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Locals Blast Beauprez's Voting Record
Business-owners, Community Leaders, Sportsmen, and Conservationists
Demand Straight Talk on Energy

RIFLE, CO – In advance of an upcoming gubernatorial debate on energy, a group of concerned citizens are demanding straight answers from Congressman Beauprez on his proposals for managing energy development in Colorado. Citing the Congressman's votes to weaken royalty payments and pollution standards for the oil and gas industry, and his opposition to the 2004 renewable energy initiative, a coalition of elected officials, business owners, sportsmen, and conservationists stood up today in opposition to the Beauprez candidacy.

"Congressman Beauprez's voting record places the priorities of the oil and gas industry ahead of the needs of Colorado communities," said Carrie Doyle, Director of the Colorado Conservation Voters Campaign Fund. "By voting to fast track energy development and weaken clean water protections, the Congressman has shown that he just doesn't get it when it comes to the impacts of energy development on Colorado communities."

In his campaign for Governor, Congressman Beauprez is working hard to distance himself from a congressional record that is rife with special interest votes. For example, Rep. Beauprez voted for the oil shale and tar sands royalty subsidy, which would reduce revenues available to local Colorado to manage the impacts of energy development. In addition, while the Colorado Water Quality Control Commission continues to monitor storm water runoff from oil and gas development due to water quality concerns, Rep. Beauprez voted to exempt some oil and gas drilling activities from the Clean Water Act and Safe Drinking Water Act.

Further, Rep. Beauprez voted to give billions of dollars in taxpayer subsidies to oil companies at a time of record breaking profits, and opposed sensible clean energy solutions, such as requiring new cars to go further on a gallon of gas.

Jeff Meade, owner of Mamm Peak Outfitters, addressed Congressman Beauprez's wildlife relocation plan with a sense of disbelief. "As an outfitter, I've been working with Colorado wildlife my entire career. Asking elk to change migration patterns is not a sound idea, and certainly points to Bob Beauprez's willingness to bend the laws of nature in an effort to further serve special interests."

The League of Conservation Voters (LCV) was also in attendance to name Representative Bob Beauprez (CO) to LCV's 2006 "Dirty Dozen" list, which holds elected officials accountable for their votes and actions by highlighting some of the worst environmental records in Congress. Since its inception in 1996, more than half of the candidates named to the "Dirty Dozen" were subsequently defeated.

"Time and time again, Rep. Beauprez has sided with Big Oil and other special interests over the environmental and public health considerations of the people of Colorado. While Coloradans push for real solutions to our energy and water challenges, Bob Beauprez has turned his back on us," LCV Vice President for Political Affairs Tony Massaro said. "His dismal environmental voting record in Congress has earned him an unprecedented spot as the only gubernatorial candidate to ever be included on the Dirty Dozen list."

“Colorado's next Governor should have a statewide vision that encompasses the needs of our community as a whole,” Carrie Doyle said. "Congressmen Beauprez's vision for our state has repeatedly left us asking ‘which way, Bob’?”

The Colorado Conservation Voters Campaign Fund (CCVCF) is the independent political voice of Colorado’s environment. CCVCF is a non-partisan, non-profit organization. CCVAF serves to make protecting Colorado’s environment a top priority for voters, candidates and elected officials in Colorado.

The nonprofit League of Conservation Voters (LCV) is the political voice of the national environmental and conservation community. LCV, which is not a partisan organization, is the only national organization working full-time to advocate for sound environmental policies and to elect pro-environmental candidates who will adopt and implement such policies. For more information, please visit us on the web at www.lcv.org.

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