



COLORADO CENTER
on LAW & POLICY

46 Times No:
A look at why Coloradans must vote NO on Amendment 46
October 2008

Despite what opponents claim, Amendment 46, should it pass, would have a devastating effect on equal opportunity programs here in Colorado.

The following is a partial list of program that will be negatively affected by the passage of Amendment 46:

- CU-LEAD Alliance and the Pre-Collegiate Development Program to recruit and mentor underrepresented students both in high school and on the Boulder campus.
- CU Journalism School program to encourage broader minority participation in the journalism field
- The Success Institute, Summer Bridge program and Female Recruits Explore Engineering to support underrepresented populations, particularly women, to enter the engineering and IT fields.
- UCD's Early College Scholars to prepare students from underrepresented populations for college attendance.
- DPS' Indian Education Program to provide training and support to teachers of Native American students to help them achieve.

Coloradans should expect the following harm to our community if Amendment 46 passes in November:

- Minority populations—already only 14.8 percent of the Boulder campus student body—at public universities will plummet
- Fewer women will enter engineering, science and math fields
- Minority K-12 students (like Native Americans) will lose targeted support programs

The Piton Foundation has concluded that, in California and Washington, the passage of ballot initiatives banning affirmative action has increased the gap between underrepresented minorities graduating from high school and entering college. The percentage of California students served by community colleges instead of four-year colleges has increased significantly.

The passage of Amendment 46 in Colorado could reasonably be expected to have the same impact on student enrollment and faculty hiring of underrepresented minorities and women in this state's institutions of higher education. (Page 19, Piton Report cited below).

http://www.piton.org/Documents/Minorities_Higher_EdExSum.pdf

http://www.piton.org/Documents/Minorities_Higher_Edu.pdf

The Vote No on 46 campaign also recently announced that a number of statewide business organizations have taken action to formally oppose Amendment 46. The No on 46 campaign is a statewide coalition of business, community, faith, student and education leaders who oppose Amendment 46.

The Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce, the Asian Chamber of Commerce, the Black Chamber of Commerce, the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, the Native American Chamber of Commerce and the Colorado Women's Chamber of Commerce have joined a large and growing list of statewide organizations opposing Amendment 46.

“The Denver Metro Chamber recognizes the value of a diverse workforce and a higher education system that reaches out to diverse populations,” said Joe Blake, President of the Denver Metro Chamber. “This initiative does not benefit Colorado business in any way, and may harm us in the long run,” he continued.

Recently, Governor Ritter formally took a position against 46 as well.

For more information go to: <http://votenoamendment46.com/>