

PUBLIC INTEREST INSTITUTE — FACT SHEET

Number 05-03

March 7, 2005

Issue at a Glance – Giving Citizens the Right to Vote on Tax Increases

In four states, citizens have the opportunity to vote on tax increases under provisions similar to those in the People's Right to Vote Constitutional Amendment in Iowa. Colorado, Missouri, and Oklahoma have Constitutional Amendments, while Washington's measure is statutory. This Fact Sheet takes a look at some economic indicators and expenditure levels in those four states and in Iowa.

	Per capita Personal Income (2003)	Per capita Gross State Product (2002)	Tax Foundation's <i>State Business Tax Climate Index 2004</i> ranking *	Per capita State & Local Expenditures on Corrections (2002)	Per capita State & Local Expenditures on Public Welfare Programs (2002)	Per capita State & Local Expenditures on K - 12 Education (2002)	ACT Average Composite Score in 2004
Colorado	\$34,510	\$41,147	8	\$190	\$628	\$1,306	20.3
Missouri	\$29,094	\$34,028	11	\$144	\$972	\$1,301	21.5
Oklahoma	\$26,567	\$28,628	14	\$161	\$915	\$1,257	20.6
Washington	\$33,264	\$39,945	9	\$189	\$1,022	\$1,350	22.5
Iowa	\$28,398	\$35,028	28	\$112	\$914	\$1,296	22.0

* Tax Foundation's *State Business Tax Climate Index 2004* looks at levels of taxation and complexity of compliance to compare the states on how "business friendly" each state is compared to the others. In these rankings, 1 is the most "business friendly" state while 50 is the least "business friendly" state in the U.S.

Source: For all figures, *State Rankings 2005: A Statistical View of the 50 United States*, Kathleen O'Leary Morgan and Scott Morgan, Editors, Morgan Quitno Press, Lawrence, KS, 2005.

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