

February 12, 2008

The Honorable Bill Ritter  
Office of the Governor  
Colorado State Capitol  
200 East Colfax  
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Governor Ritter:

Colorado Concern applauds your leadership on developing and promoting a comprehensive economic development package that will move Colorado forward and ensure our state remains a viable business leader. We offer our support of your agenda and are committed to working with the General Assembly to pass the following legislation.

**HB1001**, sponsored by Rep. Jim Riesberg (D-Greeley) and Sen. Bob Bacon (D-Ft. Collins), creates a \$3.5 million dollar bioscience fund that will provide grants for offices of technology and early stage bioscience companies. ***Colorado Concern supports this bill and has signed on as a member of the coalition actively lobbying in support of this bill.***

**HB1183**, sponsored by Rep. Mary Hodge (D-Adams) and Sen. Jennifer Veiga (D-Denver), increases the timeframe for which new jobs can be created and still qualify for incentive grants. It also increases the number of jobs to be created to qualify for the incentives and streamlines the Economic Development Commission's ability to grant incentives. ***Colorado Concern recognizes the importance of providing additional time for applicants of incentive grants who are promoting job creation, and appreciates the Governor and bill sponsor's leadership on this issue.***

**HB1225**, sponsored by Rep. Joe Rice (D-Arapahoe), Rep. Bernie Buescher (D-Grand Junction) and Sen. Suzanne Williams (D-Aurora), gradually increase the Business Personal Property Tax exemption from \$2,500 to \$7,500 over a four year period. Estimates report that this bill will exempt an additional 30,000 small businesses from having to file and pay this tax. ***Colorado Concern strongly supports legislation that reduces taxes and specifically supports raising the exemption threshold of BPPT in Colorado.***

**HB1261**, sponsored by Rep. Bernie Buescher (D-Grand Junction) and Sen. Bob Bacon (D-Ft. Collins), encourages the expansion and relocation of aviation manufacturers in Colorado. The current tax structure serves as a disincentive for this various industries to conduct business in our state. ***Colorado Concern acknowledges the challenges facing businesses in Colorado, and applauds the Governor and bill sponsors for providing economic developers and existing businesses with a tool to incentivize business retention and growth.***

**Single Sales Factor**, expected to be sponsored by Rep. Cheri Jahn (D-Jefferson) and Sen. Brandon Shaffer (D-Boulder), changes the existing multi-factor apportionment process to determine a corporation's state income tax liability to a single sales factor. This bill will primarily benefit Colorado-based companies, which drives business retention as well as enhances solicitation of new businesses which may head quarter in our state. ***Colorado Concern supports legislation that provides incentives for businesses to stay in Colorado and attracts new businesses that will in turn promote job growth and a healthy economy.***

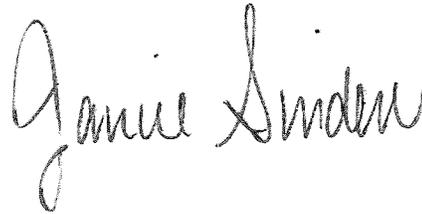
If there is anything Colorado Concern can do to support you and the bill sponsors of your economic development agenda, we welcome the opportunity to be of assistance.

We appreciate your leadership on this issue and many others.

Sincerely,



Walter Isenberg  
Chairman



Janice Sinden  
Executive Director

CC: Don Elliman, Executive Director, Office of Economic Development & International Trade  
Jim Carpenter, Chief of Staff, Office of the Governor  
Mary Kay Hogan, Legislative Director, Office of the Governor  
Senator Bob Bacon  
Senator Brandon Shaffer  
Senator Jennifer Veiga  
Senator Suzanne Williams  
Representative Bernie Buescher  
Representative Mary Hodge  
Representative Cheri Jahn  
Representative Joe Rice  
Representative Jim Riesberg