

Candidate amendment to the Colorado constitution pertaining to Article IX, Section 2,
Establishment and Maintenance of Public Schools:

Education is a fundamental right belonging to all human persons; it is a means for achieving social equality and necessary for the fulfillment of freedom, justice, and peace. Thus, the State shall defend the right to education against all incursions by any entity, public or private. By definition, education strengthens the individual and community, it unfits the individual for servitude, and fosters solidarity among all people. Furthermore, education enables the actualization of human potential through the arts, sciences, and humanities. Public schools are sanctuaries, spaces where the inherent and inalienable dignity of the human person is inviolate, spaces where compassionate guidance abounds. Guided by the principles of integrity and equity, the State shall ensure that all public school students have ongoing and diverse opportunities to meaningfully participate in their education. As a paramount requisite of education, meaningful participation fulfills the promise of the public schools as havens for learning and growth, crucibles for inquiry and experimentation, forums for dialogue and dissent. In sum, the State shall create and maintain public schools as safe and healthy spaces where people will experience their inherent dignity and understand the rights flowing from it.