

Tammy Story

COLORADO STATE SENATE DISTRICT 16

SISTER DISTRICT POLICY SCORECARD

This candidate has pledged commitment to the following statements:

- * We must protect a **woman's right to choose** the health care and reproductive services she wants and needs.
- * We need to protect and expand our **social safety net**, not dismantle it.
- * We should pursue **common-sense gun safety** policies, consistent with the Second Amendment and local community standards and needs, which vary from community to community.
- * Climate change is real and we need to **protect our environment**.

TIMELINE & VOTER INFO

Last day to register:

Election Day—November 6, 2018
(Colorado has same day voter registration)

Vote by mail / absentee voting: Voters can request up to eight days before Election Day.

Voter IDs: Colorado requires IDs for voters who vote in person and photocopies of ID for people voting by mail for the first time. It does not to be a photo ID. [List of acceptable IDs here.](#)

Nested Congressional Districts: 1; 2; 7

BACKGROUND

Tammy moved to Colorado in 1987 with her husband Mike and settled in the foothills community of Conifer. Since then, they have raised two children and become committed to improving their community. Their children Laurel and Sean attend Jeffco Schools.



Tammy grew up in a military family, which meant nearly annual moves until she was 10 years old. Moving so frequently and growing up with three brothers taught her to be adventurous, flexible, and independent. After college she went on to work as a speech pathologist and then a cabinet-maker.

While her children were in school, Tammy became more involved in advocating for effective public education, especially focused on Jefferson County Public Schools. For 18 years she has taken on an advisory role to school administrators and school boards. For four years, she was a member and leader with the Jeffco Associations Legislative Forum, which is dedicated to discussions concerning education legislation with various stakeholders.

In 2015, Tammy took on the role of Mountain Area Lead in the Jeffco Schools recall campaign of three school board members. It was a landslide success, with bipartisan support. This grassroots effort was a demonstration of what a motivated and informed community can do when they unite

behind the shared value of strong and effective public education.

CANDIDATE ON THE ISSUES

K-12 Education

Tammy supports exemplary funding for K-12 education across our Colorado so students can learn from the best teachers in safe, up-to-date classrooms. She believes in accountability and transparency without overburdening children and teachers with excessive testing.

Continuing Education

College and technical training should be financially accessible to all high school graduates who wish to further their education. For far too many young people, crippling debt is the price of post-high school education. Colorado should be investing in its future, not limiting it.

Equal pay for equal work

People who perform the same or similar work should receive equal wages, regardless of gender or ethnicity. We must ensure that working Coloradans are earning enough to support their families.

Civil rights

All citizens should have equal rights and personal freedom without fear of discrimination. We must protect women's rights to ensure women make their own healthcare decisions.

Environment

We must protect the beauty and open spaces in Colorado that make our community such a beautiful place to live. Concerns about global climate change, energy sources, and land, air and water pollution must be addressed with scientific, research-based decisions.

Roads

It's frustrating to drive on roads with potholes or to be stuck in traffic for hours on I-70. We must make improvements to our road system to ensure safety and reliability for years to come.

Retirement

Colorado's population is aging and people who have worked hard and saved for decades should be able to retire securely.

Emergency Preparedness

We still remember the fires and floods that have hurt our community. We have to work to minimize the impacts of such tragic events and ensure that we are ready to respond swiftly should such events happen again.

Government Efficiency and Accountability

Our state government should operate as smoothly, efficiently and transparently as possible. At the Capitol, I would work to ensure that our State government is accountable to the people of Colorado.

ABOUT THE OPPONENT

This seat is currently held by Tim Neville, one of Colorado's most conservative State Senators. Although Sen. Neville represents a district with more registered Democrats and Independents than Republicans, he has maintained an extreme right-wing voting record since taking office. Sen. Neville won his last election by less than 2000 votes and has consistently taken hard-right votes that are wildly out of touch with his constituents' views, leaving him extremely vulnerable in 2018. Some of Sen. Neville's "greatest hits" include blocking legislation that would bar landlords from profiting off of predatory application fees, blocking legislation that would let 12-14 year-olds seek out therapists without parental consent for things like depression, suicidal thoughts, and abuse, and routinely introducing legislation that would criminalize abortion as a class 1 felony — the same category as first-degree murder and actual treason.

WHY IS THIS RACE IMPORTANT?

Colorado is a swing state with demographics that have been trending towards Democratic power over time. There are 35 members of the Colorado Senate—currently, 18 are Republicans, 16 are Democrats, and one is Independent. Senators serve four-year terms, with roughly half of the Senate up for re-election during each general election. Colorado State Senators are limited to a total of two consecutive terms, and term-limited former Senators may run again after a four year break.

The Colorado General Assembly determines congressional district boundaries, while state

district lines are drawn by an 11 member commission. The [commission's membership](#): four representatives of the legislature (The state senate majority leader, senate minority leader, house speaker and house minority leader each designate a member), three people appointed by the governor and four people appointed by the Chief Justice of the State Supreme Court.

The past two redistricting cycles, the legislature failed to pass a map for congressional districts, and the [courts decided the boundaries](#). All of Colorado's executive officers (which includes the governor) are up for election in 2018, as well as all of Colorado's seven seats in the United States House of Representatives. Incumbent Democratic Governor John Hickenlooper is term-limited and cannot seek re-election to a third consecutive term, so no candidate will have an incumbent advantage.

ABOUT THE DISTRICT

Senate District 16 includes Boulder, Denver, Gilpin, and Jefferson counties and the Denver and Boulder metro areas. The population of district is 147,928.

The top five industries are professional, healthcare, retail, education, and manufacturing. Professionals are 55% more common in this district than the rest of Colorado. 82.5% of the population is white, 11.8% Hispanic, .8 % Black, and 2.8% Asian.

REDISTRICTING IN COLORADO

Colorado Republicans complained that Democrats took advantage of redistricting after the 2010 Census to draw lines that allowed them to capture the state house. An AP analysis released in July 2017 found that the Colorado's lines for state house districts did slightly favor Democrats.

The state supreme court, which decided on the congressional lines, is currently comprised of justices appointed by Democratic governors. The chief justice, currently a Democratic appointee, appoints 4 out of the 11 members of the commission that draws state district lines. The governor, who appoints 3 out of the 11 members of the commission that draws state district lines, is currently a Democrat.

There is an ongoing effort to put three initiatives on the ballot this year that would reform how redistricting works, both for congressional and for state lines. The coalition behind this is called Fair Districts Colorado and is led by the League of Women Voters of Colorado.

The coalition argues that the limited number of competitive elections in Colorado (1 out of 7 congressional districts, 4 out of 65 state house seats and 7 out of 35 state senate seats) is an unhealthy byproduct of a process in which both parties collude to create safe seats.

MORE ABOUT COLORADO

Colorado has a growing population, which is projected to expand by more than 3 million people by 2050. Most of the growth will be from people moving to the more urban counties around Denver. Most of these counties historically favor Democrats.

Colorado is mostly white, with a robustly increasing Hispanic population, with Hispanics projected to be more than half of the increase in Colorado's working age population between 2015 and 2020.

Brookings' 2016 report on demographic changes and elections estimates that Colorado's eligible voters were 74.6 percent white in 2016, a proportion that will change to 64.5 percent by 2032. Meanwhile, they predict the proportion of Hispanics to rise from 17.1 percent to 24.3 percent.

Most of the scenarios in Brookings' 2016 report on demographic changes and elections project Colorado becoming more Democratic over time. The exceptions are the scenario with a replication of the 2004 turnout and voting patterns and the scenario with increased white support for Republicans. Both cases have Colorado swinging Republican in 2020, and then swinging Democratic in 2032.

CANDIDATE LINKS

SDP ActBlue link: secure.actblue.com/donate/sdp-co-story

Her website: story4co.com

Her Facebook: www.facebook.com/Story4CO

Her Twitter: twitter.com/Story4CO