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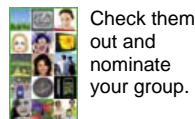
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**Property taxes in Elbert County**

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Message #467 of 1797 < [Prev](#) | [Next](#) >

Here's why Elbert County Republicans say "NO" to new taxes.

Mon Apr 5, 2004 11:49 pm

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According to a Colorado Department of Local Affairs 2002 Budget Comparison Report of 52 of Colorado's medium to small counties  
<<http://www.dola.state.co.us/LGS/TA/OtherPublications/2002-Colorado-County-Budget-Comparison-Report.pdf>>  
Elbert County ranked;

- 9th in Personal Income.
- 47th in Retail Sales.
- 1st in the percentage of assessed valuation from residential property.
- 11th in total mill levies.
- 1st in Road & Bridge mill levies.

**"Brooks Imperial"**  
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And under the Gallagher Amendment <<http://www.coloradobudget.com/gallagher.cfm>> residential property can only account for 45% of total property taxes. Businesses must pay the rest.

We are near the top of the heap in total mill levies, we sit a top the pile in Road & Bridge mill levies, we are almost at the bottom in commercial activity, yet our businesses - which are relatively few and far between - are mandated to carry the majority of the tax burden under Gallagher. We are taxed quite enough - in fact significantly more than most. And the tax climate for businesses is downright hostile.

What we need is a substantial commercial property tax moratorium in order to bring some commercial activity into this county, provide some jobs and build an economic base. A sales tax on commerce is exactly the opposite of what our local economy needs. The patient is on his death bed and the challenger candidates - Duke, Pennewell and Donato - would administer a Kevorkian dose of new taxes to finish him off.

All three of them would address this situation by pushing us further to the top of the tax burden heap. They just couldn't be more wrong on this point. That is Democratic tax & spend policy for you. Real Republicans know that governments cannot spend without first taking from the private sector. Elbert County has taken enough.




We have the income in the county to support ample commercial activity to the benefit of all citizens. But by killing off the potential for local commerce we only drive up our own costs of living and get nothing in return.

Take this message to your precinct caucuses next week. Teach the people the economic truth. Don't let the RINO Democrats in the party take the Republicans off of this important message.

Yours,  
Brooks Imperial  
Citizens For Voter Choice

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Message #467 of 1797 < Prev | Next >

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<p><b>Property taxes in Elbert County</b> Here's why Elbert County Republicans say "NO" to new taxes. According to a Colorado Department of Local Affairs 2002 Budget Comparison Report of 52 of...</p>	<p>Brooks Imperial <a href="#">coventurer</a>  </p>	<p>Apr 5, 2004 11:49 pm</p>
<p><b>Re: Property taxes in Elbert County</b> Good work Brooks! That is exactly the situation on taxes. Thanks for looking up the data! Carol Beam...</p>	<p>candtbeam@aol.com </p>	<p>Apr 6, 2004 9:22 pm</p>

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