



**COMMON  
SENSE**  
Policy Roundtable

*CSPR researches and promotes common sense solutions for economic issues in Colorado.*

## Mission

Common Sense Policy Roundtable is a non-profit free-enterprise think tank dedicated to the protection and promotion of Colorado's economy. CSPR actively follows job and economic development legislation and public policy initiatives.

## Vision

To educate and inform all Coloradans with non-biased and factual information on job creation and economic growth, by using the REMI dynamic econometric model.

## CSPR in the News

*Guest Commentary: Reject legislation to opt out on testing*  
The Denver Post Opinion  
March 28, 2015 By Earl L. Wright and Ralph J. Nagel

*Moody's warns Colorado needs to step in and fix PERA*  
Denver Business Journal  
March 13, 2015 By Staff

*Energy Pipeline: Leeds School of Business attempts to answer 'what ifs' in oil-gas industry*  
The Tribune  
March 6, 2015 By Tracy Hume

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## Quarterly Newsletter

**April 2015**

**Dear Friend,**

Common Sense Policy Roundtable (CSPR) continues to create economic impact studies separating facts from fiction. CSPR's goal is to be the go-to fiscal policy think tank for Colorado's economic future. Where appropriate, CSPR is, and will be, the objective and factual resource Colorado's citizens and public policy makers can look to when considering important economic issues influencing Colorado's economy today and in the future.

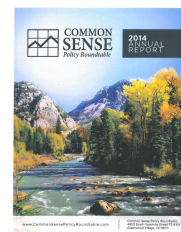
In 2014, CSPR was tasked to provide information in a major economic public policy debate facing the state - hydraulic fracturing. Public policy discussions ranged from a complete statewide fracking ban to various drilling setback scenarios. Our charge was to present reliable economic research about the potential changes in Colorado's energy policies. The facts and figures we provided using the REMI dynamic econometric model became the centrally cited data used in the debate.

As we look at 2015 and beyond Colorado's fracking debate, we are heading for a possible financial crisis in our state budget. Two potential concerns CSPR is poised to provide insight into include: 1) Rapidly increasing Medicaid expenses as Colorado's population ages and 2) a pension deficit in PERA. Others have documented the budgetary issues associated with our state's aging population. However, no one has provided thoughtful options regarding revenue sources and possible budget alternatives that will continue to support job growth and expand our economy. This is a tough challenge to tackle, but with our REMI research modeling capabilities and strategic partnerships, CSPR is ready to take the lead.

Best Regards,

Earl L. Wright  
Common Sense Policy Roundtable Board Chairman

## Download CSPR's 2014 Annual Report!



## **REMI Study Updates**

In 2014, CSPR released two major studies on the oil and gas industry and the potential impacts to our economy if large, mandatory setbacks were put in place or if the process of fracking were banned in Colorado. Since those studies were released, oil prices have fallen

Earl Wright  
AMG National Trust Bank  
Englewood, CO



more than 50% and many economists are predicting that prices could be in this lower range for some time. CSPR has decided to update both studies based on the new pricing and our partners at the CU Leeds School of Business Research Division are running the models now to produce the new data. We will release updated studies in the second quarter this year.

As you read this newsletter, CSPR is also finalizing a study on the impacts that current construction defects laws have on Colorado's economy and their effect on multi-family residential construction. Legislation pending before the Colorado General Assembly could help bring down the cost of condominium construction by making changes to construction defects laws. You can read the bill here: [Senate Bill 15-177](#). Watch for the results of the study in our next newsletter.

### **Outreach**

CSPR's social media presence continues to grow. In the first quarter our content reached more than 83,000 people on Facebook alone, and those impressions generated more than 400 post interactions.

All of CSPR's content was also cross-posted to our website, which saw significant traffic in the first quarter. Approximately 4,500 people visited our website and we had nearly 20,000 page visits.

Check out our website here: [CSPR Online](#)

Like us on Facebook 

Follow us on  twitter

**Make a Contribution to CSPR's efforts here!**

[www.CommonSensePolicyRoundtable.com](http://www.CommonSensePolicyRoundtable.com)

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Common Sense Policy Roundtable | 4950 South Yosemite Street | F2 #314 | Greenwood Village | CO | 80111