before November.

Let's start with the second part of their claim, and I imagine most Coloradans have heard the argument by

now—this is just a tax cut for the rich. Here's where they get that. Even though Colorado has a “flat tax,” not all income earners pay income taxes. That's because the tax code allows for certain deductions and credits, which can reduce and even eliminate a person's tax liability. In general, lower-income earners fall into this category.

In the example below, Alice is a single mom earning \$30 thousand per year. When she files her taxes, she takes the standard deduction and claims both the child tax credit and the earned income tax credit. These are tax credits designed to decrease the tax burden on lower-income earners, especially those with children. As a result of these adjustments, though she earned money in the year, Alice will pay no income taxes. Bob is a working-class person. He earns \$60 thousand per year and has \$20 thousand in deductions. That means only \$40 thousand of his income is taxed. Charles meanwhile, earns \$250 thousand per year and has \$50 thousand in deductions. He pays taxes on \$200 thousand of his earnings.

Colorado law requires Alice, Bob, and Charles all to pay the same 4.63% of their *taxable* income in Colorado state income tax. Since Alice has zero taxable income, she has zero tax liability after applying the 4.63% rate. Since Bob and Charlie both have some amount of taxable income, they both pay income taxes. By reducing the tax rate from 4.63% to 4.55%, Bob and Charles both have a lower tax bill, reduced in proportion with their taxable income. They both see a direct benefit, but there is no downside for Alice.



The message of those opposing Proposition 116 is clear—if you’re a working Coloradan who pays any amount of income taxes, you are the rich and do not deserve a tax cut.

Now back to the first part of their claim, that this cut will hurt “the vast majority” of Coloradans. Let’s investigate. We know that not every income earner pays income taxes, so not every income earner will receive a tax cut. According to the left-leaning Colorado Fiscal Institute, however, those with no tax liability make up only about a quarter of earners in Colorado. So that leaves 75% of us with a lower tax bill – a clear boon to the vast majority. Still, it’s not clear how even the quarter are hurt.

How then do they figure it will hurt most Coloradans? The government simply knows how to spend your money better than you do.

If a tax reduction leaves you with more of your own money to spend the way you choose, their logic goes, you’re worse off because the government didn’t spend it for you.

Interestingly, they do not say the same about the wealthy. Remember, the policy change does not hurt all Coloradans; it helps the “wealthy few.” The implication here is that the wealthy few do know how to spend their money better than the government, so they can still benefit from a tax cut. But middle-class Coloradans are too

stupid to be better off with more money in their pockets. Give it to the government. They know best.

The simple truth is, this is a mild but much needed tax cut for all taxpayers.

Don’t take my word for it. Judge for yourself. Here’s the actual word-for-word language voters will see on the ballot: “Shall there be a change to the Colorado Revised Statutes reducing the state income tax rate from 4.63% to 4.55%?” That’s it.

The opposition letter perplexingly concludes, “[I]t’s hard to see who will benefit from this proposed tax cut.” Looking at the ballot language, it’s hard to see who doesn’t benefit from the cut.

Even for those who do not currently earn enough to pay taxes, this cut will expand the state’s economy and create new private sector jobs and economic opportunities. Hopefully soon they’ll earn enough to pay taxes, and they too will rejoice at the lower tax rate. After all, nobody wants these people stuck in poverty and dependent on government handouts in perpetuity.

Fortunately, Governor Polis gets it and is unlikely to be persuaded by opponents’ hollow arguments.

Come November 3rd, I suspect we’ll find that neither were the rest of Coloradans.

Ben Murrey is the Director of our Fiscal Policy Center.

ON A PERSONAL NOTE:

I am thrilled to be Independence Institute’s new Fiscal Policy Center Director, working to promote fiscal responsibility in Colorado government and to defend the Taxpayer’s Bill of Rights in the state’s constitution.

Prior to II, I spent seven years as a United States Senate staffer in Washington, D.C. and a legislative aide for Senator Ted Cruz. I’m a graduate of Hillsdale College with honors from both the Politics and German departments.

A native Texan, I spent my formative years vacationing in and falling in love with Colorful Colorado. With my new position at II, I now get to call this beautiful state home. I currently reside in Lakewood with my wife and son.



II and the Supremes

BY STAFF

U.S. Supreme Court Justices relied explicitly on Independence Institute briefs three times this year. In addition, one Justice awarded Rob Natelson, our Senior Fellow in Constitutional Jurisprudence, his 20th Supreme Court citation.

In *Espinoza v. Montana Department of Revenue*, SCOTUS (Supreme Court of the United States) held that the First Amendment bars states with public/private school choice programs from discriminating against religious schools. Specifically, the Court voided a section in the Montana constitution denying aid to “sectarian” schools.

The Colorado Constitution has a similar provision, and in 2015 the Colorado state supreme court—over II’s objection—used it to strike down a Douglas County school choice program. But the *Espinoza* ruling confirms that the Colorado court’s decision was wrong and the Independence Institute was right.

II submitted a “friend of the court” brief in the *Espinoza* case. In an opinion agreeing with his colleagues, Justice Samuel Alito referred to this brief twice. Rob Natelson was the brief’s principal author and researcher and II Research Director David Kopel edited and submitted it.

In the same opinion, Justice Alito separately cited Rob’s article on the same subject.

A few days later Justice Elena Kagan relied on another Independence

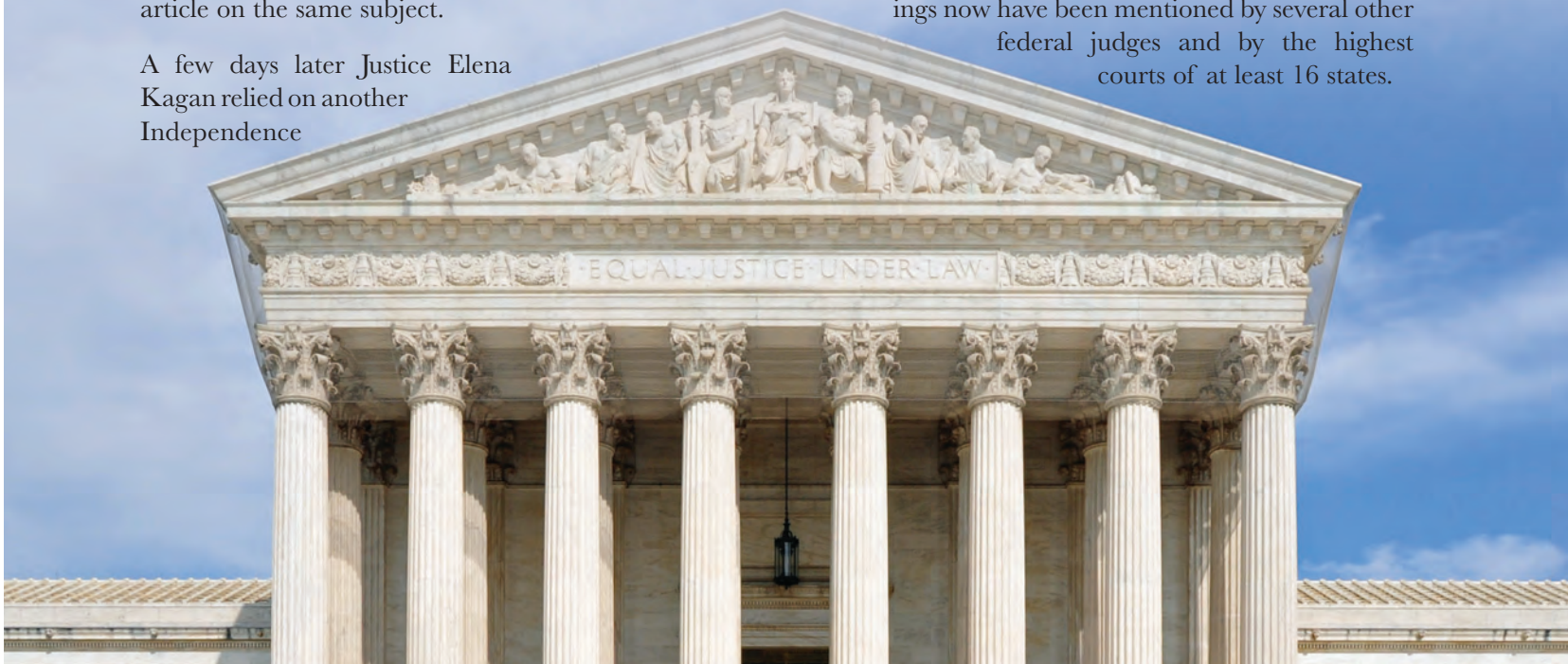
Institute brief. In her opinion for the court in *Chiafalo v. Washington*, she cited it to show that the Founders expected members of the Electoral College to use their independent judgment when voting for president and vice-president. Natelson was the principal author of this brief as well, and Kopel the principal editor and submitter.

While apparently agreeing with II’s historical findings, however, Justice Kagan decided not to interpret the Constitution according to the Founders’ understanding. She used another interpretive method instead.

SCOTUS Justices have relied on II briefs in previous cases. But this is the first time they have given credit to II by name.

This is the 20th time since 2013 that SCOTUS justices have cited Natelson’s published research by name. When he was a law professor, the Leftists who controlled his law school downplayed—and sometimes actively tried to suppress—his constitutional law activity. In 2010, however, after 25 years in academia, he left to work on-site with II. Soon thereafter, the Institute began to promote his scholarship, and eventually Supreme Court Justices began to notice it.

In addition to Supreme Court citations, Natelson’s writings now have been mentioned by several other federal judges and by the highest courts of at least 16 states.



Gun Control Cont.

and Lithuanian ancestors migrated to the United States in the nineteenth century. By moving to the United States, they increased their risk of being shot by an individual criminal and drastically reduced their risk of being murdered by criminal governments. The risks did, in fact, materialize in Germany under the Nazis and the communists, and in Lithuania under the Czars, the Nazis, and the communists. Because governments are so much more effective at killing than are individual criminals (even the aggregate of all individual criminals), the United States was much safer than Europe in the twentieth century.”

Local Gov't Cont.

yard signs with messages of hope, truth, and a call to action to get out the vote!

Speaking of the radical fringes that have overrun the state, Michelle says, “We decided our voice was just as strong as theirs.”

“What began as a small idea of gift baskets and warm notes for law enforcement evolved into a greater vision of doing all we can to turn this state around.” And the answer you get if you ask Michelle what’s next? “Why, taking back the Colorado Senate of course!”

Since Independence Institute’s launch of the Local Government Project in 2016, I have had the honor of engaging with over

If you’d like to read more, the chapter is available for free at:

http://firearmsregulation.org/www/WK_FRRP_2020_Ch14.pdf

The Venezuela material begins on page 325, the US/Europe comparative risks on page 371, China under Mao on 423, and the Cultural Revolution on 493.

It’s a depressing story, but along the way you will also read about heroic armed freedom fighters who saved many lives, including Jews in the Holocaust, Armenians and other Christians in the Ottoman Empire during World War I, and the Tibetans who fought the Chinese Communists.

400 citizens who, like Michelle and friends, have a desire to get involved but need direction and encouragement. Become one of them or the over 75 individuals we have helped get involved in a local board or commission.

You can be a change agent and I can help! What is your first step in fighting for liberty in Colorado? Join our next Local Government class or contact me directly at Kathleen@i2i.org.



Kathleen Chandler is the coordinator of the Independence Institute’s local government project.

JOIN US

FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT PROJECT TRAINING



Learn how to get something on your local ballot or learn the skills needed to apply for local positions and to serve as an effective leader. The training will cover the board/ commission application process, what to expect once you are on a board, and the ongoing support we offer to you as you serve your community.

Register i2i.org/local-gov	Where Your living room! The class will be held online.	When Check our website for the date of the next class!
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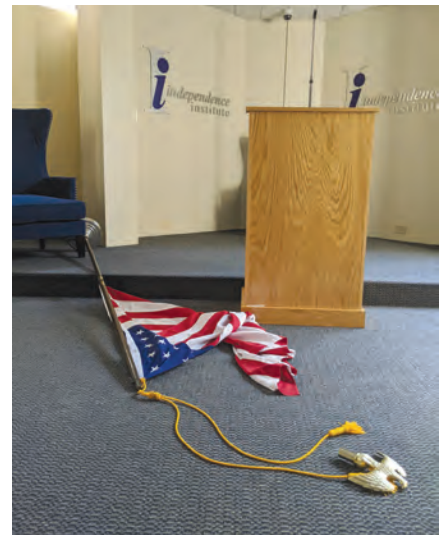
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- Karen Zuppa:** Accountant

After the Break-in

We were humbled at the outpouring of support from many of you after our offices were burglarized in August. Thanks to this generosity, we are working to vigorously upgrade and replace our security system in these chaotic times. We've nearly met our goal, but we are asking for your help to ensure we have a top-of-the-line system in place to prevent this from ever happening again! If you're interested in sponsoring a specific product or would like more details, please contact Mary MacFarlane at mary@i2i.org or 303-279-6536 X118.



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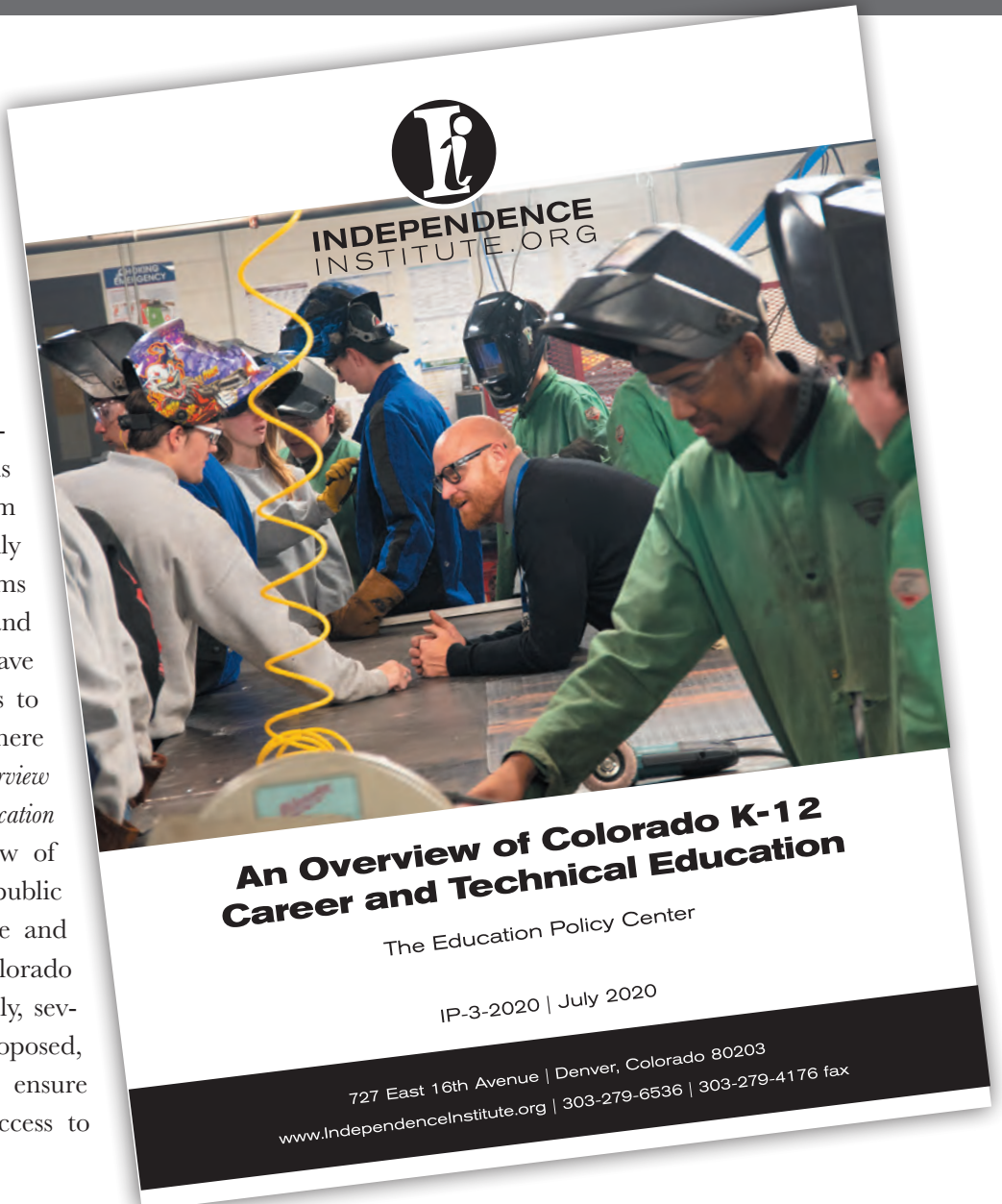
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Read our Newest Publication from the Education Policy Center

Over the past several decades, Career and Technical Education (CTE) has emerged as a robust avenue for promoting educational options for public school students ranging from those who would have been traditionally served by vocational education programs to college-bound students in high-demand fields. Because schools and districts have considerable autonomy when it comes to organizing their CTE programming, there is much variation across the state. *An Overview of Colorado K-12 Career and Technical Education* aims to provide an historical overview of CTE, highlights different Colorado public school models, and describes the state and federal funding sources available to Colorado public schools and districts. Additionally, several policy recommendations are proposed, including changes to state statute to ensure qualified charter schools have easy access to state CTE funding.



An Overview of Colorado K-12 Career and Technical Education

The Education Policy Center

IP-3-2020 | July 2020

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