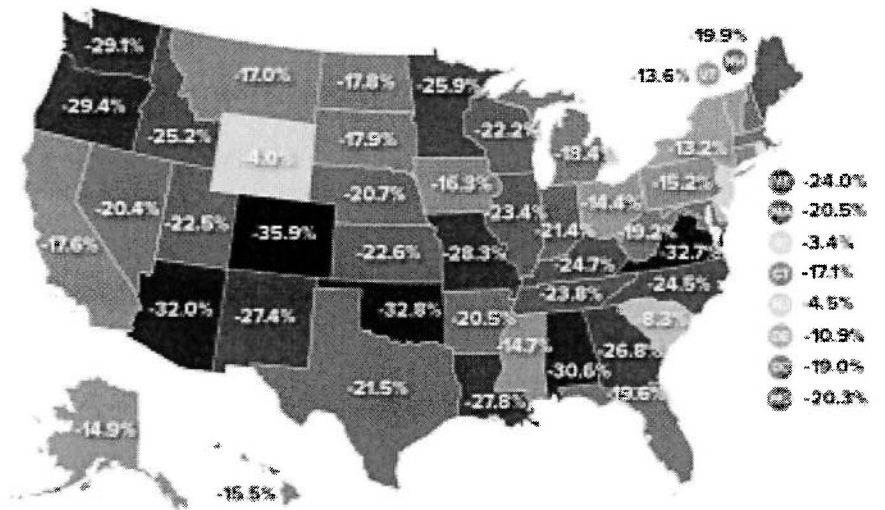


Support HB25-1037 Income Tax Credit for Public School Teachers

The Problem:

It's 2025 and we still expect our public school teachers to pay for classroom supplies, supplemental educational materials, and even some field trips out of their own pocket. This is absurd, especially when you consider the low pay of Colorado teachers. The figure to the right depicts teacher's salaries in comparison to their college educated peers. Comparably, Colorado has the most underpaid teachers in the nation (Economic Policy Institute). But far beyond the financial aspect, **expecting employed professionals to pay for supplies to perform their duties reflects a broader lack of respect.** While

organizations like Donors Choose provide valuable assistance, the fact that we expect teachers to rely on charity for supplemental supplies/educational material is a failure on the part of the state in one of its accepted core duties: the provision of a basic education for all.



How This Bill Helps Teachers:

- Provides eligible public school teachers (i.e., the four licensed Colorado teacher categories (which includes public charter school teachers), with a **refundable income tax credit** of \$1000/school year or \$500/semester.
- Puts the money **directly into the pockets of our teachers.**
- **SHOWS RESPECT** to teachers as professionals. The credit is used within their professional judgment and discretion for the myriad expenses we know they bear to educate Colorado's children, but for which they are not reimbursed. **This bill is referred by the Legislative Oversight Committee Concerning Tax Policy**