

CAMRO

Colorado Alliance of Mineral and Royalty Owners

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Colorado's Public Schools to Lose at Least \$230 Million in Funding if Proposition 112 Passes

Denver, Colorado – If Proposition 112 – an effective ban on mineral development in Colorado – passes this November, Colorado's public schools likely will lose at least \$230.3 million in funding in the first three years. The Colorado State Land Board owns a combined six million acres of surface and subsurface land and generates revenue by leasing the property for mineral development. A [fact sheet](#) released by the Colorado State Land Board found that, "if Proposition 112 had been implemented three years ago, revenue would have been reduced to \$158.5 million, a 60% reduction."

"Colorado already has the strictest regulations on mineral development in the nation," said Neil Ray, President of the Colorado Alliance of Mineral and Royalty Owners (CAMRO). "A half-mile setback is not an attempt to regulate the industry. It's an effective ban on mineral development."

All revenue from mineral development on lands owned by the Colorado State Land Board goes to fund public education in Colorado, either through the Colorado Department of Education's Building Excellent Schools Today (BEST) program or the Public School Permanent Fund. The BEST program – majority funded by the Colorado State Land Board – has awarded \$1.7 billion in grants since 2008, supporting improvements in public education and facilities for 180,000 students.

"Proposition 112 deprives mineral owners like me of my property rights and strips much-needed funding from education," said Cristy Koeneke, a retired educator and mineral owner from Arvada. "Proposition 112 is far too heavy-handed. It deprives our public schools of millions of dollars at a time when we are already dealing with huge gaps in funding. I'm a firm believer in regulating mineral development, but any new restrictions should be dependent on scientific research and consensus, not arbitrary lines in the sand."

Under [a recent Colorado Open Records Act request](#), CAMRO found that, since 1980, the Colorado Land Board's education funds received over \$560 million in revenue from oil and gas leases in Colorado's Wattenberg Field. The Wattenberg represents only a portion of the mineral development leases across Colorado. Yet, in the last two years alone, these assets generated \$166 million in revenue and interest, money which funds K-12 public schools as well as Colorado's higher education institutions.

About CAMRO

The Colorado Alliance of Mineral and Royalty Owners represents the interests of over 600,000 mineral owners across the state of Colorado. The organization encourages and promotes exploration and production of minerals throughout the state. CAMRO works to preserve, protect, and advance the interests and rights of mineral and royalty owners through education, advocacy, and assistance to its members. Learn more about CAMRO at <https://camro.us/>.

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