



Senate District

# 35

# Working for Colorado

## Foster Works for District 35

During my first session in the Colorado Senate, every vote I made was a vote to bring people together to find common sense and effective answers to tough problems. We made great strides in affordable health care, free public education for all our children, and a solid transportation system to support the economy and promote public safety in Colorado. These are all issues I've worked for and issues I will continue to work for as your Senator.

NAMED ONE OF FOUR FRESHMAN LEGISLATORS TO WATCH IN 2009 BY 5280 MAGAZINE!

"...savvy legislator"

## Working for Justice

Fairness. Justice. Equality. It is important to me that every person in each community across Colorado gets the help and support they deserve.



## Senator Joyce Foster

"We stood by our values this session and did what was fair for the people of Colorado. It took courage, a sense of urgency, and teamwork. These are Colorado values that outlive any recession."

## Leadership that Works.

Despite the difficult circumstances facing our state, the legislature made dramatic progress this year on a number of fronts.

Tough times call for tough choices. First among those difficult challenges was balancing the budget. Facing a **\$1.4 billion shortfall**, Democrats in the legislature worked hard to make thoughtful budget cuts that wouldn't harm Colorado's families or undermine our prospects for a strong economic recovery.

From day one of the 120-day legislative session, the Senate Democrats took decisive action to get the economy back on track, lower the cost of healthcare, expand education, promote the new energy economy, and position Colorado for a strong and speedy recovery—all while maintaining a balanced budget.

Democrats also fought hard for Funding Advancements for Surface Transportation and Economic Recovery (FASTER). Backed by a broad, bipartisan, statewide coalition of chambers of commerce, environmental groups, and local governments, this legislation will save or create **jobs statewide** while doing essential repair work on **126 structurally-deficient bridges** across Colorado.

The Colorado Credit Reserve Program will make available **\$50 million in new, secure loans** for small businesses.

With greater access to cost-effective credit, **businesses** will be better able to make new investments so they can **grow and thrive**.

The cost of healthcare is always a significant burden to bear, and during a recession, healthcare costs threaten to bankrupt both families and businesses. In response, the Colorado Health Care Affordability Act will draw on federal dollars to provide health insurance to **100,000 uninsured** Coloradans and reduce health care costs for those who already have health insurance, providing economic security and peace of mind at a time when it's needed most.

And the Renewables for Schools legislation will provide low-interest loans to school districts to finance renewable and energy-efficiency projects. Installing these projects will **generate green jobs** around the state, and the solar panels and wind turbines will generate enough revenue to both repay the loans and also provide **additional resources for local classrooms**.

The Democratic accomplishments listed above are just a small sampling of the many bills passed during the 2009 legislative session.

See [ColoradoSenate.org](http://ColoradoSenate.org) and [www.leg.state.co.us](http://www.leg.state.co.us) for more details about legislation that will create jobs and enhance the unique quality of life that continues to make Colorado the best place in the nation to live.

# Working to Build a Better Colorado: Foster At The Capitol

## Legislative Highlights



- **SB09-070 Clarify Workers' Compensation Procedures**

Permits injured workers over the age of 65 to continue receiving workers' compensation payments and makes other important conforming changes to the state's workers' compensation laws.

- **HB09-1273 Health Care for Colorado**

This legislation sought to create the Colorado Single Payer Healthcare Authority to convene stakeholders and providers to make recommendations to the legislature for a transition toward a unified, efficient, patient-chosen, privately-delivered, publicly-financed system of healthcare—resulting in better care at a lower cost for all Coloradans.

- **HB09-1240 Colorado Teacher of the Year Program**

Creates the Colorado Teacher of the Year Program, and allows for gifts, grants, and donations to fund rewards for the teacher chosen as Colorado's best, including financial incentives, computer resources, other teaching supplies, money for professional development, and most importantly, to teach their best practices around Colorado.

- **HB09-1181 Victim Statement Community Corrections**

Right now, only in certain Colorado counties can a crime victim make a statement at the hearing convened to evaluate an offender's eligibility for placement in a community corrections program; this bill will make possible a victim's voluntary participation in those hearings anywhere in the state.

- **HB09-1202 Mortuary Science Registration**

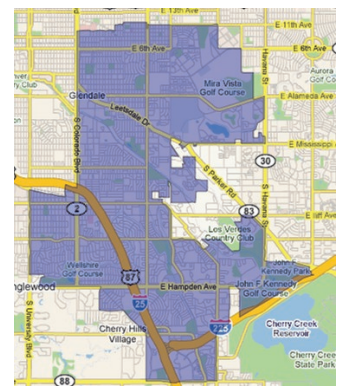
This consumer protection bill will help ensure peace of mind when Coloradans must undertake the unhappy task of dealing with a funeral home or crematory. The legislation ensures honesty and transparency by setting an appropriate scope of practice for funeral homes and requiring that funeral homes register with the State of Colorado.

- **HB09-1353 Expanding Medical Benefits**

This important measure will expand healthcare, improve health outcomes, and save the state money—all by taking advantage of federal matching funds made available under the Obama Administration to provide more care for children and pregnant mothers, under Medicaid and the Children's Basic Health Plan, who have legally immigrated to the United States.

## Other Bills Sponsored by Senator Joyce Foster

- **SR09-009 Support Israel and Peace Process Resolution**
- **SJR09-021 Kidney Disease Awareness Month Day Resolution**
- **SJR09-037 Recognition CASA Program Resolution**
- **SB09-027 Protect Public Safety Control Coyotes**



“The session ended on May 6. But we’re just getting started with our work.”

