

## 2020 Ballot Measure Options: GSTC Table

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### **Table Parameters for Making a Ballot Measure Decision**

***If Vision 2020 moves forward with a revenue raising measure:*** the criteria from the Table in order to support is as follows:

- A certain percentage (ideally between 25% and 50%) OR at least \$1 billion of any new tax revenue would need to be dedicated to supplementing, not supplanting, k-12 education.
- Dollars that are dedicated toward education would need to be dedicated to teacher pay, recruitment and retention.

### **Vision 2020 Ballot Options**

#### **Ballot Option 1: Repeal TABOR and replace with another measure that puts value or formula limitations on raising taxes in our constitution**

- This strategy involves repealing Article X Section 20 in one measure and advocating for a second, separate measure that would express a principle of limited government as a value of Coloradans.
- The TABOR repeal measure could pass with a simple majority.
- Many voters worry that without some limitations, elected officials will tax them more than is necessary. This second strategy would offer those voters a more workable limitation on government growth and taxation than TABOR.
- The replacement measure would require a 55% majority to enact.
- This strategy would require signature gathering for two measures but would not make passage of one measure contingent on the passage of the other measure.

#### **Ballot Option 2: Repeal prohibition of graduated income tax & implement graduated income tax**

- Repeal just one component of TABOR, the one that says all income must be taxed at the same rate.
- Allow voters to authorize a tax code that imposes higher tax rates to higher income, a system known as a graduated income tax.
- A graduated income tax system could, for example, impose a tax of 4% on the first \$250,000 of income, a tax of 4.5% on the next \$250,000 of income, a tax of 5% on the next \$250,000 of income, etc. with the highest increments of income taxed at the highest rates.
- Repeal of this one provision would need only a simple majority for passage.
- Authorize a new graduated income tax that would generate significant additional revenue: 25% or 50% of which would go toward K-12 education
- Leave in place all other provisions of Article X Section 20 including the requirement for prior voter approval for all additional tax increases.

#### **Ballot Option 3: Repeal prohibition of graduated income tax & implement graduated income tax & tax cut for those below the \$275,000 income tax bracket**

- These options are the same as the filings under "Ballot Option 2" but would also cut taxes for those who make less than \$275,000 annually
- The decrease would be from a tax rate of 4.63% to a tax rate of 4.5% for individuals who qualify based on annual income