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## **GOP RIVALS FOR GOV BACK PETITION RIGHTS PLAN**

Both Republican candidates for governor have signed endorsements of Amendment 38, the Petition Rights Amendment.

Congressman Bob Beauprez and former DU president Marc Holtzman back the petition reform measure that is already on the November 7<sup>th</sup> state ballot. In mid-April, each signed a statement of unequivocal support for the ballot proposal to simplify and strengthen the initiative and referendum petition process guaranteed in the state constitution.

"No candidate can credibly claim to support political reform, yet oppose the main vehicle for grassroots political change in Colorado," noted Doug Campbell of Arvada, one of the two official proponents of the Petition Rights Amendment. "We are honored to have the strong support of both Republican candidates for governor. You might say that the Petition Rights Amendment brought them together, as something everyone can agree on.

"We are still waiting to hear back from the likely Democrat nominee for governor, Bill Ritter, as to whether he supports the people's right to petition under the First Amendment. The Petition Rights Amendment protects everyone's right to petition—Democrat and Republican, liberal and conservative. Support for the people's constitutional right to petition should not be a point of dispute in the governor's race," Campbell said.

Amendment 38 qualified for the ballot in December, after filing over 121,000 signatures.

Amendment 38 is a one-page guide to citizen petitioning that condenses hundreds of pages of state and city rules and regulations. #38 will also allow petitions to other local governments, such as counties and special districts, which do not now allow their citizens to petition. The #38 campaign website is [www.PRA2006.com](http://www.PRA2006.com) The Amendment 38 summary, titled Talking Points, explains its main features and can be found on the website.