

Geoffrey T. Wilson

TO: Mayors of Colorado Municipalities

FROM: Geoffrey Wilson, Special Counsel/Coalition Coordinator

DATE: October 6, 2017

RE: Reauthorization of the State Lottery Division by the Colorado General Assembly during its 2018 Session

Dear Mayor:

I am the coordinator of a statewide coalition of local governments and the private sector supporting reauthorization of the State Lottery Division by the Colorado General Assembly during its 2018 session. The Lottery Division is a critical operational link in what is commonly referred to as Colorado's "GOCO" program. "GOCO" refers to the Great Outdoors Colorado constitutional amendment (Colo. Const. Art. XXVII), which Colorado voters adopted in 1992. The GOCO Amendment has resulted in distribution of tens of millions dollars for parks and outdoor recreation to municipalities across Colorado.

On behalf of the coalition, I am writing to urge your municipality to adopt the attached resolution - modified as you wish - endorsing reauthorization of the Lottery Division in 2018. Some "fast facts" and talking points regarding the lottery and GOCO are included. If you'd like to know how much *your* municipality has received in Conservation Trust Fund and GOCO Fund dollars, in order to customize your resolution, just drop us a note at gwilson@mdkrlaw.com, or Amanda Hill at ahill@goco.org.

Our good friends over at CML will be a critical part of our coalition. We are pleased to report that on September 17th, the CML Executive Board warmly received a report from GOCO and referred a resolution of support to the CML Policy Committee, where it will be discussed on October 13th. Adoption of these resolutions will help all of us send a strong signal to our State legislators that the cities and towns in their districts support this critical legislation.

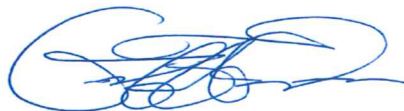
Please join us. Help us help you! Please: (1) adopt your version of the attached resolution, (2) designate a contact person for this issue with your municipality, and then (3) send a copy of your resolution, along with the name/phone/email of you contact person to: ahill@goco.org. Your contact person will be who we call when we need outreach to your legislator and the person that receives periodic updates about what we're doing on this issue.

Questions about the resolution? Something we're missing, or need to know? Contact me, Geoff Wilson at 303-330-8905, or gwilson@mdkrlaw.org, or Amanda Hill, at 303-226-4521 or ahill@goco.org.

Thank you for your attention to this important issue.

Sincerely,

MURRAY DAHL KUECHENMEISTER & RENAUD LLP



Geoffrey Wilson, Special Counsel
Coalition Coordinator

FAST FACTS AND TALKING POINTS



2018 REAUTHORIZATION OF THE LOTTERY BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

HISTORY

After Colorado voters approved a state lottery in 1980, the General Assembly created a Lottery Division in the State Department of Revenue to administer the program. In 1992, voters adopted the Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) amendment to the state constitution, earmarking up to 50% of annual Lottery proceeds to the trust.

A CRITICAL LINK.

The Colorado Lottery Division is critical to the administration of the entire GOCO program, as well as the Conservation Trust Fund and Colorado Parks and Wildlife. The Lottery Division is set to expire unless extended by the General Assembly, which during its 2018 session will consider legislation to extend the Division to 2039.

KEEPING COLORADO A SPECIAL PLACE.

Since 1983, Lottery has returned more than \$3 billion in proceeds to the people of Colorado for projects in all 64 counties. Lottery-funded projects have helped connect families to the outdoors; created and enhanced local trails and parks; built outdoor recreation facilities; preserved ranchlands, water resources, and view corridors; improved river access and quality; and conserved wildlife habitat.

GOOD FOR JOBS. GOOD FOR BUSINESS. GOOD FOR TOURISM.

Investing Lottery proceeds in Colorado's outdoor recreation and land conservation is good for business and protects the resources that make Colorado great. A recent Colorado State University study found that each dollar invested for land conservation through easements in Colorado results in \$4-\$12 in benefits for Coloradans. Colorado's outdoor industry created 229,000 direct jobs, generated \$28 billion in consumer spending, and contributed in \$9.7 billion in wages and salaries. Coloradans continue to support investing in Colorado's natural areas. In recent polling, 65% of respondents supported continuing to fund GOCO using lottery dollars.

LOTTERY PROCEEDS INVEST IN STATE PARKS THAT MAKE US PROUD.

Lottery proceeds invest in parkland acquisition, park development and operations, trail construction and maintenance, projects for non-game species, environmental education, youth intern and volunteer programs, and stewardship and natural resource management.

PARKS, PLAYGROUNDS, AND GETTING KIDS OUTDOORS.

GOCO places a high priority on kids and families. Funds have built ballfields next to local schools, purchased new playground equipment for town parks, and helped repair local swimming pools. GOCO's Inspire Initiative has impacted more than 40,000 kids across the state and created more than 500 jobs by funding 24 local coalitions to create youth-driven, collaborative approaches to help connect families with the outdoors and create pathways to stewardship and leadership roles. GOCO's School Yard Initiative has impacted more than 17,000 students with student-driven design and engagement to update aging and often unsafe playgrounds. To date, more than 9,200 young people have found jobs and pathways to financial independence through Colorado Youth Corps Association projects funded by GOCO, where they also earn AmeriCorps scholarships that can be used for higher education.

TO OUR SUPPORTERS: Have a great story about GOCO or the CTF? Want to adopt a resolution supporting our efforts? Let us know! Contact Geoff Wilson, gwilson@mdkrlaw.com, or Amanda Hill, ahill@goco.org.
Thank you for your support!



For an electronic editable version of this resolution, contact Amanda Hill ahill@goco.org 303-226-4521
Please return a copy of the signed resolution to Amanda when adopted by your organization

DRAFT
RESOLUTION

Supporting Reauthorization by the General Assembly of the Colorado Lottery Division in 2018

WHEREAS, Colorado voters provided for a statewide lottery, and in a subsequent election adopted the Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) amendment to the state constitution, which directs that lottery profits be used for parks, open space, wildlife, and outdoor recreation purposes, and

WHEREAS, following the voters' approval of a lottery, the General Assembly created a Lottery Division in the State Department of Revenue to administer the lottery, and

WHEREAS, as provided in the GOCO amendment, lottery profits are allocated to the Great Outdoors Colorado Trust Fund (GOCO Trust Fund), the Conservation Trust Fund, and to the Colorado Division of Parks and Wildlife, and

WHEREAS, since 1992, the GOCO Trust Fund has distributed approximately \$1 billion in grants for projects to improve communities in all of Colorado's 64 counties. Funds have helped connect families to the outdoors, improved local trails and parks, built outdoor recreation facilities, preserved ranchlands, water resources, and view corridors, improved river access and quality and conserved wildlife habitat, and

WHEREAS, the GOCO Trust Fund has distributed over \$ _____ directly to (YOUR ORGANIZATION) for these purposes, and

WHEREAS, since 1983 the Conservation Trust Fund has distributed approximately \$1 billion in grants to counties, municipalities, and special districts for acquisition, development, and maintenance of new conservation sites, capital improvements, and maintenance for recreational purposes on public sites, and

WHEREAS, the Conservation Trust Fund has distributed over \$ _____ directly to (YOUR ORGANIZATION) for these purposes, and

WHEREAS, since 1992 the GOCO Trust Fund has distributed approximately \$215 million of lottery proceeds in support of Colorado's 42 state parks, funding parkland acquisition, park development and operations, trail construction and maintenance, environmental education, youth and volunteer programs and stewardship and natural resource management, and

WHEREAS, the Colorado Lottery Division is critical to the administration of the entire GOCO program and the Division is set to expire unless extended by the General Assembly, which during its 2018 session will consider legislation to extend the Division to 2039:

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that (YOUR ORGANIZATION) strongly urges the General Assembly to approve legislation during its 2018 session to reauthorize the Colorado lottery division until 2039.