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NEWS RELEASE

For immediate release

More Than 100 Local Governments Formally Oppose Amendment 74

October 22, 2018, Denver, CO – The Colorado Municipal League (CML) and Colorado Counties, Inc. (CCI) announced today that more than 100 Colorado local governments have adopted resolutions opposing Amendment 74 – joining in opposition with realtors, homebuilders, chambers of commerce, teachers, firefighters, police officers, and dozens of other organizations. The ballot measure, which would redefine “takings” law and property rights, is on the ballot for this November. Both CML and CCI have taken a position to oppose the measure, and their members have moved forward with formal opposition in record numbers.

“Amendment 74 jeopardizes what we have been working on as a city. We spend hours each week trying to plan for the long-term success of Alamosa,” said Mayor Ty Coleman “That includes listening to our citizens, working with local businesses and partnering with other communities. All of that work would likely be halted if Amendment 74 passes. Annexations, redevelopment projects, zoning requests, and even residential additions may grind to a halt to avoid perceived impacts to other properties. That’s not the kind of town I want to live in, and I don’t think my friends and neighbors do either”.

“Our members don’t always agree on ballot measures, but with Amendment 74 the risks to counties could not be clearer, and we have seen overwhelming concern from our commissioners and counties” said Fremont County Commissioner Debbie Bell. “From the plains to the four corners, across the Continental Divide and from big to small, our members are worried that Amendment 74 could do serious harm to their communities.”

Municipalities and counties across the state have formally opposed the measure citing reasons ranging from financial to legal hurdles. Opposition comes from every part of the political, geographic, and philosophical spectrum.

“We’re worried about the practical effects of Amendment 74 on Centennial,” said Mayor Stephanie Piko. “The measure does not have any exemptions for health, safety or welfare. What will this mean for our city and our state? For Centennial, it would be impossible to effectively manage future development in a manner that is best for our residents and business owners, due to the legal exposure that the our city would be subjected to”.

In addition to the more than 100 local governments that have already taken formal action, several more are expected to oppose the measure in coming days. Next week, Pueblo County will formally consider a resolution to oppose the amendment.

“It would completely undermine our delicately balanced budget, plain and simple; I just don’t know how Pueblo County would pay for the lawsuits and the lawyers we’d need to hire to make heads or tails of it,

or to defend the county,” said Commissioner Terry Hart. “We are currently setting our budget for the next year and already have had to make deep cuts in the proposed budget to meet the services demanded by our citizens – including law enforcement, repairing our roads, holding together our jail, and providing services to citizens that are most at risk.”

Local governments are urging voters to reject Amendment 74 citing the risks and unintended consequences. For a full list of organizations and local governments formally opposing Amendment 74, go to <https://no74.co/opposition>.

CML is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization established in 1923 and represents the interests of 270 cities and towns. For more information on the Colorado Municipal League, please visit www.cml.org or call 303-831-6411.

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