

# **Phil Weiser for Colorado Releases Endorsements From Current and Former Republican and Independent Leaders**

*Endorsers Include Former and Current State Legislators, District Attorneys,  
Mayors, and County Commissioners from Throughout Colorado*

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September 7, 2022 — Today, Phil Weiser for Colorado announced endorsements from prominent Independents, Republicans, and conservatives from throughout the State, including current and former district attorneys, state legislators, mayors, and county commissioners. The following persons announced their support with statements provided in this release.

- Former Speaker of the House of Representative Russ George
- Former Colorado Supreme Court Justice Rebecca Love Kourlis
- Former Westminster Mayor Herb Acheson
- Former Craig Mayor and Former Moffat County Commissioner Ray Beck
- Former Moffat County Commissioner Audrey Danner
- Former District Attorney Steve Erkenbrack, Mesa County, former Chief Deputy Attorney General
- Commissioner Greg Felt, Chaffee County Commission
- Sheriff Justin Perry, Ouray County
- Commissioner Ben Tisdell, Ouray County Commission
- Former Assistant Republican Leader Cole Wist
- Former State Representative Rob Witwer
- Former District Attorney David Wood, Larimer and Jackson Counties

The Phil Weiser for Colorado campaign also released two videos featuring rural law enforcement and local government officials supporting Phil Weiser’s work as Attorney General:

- One video featuring Sheriff Joe Pelle, Boulder County; Sheriff Justin Perry, Ouray County; and Sheriff Robert Jackson, Alamosa County, available [here](#); and
- One featuring Commissioner Ben Tisdell, Ouray County; and Commissioner Greg Felt, Chaffee County, available [here](#).

Phil Weiser issued the following statement:

“As a State, we are stronger when we work together. Working together with both Democrats and Republicans to solve problems is my true north as Attorney General. From ensuring each and every one of our legislative agenda bills during my first term received bipartisan support, to partnering with sheriffs and police chiefs to implement responsible gun safety laws, to bringing together Republicans and Democrats to develop our opioid settlement framework to invest the \$500 million we are bringing back to Colorado, and to partnering with Republican state senators to protect rural communities’ water—we do our best work for Colorado not as partisans but as a team. I’m grateful for the support of these Independent and Republican leaders in my bid for reelection.”

The following current and former officials issued the following statements:

**Russ George, Independent and former Republican Speaker of the Colorado House of Representatives, said:**

“Since he became Attorney General, I’ve known Phil Weiser as a tireless advocate for Colorado’s water, public lands, and rural communities. He made it a priority to represent the whole state, not just the Front Range—regularly showing up on the Western Slope, listening to our concerns, working with our towns and cities, and always pushing so we have a seat at the table where decisions are made. I’m an Independent. And I’ve served as a Republican legislator and as a cabinet member in a Republican administration. But I’ve never let party labels define me when it comes to doing what’s right for the Western Slope and rural Colorado. This fall, for Attorney General, I’ll be supporting Phil Weiser.”

**Rebecca Love Kourlis, Republican and former Colorado Supreme Court Justice, said:**

“As a former jurist, I know firsthand that the job of Attorney General is incredibly broad, covering complex legal areas like water law, consumer protection, civil rights, white collar crime, and election integrity. I support Phil Weiser because he has the skills, experience, and integrity to tackle the very complex legal problems facing our state.”

**Herb Acheson, Republican and former mayor of Westminster, said:**

“As a Republican mayor, I worked with Phil Weiser on a number of issues during my tenure. The most impactful for Colorado was his involvement in setting up how our State will invest funds that he helped to secure for Colorado from those responsible for the opioid crisis. Phil went to the mat for Colorado families harmed by addiction—and he ensured that Colorado cities and counties were equal partners with the State in responding to the opioid epidemic. In this era of extreme polarization, we need leaders like Phil Weiser who are willing to work with Republicans, Democrats, and Independents to do what’s right for Colorado. That’s why I support Phil Weiser’s reelection for Colorado Attorney General.”

**Ray Beck, Independent, former Republican Mayor of Craig, and former Republican Moffat County Commissioner, said:**

“As a former mayor and county commissioner from Northwest Colorado, I’ve worked with many statewide elected officials. In my experience, Phil Weiser has shown up in our community and listened to our concerns more than any other statewide official I’ve ever worked with. I saw firsthand Phil’s approach bringing together Colorado towns, cities, and counties throughout our State to create an inclusive framework to deploy the half-billion dollars he recovered for our State to fight the opioid epidemic. And, starting in his first months in office and continuing to this day, Phil Weiser partnered with us to find ways the Attorney General’s Office can support our local jobs and economic development. Phil represents ALL of Colorado, and we can count on him to fight for Colorado families and protect the rule of law—that’s what we need in Colorado’s AG. This November, I’ll be casting my ballot for Phil Weiser for Attorney General.”

**Audrey Danner, Republican and former Moffat County Commissioner, said:**

“Northwest Colorado is a special place. Phil Weiser has spent time in Moffat County to understand our communities. I appreciate that he listens to our concerns and supports Colorado Northwestern Community College with resources such as the cybersecurity program. We need leadership at our State Capitol and I support Phil Weiser for Attorney General.”

**Steve Erkenbrack, Republican, former District Attorney for Mesa County, and former Chief Deputy Attorney General for a Republican Attorney General, said:**

“I have served as both an elected DA and the Chief Deputy AG in the Attorney General’s Office. I’ve seen up close how critical it is that the Colorado Attorney General not only supports the prosecutors and peace officers serving our communities, but also the importance that our AG be skilled in other crucial areas. The AG must be experienced and tenacious as Colorado’s chief defender of our water rights, so important to us in Western and rural Colorado. He must be committed and competent to go after those who defraud consumers and the elderly. Phil Weiser has a strong record doing just that—supporting law enforcement, defending our water, and protecting consumers. When downstream states tried to claim more than their fair share of our water, Phil Weiser protected our water interests and pushed for major investments in our water infrastructure. And Phil brought a sharp focus on those preying on consumers—going after those who price-gouge patients on prescription drugs and pushing for tougher laws against those that charge hidden fees. I have known Phil Weiser for years. Our water and our way of life are more important than partisanship. Coloradans have a tireless advocate in our proven Attorney General. Simply put, Phil Weiser has earned my support.”

**Greg Felt, Independent and current Chaffee County Commissioner, said:**

“Attorney General Phil Weiser is not your average urban politician. Despite the pressures of the office, he spends a remarkable amount of time in rural Colorado. Intellectually curious and socially engaged, he has built relationships throughout the river valleys and high plains, informing his perspective on water policy, criminal justice, opioid response, and public land stewardship. I’ve enjoyed our conversations over the last four years, and have come to appreciate the man for his objectivity, availability, and his passionate commitment to Colorado. As an unaffiliated rural county commissioner, I’m glad to tell you that we’ve got a strong and committed Attorney General. I encourage you to re-elect Phil in November.”

**Justin Perry, Independent and current Ouray County Sheriff, said:**

“Western Colorado is my home. As a sheriff, my deputies and I partner regularly with our partners at the State to protect public safety in our communities. As Attorney General, Phil Weiser has been a steadfast partner to Western Slope rural communities. Showing up and listening to our citizens, regularly asking our citizens and town officials how he can support us, and going to bat for law enforcement officers at the State Capitol. When it comes to supporting Ouray County, party labels have never meant much to me—and it doesn’t for Phil either. That’s why I hope you’ll join me in supporting Phil Weiser for Attorney General this November.”

**Ben Tisdell, Independent and current Ouray County Commissioner, said:**

“To have someone like Phil in a position of statewide elected office, being very accessible to local officeholders on any issue is a rare and important quality. It makes me very comfortable to know Phil is there as *our* Attorney General to make sure that our rights as Coloradans are not reduced.”

**Cole Wist, Independent and former Republican Assistant Minority Leader of the Colorado House of Representatives, said:**

“Partisanship is everywhere. And it is dividing our country. We can and must do better. Turning the page requires that we elect more leaders who will work collaboratively to improve and elevate our political discourse. As Attorney General, Phil Weiser has been a consistent proponent for civility and respect. Phil regularly seeks out opposing and different views on issues. This is refreshing and unique and a sign of a strong and independent leader. Over the past four years, Phil has proven himself to be a highly competent and skilled attorney, with a breadth of legal experience and judgment required for our state’s Attorney General. Phil and I have not always agreed on policy, but he is exactly the kind of deliberate, careful, and thoughtful person we need making tough legal decisions on behalf of the State of Colorado. This fall, I will be supporting Phil Weiser for re-election as Colorado Attorney General.”

**Rob Witwer, Independent and former Republican State Representative, said:**

“What I appreciate most about Phil Weiser is that his North Star is the United States Constitution. While I may not see eye to eye with Phil on every issue, I know that his opinions are well considered and rooted in constitutional principles. In an era of personality-driven politics and a win-at-all-costs mentality, that is a rare and refreshing quality. Just as importantly, Phil has a genuine passion for trying to find common ground with people who disagree with him. When it comes to civility and open dialogue, he walks the walk. If we want to restore civic dialogue in America, we need more of this kind of leadership. We need more people like Phil Weiser in public service, and I am proud to support him in 2022.”

**David Wood, Republican and former District Attorney for Larimer and Jackson Counties, said:**

“Phil Weiser is an attorney who I know to be honest, transparent, and committed to the rule of law. As a former district attorney, I know firsthand how critical it is to have the right person in the AG’s Office—one who holds these values and is committed to public safety, supporting our law enforcement officers, and pushing for responsible reforms to our justice system. Phil Weiser is that AG. Weiser successfully pushed for new laws to stop fentanyl traffickers, more funds to support police and sheriffs serving our communities, and responsible gun safety laws to remove firearms from those posing imminent and deadly threats to themselves or others. For me, political parties and partisan affiliations have always taken a backseat to doing what’s right for Colorado. Phil and I may not agree in all cases, but I respect his judgment, thoughtfulness, and constant drive to do what’s right for the citizens of Colorado. That’s why this November I’ll be supporting Phil Weiser for reelection as our Attorney General.”

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