Resolution No. R-016-079

THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF DOUGLAS, COLORADO

RESOLUTION OPPOSING AMENDMENT 69.

- WHEREAS, Amendment 69, on the Colorado ballot in 2016, would replace the current market-based health insurance system with a government-run single payer system that will cost at least \$38 billion per year; and
- **WHEREAS**, Amendment 69 poses severe risks to the accessibility and affordability of health care in Colorado; and
- **WHEREAS**, Amendment 69 would make Colorado the only state in the nation with a single-payer health insurance model; and
- **WHEREAS**, Amendment 69 would be embedded in the State Constitution, making it extremely hard to amend or repeal; and
- WHEREAS, Amendment 69 would levy a new 10 percent tax on payroll and non-payroll income, giving Colorado the highest state income taxes in the nation and making our state far less competitive for jobs and economic growth; and
- WHEREAS, Amendment 69 will hit small business owners hardest, since these Coloradans would pay the full 10 percent in new employment taxes plus an additional 10 percent tax on all non-payroll income; and
- WHEREAS, Douglas County has estimated that the Amendment 69 tax burden will have an annual impact of \$6.6 million, to the County's budget; and
- WHEREAS, Amendment 69 outlines eleven broad categories of health care coverage, but provides no specifics on benefit levels or cost sharing; and
- **WHEREAS**, Amendment 69 is an excessively costly experiment that would double the size of state government, and threatens our economic vitality; and
- WHEREAS, Amendment 69 raises serious governance concerns as it will be a new political subdivision of the state, similar to a County and operated by a 21-member board with no accountability to the governor or legislature and with unilateral power to decide benefits, negotiate prices and reimbursement rates, and raise taxes when the initial \$38 billion in annual revenue proves insufficient.
- **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Board of County Commissioners of Douglas County, Colorado strongly opposes Amendment 69 as it is contrary to the best interests of the citizens and taxpayers of Douglas County.
- **PASSED AND ADOPTED** this 23rd day of August, 2016, in Castle Rock, Douglas County, Colorado.

THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF DOUGLAS, COLORADO

BY:

DAVID A. WEAVER, Chair

ATTEST:

MEGHAN MCCANN, Deputy (