



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF GUNNISON COUNTY
RESOLUTION NO. 2016- 28

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 Chamberland, seconded by
Commissioner Houck 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