AGENDA ITEM or FINAL CONTRACT REVIEW SUBMITTAL FORM

Agenda Item: Resolution; Supporting "Raise the Bar, Protect Our

Action Requested: Board of County Commissioners' Signature

Parties to the Agreement:

Term Begins: **Term Ends:** **Grant Contract #:**

Summary:

The attached resolution language was provided by Colorado State Senator Greg Brophy. Citizens can visit http://raisethebarco.com/ to sign the online petition.

Fiscal Impact: None

Submitted by: Katherine Haase **Submitter's Email Address:** khaase@gunnisoncounty.org

Finance Review: ○ Required ◉ Not Required

Comments:

Reviewed by: Discharge Date:

County Attorney Review: ◉ Required ○ Not Required

Comments:
ok - gs

Reveiwed by: GUNCOUNTY1\gstuhr Discharge Date: 6/28/2016 Certificate of Insurance Required

Yes ○ No ◉

County Manager Review:

Comments:

Reveiwed by: GUNCOUNTY1\mbirnie Discharge Date: 6/29/2016

○ Consent Agenda ◉ Regular Agenda ○ Worksession Time Allotted: 5 minutes

Agenda Date: 7/5/2016

Revised April 2015

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF GUNNISON COUNTY
RESOLUTION NO. 2016-_____

A Resolution Supporting "Raise the Bar, Protect Our Constitution"

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

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

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

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;

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;

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;

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

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

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;

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.

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

INTRODUCED by Commissioner _____, seconded by Commissioner _____and adopted this 5th day of July, 2016.

GUNNISON COUNTY BOARD OF
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

_____
Paula Swenson, Chair

_____
Phil Chamberland, Commissioner

_____
Jonathan Houck, Commissioner

Attest:

_____
Katherine Haase, Deputy County Clerk