**[Senate Template for Philanthropy Colorado Members in Support of Private Foundation Peers]**

**[Your Organization’s Letterhead or Return Address]**  
[Your Name]  
[Your Title]  
[Organization Name]  
[Street Address]  
[City, State ZIP Code]  
[Email Address]  
[Phone Number]

[Date]

**The Honorable [First Name Last Name]**  
United States Senate  
[Address Line 1]  
[Address Line 2]  
Washington, DC 20510

**Subject: Proposed Excise Tax Increases Will Undermine Colorado’s Charitable Ecosystem**

Dear Senator [Last Name]:

As a member of Colorado’s philanthropic community, I am writing to express concern about the proposed changes to the federal excise tax on private foundations’ net investment income, as included in the tax bill recently approved by the House of Representatives.

While our organization, [Organization Name], is not structured as a private foundation, we work in close partnership with many who are. These trusted philanthropic partners fund and collaborate with us to address urgent needs across Colorado — from food security to education, health, and disaster relief.

The proposed increase in excise tax — up to 5% for Colorado foundations with the greatest assets — threatens to significantly reduce the pool of funds available to local nonprofit organizations. As philanthropic dollars stretch further to meet increasing needs and fill the gaps left by shrinking government resources, this policy change would have consequences well beyond the foundations directly taxed.

Colorado’s philanthropic infrastructure is deeply interconnected. Private foundations are core partners to community foundations, corporate giving programs, federated campaigns, and donor-advised funds. A reduction in their giving capacity weakens the entire system, especially in rural and historically underfunded communities. The ripple effects of these tax changes would undermine multi-sector collaboration — a key strength of our state’s nonprofit response network.

Furthermore, this proposal sends the wrong signal at the wrong time. As needs increase and budgets tighten, we should be encouraging — not discouraging — charitable investment in community solutions. Every dollar taxed from a foundation’s endowment is one less dollar available for the essential work carried out by nonprofits across Colorado.

We urge you to consider the broader implications of this tax proposal on our state’s philanthropic and nonprofit sectors. Philanthropy is strongest when we work together — and right now, our communities need every tool available to weather growing challenges and invest in a more resilient future.

Thank you for your leadership and attention to this issue.

Sincerely,  
[Your Name]  
[Your Title]  
[Organization Name]