

## **AMENDMENT 35: PUBLIC HEALTH FUNDS IN COLORADO COMMUNITIES**

**Background:** Colorado voters approved Amendment 35 in 2004 with a 61% majority. Amendment 35 increased taxes on cigarettes and other tobacco products to fund much needed health programs across the state. In FY11-12, it is estimated that Colorado will receive a total of \$141 million in revenue from Amendment 35.

**Funded Programs:** Amendment 35 funds support public health programs in all 64 counties throughout the state, including the following:

- Prevention, early detection and treatment of cancer, cardiovascular and pulmonary diseases (CCPD), including:
  - The Women's Wellness Connection (WWC) providing screening for breast and cervical cancer for uninsured women between 100 and 250% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) through x sites around the state.
  - Breast and cervical cancer treatment for low-income, uninsured women. A35 funds provide the state match for this program, with the federal government providing \$2 for every \$1 from Colorado.
  - Colorectal cancer screening for uninsured Coloradans through primary care providers located throughout the state.
  - Community based grants to prevent, screen and treat diseases that lead to premature death and disability.
- Tobacco prevention and cessation programs (STEPP), including:
  - The Quitline's telephone hotline to help Coloradans stop smoking
  - Community grants to reduce tobacco use and prevent kids from starting
- Health disparities grants to prevent, screen and treat diseases that disproportionately affect minority populations, including:
  - Community grants to prevent, detect and teach self-management for high blood pressure, diabetes, asthma and other chronic diseases
  - Church outreach initiatives to provide health information and assistance to populations at high risk of chronic diseases.

**Fiscal Emergency:** The constitutional amendment allows the legislature to transfer the funds to other health care purposes in the event of a fiscal emergency, which can be declared with a 2/3 majority in both chambers and the signature of the Governor. The legislature has declared a fiscal emergency in FY09-10 and FY10-11 and transferred A35 funds to the Medicaid budget. SJR 11-9 proposes a fiscal emergency for FY11-12.

**Proposed Amendment 35 Cuts:** As outlined on the chart on the back, the Governor and JBC staff have recommended cuts ranging from 44% to 85% for Amendment 35 public health programs. These cuts will increase the incidence of disease, disability and death in our state. For example, 1,500 women will not receive mammograms or pap smears, with an estimated 85 cases of cancer going undetected in the early stages. A 75% cut in these funds will decimate programs and further cuts would essentially remove any capacity to address the primary causes of death in Colorado.



## AMENDMENT 35 PROPOSED CUTS FOR FY11-12

Program	% of A35 Funds Allocated	Amt Expected FY11-12	Gov Proposal & JBC Staff Rec FY11-12*	Remaining for FY11-12	Cut
<b>Tobacco (STEPP)</b>	16%				
<i>FTE</i>		10.0	-1.5	8.5	-1.5
<i>Personal Services + Operating Exp.</i>		\$ 905,173	\$ (160,175)	\$ 744,998	18%
<i>Grants</i>		\$ 23,207,058	\$ (17,660,700)	\$ 5,546,358	76%
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$ 24,112,231</b>	<b>\$ (17,820,875)</b>	<b>\$ 6,291,356</b>	<b>74%</b>
<b>Cancer, Cardio, Pulmonary Disease (CCPD)</b>	16% less amts to programs below				
<i>FTE</i>		10.0	-1.5	8.5	-1.5
<i>Personal Services + Operating Exp.</i>		\$ 780,335	\$ (130,000)	\$ 650,335	<b>17%</b>
<i>Grants</i>		\$ 13,277,470	\$ (10,289,366)	\$ 2,988,104	<b>77%</b>
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$ 14,057,805</b>	<b>\$ (10,419,366)</b>	<b>\$ 3,638,439</b>	<b>74%</b>
<b>Breast &amp; Cervical Cancer</b>	20% of the 16% to CCPD				
<i>Treatment</i>		\$ 1,215,340	0	\$ 1,215,340	<b>0%</b>
<i>Screening</i>		\$ 3,661,660	\$ (1,625,000)	\$ 2,036,660	<b>44%</b>
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$ 4,877,000</b>	<b>\$ (1,625,000)</b>	<b>\$ 3,252,000</b>	<b>33%</b>
<b>Medicaid Disease Management</b>	\$2M from CCPD	\$ 2,000,000	\$ -	\$ 2,000,000	<b>0%</b>
<b>Health Disparities (HD)</b>	15% of the 16% to CCPD				
<i>FTE</i>		6.3	-2.0	4.3	-2.0
<i>Personal Services + Operating Exp.</i>		\$ 414,235	\$ (175,394)	\$ 238,841	<b>42%</b>
<i>Grants</i>		\$ 3,531,904	\$ (3,008,489)	\$ 523,415	<b>85%</b>
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$ 3,946,139</b>	<b>\$ (3,183,883)</b>	<b>\$ 762,256</b>	<b>81%</b>
<b>Grand Totals \$</b>		<b>\$ 48,993,175</b>	<b>\$ (33,049,124)</b>	<b>\$ 15,944,051</b>	<b>67%</b>

