



Sept. News: Jobs, 9/11 Event, Libraries, & More



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Links

- [Sue's Website](#)
- [General Assembly Homepage](#)
- [Jefferson County Homepage](#)

Hello, Friends & Neighbors,

Session ended in May, and over the summer I have been serving on two interim committees: the Colorado Correctional Industries Committee and the Police and Firefighters Pension Committee. I have also been knocking on doors and distributing 5000 citizen survey annual legislative reports across the district. Thanks again to all the wonderful folks who walked with me and helped distribute the reports! It was great to hear what issues people are most concerned about. I'll be working on ideas for possible bills in between now and the beginning of the next session in January.

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- 9/11 Memorial Event Downtown this Sunday
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- "Lobato" Court Case on School Finance Wrapping Up
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Upcoming Jobs Events

The city of Lakewood is having a number of seminars on job-related topics including networking, computer training, interviewing skills, job searching techniques, and much more. Visit [their website](#) for more information.

When: Thursday, September 8, 2011; 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Where: Lakewood Civic Center, 480 S. Allison Pkwy

Lakewood, Colorado

Also, I will be hosting a jobs fair along with Representatives Andy Kerr and Max Tyler next month in Lakewood. There will be employers on site looking for potential hires. It will be on October 11 at the Clements Community Center, located at 1580 Yarrow Street, Lakewood CO 80214 (click [here](#) to find directions) from 6 p.m.-9 p.m. I will send out a reminder as we get closer to the actual date.

9/11 Commemorative Event in Civic Center Park

This coming Sunday marks a somber occasion: the 10th anniversary of the Sept. 11 attacks. Governor Hickenlooper and Denver Mayor Michael Hancock will be hosting a remembrance ceremony and concert featuring the Beach Boys & the Colorado Symphony beginning at 1:00 p.m. at Civic Center Park (right at Colfax & Broadway). The event is free to the public. Click [here](#) for more details.

JeffCo Libraries

Many citizens have contacted me about the proposed closing of the Wheat Ridge and Edgewater Libraries. Anyone wanting to express their opinion about this plan should contact the [Jeffco Library Board of Trustees](#) and the [Jeffco Board of County Commissioners](#). Many options are on the table to avoid total closure, i.e.: reduced days and hours of our libraries especially when Wheat Ridge and Edgewater libraries serve a large number of seniors, disabled, and lower-income students highly dependent on a public library. These populations have transportation challenges and need a public library in close proximity. The Trustees' next meeting is Sept. 15 at 5:30 p.m. at the Columbine Library. Closer to home is the Oct. 20 meeting, 5:30 p.m. at the Belmar Library. I plan to speak to both the Trustees and Commissioners and both groups need to hear citizens' opinions.

"Bright Colorado" Now Proposition 103

Senator Rollie Heath's statewide initiative to shore up education funding has successfully gathered over 140,000 signatures and is set to appear on the ballot this November as Proposition 103. Prop. 103 would be a small, temporary, 5-year

increase back to 1999 tax levels:

- Corporate income tax and personal income tax rates would increase from 4.63% to 5%.
- The state sales tax rate would increase from 2.9% to 3%.
- The initiative would raise an anticipated \$532 million per year.
- The new funds would go toward preventing further cuts to education - preschool through higher education - and, depending on the economy and recovery, could begin restoring funding for some of the devastating cuts of the past three years.

The initiative is supported by [dozens of groups](#) across the state. Please visit GreatEducation.org for more information.

DU Revenue Study Released

The University of Denver recently released a study of Colorado's long-term budget outlook which came to some troubling conclusions: **Within 12 years, state revenues will be just enough to fund public education, health care, and prisons but nothing else.** That means no money for higher education, the courts, child protective services, and countless other vital state offices. The study states that adjusting tax rates will be required to make up for an over \$3 billion shortfall, as cuts alone will not be enough to balance the budget and deliver required services. Read [this article](#) at the Denver Post and visit DU's [Center for Colorado's Economic Future](#) to learn more about the fiscal challenges facing our state (including an [interactive chart](#) displaying the impact of adjusting current tax rates).

Lobato vs State of CO: Testimony Comes to an End

After six years of legal action, the final arguments on whether the public education system is supported according to the state constitution have been made in court. The outcome of this case could potentially have an impact on our public school finance system. Education News Colorado has been [covering this issue extensively](#) and I encourage you to read [this article](#) about the most recent developments.

Reapportionment Update

The new borders for our state's House and Senate districts aren't officially set in stone yet, but if the current map is adopted as is, HD24 will include all of Wheat Ridge, Golden, Edgewater, Mountain View and the southern edge of Arvada.

Visit the website for details on the commission's upcoming schedule and to view the proposed maps. You can still share your thoughts on the proposed changes by phone, email, or regular mail.

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