February 14, 2018

Dear members of the Colorado General Assembly.

We support allowing taxpayers to donate their tax refunds to any registered Colorado nonprofit via the state tax form. This would encourage Coloradans to give when they have additional income and to give more throughout the year, not just at the end of the year.

Colorado's taxpayers received over $1 billion in tax refunds last year. If they donated just 5% of their tax refunds, charitable giving would increase by $50 million.

By increasing charitable giving in our state, Colorado's nonprofits will have more resources for their essential work of building stronger communities.

Just as Colorado was the first state to allow donation of tax refunds to charitable causes through the state tax return, Colorado would become the first state to allow taxpayers to write (or type) in the name of a nonprofit on their returns to receive a tax refund donation.

Please support SB 18-141 to make this possible!

Sincerely,

Organizations
A Child's Song (Thornton)
The Arc - Jefferson, Clear Creek & Gilpin Counties (Lakewood)
Arvada Community Food Bank (Arvada)
Ascend Performing Arts (Denver)
Boys & Girls Clubs of Colorado (Denver)
Boys & Girls Club of Fremont County (Canon City)
Colorado Nonprofit Association (Denver)
Community First Foundation (Arvada)
Community Grief Center (Greeley)
Cottonwood Institute (Denver)
Curious Theatre Company (Denver)
Denver Urban Gardens (Denver)
Eagle Valley Land Trust (Edwards)
Economic Literacy Colorado (Denver)
English in Action (Carbondale)
The Feline Fix (Commerce City)
Fetal Health Foundation (Littleton)
Fort Collins Cat Rescue & Spay/Neuter Clinic (Fort Collins)
Greeley Transitional House (Greeley)

Community First Foundation believes a strong nonprofit sector is essential to keeping Colorado communities healthy and vibrant. Encouraging generosity by making it easy for Colorado taxpayers to support nonprofits will benefit all Coloradans. That's why we created Colorado Gives Day and it's why we support SB 18-141. — Marla Williams, Community First Foundation, Arvada

Our Boys and Girls Club could stand to benefit from this legislation, we have a very good reputation in the community and this would give folks another opportunity to think of us! — Terry Hamilton, Boys and Girls Club of Fremont County, Canon City

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789 Sherman Street | Suite 240 | Denver, Colorado 80203 | (303) 632-5710 | (866) 333-6554 | Coloradononprofits.org
Heart and Hand Center (Denver)
Hilltop (Grand Junction)
Human Services Network of Colorado (Denver)
Junior Achievement (Denver)
Lincoln Hills Cares (Denver)
Liver Health Connection (Denver)
Mirror Image Arts (Denver)
Mountains and Plains Institute for Lifelong Learning and Service (Fort Collins)
Outreach Uganda (Highlands Ranch)
Phamaly Theater Company (Denver)
Project Bike Tech (Frisco)
Rio Blanco Historical Society (Meeker)
Rocky Mountain Section American Water Works Association (Centennial)
Rosemount Museum (Pueblo)
SafeHouse Denver (Denver)
Seniors' Resource Center (Wheat Ridge)
Sister Carmen Community Center (Lafayette)
Southern Ute Community Action Program (Ignacio)
Violet Hive Art Therapy (Denver)
YANAM2M (Littleton)

Individuals
Geraldine Aichinger (Colorado Springs)
Mark Arnold (Denver)
Sue Artone-Fricke (Denver)
William Bertschy (Fort Collins)
Janell Bishop (Larkspur)
Lisa Boehm (Denver)
Danielle Bowker (Denver)
Cheryl Brubaker (Denver)
Cynthia Bullock (Colorado Springs)
Byron Burlingame (Aurora)
Teresa Campbell (Ignacio)
Linda Cannon (Denver)
Christina Capocelli (Littleton)
Andrew Castillo (Wheat Ridge)
Meghan Chapman (Denver)
Lauren Christensen (Denver)
Kelli Christian (Denver)
Ford Church (Denver)
Mary Cipollone (Denver)

I don't see a downside! - Kim McGigg, Golden

Nonprofits create vibrant, strong communities by providing services that are not otherwise offered or readily available. Providing an easy opportunity for individuals to contribute to Colorado's charities - and at a different time of the year - is certain to have a broad impact. SB 18-141 is brilliant! – Debbie Pierce, Economic Literacy Colorado, Denver

Many Colorado nonprofits struggle to gain financial support to provide essential services to at-risk populations. I fully support offering taxpayers a simple way to give financially to any of these organizations as a part of their annual tax filing. – Sheila Marucut, Centennial

On behalf of the Rosemount Board of Directors and myself, we believe supporting non-profits is essential to communities. Having an option and reminder to individuals to enhance the support of non-profits and become part of their success is an amazing step in the right direction. – Deb Darrow, Rosemount Museum, Pueblo

What an incredible way for taxpayers, including myself, to re-channel that money back into our communities and to provide the additional resources to continue the already incredible work being done here! – Heather Sebeck, Denver

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It has been proven that non-profits provide a substantial benefit to my community and I have personally benefited from the efforts of at least one non-profit, as have all of my family members. Without non-profits, I would not have a job, and a great job that I am proud of and enjoying doing every day. Non-profits stretch dollars to an extreme amount and every penny goes a remarkable distance, but every dollar donated allows the efforts of these organizations to reach further. - Jessica Miller, Loveland

All nonprofits should have the benefit of donors supporting them with funds from their tax refunds. Limiting these donations to only a few organizations or causes limits the choice of donors who wish to use their tax refunds for charitable purposes. - Eileen Wasserbach, Southern Ute Community Action Programs, Ignacio

This proposal creates an important and convenient way for donors to make contributions. I personally use the current check box system and expanding it to all registered non-profits will be a real advantage. - William Bertsch, Mountains and Plains Institute for Lifelong Learning and Service, Fort Collins

I think this will increase donations to non-profits and charities. - Janell Bishop, Larkspur

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789 Sherman Street | Suite 240 | Denver, Colorado 80203 | (303) 832-5710 | (800) 333-6554 | ColoradoNonprofits.org
Darlene Rodgers (Littleton)
Monica Roers (Wheat Ridge)
Kristi Shaffer (Denver)
Heather Schreck (Denver)
Rebecca Scheab (Englewood)
Tony Shiver (Denver)
Deanne Siqueiros (Denver)
Samantha Smith (Lakewood)
Michelle Somers (Littleton)
Catherine Sparks (Denver)
Sandra Taylor (Thornton)
Don Thompson (Alamosa)
Kaitlin Vaillancourt (Denver)
Victoria Walker (Lakewood)
Zach Ward (Denver)
Eileen Wasserbach (Ignacio)
Brenda Whetstone (Denver)
Ed Witterholt (Denver)
Sara Wittner (Lakewood)

We operate the museum with a lot of donations as well as a few grants. Every penny helps. - Teresa Reed, Rio Blanco Historical Society, Meeker

The nonprofit community is on the front line of providing services that directly enhance the quality of life for the residents of Colorado. This bill would have a direct, positive impact upon this sector to benefit all of our residents. - Mark Arnold, Ascend Performing Arts, Denver

With the changes in standard deductions there is a potential for charitable giving to dramatically decrease. Making it easy for individuals to donate, and especially when they are receiving funds, could help bridge this gap. — Jacqueline Hall, Englewood

With the recent federal income tax reform changes to the individual standard deduction (effectively eliminating the ability of millions of taxpayers to receive a charitable contribution deduction), our organization is very concerned about the future impact on individual donations to our organization. We view this legislation as a very helpful step in helping to mitigate this potential loss of funding and thereby continue our important work with underserved populations in Colorado. — Jodi Hartmann, Greeley Transitional House

I support this bill to increase charitable giving. — Janet Haroldson, The Feline Paws, Commerce City