

Colorado Amendment 69

► The Facts

- **It is costly.** The \$25 billion tax increase would essentially double the size of the current state budget. Employers would have a new 6.67 percent payroll tax, and all workers would pay another 3.33 percent payroll tax
- **It hits business owners and sole proprietors disproportionately.** These Coloradans would pay both sides of the tax – the 10 percent in new employment taxes and an additional 10 percent tax on all non-payroll income.
- **It is unaccountable.** While supported by Coloradans' tax dollars, Amendment 69 is specifically designed to operate outside state government and TABOR limitations, run by a 21-member board elected by plan "members." This board would bear the sole ability to decide coverage, negotiate prices and reimbursement rates, and raise taxes when the initial \$25 billion in annual revenue proves insufficient. The board would have no accountability to the governor or legislature.
- **It would limit health care choice, access, and quality.** A government-run system like this makes Colorado less attractive to providers, who may exit the state, leaving a shortfall of quality healthcare providers.
- **Workers and their families face uncertainty about coverage.** Today, workers know what their plan covers – and what it doesn't. There are no specifics about what the Amendment 69 plan would cover, and those decisions are left to the 21-member board.
- **It will cost Colorado jobs.** By giving Colorado the highest state taxes in America many companies may choose not to do business in Colorado. Large, self-insured companies with national presence would have to navigate multiple health care systems and make exceptions for Colorado, making the state a less attractive place to do business.
- **It would be embedded in the state Constitution, making it extremely hard to amend or repeal.**
- **It would unfairly tax the elderly and military personnel** who would be subject to the ColoradoCare tax, but would not be covered under the plan because they would continue to be covered by Medicare or their military or VA benefits.