

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

COUNTY POWERS

County government should have power and resources commensurate with the responsibilities placed upon it. Where a service or function is a matter of local concern, local legislative authority is both appropriate and desirable. Counties assume a municipal role for many citizens in unincorporated areas by offering law enforcement, transportation, parks and recreation, waste management, sewer and other services. CCI supports passage of legislation enhancing these county powers, including enhancement of the functional home rule option, and encourages ongoing study to determine the need for state legislation that better provides tools and resources for counties to deliver services at the local level. CCI strongly supports prior county approval of programs that must be funded with county property taxes but are not controlled or generated at the county level.

STATE AGENCY ACCOUNTABILITY

CCI believes that state agencies deriving revenue from locally assessed fines, fees, permit processes and document review must clearly justify and quantify the local benefit of the tasks funded by these revenues.

JUDICIAL REVIEW

CCI supports continued access to the courts by counties to secure judicial review of governmental agency actions.

SPECIAL DISTRICT REVIEW

CCI supports continuing county control over the formation, modification, and continuation of special districts.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

CCI urges and supports a strong partnership among counties, the state, municipalities and private business and industry in the design and implementation of economic development incentives and programs.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE AND PERSONNEL CONTROL

CCI supports counties' right to full indemnification from the state for liability resulting from the actions of employees in the course of state mandated duties.

WORKERS' COMPENSATION

CCI supports workers' compensation reforms that will assist in better risk management and health care cost containment, as well as proposals that will lower other associated costs. CCI opposes mandates that raise workers' compensation costs.

GOVERNMENTAL IMMUNITY

CCI supports maintaining the protection afforded by the governmental immunity statutes.

LAW ENFORCEMENT AND CRIME

CCI supports a continuum of approaches to prevent youth and gang violence, ranging from increased efforts to punish criminal activities to designing effective prevention and early intervention programs for youth and families at risk. Where possible, programs should remain flexible to permit development of locally appropriate solutions. CCI supports continuing counties' ability to enforce the law.

PRIVATE PROPERTY RIGHTS

CCI strongly supports preservation of private property rights, including water rights, and government responsibility to provide just compensation for the taking of private property as defined by the Colorado Constitution and the United States Constitution. CCI recognizes the necessary balance between private property and the public interest.

ELECTIONS

CCI supports equitable sharing of the costs of elections by all governmental entities with a stake in elections. CCI supports giving county governing bodies the local authority and flexibility to make local decisions on the conduct of elections in consultation with county election officials.

ELECTED OFFICIAL COMPENSATION

CCI believes the compensation of all county elected officials should be changed simultaneously to avoid tension between elected officials that results from salary increases being awarded to some but not others.

SALARY REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

CCI strongly supports equal treatment in the statutes regarding the responsibility of municipalities, special districts and counties to report personnel salary information. CCI also supports giving counties flexibility in methods of reporting county personnel salary and financial information.

PRIVATIZATION

CCI believes privatization can be an effective management tool in the delivery of goods and services from local governments to their residents. Given the unique geographic characteristics, economic needs and other special circumstances of the various areas of Colorado, CCI believes privatization determinations should be made at the level closest to the taxpayers, not at the state level.