

**RESOLUTION 2010-10-13**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE HARTSEL FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT ADOPTING A POSITION OF ADVOCACY PURSUANT TO §1-45-117(1)(b)(III), C.R.S., IN OPPOSITION TO PROPOSITION 101, AMENDMENT 60, AND AMENDMENT 61**

**WHEREAS**, three measures (Proposition 101, and proposed Amendments 60 and 61) appearing on the November 2010 statewide ballot would significantly damage Colorado's local governments, including special districts such as the Hartsel Fire Protection District from funding their most basic level of services related to public safety, fire prevention and protection, search and rescue, and emergency medical services; and;

**WHEREAS**, cumulatively these measures drastically limit government's ability to construct new building and infrastructure, and;

**WHEREAS**, Proposition 101 reduces the vehicle registration fee (annual license plate fee) to a level which would devastate the State of Colorado's ability to maintain safe roads and bridges for emergency vehicular access, by lowering the fee to the approximate assessment rate used nearly 90 years ago; and

**WHEREAS** Proposition 101 would greatly reduce specific ownership taxes from their current rates to a maximum of \$2.00 per vehicle which would have resulted in a reduction of \$45,000.00 in revenues to this District in 2010; and

**WHEREAS** Proposition 101 would freeze the surcharge on E-911 services at the 2009 level thus hampering the ability to maintain vital emergency dispatch services at the current 2010 level; and

**WHEREAS** Amendment 60 would create the ability of citizens to initiate tax reductions for this District over the objection of the elected Board of Directors, which is a right not presently granted by either the Constitution or existing state statutes and is inconsistent with the representative form of government required by the constitution and state statutes; and

**WHEREAS**, Amendment 60 would overturn and automatically revoke the 2002 election decision made by the majority of the voters of this District which allows the District to retain all of its excess revenues, including revenues from all sources such as state grants, without regard to constitutional and statutory limitations; and

**WHEREAS** Amendment 60 would require the E-911 Authority, to which the District belongs, to pay property taxes thus increasing its expenditures while Proposition 101 simultaneously reduces its revenues; and

**WHEREAS** Amendment 61 would eliminate the ability of the District to utilize lease purchase agreements for the acquisition of vital emergency equipment and apparatus and require such agreements to be submitted for voter approval; and

**WHEREAS**, the ability to finance long-term capital improvements like fire stations, training facilities, a and other public facilities are dramatically impaired by the restrictions on debt financing as proposed by Amendment 61; and

**WHEREAS**, Amendments 60 & 61 would slash at least \$1 billion annually in state taxes, greatly reducing if not eliminating vital state grants for fire protection and rescue equipment as well as various safety programs; and;

**WHEREAS**, these measures individually and collectively significantly reduce or otherwise restrict both state and local revenues in a number of different ways, including but not limited to: specific ownership taxes, telecommunication taxes, state income taxes, state-shared revenues to assist municipalities with local street and transit improvements, other state grants and loans to help local government, and property taxes; and

**WHEREAS**, the cumulative and destructive nature of the three measures ensures that Colorado will surrender its competitive standing to attract large and small employers alike, resulting in little to no economic growth for the state and a steady decline in property values and erosion of the state and local tax base;

**WHEREAS**, the District's Board of Directors is concerned about the impact these three measures will have on its ability to work effectively with other local governments in the form of intergovernmental agreements including mutual aid and assistance and first response agreements with other fire departments in the Park County area; and

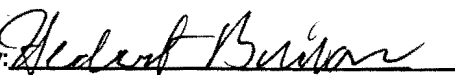
**WHEREAS**, State voters will have the opportunity on November 2, 2010 to protect the fiscal health of Colorado by defeating Proposition 101, Amendment 60 and Amendment 61;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE HARTSEL FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT THAT:**

1. The Board hereby adopts an official position opposing Proposition 101, Amendments 60, 61 as not being in the best interests of the District and in the public's health, safety, and welfare.
2. As authorized by §1-45-117(1)(b)(III), C.R.S., the District's administrative staff is hereby directed to report the passage of and to distribute a copy of this Resolution through "established, customary means (other than through advertising)" by which other District information concerning other proceedings of this District and its Board of Directors is regularly provided to the public, including posting on the District's website and other locations where the District's minutes and announcements are made and/or posted.

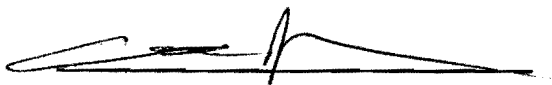
Adopted this 13th day of October, 2010

**HARTSEL FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT**

By: 

**President**

**ATTEST:**



**Secretary**