

Rates the Legislature

HOW IS THE RATING DONE?

Each legislator is rated on their tax and spending votes. For a bill to be chosen it must have a split vote, with some legislators voting for and others against the bill. Year to year comparisons indicate that CUT is accurately measuring whether a legislator favors bigger government with high taxes and more spending, or believes in lower taxes and less government.

TAXPAYER CHAMPIONS!

Senate	Bob Schaffer	(R)	Fort Collins	Rank 100%
House	Dave Owen	(R)	Greeley	Rank 100%
	Phil Pankey	(R)	Littleton	Rank 100%

HONORABLE MENTION!

HJR 1035 Sponsored by Rep. Charles Duke, Monument, and Sen. Jim Roberts, Loveland. Tells Washington, "We aren't going to take it anymore, on unfunded federal mandates. It's time to exercise our state rights under the 10th Amendment of the Constitution . . ." **Congratulations!**

Legislative Facts			
Senate		House	
Democrats	36%	Democrats	32%
Republicans	70%	Republicans	70%
Senate	54%	House	52%
High Democrat			
Joan Johnson	75%	4 Members	63%
Low Republican			
Al Meiklejohn	40%	Mike Salaz	43%

How did the Governor fare?

Roy fit in the mediocre class with 42% agreement with CUT. He signed 354 of the 358 bills that made it to his desk, including 7 of the 9 bills rated by CUT for 1994. He approved bills numbered 2, 4 and 7 in agreement with CUT, but also signed bills 1, 5, 6 and 8, showing that he is still serving the special interest groups rather than promoting fair tax policy for all.

How Congress Voted (NTU Rates Congress)

Senate				
Brown	A	84%		We need a
Campbell	F	17%		Balanced Budget Amendment

House				
Allard	A	84%	Allard	Y
Hefley	B	73%	Hefley	Y
McInnis	B	74%	McInnis	Y
Schaefer	B	73%	Schaefer	Y
Schroeder	D	27%	Schroeder	N
Skaggs	F	22%	Skaggs	N

AMENDMENT #1 is doing the job!

CUT had fewer tax and spending bills to rate this year, because the legislature is living within its budget . . . **Congratulations!**

However, continuing taxpayer vigilance is needed. Suits are now in process against local governments and school districts for attempting to circumvent many key areas of Amendment #1. State government may have committed violations of the constitution on at least six pieces of legislation. A law suit on these constitutional violations could force refunds of millions of dollars.

Initiatives on the November Ballot:

The initiative process opens the door for better government. It bypasses the "special interests", who grid-lock our elected officials, and make real change impossible.

Election Reform will be on the ballot:

- **Amendment #12** by Doug Bruce deals with the initiative process.
- **League of Women Voters/Common Cause** deals with election of candidates.

Both have strong and weak points. Give them your consideration.

- **Referendum A:** The Single Subject Rule, for initiatives, sounds reasonable enough. Government interpretation of a "single subject" isn't clear. This rule has been used to kill the initiative process in other states. **Caution is advised!!! CUT votes NO.**

CUT Suggests Four Legislative Actions

State Funding of K-12

The state is paying an increasing share of K-12 education. This means more control by the state over education, and less at the local level. Experience from other states indicates this is bad policy for both cost and quality of education.

CUT suggests adding local sales tax as an addition to property tax for local funding. The decline in teaching "core", basic subjects, over the last two decades parallels the decline in student test scores. Currently less than 40% of teacher payroll goes into "select teachers" who teach core subjects.

CUT suggests shifting more money to basics.

PERA, The employees retirement system

American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC) estimates that Colorado spends \$532 to \$666 million in excess government wages and benefits annually. PERA's taxpayer contribution to retirement is 11.2% vs. only 6.2% in the private sector. To equalize benefits at 6.2% will result in savings of \$200 million annually.

In order to be fair to private sector employees, CUT suggests that the PERA contribution be reduced to 6.2%.

Reconcile the Gallager Amendment with Amendment #1

Non-residential property taxes are accelerating while their property value is declining. More taxes for less business is creating an unhealthy climate for new businesses and new jobs. The legislature needs to offer a constitutional amendment to correct this imbalance.

Over-Regulation by the Legislature

The legislature introduced 607 bills and passed 360 in 1994. This deluge of bills makes it impossible for any legislator to study and make an informed decision in the 120 day session. At the present pace we are adding 3,600 new bills every decade to the smothering burden of regulation.

CUT suggests lowering the number of new bills submitted, and removing present deadwood.

1994 Representatives Rating

Votes	Bills	CUT's Vote								Total	% Correct	
		1	2	4	5	6	7	8	9		'94	'93
Representative	CUT's Vote	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	8	100	100
Acquafresca (R)	Cedaredge	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	4	57	44
Adkins (R)	Parker	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	7	88	63
Agler (R)	Littleton	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	6	75	52
Allen (R)	Aurora	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	5	63	61
Anderson (R)	Lakewood	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	5	63	57
Armstrong (D)	Aurora	0	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	5	63	19
Banavidez (D)	Denver	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	13	25
Berry (R)	Colo. Springs	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	5	63	61
Blue (D)	Longmont	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	4	50	24
Chlouber (R)	Leadville	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	4	50	44
Clerk (R)	Boulder	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	6	75	72
Clerke (D)	Denver	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	13	
Coffman (R)	Aurora	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	7	88	67
Dagette (D)	Denver	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	2	25	33
Duke (R)	Monument	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	7	88	90
Dyer (D)	Durango	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	5	63	20
Eisenach (D)	Fort Morgan	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	4	50	22
Entz (R)	Hooper	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	3	50	37
Epps (R)	Colo. Springs	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	7	88	93
Fatz (R)	Denver	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	6	75	75
Fierning (R)	Thornton	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	4	50	35
Foster (R)	Grand Junction	1	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	6	75	50
Friednash (D)	Denver	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	3	38	25
George (R)	Rifle	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	4	50	30
Gordon (D)	Denver	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	2	25	26
Grampas (R)	Evergreen	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	7	88	65
Greenwood (D)	Colo. Springs	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	3	38	29
Hagedorn (D)	Aurora	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	3	38	32
Hernandez (D)	Denver	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	13	29
Jerke (R)	LaSalle	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	7	88	77
June (D)	Westminster	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	33	24
Kaufman (R)	Loveland	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	5	63	50
Keller (D)	Wheatridge	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	2	25	32
Kerns (D)	Aurora	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	4	50	33
Knox (D)	Denver	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	13	16
Kreutz (R)	Littleton	1	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	6	75	50
Lawrence (R)	Arvada	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	5	63	50
Linkhart (D)	Denver	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	17	
Lyle (D)	Denver	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	14	24
Martin (R)	Colo. Springs	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	4	50	91
Mattingly (D)	Pueblo	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	13	20
May (R)	Colo. Springs	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	6	75	61
Moellenberg (R)	Kirk	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	4	50	63
Morrison (R)	Manitou Springs	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	5	63	44
Nichol (D)	Denver	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	4	50	33
Owen (R)	Greeley	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	8	100	71
Pankey (R)	Littleton	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	7	100	82
Pfiffner (R)	Lakewood	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	7	88	80
Pierson (D)	Arvada	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	2	25	11
Prinster (D)	Grand Junction	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	5	63	37
Ratterree (R)	Colo. Springs	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	7	88	77
Reeser (D)	Thornton	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	3	38	35
Reeves (D)	Fort Collins	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	2	25	33
Romero (D)	Pueblo	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	2	25	29
Rupert (D)	Boulder	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	21
Selaz (R)	Trinidad	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	3	43	62
Schauer (R)	Littleton	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	4	50	47
Shoemaker (D)	Canon City	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	3	38	33
Snyder (D)	Northglenn	0	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	5	63	35
Strom (D)	Fort Collins	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	2	25	32
Sullivan (R)	Greeley	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	5	63	58
Taylor (R)	Steamboat Spgs.	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	4	50	58
Tucker (R)	Lakewood	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	6	75	53
Williams (D)	Breckenridge	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	3	38	21
Wright (D)	Boulder	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	14	33
Totals/Averages		25	47	61	19	9	45	7	51	264	52	45

Ranking	Representative	% Correct	
		'94	'93
100	100	100	100
Owen (R)	Greeley	100	71
Pankey (R)	Littleton	100	82
Adkins (R)	Parker	88	63
Coffman (R)	Aurora	88	67
Duke (R)	Monument	88	90
Epps (R)	Colo. Springs	88	93
Grampas (R)	Evergreen	88	65
Jerke (R)	LaSalle	88	77
Pfiffner (R)	Lakewood	88	80
Ratterree (R)	Colo. Springs	88	77
Agler (R)	Littleton	75	52
Clerk (R)	Boulder	75	72
Fatz (R)	Denver	75	75
Foster (R)	Grand Junction	75	50
Kreutz (R)	Littleton	75	50
May (R)	Colo. Springs	75	61
Tucker (R)	Lakewood	75	53
Allen (R)	Aurora	63	61
Anderson (R)	Lakewood	63	57
Armstrong (D)	Aurora	63	19
Berry (R)	Colo. Springs	63	61
Dyer (D)	Durango	63	20
Kaufman (R)	Loveland	63	50
Lawrence (R)	Arvada	63	50
Morrison (R)	Manitou Springs	63	44
Prinster (D)	Grand Junction	63	37
Snyder (D)	Northglenn	63	35
Sullivan (R)	Greeley	63	58
Acquafresca (R)	Cedaredge	57	44
Blue (D)	Longmont	50	24
Chlouber (R)	Leadville	50	44
Eisenach (D)	Fort Morgan	50	22
Entz (R)	Hooper	50	37
Fierning (R)	Thornton	50	35
George (R)	Rifle	50	30
Kerns (D)	Aurora	50	33
Martin (R)	Colo. Springs	50	91
Moellenberg (R)	Kirk	50	63
Nichol (D)	Denver	50	33
Schauer (R)	Littleton	50	47
Taylor (R)	Steamboat Spgs.	50	58
Selaz (R)	Trinidad	43	62
Friednash (D)	Denver	38	25
Greenwood (D)	Colo. Springs	38	29
Hagedorn (D)	Aurora	38	32
Reeser (D)	Thornton	38	35
Shoemaker (D)	Canon City	38	33
Williams (D)	Breckenridge	38	21
June (D)	Westminster	33	24
Dagette (D)	Denver	25	33
Gordon (D)	Denver	25	26
Keller (D)	Wheatridge	25	32
Pierson (D)	Arvada	25	11
Reeves (D)	Fort Collins	25	33
Romero (D)	Pueblo	25	29
Strom (D)	Fort Collins	25	32
Linkhart (D)	Denver	17	
Lyle (D)	Denver	14	24
Wright (D)	Boulder	14	33
Banavidez (D)	Denver	13	25
Clarke (D)	Denver	13	
Hernandez (D)	Denver	13	29
Knox (D)	Denver	13	16
Mattingly (D)	Pueblo	13	20
Rupert (D)	Boulder	0	21
Averages		52	45

KEY 1 = Right Vote

0 = Wrong Vote

Blank space - didn't vote

- Homeless Housing
SB 64 No
- Fed. Mandates
SB 157 Yes
- Taking Property

- Death Penalty
SB 204 Yes
- Tourist Authority
SB 208 No
- School Financing
HB 1001 No

- Capital Gains Tax Credit
HB 1053 Yes
- Cultural Arts Tax
HB 1222 No
- 10th Amendment
HIR 1035 Yes

1994 Senators Rating

Votes		Bills									Total	% Correct	
Senator	CUT's Vote	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	8	'94	'93	
Ament	(R) Iliff	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	5	63	50	
Bird	(R) Colo. Springs	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	5	63	72	
Bishop	(R) Grand Junction	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	5	63	39	
Blickensderfer	(R) Englewood	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	7	88	65	
Casey	(D) Northglenn	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	29	30	
Cassidy	(D) Pagosa Springs	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	4	57	40	
Feeley	(D) Lakewood	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	5	63	19	
Gallagher	(D) Denver	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	3	38	26	
Hopper	(R) Golden	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	5	71	44	
Johnson	(D) Denver	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	6	75	30	
Lacy	(R) Aurora	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	5	63	44	
Mares	(D) Denver	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	2	25	25	
Martinez	(D) Commerce City	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	2	33	26	
Meiklejohn	(R) Arvada	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	2	40	39	
Mendez	(D) Boulder	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	2	25	10	
Mutzebaugh	(R) Highlands Ranch	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	7	88	70	
Norton	(R) Greeley	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	5	63	45	
Owens	(R) Aurora	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	5	63	60	
Pastore	(D) Monte Vista	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	3	43	26	
Peterson	(D) Denver	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	25	15	
Powers L.	(D) Crested Butte	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	2	25	30	
Powers R.	(R) Colo. Springs	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	6	86	87	
Rizzuto	(D) La Junta	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	5	63	50	
Roberts	(R) Loveland	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	7	88	80	
Ruddick	(D) Aurora	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	5	63	33	
Schaffer	(R) Ft. Collins	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	8	100	80	
Schroeder	(R) Morrison	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	5	63	55	
Tanner	(D) Denver	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Tebedo	(R) Colo. Springs	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	5	63	74	
Thiebaut	(D) Pueblo	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	
Traylor	(R) Wheat Ridge	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	5	63	33	
Wattenberg	(R) Walden	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	5	63	45	
Weissmann	(D) Louisville	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	13	50	
Wells	(R) Colo. Springs	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	5	63	68	
Wham	(R) Denver	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	6	75	25	
Totals/Averages		27	20	29	10	5	28	3	25	147	54	44	

Ranking		% Correct	
Senator		'94	'93
Schaffer	(R) Ft. Collins	100	80
Blickensderfer	(R) Englewood	88	65
Mutzebaugh	(R) Highlands Ranch	88	70
Roberts	(R) Loveland	88	80
Powers R.	(R) Colo. Springs	86	87
Johnson	(D) Denver	75	30
Wham	(R) Denver	75	25
Hopper	(R) Golden	71	44
Ament	(R) Iliff	63	50
Bird	(R) Colo. Springs	63	72
Bishop	(R) Grand Junction	63	39
Feeley	(D) Lakewood	63	19
Lacy	(R) Aurora	63	44
Norton	(R) Greeley	63	45
Owens	(R) Aurora	63	60
Rizzuto	(D) La Junta	63	50
Ruddick	(D) Aurora	63	33
Schroeder	(R) Morrison	63	55
Tebedo	(R) Colo. Springs	63	74
Traylor	(R) Wheat Ridge	63	33
Wattenberg	(R) Walden	63	45
Wells	(R) Colo. Springs	63	68
Cassidy	(D) Pagosa Springs	57	40
Pastore	(D) Monte Vista	43	26
Meiklejohn	(R) Arvada	40	39
Gallagher	(D) Denver	38	26
Martinez	(D) Commerce City	33	26
Casey	(D) Northglenn	29	30
Mares	(D) Denver	25	25
Mendez	(D) Boulder	25	10
Peterson	(D) Denver	25	15
Powers L.	(D) Crested Butte	25	30
Weissmann	(D) Louisville	13	50
Tanner	(D) Denver	0	0
Thiebaut	(D) Pueblo	0	6
Averages		54	44

All About CUT

CUT has been the taxpayer's voice since 1976, calling for lower Taxes through Less Government Spending. CUT "Rates the Legislature" annually on each legislator's fiscal responsibility. CUT advocates legislation on tax and spending policies to make Colorado more tax friendly, with a healthy economy and a higher standard of living. CUT was a strong supporter in passage of Amendment #1 and is presently defending it against violations.

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CUT Membership Application

**Yes! I want to join CUT. Overspending has become a bureaucratic pastime.
 Coloradans need a counterbalancing force to the tax and spending lobbies.**

I want to join! Enclosed is my \$25 check for annual membership dues.

I want to donate! Enclosed is my check for a gift contribution of:

\$1000 \$500 \$250 \$100 \$50 Other \$ _____

I want to do more! Contact me to discuss ways in which I can help.

Name (print) _____ Phone (h/w) _____

Street Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Make checks payable to CUT, P.O. Box 9300, Boulder, CO 80301

Key Bill Summaries

1. SB 64 - Housing for the Homeless Tax Credit

The legislature again manipulates the tax code, hoping to provide "temporary" housing, child care, job placement, and counseling services for the homeless. If you want more of something, just subsidize it. This vote is unusual, in that the House had a very divided vote, and the Senate just threw in the towel for more welfare.

Senate 35-0 House 37-25 Sponsors (Sen. Pastore/Rep. Entz)
CUT Votes: NO

2. SB 157 - Federal Mandates Review

Makes a critical review of federal mandates that would be funded with tax or fee revenues. Reviews any requests for new mandates, and looks for ways for the state to do it at less cost or more efficiently. This review of federal mandates provides the information needed to accept or reject them under the authority of HB 1035.

Senate 27-7 House 47-18 Sponsors (Sen. Norton/Rep. Berry)
CUT Votes: YES

3. SB 194 - Taking of Private Property by Government

This bill would have affirmed our 5th Amendment rights against government taking our property without just compensation. Strong lobbying by government and environmental groups led to it's defeat.

Senate 20-14 House didn't pass Sponsor (Sen. Rizzuto/Rep. Schauer)
CUT Votes: YES

4. SB 204 - Death Penalty

Speeds up the processing of death penalty cases. Sen. Bill Owens' amendment forbids tax dollars from being used to defend convicted murderers beyond the state courts. This will save taxpayer dollars, and the endless appeals to the federal courts.

Senate 29-5 House 61-4 Sponsors (Sen. Mutzbaugh/Rep. Adkins)
CUT Votes: YES

5. SB 208 - Tourism Authority

Ignores voter rejection of the 1993 Tourism Tax, and replaces it with an authority to levy fees on businesses in food, transportation, accommodations, and even movies. This will add to the cost of many things we buy regularly in the same way the sales tax would have. This governmental disregard of citizen's wishes may prove unconstitutional, and will certainly cost us more money.

Senate 23-10 House 45-19 Sponsors (Sen. Bishop/Rep. Chlouber)
CUT Votes: NO

6. HB 1001 - Public School Financing

Education K-12 is the largest expenditure in the state budget. 1994 increases the education budget of 1.26 billion by 139 million in new funding, an increase of 11%, over twice the growth in inflation and new student population. The bill allows school districts to receive funding above the Amendment #1 spending limits, and appears to be in violation of the constitution. The first 22 pages are composed of unbelievably complicated and convoluted formulations. This bill is a budget administrator's nightmare and quite beyond any citizen's capacity to understand. There appears to be no effort to deliver accountability in education, and no action is taken to reconcile the effects of Amendment #1 and the Gallager Amendment on local funding for schools.

Senate 29-5 House 54-9 Sponsors (Sen. Wells/Rep. Anderson)
CUT Votes: NO

7. HB 1053 - Capital Gains Tax Credit for Colorado Properties

This bill has a lot of caveats and paperwork for the taxpayer, and therefore will be limited in value to the average person. Nevertheless making Colorado a "Tax Friendly" state will help our economy and is a good idea. This is a small step in the right direction.

Senate 28-7 House 45-18 Sponsors (Sen. Cassidy/Rep. Dyer)
CUT Votes: YES

8. HB 1222 - The Cultural Arts Tax

Refers extension of the Cultural Arts Tax to a vote of the people in the six county district around Denver. It is interesting to note that ticket prices for all of the functions subsidized by the tax have risen faster than the rate of inflation since the tax was imposed. An increasing number of so called "cultural" activities are being included under the cultural arts tax umbrella, to get a share of the windfall tax collections. Each person has an individual taste in entertainment. Do we want a non-accountable bureaucracy imposing their cultural taste on all of us?

Senate 30-3 House 57-7 Sponsors (Sen. Schroeder/Rep. Foster)
CUT Votes: NO

9. HJR 1035 - The 10th Amendment

Colorado calls for protection under the 10th Amendment of the Constitution, which limits the powers of the federal government. No longer can Washington mandate Colorado state spending without our permission. Colorado is on the leading edge of this issue. Representative Charles Duke is leading a national movement to get similar legislation in other states. Our Attorney General has stated an interest in defending our state rights if challenged by the federal government. Congratulations to Duke and Roberts.

Senate 25-7 House 51-13 Sponsors (Sen. Roberts/Rep. Duke)
CUT Votes: YES

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Colorado Union of Taxpayers

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