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Brighton EDC Supports Amendment 50
Economic Leaders Say Investment in Higher Education
Important to Future of Community Colleges

BRIGHTON, CO – Amendment 50, which would allow gaming operations to expand in Cripple Creek, Blackhawk and Central City, has received the support of the Brighton Economic Development Corporation (BEDC). “\$300 million in new gaming-tax revenues could be produced in the first five years with 78 percent going to the state’s under-funded community college system,” said Raymond Gonzales, President/CEO, BEDC.

BEDC leaders, through a recently passed resolution, indicate that the future economic health of the city is closely linked to the stability of the state’s community colleges. They point out that state general fund support for community colleges dropped 18 percent in the past five years. “Our state community colleges are at the forefront of providing the specific education and training that our primary employers need,” said Gonzales.

Named the number-two high-growth place in the U.S. for 2007 by the Gadberry Group, a leading market intelligence firm, Brighton also has been selected as the planned site of a new 1,400-employee wind turbine manufacturing company. “High-quality employers are attracted to communities that care about education,” added Gonzales.

Recently, Brighton Urban Renewal Authority developed a public-private partnership involving Front Range Community College and Colorado State University -- the Brighton Learning and Resource Campus, the re-development of the former Platte Valley Medical Center.

To learn more about Brighton Economic Development Corporation, visit www.brightonedc.org or phone 303.655.2155.

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