

TOWN OF BERTHOUD
RESOLUTION NO. 2020-14

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE REPEAL OF THE GALLAGHER AMENDMENT, A QUESTION APPEARING ON THE NOVEMBER 3, 2020 BALLOT AS "AMENDMENT B" IN THE STATE OF COLORADO.

WHEREAS, the Gallagher Amendment was added to the Colorado State Constitution in 1982 and mandates that the assessed value of residential property equal 45% of statewide taxable property and nonresidential equal 55%; and

WHEREAS, Gallagher also mandates that the assessed value of non-residential property be fixed at 29% while the assessed value of residential property is adjusted every two years to stay at the 45% maximum; and

WHEREAS, the effect of these arbitrary mandates has been for the assessed value rate for residential property to fall from 21% in 1982 to 7.15% in 2019 statewide due to the increased residential property values in some areas of Colorado; and

WHEREAS, Gallagher adjusts the assessment rate statewide even though many rural areas of Colorado have not had the large increases in residential property tax value and lack a large commercial tax base resulting in large declines in property tax funding; and

WHEREAS, this continuing decline in residential property tax assessment rates has resulted in a significant decline in property tax revenue statewide for critical municipal services and also a significant decline in revenue for special district operations, such as the Berthoud Fire Protection District, Berthoud Community Library District, and also the Thompson R-2J School District; and

WHEREAS, the effect of the 45% residential and 55% nonresidential revenue mandates has been large property tax increases on small businesses and other nonresidential property; and

WHEREAS; the large tax increases on businesses limits job growth and has caused some businesses to close as their costs increase much more rapidly than their business; and

WHEREAS, many businesses small and large are struggling with the damaging effects of the COVID 19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, repealing the Gallagher amendment will not result in a tax increase and will just stabilize the residential assessment rate at its current level of 7.15% and non-residential at 29%; and

WHEREAS, the referred ballot question to repeal Gallagher had the bi-partisan support of 70% of the Colorado Legislature and the Colorado Municipal League Executive Board voted to support Amendment B;

Therefore, be it resolved that the Berthoud Town Board of Trustees urges voters to support the repeal of the Gallagher Amendment to the Colorado Constitution and vote yes on Amendment B.

PASSED, ADOPTED AND APPROVED THIS 13th day of October 2020

TOWN OF BERTHOUD

BY:

William Karspeck
William Karspeck, Mayor

ATTEST:

Christian Samora
Christian Samora, Town Clerk

